

The Economist:

A POLITICAL, COMMERCIAL, AGRICULTURAL, AND FREE-TRADE JOURNAL.

"If we make ourselves too little for the sphere of our duty; if, on the contrary, we do not stretch and expand our minds to the compass of their object; we are well assured that everything about us will dwindle by degrees, until at length our concerns are shrunk to the dimensions of our minds. It is not a predilection to mean, sordid, home-bred cares that will avert the consequences of a false estimation of our interest, or prevent the shameful dilapidation into which a great empire must fall by mean reparation upon mighty ruins."—BURKE.

No. 25.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1844.

PRICE 6^d

NOTICE TO OUR READERS.

We now publish an Early Edition in time for the Saturday morning mails, and, as will be seen, the size of our paper is permanently enlarged. We have also taken steps so as for the future to be able to publish weekly the most accurate statements of prices of Government Funds, Foreign Securities and Stocks, and of the various descriptions of Joint Stock Companies in Great Britain and Ireland, with the most recent information respecting the same, and in particular in respect of Railways. We beg also to remind our readers that we now publish a Second Edition, containing all the news of Saturday up to a late hour.

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"If a writer be conscious that to gain a reception for his favourite doctrine he must combat with certain elements of opposition, in the taste, or the pride, or the indolence of those whom he is addressing, this will only serve to make him the more importunate. There is a difference between such truths as are merely of a speculative nature and such as are allied with practice and moral feeling. With the former repetition may be often superfluous; with the latter it may just be by earnest repetition, that their influence comes to be thoroughly established over the mind of an inquirer."—CHALMERS.

OUR EXPORTS AND THE CORN LAWS.

We are very much indebted to Lord John Scott for some relief from the monotonous tone of the speeches delivered at the Agricultural Protection Meetings throughout the country; which have hitherto been chiefly confined to an abuse of individuals, or, at the most, to that of the commercial and manufacturing class. At the meeting of the "Border Association for the Protection of Agriculture," Lord John proposed the following resolution:—

"That laws to enforce such protection have existed for nearly two centuries, during which time this country has emerged from comparative barbarism to the utmost pitch of civilization; and particularly latterly, when corn laws have become more stringent, it has rapidly attained an eminence in its powers of production, and in its manufactures and commerce, unexampled in the history of the world."

He said—"It should be his endeavour to prove to them, first of all, that this resolution was founded on fact;" and we must admit that he has displayed a highly laudable industry and research in his attempt to prove his proposition. He has patiently waded through the history of the corn laws for the last half century, and connected each new law with the constant increase of our export trade. The following is from Lord John's speech, leaving out those passages between each period in which he severely reprimands the manufacturers for their want of gratitude for their constantly improving condition, and by inference, for the increasing stringency of the corn laws, to which he attributes their increase of trade—this omission will render the thread of the argument more clear and connected:—

"Nothing could be more certain than that the employment of our agricultural population was followed by an increased demand for manufactures, and he would show that it was also followed by an increase in the export and import trade of the country. From 1592 to 1772, the corn laws were framed on the principle of protection, and at the latter period all restriction was abolished. From that time the commerce of the country began to decline, and agricultural improvement was in a languishing state. In 1790 a duty of 24s. 3d. a quarter was imposed on wheat, when the price was at or under 50s. When wheat was 54s. the duty was 2s. 6d., and above 54s. the duty was 6d. At this time the general export trade of the country was very immaterial. In 1804 the value of the exports of cotton was 7,834,564*l.*, and of total British produce 20,042,596*l.* The number of British ships employed was 4,865, and the tonnage 904,982. In 1815 another change took place, and the laws were more stringent and almost reached to the pitch of prohibition. The export of cotton manufactures, which had now risen to three times the amount, was 21,480,792*l.*, and the total value of British manufactures exported was 32,200,580*l.* The shipping

employed was 8,880 and the tonnage 1,108. During the whole period of this most stringent law, from 1815 to 1822, the cotton trade steadily increased. In 1822, when another important alteration took place in the corn laws, the value of cotton manufactures exported came to 24,559,272*l.*, and all kinds of British goods to 31,104,681*l.* The shipping amounted to 11,087, and the tonnage to 1,372,108. Such were the damning effects of this most stringent law of 1815. But though corn was thus excluded, see how protection to native agriculture affected the other great interests of the country. In 1828, the value of the exports of cotton was 28,981,575*l.*, and the total value of British exports 51,278,102*l.* The number of ships were 13,436, and the tonnage was 2,094,367. He now came to the sliding scale, as it had been termed, and it would be seen that since the introduction of that measure, trade and manufactures had still continued to increase in prosperity. In 1828 the varying principle of protection was adopted, commencing at 73s. when the duty was 1*l.*; and finishing with a duty of 36s. 8*d.* when the price was under 51*s.* This law showed no great diminution of the principle of protection, and it continued in operation up to 1842, when Sir Robert Peel's modification of the measure was carried. Up to 1835 there was a progressive and rapid improvement in trade and manufactures, and the export of cotton goods was 44,266,203*l.*, and of all other kinds of British produce 73,485,536*l.* This was in 1835; and these official tables being taken from the work of the free-trader M'Culloch, he was unable to continue them further from that source."

Here Lord John's text book falls short, but we will assist him to the conclusion, by furnishing the figures down to the latest period:—

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|------|-------|-------------|
| Official value of exports ... | 1836 | | £85,229,000 |
| " | 1837 | | 72,548,000 |
| " | 1838 | | 92,459,000 |
| " | 1839 | | 97,402,000 |
| " | 1840 | | 102,714,000 |
| " | 1841 | | 102,180,000 |
| " | 1842 | | 100,260,000 |

Lord John has, therefore, the satisfaction of seeing the exports increased from 20,042,000*l.* in 1804, to 100,260,000*l.* in 1842, and this he considers a conclusive evidence of an unparalleled state of prosperity. He does not, however, give us any clue to his reasons for coming to this conclusion. The exports of a country must consist only of the surplus production which is not consumed at home; an increase of exports, therefore, may either prove a deteriorating condition of a people, unable to retain for their own consumption that which they produce, as has for many years been the case in Ireland; or it may prove an increased facility and cheapness of production, by which a country is enabled to supply other countries with its goods. This opens one of the most important subjects connected with the productive character of the country.

Lord John has taken great pains to inform himself of the history of our exports of manufactures during that period, but he seems to have overlooked altogether the facts connected with the trade of corn, which ought surely to be more connected with the corn laws, than the trade of cotton or other manufactures. Had he done so, he would have found that towards the close of the last century, when the corn laws were least stringent, we exported considerable quantities of grain; that with increasing protection our exports of corn ceased, and from that time to the present larger foreign supplies have been required, from period to period, when the state of the law admitted them. If, therefore, a continuous increase of the exports of manufactures during that period is conclusive of their increasing prosperity, the opposite result with respect to corn should be equally conclusive of the injury which a restrictive policy has inflicted on agriculture.

We are not the advocates of any class or party; we are the advocates of a principle, and of that as applicable equally to all pursuits; as equally beneficial to agriculture as to manufactures; as equally essential to the best interests and prosperity of both; and the arguments to which Lord John Scott has called attention, properly considered, will be found to prove the accuracy of these principles in a very striking manner. First, however, we must put Lord John right in a very serious error into which he has been led in his first attempt to study statistics, and we trust that, in doing so, we shall not discourage him in so laudable a pursuit, by finding that the whole of his calculations are based on a mere fiction in our public accounts. Lord John has not yet learned the difference between official and real value.

As far back as 1694 certain rates of value were fixed on all goods, and the quantity exported from year to year has since been calculated at those rates, to give the official value, and which, therefore, is only a criterion of relative quantity, but none of the real or actual value; the latter is, however, also

entered at the Custom house with the quantity, so that the public accounts show both the official value, which is a criterion of quantity, and the real value, which shows the change of prices. We would now draw Lord John's attention to the comparison of these two modes of estimating the exports during the period to which he refers, from 1803 to 1842.

The following statement shows the comparative value of our exports in each of the following years, calculated at the official and actual rates.

| | EXPORTS. | |
|------|-----------------|-------------|
| | Official value. | Real value. |
| 1803 | £20,467,000 | £36,127,000 |
| 1815 | 42,875,000 | 51,603,000 |
| 1822 | 40,831,000 | 36,695,000 |
| 1828 | 52,797,000 | 36,812,000 |
| 1835 | 78,376,000 | 47,372,000 |
| 1842 | 100,260,000 | 47,381,000 |

It will be seen by this statement, that while in 1803 goods calculated at a given price representing 20,467,000*l.*, were actually worth 36,127,000*l.*;—in 1842 goods calculated at the same rate, representing 100,260,000*l.*, were actually worth only 47,381,000*l.*;—that is, that a certain quantity of goods was worth 36,127,000*l.* in 1803—while *five times* the same quantity were worth only 47,381,000*l.* in 1842, and which leads to the following conclusion:—If goods had been the same price in 1803 that they were in 1842, the real value of the exports of that year would have been only 9,672,000*l.*;—or if the price of goods had been the same in 1842 as in 1803, the real value of our exports would have been 176,000,000*l.* in place of 47,381,000*l.*

Lord John will also discover this singular fact, that all the apparent increased exports which he traced from 1815 to 1835, though by his figures appearing nearly double, yet yielded to the manufacturer upwards of 4,000,000*l.* less for the smaller than the larger quantity; and, moreover, that during the last seven years of high-priced corn, the price of manufactures has been so much reduced that a quantity equal to the whole exports of 1803 has been given in addition to that of 1835, without any increase of actual price. How far these extraordinary effects have been produced by the stringency of the corn laws; how far the constant and increasing difficulty of obtaining the necessaries of life; how far the greater and greater pressure of a rapidly increasing population on a limited supply of food, have aided to promote the extraordinary inventions, to excite the marvellous ingenuity which has produced this change; which has reduced the cost of converting a pound of cotton into yarn since 1815 from 2*s.* 4*d.* to 4*d.*, we have not time now to consider; but certain it is that it would be difficult to conceive a stronger case made out in favour of a free competition to insure a perfect development of the energies of the mind. Let us for a moment compare the result of the system of protection which has been, according to Lord John, increased during that period in its stringency. True, by it the prices of agricultural produce have been maintained during the whole period. The price of wheat in 1803 was 57*s.* 1*d.* per quarter; the average of the last five years has been more: but notwithstanding this, has the condition of the agriculturists improved during that time? Has that protection which has insured them a high price, insured them also prosperity?

Our space will not allow us to pursue this important subject further at this time, than just to relate a little fact illustrative of the true principle of cheap and profitable production, which we recommend to the consideration of the friends of protection.

In 1840 the Birmingham and Gloucester railway threatened to be a very unprofitable concern, in consequence of the high rate of the cost of locomotive power required to work it. The average cost per mile in that year was 2*s.* 10*d.*, and at this rate the railway would have been a serious loss to the proprietors. How did they act? did they go to Parliament and seek for powers to increase the fares, on the evidence that those which they were empowered to charge would not cover the cost, on the same principle as did the landowners in 1815, when they proved that wheat could not be grown for less than 80*s.* per quarter? No; they sought for the best talent, and offered it a good reward for reducing that cost; and mark the result—see what ingenuity can do. The cost of locomotive power was—

| | | s. | d. | per mile |
|-----------------------|------|----|-----------|----------|
| From June to December | 1840 | 2 | 10 | |
| " January to June | 1841 | 1 | 11½ | |
| " June to December | 1841 | 1 | 6 | |
| " January to June | 1842 | 1 | 3 3-8ths | |
| " June to December | 1842 | 1 | 0½ | |
| " January to June | 1843 | 0 | 11½ | |
| " June to December | 1843 | 0 | 10 2-5ths | |

Lord John may perhaps say, that principles applicable to mechanics and manufactures are not applicable to agriculture. We will only remind him that he states in his speech, that, if his land in Warwickshire were as well cultivated as the land in Roxburghshire, its produce would be double. We will return to a further consideration of this important subject.

THE REAL GRIEVANCE OF IRELAND.

The real grievance of Ireland is,—that there are more people in it than are profitably employed. We do not underestimate the moral and political evils which also beset the country. These are without doubt great, but it shares them, if not

wholly, at least in great part, with England. So, on the other hand, we may say that England also is oppressed with a population whose productive powers are not turned to such account as they ought, and hence we in part suffer from the social evils of vagrancy, pauperism, and great discontent;—and it is these evils which, more extensive and more aggravated in Ireland, lead to results proportionably disastrous and deplorable.

The repeal movement, wide spread as it is, and strong as are the feelings with which the minds of the Irish people have become filled regarding it, should mean nothing to a wise statesman, bent on governing the country justly, but that four millions of those people are palpably uneasy from having no adequate means there of exercising their industry, and obtaining for that industry its just reward. Ireland at this present moment is essentially in the same condition as England would fall into, if our great seats of manufacturing industry were "swept from the map," according to the very benevolent proposal made by the *Standard* about a year ago. Ireland exhibits the case of a country whose redundant agricultural population finds no outlet whatever, but continues year after year to prey upon itself, increasing and deepening the evils of which it so loudly (and no wonder!) complains. That, we repeat, is the real, pressing, "monster" grievance of Ireland.

And can it be supposed that the commercial distress which for the last five or six years has enveloped England has not had its depressing effect on Ireland? Has not its redundant population, hitherto partly, at least, relieved by emigration into the manufacturing districts of England, been of late wholly debarred from that benefit by the necessity which has obliged so many of the Irish out of employment to return to their native country? Nor is this all. England, with its commerce depressed, cannot be supposed to be so able as when prosperous to consume the agricultural produce of Ireland, which continues to be its staple marketable commodity; and accordingly we find that of late years imports from Ireland into this country have been decreasing. We are not in possession of a great body of exact facts to establish this, but the subjoined statement of cattle, &c., received at the port of Liverpool from Ireland during the years 1840, 1841, 1842, proves it so far; and we only regret not having it at present in our power to furnish the particulars of imports during the three or four years immediately preceding those which we have named,—a period when business was prosperous and employment abundant in England, and when the repeal agitation in Ireland had dwindled into insignificance; when, also, as is matter of certainty, we received in very great abundance their agricultural produce, and supplied them in return with such commodities as they required.

A RETURN OF CATTLE, SWINE, SHEEP, &c., IMPORTED INTO THE PORT OF LIVERPOOL FROM IRELAND, DURING THE YEARS 1840, 1841, AND 1842.

| Description of Goods | 1840. | | 1841. | | 1842. | |
|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|---------|--------|
| | No. | | No. | | No. | |
| Cows and Oxen | 97,219 | | 93,821 | | 87,021 | |
| Horses | 4,315 | | 1,740 | | 1,132 | |
| Lambs | 26,575 | | 26,472 | | 19,195 | |
| Sheep | 262,826 | | 207,594 | | 205,176 | |
| Pigs | 200,956 | | 155,681 | | 194,440 | |
| Butter | 361,936 | firkins | 317,924 | | 308,725 | |
| Hams | 3,133 | casks | 2,253 | | 1,966 | |
| Beef, tier. | 11,870 | brls. | 1,280 | tier. 8,592 | brls. | 1,324 |
| Pork | 33,849 | brls. | 2,659 | tier. 6,422 | brls. | 379 |
| | | | | | | 17,456 |

Of all the means which may have been or may be resorted to to effect a repeal of the Union, none can be so effectual for that purpose as this,—a declining trade and virtual alienation between the countries. Commerce is the great cement of unions and bond of friendship, not only between different states, but between different parts of the same empire. Armed soldiers and a trained police force may easily quell a riot; but it is not thus that empires are preserved entire, or their prosperity promoted. Nor can we recognize, in the appointment of a commission of some four or five landlords to inquire into the relation in which they and other landlords stand towards tenants and tillers of the soil, any mighty boon or the hope of much future good. That those who own the soil may not exercise their rights in the wisest and justest way, it is very easy to admit. We admit it and deplore it. Still an interference with the regulation of private property on the part of a legislature is scarcely to be excused on any grounds. We do not apprehend, indeed, that the commission which has been issued by the present Government has any purpose of recommending a violent interference with the rights of property. That has not been the fault of the governing classes of England; nor is there any indication that it is about to become so. *Their fault has been an interference with the rights of industry*; and it is the effect of that fatal error, and not O'Connell, which now threatens the dismemberment of the British Empire.

THE BRAZILIAN IMPORT TRADE.

We have already expressed our regret and surprise that no notice had been taken, in the speech from the throne, of the expiring Brazilian treaty. If we felt that our trade with that country existed on a fair and natural basis, we should have no concern about the expiry of a treaty, or the improbability of its renewal. But feeling, as we do, that no important branch of our commerce rests on so insecure a footing—feeling that our

treatment of that country is well calculated to raise against us acts of hostility which, though equally if not more baneful to the Brazilians than to us, will yet be of serious consequence to our export trade; we do feel great disappointment that there appears no probability of the prohibitory duties at present placed on their produce being so reduced as to bring it within the reach of the British consumer. In some of our former numbers we have shown that, while they consumed our manufactures to the extent of many millions annually, we place such duties on their produce as effectually to exclude it from consumption in this country. We have shown that we employ nearly 50,000 tons of ship-

ping annually to convey our goods, to the value of from two to three millions, to that country; and that this trade is placed in the greatest jeopardy by our persisting in the exclusion of their produce. Having often placed before our readers these facts, we were anxious to see what proportion of the entire imports of Brazil really were procured from this country; and we have obtained from Rio de Janeiro a statement showing the amount of their chief articles of import, for the years 1841 and 1842, and the proportions which in the latter year were derived from this country and all others,—of which the following is a copy:—

IMPORTATION of principal Articles into Rio de Janeiro compared, 1841 and 1842, and the respective Quantities received from each Country in 1842.

| ARTICLES. | 1841. | 1842. | Great Britain. | Austria. | Belgium. | Denmark. | France. | Hanse Towns. | Portugal. | Russia. | Sicily. | Spain. | Sweden. | United States. |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|----------------|----------|----------|----------|---------|--------------|-----------|---------|---------|--------|---------|----------------|
| Ale and Porter . . . casks | 17,382 | 24,600 | 23,835 | — | 35 | — | — | 140 | — | — | — | — | 550 | 40 |
| Arms pkgs. | 1,277 | 1,880 | 320 | — | 1,372 | — | 44 | 144 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Brandy pipes | 1,548 | 962 | 38 | — | — | — | 373 | 1 | 24 | — | 110 | 297 | — | 20 |
| Butter frkus. | 23,352 | 24,556 | 17,558 | — | 385 | 59 | 5,219 | 1,042 | — | — | — | — | — | 192 |
| Candles, Tallow . . . boxes | 16,239 | 10,553 | 125 | — | — | — | — | — | 5,435 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Comp. and Sperm . . . } | 6,838 | 7,119 | 150 | — | 46 | 20 | 651 | 100 | — | — | — | — | — | 4,637 |
| Cheese " | 4,686 | 2,932 | 643 | — | 375 | 366 | 69 | 1,478 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Coals tons | 9,525 | 19,245 | 17,127 | — | 210 | — | — | 1,265 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Cod Fish casks, &c. | 36,530 | 33,641 | 32,322 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 994 | 202 |
| Copper cases | 678 | 497 | 463 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 29 |
| " bottoms | 2,030 | 1,528 | 1,385 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 143 |
| " kegs | 54 | 116 | 76 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 40 |
| " sheets, &c. | 432 | 226 | 159 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 67 |
| Cordage, Coir . . . coils | 2,930 | 3,765 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| " Russian, &c. | 3,372 | 3,475 | 4,491 | — | — | 50 | — | 1,965 | 360 | — | — | — | — | 281 |
| Deals doz. | 13,456 | 14,876 | — | — | — | 944 | — | — | 214 | 823 | 35 | — | 12,375 | — |
| Drugs pkgs. | 4,020 | 5,841 | 1,539 | — | — | — | 423 | 246 | 1,680 | — | 93 | 61 | — | 447 |
| Flour brls. | 231,989 | 149,118 | — | 1,050 | — | 16 | 100 | 307 | — | — | — | 455 | — | 144,447 |
| Gin pipes | 28 | 17½ | 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 12½ |
| " doz. jugs | 16,376 | 7,270 | — | — | — | 4 | — | 7,266 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| " demijohns | 10,000 | 650 | — | — | — | 250 | — | 400 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| " cases | 2,818 | 1,971 | 600 | — | 50 | — | — | 1,300 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Hams casks | 680 | 529 | 62 | — | — | 34 | — | 138 | 260 | — | — | — | — | 35 |
| " loose | 11,685 | 10,323 | 400 | — | — | — | — | 875 | — | — | — | — | — | 8,985 |
| Hardware, &c. . . pkgs. | 5,814 | 7,040 | 5,481 | — | 513 | — | 202 | — | 792 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Hats cases | 1,095 | 966 | 141 | — | — | 57 | 357 | 52 | 364 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Iron tons | 1,061 | 1,490 | 1,490 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| " bars | 76,999 | 32,013 | 4,509 | — | — | 764 | — | 3,754 | — | — | — | — | 21,783 | — |
| " bundles | 3,797 | 3,631 | 2,059 | — | — | — | — | 860 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| " Hoops tons | 76 | 67 | 67 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| " bundles | 2,847 | 2,707 | 2,601 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Lead, Bar bars | 2,600 | 5,405 | 1,216 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2,418 | — | 1,771 |
| " Sheet rolls | 320 | 80 | 46 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 34 | — | — |
| Leather, carried . . pkgs. | 1,081 | 762 | 198 | — | 32 | 12 | 183 | 79 | 225 | — | — | 10 | — | — |
| " wrought " | 1,436 | 1,376 | 453 | — | 38 | — | 781 | — | 63 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Liusced Oil pipes | 178 | 272 | 232 | — | 12 | 6 | 6 | 16 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| " jugs, &c. | 286 | 883 | 171 | — | 250 | 100 | — | 200 | — | — | 62 | — | — | — |
| Manufactures:— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cotton pkgs. | 36,667 | 22,482 | 14,059 | — | 92 | 152 | 1,317 | 678 | 90 | — | — | — | — | 5,337 |
| Linen " | 3,798 | 2,040 | 1,663 | — | 8 | 3 | — | 60 | 145 | — | — | — | — | 59 |
| Linen and Cotton . . " | 593 | 134 | 96 | — | — | — | — | 24 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Silk " | 1,505 | 1,181 | 315 | — | 61 | 11 | 455 | 94 | 40 | — | — | 49 | — | 74 |
| Silk and Cotton . . . " | 105 | 173 | 27 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Silk and Worsted . . . " | 68 | 57 | — | — | 30 | 1 | 116 | 49 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Woollen " | 5,601 | 4,972 | 4,490 | — | 94 | 45 | 266 | 65 | 3 | — | — | — | — | 6 |
| Woollen and Cotton . . " | 190 | 236 | 192 | — | — | — | 37 | 26 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Mess Beef and Pork . . brls. | 1,277 | 2,312 | 180 | — | — | 243 | — | 269 | 19 | — | — | — | — | 1,154 |
| Nails pkgs. | 5,914 | 8,471 | 4,983 | — | 2,281 | — | — | — | 792 | — | — | — | — | 397 |
| Olive Oil pipes | 1,047 | 1,354 | 78 | 10 | — | — | 76 | — | 592 | — | 93½ | 359½ | — | — |
| " boxes, &c. | 3,898 | 4,639 | — | — | — | — | 1,860 | — | — | — | — | 2,200 | — | — |
| Paints and Colours . . pkgs. | 4,066 | 8,025 | 7,818 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Paper " | 5,646 | 13,341 | 149 | 19 | 3,911 | 490 | 967 | 772 | — | — | 396 | 225 | — | 18 |
| Parasols and Umbrellas . . " | 368 | 345 | 134 | — | — | — | 181 | 16 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Pepper, black bags | 749 | 1,151 | 446 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 690 |
| Pitch brls. | 1,897 | 507 | 110 | — | — | — | — | 50 | — | 72 | — | — | 239 | 35 |
| Raisins, &c. boxes | 28,279 | 28,362 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1,198 | — | 275 | 21,618 | — | 3,119 |
| Ravensduck ps. | 3,893 | 2,513 | 1,092 | — | — | 40 | — | 620 | — | 60 | — | — | — | 500 |
| Rosin brls. | 7,456 | 6,183 | 40 | — | — | — | 10 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 6,093 |
| Sailcloth ps. | 3,747 | 2,689 | 1,043 | — | 43 | — | — | 481 | — | — | — | — | — | 1,006 |
| Salt alqueires | 717,040 | 384,177 | 1,288 | — | — | — | 14,520 | — | 280,870 | — | 31,380 | 41,540 | — | — |
| Saltpetre kegs, &c. | 2,044 | 3,355 | 2,705 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 640 |
| Shot " | 2,932 | 4,708 | 3,564 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1,144 | — | — |
| Soap boxes | 42,898 | 49,955 | 47,148 | — | — | — | — | 434 | 776 | — | — | 325 | — | 499 |
| Steel " | 1,528 | 352 | 218 | — | — | — | — | — | 100 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Tar brls. | 2,910 | 2,808 | 290 | — | — | 168 | — | 1,212 | — | 155 | — | — | 900 | — |
| Tea pkgs. | 2,602 | 2,922 | 301 | — | — | — | — | — | 649 | — | — | — | — | 1,929 |
| Tin plates boxes | 2,137 | 2,020 | 1,895 | — | — | — | — | 125 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Tobacco pkgs. | 1,128 | 840 | 48 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 767 |
| Turpentine brls. | 79 | 148 | 47 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 100 |
| Vermicelli boxes | 8,690 | 7,996 | — | — | — | — | 22 | — | 60 | — | 60 | 175 | — | — |
| Vinegar pipes | 1,599 | 1,049 | — | — | — | 57 | 37 | 160 | 790 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Wheat sacks | 8,554 | 21,777 | — | — | — | — | 17 | 224 | — | — | 934 | — | — | — |
| White Lead pkgs. | 1,307 | 826 | 427 | — | 300 | — | — | 93 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Window Glass boxes | 7,413 | 3,037 | 20 | — | 3,017 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Wine, Portugal pipes | 9,593 | 3,877 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3,817 | — | — | — | — | — |
| " Mediterranean, &c. . . " | 15,077 | 9,325 | 29 | — | — | — | 3,640 | — | — | — | 473 | 4,905 | — | — |
| " Bordeaux hhds. | 3,519 | 1,830 | — | — | — | — | 1,830 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |

The first and second column of the above table show the comparative imports into Rio de Janeiro in 1841 and 1842; the third column shows the proportion of each article which in the latter year (1842) was imported from Great Britain; and the other columns show the proportions derived from all other countries. On examination, it will be found that a very large proportion of nearly every article is derived from this country, while the most insignificant quantities are supplied by other countries; and yet, in the face of this fact, they see their produce excluded from consumption in this country; while in most of the other countries it is admitted on the most favoured terms,

and in all at duties less than half what we impose. Could we then be surprised if, in keeping with the principles of reciprocity taught by European governments, and insisted on by our own, we should find the Brazilian Government imposing high differential duties in favour of the manufactures of France, Germany, Belgium, and the United States; and thus effectually destroy a market which for some years past has taken more of our manufactures than all our West Indian possessions put together.

We will refrain at present from entering into a consideration of the arguments by which our Government attempts to vindicate this policy, reserving them for an article on the sugar duties generally.

BRITISH SHIPPING FROM BRAZIL.

In the very anomalous state of our trade with the Brazils, exporting so large a quantity of goods, and importing so little of their produce for our own consumption, it became a very interesting and important question to trace the manner in which our ships were employed after carrying our goods out. We have procured the following account, showing the destination of the exports of sugar and coffee from Rio de Janeiro, and the ships in which it was conveyed:—

Destination, by Countries and Ports, of Coffee and Sugar exported from Rio de Janeiro in 1842, with the number of vessels and tonnage of each nation employed in its exportation.

| COUNTRIES AND PORTS. | TOTAL. | | COFFEE. SUGAR | |
|--|--------|---------|---------------|--------|
| | Ves. | Tons. | Bags, &c. | Cases. |
| GREAT BRITAIN AND HER DEPENDENCIES. | | | | |
| Cape of Good Hope. In 14 Brit. | 14 | 2,514 | 18,637 | 448 |
| Corfu. In 1 Brit. 208, 1 Aust. 423 | 2 | 631 | 3,082 | 3 |
| Cowes. In 19 Brit. 5,514, 1 Amer. 462, 2 Brem. 462, 6 Dan. 1,896, 1 Pruss. 309, 1 Swed. 502 | 30 | 9,145 | 100,823 | 126 |
| Falmouth. In 9 Brit. 2,995, 1 Brem. 154, 4 Dan. 1,405, 1 Hamb. 410, 2 Swed. 995 | 17 | 5,959 | 57,392 | 783 |
| Gibraltar. In 3 Brit. 801, 1 Aust. 383, 2 Sard. 391 | 6 | 1,575 | 16,106 | — |
| Guernsey. In 1 Brit. | 1 | 244 | 2,712 | — |
| Jersey. In 4 Brit. | 4 | 1,108 | 11,632 | 20 |
| Liverpool. In 6 Brit. | 6 | 1,691 | 5,361 | 178 |
| London. In 14 Brit. | 14 | 5,107 | 16,952 | 797 |
| Malta. In 3 Brit. 507, 1 Aus. 409 | 4 | 916 | 4,649 | 15 |
| Swansea. In 1 Brit. 298, 1 Swed. 404 | 2 | 702 | 48 | — |
| Sydney. In 1 Brit. | 1 | 491 | 28 | 48 |
| FRANCE. | | | | |
| Bordeaux. In 2 French | 2 | 773 | 184 | — |
| Havre. In 15 French | 15 | 5,234 | 27,019 | — |
| Marseilles. In 2 French. 697, 1 Neap. 571, 5 Sard. 1,152, 1 Span. 193, 3 Swed. 942 | 12 | 3,555 | 27,364 | 342 |
| PORTUGAL AND HER DEPENDENCIES. | | | | |
| Africa. In 8 Amer. 2,972, 7 Nat. 740, 5 Port. 873 | 20 | 4,585 | 78 | 43 |
| Azores. In 2 Nat. 478, 2 Port. 265 | 4 | 743 | 974 | 173 |
| Lisbon. In 2 Nat. 1,051, 15 Port. 5,159 | 17 | 6,210 | 34,950 | 1,270 |
| Oporto. In 1 Nat. 313, 11 Port. 3,569 | 12 | 3,882 | 7,719 | 1,194 |
| UNITED STATES. | | | | |
| Baltimore. In 30 Amer. 9,505, 1 Dan. 219 | 31 | 9,724 | 92,562 | 4 |
| Boston. In 7 Amer. | 7 | 2,642 | 23,513 | — |
| Charleston. In 3 Amer. | 3 | 866 | 9,772 | — |
| New Orleans. In 19 Amer. 7,789, 3 Dan. 1061, 1 Span. 246, 1 Swed. 417 | 24 | 9,513 | 95,668 | — |
| New York. In 28 Amer. 8,538, 1 Brem. 167, 1 Dan. 339, 2 Hamb. 556, 5 Swed. 1,780 | 37 | 11,380 | 110,347 | — |
| Philadelphia. In 7 Amer. 1,902, 1 Dan. 174 | 8 | 2,076 | 19,690 | — |
| HANSE TOWNS. | | | | |
| Bremen. In 3 Brem. 655, 1 Hamb. 240, 1 Olden. 247 | 5 | 1,142 | 12,842 | — |
| Hamburg. In 6 Brit. 2,266, 10 Dan. 3,519, 20 Hamb. 7,439, 1 Lub. 360, 1 Norw. 373, 1 Port. 489, 3 Pruss. 963, 1 Russ. 526, 6 Swed. 2,171 | 49 | 18,106 | 183,586 | 97 |
| DENMARK. | | | | |
| Altona. In 6 Dan. | 6 | 2,520 | 26,151 | — |
| Flensburg. In 2 Dan. | 2 | 751 | 5,570 | 188 |
| SWEDEN. | | | | |
| Gothenburg. In 2 Dan. 328, 3 Swed. 1,239 | 5 | 1,587 | 10,549 | 554 |
| Stockholm. In 10 Swed. | 10 | 3,292 | 20,773 | 65 |
| AUSTRIAN STATES. | | | | |
| Treeste. In 13 Brit. 3,693, 1 Amer. 520, 9 Aust. 3,628, 2 Brem. 617, 9 Dan. 2,665, 4 Sard. 1,241, 2 Swed. 589 | 40 | 12,953 | 111,604 | 2,302 |
| Venice. In 1 Brit. 206, 1 Swed. 367 | 2 | 573 | 2,350 | 319 |
| BELGIUM. | | | | |
| Antwerp. In 8 Brit. 2,337, 1 Amer. 442, 6 Belg. 1,934, 1 Brem. 230, 4 Dan. 1,185, 1 Dutch. 269, 1 Hamb. 313, 3 Swed. 876 | 25 | 7,586 | 78,793 | — |
| HOLLAND. | | | | |
| Amsterdam. In 1 Brem. 229, 1 Dutch. 210 | 2 | 439 | 4,748 | — |
| Rotterdam. In 2 Brit. | 2 | 367 | 4,893 | — |
| SARDINIAN STATES. | | | | |
| Genoa. In 1 Brem. 768, 5 Sard. 1,081, 1 Swed. 419 | 7 | 2,278 | 5,584 | 992 |
| SICILY. | | | | |
| Naples. In 3 Neap. | 3 | 784 | 2,183 | 222 |
| Palermo. In 2 Neap. | 2 | 967 | 1,758 | 94 |
| TURKEY. | | | | |
| Constantinople. In 3 Brit. 654, 1 Aust. 284, 1 Dan. 286, 1 Swed. 471 | 6 | 1,695 | 16,207 | 1 |
| NORWAY. | | | | |
| Drondheim. In 1 Norw. | 1 | 205 | 1,624 | 6 |
| CHILI. | | | | |
| Valparaiso. In 1 Brit. 300, 1 Belg. 387, 1 Chil. 397, 1 French 380, 1 Swed. 662 | 5 | 2,126 | 155 | 182 |
| REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY. | | | | |
| Monte Video. In 4 Brit. 1,052, 7 Amer. 2,143, 1 Aust. 629, 16 Nat. 3,941, 10 Orien. 1,441, 14 Sard. 1,845, 12 Span. 3,283, 1 Swed. 539 | 65 | 13,973 | 2,162 | 2,692 |
| ARGENTINE CONFEDERACY. | | | | |
| Buenos Ayres. In 3 Arg. 341, 1 Amer. 508, 2 Dan. 593, 1 Hamb. 327, 21 Nat. 3,428, 3 Port. 366, 5 Sard. 760, 3 Span. 672 | 39 | 6,995 | 962 | 2,302 |
| Total | 369 | 169,575 | 1,179,731 | 15,460 |

By this statement it appears that 114 British ships conveyed cargoes of sugar and coffee from Brazil during 1842, of which fourteen came to London, six to Liverpool, and one to Swansea, which, strictly speaking, constitute all that arrived in this country out of the whole number; for the twenty-eight ships which, in common with ships of all other countries, are entered under the heads of Cowes and Falmouth, did not land their cargoes there, but only called to receive orders to what continental port they were to proceed. The destination of these ships being as follows:—

| | | | |
|------------------------------|----|-----------------------------|----|
| London | 14 | Constantinople | 3 |
| Liverpool | 6 | Valparaiso | 1 |
| Swansea | 1 | Monte Video | 4 |
| Cowes (for orders) | 19 | Cape of Good Hope | 14 |
| Falmouth ditto | 9 | Corfu | 1 |
| Hamburg | 6 | Guernsey | 1 |
| Trieste | 13 | Jersey | 4 |
| Venice | 1 | Malta | 3 |
| Antwerp | 8 | Sydney | 1 |
| Rotterdam | 2 | Gibraltar | 3 |

So that of 114 British ships leaving Rio de Janeiro, twenty-one return with cargoes to England, and ninety-three are employed in carrying cargoes to every part of the world in open competition with the ships of every country:—to Hamburg, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Trieste, and all other countries, we find British ships mingling in common with American, Danish, Prussian, Bremen, and all others; obtaining only the same rate of freight, and labouring under the disadvantage of having in most cases to return from the continent in ballast. What an illustration do these facts afford of the enormous fallacy under which the shipowners of this country labour, when they imagine themselves interested in upholding monopoly and restrictions. They support a system which involves them in a most unequal struggle with other countries, in the price of building and manning their ships, and then they find themselves engaged in all parts of the world in open competition with their more favoured rivals. At least two-thirds of our foreign shipping is engaged in a trade in which they have no protection, but have to submit to the common rate of freights which the cheapest ship-building countries are willing to accept. In the year 1841, the number of British ships which entered outwards, was 17,633—of which 11,074 were destined to foreign neutral ports, where they had no protection whatever, and only 6,559 to ports in British possession. We believe there is not one class in this country whose interests are so much involved in the success of free trade as that of shipowners, and we have observed with great satisfaction the increasing intelligence among this class of our countrymen on this important and vital question.

CHARITY OR JUSTICE?

Charity, although it may cover a multitude of sins, cannot support a nation. It is, therefore, with feelings, among which pain takes its place as well as pleasure, that we notice, time after time, large schemes propounded and associations formed, having for their professed object to benefit the poor by means of alms-giving, in one shape or another, and of which the real design, there is no reason to doubt, is actually to benefit the poor, but of which the ultimate result is by no means unmixed benefit, if indeed it is not pure mischief. We have already (see article, *Widow Biddle and the Poor Needlewomen*, in No. 10) exposed the futility of attempting by artificial means to bolster up the prices of particular sorts, or any sort, of labour; but it appears the good-natured friends of the needlewomen are not to be put upon the right track, hastily, by argument, and we must address ourselves to them and to this subject generally once more. In the *Times*, the other day, we noticed the following as an advertisement:—

“SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE DISTRESSED NEEDLEWOMEN IN LONDON.—The Committee for endeavouring to procure for their own countrywomen employment, with fair remuneration for their labour, beg to impress on the nobility, gentry, and public in general, that this much to be desired benefit may be now realized, and this oppressed class of society, by means of the benevolent, be restored to their just rights. Every subscriber will receive goods to the amount of their subscription, for their own distribution.”

Then follow a list of subscribers, &c. That the “just rights,” both of those who are “oppressed” and those who are not, are to obtain a “fair remuneration for their labour,” we cannot, do not deny. But we observe in this “Society for the Protection of Distressed Needlewomen” neither more nor less than a *new manufactory for needlework*; and if the assertion that “every subscriber will receive goods to the amount of their subscription,” be not in fact a complete mis-statement, this society can have no means of paying the distressed needlewomen one farthing more than the slopsellers who have recently incurred so heavy a condemnation. But the assertion alluded to no doubt is a mis-statement. The subscribers will only receive goods to the amount of their subscription according to some arbitrarily fixed rate of payment to the poor women; and all that is given them above the market value of their labour is *charity*.

Now Heaven forbid that we should raise a voice against charity. It is not with the exercise of benevolence that we quarrel, but the want of judgment. For helpless and forsaken women,—for the old and destitute,—for all in distress we avow as warm a sympathy as any. But if—not individuals, but—large numbers of our fellow-countrymen and countrywomen are to be thrown permanently upon others for relief,—if labour unprotected cannot obtain its “just reward,” there is something wrong among us which no subscriptions to charitable institutions will put right, or do more than very temporarily alleviate.

In the name of genuine humanity, we protest against the laws and practices of these realms, whose proved tendency is to pauperize a whole people, and what is worse, to make them content in their degradation—nay, grateful, and obliged to supplicate, for alms. All that these alms can do—all that the new poor law or any poor law can do for the people,—is but a lame and impotent counteractive to the oppressive statutes which limit at once the supply of human food and the demand for human labour. The effect of such statutes can be counteracted by no charity and by no poor law. They are not to be mended; they must be destroyed. The poor law—however hardly it may bear at present

on the lowest class of the community—would be a just law, if industry had fair play, and the burden of taxation were properly laid on. Therefore, in order to make the poor law *actually* just, it is not necessary to repeal it, or farther (except triflingly, perhaps) amend it, but to allow to industry its just rights, and place taxation where it ought. Only thrust a large proportion of the labouring classes into workhouses (feeding them well), or support them at the public expense out of doors, since that seems so much to be desired,—have every honourable feeling of the duty of self-reliance driven from their minds, and let them in the prime of life become confirmed and degraded paupers—where then would be “the merry homes of England?”—where “a bold peasantry, their country’s pride?”

It is a wretched and mawkish feeling of benevolence which some people are possessed of, and which prompts them without reflecting on the consequences of what they do, to fritter away their means of doing good, in affording temporary and misplaced relief, and thoughtlessly aggravating misfortune for the sake of indulging their own sensibility in its subsequent removal. But THE BEST BENEVOLENCE IS THAT WHICH PUTS PEOPLE IN THE WAY OF BENEFITING THEMSELVES. True, rational humanity would not willingly see a fellow-creature dependent on the capricious bounty of another. Unable to reverse the law of God which prescribes labour as the lot of man, it would endeavour to direct the labour of the poor into a proper channel, and the wealth of the rich to its proper objects; but neither of these objects can be promoted, on a large scale, by giving or receiving alms. And in point of fact the poor of this country would have been quite able to support themselves if they had not had so long to support others also. They suffer severely in the meantime, we know,—would that they suffered less!—but the struggle betwixt poverty and power can never be put an end to, but rather incurs the danger of being hopelessly and ruinously prolonged, by alms-giving to whatever amount. An individual may occasionally be benefited by private charity; masses cannot; and therefore we ask the poor to join with us in demanding enlarged principles of public justice to be acted on, which are our only security,—our only hope.

IMPORTS THE TEST OF WEALTH.

(From a Correspondent.)

The origin of this Anti-Corn-law League is well given in the extract from the *Eclectic Review*, at page 443 of the *Economist*, and any one who reads that will not wonder to be told, that five or six years ago they who took the lead in the business were by no means aware of all the bearings of the case, and the consequences of repeal, as they are now, after having for so long a time thought of it, argued on it, and discussed it with both friends and foes. There is no doubt that it was taken up, in the first place, chiefly as a manufacturer’s question, in the hope of averting the ruin that seemed to be impending over them; but the further examination of the subject convinced them that that which was of vital importance to the manufacturers, was almost equally important to the proprietors of land, and that the benefit of the first consisted not so much in additional cheapness of food, as in greater demand for work; and that from this greater demand would result also a greater demand for labour, and for food, so that though the supply would be increased, the demand would, at the very least, keep pace with it.

But one of the most startling propositions that the League has put forth, is that the true test of the richness and prosperity of a country was not so much the quantity of its exports as of its imports. Yet nothing can be more true, and it will clearly appear so, if but one moment’s consideration be given to the subject. It is, indeed, directly in the teeth of the old doctrine of the balance of trade; the fallacy of that doctrine has long been admitted: and, in truth, is it not the criterion by which the measure is taken of the opulence and well-being of every individual? If a man exhibits a small house, and has very small dealings with the butcher and baker and grocer, do we not judge that his means are not great? but if these dealings increase, and there is brought to him more bread, a larger supply of meat and of grocery, and if there then follow dealings with the fishmonger, the confectioner, the upholsterer, &c., do not all his neighbours infer that his trade is thriving, or that he has acquired some addition to his fortune? There, doubtless, was a time, when a few houses scattered on the banks of the Thames could devour all the supplies, which their inhabitants required, of corn, and of milk, of butter, and of fuel, from the fields and woods of what is now called Middlesex. But as this last grew in size and wealth, and in the number of its inhabitants, it was obliged to send further and further for its supplies. And if it now puts the whole world under contribution for this purpose, is not this proof of its magnitude and opulence? If by some legislative power the supply of food brought to London had been confined to the produce of the fields of Middlesex and Surrey, would not this have necessarily limited its population and greatness? And does not the same reasoning apply to the whole kingdom?

In the book of Ezekiel, there is a description of the greatness and splendour of ancient Tyre; and it wholly consists in the enumeration of the countries which contributed to its supply. Amongst the things mentioned as supplied by foreigners, are both wheat, and horses, and camels.

We have had our attention drawn to this point by a leading article in a French journal, and shall conclude with a translation of part of it, in which the question here treated is stated with reference to French commerce in a very clear and able manner. In the *Journal des Debats*, of the 29th January, we read:—“The ‘administration’ of the customs has lately published, in the *Moniteur*, an account of the foreign merchandize imported into France during the last year. We are thus made acquainted with one of the elements of the commerce of 1843; and we can, therefore, now see that the Minister of Commerce was right, when, in the *Tribune*, he affirmed that the operations of this year would compensate for the accidental want of movement of 1842. Progress has been made in most of the articles of importation. Exportation would very probably have followed in this upward course; but if it had not increased in so considerable a proportion, the progress of importation would, nevertheless, be of advantage to the country. For from the moment that it produced neither an overplus of stock, or encumbered store-houses, neither reduction of our market prices, or diminution in the demand for labour, one may boldly conclude that such importation has found an easy and advantageous outlet in the consumption of the interior, and that, together with the consumption, the production of the country has increased. The state of the stores, on the first of January, 1844, shows no remarkable excess. Far from it. There is a diminution on most of the articles, especially on cottons, woollens, oil, and sugar.

“And yet already, 1842 had been a year of great importation, a fact which the jealous partisans of the balance of commerce have lately remarked with sorrow. The increase of 1843, we fear, will add to their dismay; for, to their eyes, the more we receive from abroad, the poorer we become. Yet the foreigner, we may well believe, does not yield us his merchandize for the mere pleasure of giving it to us; and, for a people to buy much, is in reality to sell much, if they do not, as Spain did in the 16th century, pay for its purchases in money. But there is a yet better, and a much more simple observation to make to those croakers who each year deplore the surplus they think they remark in the value of our importations above that of our exportations, it is—that in truth this difference does not exist.”

SENEX.

ANCIENT AUTHORITIES IN FAVOUR OF FREE TRADE.

(From Sir Matthew Decker’s *Essay on the Decline of Foreign Trade*, 1744.)

“In the *Memoirs of De Witt*, it is said that ‘restraint is always hurtful to trade,’ the reason whereof is plain; for nature has given various products to various countries, and thereby knit mankind in an intercourse to supply each other’s wants. To attempt to sell our products, but to buy little or none from foreigners, is attempting an impossibility, acting contrary to the intent of nature, cynically and absurdly, and as ours is a populous manufacturing country, might be prejudicial to our interests; for, could we raise all necessaries and varieties within ourselves, this intercourse designed by nature would be destroyed, and then how is our navy, our only bulwark, to be maintained?”—P. 147.

“Trade cannot, will not, be forced; let other nations prohibit, by what severity they please, interest will prevail; they may embarrass their own trade, but cannot hurt a nation whose trade is free so much as themselves. Spain has prohibited our woollens; but had a reduction of our taxes brought them to their natural value only, they would be the cheapest in Europe of their goodness, consequently must be more demanded by the Spaniards, be smuggled into their country in spite of their government, and sold at better prices; their people would be dearer clothed with duties and prohibitions than without, consequently, must sell their oil, wine, and other commodities dearer; whereby other nations, raising the like growths, would gain ground upon them, and their balance of trade grow less and less. But should we for that reason prohibit their commodities? By no means; for the dearer they grow, no more than what are just necessary will be used; their prohibition does their own business. Some may be necessary for us; what are so we should not make dearer to our own people; some may be proper to assort cargoes for other countries, and why should we prohibit our people that advantage? Why hurt ourselves to hurt the Spaniards? If we would retaliate effectually upon them for their ill intent, handsome premiums given to our plantations to raise the same growths as Spain might enable them to supply us cheaper than the Spaniards could do, and establish a trade they could never recover. Premiums may gain trade, but prohibitions will destroy it.”—P. 163.

“I allow,” he says, “that Britain should be always vigilant over the designs of France, but need not be afraid of her power; her wise regulations in trade should be the objects we should keep our eyes upon, and out-do her if possible; or else, as she rises, we must sink. But it is our comfort that our remedy is always in our own hands; nor can there be any solid reason for the nation’s paying dearer to other countries for goods we could buy cheaper in France. Would any wise dealer in London buy goods of a Dutch shopkeeper for 15d. or 18d., when he could have the same from a French shopkeeper for 1s.? Would he not consider that by so doing he would empty his own pockets the sooner, and that in the end he would greatly injure his own

family by such whims? And shall this nation commit an absurdity that stares every private man in the face? The certain way to be secure is to be more powerful—*i. e.*, to extend our trade as far as it is capable of; and as restraints have proved its ruin, to reject them, and depend on freedom for our security; bidding defiance to the French, or any nation in Europe that took umbrage at our exerting our natural advantages."—P. 184.

"Every home commodity, in a free trade, will find its natural value; for though that fluctuates, as of necessity it must, according to the plentifulness or scarcity of seasons, yet for the home consumption every home commodity must have great advantage over the foreign, as being on the spot, and free from freight, insurance, commission, and charges, which, on the produce of lands, being all bulky commodities, must in general be about 15 per cent., makes a great difference in the price of necessaries between one nation selling and one nation buying; and it is a great difficulty on the latter, but, arising from the natural course of things, cannot be helped; though it is a sufficient security to the landowner, that foreigners can never import more necessaries than are absolutely required; and I presume, in such cases, they have more charity than to starve the people for an imaginary profit, which yet would prove their ruin in the end; for it is a fallacy and an absurdity to think to raise the value of lands by oppressions on the people that cramp their trade, for if trade declines, the common people must either come upon the parish, or fly for business to our neighbours: in the first case, they become a heavy tax on the rich, and, instead of buying the produce of their lands, must have it given them; and in the second case, when the consumers are gone, what price will the produce of land bear?"—P. 56.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Monday, Feb. 12.

THE INDIAN ARMY.—The Earl of RIFON this day moved the thanks of the House to Sir Charles Napier and the army recently employed in the conquest of Scinde.—Lord AUCKLAND seconded the motion; and the Duke of WELLINGTON in concurring in the motion, warmly eulogised the skill and courage of Sir Charles Napier. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

STATE OF SPAIN.—The Earl of CLARENDON put a question to the Earl of ABERDEEN on the subject of Spain. He regretted the state of anarchy and military despotism into which that country had fallen—Carlism everywhere thrust into place, and a marriage meditated with a young prince bred in a court and a seminary most hostile to constitutional principles. He asked was it upon this basis that the English government had come to an accord with the French on the subject of Spain?—The Earl of ABERDEEN, in effect, replied that though he regretted the condition of Spain, he was not called upon to interfere with movements essentially national. He absolved the French government from having had anything to do in overthrowing Espartero; and he said he should not interfere with the marriage of the Queen of Spain one way or the other.

Tuesday, Feb. 13.

STATE OF IRELAND.—The Marquis of NORMANBY, pursuant to notice, now laid before the house his motion on the state of Ireland. It was to the following effect:—

"That this house, having, in answer to her Majesty's most gracious speech, assured her Majesty that they entered into her Majesty's feelings in forbearing from observation on events in Ireland in respect to which proceedings are pending before the proper legal tribunal, feel it, in consequence, to be their duty to take the earliest opportunity, when no prejudice can arise therefrom in the minds of the jury, to record their intention to examine into the causes of the discontents now unhappily too prevalent in that country. And also, that with a view to the removal of existing evils, and the restoration of confidence, this house look to the development of the only true principles of a perfect union, by securing to her Majesty's subjects, of all classes and persuasions, in all parts of the United Kingdom, the practical enjoyment of equal rights."

His lordship's speech was of great length. After alluding to Mr O'Connell's agitation, he said that repeal, from having been distasteful, and having been thought impracticable, in this country, had come to be looked upon if not with approval, at least with less distaste than the proceedings taken to repress it. The whole Catholic body, not only of Ireland, but also of England, had been insulted by the selection of a jury to try Mr O'Connell and others.

"These are things," said his lordship, "which require that this house should turn its serious attention to the conduct of government; and I can assure you I speak it with great regret, but with as much sincerity, that I entertain very great alarm as to the present state of Ireland—alarm, my lords, not indeed of outbreaks; but I will not more particularly allude to the nature of what the dread I speak of may be, lest, even by indirectly alluding to it, it might be supposed hereafter that what I now said actually tended to produce those evils which it is my greatest wish to avert."

He counselled the Irish people from his place in parliament to have patience under their sufferings and to obey the laws. He much blamed government for the mingled vacillation, irritation, and harshness which had characterized their treatment of the Irish people in the late agitation.

"They issued a proclamation to prevent the meeting at Clontarf. He would wish to know whether any noble lord had ever heard a single man, in private conversation, defend the government in that proceeding, and whether so much rashness, following such unparalleled vacillation, was not perfectly consistent with the whole conduct of that government. (Hear, hear.) That proclamation was issued on the very night—on the very day before that meeting was to take place, all the facts in reference to which had been well known to the noble lords opposite more than three

weeks before the day of meeting. He should like to hear some satisfactory explanation given of such conduct. If it was defended in this house it would be the first time that it had yet been defended either there or in any of the organs of the government. (Hear, hear, from the ministerial benches.) He shrunk not from those cheers. If the noble lords opposite had anything to say in favour of this act of the government—and it was not a trifling and unimportant act, but an act for the adoption of which their responsibility was great—he was sure that he would not hear from them any of those taunts which had already been so unsparingly used against those parties with whom the government had interfered—taunts of cowardice against them, because of the obedience, on the appearance of the proclamation, which they had manifested towards the laws."

He (the Marquis of Normanby) had always been opposed to repeal. Still

"Its practicability had been maintained by many eminent men of this country. Some, on whose names they were accustomed to think with veneration—one of them a noble friend of his, who was now no more (Lord Holland), and another whom ill health prevented from then attending in his place (Mr Grey, at that time)—did not consider it an impracticable thing. It was rather hard, however, to throw out imputations of treason against those who, mistaken though they were as to their object, only wished to restore to their country what had already existed for eighteen years. From 1782 to 1800 every outgoing and incoming government had been eager for granting independence to Ireland."

He characterized the famous words of Lord Lyndhurst, stigmatizing the Irish as aliens, as "unfortunate words," by which a deep impression had been made on the hearts of the Irish people. To stigmatize them so was in effect to promote the cause of repeal; and the taunts which had been thrown out against the late government, that it was kept in office only by an Irish majority, had the same bad effect:—

"He said that any man who used that phrase, if he was an honest man, must have been in his heart a repealer. To draw that distinction between members coming from one part of the country or another was striking a vital blow to the principle of the legislature. (Loud cheers.) If it was the intention to draw such a distinction, it was at once departing from the principles of the union, and was as much as saying that Ireland should not be a part of the united kingdom, but should be a province. (Hear, hear.) Was he singular in that opinion, not as applied, perhaps, directly to those words, but that the principles of the legislative union were that perfect equality should be maintained? That was an opinion, not only delivered by him, but by much weightier authority—delivered in Ireland from the bench of justice in 1833, by a learned person who was now no more, Mr Baron Smith, the father of the present Attorney-General of Ireland—of whom he would say a word presently. Mr Baron Smith, in his charge to the grand jury, said: 'As long as England conforms to the true principles of the union I shall wish the strict and blending connexion which is established to subsist. But one of those principles, and a main one, is this, that Ireland, which before the union was an independent, though connected, country, should by the union, not have lost, but incorporated its independence, and become the British empire—not a province, but a part. We owe what we call allegiance to the union, but not to any connexion substantially different from what the articles of the union have prescribed. It is our charter, for which we have paid a weighty price, which it is our right and duty loyally to defend, and which but with our lives we ought to surrender. If it were violated (but it never will be), an Irishman's duty might become very different from what it is.'

Ministers had found it necessary to govern by the aid of the majority in Canada; and they should do the same in Ireland. The dismissal of magistrates was an unwise step. The selection of the jury was equally so. The arms bill was unjust, and the manner in which it had been attempted to be carried into effect most irritating and vexatious. Where had been the "policy of peace and conciliation" promised by Sir Robert Peel and by Lord Eliot on his behalf?—

"He also thought it very desirable that any preference which was given between the two religions should be done away with, and he said boldly, openly, and decidedly, that for the tranquillity of Ireland the Catholic religion should be placed on a footing of equality. (Hear, hear.) He did not enter upon the question so far as to say that at present it was desirable to pay the priests; but he declared that all which made the Catholic religion subordinate should be abolished."

Lord WHARNCIFFE made a strong speech in reply. He justified, first, the apparent stillness of government, and afterwards its rigour. The proclamation stopping the Clontarf meeting had been issued as soon as decided on:—

"He wished now to say a few words respecting the Irish Attorney-General. He had no personal acquaintance with him, and until he was appointed he not only had never seen him, but he had never heard of him. This ignorance on his part arose from want of acquaintance with the Irish bar; and although the Irish Attorney-General had been recently bedaubed by all sorts of attacks, to-night was the first time he (Lord Wharnciffe) had ever been told of the passage in the speech which the noble marquis had quoted."

After explaining, almost in the same words as Sir James Graham, the circumstances which had influenced the government in striking the special jury, and protesting that political and not religious opinions had alone weighed with them, the noble lord proceeded to explain that the commission, at the head of which was Lord Devon, was intended to inquire into the relation of landlord and tenant, so that without fixing the terms upon which a landlord should let his land, or introducing "fixity of tenure," some approach might be made to the practice which provided that no tenant should leave his farm without compensation being awarded for any improvements he might have made. With respect to the franchise, it was intended, in the counties, to remove the present difficulty as to the interpretation of the phrase "beneficial interest," and, in the boroughs, to modify the clause which required that all rates should be paid before the right to vote was established. An additional grant would be proposed for the purposes of education, and the obstructions which now prevented the appropriation of money to provide houses and glebes for the Roman Catholic priesthood would be removed. He objected strongly to any proposal which might endanger the stability of the established church in Ireland, treating as chimerical the notion of placing the two churches upon an equality; and concluded by explicitly declaring the determination of the ministry to preserve the union inviolate, and uphold the supremacy of the law.

The Marquis of Clanricarde, Lord Roden, Lord Devon, the Marquis

of Westmeath, and Lord Beaumont, followed, the first and last-named lords only concurring in the notion and sentiments of the mover. The others warmly defended ministers. Debate adjourned.

Thursday, Feb. 15.

STATE OF IRELAND.—DISCUSSION CONTINUED.—The Earl of FORTESCUE opened the adjourned discussion by denying a charge, made by Sir James Graham, of the late government having made unnecessary appointments of stipendiary magistrates. He considered stipendiary magistrates the best for any country, and especially for Ireland. He acknowledged the aid which Mr O'Connell had given to the cause of government and good order by his exertions to prevent any disturbance of the public peace. He was followed by the Earl of Haddington and the Earl of Ripon, on behalf of government, and by Lord Montague in favour of the Marquis of Normanby's motion. The debate ended in a fracas between Lord Brougham and Lord Campbell. The latter noble lord had moved the adjournment on the previous night, and Lord Brougham taunted him with not speaking now. Lord Campbell said, that he laid himself out to answer the arguments of Lord Brougham, who was no longer his former self, and Lord Brougham gave to this an indignant denial, and told Lord Campbell that he should afterwards give him an opportunity of discussing his (Lord B.'s) personal consistency, and Lord Campbell said he accepted the challenge; and the vote having been taken on the Marquis of Normanby's motion, there appeared, contents, 78; noncontents, 175: majority against the motion, 97. House adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Saturday, Feb. 10.

There having been no house on the night previous, and no adjournment moved to Monday, the house was obliged to meet this day.

CHINESE OPIUM TRADE.—In answer to a question from Sir George Staunton, Lord STANLEY said, that the British government did not contemplate the suppression of the opium trade by forcible measures, considering the determination on the part of the people of China to consume that drug, and on the part of the principal officers of the Chinese government to connive, if not to assist at its introduction—it was their desire, he said, to induce the Chinese government, if possible, to consent to its introduction and to legalize the trade, by imposing a reasonable amount of duty on it. The British government, his lordship said, were determined to act with good faith towards the Chinese government in all the regulations; and therefore every discouragement would be given to a smuggling trade, and merchants of this country undertaking it must be understood as doing so at their own risk and without a claim to the protection of our government.

POOR LAW AMENDMENT BILL.—Sir James GRAHAM moved the first reading of this bill, and explained its principal features. He said, that as there was considerable difference of opinion on the abolition of the Gilbert unions, he would not now propose to abolish them, but would move, on another day, for a select committee to inquire into their operation. The bastardy law in its present shape had occasioned great dissatisfaction in Wales, and in the north of England, and he had introduced into this bill a provision, by which, on application being made within forty days from the birth of the child, there should be power given to two magistrates to make an order of maintenance on the putative father, operating not only against his goods, but against his person. This order would proceed upon the oath of the mother, fortified by some corroborative evidence; which he justified by an appeal to the present similar practice in Scotland. Another subject, Sir James said, which needed the interference of parliament was the want in large towns of some place of refuge for destitute persons, who now had no shelter but under walls and porticoes. He would propose to establish asylums, where such persons should receive not only shelter, but food at night and food in the morning, on condition of working for four hours.—Captain Pechell, Mr Duncombe, Mr S. Wortley, Mr Dennison, and Sir Walter James, all intimated their gratification at the proposed improvements, and the bill was brought in and read a first time.

OFFENCES OF THE HIGH SEAS.—Sir James GRAHAM also obtained leave to introduce a bill for the more speedy trial of offences committed upon the high seas. By the law, as it at present stood, all offences committed upon the high seas could only be tried at the Central Criminal Court. Immediately the prisoners arrived at the outports the depositions were taken there, and then witnesses, prisoners, depositions and all must be brought to London, whereby great public inconvenience and no small expense were incurred. To remedy this, the bill which he now introduced gave power to the justices of the county in which the outport where the prisoners first arrived was situated, to try the offenders at any session of oyer and terminer.

Monday, Feb. 12.

COMMITTEE ON IMPORT DUTIES.—Mr FERRAND gave notice this day that he should propose an amendment to the motion of Mr Cobden, for a select committee to inquire into the effects of protective duties on imports upon the interests of the tenant farmers and farm labourers of the country, to the effect that the committee be also directed to inquire into the effect produced upon the wages of the manufacturing operatives by the immigration of agricultural labourers into the manufacturing districts at the requisition of the millowners; also, if the representations which had been made to those labourers to induce them to immigrate were true, and if the agreements entered into with them had been fulfilled; and also the effect which the increase of machinery had produced upon the wages of the manufacturing operatives.

SMUGGLING.—Mr HUME postponed his motion for a committee to inquire into the extent, &c., of smuggling until Tuesday next.

ESTABLISHED CHURCH.—Mr HUME gave notice that if Mr Ward brought forward the motion of which he had given notice, he (Mr Hume) should propose an amendment to the effect, that an humble address be presented to her Majesty, praying that her Majesty would be pleased to direct an inquiry to be made for the purpose of ascertaining whether the number of persons dissenting from the established churches of England, Ireland, and Scotland, was not greater than the number of those in communion with those churches, and, if so, whether the time was not arrived when the public property which had been de-

voted to the uses of those churches ought to be withdrawn, regard being had to existing interests, and whether the greater portion of it ought not to be devoted to the promotion of national education, or to any other useful purpose that parliament might direct.

PARISHES IN SCOTLAND.—Sir James GRAHAM, in answer to a question from Mr Edward Ellice, jun., said, that in the course of the session the Lord Advocate for Scotland would introduce a measure for the better division of parishes in that country.

BONDED WAREHOUSES AT MANCHESTER.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in answer to a question put by Sir Walter James, said that, in consequence of some communications which had passed between himself on the part of the government and certain parties in Manchester, a bill would shortly be introduced for the purpose of giving facilities of bonding goods for home consumption, and to that bill the government would give its support, on the condition that Manchester should pay all the expenses of erecting and maintaining such warehouses. It was proposed shortly, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, to introduce a private bill to this effect.

GAME LAWS.—On the motion of Mr BRIGHT, an address was ordered for a return of the number of persons convicted of offences against the game laws, either at petty sessions, quarter sessions, or assizes, in England and Wales, during the year 1843, specifying the punishment or penalties inflicted in each case, and also specifying in what county and upon whose property the alleged offence was committed.

THE INDIAN ARMY.—Sir Robert PEEL moved a vote of thanks to Sir C. Napier and the officers and men participating in the late military operations in Scinde. In proposing this vote he observed that the objects and policy of the war were not here in discussion. For the instructions given to Sir C. Napier, the civil power, and not the general, was responsible. About September, 1842, he was invested with the command in Scinde and Beloochistan; the two most signal battles of that campaign, which lasted from January to March, 1843, were those of Meeanee and Hyderabad. As the battle of Meeanee he possessed about 2,000 men, against 22,000 or upwards, and, moreover, the enemy's local position had extraordinary natural advantages. At the battle of Hyderabad he had about 5,000 men, against about 20,000. The enemy, the Ameers and Beloochees, were men of such courage, that after having discharged their firelocks, they attacked the British with sword and shield. On our side the Sepoys, animated by the example of their officers, behaved in such a manner as to leave no distinction between them and the British. But the chief glory, where all were glorious, was due to the commander—one of three brothers, who had engrafted on the stem of an ancient family the distinction of personal nobility. Throughout the peninsular war there were no officers more prodigal of their blood than those brothers; and if we perused the records of one of the most recent and brilliant of our naval achievements, we should find that its leader also bore the name of Napier. "Ready, ay, ready," as it was the motto of that family, was also their character. The achievements of Sir C. Napier might seem desperate, and so they would have been, if undertaken by ordinary persons; but when conducted by such a leader, they were reconcilable with the calmest prudence. It was difficult to conjecture what result might have followed from a more backward and cautious generalship; his own conviction was, that the worst consequences would have ensued if Sir C. Napier had not advanced, and that he had no alternative but to affront the danger as he did. Sir R. Peel illustrated the value of Sir C. Napier's success by examples of the active and perfidious character of the Ameers, and by the operations of Sir John Keane against those formidable chiefs. The military skill of Sir C. Napier was not his highest praise; still greater applause was due to the moral courage with which he had acted on his own judgment against urgent advice, and hazarded his own life and his own reputation. For such exploits he thought the house would be unanimous in their thanks. He then adverted to the loss of those brave men whose deaths were commemorated in Sir C. Napier's despatches; and expressed his hope that such a record of their gallantry would afford some consolation to their surviving families.—The motion was seconded by Lord John RUSSELL.—Lord Howick, Mr Vernon Smith, Mr Mangles, Mr Hawes, Mr Charles Wood, Mr Sherman Crawford, and Dr Bowring, all opposed the motion, not denying the skill or courage of Sir C. Napier, but affirming as a principle that no officer should be thanked unless engaged in a formal, recognised war; and some of them, as Dr Bowring, "disapproving of all aggressive wars," and therefore declining to thank those engaged in them.—Sir H. Hardinge, Sir H. Douglas, Commodore Sir C. Napier, Mr Escott, and Lord Stanley, supported the motion, which, on a division, was carried by 164 to 9.

STRANGERS IN THE HOUSE.—Mr CHRISTIE brought on a motion for a select committee to consider the expediency of recognising the presence of strangers at debates. He proposed leaving to every member the right now possessed of requiring the house to be cleared on any occasion that he might choose; but he (Mr Christie) wished the house to give a formal sanction to the publication of their reports, and only to punish when such permission might be abused.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER and Sir G. CLERK defended the existing practice.—Mr T. Duncombe, Mr Williams, and Dr Bowring thought the existing practice absurd.—On a division there were—for Mr Christie's motion, 37; against it, 84: majority, 47.

Tuesday, Feb. 13.

Among the preliminary business of this day we find the following:—**DISTRESS OF FRAMEWORK-KNITTERS.**—Mr FERRAND presented a petition from deputies of the framework-knitters of Nottingham, Leicester, Mansfield, Lutterworth, and other places, complaining of distress, and requesting the house to inquire, by means of a select committee, into the cause of that distress.

COLONIAL CORN.—Mr HUTT gave notice that he should, on the 27th of February, move that the house resolve itself into a committee of the whole house, to take into consideration the trade in corn, with a view to allow the importation of corn from the Cape of Good Hope, Australia, India, and other British possessions, on the same footing, and at the same rate of duty as from Canada.



BANK OF ENGLAND.—On the motion of Mr W. WILLIAMS, an account was ordered of the quarterly averages of the weekly liabilities and assets of the bank of England, as published in the *London Gazette* each month, from the 1st of August, 1834, to the 1st of February, 1844, distinguishing the amount of notes in circulation, deposits, securities, and bullion. Also of notes in circulation, deposits, bullion, and securities, belonging to the governor and company of the bank of England, as transmitted weekly to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, pursuant to the act 3 and 4 Will. IV, c. 98.

WOOLLEN MANUFACTURES.—On the motion of Mr ALDAM, a return was ordered of the quantities and declared value of British woollen manufactures exported from the United Kingdom in the year 1843; specifying the countries to which they were sent.

SMUGGLING.—On the motion of Mr HUME, a return was ordered of the number of persons committed to prison on a charge of smuggling, and the number committed in each year since the passing of the act 3 and 4 Will. IV, c. 53, distinguishing the number committed and convicted, in classes, for smuggling tobacco, spirits, tea, silks, and for any other articles, and the total number in each year; also, of the number of persons who paid the penalties imposed, and the number of persons confined in prison for smuggling in each year since the passing of the act 3 and 4 Will. IV, c. 53.

STATE OF IRELAND.—Lord JOHN RUSSELL moved for a committee of the whole house to take into consideration the state of Ireland. He attacked the method of governing Ireland pursued by the present government:—

"Ireland," he said, "is occupied, and not governed, by those who now hold the reins of power. (Hear, hear.) I say, and say it deliberately, Ireland is occupied, and not governed by the present administration. (Hear, hear.) The government of this free country has been and should be a government of opinion; the present government in Ireland is notoriously a government of force. (Hear, hear.)"

Ever since the period of the union the Irish people had been made to wait for the fulfilment of promises made to them by Mr Pitt, and those promises were not yet fulfilled. Up to a very recent period Roman Catholics had been systematically excluded from all juries. She had never enjoyed a franchise like England:—

"I may be told," said his lordship, "that in considering the state of Ireland, we ought not to look to these questions of political franchise and political rights; that these will not put bread into the mouths of the hungry, or give employment to the unemployed; that these are not the remedies which Ireland requires in her distressed condition. I do not concur in such notions of the matter. (Hear, hear.) I cannot find any support for them in the history of this country and of its constitution. (Hear, hear.) I have been accustomed to think that the participation of equal rights, that the benefits of a free constitution, are the very first and very best means by which we can impart prosperity to a country. (Hear, hear.)"

These views were remarkably confirmed by the opinions delivered both by Mr Pitt and by Mr Fox, in 1792:—

"And let me not be told," his lordship continued, "that we are now to learn some more speculative and abstract wisdom; let us not be told that government can find means to give employment to a people without giving that people the benefit of the constitution (hear, hear); that they can withhold the franchise, and yet confer prosperity; it is not in their power to do so. (Hear, hear.) I tell them, that with respect to Ireland—happily it is unnecessary to say with respect to England—the best they can do for the people of that country—no doubt they may do other things, and adopt measures highly necessary—but the best thing they can do for Ireland is to secure every man there in the enjoyment of his clear rights, and enable every man to be sure that he will be represented according to the principles of the constitution. (Cheers.)"

But, said his lordship, alluding to the present ministers, "I have no belief that they intend to grant a full and fair franchise to the people of Ireland." And he would ask the house to go into committee to consider that and other subjects. Many judicial offices had become vacant under the present ministry, but, giving way to "an unjust preference and unfair suspicion," they had promoted no Catholics. O'Connell was not the only man who had attempted to sow the seeds of dissension and dislike between the people of England and those of Ireland. Men now high in office had done so likewise, and been rewarded—not with a prosecution and the prospect of a prison,—but with the highest judicial power in England. He himself did not disapprove prohibiting meetings dangerous from their numbers; and if a proclamation to that effect had been issued at first, he believed Mr O'Connell would have obeyed it. After their proclamation, ministers might have waited till some dangerous act should have been committed; but they chose to prosecute for those very meetings which they had so supinely suffered to proceed unrebuked. What he should propose, if the house went into committee, would be, firstly, to get rid of all sectarian policy; secondly, to give a fair and equal franchise, corporate as well as parliamentary; next, to abolish the system of civil exclusion. Then, as to the question of the ecclesiastical establishment. His wish was, to see the ecclesiastical endowments applied to the religious instruction of all classes; but this would not be feasible as yet; for in the existing state of feeling the priesthood would not accept a public provision; perhaps the utmost that could at present be done would be to make a liberal allotment for the education of the Irish clergy. The grant to their college, whether at Maynooth or elsewhere, should be the double of its present amount. The prohibition upon the Roman Catholic bishops against taking the titles of their sees should be abolished; and so should every other badge of degradation to the Roman Catholic clergy. But perhaps the most difficult of all these subjects was that of the disorders arising from the tenure of land. Mr O'Connell had said that the solution of this difficulty is full of danger; but there seemed, at all events, to be no necessity for the collection of further evidence by a commission. He should wish to see an increase rather than a diminution in the number of the stipendiary magistrates; but he could not venture to say that he knew of any complete remedy for such an evil as that which was connected with the existing tenure. He related a story from Sir Walter Scott, of the favourable effect produced on the Highlanders by the saying of George III, who, when told in his youth of the repeated exploits of a Highland officer on the side of the Stuarts, made answer, "Has he fought so well against me? Then I think he will fight well

on my behalf." A similar disposition might be fostered among the Irish toward the young Sovereign of the present day, and who would stand between her Majesty and such a consummation? It would not, he trusted, be the British House of Commons that would so interpose.—Mr WYSE seconded the motion in a short and temperate speech.—Sir James GRAHAM opposed it. He defended the recent measures of government, and said that the Catholics had not been struck off the jury as Catholics, but as having been taken for repealers, which in one or two instances he now admitted to have been a mistake. He, however, vindicated the propriety of having taken proceedings against O'Connell, and pointed to the conviction obtained as the justification of ministers for doing so. In allusion to the Irish church, he observed that he should consent to no inroads on it. The state had made its choice at the time of the reformation, and that choice, and the preference given to the Protestant religion, he believed to be among the firmest foundations for our liberty.

Wednesday, Feb. 14.

PENALTIES ON GAMING BILL.—Mr. J. S. WORTLEY moved the second reading of this bill, the object of which is to arrest the progress of certain actions now pending in courts of law, which actions, he said, had been set on foot by men "not actuated by any zeal for public morality," but by common informers, with a view to obtain the heavy damages allowed by law. The excuse for the gentlemen of the turf was that they were ignorant of the penalties which they had legally subjected themselves to, and the sum was so large (about 500,000*l.*), that he thought the house should not allow so large a sum to be sacrificed to the revenge and malice of base informers.—Mr M. GIBSON moved, by way of amendment, for a select committee to inquire into the state of the law respecting penalties for gaming generally. In this he was supported by Captain Berkeley, Mr Vernon Smith, and Mr Hume. The bill was supported by Lord John Manners, Mr Milnes, Colonel Peel, and the Attorney-General.—Mr GIBSON, in opposing the bill, said that in enacting *ex post facto* law, very satisfactory explanations of the reason for doing so were expected and required. With the characters and motives of the informers the house had nothing to do: parliament must legislate, not for men, but for principles. Indeed the law itself, in giving a pecuniary penalty, acted on the presumption that money would be a motive for these informations:—

"If the law was not what it ought to be, the legislature had no one to thank for it but themselves. They had invited informers to take upon themselves the odium and the expense of prosecuting these cases; and the informers had a right to complain if the legislature attempted to deprive them of those rights which it had bestowed upon them. It had been the policy of the legislature which had held out to the informer the advantages which had given rise to these actions. Was it justice now to interfere to deprive the informer of his vested interest? (Hear.) Would it not tend to lower the character of the legislature with the people? Would it not be said that all those who had friends in parliament in high stations could suspend the operation of the law—could have bills of indemnity introduced to release them from the liability to penalties which they had incurred?"

When the house divided there were—for Mr Gibson's amendment, 25; against it, 87.

STATE OF IRELAND.—DISCUSSION CONTINUED.—Lord LEVISON opened the adjourned discussion on Ireland in a short speech, recommending a conciliatory policy, and in particular the adoption of some system for the education of the Roman Catholic population.—He was followed on the same side by Lord Clements and Sir G. Grey, and on the ministerial side by Mr Cochrane, Mr Young, and Lord Eliot. The only thing which was said that seems to deserve notice being the announced determination on the part of government to continue the present system of rule.—Mr YOUNG (who is one of the junior lords of the treasury) repeated the declaration of Sir James Graham, made last session, that "concession had reached its utmost limits;" and, referring to the established church, Lord ELIOT said—

"There were agitators in Ireland who would not be satisfied with any measure short of the actual subversion of the church, and he did not believe that that house, or any parliament that might be summoned in this country, would consent to a total subversion of the Protestant church."

Thursday, Feb. 15.

EDUCATION.—On the motion of Mr WYSE, an address was ordered to be presented to her Majesty, "that she would be graciously pleased to direct there be laid before the house, copies of all minutes in council, containing regulations as to the distribution of the parliamentary grant for the promotion of education in Great Britain, from the close of the last session to the end of January."

OFFENCES AT SEA BILL.—On the motion of Sir James GRAHAM, this bill was read a third time and passed.

STATE OF IRELAND.—DISCUSSION CONTINUED.—Mr ROSS opened the adjourned debate. He recommended a recurrence to the conciliatory policy of the late ministers, under whom, he said, the country was generally quiet, and the gaols almost empty. He contrasted the favourable treatment which the Canadian insurgents had received with the prosecutions against the Irish traversers, and was proceeding to comment upon the charge of conspiracy, as directed against Mr O'Connell, whom he represented as the sincere lover of tranquillity, when Mr O'Connell entered the house, and was received, as might have been expected, by most enthusiastic demonstrations of regard by his friends.

Mr ROSS went on to ask whether that was the man whom they could call a conspirator against the peace of Ireland? But did they really wish for peace? He could tell them how to secure it—by respecting the religion of all the Irish people, by distributing equal justice to them all, and by applying capital to the improvement of their country. But equality must be established between the Protestant and the Roman Catholic; and Ireland would be satisfied with no smaller measure than had been assigned to Scotland.

He was followed on the same side by Sir H. W. Barron, Mr More O'Ferrall, and Lord Howick. On the side of ministers, Mr Borthwick, Mr G. Repton, and Mr Shaw, the recorder of Dublin, spoke. The point of attack on the part of the liberal members generally was the Irish church, and the object of defence of course on the part of ministers was the same. Mr M. O'Ferrall said, "that to keep the Irish church

in its present position was equivalent to keep a standing army for ever in the country." Alluding to the common distresses of Ireland and England he said:—

"The repeal of the union was, no doubt, a delicate question. He did not conceal his opinion with regard to the effects of the legislative union. His opinion was, that one of two things must happen—either Ireland must be raised to the level of England, or England must be lowered to the level of Ireland. He believed that, to some extent, this result was indicated by the present condition of England. The great national distress which now existed here was fast reducing the condition of the English labourer to that of the Irish labourer."

Lord Howick warned the house that the policy pursued in Ireland, by the wide-spread disaffection which it caused, was a real and alarming danger which threatened us, should we ever be engaged in war. Nor were either the past conduct or the future promises of the government calculated to inspire confidence; at a time when the whole population of Ireland was arrayed against us, and was only to be kept down by physical force, the announced measures were but a "beggarly account of empty boxes." The proposed extension of the franchise might prove beneficial: but he feared that in the unsettled state of the relations of landlord and tenant the commission would excite expectations which would be doomed to disappointment. No remedial measure was now likely to heal the wounds of Ireland, unaccompanied by a removal of that galling sense of injustice engendered by the partial treatment of the members of the ancient faith of the Roman Catholic church. It was contrary to the natural principles of human nature to suppose that the Irish people would continue to submit to injustice. The time was now gone by when one set of men should presume to sit in judgment on the religious opinions of their fellow-creatures. But, said his lordship,—

"Do you believe that three centuries of wrong after wrong, and waging battle after battle, for the maintenance of the establishment, at the sacrifice of the feelings of the people of Ireland, can be so readily forgotten? (Cheers.) Do you believe that three centuries of injustice and wrong have passed by, and not produced their necessary effects in the minds of the Irish people? (Loud cheers.) Let us judge of the Irish people by ourselves. Just ask the people of England how they would feel if they were placed in the situation of the people of Ireland with reference to the church establishment. Just suppose for the moment that Ireland were the larger country, and had conquered England, and that a united parliament sat in Dublin, and that we went before that parliament and applied for the restoration of a large endowment which had been taken from a Protestant establishment and transferred to the Catholic church; suppose that such an appeal were made, and resisted by such arguments as those brought forward by the right honourable gentleman opposite, would we, from any such mode of reasoning as we have heard, be induced to consent to a Catholic established church amongst us? (Hear, hear.) Would the right honourable baronet himself consent to it? (Cheers.) Can he lay his hand on his heart and say, that he would be less than a repealer? and I am much mistaken if, under such a state of things, he would not follow the example of the people of Scotland, and take to his mountains and trust to his broad claymore. (Hear.) I can only say for myself that I would not submit to such a galling and degrading yoke. (Loud cheers.) I would endeavour to obtain justice by every peaceful means, but no sacrifice that I could make would, I consider, be too great to get rid of a yoke so very galling and degrading. (Loud cheers.)"

His lordship's speech made a powerful impression: no member of the government attempted to answer it, and the house adjourned.

COURT AND ARISTOCRACY.

THE COURT.—We hear that in consequence of the recent bereavement in the Royal family, namely, the demise of the Duke of Saxe Coburg, her Majesty and her Royal Consort and illustrious family are not expected at Buckingham Palace for the season until after the Easter recess, the second week in April. The fresco paintings by Stansfield, Uwins, &c., to decorate the new private Chapel Royal at Buckingham Palace, are to be ready in the course of the ensuing week.

The funeral of the late Duke of Saxe Coburg Gotha took place on the 3rd inst., in the church attached to the palace at Gotha, amidst salvos of artillery and the solemn tolling of bells. The procession was composed of all the officers of state, and of the household of the august deceased.

A Cabinet Council was held at one o'clock on Monday afternoon at the Foreign office. It was attended by Sir Robert Peel, the Duke of Wellington, Lord Wharncliffe, Earl of Aberdeen, Lord Stanley, Sir James Graham, Earl of Haddington, Earl of Ripon, Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Henry Hardinge, and Sir Edward Knatchbull. The Lord Chancellor subsequently arrived at the Foreign office to join his colleagues. The Council sat two hours and a half.

The Hon. Spencer Cooper has lately given his sisters, Lady Ashley and Lady Jocelyn, 20,000*l.* each.—*Court Journal.*

THE METROPOLIS.

FINSBURY BANK FOR SAVINGS.—The twenty-seventh annual meeting of the managers of this institution was held at the bank in Sekforde street, St John street, on Friday last; Mr E. Baylie, trustee, in the chair. The accounts for the past year were presented, and were in every respect most encouraging; the increase in each department of the business had again exceeded that of any former year. On the 30th of November there were 6,323 accounts open, including friendly and charitable societies, the average of which was 26*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.*, but of that number there were 5,285 whose average did not exceed 14*l.*, and 3,765 whose average was only 6*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*; 2,053 new accounts had been opened in the year, or an average of more than 40 each time the bank was open. It was reported that on the evening of the 29th ult., during the two hours in which the bank was open, upwards of 3,000*l.* was received in small sums from the artisans and mechanics of the neighbourhood. At the last annual meeting it was determined, on account of the manifest advantages presented to the poor by the system of small

annuities (not exceeding 20*l.* to any one person) granted by government, through the medium of savings banks, under the provisions of act 3. Will. IV, cap. 14, that this bank should be opened as a government annuity office, for the purpose of granting and paying, on government account only, these small annuities. The accounts presented show that during the portion of a year, in which this business has been transacted, the sum of 2,275*l.* has been paid to government for their purchase. All the statements made tended to exhibit a great improvement in the condition of the working classes—that employment was more abundant, and provident habits greatly on the increase.

DESTRUCTION OF HELLINGDON HOUSE.—This mansion, situated near Uxbridge, the residence of R. H. Cox, Esq., of Craig's court, Charing cross, was entirely consumed by fire on the morning of Saturday last. A portion only of the valuable property was saved. The damage is estimated at 15,000*l.*, which is covered by insurance in the Sun office. The mansion had a frontage of about eighty-five feet, and was in depth about seventy. It is only about three weeks since her Majesty lunched with the family on her way to Pollhill. The fire is supposed to have originated through a flue at the back of the staircase communicating with the roof.

POPULAR EDUCATION.—On Tuesday evening a public meeting of the friends of education in the east of London was held at the Eastern Institution, Commercial road. Charles Hindley, Esq., M.P., in the chair. The meeting was addressed by the Rev. Dr Reed, the Rev. Dr Leifchild, the Rev. James Sherman, the Rev. George Smith, the Rev. Dr Urwick, and several other gentlemen friendly to the promotion of a voluntary education among the people. Subscriptions to a large amount were announced in behalf of the objects sought to be accomplished, and the meeting separated.

LORD W. PAGET V. THE EARL OF CARDIGAN.—CRIM. CON.—This celebrated case has been definitely fixed for trial, by a special jury, before the Lord Chief Justice, in the Court of Common Pleas, at Guildhall, on Wednesday, the 21st inst.

TRIAL OF CAPTAIN GRANT.—Captain Grant, who was said to have acted as second in the fatal duel at Camden town, was placed at the bar of the Central Criminal Court, on Wednesday, charged with aiding, abetting, and assisting Alexander Thompson Munro, in the wilful murder of David Lynar Fawcett. The evidence of identity was not thought to be sufficiently proved, and the jury returned a verdict of "not guilty."

Mr Oastler, the well-known enemy of the new poor law, and long a prisoner for debt, was liberated last Monday, his friends having subscribed and paid the amount of debt for which he was incarcerated. A public reception will be given to Mr Oastler at Huddersfield, on Tuesday (Shrove Tuesday), and great preparations are making to give him a "Yorkshire welcome."

We have authority for stating that it is the immediate intention of the Duke of Richmond, Viscount Ingestre, M.P., W. Miles, Esq., M.P., Philip Pusey, Esq., M.P., and others, to form a Metropolitan Society for the Protection of British Agriculture.—*Standard.*

SHOCKING ACCIDENT.—A serious and in all probability fatal accident took place on Wednesday, in Upper Grosvenor street, Grosvenor square. It appears that a number of men, in the employ of Messrs Bennett, the contractors, have been engaged for some time past in the formation of a new sewer in the above street. To increase the facility of working two excavations had been made, in one of which the new sewer was nearly complete. In the other, where the accident occurred, the bricklayers were just about to build up the side walls, preparatory to turning the arch. The excavation was eighteen feet deep, and, in consequence of the nature of the soil—a dry red sand—every precaution had been taken to prevent accident; but five poor fellows were in the cutting, when the earth on the north side, to the extent of about fifteen feet by six feet, was observed to give way from beneath and settle down, crushing in the shoring planks, and burying beneath several tons of earth four of the individuals above alluded to. A number of men were set to work to throw up the earth. Gentlemen resident in the vicinity were on the spot, encouraging the labourers in their endeavours to extricate their unfortunate comrades. One man escaped being overwhelmed by clinging to the gas-pipe, and another was fortunate enough to escape, through a portion of the completed sewer, into the other excavation. The other three poor fellows were wedged in by the shoring-planks pressing against their bodies, and it was half-past one o'clock before the two first were discovered. It was nearly two o'clock before the last man was extricated, and his recovery has since been said to be impossible.

The number of sudden deaths that have recently occurred at the east end of the metropolis is appalling. Within the space of fifteen days seventeen cases have been brought under the notice of the authorities.

THE PROVINCES.

MEETING OF COTTON SPINNERS, MANCHESTER.—On Tuesday an adjourned meeting of the cotton-spinners and power-loom manufacturers of Manchester was held in the Exchange gallery, Ducie place, for the purpose of considering the best means of warding off the danger to the cotton manufacture, by the rife speculation going on in the Liverpool cotton market. It does not appear to have been so well attended as last week's meeting, but among the names of those present we see noticed, in the *Manchester Guardian*, those of Mr Abel Buckley, Mr Edward Ashworth, Mr Thomas D. Crewdson, Mr S. L. Behrens, Mr Malcolm Ross, Mr Rigg, &c. The principal speaker appears to have been Mr Edward Ashworth, who gave in the following as the report of the committee appointed last week on the subject of the cotton speculations:—

"Your committee, appointed at the last meeting to consider the best means of checking the speculations now going on in the cotton market, have to report, that they have conferred with numerous individuals, and received communications from many others, and find but one prevailing sentiment of condemnation of a proceeding which all past experience has shown to be disastrous to the cotton manufacture, and in many cases ruinous to the speculators themselves. The time has been too short, and the field of inquiry opened too extensive, to admit of your committee yet recommending any organized plan of action for general adoption; but, in the

meantime, confident that no real scarcity of cotton exists in this country, and with the prospect of a crop not falling below an average for future supply, would advise their friends to avoid adding to the present excitement by any unnecessary purchase of cotton. Your committee deeply deplore the success of the present unwarrantable effort to raise the price of the raw material, occurring as it does at a time when the trade may be said to be just emerging from a state of depression, at once unparalleled both in intensity and duration; feeling also as they do the difficulty, if not impossibility, of obtaining from the foreign buyer a corresponding advance upon the manufactured article, they fear the effect of this sudden disturbance in prices will be to destroy confidence between buyer and seller, and seriously to check, if not to paralyze, our reviving trade. Your committee are glad to inform you, that the interests of the cotton trade, as affected by the late movement in Liverpool, are obtaining very general attention; and meetings are being held in various places to consider the best course to adopt under present circumstances. In conclusion, your committee beg to observe, that they find but one opinion prevails as it regards the present injurious system of brokerages; by which the interests of the brokers and manufacturers are placed in direct opposition to each other; and, from the strong expression of opinion which meets them in all quarters, your committee cannot but hope and believe that the experience derived from the events of the last two weeks will convince the trade at large of the paramount necessity of such a change as will place this branch of their interest on a more satisfactory basis."

Mr Ashworth spoke at great length in confirmation of the views here set forth. He entirely discredited the reports of a short crop of cotton in America; nor was the stock of cotton in this country at all deficient. He therefore entirely attributed the recent speculations and the annoyance occasioned by them to the Liverpool brokers. Mr S. L. Behrens moved that the report of the committee be received and adopted, and that the committee be empowered to call another meeting when they have matured their arrangements. This was unanimously carried, and the meeting separated.

MANCHESTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.—The twenty-third annual general meeting of this body was held in their offices there on Monday last, Thomas Bazley, jun., Esq., in the chair. The account of the proceedings and the annual report occupy nearly six columns of the *Manchester Guardian*. Among the principal matters noticed in the report are the mal-administration of the post office, the subject of joint-stock companies, and the "great question of free trade, in which," as one of the speakers observed, "we may well say that the well-being of the world is bound up." The chairman, Mr Malcolm Ross, Mr Benjamin Pearson, Mr Henry Ashworth, Mr Bootham, Mr Edward Shawcross, and others took part in the proceedings. A very strong feeling in favour of free trade was expressed, not only in the report (which is to be printed separately, and to which we may afterwards refer), but by almost every speaker. Thus the chairman observed:—

"We regard these principles irrespectively of all political principles; we regard them rather as a concentration of science than of political opinion, and therefore we look for that establishment of such scientific truths as we believe these principles involve."

Referring to our relations with Brazil, he said:—

"It is really melancholy, that we are in the last year of our treaty with that important country, and that, unless that treaty be renewed in some form, probably we may lose one of the most important outlets we possess for the disposal of our manufacturing productions. It has been stated, that one great reason why we cannot form another commercial treaty with Brazil is the difficulty connected with slavery; but the insincerity of that objection is manifested by the fact, that we alike refuse to receive the free-grown sugar and other products that our own colonies supply us with, from foreign countries, as we refuse the slave-grown products of similar articles in Brazil. (Hear, hear.) It is not a question whether we shall send our goods there, for they do receive our goods,—but the question is, whether we will receive such products as they have to give us in exchange for our goods. Brazil has only taxed our cotton manufactures to the extent of fifteen per cent.; but we in return tax the great staple product of Brazil, sugar, three hundred per cent. (Hear, hear.)"

Mr Henry Ashworth, in congratulating the meeting on the partial revival of trade, entered into a masterly exposition of the general state of English manufacture and our export and import trade. One of his remarks strikes us as too valuable not to be here recorded:—

"The amount of goods taken for home consumption, according to *Burn's Glance* (the only authentic source which, he believed, we now possessed), appeared to be about fifty million lbs. weight per annum; or, in round numbers, one-seventh of the whole of our manufactures, the remaining six-sevenths having to be exported, or exchanged in other countries for the surplus productions of those countries. (Hear, hear.) Now, taking the value of the home market, if we took it as an average of the three years, it would be about 3,000,000 sterling; but making an allowance for the increased amount of labour and skill bestowed upon those goods which were used at home, it would make it 4,000,000, or 5,000,000, at the utmost. Could they make it more? And this was the scale about which we had heard such extraordinary statements about the value of our home trade. (Hear, hear.) The amount of labour which it was obvious the consumption of our home market required would be about ten hours a week. Thus, in ten hours during the week our manufacturers supplied all the cotton goods which Great Britain required! (Hear, hear.) The mention of ten hours brought across his mind the 'common cry of Ten-hours' Bill.' A ten-hours' bill, if adopted, would just cut off from our labour ten hours a week. Thus the legislative enactment of a ten-hours' bill would at once destroy all the productive power which we now required to make the articles of cotton clothing for the whole of our people."

Mr Ashworth expressed his anxiety that the working classes should not be harassed with labour in order to procure for themselves a living; but he said no acts of parliament could bring about such a result. Free trade would.

THE COLLIERIES' STRIKE.—We gather from the *Liverpool Times* that the turn out of the colliers in the St Helen's district still continues, and at present there is no indication of the dispute being speedily adjusted. The men were altogether unprovided for a strike, and within a week after its commencement there was considerable distress amongst them. As might be anticipated, this distress has increased in intensity every day. Many families are said to be in a state of starvation; and a strike of this nature is so disastrous in its effects, necessarily throwing out hundreds of other men employed in various manufactures, that it greatly curtails the resources of those who might be disposed to act charitably

towards the families of the suffering colliers, and probably in many instances makes them also dependent on others for subsistence. In spite, however, of this disastrous state of their affairs, it is said that the colliers are resolute in their determination to obtain an advance of wages before they resume work, and that, notwithstanding the miserable condition of their families, the wives of the colliers almost unanimously urge their husbands to persist in that determination. All look forward with hope to the commencement of April, when the termination of the yearly contracts of the miners in the north of England will enable them to carry out their original intention of making the strike national: they say that the intervening period is but short; that their success will then be certain, and that in the meantime they will scramble on as well as they can. In a few of the collieries there is, and has been during the whole strike, a small number of hands at work; but the quantity of coal procured is so far short of supplying the demand that there is a general scramble to obtain it throughout the district which obtains its supply from St Helens, and it is said that almost any price is paid for it. Since the commencement of the strike, both masters and men have been appealing to the public: the former for the purpose of showing that their miners obtained very good wages, with a hope of a still further increase; and the latter to show that the net wages they received did not amount to anything like the sums stated by their employers. It is difficult to obtain satisfactory information on this point; and we forbear giving the statements of either party.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS DESTROYED.—The village of Charlton-on-Otmoor, situate within a few miles of Oxford, has lately been the scene of several very lawless proceedings. Some of the labourers, for the want of employment, have been driven to the Bicester union work-house, which has caused a great deal of excitement and dissatisfaction in the minds of those remaining. Several of the respectable inhabitants have had their windows broken, and on the night of the 26th January, three ploughs were destroyed, by cutting them to pieces. Each plough belonged to a different farmer of the village. A paper was left on one of them, with the following written on it:—"A full belly does not know what an empty one feels."

INCREASE OF CRIME.—The government are going, it is whispered, to establish a criminal court at Birmingham, Manchester, and other large towns, in imitation of those in the metropolis. The assize is to be eight times in each year, and a judge is to preside. The number of judges is to be increased to twenty. Would it not be preferable to better the condition of the people, and thus decrease the amount of crime, which grows only as starvation grows. Strange! that legislators cannot see this obvious truth.

FOUR THOUSAND POUNDS SUBSCRIBED IN ONE NIGHT FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES.—On Monday se'nnight a tea-party, composed principally of the members of Dr Halley's chapel, in Mosley street, Manchester, was held in the Town hall. The object of the meeting was to establish schools for children of both sexes, in connexion with Dr Halley's chapel, and other independent places of worship. Dr Halley presided, and the meeting was addressed by the chairman, Dr Vaughan, president of the Lancashire Independent College; Dr Davidson, J. Kershaw, Esq., and other ministers and gentlemen. At the close of the proceedings, Mr Grave, the secretary, announced that upwards of 4,000l. had been subscribed for the objects which they had assembled to support. Of this munificent amount, Mr Alderman Kershaw, the late mayor of Manchester, had contributed 1,000l., and Messrs Sidebottom and Armitage 500l. each. So much for the zeal, liberality, and example of voluntarism.

PENNY POSTAGE.—PROPOSED TRIBUTE TO ROWLAND HILL, ESQ.—An advertisement appears in the Bristol papers announcing that a number of gentlemen of the highest respectability have consented to act as local treasurers for Bristol, and that boxes to receive subscriptions for the tribute will be placed in various parts of that city. A good example to other towns.

PREFSON.—A new paper has been started here called the *Preston Guardian*. It is published by Mr Joseph Livesay, of that town, whose name is already favourably known as publisher of the *Struggle*, and *Pictorial Anti-Corn-Law Almanac*. So far as a judgment can be formed of a first number, we beg to express a favourable opinion both of the intention and the execution of the *Preston Guardian*, and we hope to see our new contemporary flourish as he deserves.

ADULTERATION OF TOBACCO.—Henry Laffer, tobacco manufacturer, of Liverpool, appeared at the police office of that town, on Wednesday, to answer a complaint preferred against him by the excise, for having, on the 12th of last month, mixed sugar in the manufacture of his tobacco. The defendant was fined in the full penalty of 300l., and 150 lbs. weight of the tobacco was condemned.

The Marquis of Westminster is introducing the allotment system on his estate amongst the cottage tenantry. The allotments consist of a quarter of an acre each.

The Senatus Academicus of the University of Glasgow have unanimously conferred the degree of Doctor of Laws on Mr R. W. Hamilton, independent minister, of Leeds.

Arrangements are in progress for placing steam carriages on the road from Stortford through Newmarket, and from Colchester through Ipswich, to Norwich, early in the spring.

THE NATIONAL DEBT.—The extraordinary facility which the application of the abstract properties of numbers gives to artificial units is, perhaps, best exhibited in the accounts kept for the management of the vast national debt of this country. Its amount is near 800 millions. The units of this are assumed to be the sovereign. Portions of the entire amount every six months change hands, and in the most complicated manner. Notwithstanding this difficulty, the accounts are accurately balanced, and an error, even of a penny, or the 1-192,000,000th of the whole amount, is a matter of serious importance, and requires detection. An error of a penny may, to the uninitiated, appear to be scarcely worth consideration, especially as it might take many clerks several days to discover it; but it is found that that penny may not be the sole error, but the balance of numerous errors, which all require alteration before the balance is struck.—*Smee on Physical Science.*

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES.

EFFECTS OF THE CORN LAWS ON SHIPPING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—The preliminary number of the *Economist* having been left at my place of business in London, I have been very desirous of seeing the following numbers of a periodical begun with such consummate ability on the subject of Free Trade.

As you invite the co-operation of the public, I send you a short page of my experience of the evils of the corn laws on shipping, should this particular view of them not have been already noticed by you.

In the present very general movement against restrictive laws, it is surprising that shipowners can look unconcernedly on the havoc made by the corn laws on shipping; and if legislators knew half the cruel injury they have inflicted on it, both as I am to join the very general charge of selfishness against landed-property-qualified legislators, the only conclusion one could come to would be that they indeed care for no one but themselves. But I do not go this length in accusing them, because I believe it is partly owing to their not seeing or not knowing the effects of their own laws; for how can landed gentlemen know the effects of such laws on different branches of trade, unless they are told by those who do understand, because they feel them? A legislator so qualified can only look to the statistics of his country, such as Customs' returns, &c., as a test of the effects of laws, and these returns often exhibit fallacious tests.

Space in your columns forbids a detailed enumeration of the evils resulting from the corn laws on shipping. I will only point to a few heads as tests for the use of more leisurely commentators.

Every one remembers the deficient harvest of 1839: about five million quarters of foreign grain of all kinds were wanted.

This large quantity required about 5,000 extra ships of the average size to fetch it from abroad, and as the commercial marine of the kingdom consisted of about 28,000 ships, the increase required amounted to about one-seventh of the whole. This extra seventh part could not be found on the instant: I say on the instant, because it is the blessed effect of the sliding scale that foreign corn must be imported exactly at a calculated period, even to a particular specified month, to save the 1s. duty.

But 5,000 ships, I repeat, cannot be found on the instant. What, then, were the corn merchants to do?

In the first place they chartered as many foreign ships as they could. Then an impulse was given to ship building, both at home and in the colonies.

The shipbuilders in Nova Scotia showed us what they could do in meeting a sudden emergency. They put together, I won't say built, 500,000 tons of shipping in that year alone, and sent them to England for sale or charter. Of course many of them arrived too late for either sale or charter, for the sliding scale had closed the ports, and many of these *mushroom* ships have never found a customer from that day to this.

At the same time our ports at home were equally busy. In the port of Sunderland alone 700 ships were built in that year. I saw 120 building there at one time; it was no uncommon thing for these builders to complete a ship from beginning to end in six weeks.

And after all these gigantic efforts, what have been the consequences to these shipbuilders? They have been most distressing in every point of view, in the general bankruptcy that ensued both at home and in the colonies.

And what have been the consequences of this enormous addition to the marine of the country on shipping itself? Disastrous indeed have they been also. By creating a desperate and ruinous competition in freights, as soon as the tempting grain freights were over, a depreciation in the value of shipping resulted, amounting even to fifty per cent. Indeed, I can vouch for it as an undoubted fact, that for the last three years, there are many departments of the shipping trade in which a prudent person would not have ships given to him if he were bound to employ them.

There was another effect produced by the sudden demand for corn in 1839 on the coasting trade, which was completely paralyzed for several months. Vessels could not be got in sufficient numbers to carry on the general coasting trade in goods, because they were so much better paid for the time in transshipping corn from the ports on the coast to the great manufacturing districts. I speak from knowledge, as I employ about fifty sail of vessels in the coasting trade, and my business was actually suspended, as regards the more bulky kinds of goods, for many weeks in the autumn of 1839, for want of vessels to carry them. Was this a healthy abundance of demand of ships over supply? On the contrary, it was as disastrous in its results as it was unnatural while it continued. As I showed the sudden increase in shipbuilding as respects the foreign trade produced so alarming a depreciation in that class of vessels, so did this equally sudden and unnatural increase in the coasting trade give an equally unnatural impulse to the building of small vessels, and from that day to this neither class of vessels have recovered from the consequent depression—a depression so inveterate that, although the country has required from two to four millions of quarters of foreign grain every year since 1839, with the exception of 1843, even this almost regular demand for foreign corn has not provided sufficient employment for that excess of shipping which the enormous and sudden demand of foreign corn in 1839 created—this most striking fact—viz., the continued yearly demand for foreign corn for four years together, shows either one or both of two things, the unnatural excess of shipping created by the sudden demand of foreign corn in 1839, or the deadly depression of the general trade of the country during those four years, which could not find even moderate employment for those ships which were not employed in bringing part of that continued supply of foreign corn in those four years—what would have been the state of the shipping of the kingdom without that partial employment in the corn trade during those four years? I fear I shall occupy too much of your valuable space to touch upon one half the topics which crowd on the experience of shipowners, who, like myself have felt the iron hand of restrictive and monopolizing oppression.

I will just remark that I have noticed, for several years past, the smaller class of ships are gradually getting into the hands of the sailing

masters, because by keeping all or part of their families on board, they can sail cheaper than the old class of shipowners who reside on shore. This reduction of the number of shipowners residing on shore is of course a reduction of the consumers of commodities generally.

The condition of ships generally is becoming more and more deteriorated from the low rate of profit.

For the same reason, more ships are built of inferior quality.

I wish, sir, you could obtain a return in parliament, showing the comparative amount of British tonnage mortgaged at this time, and ten years ago. I fear it would tell a fearful tale. But I must leave off.

Wishing you every success which your valuable but arduous enterprise deserves, I am, sir, yours obediently,

A SHIPOWNER.

Feb. 13, 1844.

SCOTCH BANKING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—The banking system of this kingdom, affording as it does at present the means of discussion to all classes, and in particular to political economists, both practical and theoretical, a few facts regarding the system of banking pursued in Scotland may prove not altogether unacceptable to your readers.

The principles on which that system is conducted have now been in existence since the establishment of the Bank of Scotland, in 1695. It has been distinguished by the total absence of all exclusive privileges, calculated for the benefit of one institution to the detriment of others, and the principle of free competition has brought it to its present state of superior excellence.

Without further preface, I shall at once shortly review those features which I consider the most prominent in the Scottish system of banking. They are,—

- 1st.—The allowing of interest upon deposits.
- 2nd.—The granting (on security) of cash credits.
- 3rd.—The small note circulation.
- 4th.—The system of exchanges.
- 5th.—The joint-stock system of proprietorship.

These, combined with a correct practical system of book-keeping, the publicity given to the numbers and names of the shareholders, and governed by the proverbial and predominant characteristic of Scotchmen—*caution*, have earned its deservedly high reputation for the system to which I now refer.

The practice of allowing interests upon deposits has been productive of so many good results, that it has now been adopted by nearly all the joint-stock banks of England and Ireland. It acts,—

- 1st.—As a source of revenue to the depositor.
- 2nd.—It has a tendency to encourage sober and industrious habits in the lower classes.
- 3rd.—It is a means of encouraging the currency.
- 4th.—It brings sums to the banker which would otherwise have been hoarded up, and thereby enables him to trade as on an increased capital.
- 5th.—And at first sight it may appear strange, this last result acts as a means of preventing crime.

That by allowing interest on deposits, a source of revenue arises to the depositor, is too simple and evident to require explanation. The rate of interest allowed by the Scottish banks sometimes ranges as high as 3½ per cent. per annum; and this, combined with the security offered to the public, of an extensive body of proprietors, renders the making of a deposit a safe and profitable investment for money. Although the remuneration is not so high as might be obtained from less secure investments, the security is so ample, that the risk may be calculated as nothing.

The failures of the bank of Berwick-upon-Tweed, and of the Renfrewshire bank, do not at all influence this statement, because those were, properly speaking, private banks, and wanting in one, at least, of the essential requisites of a Scottish bank, viz.—a numerous proprietary. There were only three partners in the bank of Berwick-upon-Tweed, and only two in the Renfrewshire bank.

The second result I have noticed as arising from the allowing of interest upon deposits, is the tendency it has to encourage sober and industrious habits in the lower classes of society. No matter how trifling the remuneration may be to the depositor of a small sum, it is nevertheless a sufficient inducement to the labourer, the farm-servant, or the artisan, to deposit his savings in one of the banks. Sir Walter Scott has observed, and truly, that "Every judicious farmer in Scotland scruples to place perfect reliance in a farm-servant or labourer, till he knows that he is possessed of a capital of a few pounds in a neighbouring bank." And the encouragement the Scottish system gives to their doing so, acts as no small incitement to those principles of steadiness, sobriety, and frugality, of which the Scottish peasantry are acknowledged to be possessed. Interest is allowed on sums as low as 10%, provided they remain in the bank a sufficient length of time. The amount of deposits in the Scottish banks is estimated at from 25,000,000*l.* to 30,000,000*l.*, the greater part of that amount being in sums of from 10*l.* to 200*l.*

The third position I have taken is, that the allowing of interest on deposits acts as a means of economizing the currency. Merchants, shopkeepers, tradesmen, and others, having accounts with the bank, are naturally anxious to derive as much benefit as possible from that portion of their capital which they have not in immediate use, and as their money which is in the bank is equally at their command as if it were in their own tills, they are induced to place their daily or weekly collections to the credit of their banking accounts. By this means, all the superfluous currency is absorbed, and the dangers arising from an excess are never felt in Scotland. From the natural course of operations between buyer and seller, the notes drawn from one bank are either speedily returned to it, or as speedily deposited in the hands of a rival. In England, on the contrary, where, if interest is allowed at all, a commission is charged on every operation to the debit side of the account, the merchant, before putting his money into the bank, calculates whether the interest he will receive for the time his money lies there, will be more than the commission with which he shall be charged when he draws it out. Of course, if it be less, he will keep his money

beside him, and thus a large quantity of paper is kept in circulation which otherwise would not be.

My fourth position is, that this practice brings sums to the banker which would otherwise have been hoarded up, and thereby enables him to trade as on an increased capital. It is universally allowed to be a correct principle for a banker to invest a certain proportion of his deposits in securities bearing interest. This proportion will of course be regulated according to circumstances. It is evident that were some inducement not held out to the public, every one would consider his money in better and safer keeping in his own hands than in those of any other person; but having been once remunerated for the use of his money, he places more confidence in his banker, and this feeling spreads amongst all. The readiness with which every one gets his money paid when he requires it, adds materially to this increase of confidence. The banker then has increased balances in his hands, by making a judicious use of the greater part of which, and by keeping only a proper reserve to meet immediate demands, he is enabled greatly to add to his profits.

My last statement with regard to the beneficial effect produced by allowing interest on deposits is, that it is a means of preventing crime. In those countries where private persons were in the habit of keeping large sums of money in their houses, robbery and housebreaking were carried on to no small extent. Now, however, housebreaking is rarely heard of, and more especially in Scotland, for the risk of detection is so great, and the chance of plunder so small, that I may say of burglars, *et hoc genus omne*,

"Othello's occupation's gone!"

Should you deem these remarks worthy of a place in your columns, I shall, in a subsequent paper, endeavour to explain and illustrate the cash-credit system of Scotland.—I remain, sir, your most obedient servant,

J. S.

Bishop's Castle, Feb. 13, 1844.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—After perusing the columns of the political newspapers, and then turning to your pages of economical philosophy, I cannot help comparing the effects on the mind of the two kinds of reading to the difference between the effects of the alcoholic drinks which formerly substituted our beverages, and the cool, refreshing water which has latterly been substituted. To borrow a simile from my own calling—the Politician is the millwright, and the Economist is the miller. It is by the intelligence and skill of the latter that good flour is manufactured. A nation may possess the most perfect machinery of government that it is possible to conceive, but if the legislators, and the people who select them, be ignorant of those principles of political economy whose foundations rest on immutable truth, the laws enacted by them, even with the purest intentions, can be only good by chance.

To what cause, other than the extremest ignorance of all classes respecting the truths of economical science, can we trace the suicidal opposition of merchants to free trade; or a preference of war to peace—of glory to bread—being so long the characteristic of "a nation of shopkeepers?" The appearance of such a periodical as the *Economist* is, I trust, symptomatic of a return from a state of morbid excitement to one of sanity and robust health.

In Ireland, we have been so much and so long engaged with the details of those monopolies which appeared on the surface, in all their glaring deformity, that we have not found time to search for the roots from which they sprouted up. But I think it can be readily shown that the corn laws have been the hidden source from which flowed many of our bitterest streams. The desperate competition for land has been the fruitful parent of much of the crime and misery of this country; and these corn laws have evidently, by closing so many doors to the profitable employment of capital, been the cause of this severe competition.

How can a *landlord and tenant commission* remedy this? Might they not as well appoint a *master and servant commission*, to regulate work and wages? But you can strip this fallacy to nakedness, as you have exposed so many others of a similar kind.—I am very sincerely your friend,

EBENEZER SHACKLETON.

Moone Mills, Ballitore, Feb. 12, 1844.

MISCELLANEA.

SCRAPS FROM THE CENSUS RETURNS.—There is a child in Monmouth called after all the Chartist leaders.—There are three hamlets lying contiguous to each other in Devonshire, called respectively, Heaven, Hell, and Purgatory. The population in each is returned: that of Hell predominates.—One man, returned as having slept in a barn in Cheshire, on the night of June 6, 1841, has the following significant remark of the enumerator at the bottom of the page: "Supposed to have been paying his addresses to a young woman in the neighbourhood."—The following remark appears in respect to some men who slept in a barn in the same county: "These folks spend their money by day, and take their chance by night."

Lancashire has become the most populous county in the kingdom, and Middlesex, which a short time since stood at the head in point of numbers, is now only rated third.

THE MONOPOLISTS' LAST.—The *Stockport Advertiser*, of last week, after announcing that "*nunc aut nunquam*" is its motto, makes the following pathetic appeal to its readers, most of whom will, no doubt, wonder what it means:—"Gentlemen of England, to you we once more appeal. Are you prepared to suffer the privations, to undergo the agonies of France? Are our nobles ready for exile, our people for chains, and their property for confiscation? Are our mansions ready for the revelry of the mob, and our churches for the profanations of Jacobinism? Oh! in the name of your Queen, your country, your constitution, your friends, your hearths, your altars, 'Awake, arise, or be for ever fallen.'"—Notwithstanding this spirit-stirring address of the *Advertiser*, and the classical quotation which it has adopted as its motto, we have reason to believe that the gentlemen of Stockport and its vicinity have not yet "awakened" to a sense of their danger.

THE POOR LAW AND THE POOR.

Mr John J. Ekless, of Bursledon bridge, was summoned before the magistrates of Farham, for non-payment of poor rates. The defendant (who is well known as an indefatigable friend of freedom, especially of the rights of the poor) said that his objection arose from the misapplication of rates collected—that while he was paying a greater amount for the same property than was paid under the old law, the poor were much worse treated—that cases of shameful neglect, cruelty, and depravity, were of frequent occurrence in the house—that out of the house the poor were in a more destitute state still—and that he had seized this opportunity of making these things known to the magistrates. He came prepared to prove that old worn-out labourers of the parish of Titchfield were existing on less than half the sum expended for food on the felon in Milbank prison, and he begged to be allowed to adduce his proofs. The bench having stated that they could do nothing, Mr Ekless, having answered his purpose, paid the amount of his rate. Mr Ekless then, addressing the bench, said that he had a case which, by the 27th clause in the new poor law act, they *could entertain*, and introduced "Old John Ford" to their notice, as one of the "bold peasantry, our country's pride."

A man 73 years old, who had suffered three severe surgical operations from cancer—one cut from his hip, next a finger cut off, and last his right arm amputated—and with a confirmed cancer now on his cheek—that this wretched man, who had before his eyes a lingering and painful death, was now dragging out his miserable existence on less than half a felon's fare, having fourteen pence a week to keep him in food and clothing! after deducting one shilling for lodging, and fourpence for washing and mending. Such being his deplorable state, he did most earnestly entreat that they would examine him, as the clause previously read empowered the bench, or even two justices of the peace, "at their just and proper discretion, to direct by order under their hands and seals that relief shall be given to any adult person, who shall, from old age or infirmity of body, be wholly unable to work, without requiring that such person shall reside in a workhouse."

After much consultation, the bench declined entertaining *this question also*, stating that the poor-law commissioners had by their orders nullified this clause, and therefore they had no power to act. Mr Ekless expressed his deep regret that the magisterial authority should be thus treated with contempt.

The chairman then asked Mr Ekless why John Ford did not go into the "house."

Mr Ekless replied, because he, John Ford, had heard of the fate of old John Hughes in "the house;" of the rotten bed taken from under him, which stunk worse than dung out of a pigsty, which Henry Smith, who buried it, can testify—of maggots crawling over his body—of the body being swarming—and of pieces of flesh dropping from him, when moved, "which had the appearance of carrion which dogs had been gnawing," as Earwaker and others can testify. This John Ford has heard—and more, for he has lately learned the fate of poor old Charles Muspratt, a man who filled confidential situations for fifty years in the parish of Titchfield, who being bed-ridden, lost his eye-sight by shameful neglect, had a fresh bed applied for several days before he got it, which, when removed, was rotten through, and threw out such an intolerable stench as was unbearable, and therefore was taken away and buried; that not only his bed but his back was in a dreadful state, also very little in preference to John Hughes, excepting the maggots. All this John Ford had heard, and more; therefore John Ford would not enter "the house."

The bench then recommended Mr Ekless to apply to the poor-law commissioners of Somerset House, who would gladly institute an inquiry into the cruelty and neglect said by him to have occurred in "the house." Mr Ekless thanked the bench for the advice, which he did not think prudent to act on, having been threatened with a prosecution from that all-powerful body as his reward for ferreting out and publishing the cases of old John Hughes and "the boys of weak intellect under their treatment for the itch;" a threat subsequently held out by Colonel A'Court, then assistant poor-law commissioner.

BATHS AND BATHING.

Few Roman citizens in easy circumstances were without the luxury of a private bath. Amongst many articles of luxury for which Pliny censures the ladies of his time, he takes notice of their bathing rooms being paved with silver. Even the metal flues were gilt.

The Russian baths, as used by the common people, bear a close resemblance to the laconicum of the Romans. They usually consist of wooden houses, situated, if possible, by the side of a running stream. In the bath room is a large vaulted oven, which, when heated, makes the paving stones red hot, and adjoining to the oven is a kettle fixed in masonry, for the purpose of holding boiling water. Round about the walls are three or four rows of benches, one above another, like the seats of a scaffold. The room has little light, but here and there are apertures for letting the vapour escape; the cold water that is wanted is let in by small channels.

In France there are baths in all the towns, and bathing is practised more than in Germany or England, where baths are rare. There are but few baths in London and those established there would not suffice for a small fraction of the population if bathing were a common practice.

Regular swimming baths are established at Vienna, Munich, Breslau, Berlin, and Paris. But the English are not much inclined to swimming, even when the means are at hand. Probably not one in ten of all our sailors, both in the navy and merchants' service, can swim. When a ship is wrecked within a hundred fathoms of the shore, and no boats or other assistance arrive, it is melancholy to observe how few even attempt to swim on shore, and those very few who do so are usually passengers. Familiarity with the elements makes our sailors indifferent to it, and careless of consequences. Among the inhabitants of the metropolis, those who can swim have acquired the art at watering places, or at the Serpentine river, in the summer season, instigated solely by the novelty and amusement. Very few in comparison attend the public baths, chiefly perhaps because they are not gratuitous.

The Economist.

FEBRUARY 17, 1844.

COMMERCIAL.

Notwithstanding the increased amount of business which has existed throughout the manufacturing districts for some months, and the large speculative transactions in produce in the chief ports, money continues as abundant or more so than at any former period, being worth only $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; and a greater tendency is evinced among capitalists to make investments in articles of commerce. Indeed, considering the comparatively moderate stocks of most of the leading articles of foreign and colonial produce, the moderate prices of all, and the very low prices of some, we are not surprised that the opinion continues to gain ground that with the present difficulty of employing money, prices must still continue to improve.

Mr Labouchere has given notice of a motion on the subject of the Brazilian trade, which cannot fail to excite the greatest interest with a large portion of the manufacturing and commercial public; and which, as the month of November approaches when our present treaty expires, becomes more and more important. That trade has for some years been in an unattractive state:—our exports have fallen since 1836 from 3,630,000*l.* to 1,750,000*l.*, and one of the great practical evils which we have had to contend with has been the constant tendency of the exchange to lower in rate. In 1836 the exchange was 44 d. per milrie, but has been gradually sinking, until by the last arrival it is quoted at 25 d.:—the loss sustained by English houses, who have always immense sums due to them in the country, must, on a great bulk of the business done during that period, have destroyed more than the profit. This depression in the Exchange is to be mainly attributed to their difficulty in finding a market for their produce; and hence arises one of the strongest mercantile objections to that system of differential duties which exclude their produce from our consumption.

By the accounts just received from Rio de Janeiro, the Commission of which we gave an account in our paper of the 2nd September, has made its report to the Government on the subject of a new tariff, which is intended to take effect on the expiring of our treaty in November next. On a few articles of small bulk and great value, and lately smuggled, a duty of only 5 per cent. will be charged; but on most articles it will vary from 20 to 60 per cent. The Report is not published.

RAILWAYS.—Since the meeting of Parliament the subject of railways and the numerous newly-projected lines, for which applications have been made for acts, have excited considerable interest in the share market, as well as among capitalists generally, as opening up a means for the absorption of nearly 10,000,000*l.*; but of course thrown over a considerable space of time. During the last week, a considerable rumour has prevailed in favour of an eastern line through the county of Cambridge, and direct to York, by which it is stated, that nearly 25 miles of distance will be saved; this rumour has had some influence in depressing the London and Birmingham line, as forming a probability of taking some share of the traffic to the north from that line; when, however, we consider that it will be at least five years before such a line can be completed, that during that period the natural increase of population, and the increasing importance of the great towns on the west coast—Glasgow, Manchester, Liverpool, the Potteries, and Birmingham itself,—to all of which the London and Birmingham must always remain the direct line, must continue to add largely to the traffic, we cannot think that any number of passengers which can be diverted from that line, by the one projected, can have any tendency to reduce its traffic from the present amount, or that the traffic thus diverted will even be in any important proportion to that natural increase mentioned; we therefore find, that the steady holders of this stock readily take advantage of the somewhat easier terms on which it can be bought, and make further investment. Great interest exists as to the new line from Preston to Carlisle, and a further extension of the same from the latter place to Glasgow, with a branch to Edinburgh. In the value of shares generally, there is very little difference, beyond the slight depression noticed on the western lines, and a corresponding favour shown to the eastern lines; we cannot think that either will be permanent. There is a new line projected from Leeds to Bradford, more direct than the one which has been before the public for some time, the distance being only nine miles instead of thirteen miles. We believe they both go to Parliament this session. The consequence is, that shares of the first projected line, which were at a premium of 10*l.* each, are now unsaleable.

In the French lines a slight depression occurred in the early part of the week, without any specific or good cause, but they have again revived. On the whole, the state of our railways, and the steady increase of traffic, form one of the most indisputable evidences of returning activity in the great leading pursuits of the country;—this market has of late found employment for considerable sums of money for short periods, at better rates of interest than any other afforded.—See our Commercial Report at the end, and the extensive lists of various stocks, which we will continue weekly, being always carefully revised, with a report obtained from the best sources.

MONTHLY STATEMENT OF THE STOCKS OF COFFEE AND SUGAR IN THE PRINCIPAL SIX MARKETS OF EUROPE ON THE 1st OF FEBRUARY, 1844.

| SUGAR. | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 1 February | 1841. | 1842. | 1843. | 1844. |
| Holland * - - - cwts. | | 288,400 | 375,400 | 240,000 | 215,000 |
| Antwerp - - - " | | 91,600 | 81,000 | 28,000 | 118,000 |
| Hamburg - - - " | | 140,000 | 165,000 | 130,000 | 220,000 |
| Triest - - - " | | 167,000 | 89,500 | 83,000 | 107,000 |
| Havre - - - " | | 65,000 | 75,000 | 150,000 | 130,000 |
| England - - - cwts. | | 752,000 | 785,900 | 631,000 | 790,000 |
| Total - - - cwts. | | 1,699,000 | 1,531,900 | 1,543,000 | 1,606,000 |
| Total in Gt. Brit. of Col. sugar | | 527,000 | 457,000 | 652,000 | 515,000 |
| Total—Foreign sugar cwts. | | 1,172,000 | 1,074,900 | 891,000 | 1,091,000 |

* In first hands only; in all other places in first and second.

Value in the first half of the month of February, in London, per cwt., without Duty.

| | 50s | 35s | 33s | 36s |
|---------------------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Muscovado, W. & E. India cwts. | 30s a 36s | 26s a 30s | 28s a 35s | 23s a 30s |
| Havana, white - - - " | 21s a 26s | 17s a 22s | 18s 6d a 22s 6d | 17s 6d a 22s |
| " yellow and brown - - - " | 23s a 27s | 20s a 24s | 21s a 26s | 19s a 24s |
| Brazil, white - - - " | 18s a 22s | 15s a 18s | 16s a 20s 6d | 15s a 18s |
| " yellow and brown - - - " | 20s a 28s | 16s a 23s | 17s a 26s | 15s a 23s |
| Java - - - " | 32s a 33s | 28s 6d a 29s | 27s | 25s 9d a 26s |
| Patent, crushed in bond - - - " | | | | |

The stocks as per the above table have lately experienced a material reduction, particularly those of the British Colonial produce, for which the demand is lively, and which, during the past month has advanced 2s. to 3s. per cwt. The supply for the consumption of this country is still stated in all probability larger than last year's; but the increase is not likely to be of such magnitude as to reduce the value, nor is it likely that there will be such an increase in the price as to reduce the capability to consume. Of foreign sugar the stock has likewise been somewhat reduced since the beginning of the year, and the value has been more firmly maintained. On the continent stocks are about 25 per cent. larger than at the same period last year, but they were at that time unusually reduced, and cannot even now be called large. The supplies from the Havana are now said to come to market there more slowly than what was anticipated, and the wants of the United States not being yet satisfied, the shipments to Europe will be delayed, limits from our part of the globe being too low to render their speedy execution probable. In our market the stock of foreign sugar amounts to about 260,000 cwts., the greater part of which is not offered in the market, nor is there any general demand, though some sales have been effected at prices fully equal, if not higher than those obtained towards the close of last year. Several cargoes of Brazil sugar have arrived, but sales of them, as far as they have been made, have been as unsatisfactory as last year, leaving the importer a loss on the cost, which amounts in some instances to as much as the whole of freight and charges.

COFFEE.

| | 1 February | 1841. | 1842. | 1843. | 1844. |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Holland * - - - cwts. | | 433,900 | 400,000 | 443,000 | 671,500 |
| Antwerp - - - " | | 67,000 | 49,500 | 125,000 | 77,000 |
| Hamburg - - - " | | 70,000 | 145,000 | 220,000 | 230,000 |
| Triest - - - " | | 135,000 | 79,500 | 96,000 | 78,000 |
| Havre - - - " | | 21,500 | 41,000 | 25,000 | 45,000 |
| England - - - " | | 420,000 | 368,000 | 474,000 | 425,000 |
| Total cwts. | | 1,147,400 | 1,083,000 | 1,383,000 | 1,526,500 |

* In first hands only; in all other places in first and second.

Value in the first half of the month of February, in London, per cwt., without Duty.

| | 70s a 94s | 65s a 94s | 58s a 75s | 65s a 76s |
|---|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Jamaica, good and fine ord. cwt. | 69s a 72s | 69s a 72s | 52s a 54s | 65s |
| Ceylon, good ord. - - - " | 41s 6d a 42s | 39s a 40s | 30s a 30s 6d | 28s 6d a 29s |
| Brazil, good ord. - - - " | 43s 6d a 44s | 40s a 41s | 30s a 31s | 28s a 28s 6d |
| St Domingo, good ord. - - - " | | | | |
| In Holland:—Java, good ord. } per $\frac{1}{2}$ kilog. } | 28 a 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ cts. | 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ cts. | 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ cts. | 20 cts. |

The total stocks of coffee bear about the same proportion to those of the preceding year as they did at the close of 1843. They are, as given in the above table, barely sufficient for six months' consumption; and we find them divided, as regards the amount of money value, at present rates:—

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Holland - - - - - | about £1,000,000 |
| Antwerp - - - - - | 110,000 |
| Hamburg - - - - - | 300,000 |
| Trieste - - - - - | 110,000 |
| Havre - - - - - | 40,000 |
| England, British Colonial | £400,000 |
| Foreign - - - - - | 500,000 |
| | 900,000 |

Say about 1,500,000 cwts., worth about - - - £2,460,000

The prices of foreign coffee, to which we exclusively refer (those of the British colonial descriptions being kept up beyond comparison with others, through the monopoly they enjoy in this country), have become somewhat more firm, but they are still 10 per cent. lower than last year, and 25 to 30 per cent. lower than in 1841 and 1842. In fact, coffee has for the last ten years, with the exception of a slight rally in 1838 and 1839, been declining in value. During the years from 1833 to 1836 its value was about double of what it now fetches.

The opinion that it cannot be profitably produced at the rates which it now commands in Europe is become general, and holders as well as purchasers appear determined to act upon it. The determination of the Dutch Trading Company (Maatschappij) to tax their coffee for

the next March sale at 20 cents per half kilogramme has had a decided effect upon the article. Notwithstanding the certainty that these sales, and the quantities which might be purchased privately from the company, would throw into the market no less than 700,000 cwts., or about one-half of the total stock in Europe, speculative purchases have been made in anticipation, in Holland, out of those very quantities, and in other continental markets similar operations have taken place. When we see capital lying dormant in this country to the amount of many millions, without the means of employing it, and that the rate of discount is almost upon a level with ours in all the great money markets in Europe, it is not surprising to see monied men investing their funds in an article which gives a fair prospect of yielding them a considerable return. At the present rates, it would not require more than two millions sterling to purchase all the foreign coffee now in Europe, an amount which appears but trifling when compared with that invested in almost every other article of large and extended consumption, such as sugar, cotton, corn, &c.

The speculative purchases which have been recently made, amount, thus far, only to about 150,000 cwts., and are attributed to a few monied houses, who have taken the lead; if their example should be followed by others, of which there is every probability, it would no doubt absorb the greater part of the stock in all the ports.

It is not, however, from speculators alone that an increased demand for coffee may be expected; consumption has, though capable of great extension and increase, gone on satisfactorily, but there has been amongst the dealers and retailers of the article all over Europe, no confidence in the value, which, falling from year to year, has left them constantly a loss instead of a profitable return. The second-hand stocks have, therefore, been kept upon the lowest scale of absolute necessity; if they become confident, and apprehensive of a rise, the effect would be immense. The population of Europe amounts to 250 millions; of these we take 200 millions to be consumers of coffee. In the metropolis of this country, in which the rate of consumption is much less than with many continental nations, it is supposed that there are no less than 3,000 concerns in which coffee is sold wholesale or retail,—therefore one for every 600 individuals. Calculating only one dealer or retailer for every 1,000 or 1,500 consuming individuals in Europe, there would be about 140,000 to 160,000 establishments which must keep a certain stock of coffee. It is not too much to suppose that they will each upon an average increase the quantity they hold by four to five cwts. This would at once withdraw 500,000 to 700,000 cwts., or from one-third to a half of the whole stock in the ports.

In this country the consumption of coffee amounts to about 1 lb. per head, in Germany to 2 lbs., in Holland to 11 lbs., in the United States to 6 lbs. The duty in this country is equal to about 100 per cent. upon the average bonded value of what is consumed, in Holland and the United States coffee is free of duty, a proof that the duty, wherever it is high, materially interferes with consumption, and that the latter would greatly increase with a reduction of the former.

The abundance of money, for which no greater interest than 1½ per cent. per annum, and hardly so much, can be obtained, has rendered capitalists altogether more inclined to invest their property in merchandise, and to look out for such articles as have been cheap. Rice, pepper, and others, have become objects of attention, but none of the others yield a sufficient scope; and coffee, which is cheaper than any of them, and does not, like many commodities, deteriorate, but rather improves, by keeping, is likely again to become a favourite article of speculation, and its value to be materially enhanced.

In this market there is but very little foreign coffee offering, the greater part of the stock being held for higher prices; the only sale worth mentioning is that of a cargo of St Domingo coffee over the ship's side at 26s. 6d., being about 1s. 6d. more than could be obtained a few weeks ago. For East India coffee there is an improved demand for home consumption at an advance of 2s. to 3s.

POLITICAL.

On Monday night both Houses of Parliament were occupied in voting thanks to Sir Charles Napier, who conducted the military operations in Seinde, and obtained victories, with great odds against him, at Meanee and Hyderabad. In the House of Lords the vote was unanimous, and the Duke of Wellington, in supporting it, went so far as to say that some of the military feats of the Indian General were among the most masterly of which either his experience or his reading had informed him. Such a testimony, from such a quarter, must certainly be gratifying to the feelings of a soldier. In the House of Commons the friends of universal peace protested against the justice of these wars, and the principle of thanking men for engaging in them; but on a division they only numbered nine.

A motion by Mr Christie to have the absurd standing orders of the house in regard to the publication of debates and the presence of strangers brought under notice, was lost on Tuesday night. By those orders the presence of one of the people whom that house represents, during its sittings, is held an offence for which the sergeant-at-arms is at liberty to take the offender into custody; and the publication of the debates is a breach of privilege for which every reporter is liable to imprisonment. It was in vain that Mr Christie pointed out the absurdity of these regulations, as contrasted with actual fact; the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Sir George Clerk ruled that these anomalies must remain, and eighty-four to thirty-seven of the house concurred in their decision.

The bill for arresting actions for penalties on gaming proceeds with alacrity. It has not only passed the upper house, but also a second reading in the lower. Mr Milner Gibson offered a manly opposition to the progress of the measure, but the country gentlemen were determined not to pay the penalties which they

had incurred, and they mustered in sufficient strength to carry their disreputable proposal. We look with extreme dislike upon this measure. The only defence put forth on behalf of the gamblers is that they did not know that they were breaking the law—an excuse which is never held valid in the courts, and ought least of all to be held valid, anywhere, when put forth on behalf of those who *make* the laws. Let us see how far that excuse is held good on behalf of other law breakers. Mr Gibson said:—

“The report of the inspectors of prisons for the northern and eastern district of Lancashire mentioned the case of an individual who had been imprisoned for ten weeks, having been summarily convicted before two magistrates for having neglected to attend divine worship on a Sunday, without a reasonable excuse, and adjudged to pay a fine of 1s. and 1s. costs, or in default to be imprisoned. This case had been brought forward by the honourable member for Pomfret, and yet no bill had been brought in to remedy the evil. There were other parties who had been confined for non-attendance at church, one for sixty-three days, another for sixty-one days, another sixteen days, another twelve, another seventeen, another two, another sixteen, another twenty-six, another three, another twenty-seven, and another for three days, and when these people were released, it was not on the ground of their having been imprisoned for a long period—no, there was no leniency shown; it was on payment of the fine and costs. It was believed in the country that the spirit of legislation in parliament was to legislate for themselves, and that there was no activity in either house unless something took place which affected the interests of the members themselves.”

And can it be wondered at that such is the belief, when such is the fact?

But the debate of the week has been on Ireland. Lord John Russell brought forward his motion, that the house resolve itself into a committee to take into consideration the state of Ireland, on Tuesday night, in one of those speeches which his lordship has from time to time delivered, exhibiting a spirit, point, and power which leave no cause for surprise that he holds a foremost rank among the public men of the day. The remarks put forward by those who have succeeded him, both on the same side and on the opposite, are strikingly similar to those which were so pressed into public notice after the dissolution of Sir Robert Peel's former ministry. It is evident that the same hatred towards the established church which has always rankled in the bosoms of the Irish continues, and, indeed, grows greater, and that is to become one of the points of attack against the Ministry. It was ably forwarded on Thursday night by Lord Howick, who stigmatised the whole bearing of England towards Ireland, and more particularly in respect of all that had been done in the sacred name of religion, as “a disgrace to a civilized nation, and the blackest page of English history.” Surely such injustice cannot endure.

The Irish State Trials were somewhat unexpectedly brought to a conclusion last Saturday night. O'Connell, and those who were prosecuted along with him, have all been found guilty—we can scarcely say of what; but they have been found guilty, and it appears that they are all liable to imprisonment and fine. In the meantime, however, the Court has adjourned to the 15th of April, without passing sentence; and O'Connell, instead of being confined in a dungeon, is once more in his place in the British House of Commons, “hurling defiance” at the heads of his persecutors. If conspiracy in England be what the Irish judges and an Irish Protestant jury have declared it to be in Ireland, it will be found very difficult in future to form associations for the prosecution of any object, displeasing to the ministers of the day, which may not be subjected to the pains and penalties of the law. Most certainly, if Ministers are to be consistent, they must forthwith indict Mr Cobden, and other members of the Anti-Corn-law League, for “conspiracy and other misdemeanours.” According to Chief Justice Pennefather, the members of every public association are accountable not only each for what he says himself, but they are conjointly and severally liable for what any one of them may say, and if there happen to be a few editors of newspapers among them, they become liable also for all that appears in those papers! In short, if the law of England has been properly interpreted in Dublin, the right of public discussion is a mockery, and to complain of an unjust law is tantamount to breaking it! If the spirit of the British constitution runs thus, it is high time that it were altered.

The arrival in London of O'Connell, and his reappearance in the House of Commons, constitutes a sort of *era* in the week. He has not spoken in public since his arrival, and has announced his determination *not* to speak on Lord John Russell's motion in the house, but we observe by the *Morning Chronicle* of yesterday, that he is to be invited by his friends to a public dinner on an early day; and at the weekly meeting of the Anti-Corn-law League in Covent Garden Theatre, on Thursday night, it was announced that, at the next meeting, the Liberator would address himself to an English audience on the great English question of free trade. The announcement, as might have been expected, was received with interest and enthusiastic applause.

The monopolists are copying as closely as they can the proceedings of the League. Having done what they could in the country, they have now opened shop in town, and, like their opponents and models, to use the elegant phraseology of Lord Orkney, are *kicking up a bobbery about the corn laws*. To show them how little we bear them grudge for this conduct, or

fear its consequences, we subjoin the following advertisement which appears in yesterday's *Times* :—

THE NATIONAL CORN-LAW ASSOCIATION, FOR THE PROTECTION OF AGRICULTURE.—The objects of this Association, which is now forming, are—To establish a permanent point of concentration and succour in the metropolis, in aid of the corn laws—to correspond and advise with all the provincial societies of a similar character during the existence of the Anti-Corn-law League—to promote subscriptions and contributions—and to meet the demonstrations of the League by counter-demonstrations in London and the provinces; and, in consequence of the alarming spread of incendiarism in the agricultural districts, the funds of the Association will be employed in the detection and prosecution of offenders, and in the adoption of such other means as may appear advisable for the suppression of this disastrous evil, &c.

SCOTLAND.

GLASGOW.—An unlooked for change, and a happy one, has recently taken place in Glasgow (says the *Reformers' Gazette*) in the way of shortening the hours of business. It would scarcely have been credited a few months ago that, by seven in the evening, most of the shops in the Tron-gate and principal streets would be shut at so early an hour. But such is the fact, as a walk through the town will show.

Small profits make large gains, as may be seen in the following instance :—On New Year's day, 1843, with a sixpenny fare, the Greenock and Glasgow railway, distance eighteen miles, pocketed 77*l.* from holiday passengers. On New Year's day, 1844, with a shilling fare, they received 45*l.*

The Hon. J. E. Elliot, late member for the county of Roxburgh, brother to Earl Minto, and paternal uncle to Lady John Russell, has transmitted to the treasurer of the Anti-Corn-law League Association at Hawick, the sum of 10*l.* in aid of the national League Fund.

IRELAND.

STATE TRIALS.

Friday, Feb. 9.—The case for the crown was this day closed at the conclusion of the Solicitor-General's address, and, after a very short adjournment,

THE JUDGES' CHARGE

was delivered to the following effect by the Lord Chief Justice. He commenced by stating that there was a perfect coincidence of opinion between himself and his brethren as to the subject matter to be laid before them, but he had proceeded for a very brief space when Mr Justice Perrin began to manifest very unequivocal symptoms of dissent. The early part of his address was more in the nature of a reply to Mr Fitzgibbon, who endeavoured to impress upon the jury that they, and not the Court, were the sole judges of criminality, and that apart from the law of the case the Court had no right to interfere with, or control in any way, the proceedings of the jury-box. This doctrine his lordship, to a considerable extent, disavowed. After referring to the case of Mr Tierney, who having only attended the meetings subsequent to the 2nd of October, and in whose favour there was that qualification, he proceeded to refer to the terms of the coronation oath, which he contended prohibited her Majesty from entertaining any proposition for the repeal of the union, apart from or independent of the legislature. The law permitted nobody, except the lawful parliament of the country, as settled by Queen, Lords, and Commons, at the period of the union, and, therefore, it was incompetent to Mr O'Connell, or any other person, to attempt an alteration of the law by illegitimate or violent means. The traversers held with Mr O'Connell that the act of union is void; but if so, where was the use, he asked, of seeking the repeal of such an act? A great many years ago Mr O'Connell appeared to entertain strong opinions against the act of union, and he had given evidence that he attended a meeting in Dublin in opposition to the repeal of the union. That meeting, however, was a meeting regularly constituted; not by irresponsible authority, but by the High Sheriff of the City of Dublin, at which every freeman and freeholder had a right to attend. Mr O'Connell had a right to express the sentiments he did at that meeting, but the present was the first time he had heard of a man justifying his acts in 1844 by what he did thirty years ago. His lordship then proceeded to notice the institution, machinery, and objects of the Repeal Association, and when referring to the repeal cards,

Mr Moore, Q. C. objected, on the part of the traversers, to the member's card being sent to the jury. He did so then, in order that they might not be precluded hereafter from adopting the course they might deem right on the conclusion of the charge.

The Chief Justice, in reply, said Mr Moore was right; and he (the Chief Justice) had no right to assume the cards were to be laid before the jury. And, having made this admission, he proceeded to describe and comment upon the card, the object of which, he said, clearly was to band the people of Ireland in support of the political views entertained by Mr O'Connell and the association. After some further observations on the part of his lordship, the Court adjourned till next morning.

Saturday, Feb. 10.—The Court sat this morning at ten, when the Lord Chief Justice, after apologising for what he had said on the previous day in reference to Mr Fitzgibbon's interpretation of the law of conspiracy, proceeded with his address to the jury. He commenced by referring to the large sums of money remitted to the funds of the association from England, Scotland, Ireland, and various parts of America. The association, thus provided with funds, numbers, and organization, he described as the instrument by which Mr O'Connell and the other traversers intended to work out their ulterior object; namely, the repeal of the union. That in itself was a legal and legitimate object, but in pursuing it the traversers had no right to resort to intimidation, or by demonstrations of physical force compel the legislature to concede their demands. He then referred to "the plan for the renewed action of the Irish parliament," which he described as a plan for the entire abolition of the British constitution, as by law established, for he contended that her Majesty at the period of the union had ceased to be the Queen of Ireland, that her rights as such had been swallowed up and merged in the imperial legislature, and that any attempt on the part of her Majesty

to carry the proposed plan into operation would be a violation of the coronation oath. There was a mode by which the union could be repealed or modified, and that was by a solemn act of the imperial parliament, sanctioned and adopted by the crown; but the document before him contained nothing in the shape of a petition; it was, in point of fact, a demand, an authoritative demand, on the part of the people of Ireland to repeal an act of parliament without any interposition of the legislature. He next directed the attention to the monster meetings, at which large numbers of persons, accompanied by banners and bands of music, attended. He did not, however, attach much importance to the bands of music, at the same time he could not help regarding them as demonstrative organization, and therefore entitled to some attention; and afterwards selected portions of the most violent speeches delivered by Mr O'Connell and others of the traversers—including Mr O'Connell's attack on Lord Beaumont at Mullingar—all of which, he contended, were calculated to excite ill will, dissension, and discontent among her Majesty's subjects. He noticed the Clifden meeting, at which Mr O'Connell spoke of his intention of establishing arbitration courts, and the intended meeting of three hundred gentlemen in Dublin to arrange the terms of repeal. The former he described as a gross and unwarrantable assumption of the royal prerogative, and the latter as a new edition of the story of Aladdin's miraculous lamp, which conferred on the possessor everything he desired. Referring to the Mullaghmast meeting, and the paper entitled "The Mullaghmast Massacre," he inquired how it happened, if the document were circulated contrary to the desire, or without the cognizance of the traversers, that the O'Connell police did not put a stop to the selling of it, forgetting all the while that the O'Connell police in that case would have been assuming a power and authority to which they had neither right nor title—a power and authority, by the way, against which the Court of Queen's Bench would not only protest, but, in all probability, regard as "a gross and unwarrantable interference with the legal and constituted tribunals of the land." He afterwards read extracts from Mr O'Connell's speech at the dinner in the evening, which contained, he said, the self-same sentiments, and inculcated the self-same doctrines, as the printed document already referred to. What object, he asked, had Mr O'Connell or those who acted with him in promulgating such sentiments, unless to disseminate ill will and discontent among her Majesty's subjects? What object had Mr O'Connell in adopting a document so overflowing with the "gall of bitterness" as that which they had so often heard of in the course of the proceedings? He then proceeded to inquire into the real objects and intent of those meetings—and especially that at Mullaghmast—which he thought went the full length of showing concert and agreement between the traversers, and, therefore, establishing the charge of conspiracy. He then recapitulated the meetings which some of the traversers attended, and the publications with which others were connected, and from these he drew the conclusion that all were influenced by the same motives, and labouring for the attainment of the same objects, and through the instrumentality of the same means; and, therefore, that all were more or less guilty of the charges preferred against them in the indictment. The Chief Justice concluded his address to the jury at five o'clock in the afternoon of this day. The jury retired to consider their verdict, and before midnight, having had several meetings in Court with one of the judges, it was evident that they had made up their minds to find the traversers guilty on the principal points of the indictment, but the words of their finding being unsatisfactory, it was held necessary that they should be detained in *custodia legis* till Monday morning. It was held that no verdict could be received after midnight.

THE FINDING OF THE JURY.

The finding of the jury, as officially handed in by the foreman, is a very perplexing document. It does not clearly set forth the various issues, with the finding on each. We have gone through the whole indictment, and arranged the matter so as to render the finding on each issue perfectly intelligible to our readers. They can see at a glance of what charges the several traversers have been convicted, and of what acquitted :—

FIRST COUNT.—This count contains five distinct charges, on each of which an issue was sent up to the jury, to wit :—

1. The traversers are severally charged with unlawfully, maliciously, and seditiously contriving, intending, and devising to raise and create discontent and disaffection amongst the liege subjects of our said lady the Queen, and to excite the said liege subjects to hatred and contempt of the government and constitution of this realm as by law established.

2. They are charged with intending and devising, "to excite hatred, jealousies, and ill will amongst different classes of the said subjects, and to create discontent and disaffection amongst divers of the said subjects, and, amongst others, her Majesty's subjects serving in her Majesty's army."

3. They are charged with "contriving, intending, and devising to bring into disrepute, and to diminish the confidence of her Majesty's subjects in the tribunals duly and lawfully constituted for the administration of justice."

4. They are charged with "unlawfully, maliciously, and seditiously contriving, intending, and devising, by means of intimidation and the demonstration of great physical force, to procure and effect changes to be made in the government, laws, and constitution of this realm as by law established."

5. They are charged that they did combine, and confederate, and agree "to cause, and procure, and aid and assist in causing and procuring divers subjects of our said lady the Queen unlawfully, maliciously, and seditiously to meet and assemble together in large numbers at various times and at different places within Ireland, for the unlawful and seditious purpose of obtaining by means of the intimidation to be thereby caused, and by means of the exhibition and demonstration of great physical force at such assemblies and meetings, changes and alterations in the government, laws, and constitution of this realm as by law established."

The jury found Daniel O'Connell, Richard Barrett, and Charles Gavan Duffy guilty on the above five issues, omitting, however, on the

fifth charge the words "unlawfully" and "seditiously," which we have placed in italics.

Also *guilty*, John O'Connell, Thomas Steele, Thomas Matthew Ray, and John Gray, on the 1st issue—*not guilty* on the 2nd issue—*guilty* on the 3rd issue—on the 4th and on the 5th *guilty*, omitting the words "unlawfully and seditiously."

The Rev. Thomas Tierney *guilty* on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd issues—*not guilty* on the 4th and 5th issues.

SECOND COUNT.—This count is merely a repetition of the first count, omitting the overt acts, and the finding of the jury on it was exactly the same as on the first, as above given.

THIRD COUNT.—This count contains all the five charges set forth in the first and second, with the exception of some verbal differences, as follows:—

First—The traversers are charged with unlawfully, maliciously, and seditiously contriving, intending, and devising to raise and create discontent and disaffection amongst the liege subjects of our said lady the Queen, and to excite the said liege subjects to hatred and contempt of the government and constitution of this realm as by law established.

Secondly—With devising to excite hatred, jealousies, and ill will amongst different classes of the said subjects, and to create discontent and disaffection amongst divers of the said subjects, and amongst others her Majesty's subjects serving in her Majesty's army.

Thirdly—With further contriving, intending, and devising to bring into disrepute, and to diminish the confidence of her Majesty's subjects in the tribunals duly and lawfully constituted for the administration of justice.

Fourthly—With further "unlawfully, maliciously, and seditiously contriving, intending, and devising by means of intimidation of great physical force, to procure and effect changes to be made in the government, laws, and constitution of this realm as by law established."

Fifthly—With combining "to cause and procure, and aid and assist in causing and procuring, divers subjects of our lady the Queen to meet and assemble together in large numbers at various times, and at different places, within Ireland, for the unlawful and seditious purpose of obtaining by means of the intimidation to be thereby caused, and by means of the exhibition and demonstration of great physical force at such assemblies and meetings, changes and alterations in the government, laws, and constitution of this realm as by law established; and further, to bring into hatred and disrepute the courts by law established in Ireland for the administration of justice, and to diminish the confidence of her said Majesty's liege subjects in Ireland in the administration of the law therein, with the intent to induce her Majesty's subjects to withdraw the adjudication of their differences with and claims upon each other from the cognizance of the said courts by law established, and to submit the same to the judgment and determination of other tribunals, to be constituted and contrived for that purpose, in contempt of our said lady the Queen, and the laws of this realm, to the evil example of all others in the like case offending, and against the peace of our said lady the Queen, her crown and dignity."

The jury found Daniel O'Connell, Richard Barrett, and Charles Gavan Duffy *guilty* on all the issues in this count. They found John O'Connell, Thomas Steele, Thomas Matthew Ray, *guilty* on the 1st, 3rd, 4th, and 5th issues, and *not guilty* on the 2nd, which charged them with the design of "creating discontent and disaffection amongst her Majesty's subjects serving in the army." The jury found the Rev. Thomas Tierney *guilty* on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd issues, but *not guilty* on the 4th and 5th.

FOURTH COUNT.—This count contains only three issues, and omits the charges relative to the "army" and the "arbitration courts."

The first charge is for "unlawfully, maliciously, seditiously contriving, intending, and devising to raise and create discontent and disaffection amongst the liege subjects of our said lady the Queen, and to excite the said liege subjects to hatred and contempt of the government and constitution of this realm as by law established, and to excite hatred, jealousies, and ill will amongst different classes of the said subjects, and to create discontent and disaffection amongst divers of the said subjects."

The second is for "unlawfully, maliciously, and seditiously contriving, intending, and devising, by means of intimidation and the demonstration of great physical force, to procure and effect changes to be made in the government, laws, and constitution of this realm as by law established."

The third count is that the traversers did combine and confederate "to cause and procure, and aid and assist in causing and procuring, divers subjects of our said lady the Queen to meet and assemble together in large numbers, at various times and at different places within Ireland, for the unlawful and seditious purpose of obtaining, by means of the intimidation to be thereby caused, and by means of the exhibition and demonstration of great physical force at such assemblies and meetings, changes and alterations in the government, laws, and constitution of this realm as by law established, in contempt of our said lady the Queen and the laws of this realm, to the evil example of all others in the like case offending, and against the peace of our said lady the Queen, her crown and dignity."

The jury found Daniel O'Connell, John O'Connell, Thomas Matthew Ray, John Gray, Charles Gavan Duffy, Thomas Steele, and Richard Barrett *guilty* on all the issues in this count. Also the Rev. Thomas Tierney *guilty* on the 1st and 3rd issues, and *not guilty* on the 2nd.

FIFTH COUNT.—This count contains one general charge of creating discontent among her Majesty's Irish subjects, and the promotion of ill will and hostility towards her Majesty's subjects in England.

On this the jury found Daniel O'Connell, John O'Connell, Thomas M. Ray, Richard Barrett, Charles Gavan Duffy, John Gray, Thomas Steele, and the Rev. Thomas Tierney *guilty*.

SIXTH COUNT.—This count contains a general charge of contriving, by means of intimidation and the demonstration of great physical force, to effect changes in the government, laws, and constitution of the realm, and the procuring the assemblage together in large numbers of divers subjects of the Queen for a similar purpose.

On this charge the jury found all the traversers *guilty*, with the exception of the Rev. Thomas Tierney, whom they declared *not guilty*.

SEVENTH COUNT.—This count contains one general charge, to wit—that the assemblage of large masses was designed to effect the dissolu-

tion of the legislative union, by intimidation and the demonstration of great physical force.

The jury found all the traversers *guilty*, with the exception of the Rev. Mr Tierney, *not guilty*.

EIGHTH COUNT.—This count contains a general charge of conspiracy to bring into disrepute the tribunals as by law established, by means of the arbitration courts.

All the traversers *guilty*, except the Rev. Mr Tierney, *not guilty*.

NINTH COUNT.—This count is the same as the eighth, with this addition, that it charges the traversers with usurping the prerogative of the crown in the creation of arbitration courts.

All the traversers *guilty*, except the Rev. Mr Tierney, *not guilty*.

TENTH COUNT.—This count charges the traversers with conspiring to bring the courts of justice, as by law established, into disrepute, and is the same in this respect as the two former counts, except the addition of the words, "and to diminish the confidence of her Majesty's liege subjects in Ireland in the administration of the laws thereof."

All the traversers *guilty*, except the Rev. Mr Tierney, *not guilty*.

ELEVENTH COUNT.—This count repeats the charges respecting intimidation and physical force, and adds that changes in the law and constitution of the realm were sought to be effected by means of seditious and inflammatory speeches and addresses, as well as by the publication of divers seditious writings and compositions.

All the traversers *guilty*, except the Rev. Mr Tierney, *not guilty*.

The issue paper was signed, "James Hamilton, for self and fellow-jurors."

Mr O'Connell has since addressed a letter to the Roman Catholic bishops, urging them to use their influence to preserve peace among the people, and he has twice addressed himself to the people with the same object, and in the meantime has left Ireland, to take his seat in the House of Commons; but he has said that he will soon return.

REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—THE PRESS.—All the proprietors of newspapers who had been members of the Repeal Association have withdrawn from that body. The resignations of Dr Gray and Dr Atkinson, proprietors of the *Freeman's Journal*; Mr Barrett, proprietor of the *Pilot*; Mr Staunton, proprietor of the *Weekly Register*; and Mr Duffy, proprietor of the *Nation*, were received at the association yesterday afternoon. This step was rendered imperatively necessary by the extraordinary doctrine established, or rather asserted, by the verdict on the state trial, that every member of the Repeal Association was responsible for all the publications of the newspapers, whose proprietors were members of that association. No newspaper proprietor can in future be admitted as a member of the association. Indeed it is no longer safe in Ireland to permit any newspaper proprietor to continue a member of a club or association of any kind. Mr Duffy, in his letter to the association, says—"I would prefer any risk to myself to abandoning the privilege of acting with you at such a time as the present, but as I have no right to endanger others, I of course do what is deemed necessary for their protection."

FREE-TRADE MOVEMENTS.

ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.

The usual weekly meeting of the League took place on Thursday night at Covent-Garden Theatre, when, in the absence of Mr Wilson, the Hon. C. P. Villiers took the chair. Notwithstanding the threatening aspect of the evening the attendance was quite as numerous as usual. The press of other matter compels us to condense the proceedings into a very limited space.

The Chairman, after a few brief observations on the progress of the cause, and the prevalence which common sense must always exert over vulgar personalities, introduced Mr Hume to the meeting, warmly panegyricizing him as the old and tried friend of the cause the success of which they were met to advance.

Mr Hume contrasted the present aspect of the question with that which it presented thirteen years ago, when he could procure no more than thirteen members in support of a motion of his own upon the subject. Last session he was gratified to hear the Prime Minister propound in an able speech those principles of free trade, the advancement of which he (Mr Hume) had so long laboured for, but how mortifying it must be now to find that the same minister had been driven from his high position by the threats of the Duke of Richmond, and he muttered hostility of the country gentlemen! There was no hope now either from the present parliament or the present ministry, and the only prospect of redress lay in a new House of Commons. The League had been charged with blasphemy and sedition, and no one could tell how soon it might be prosecuted as other meetings had been in another country. (Cheers and laughter.) He should be sorry to see the day, as had frequently been suggested by those who urged the superiority of the home market, when the supply of food for our increasing millions should be restricted to the supply which this country could produce. (Cheers.)

Mr Christie, M.P. for Weymouth, was next presented to the meeting, and was greeted with loud cheers. He congratulated the League on the fact, that from its order and intelligence no government proclamation had been as yet levelled against it, nor had the new-fangled doctrine of conspiracy been yet propounded with respect to its proceedings (loud cheers)—though a few nights since, Sir J. Graham, with an insignificant look, and by a dark insinuation, threw an implied insinuation on those whom he durst not openly to attack, when he said, "In these days Leaguers meet in theatres, demagogues and priests in market-places, and conspirators build conciliation halls to disseminate sedition amongst the multitude." ("Oh, oh!" and cheers.) The League exhibited no military array—there was no corn-law cavalry, and yet if Sir James Graham were to look in at that meeting, he'd see as pretty a cabinet group, irregular and unarranged though it was, as any minister would desire to survey. (Cheers and laughter.) It was, however, to be inferred from facts, that Sir James Graham had no little confidence in the League, as special directions were given from the Home-office, that the constable who usually attended the house when used for the business of the drama, should be withdrawn on the

League nights. (Laughter.) Ministers are now confident, after the triumph which they supposed they had achieved in Ireland over that great man, before whose power they quailed when they yielded Catholic emancipation; but, before they sang their song of triumph, they should wait for the result. The apostate baronet—(loud cheers, which drowned the remainder of the sentence.) Would government adopt, with respect to the League, that doctrine of conspiracy which, on the authority of De Stael, had been acted on in Ireland? If so, the withdrawal of the police from their meetings, would enable them to call Graham and Peel as witnesses to character. (Hear, hear.) If they were to be prosecuted, so also ought their opponents of the pro-corn-law associations, whose strong speeches, significant hints, and bold declamations, were much more dangerous. Their opponents overlooked the constituencies, jumped over the legislature, and aspired to keep the government in order, to add to the riches of the wealthy, and compel the poor to pay a disproportionate contribution to the revenue. The pretext was protection to agriculture; but where were the proofs that such protection had been afforded? The corn laws only serve to

"Stun with false care, what else would flourish wild,
Or rock the cradle till they bruised the child."

If humanity were to be the motto of any party it should be inscribed on the banners of the League. If any one doubted the ultimate success of their efforts in achieving unconditional repeal, the speech of Lord Morpeth, who declared that if the sliding scale were not abandoned in a twelvemonth he would join them, ought to dispel that doubt. Their enemies called the League "a great fact," and the services which it rendered would hereafter cause the period of its exertions to be considered a great era, and whoever might carry the question in the House of Commons the pioneers who cleared the way would not be forgotten. The high and persevering advocacy of millions would live in men's memories, and the almost superhuman exertions of Cobden would hold an abiding place in men's memories, beyond the reach of those false calumnies and dark insinuations with which unscrupulous enemies endeavoured to depress him. (Immense and repeated cheering.)

Mr Fox then rose, and was received with the utmost enthusiasm. In a speech of mingled power and humour he advocated the principles of the League, and ridiculed the efforts of its opponents. It was said that since the declaration of Sir R. Peel the League had dwindled down into insignificance; but he hoped, in the language of the judges, now happily not of frequent use, that the gentlemen from the house then present, if taken back to the place whence they came, would announce that the League was still in existence and more flourishing than ever. (Cheers and laughter.) If to have increased from small meetings to such as he then addressed—if, instead of petitioning parliament, they appealed to the masters of parliament—if their funds increased from 50,000*l.* to 100,000*l.* were proofs of dwindling down, why he must admit they were dwindling. (Cheers and laughter.) How little they know of the League who thought it could be shrunk or shrivelled up at the breath of a minister! As soon might the bellowing of the Tamworth bull arrest the progress of the coming spring. (Laughter.) Their opponents, not content with the great pro-Corn-law League in the House of Lords, with its supplement in the Commons, and its executive in the cabinet, formed themselves into small associations, which seemed to say,—

"Oh, let our little barks attendant sail,
Pursue the triumph and partake the gale."

(Cheers.) The rev. gentleman then went through the history of the labouring classes in this country for several centuries past, and concluded by asserting that the feudal days had passed away, and that the remnant of its power must succumb to the stronger genius of intelligence and humanity.

The Chairman then announced that Mr O'Connell (loud cheers) had been applied to to attend the next meeting, and expressed his perfect readiness to attest his recognition of the value of this great English question.

The Chairman then left, after which three cheers were given for Mr O'Connell, and the meeting separated.

GREAT MEETING OF THE LEAGUE IN THE FREE-TRADE HALL, MANCHESTER.—On Wednesday the Free-Trade hall was crowded to excess again, on the occasion of the periodical meeting of the League; indeed, this spacious building was never so crowded before, and we are told that the applications for tickets were so great, that the building might have been filled had it been twice as spacious. The gentlemen announced to address the meeting were Mr Cobden, M.P., Col. Thompson, and Mr R. Moore, and the audience included persons who had come many miles to have an opportunity of hearing them. Mr G. Wilson, chairman of the council, presided, and addressed the meeting at some length; Mr Cobden made a very able and effective speech, which was rapturously cheered; Col. Thompson spoke racy and vigorously, as usual, and some strong language which he applied to the late proceedings in Ireland, particularly to the conduct of the Attorney-General, was loudly applauded. Mr Moore followed, and after the usual thanks to the chairman, the numerous and respectable meeting broke up.

THE LEAGUE IN WILTSHIRE.—Mr Falvey, during the past week, has delivered lectures in Devizes, Cricklade, Highworth, and Swindon. The meetings were well attended by tradesmen, farmers, and labourers, and the heartiest good will manifested towards the objects of the League. The Earl of Radnor presided at the Highworth meeting on Friday evening week, and at the close of Mr Falvey's lecture expressed himself highly gratified, and suggested that the marked thanks of the meeting be given to the lecturer for the information afforded to his friends and neighbours on a great national question. A vote of thanks was then given to Mr Falvey, as was also one to the noble chairman for his kindness and condescension in presiding on the occasion.

ANTI-LEAGUE MOVEMENTS.

A meeting of the landowners, tenant-farmers, and others favourable to the protection of British agriculture, was held at the Guildhall,

Lichfield, on Monday week, at which J. S. Manley, Esq., presided: when a series of resolutions was unanimously adopted, for the establishment of a society to secure to British agriculture protection. A committee was appointed to carry out the principles of the society. Amongst the gentlemen who moved and seconded the resolutions were—Lord Ingestre, the Hon. Colonel Howard, H. Wyatt, Esq., H. J. Pye, Esq., R. Greene, Esq., J. Hanbury, Esq., Capt. Dyott, T. G. Lomax, Esq., Mayor of Lichfield, W. T. Smith, Esq., E. Grove, Esq., Wm. Leigh, Esq., Charles Booth, Esq., S. P. Shawe, Esq., Wm. Mott, Esq., K. Bourne, Esq., J. Yates, Esq., S. P. Wolferstan, &c.

A meeting of the members of the Stafford Agricultural Protection Society, convened by Earl Talbot, the president, was held at the County hall, Stafford, on Tuesday week, "for the purpose of petitioning parliament to support agricultural protection, and to consider the best means of opposing and counteracting the attempts of the Anti-Corn-law League." Amongst the speakers were Viscount St Vincent, Lord Ingestre, Major Chetwynd, C. B. Adderley, Esq., M.P., J. D. W. Russell, Esq., M.P., W. Holland, Esq., the Rev. C. Landor, T. H. Parker, Esq., W. B. Taylor, Esq., Thomas Hartshorne, Esq., T. S. Kinnersley, Esq., &c. Resolutions were adopted for opposing the League, and for petitioning parliament not to interfere with the protective power of the present corn laws.

The friends of the corn monopoly seem to make most insignificant headway in Scotland, being, in fact, subjected in every instance to defeat, except where they take precautions to make defeat impossible, and in these cases victory is no honour. In the county of Fife last week, two gentlemen, named Colonel Lindsay and Mr O. T. Bruce (the latter, by-the-by, having made a princely fortune by the monopoly of printing Bibles for the use of the North Britons, enjoyed till within the last six years), who, it appears, are "Conveners of the Land-tax Commissioners" of the county, took upon them to "call a meeting of the commissioners of supply of the county," and to "invite [only] the noblemen, justices of the peace, tenantry, and others who are favourable to the present corn laws," to attend. The lord-lieutenant of the county, Captain James Erskine Wemyss, M.P., considered the calling of such a meeting beyond the power of the gentlemen who did it, and an infringement of his right as sheriff-principal and chief magistrate of the county. "It is my duty," he says to them in a letter, "as lieutenant and sheriff principal of this county, to warn you that, as convener of the land-tax commissioners under a specific statute, you have no authority to convene the magistracy and tenantry of this county; and if there shall arise any riot, I, as chief magistrate of the county, must hold you responsible for the consequences resulting from such assumed authority. Your meeting would have been of a perfectly legal character had you convened it as private landed proprietors; but you have announced it officially, as officers under a statute which grants you no such powers. I beg to inform you that I have felt it to be my duty to forward a copy of this communication to the Secretary of State, in order to show the government that my office is being interfered with and set aside by those who, and in these times especially, should exhibit a different example." This seems rather to have frightened the poor conveners, for when the time of meeting came, they actually dissolved their own meeting before it was formed! the number of gentlemen, holding Liberal opinions, who were present, far exceeding the number of their (the monopolists') friends.

"We speak within bounds," says the *Fife Herald*, to which we are indebted for the above information, "in saying, that four-fifths of those in the room were opposed to the resolutions, while those taking anything like an interest or an active part in the proceedings consisted of about twenty lairds [landlords] thinly scattered round the table, and a very few farmers standing near them. As to the number of farmers present at the meeting at the time the resolutions were passed, we pledge ourselves to the statement, that if the number was above twenty, it did not reach thirty. For every farmer present at this meeting there were seven or eight at the county meeting held in the parish church on this day three weeks, when free-trade resolutions were unanimously adopted. As a proof of the accuracy of this statement we give this evidence, and challenge denial of its truth—that while the lairds were making, or rather reading, their speeches, and passing their resolutions, not the slightest diminution was observable in the number of farmers doing business at the Cross, while, on the day of Mr Cobden's meeting, the market was entirely emptied. As for the real meeting, that is four-fifths of those in the room, their only part in the proceedings consisted in keeping up a running fire of jokes at the speakers, and enlivening with roars of laughter the blunders of the orators, the solemn passing of the resolutions, and various other parts of the farce.

ARRIVAL OF THE "AVON" WITH THE WEST INDIA MAILS.—The anxiously looked for over-due West India mail packet the *Avon*, was signalled off the Isle of Wight at twelve on Thursday, and arrived at her moorings at half-past one. The mails from South America, West Indies, &c., were immediately landed and despatched to London by a special train at two o'clock. Her delay was accounted for from having encountered very heavy northerly gales in the Gulf of Mexico, where she cast anchor, but lost one of them. The dates are,—Tampico, 23rd Dec.; Vera Cruz, 4th Jan.; Havanna, 16th; Nassau, 18th; Bermuda, 28th. The *Avon* brings in freight 503,893 dollars. 59 scrons of cochineal, 54 cases of gum, and passengers. The *Trent* brought the mails to Bermuda, and then proceeded *en route* for Jamaica and Mexico.

Fifty years ago the city of Bordeaux alone exported to Great Britain and Ireland no less than 18,000 tuns of wine; at present the total export of the whole of France to the same places is only 3,090 tuns.

The imports of cotton into Boston during the year 1843 amounted to 151,966 bales, being an increase of 59,098 upon the imports of the preceding year.

The cost of a hogshead of tobacco of 1,200 lbs. varies from 1*l.* to 2*5l.*, whilst the duty alone is 18*9l.*—*Liverpool Mercury.*

It may be useful to some timid railway travellers to state that the furious puffing of the engine shows the safety valve is open, and explosion impossible.

MISCELLANIES OF TRADE.

COST OF RAILWAY CARRYING.—In reference to the question relative to the throwing open of the railway traffic to public competition, it may be useful to mention a few calculations which have been made as to the actual cost of conveying passengers and goods upon railways, and the vast reductions which might be made in the present rates of charge. They are extracted from the pamphlet entitled *Railway Reform*, and printed in a prospectus issued by the "Railway Reform Association." "The cost of conveying passengers in a mixed train, 100 hundred miles, does not amount to more than 6d. (each passenger) for the first class, 4½d. for the second class, and 3d. for the third class." The present average rates of fares for this distance are respectively 25s., 18s. 9d. and 10s. 8d. The preceding calculation does not, of course, include tolls and profit. The lowest fare from London to Birmingham is 14s. (by first class 30s.); the actual cost of conveying a passenger is estimated at 4d. The plan which the Railway Reform Association proposes is, as we last week stated, that government should purchase the whole of the railways in the kingdom at their market value, and adopt a low rate of fares, &c., by which it is argued no burden would be laid upon the public, the increased traffic to be expected being sufficient to make the low rates profitable enough to pay the interest of the purchase; and it is proposed that the fares should be reduced to the following rates:—By mail trains travelling 35 miles an hour, 2d. a mile each passenger; by trains travelling 25 miles an hour, first class, for every two miles, one penny; second class, for three miles, one penny; by trains travelling 15 miles an hour, first class, six miles, one penny; second class, eight miles one penny. The charges for carrying merchandise, cattle, carriages, horses, &c., to be reduced to a rate not exceeding one sixth of the present average rates. If these reductions could be effected under a government management, we are quite sure it could be done with open competition, giving a lucrative business to the enterprising parties engaged in it, and yielding a good revenue in tolls to the railway companies. There is no need that government should take the railways into its own management in order to reform the rates; the object would be better accomplished by rendering those clauses of the railroad acts, which declare them to be free to the public, no longer a dead letter.—*Durham Chronicle*.

ATMOSPHERIC RAILROADS.—In the late discussion upon railroads, Sir R. Peel is reported to have said that "two brothers of the Jewish persuasion," the Messrs Samuda, are entitled to the credit of the discovery of atmospheric traction, or the practical application of the principle. It is due to one of the first engineers of the day that this mistake should be corrected. The Messrs Samuda supplied the capital for the first experiments upon a large scale at Wormwood scrubs, and are entitled to every credit for their perseverance in bringing the invention before the public, but the sole inventor was Mr S. Clegg. The patent is held jointly in the names of Clegg and Samuda.

THE NEW AUSTRALIAN LINE OF PACKETS.—A representation has been made to the Postmaster-General by a large body of the mercantile community, not only of London, but also of the manufacturing districts, to the effect that the projected line of Australian packets from England would be more advantageous to the public should the date for making up the mails for these vessels be on the 12th or 15th, instead of on the 1st of each month. The prominent reason assigned is, that the Indian monthly mails *via* Alexandria, containing advices from the Australian and New Zealand dependencies, most generally arrive in England prior to the 8th of the month, so that by this trivial alteration, the mails, being made up on the 12th or 15th would contain replies to those *via* India, from Australasia and New Zealand, affording a material despatch, and thus increase the facilities of post-office communication, whilst the expense incurred by the country in maintaining this new periodical line would certainly be more advantageously applied. It has been represented further, that the casualties of the British Channel navigation, for delays, &c., are sufficient for the consideration of the perpetual loss of time to be incurred by shipping the mails at Gravesend, instead of the mails being transmitted to a more westerly port, which would occupy seventeen hours by land for shipment, giving the public the benefit of the average passage of a vessel from London, say to off Falmouth.

COTTON FACTORIES IN BALTIMORE.—There are fourteen factories within the vicinity of Baltimore which manufacture raw cotton, and the consumption last year was about 6,800,000 lbs. Four of the factories manufactured only about 450,000 lbs.; the largest in operation is "The Union," and its consumption was 900,000 lbs. This annual consumption, estimating an average of three yards to the lb., shows a product of 20,400,000 yards. Some of the factories, however, manufacture 3½, while others do not exceed 2½ yards to the lb.—*Liford's Commercial Journal*.

THE NEW SILVER COINAGE.—The workmen at the Royal Mint are daily at work in striking off the new silver coinage, a considerable amount of which has been sent to the Bank of England within the last few days. The panic respecting the light gold currency having subsided, the governor and company of the Bank of England will shortly give notice that they will issue the new silver coinage at the Bullion office in exchange for the old coinage of George III, George IV, and William IV, which are so defaced from wear and tear and deficient in weight. The public will not in any way be losers by the calling in of the old silver, arrangements having been made between the government and the bank to that effect. A very large quantity of the new coinage has been sent off by railway since Monday to the different branch banks in the manufacturing and agricultural districts of England, Wales, and Scotland. As the bank receives it the clerks will have it so defaced as not to be re-issued, and it will be remelted at the Mint. The quantity of bullion at present in the Bank is nearly 16,000,000 sterling—a larger amount than for many years.

SMALL DEBTS BILL.—A bill has been brought into the House of Commons by Mr Jervis and Mr Watson, entitled, "A bill for the more easy recovery of small debts and demands." It is proposed in order to facilitate the recovery of small debts and demands, and to lessen the

expense attendant on actions, that claims to the extent of five pounds in England and Wales may be recovered before justices, who are to be empowered to summon a debtor within a space of five miles of his residence. The parties may be examined or witnesses called on either side, with power, when a claim is not well-founded, that a plaintiff shall pay the costs to the defendant. Payment of a debt may be by instalments or otherwise, and in default a distress warrant to issue. The act is not to take away the jurisdiction of courts of requests, and as at present worded it is not imperative on a plaintiff to go before a magistrate. Cost not to exceed forty shillings. There is no imprisonment provided, neither any penalty for disobedience, &c. The act contains twenty short clauses.

The *Times*, with an objecting grumble, announces that the government have determined to stamp sheets and half-sheets of letter paper, so that when folded up in the shape of a letter or note, the stamp will appear on that part usually devoted to the address. The proposal that government should supply the paper at the price of the stamp was rejected.

ANNUAL CORN-TRADE CIRCULAR.

Messrs Sturge, the well-known corn merchants of Birmingham, have just published the following circular:—

"Birmingham, 2nd Month, 7th, 1844.

"We have delayed our usual annual circular until the present time to complete the tables to the end of 1843. The import of foreign wheat into Gloucester in 1843 was only 9,265 qrs., against 129,696 qrs. in 1842. The aggregate imports of grain and meal into the united kingdom, foreign and colonial, in 1843, amounted to 1,446,423 qrs., against 3,723,097 qrs. in 1842, being a decrease of 2,276,674 qrs. The total export from Ireland to Great Britain of grain and meal in 1843, is 2,721,400 qrs., against 2,083,600 qrs. in 1842, being an increase of 637,800 qrs. In taking a brief review of the corn trade for the past year, we observe it has been marked by a striking contrast, in some respects, to the preceding one, which began with a sanguine expectation of higher prices, and in many instances very imprudent speculation was the consequence; which, from a combination of events, ended in a reaction perhaps more extensively disastrous to all connected with the foreign corn trade than at any period of its former history. Under these circumstances, the year 1843 commenced not only with a general want of confidence in the trade, but with such a loss or withdrawal of the capital usually employed in it, as created a general desire, on the part both of dealers and millers, to reduce stocks to their lowest limits. This, added to the very luxuriant appearance of the crops on the ground, and the persuasion that a greater breadth than usual was sown, caused the market to continue in a languid state up to the month of April; but the weather from that time until the middle of June, having been almost unprecedentedly wet and cold, produced some advance in price, and more disposition to hold their stocks on the part of our farmers; some orders were likewise transmitted to foreign ports. As the summer advanced the weather improved, though still unfavourable to the growing crops; but an impression becoming general in July that the wheat had sustained serious injury, our prices rose 8s. to 10s. per quarter. The latter part of August, and during the whole of September, it was almost uninterruptedly fine; the price of wheat fell, in consequence, about half the previous advance; this depression was also increased by the liberation of 164,903 quarters of foreign wheat at 14s. per quarter duty. The result of the harvest has proved that the early wheats suffered from the cold and wet weather in May and June, and that they are generally deficient per acre; but still more so in proportion to the quantity of straw. The late crop, which comprehends most of the north of England, Ireland, and Scotland, is, we now believe, fully an average one; and though from the improvement in trade there has been a large increased consumption of wheat flour, and the stock of foreign wheat at the time of harvest was little more than one-third of that at the same period in 1842, the deliveries of our farmers have hitherto kept pace with the demand; and consisting of a much larger proportion of old wheat than was supposed to remain in their hands. In some of our country markets it amounted to nearly half the sales up to the end of last year. It is perhaps more difficult to form a correct judgment of the probable future supply and demand in respect to grain than any other article; but with the relatively high price of potatoes, and the continuance of the present comparatively prosperous state of trade, unless we have a very early harvest, we think a considerable import of foreign wheat will be required. This cannot take place to any extent except with a loss to the importers, without a considerable advance on our present rates. The determination of ministers not to alter the corn laws has given much confidence to trade. It appears to be almost universally admitted that as the quantity of wheat sown for the harvest of 1843 was unusually large, that of barley was proportionably below the average; and as there has been an increased demand, the present price is high as compared with other grain. The average of wheat on the 20th January, 1844, is 51s. 8d.; at the same time in 1843 it was 49s. 1d. That of barley in 1844, 33s. 7d.; in 1843, 27s. 2d. There is a general impression that this grain will yet be higher, but the tendency to advance may be checked by the importation of foreign, which has already been considerable, and will probably be materially increased during the spring and summer. The crop of oats is generally allowed to be good, both in this country and in Ireland, and the price after harvest became consequently low; but we have had an unusually extensive consumptive demand, with a steady improvement in value, and the arrivals continue to be taken off freely ex-ship. The bean crop, though very luxuriant in the straw, is generally found on threshing to be deficient both in quality and quantity: still the supply has hitherto been equal to the wants of consumers, while the value of English with us is about 8s. per quarter higher, as compared with the same period last year. As the planting season approaches, we look for a further improvement. Peas have ceased to be pressed on the market, and the tendency of this grain, as well as beans, is upwards.

"We remain, respectfully,

"JOSEPH and CHARLES STURGE."

POLITICAL.

POOR RATES.—There is at present a general complaint throughout the country, especially in cities and towns, that there are arrears to a considerable amount on every rate laid, which the assistant overseers and collectors are unable to collect. This is principally owing to the landlords who possess property, which consists of cottage-houses and odd rooms, and which they let to the poorest inhabitants at small half-yearly and even weekly rents, subject to the payment of all rates and assessments, at the same time causing the poor tenants to be rated in the parish rate-books. Thus hundreds of individuals who are owners of property of the above description avoid paying the poor and church rates altogether, and the respective parishes lose the money in consequence of the poverty of the tenants, who, if an information be laid before and a summons granted by the magistrates, have not furniture in their dwellings sufficient in value to pay the expenses of an execution; and where an execution is carried into effect, the poor tenants are entirely ruined, and are obliged to apply to the parish. Fortunately, however, the legislature has provided a means whereby to remedy these unwarrantable proceedings. By an act of parliament passed in the 54th George III, c. 12, it is provided that in order to prevent such a system of rating, parishes, by calling vestries of the rated inhabitants, such vestries have power to resolve that all persons who lease or let dwelling houses, or other hereditaments, under the annual value of 20*l.* are liable to be rated themselves, and the usual mode of recovery of rates in arrear may be resorted to in case of the refusal to pay the same. The provisions of this act have been carried into effect in some towns in the counties of Cumberland and Westmoreland, and by so doing nearly the whole of the rates have been collected, where the system of evading the poor rates is carried on.

PROTECTION.—As for protecting duties, the Swiss people believe that if a trade cannot support itself without a protecting duty, that is sufficient proof that the trade is not suited to the capacities of the country—the proof being that the articles in question can be produced for less money elsewhere. This is taken as sufficient evidence that it is injurious to the country to continue, or to protect, any such trade—first, because consumers in Switzerland must lose the difference between the low price of the foreign article and the higher price of the home article; and, secondly, because the trade in articles, which Switzerland can produce, is injured to a greater extent than the other is benefited, by preventing the far greater sale of its produce to the foreigners who produce the goods excluded. The produce which is capable of being sold in other countries is the most profitable to the producing country; and, so far from protecting others which cannot be exported, it is the interest of a community to discontinue it. The fact that a trade wants protection is an amply sufficient reason why it should not be protected.—*Symon's Arts and Artisans at Home and Abroad.*

FACTORIES BILL.—The Factories Bill brought in by Sir James Graham and Mr Manners Sutton contains seventy-eight sections, with a schedule of forms annexed. The preamble states that the laws for regulating the employment of children and young persons in factories need amendment. The acts now in force on the same subject are to be repealed; then follows a comprehensive interpretation clause. No child under eight years old to be employed in factories, nor any young person to be employed under 16 years old; in both cases certificate from a surgeon of age and fitness to be procured. They may be employed eighteen days without certificates. Children not to work more than six hours and a half daily. Young persons and women not to be employed more than twelve hours a day, nor to work after half-past seven o'clock in the evening. Work in factories to cease on Saturday at half-past four o'clock. One hour and a half allowed for meals. Eight half-holidays allowed in every year. Children to attend school. By the twenty-sixth section an abstract of the act is to be hung up in every factory. Various penalties are set forth in the bill—penalties to compel the attendance of witnesses, against parents for permitting children to be employed contrary to the act, for not protecting machinery, &c.; penalties to be applied by inspectors, under the direction of the government, to establish or support day schools for the education of children employed in factories. It is proposed that the act shall commence on the 1st of October next. The schedule annexed to the bill contains a number of forms.

MORBIFIC EFFECTS OF EFFLUVIA FROM DEAD ANIMAL MATTER.

(From Chadwick's Sanitary Report on Intermittent in Towns.)

Dr Copland, in his evidence before the committee of the House of Commons, adduced the following remarkable case, stated to be of fever communicated after death:—

"About two years ago," says he, "I was called, in the course of my profession, to see a gentleman, advanced in life, well known to many members in this house, and intimately known to the Speaker. This gentleman one Sunday went into a dissenting chapel, where the principal part of the hearers, as they died, were buried in the ground or vaults underneath. I was called to him on Tuesday evening, and I found him labouring under symptoms of malignant fever. Either on that visit or the visit immediately following, on questioning him on the circumstances which could have given rise to this very malignant form of fever, for it was then so malignant that its fatal issue was evident, he said that he had gone on the Sunday before (this being on the Tuesday afternoon) to this dissenting chapel, and on going up the steps to the chapel he felt a rush of foul air issuing from the grated openings existing on each side of the steps; the effect upon him was instantaneous; it produced a feeling of sinking, with nausea, and so great debility that he scarcely could get into the chapel. He remained a short time; and, finding this feeling increase, he went out, went home, was obliged to go to bed, and there he remained. When I saw him, he had, up to the time of my ascertaining the origin of his complaint, slept with his wife; he died eight days afterwards; his wife caught the disease and died in eight days also, having experienced the same symptoms. These two instances illustrated the form of fever arising from those particular causes. Means of counteraction were used, and the fever did not extend to any other members of the family.

"Assuming that that individual had gone into a crowded hospital with that fever, it probably would have become a contagious fever. The disease would have propagated itself most likely to others, provided those others exposed to the infection were predisposed to the infection, or if the apart-

ments where they were confined were not fully ventilated; but, in most cases were the emanations from the sick are duly diluted by fresh air, they are rendered innocuous. It is rarely that I have found the effects from dead animal matter so very decisive as in this case, because in the usual circumstances of burying in towns the fetid or foul air exhaled from the deads generally so diluted and scattered by the wind, as to produce only a general ill effect upon those predisposed; it affects the health of the community by lowering the vital powers, weakening the digestive processes, &c. without producing any prominent or specific disease.

"The following case is recorded by Sir Astley Cooper. Mr Elcock, student of anatomy, slightly punctured his finger in opening the body of a hospital patient about twelve o'clock at noon, and, in the evening of the same day, finding the wound painful, showed it to Sir Astley Cooper after his surgical lecture. During the night the pain increased to extremity, and symptoms of high constitutional irritation presented themselves on the ensuing morning. No trace of inflammation was apparent beyond a slight redness of the spot at which the wound had been inflicted, which was a mere puncture. In the evening he was visited by Dr Babington, in conjunction with Dr Haighton and Sir Astley Cooper; still no local change was to be discovered, but the nervous system was agitated in a most violent and alarming degree, the symptoms nearly resembling the universal excitatio of hydrophobia, and in this state he expired within the period of forty-eight hours from the injury.

"The late Dr Pett, of Hackney, being present at the examination of the body of a lady who had died of peritoneal inflammation after her confinement, handled the diseased parts. In the evening of the same day, while at a party, he felt some pain in one of his fingers, on which there was a slight blush, but no wound was visible at that time. The pain increasing, the finger was examined in a stronger light, when, by the aid of a lens, a minute opening in the cuticle was observed. During the night the pain increased to agony, and in the morning his appearance was extremely altered; his countenance was suffused with redness, his eyes were hollow and fretty; there was a peculiarity in his breathing, which never left him during his illness; his manner, usually gay and playful, was now torpid, like that of a person who had taken an excessive dose of opium; he described himself as having suffered intensely, and said that he was completely knocked down and had not the strength of a child, and he sunk exhausted on the fifth day from the examination of the body.

"George Higginbottom, an undertaker, was employed to remove in a shell the corpse of a woman who had died of typhus fever in the London Fever Hospital. In conveying the body from the shell into the coffin, he observed that his left hand was besmeared with a moisture which had oozed from it. He had a recent scratch on his thumb. The following morning this scratch was inflamed; in the evening of the same day he was attacked with a cold shivering and pain in his head and limbs, followed the next by other symptoms of severe fever; on the fourth day there was soreness in the top of the shoulder and fullness in the axilla; on the fifth the breast became swollen and efflorescent; on the seventh delirium supervened, succeeded by extreme prostration and coma, and death took place on the tenth day.

"A lady in the country received a basket of fish from London, which had become putrid on the road. In opening the basket she pricked her finger, and she slightly handled the fish. On the evening of this day inflammation came on in the finger, followed by such severe constitutional symptoms as to endanger life, and it was six months before the effects of this wound subsided and her health was restored.

"Among many other cases, Mr Travers gives the following as displaying well the minor degrees of irritation, local and constitutional, to which cooks and others, in handling putrid animal matter with chapped and scratched fingers, are exposed. A cook-maid practised herself on a stale hare, for the purpose of learning the mode of boning them, in spite of being strongly cautioned against it. A few days afterwards, two slight scratches, which she remembered to have received at the time, began to inflame; one was situated on the fore finger and the other on the ring finger. This inflammation was accompanied with a dull pain and feeling of numbness, and an occasional darting pain along the inside of the fore arm. The next day she was attacked with excruciating pain at the point of the fore finger, which throbbled so violently as to give her the sensation of its being about to burst at every pulsation. The following morning constitutional symptoms came on; her tongue was white and dry; she had no appetite; there was great dejection of spirits, and languor, and a weak and unsteady pulse. After suffering greatly from severe pain in the finger, hand, and arm, and great constitutional derangement and debility, the local inflammation disappeared in about three weeks, and she then began to recover her appetite and strength.

"The miasms arising from churchyards are in general too much diluted by the surrounding air to strike the neighbouring inhabitants with sudden and severe disease, yet they may materially injure the health, and the evidence appears to me to be decisive that they often do so. Among others who sometimes obviously suffer from this cause, are the families of clergymen, when, as occasionally happens, the vicarage or rectory is situated very close to a full churchyard. I myself know one such clergyman's family, whose dwelling house is so close to an extremely full churchyard that a very disagreeable smell from the graves is always perceptible in some of the sitting and sleeping rooms. The mother of this family states that she has never had a day's health since she has resided in this house, and that her children are always ailing; and their ill health is attributed, both by the family and their medical friends, to the offensive exhalations from the churchyard.

"I consider that the want of attention to the circumstance of the concentration of decaying emanations is a great reason that the effects of miasmata in producing fever is still a *questio vacata*. Thus there may be many churchyards and sewers evolving decaying matter, and yet no fever may occur in the locality. Some other more modified effect may be produced, according to the degree of concentration of the decaying matter, such as diarrhoea, or even dysentery; or there may be no perceptible effects produced, although the blood may still be thrown into a diseased state, which will render it susceptible to any specific contagion that approaches. It must be remembered that decaying exhalations will not always produce similar effects, but that these will vary, not only according to the concentration, but also according to the state of decomposition in which the decaying matters are."

The amount of customs duties paid at Preston during the year ending the 5th ult., was 19,375*l.*, an increase of 8,417*l.* compared with 1842, and of 13,066*l.* compared with 1841.

In Ohio there are 1,559 miles of railroads and canals, made at a cost of 15,926,228 dollars.

In the course of the Irish state trial, Mr Whiteside quoted an extraordinary figure once used by an advocate:—"I smell a rat—I see it brewing in the storm—and I will crush it in the bud!"

COMMERCIAL MARKETS.

FRIDAY EVENING.

INDIGO.—Very little has been done in this article in the course of the week, but the January rates are maintained. Whether this will continue to be the case, appears doubtful, since it is well known that some parcels of indigo, emanating from former speculative purchases, are hanging over the market, and are likely to be sold as soon as purchasers can be found. It is very improbable that the full market price will then be obtained for such parcels in the face of large supplies, soon expected, a considerable quarterly sale in April, and unquestionably very large sales in July and October. The continental demand is at present slack, and the home trade appears to be well provided with stock.

COCHINEAL.—With the exception of a very small one, there have been no public sales this week, but some business has been done by private contract, at very full prices, for the Mediterranean.

SUGARS.—Refined: There was a brisk demand for home-trade goods in the beginning of the week, and advanced prices were obtained, which have since been maintained; in export sorts also more business has been done at full prices.—The British plantation market is extremely bare of goods, and the sales consequently are on a limited scale, viz., about 200 casks; but though an apparent heaviness has prevailed, the prices paid are 6d. to 1s. higher.—Foreign: The market continues very quiet, and the only transactions reported privately are about 200 chests old brown Baias, at 17s.; 30 chests Pernams, at 15s. 6d.; and 150 hogsheds Cuba Mucovades, at 18s. to 18s. 6d.

COFFEE.—The home-trade market has been dull during the week, but holders being firm, prices have been tolerably well maintained, and there is a better feeling at the close.—Of British West India there is still very little doing.—Of East India very little is offering; there has been increased inquiry, more especially for common qualities, and about 2,000 bags Peang have been sold privately at 26s. to 28s.; 117 bags very ordinary Batava in public sale sold at 22s. 6d.—For Foreign sorts generally, there is also better feeling, and a cargo of St Domingo has been sold, deliverable from the ship in this port, at 26s. 6d.; and one deliverable at Hambro', at 27s., has been sold at Liverpool.

COCOA.—211 bags and barrels British Plantation in public sale, partly sold; Grenada, 48s. to 49s.; Trinidad, 44s. to 47s.—Foreign sorts are neglected.

RICE.—There has been a continued demand for Bengal, and the private sales may be estimated at 6,000 bags at an advance of about 3d., viz.: 10s. 6d. to 11s. 6d. for white, and 8s. 6d. for cargo; in Madras also further business has been done, and Java likewise appears to be attracting more attention.

PIMENTO.—526 bags have been offered in public sale, a few of which, of inferior quality, sold at reduced rates, but the chief part was bought in at very full prices, viz.: middling and good, 3½d. to 3¾d.; ordinary, 2½d. to 3d.

PEPPER.—The speculative demand is not followed up with any degree of spirit, but the article is firmly supported, and 415 bags Eastern in public sale, found buyers at 2½d. to 3½d.; 58 cases and bags white, of fine quality, sold at 9½d.

CINNAMON is in moderate request, at a small advance on the last sale.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—951 boxes offered in public sale, went off with some spirit, at very full prices. Good middling, 63s. to 65s.; good ordinary, 57s. to 58s. 6d.; mouldy and damaged, 55s. 6d. to 60s. 6d.; 18 chests Buds sold at 67s. to 68s.

In other spices not much is doing.—16 casks Nutmegs in public sale, chiefly sold. Good brown at 3s. 6d.; fair limed, at high duty, 2s. 1d. to 2s. 2d.

SALTPETRE continues in demand, and 3,862 bags, in public sale, have mostly sold at rather better prices.

NITRATE OF SODA must again be quoted higher, sales having been effected at 15s. to 15s. 6d.

COTTON.—A large business has again been done, at very full prices.

FOREIGN.

The West India packet due the 4th of this month, is not yet arrived, and fears of her safety are entertained. At Lloyd's, 5 per cent. insurance premium has been offered upon her. *Via* Havre letters from the Havana have been received up to the 12th January, when she had not reached that port from Vera Cruz. At Havana, the stock of old sugars was almost entirely exhausted by the demands for the United States, only 6,000 chests remaining of the old crop. For the sales which had been made, an advance had been obtained, particularly for yellow sugar. Some parcels of New Muscovado Sugar had likewise been contracted for on delivery, at high prices for the United States. It was not expected that any considerable quantity of new clayed sugar would be on the markets before the latter part of this month. The December packet had arrived from Europe, and great disappointment is felt on account of the low quotations and the depressed position of sugar in Europe. The coffee market was lively and excited, large orders having been received for shipment to the United States. Exchange upon London, 10 to 10½ per cent. Freight to Europe, 2½ to 3½, with abundance of shipping.

The Express packet from Rio, brings letters from Rio to 24th December. The exchange upon London had materially declined, bills having been negotiated at 25 to 24½ per cent. The coffee market had undergone no change, but business had lately been limited. The arrivals were moderate, and the qualities of the better descriptions was falling off, the good, first, and superior, not being equal to the previous imports. The export of coffee from the 1st January, 1843, amounts to 1,149,524 bags, of which 535,919 bags to the United States. Freights to Europe, 1½ to 2½ per ton.

The advices from the continent of Europe report a decided improvement in the demand for coffee, and somewhat better prices. For some of the other principal articles of colonial and transatlantic produce a better feeling likewise prevails. At Antwerp some considerable sales of sugar had been made for shipment to Holland at prices which could not before be obtained, and offers have been made for other considerable parcels. Cotton on the continent follows the Liverpool market in every one of its pulsations, and though prices are not such as to allow of large shipments from this country, some orders, particularly for the East India descriptions, have been sent, limited so as to admit of their execution.

P. S.—The West India Mail is just arrived, having been delayed in the Gulf of Mexico by adverse winds. The dates are from Havana up to the 15th of January, and add nothing to the information which has been given. The steamer brings 500,000 dollars.

PRICES CURRENT.

| GOVERNMENT FUNDS. | Sat. | Mon. | Tues. | Wed. | Thurs. | Friday |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|---------|----------|----------|
| Bank Stock, 7 per cent. | 191½ | 193 | 193 | 193½ | 193½ | 194 |
| 3 per Cent. Reduced | 98½ | 98½ | 98 | 98½ | 98½ | 98½ |
| 3 per Cent. Consols | 97½ | 97½ | 97 | 97½ | 97½ | 97½ |
| 3 per Cent. Ann. 1818 | — | 103 | 103½ | — | — | — |
| 3 per Cent. Ann. 1826 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 3 per Cent. Reduced | 103½ | 103 | 103 | 103 | 103½ | 103½ |
| New 3 per Cent. Ann. | 102 | 102½ | 102½ | 102 | 102½ | 102½ |
| New 5 per Cent. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Long Ann. Jan. 5, 1870 | 12 13-16 | 12 13-16 | 12 13-16 | 12 9-16 | 12 13-16 | 12 13-16 |
| Ann. for 30 years, Oct. 10, 1850 | 12 11-16 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ditto Jan. 5, 1860 | — | — | — | — | 12 9-1 | 12 13-16 |
| Ditto Jan. 5, 1880 | — | — | — | — | — | 6 |
| India Stock, 10½ per Cent. | — | 277 | — | 278½ | 278½ | 278 |
| Ditto Bonds, 3½ per Cent. 1,000l. | — | — | — | 84s. pm | 84s. pm | 85s. pm |
| Ditto, under 1,000l. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| South Sea Stock, 3½ per Cent. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ditto Old Ann. 3 per Cent. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ditto New Ann. 3 per Cent. | — | — | — | — | 95½ | — |
| 3 per Cent. Ann. 75l. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Bank Stock for Account, Feb. 27, 1844 | — | 193 | 193½ | — | — | — |
| 3 per Cent. Con. for Account, ditto | 97½ | 97½ | 97½ | 97½ | 97½ | 97½ |
| India Stock for Account, ditto | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Canada Guaranteed Deben. 4 per Cent. | — | — | — | — | — | 111 |
| Exchequer Bills, 1,000l. 1¼d. | 99 | 69 | 96 | 69 | 69 | 69 |
| Ditto ditto 1½d. | 69 | 69 | 96 | 69 | 69 | 69 |
| Exchequer Bills, 500l. 1¼d. | 69 | 69 | 96 | 69 | 69 | 69 |
| Ditto ditto 1½d. | 69 | 69 | 96 | 69 | 69 | 69 |
| Exchequer Bills, Small 1¼d. | 69 | 69 | 96 | 69 | 69 | 69 |
| Ditto ditto 1½d. | 69 | 69 | 96 | 69 | 69 | 69 |
| Exchequer Bills, Commercial, 1¼d. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ditto ditto 1½d. | — | — | — | — | — | — |

PUBLIC SECURITIES OF UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

| | Per Cent. | Redem. able. | Amount in Dolls. | Dividends. | London Prices, Feb. 13. | Amer. Prices, Jan. 12. | London Prices, Feb. 16. | Amer. Prices, Jan. 23. |
|-----------------------------|-----------|--------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Alabama | 5 | 1852 | 500,000 | May & Nov. | 77½ | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 5 | 1858 | 2,000,000 | Jan. & July. | 82½ | 82½ | — | — |
| Sterling | 5 | 1861 | 3,500,000 | May & Nov. | — | — | — | — |
| Indiana | 5 | 1861 | 1,600,000 | Jan. & July. | — | 39 | — | — |
| Sterling | 5 | 1871 | 1,600,000 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Illinois | 6 | 1870 | 5,000,000 | — | 42½ | 41 | 42½ | 41 |
| Sterling | 6 | 1870 | 1,000,000 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Kentucky | 6 | 1868 | 1,250,000 | — | — | 101 | — | 101 |
| Louisiana | 5 | 1843 | 1,800,000 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 5 | 1844 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 5 | 1847 | 7,000,000 | Feb. & Aug. | 6½ ex. div. | — | 60½ ex. div. | — |
| Sterling | 5 | 1850 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 5 | 1853 | 150,000 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 5 | 1867 | 300,000 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Maryland | 5 | 1859 | 750,000 | May & Nov. | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 5 | 1868 | 3,000,000 | Jan. & July. | — | — | — | — |
| Massachusetts | 5 | 1857 | 1,000,000 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 5 | 1868 | 300,000 | April & Oct. | — | — | — | — |
| Michigan | 6 | 1863 | 5,000,000 | Jan. & July. | — | — | — | — |
| Mississippi | 5 | 1850 | 5,000,000 | May & Nov. | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 5 | 1858 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 5 | 1861 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 5 | 1866 | 2,000,000 | Mar. & Sep. | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 5 | 1871 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| New York | 5 | 1858 | 3,124,270 | Quarterly. | 92½ | — | 92 | — |
| Sterling | 5 | 1860 | 877,000 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ohio | 5 | 1850 | 4,000,000 | Jan. & July. | 89½ | 95 | 89 | 95 |
| Sterling | 5 | 1856 | 4,000,000 | — | 90 | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 5 | 1860 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Pennsylvania | 5 | 1854 | 3,202,500 | Feb. & Aug. | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 5 | 1856 | 2,733,162 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 5 | 1858 | 3,070,661 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 5 | 1860 | 2,648,600 | — | — | 63 | 62 | 67 |
| Sterling | 5 | 1862 | 2,295,400 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 5 | 1864 | 1,700,000 | — | — | — | — | — |
| South Carolina | 5 | 1866 | £200,000 | Jan. & July. | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 5 | 1868 | 1,000,000 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Tennessee | 6 | 1857 | 400,000 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Virginia | 6 | 1858 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 6 | 1860 | 1,000,000 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 6 | 1862 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 6 | 1864 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 6 | 1865 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 6 | 1866 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 6 | 1867 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 6 | 1868 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ditto Sterl. Bonds | 6 | — | 2,000,000 | — | — | — | — | — |
| United States Bank Shares | — | 1866 | 35,000,000 | — | 20s. | 20s. | — | 54 |
| Ditto Debentures | 6 | 1841 | £800,000 | April & Oct. | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 6 | 1842 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 6 | 1843 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 6 | 1844 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 6 | 1845 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ditto ditto | 6 | 1841 | £290,000 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 6 | 1842 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Louisiana State Bk. | 10 | 1870 | 2,000,000 | Jan. & July. | — | — | — | — |
| Bank of Louisiana | 8 | 1870 | 4,000,000 | — | — | — | — | — |
| New York City | 5 | 1856 | 9,000,000 | Quarterly. | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 5 | 1851 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| New Orleans City | 6 | 1864 | 250,000 | Feb. & Aug. | — | — | — | — |
| Sterling | 6 | 1863 | 1,500,000 | Jan. & July. | — | — | — | — |
| Philadelphia City | 5 | 1853 | 175,000 | May & Nov. | — | — | — | — |
| Baltimore City | 5 | 1850 | 4,600,000 | Quarterly. | — | — | — | — |
| Camden & Amboy | 5 | 1864 | £210,000 | Feb. & Aug. | — | — | — | — |
| R. R. Bonds | 6 | 1864 | £225,000 | — | — | — | — | 100 |
| Phil. & Reading R. R. Bonds | ds. | 1860 | £210,000 | — | — | — | — | — |

| FRENCH FUNDS. | Paris, Feb. 8. | Paris, Feb. 9. | Paris, Feb. 10. | Paris, Feb. 12. | Paris, Feb. 13. | Paris, Feb. 14. |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 5 per Cent. Ann. 22 | f. c. | f. c. | f. c. | f. c. | f. c. | f. c. |
| Mar. and 22 Sep. | 125 10 | 125 10 | 125 20 | 125 35 | 125 65 | 125 80 |
| Exchange - | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 4½ per Cent. Ann. payable | — | — | 112 50 | — | — | — |
| Exchange - | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 4 per Cent. Ann. 22 | — | 106 25 | 106 25 | 106 25 | 106 50 | — |
| Mar. and 22 Sep. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Exchange - | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 3 per Cent. 22 June and 22 Dec. | 82 | 82 | 81 95 | 82 5 | 82 20 | 82 50 |
| Exchange - | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Bank Shares, 1 Jan. and 1 July | 3,280 | 3,280 | 3,280 | 3,280 | 3,277 | 3,275 |
| Exchange on London 1 month | 25 50 | 25 52½ | 25 52½ | 25 52½ | 25 52½ | 25 52½ |
| Exchange on London 3 months | 25 48½ | 25 42½ | 25 42½ | 25 45 | 25 45 | 25 45 |

IRISH STOCKS.

| | Wed. | Thurs. | Friday. | Sat. | Mon. | Tues. |
|------------------------|------|--------|---------|------|------|-------|
| per Cent. Consols | 97½ | 97½ | 97½ | 97½ | 77 | 97½ |
| Reduced Do. | — | — | — | — | 101½ | 101½ |
| ¾ per Cent. Stock | 101½ | 101½ | — | — | — | — |
| Reduced Do. | — | — | 101½ | — | — | 101½ |
| ¾ Stock, New | — | — | 101½ | — | — | — |
| ¾ per Cent. Debentures | 94 | 94 | 94 | 94 | 94 | — |
| Exchequer Bills</ | | | | | | |

| Prices per Stone. | | | | At Market. | | | |
|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------|------------|--------|---------|-------|
| Monday. | | Friday. | | Monday. | | Friday. | |
| Beef | 3s 2d to 4s 2d | 3s 6d to 4s 6d | Boasts | ... | 2,642 | ... | 380 |
| Mutton | 3s 6d to 4s 8d | 3s 10d to 4s 6d | Calves | ... | 26 | ... | 106 |
| Veal | 4s 2d to 5s 2d | 3s 8d to 4s 10d | Sheep | ... | 21,780 | ... | 2,950 |
| Pork | 3s 8d to 4s 8d | 3s 0d to 4s 0d | Pigs | ... | 320 | ... | 312 |

Prices of Hay and Straw, per load of 36 trusses.
Hay, 2l. 15s. 0d. to 2l. 15s. 0d. | Clover, 4l. 0s. 0d. to 4l. 17s. 0d. | Straw, 1l. 4s. 0d. to 1l. 10s. 0d.

THE GAZETTE.

Tuesday, February 6.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

T. Knight and E. Cutress, Preston, Sussex, millers.—F. W. Edwards and J. Foy, Aldermanbury, commission agents.—T. Purcell and T. W. Nichols, Brixton and Battersea, wax chandlers.—T. and H. Littledale and Co., Liverpool, general brokers (as regards R. Aspinall).—Richardson and Holiday, Liverpool, tailors.—Barnes and Beswick, Sunderland, painters.—Deane, Youle, and Co., Pernambuco, Brazil, general commission merchants (as regards W. Atkinson and R. S. Graham).—Ellerton and Knell, Lawrence lane, warehousemen.—T. Hankey and Co. (as regards T. Hankey, sen).—W. Wilkinson and J. Adams, Birmingham, black enamel makers.—F. Harrison and H. Shuckford, Greenwich, hosiers.—Bradder and Wood, Stafford, butchers.—T. Briercliffe and Co., Bolton-l-Moors, cotton waste dealers.—W. Adam and W. Pearson, Bath, Derbyshire, spar manufacturers.—E. and E. Grainger, Dudley, Worcestershire, mecers.—Slipper and Cornick, Little Britain, builders.—Marrian and Reynolds, Birmingham, stampers.—G. Rands and Son, Northampton, leather sellers.—E. and C. Margetts, Liverpool, brokers.—W. H. Turner and C. Hunt, Chorlton-upon-Medlock, Lancashire, joiners.—Yeomans, Staudfield, and Co., Sheffield, merchants.—T. T. Cattley and Co., Cousin lane, Upper Thames street, lead merchants.—J. and W. J. Bryant, Edgeware road, surgeons.—Hoyle and Sykes, Huddersfield, cheese factors.—H. Linney and J. Hunter, Alton, Hampshire, bootmakers.—S. Hatfield and G. Brazileir, South Molton street, tailors.—Crosland and Hemingway, Leeds, painters.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

J. Rhodes, Leeds, woolstapler.

BANKRUPTS.

FAULKNER, J., Danvers street, Chelsea, builder. [Ward, Lincoln's-inn fields.
MILNER, J., Brook street, New road, engine manufacturer. [Rivington, Fenchurch buildings.
AMOS, T., Kingsland road, builder. [J. and W. Sheffield, Leadenhall street.
MARKS, E. M., Mortimer street, Cavendish square, and Stanhope street, Regent's park, upholsterer. [Ivimey, Chancery lane.
FIELD, G., Bond court, Walbrook, packer. [Cottrill, Throgmorton street.
TURNER, R., Almondbury and Kirkburton, Yorkshire, fancy cloth manufacturer. [Clark and Co., Lincoln's-inn fields.
HIGGINSON, T., Liverpool, pawnbroker. [Norris, Allen, and Simpson, Bartlett's buildings, Holborn.
BARRY, J. H., Liverpool, merchant. [Sharp and Jackson, Bedford row.
LAY, T., Dudley, grocer. [Smith, Birmingham.

INSOLVENTS.

E. Pither, Hammersmith, cattle dealer.—J. Simmons, Hardington, Northamptonshire, wheelwright.—S. Tarry, Maseby, Northamptonshire, shoemaker.—J. Wheeler, Bugbrook, Northamptonshire, soap boiler.—W. Copsom, Grantham, Lincolnshire, latter.—M. Westphal, Woodstock street, out of business.—H. Carman, Holywell, Flintshire, tailor.—W. Thomas, Portobello, Glamorganshire, stone merchant.—J. Tammond, Rotherham, out of business.—J. Lilly, Birmingham, grocer.—C. Higginson, Oxford, schoolmaster.—W. Dawson, Chesterfield, saddler.—R. Pool, Manchester, clothes dealer.—W. Brown, Waterloo road, baker.—T. Rolfe, Great St Helen's, wine cooper.—R. Williams, New Brentford, out of business.—H. Rogers, Meverley, Shropshire, clerk.—J. Hargreaves, otherwise J. Bond, otherwise J. B. Hargreaves, Blackburn, shoemaker.—J. Pritchard, South row, New road, tailor.—W. Hincheliff, Marlborough road, Chelsea, haberdasher.—J. T. Morgan, otherwise J. Morgan, Feckenham, Worcestershire, butcher.—G. Taylor, Prestbury, Cheshire, butcher.—J. Woodhouse, Manchester, out of business.—J. Willey, Manchester, butcher.—D. Bates, Huddersfield, card maker.—C. A. Petterson, Leeds, bookkeeper.—T. Owen, Liverpool, dealer in beer.—W. South, jun., Whitgift, Yorkshire, brick maker.—J. Jackson, Skipton, Yorkshire, grocer.—J. Croft, Leeds, clogger.—J. Davies, Dyserseth, Flintshire, miller.—W. Cooper, Ryde, Isle of Wight, corn dealer.—T. Bland, Christchurch, Monmouthshire, market gardener.—D. White, Gloucester place, Walworth, out of business.—C. Nurse, Maidstone, plane maker.—J. Laws, Wells street, Cripplegate, ginger-beer maker.—R. Mayes, Ravensden, Bedfordshire, grazier.—C. S. Shannan, Bedford, tea dealer.—J. Peachey, Wellington street, St Luke's, journeyman pawnbroker.—W. Pearce, Nottingham, assistant to a fancy hosiery yarn doubler.—J. Campbell, Boston, Lincolnshire, draper.—J. Hampson, Hulme, Lancashire, warehouseman.—J. Marsland, Bradford, Yorkshire, weaver.—B. Wood, Mirfield, Yorkshire, waterman.—J. Mantle, Bedford, perfumer.—R. Bremridge, Hampton, boot maker.—J. Bond, Manchester, tailor.—C. T. Oliver, otherwise C. Oliver, White Hart court, Bishopsgate street, out of employment.—H. C. Carpenter, otherwise H. Carpenter, Coborn road, Mile end, clerk.—B. Smith, Northampton, builder.—F. W. Winsor, otherwise F. Winsor, Trafalgar street, Walworth, warehouseman.—W. Henning, Birmingham, coachman.—R. Bassum, Hingham, Norfolk, blacksmith.—J. Hands, Birmingham, stationer.—T. S. Atkins, Leicester, supernumerary surveyor of taxes.—D. Armfield, Prestbury, Cheshire, shopkeeper.—J. Fryer, Chorley, Lancashire, grocer.—W. Prockter, Rochdale, card maker.—C. Knowles, Gawsorth, Cheshire, schoolmaster.—T. Leach, Rochdale, labourer.—R. Forrester, Chatham, town carter.—G. Penny, Totnes, Devonshire, grocer.—H. Cope, Old Radford, Nottinghamshire, coal higger.—W. P. Stokes, Haberdashers' street, Hoxton, compositor.—J. Bills, Westham, Essex, and Norton street, Marylebone, lodging-house keeper.—W. Kington, Newington, out of business.—E. C. Pullblank, otherwise E. Hooper, Kensington, comedian.—J. W. Turnbull, Exeter, glove manufacturer.

DIVIDENDS TO BE DECLARED.

March 7, G. Nettleton, Brompton, Kent, tailor.—March 7, J. Harrison, Brighton, coach builder.—March 7, C. Marshall, Old Castle street, Whitechapel, brewer.—March 7, G. Bishop, St Mary-Axe, merchant.—March 6, F. W. E. Barandon, Philpot lane, merchant.—March 5, A. Mason, Bury St Edmund's, coach proprietor.—March 6, A. and C. Duncan, Tokenhouse yard, merchants.—March 6, J. Brown, Sheffield, merchant.—March 5, G. and W. Boyd, Kingston-upon-Hull, millwrights.—March 5, St John Cartwright, Worksop, grocer.—March 9, R. Ferris, J. H. and J. Butler, Liverpool, merchants.—March 6, W. Jacks, Bristol, merchant.—March 8, G.

Holdsworth, Halifax, Yorkshire, worsted spinner.—March 7, R. Hansford, Weymouth, grocer.—March 7, W. P. Georges, Devonport, wine merchant.—March 7, J. R. Munden, Barwick, Somersetshire, flax spinner.—March 8, A. Webb, Liverpool, carpet seller.—March 6, G. Hood, Brownhills, Staffordshire, earthenware manufacturer.—March 9, J. Bate, Dudley, ironmonger.—March 7, T. W. Jones, Wellington, Shropshire, draper.—March 9, G. Wheldon, Dudley, clothier.

CERTIFICATES.

March 7, A. Wells, Wickford, Essex, surgeon.—March 7, J. McLean, Sun street, Bishopsgate street without, statuary.—March 7, J. Dobson, Old Gravel lane, Ratcliff highway, ship carpenter.—March 7, P. Beyfus, Houndsditch, importer of French goods.—March 5, J. Gunton, Cambridge, butcher.—March 5, F. Thompson, Southampton, tailor.—March 5, J. Andrews, Guildford street East, Wilmington square, licensed victualler.—March 7, C. Willmer, Tillingham, Essex, draper.—March 5, A. G. Roussac, Austinfriars, merchant.—March 5, W. Read, King street, Covent garden, engraver.—March 5, H. Cotman, Norwich, draper.—March 6, A. W. and T. S. Lowman, Eastcheap, cheesemongers.—March 6, J. Woland, Exeter and Powderham, timber merchant.—March 6, J. Rowles, Leicester, worsted manufacturer.—March 9, J. Baylis, Aston juxta Birmingham, victualler.—March 8, F. Peters, Manchester, wine merchant.—March 6, R. Prince, Manchester and Pendleton, stuff printer.

CERTIFICATES, MARCH 5.

J. Smalley, Sneinton, Nottinghamshire, ironfounder.—W. Dickinson, Bexley, Kent, and Mill wall, Poplar, merchant.—J. Webster, Sheffield, newspaper proprietor.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

D. Stocks, Cameron bridge, Fifeshire, farmer.

Friday, February 16.

BANKRUPTS.

WALKER, H., Luton, Bedfordshire, cordwainer. [Lambert, Gray's inn.
HANNEN, J., Little Britain, tallow melter. [Lawrence and Plews, Bucklersbury.
SMITH, H. W., Tothill street, Westminster, woollen draper. [Lloyd, Milk street, Cheapside.
BECKLEY, R., Green street, St George's, grocer. [Jones, Gray's-inn square.
OSBORNE, H. R., Treado, grocer. [Surr, Lombard street.
MURPHY, M., Liverpool, grocer. [Willis, Tokenhouse yard.
HOLDROYD, J., North moor, Northumberlandshire, farmer. [Holme, Loftus, and Younge, New inn.
HOLDEN, H., Dewsbury, Yorkshire, fuller's earth dealer. [Richards, Croydon.
JONES, ESTHER, West Bromwich, Staffordshire, dealer in iron. [Giles, Gray's-inn square.
MITCHELL, H., Nottingham, fellmonger. [Bowley, Nottingham.
NUTTALL, T., Rochdale, pork butcher. [Clark, Medcalf, and Gray, Lincoln's-inn fields.
NORMAN, T., Penketh, Lancashire, sail cloth manufacturer. [Vincent and Co., Temple.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN.

M. JULLIEN'S CONCERTS.

MOST POSITIVELY THE LAST WEEK BUT ONE.

NOTICE.—The nights of performance this week will be every night except Wednesday.

IT being now publicly announced that Her Majesty's Theatre will open the first week in March, and nearly all the Artists of M. JULLIEN'S CONCERTS being engaged there, he is compelled most positively to decide on CLOSING his Popular Entertainment at the End of NEXT WEEK.

The New Grand Piece, entitled THE DESTRUCTION OF POMPEII, has been performed on each evening amidst acclamations of admiration and astonishment. It will be repeated TO-MORROW, Monday, and every Evening during the ensuing Week, which will most positively be the LAST WEEK BUT ONE.

Commence at eight. Promenade and boxes, 1s.; dress circle, 2s. 6d.; private boxes, 1l. 1s. each. Places may be secured at the Box office; also at Mr Mitchell's Library, 33 Old Bond street; Mr Sams's, St James's street; and at Mons. Jullien's office, 3 Maddox street, Bond street.

HERR KÖENIG'S BENEFIT.

On THURSDAY next, February 22nd, the Concert will be for the Benefit of HERR KÖENIG.

M. JULLIEN'S GRAND BAL MASQUE is fixed to take place on March 4th. The number of Tickets being limited, an early application is necessary.

GOUT AND RHEUMATISM.

AMONG the many discoveries that characterize the eventful age in which we live, nothing has contributed so much to the comfort and ease of the community, nor conferred such a boon upon suffering humanity, as that important discovery, and never-failing remedy for the Gout and Rheumatism, "Blair's Gout and Rheumatic Pills," the immense advantages of which are testified by the approval and recommendation of many of the greatest men of our day. They are for Gout and Rheumatism, in all its various forms, including sciatica, lumbago, pains in the face (frequently treated as tooth-ache), &c.; and as they contain no mercury, nor other dangerous medicine, will require neither confinement nor attention of any kind, and invariably prevent the disease attacking the stomach or head. Sold by Thomas Prout, 229 Strand, London, seventh house from Temple bar; and by most medicine vendors in the kingdom. Price 2s. 9d. per box.

APOPLEXY PREVENTED.

DETERMINATION of Blood to the Head, Apoplexy, &c., effectually prevented by the occasional use of "Frampton's Pill of Health," which by strengthening the action of the stomach, and promoting a healthy and regular digestion of the food, prevents a recurrence of those symptoms of this alarming disorder, giddiness, oppression of the brain, ringing noise in the ear, headache, &c. They are an excellent aperient, without griping or prostration of strength, create appetite, relieve languor, and invigorate the spirits, while to the free liver or sedentary they offer advantages that will not fail to be appreciated. Sold by Thomas Prout, 229 Strand, seventh house from Temple bar. Price 1s. 1½d. per box.

VENICE, the ISLAND CITY.—Under the Patronage of the Emperor and Empress of Austria, the Kings and Queens of Prussia, Holland, Bavaria, &c. (whose signatures may be seen in the "Royal Album," in the Exhibition Room).—A perfect model, on an immense scale, of this extraordinary and most interesting City is now exhibiting at the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, every day from eleven in the morning until nine at night, beautifully illuminated. Admission, 1s.; Children, 6d.

N.B.—A rare Picture by Coreggio, to be seen at the Exhibition Room, and which is for sale.

15 per Cent. Discount for Cash to Shippers, Captains, and Emigrants.
SILVER SUPERSEDED, and those corrosive and injurious metals, called Nickel and German Silver, supplanted by the introduction of a new and perfectly matchless **ALBATA PLATE.**

C. WATSON, 41 and 42 BARBICAN, and 16 NORTON FOLGATE, aided by a person of science in the amalgamation of Metals, has succeeded in bringing to public notice the most beautiful article ever yet offered; possessing all the richness of Silver in appearance, with all its durability and hardness—with its perfect sweetness in use—undergoing, as it does, a Chemical Process, by which all that is noxious in Mixed Metals is entirely extracted—resisting all Acids, may be cleaned as Silver, and is Manufactured into every Article for the Table and Sideboard.

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| Table Spoons and Forks | 16s. 6d. | 30s. 0d. | 85s. 0s. |
| Dessert Ditto Ditto | 12 6 | 25 0 | 30 0 |
| Tea Spoons | 5 6 | 13 6 | 13 6 |
| Salt Ditto | 6 0 | 12 6 | 12 6 |
| Fish Knives | 5 6 each | 12 6 | 12 6 |
| Sauce Ladles | 3 6 pair | 7 6 | 7 6 |
| Gravy Spoons | 3 6 each | 7 6 | 7 6 |

C. WATSON begs the Public will understand that this Metal is peculiarly his own, and that silver is not more different from gold than his Metal is from all others—on its intrinsic merit alone he wishes it to be tested, and from the daily increasing eulogiums he receives, he is convinced that nothing can prevent its becoming an article of universal wear.

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TABLE KNIVES, ivory handles, warranted, 11s. per doz.; Desserts 9s.; Carvers, 4s. per pair; a most extensive stock to select from, with balance handles, at 55s., 60s., and 70s., the long set of fifty pieces; white bone and other handles, 8s. to 15s. the twenty-four pieces: stag-handled carvers, 3s. 6d. per pair. The establishments of C. Watson have ranked pre-eminently for fifty years for their superior Table Cutlery, the whole of which is marked with his name and address, and subject to exchange if not approved of.

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FRUIT DESSERT KNIVES, with FRENCH FORKS, of C. WATSON'S NEW ALBATA PLATE (which is so rapidly superseding silver), in sets of twenty-four pieces, with ivory handles, 45s.; carved ivory handles, 50s.; Albert-pattern handles, 50s.; if in mahogany cases, 16s. extra. C. W. begs the public to understand this Metal is peculiarly his own, and is manufactured into every article for the Table and Sideboard. Plated and Silver Goods in every variety. Export and wholesale orders promptly executed.

To Families and New-married Couples, and indeed to all who study economy, combined with usefulness and elegance, the possession of his Catalogue will prove invaluable, and is sent to all parts of the Kingdom Gratis, and Post Free, on application at his Warehouses, 41 and 42 Barbican, or 16 Norton Folgate.

LA'MERT ON DEBILITY, NERVOUSNESS, AND ALL DISORDERS ARISING FROM EXCESS, &c.

Just published, in a sealed envelope, the Seventh Thousand, price 2s. 6d. or free by post for 3s. 6d.

SELF-PRESERVATION: a Popular Essay on the Concealed Causes of Nervous Debility, Local or Constitutional Weakness, Indigestion, Lowness of Spirits, and Insanity: with plain Directions for their Treatment and Cure. By SAMUEL LA'MERT, Consulting Surgeon, 9 Bedford street, Bedford square, London: Matriculated Member of the University of Edinburgh; Licentiate of Apothecaries' Hall London, &c.

Published by the Author, and sold by S. Gilbert, 52 Paternoster row; Field, 65 Quadrant, Regent street; Jackson, 130 New Bond street; Gordon, 146 Leadenhall street; Noble, 109 Chancery lane; Mansell, 3 King street, Southwark; Slatter, High street, Oxford; Smith, Cambridge; Courier office, Manchester; Newton, 16 Church street, Liverpool; Watts, Snow hill, Birmingham; Davey, Broad street, Bristol; and by all Booksellers.

"The various positions of lover, husband, and parent, the inherent privileges of mankind, are frequently marred and prevented through the follies and frailties of early indiscretions. To such, among others, this Essay addresses itself; and by its perusal many questions may be satisfactorily adjusted that admit of no appeal even to the most confidential friend."—*Stafford Gazette.*

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At home for consultation daily, from Nine till Two, and from Five till Eight; and all letters immediately replied to, if containing the fee of 1l. for advice, &c.—BEDFORD STREET, BEDFORD SQUARE, London.

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Its elegant, fragrant, and pellucid oil, in its preservative, restorative, and beautifying qualities, is unequalled over the whole world. It preserves and produces the hair, prevents it from turning grey, or if so changed, restores it to its original colour; frees it from scurf and impurity, and renders soft, silky, curly, and glossy.

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Price 4s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. per bottle, duty included.

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RUPTURE UNIVERSALLY CURED, and no Truss required, at the Caledonian and City of London Infirmary, 114, Aldersgate street, which is open daily. Free admittance in the morning to the poor and working classes before 12 o'clock. Daily proofs are given at this Institution that Rupture is a Curable Disease, and is invariably cured as above, even without a failure, where a fair trial is made.

COPY OF A LETTER OF THANKS TO DR THOMPSON.

"Respected Sir,—I have the pleasure to inform you that after ten years of grievous affliction from rupture and the galling truss, during which time I have worn out a great many, with much annoyance and no cure, I am happy to say that under your very superior treatment and valuable remedies, I have obtained a valuable cure. I continue quite well, and have no signs of any return of rupture whatever, although my occupation is very laborious, with much stooping and heavy lifting. I wear no truss, neither do I require any. As a duty incumbent on me, and as a debt I owe to society in giving publicity to my great cure, I return you my sincere thanks, and at the same time you are at liberty to make this publicly known for the benefit of those who are still suffering. You know my address, and any respectable inquiry I shall be most happy to satisfy." For reference apply to Dr Thompson as above.

THE NINTH EDITION.

Just published, price 2s. 6d. and sent free, on receipt of a Post-office Order, for 3s. 6d.

MANLY VIGOUR: a Popular Inquiry into the CAUSES of its PREMATURE DECLINE, with Instructions for its COMPLETE RESTORATION. Addressed to those suffering from the destructive consequences of excessive indulgence in solitary and delusive habits, youthful imprudence, or infection, terminating in mental and nervous debility, local or constitutional weakness, indigestion, insanity, and consumption; including a comprehensive Dissertation on Marriage, with directions for the removal of disqualifications, and remarks on the treatment of gonorrhoea, gleet, stricture and syphilis. Illustrated with cases, &c. By C. J. LUCAS and Co. Consulting Surgeons, London.

May be had of the authors, No. 60 Newman street, Oxford street: and sold by Brittain, 11 Paternoster row; J. Gordon, 146 Leadenhall street; G. Mansell, 3 King street, Southwark; C. Westerton, 15 Park side, Knightsbridge; Huett, 37 Princess street, Leicester square, London; T. Sowler, Courier office, 4 St Ann's square, Manchester; W. Howell, 75 Dale street, Liverpool; W. Wood, 78 High street, Birmingham; W. and H. Robinson, 11 Greenside street, Edinburgh; T. Price, 93 Dame street, Dublin; and all booksellers.

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The security of Happiness in the Marriage State is the chief anxiety of all; but many dread entering upon wedded union through a secret fear of unfitness for the discharge of matrimonial obligations. This essay is most particularly addressed to all suffering under a despondency of the character alluded to; and advice will be found calculated to cheer the drooping heart, and point the way to renovated health.

Messrs Lucas and Co. are to be consulted from ten till two, and from five till eight in the evening, at their residence, No. 60 Newman street, Oxford street, London; and country patients may be successfully treated on minutely describing their case, and enclosing the usual fee of 1l. for advice.

GREAT LEAGUE MEETING.—The Weekly Meetings of the League will, in future, be held on the Wednesday in place of the Thursday Evenings as heretofore.

The next WEEKLY MEETING of the LEAGUE will take place in COVENT GARDEN THEATRE, on WEDNESDAY EVENING, February 21st.

GEORGE WILSON, Esq., will take the Chair at Seven o'clock

The meeting will be addressed by Daniel O'Connell, Esq., M.P., James Wilson, Esq., and other gentlemen.

Cards of admission to the Stage and Upper Circles or Boxes may had on personal application at the Central Offices of the League, 67 set street, during Monday and Tuesday; no application by letter can be attended to.

To prevent inconvenience from the great pressure at the front entrances of the theatre, the Council has resolved to limit the issue of Tickets of admission to the dress circle to the precise number that can be conveniently accommodated.

Each ticket will be numbered, and each number represent and secure the seat in each box to be occupied by the bearer of the ticket.

The entrance to the Dress Circle will, in future, be at the Private Entrance on the Queen's Side, in Hart street.

The Cards of Registered Members only will, as heretofore, admit to the Pit and Galleries of the Theatre.

COMPOSITION for WRITING with STEEL PENS.—STEPHENS' WRITING FLUID.—These Compositives, which have so remarkably extended the use of the STEEL PEN, are brought to very great perfection, being more easy to write with, more durable, and in every respect preferable to the ordinary Ink. In warm climates they have become essential. They consist of:

An INSTANTANEOUS BLACK INK.

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The utmost possible care having been bestowed upon the manufacture of these articles, so as to procure the highest finish, they can be confidently recommended both for flexibility and durability.

PANKLIBANON IRON WORKS.—BAZAAR, No. 58 BAKER STREET, PORTMAN SQUARE, LONDON.—Gentlemen about to furnish, or settle abroad, are respectfully invited to the above Establishment, where they will find the largest assortment of General Furnishing Ironmongery ever offered to the Public, consisting of tin, copper, and iron cooking utensils, table cutlery, best Sheffield plate, German silver Wares, papier maché tea trays, tea and coffee urns, stove grates, kitchen ranges, fenders, and fire irons, with baths of all kinds, shower, hot, cold, vapour, plunging, &c.; together with ornamental iron and wire works for conservatories, lawns, &c. and garden engines. All articles are selected of the very best description, and offered at exceedingly low prices, for cash only; the price of each article being marked in plain figures, affording advantages which are rarely offered. Patent Radiating Stoves.

THE NEW LIGHT.—GREAT NOVELTY.—The Patent CAMPHINE LAMP gives a light of surpassing power, softness, and purity, without any kind of grease or dirt, smoke or smell. The lamp is simply and beautifully constructed, and can be fitted to any description of lamp, pedestal, or gas fitting. It is not easily put out of condition. The Camphine (also a patent) is 4s. per gallon, and is so pure that if spilt on any article of dress or furniture, will not leave either mark or stain, while it consumes so slowly that, at the cost of three farthings for two hours, it gives a light equal to twelve mould candles, without any attention. It will be found far less expensive than any, and incomparably superior to all existing light. To be seen burning at RIPPON and BURTON'S (sole wholesale and retail agents for ENGLISH'S PATENT CAMPHINE), Wells street, Oxford street.—Lamps from 3s. each; Lamp heads (with Chimney and Ground Shade) for fitting to any Pedestal, 21s. each if of Brass or Plain Glass; 23s. each if of Ground Glass.

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HALL LAMPS, 11s. 6d.; ground glass Patent Solar Lamps, from 2s. 6d.; Palmer's Patent Candle Lamps, from 5s. A most elegant assortment of Table, Bracket, Sideboard, and Suspending Lamps, in ormolu and bronze, at extraordinary low prices. Lamps cleaned or altered to the Solar principle; Lamp shades, 5s.; Cottons, 4d. per doz.; Palmer's Patent Candles, 8d. per lb.

PATENT ENAMELLED KITCHEN WARE is the most durable and cleanly article ever introduced, stands the test of any acid, never requires repairing, and is strongly recommended for chemical purposes. Saucepans, from 1s. 6d.; Stew pans, from 2s.; Tea kettles, Preserving pans, Frying pans, Gridirons, &c. &c. full twenty per cent. under any other house. Catalogues sent in answer to a post-paid application.

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GUNS, RIFLES, PISTOLS, &c.—F. BARNETT begs to call the attention of gentlemen to his extensive STOCK of GUNS, &c., among which will be found some second-hand ones by the most eminent London makers, at one-fourth their original cost. Every Gun is warranted sound. A single-barrel gun, with percussion lock, 18s.; a Spanish-ribbed barrel ditto, 24s.; ditto, with patent breech, well finished, 30s.; a large assortment of double-barrel guns, from 50s.; capital pocket pistols, 13s. per pair; shot belts, 3s.; powder flasks, 3s. Old guns repaired, and made equal to new.

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