

# The Economist:

OR

THE 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; be 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 prediction to mean, sordid, home bred cares that will avert the consequences of a false estimation of our interest, or the shameful dissipation into which a great empire must fall by mean reparation upon mighty ruins."—BURKE.

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## NOTICE TO OUR READERS.

The two Statistical Numbers already published are on sale with the paper, or separately.

In consequence of the great demand for the Preliminary Number, the original impression of upwards of Forty Thousand being exhausted, a reprint of Thirty Thousand Copies has been published, and may be had singly, or with the other numbers. Price 2d. unstamped; or 3d. stamped for posting.

## THE CHINESE AND FRENCH TREATIES.

In consequence of our articles on various COMMERCIAL TREATIES having awakened much interest on this subject, and a strong desire having been manifested for full information respecting their contents, we have determined to furnish our readers with perfect copies of the whole of the existing COMMERCIAL TREATIES between this and every other country; and that this may not interfere with our other matter, we will give them in Supplements—of eight pages each (gratis)—once a month until the whole are completed: and all future COMMERCIAL TREATIES shall be given in like manner, so that the volume of the ECONOMIST shall contain a perfect copy of existing Treaties from time to time. We will so arrange this that the Supplementary Number with COMMERCIAL TREATIES and the Statistical Number shall follow each other at equal distances—the former at the beginning and the latter in the middle of each month, so that generally the one or the other will be received every alternate week. The first Supplementary Number was presented on the 21st Oct., containing our Treaties with Austria and Denmark, and the Chinese Tariff converted into English Monies and Measures; the second was presented on the 18th ult., containing the official copy of the Chinese Treaty, and our Commercial Treaties with France; and the third was presented on the 16th inst., containing the Postage Treaty with France; Fisheries on the Coast of France and England; Treaty of Commerce and Navigation with Greece; and Commercial Treaty with Sardinia.

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"If a writer be conscious that to gain a reputation 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 inopportune. 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 all 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.

## THE CORN-LAW QUESTION.

### PROTECTION AGAINST SPECIAL BURTHENS.

The Corn-Law Question is every day becoming more and more narrowed; fallacies which, three years ago, were strictly maintained have disappeared one after another; truths which, three years ago, were obstinately denied or sneered at, have one after another triumphed, and become generally, if not universally, admitted; the system of a sliding scale of duties has become all but universally repudiated; and no argument now remains except on the relative advantages of a fixed duty or no duty.

That there are arguments, and, indeed, very strong ones,

against a sliding scale, not applicable, or at least not so to the same extent to a fixed duty, we will very freely acknowledge; still a great deal of the efficiency of the arguments in favour of the latter as they have been used has been derived from the fact that we have always considered the effect of the present and late very high sliding scale, as against a comparatively low fixed duty. If we reverse the ground of the argument, and compare a high fixed duty with a low sliding scale, it will be found that many of the arguments (not all) which have been relied upon by the advocates of a fixed duty would then be more applicable to the sliding scale. As far as protection and high prices is sought for home-grown corn, that can be accomplished as effectually by a fixed duty as a sliding scale; and every argument which applies to the latter, as far as augmentation of price is concerned, applies equally in principle to the former. The supporter of a fixed duty has no right to rail at the supporter of a sliding scale, because the latter declares it needful for the payment of mortgages or the apportionment of daughters. By both modes of applying a duty, quantity is restricted and price is raised, above what it would be without any duty; and by both, therefore, the incomes of producers are artificially increased; the public caring little to what use the additional income thus obtained is applied. We have, therefore, found that most of the arguments made use of against a sliding scale, by the advocates of a fixed duty, have been such as are rather applicable to a total repeal than to the professed object. Thus, when Mr Walter brought forward his motion in favour of a fixed duty in the last session, from beginning to end he scarcely used one argument against the effects of the scale that was not equally good against any duty at all; indeed, he frankly admitted that—

"He did not deny the present Anti-Corn-law League on account of its principles in the abstract, but really on account of the parties who were the leaders of it."

In support of his positions and arguments, he referred to the protest of Lord Grenville, to the opinions of the late Lord Sydenham, both directly in favour of an entire freedom of trade in corn; and he used the following quotation from Huskisson's speech in 1828, equally favourable to a free trade:—

"He lamented from the bottom of his soul the mass of evil and misery, and the destruction of capital, which the corn law, in the course of its twelve-years' operation, had thus produced; and asserted that he could make it distinctly appear that the effect of that bill, as far as regarded agriculturists themselves, had been to keep the prices of produce lower, for those twelve years, than they would have been if the trade in corn had been free."

And after a number of such arguments he concluded by expressing his opinion in favour of a fixed duty; for what reason does not appear.

Some, however, who profess to repudiate the principle of protection, still allege that the owners of land have certain burthens to bear peculiar to themselves, to countervail which they are entitled to a higher price for their produce from the community than the natural one. Great efforts have been made by the friends of free trade to obtain an inquiry into the nature and existence of the alleged burthens, but without any success. It has been asserted that the MALT TAX is a burthen of this kind; but people see clearly that this is paid by the consumer of beer, not by the grower of barley: the former obtains as much price for barley that is used for malting as he does for that which is used for grinding or distilling, and for all a price proportionate to other kinds of agricultural produce; and therefore it cannot be said that he pays the malt duty. But, argue they, the high price at which beer is sold limits its consumption; if more were used, the demand for barley would be greater and its price higher. True; such, no doubt, would be the case; but if the demand was greater the English grower could not supply it; they have already a demand every year for much more agricultural produce than they can supply. But were it not so, what claim is there in this for a protection to countervail this indirect charge? The effect is this: the man who drinks the high-taxed beer, shall also eat a taxed loaf, because his beer is taxed, and he cannot use so much of it as if it were not taxed. But, again, if the grower of barley is entitled to protection on this score, that the consumption of this article is limited by the imposition of the malt tax, how much more is the dealer in sugar, tea, tobacco, and brandy, entitled to compensation for the much greater limitation which must be experienced in the consumption of those articles in which they deal, inasmuch as the duties chargeable thereon are proportionably higher; and on the same

principle every man throughout society would be entitled to a compensation against his neighbour for the duty which the article in which he deals pays to the State. COUNTY AND HIGHWAY RATES have been urged as peculiar burthens: but instead of being burthens on the land, they are instituted expressly for its protection and improvement. Good roads throughout a farming district are not less valuable than good canals and railroads in a manufacturing and mercantile district; and the land is no more entitled to any peculiar compensation or protection on account of this charge, for the purpose of facilitating the supply of manure and of sending produce to market, than is the manufacturer and merchant for the canal dues or railroad charges for conveying their raw produce from the port to the manufactory, or the manufactured article from the manufactory to the port. Another special burthen is said to be POOR RATES:—this, however, is a charge by no means peculiar to land; it affects equally property of every class, and is a charge common to the whole country. It appears, however, a singular abuse of reasoning to say that, because there is much pauperism, the great masses striving for existence shall be hurried towards that state also by a high and artificial price of bread. The other alleged special burthens are the LAND TAX and TITHES. With respect to the former, the whole amount obtained by the revenue last year was 1,168,500*l.*, or not quite 2½ per cent. of the whole revenue raised. In the time of William III it amounted to 1,800,000*l.*, when the entire revenue of the country was only 3,870,000*l.*; so that while the whole taxes of the country have increased from that sum to 52,119,000*l.*, the portion paid by the land has actually diminished from 1,800,000*l.* to 1,168,500*l.* There is assuredly nothing in this fact which entitles the land to a countervailing duty for protection. But with regard equally to the Land Tax and Tithes, they have been for many centuries fixed charges on land; subject to which, land has been bought, sold, and dealt with in all ways. The Land Tax and the Tithes are no more in the nature of a charge on the land-owners, than is the ground rent, which is paid by the owner of a leasehold house, a charge upon him; and the latter is as much entitled to compensation for the ground rent, as is the former for the Land Tax or Tithe: every one knows the difference of price paid for land of which the Tithe or Land Tax has been redeemed, and for that of which it has not; for the latter a man pays so much less than for the former, and this is his compensation. The men, however, who seek to maintain the doctrine of a claim for protection to agriculture to compensate special burthens, have hitherto shrunk from an inquiry into the subject—and we conclude they have little confidence in their case. Lord Monteagle, in opening his debate on the Corn Laws last session, made the following very just observations on this point:—

“If it could be shown that the landed proprietors were subject to exclusive and peculiar burthens, it was perfectly consistent with freedom of trade that a countervailing duty equal to the amount of these exclusive and peculiar burthens should be enforced for the protection of English agricultural produce. This, he said, would be consistent with the principles of freedom of trade; but he was not saying whether it would be expedient or not. And here he must take the liberty of observing, that as long as the agricultural interest resisted all inquiry as to the amount of the peculiar burthens which they said were imposed upon them, the public at large, and he in common with the public, must be forgiven if they entertained great doubt as to whether any such peculiar burthens existed at all as fairly entitled them to claim a countervailing duty for the protection of their produce.”

In this view we think every reasonable man must agree. Whenever the precise nature of the claim for protection, made on account of peculiar burthens, shall have been explicitly put before the public, and the grounds on which such claims are maintained, we will give the subject our most earnest and candid consideration. In the meantime we have only been induced to give this slight sketch of what those burthens are usually supposed to be, to gratify, as far as we can, the inquiries of some of our correspondents.

#### MR FERRAND AND THE MANCHESTER FREE TRADERS.

Most persons, whose minds are divested of party bias, will bear us out, we think, in stating that the Anti-Corn-law League are honest in their endeavours to carry out the principles they have hitherto so successfully advocated. It would be an absurdity to imagine for a single moment that, without this uprightness of purpose, this soundness of principle, they could have advanced the cause of free trade to its present importance. No knot of political adventurers could have roused the nation from the supineness which seemed to have enthralled it at the time when Messrs Cobden and Bright, and a few others, met at Manchester, and as it were determined that they would never cease in their exertions till that most odious of all taxes—the bread tax—was repealed. No clique of needy adventurers, however just their cause, could have influenced the people to entrust them with 50,000*l.*—aye, and seem equally disposed to trust them with double the sum—for the purpose of waging war with the selfish few. It has been a matter of sincere congratulation to witness the disinterested and noble exertions of these haters of monopoly; through good report and through evil report have they ceaselessly pushed forward in the struggle. Unremittingly have they sought—by fair argument—at all times and in all seasons—to convince the people that the only remedy for the grievances under which the country laboured was to be found in a total repeal of the tax on the first necessary

of life; and though the object they sought seems now to be in a fair way of being attained, we nevertheless see the same untiring exertion—the same indomitable spirit of determination—the same devotion to their country's good, which have characterized their proceedings from the commencement, and but for which the League would never have assumed its present leviathan form.

An impetus has been given to the principles of free trade which it will be impossible to resist; experience most fully proves, day after day, the soundness of their views;—and we need only refer to the enthusiasm displayed wherever a free-trade meeting is held, and to the amount of money collected in the various districts to the fund, to demonstrate the utter fallacy of a continuance of the corn laws.

We know not whether these remarks would have been penned had we not been somewhat amused during the last fortnight by reading in the daily papers a sort of controversy between Mr Ferrand and Alderman Brooks relative to a charge brought forward by Mr Ferrand at the Oastler-fund meeting, respecting the coffee duties, &c., in which Mr Brooks was accused of having thought a little too much of self, in contradistinction to the political opinions he had always expressed. We should have left these gentlemen to have settled the affair in their own way, but for the startling charge contained in a letter of Mr Ferrand, inserted in the *Times* of Tuesday last, in which the writer says:—

“I will take this opportunity of informing Mr Alderman Brooks, that I am fully prepared to prove, before a committee of the House of Commons, that the Anti-Corn-law League concocted the late outbreaks in the north; and that one of their members, at a private meeting of their body in Manchester, declared that he was prepared to subscribe to a fund for the purpose of procuring the assassination of Sir Robert Peel! Not long after this meeting the private secretary of the Prime Minister, being mistaken for Sir Robert Peel, was murdered in the streets of London.”

Good heavens! and is it possible that a man can be found seriously to entertain so diabolical a notion as that above described? Is there a man so insensible to the opinions of his fellow-men, as thus to give utterance to that which everybody but himself disbelieves?—and then the inference at the conclusion—“Not long after this meeting the private secretary of the Prime Minister, being mistaken for Sir Robert Peel, was murdered in the streets of London;”—does Mr Ferrand believe that the lunatic Maenaughten, the assassin of Mr Drummond, had anything to do with that which he stated as having taken place at the private meeting of the Anti-Corn-law League at Manchester? We cannot believe he does.

The truth of the matter lies in a nutshell, the facts being these, which we copy from the *Manchester Guardian*:—“In July, 1842, great distress being experienced by the shopkeepers of Manchester, a deputation from that body was sent to London, to lay before the Premier their distressed condition. Sir Robert Peel declined seeing the deputation; but they succeeded in obtaining an interview with Lord Ripon, then President of the Board of Trade; and, on their return to Manchester, a general meeting of shopkeepers was convened and held at the Spread Eagle Inn, Hanging ditch, to receive the report of the deputation. In the course of that meeting, there having been applications for subscriptions to defray the expenses of the deputation, Mr Abel Heywood, a shopkeeper, mentioned, that on asking one individual, a shopkeeper, whom he did not name, and who he did not say was a member of the League, or even state anything that would lead any of his hearers to suppose that he was a member of that body—on asking this man for his subscription, the nameless individual in question declined giving anything for that purpose, but added—(foolishly and absurdly enough, no doubt, if not wickedly)—that, if there was any fund for such purpose, he would not mind subscribing to it, to shoot Sir Robert Peel. Out of this hasty, foolish, intemperate, and, it may be, malignant—at all events highly objectionable and culpable—expression, uttered in a moment of irritation, by one shopkeeper in private to another, and which ought never to have been repeated—for in such repetition only could it become mischievous (as witness the abuse now made of it by Mr Ferrand), has the veracious member for Knaresbro' concocted the charge contained in his letter in Tuesday's *Times* against a member of the League, and asserts, too, that he is fully prepared to prove it before a committee of the House of Commons. Such are the materials, and such the process of their fabrication into ‘anecdotes’ by the representative of Knaresbro'.”

The Anti-Corn-law League, we trust, will not so far forget their dignity as to condescend to answer the aspersion thus sought to be cast upon their body by this superlative braggadocio. Let the member for Knaresbro' establish his assertion, as he says he can, before a committee of the House of Commons. If he can, he must feel assured it would go far to ruin the League; if he cannot, he will merit the obloquy—the contempt of all well-regulated minds. Let him feel the force of the rebound of the poisonous shafts of malevolence so inconsiderately hurled against those whose integrity of purpose, and honesty of principle, cannot suffer in the estimation of the people though twenty such as Mr Ferrand were to attempt their annihilation.

#### CHRISTIAN THOUGHTS ON FREE TRADE.

There was a class of thinkers called Hutchinsonians, from John Hutchinson, a learned man, who died about a century ago. They con-

tended that the Old Testament contained a complete system of natural history, theology, and religion. The Hebrew language, it was said, was the medium of the communications of God with man; it was, therefore, perfect, and as a perfect language it must be co-extensive with all the objects of knowledge. The Old Testament, under this view, was to be received as a text-book of human science as well as of divine truth—a principle which would arrest the progress of the human mind. Accordingly we find Hutchinson himself attacking the Newtonian philosophy, as being opposed to Scripture; just as in our more modern days we find well-meaning, but not very well-informed, persons attacking the science of geology as being in like manner opposed to Scripture.

This confounding of religious truth with secular science is fast disappearing. It is generally, we might say universally, understood, that the Bible is confined to the high and important work of dealing with the moral condition of the human race, and that it does not intermeddle with the human mind in its discoveries and progress in whatever may be considered left to its own energies. God has endowed man with a wonderful capacity; and the whole natural field of human science has been left to it to range in. We are taught nothing in the Bible which man may be considered capable of acquiring for himself by his own energy. "The heavens declare the glory of God;" but the Bible does not teach astronomy. Nay, on many questions of a moral nature the Bible is silent. Its object is to point out to man the path of temporal and eternal happiness; but, for instance, on a question so nearly related not merely to man's present but even his future welfare, the question of what is the best form of civil government, the Bible teaches us nothing. In all these matters we are left to the exercise of an accountable capacity; and, as good subjects, as well as good men, we must apply for ourselves those general rules which the Bible lays down for our conduct.

We have made these few preliminary remarks because we are averse to anything like an attempt to make the Bible an agent in what is strictly of a human character. Thus, in the free-trade controversy, the Bible has been much appealed to; and quotation after quotation has been made to expose the wickedness of restricting the supply of corn, and so forth. This has been sometimes done appropriately enough; at other times very inconsiderately. Besides, it is a mode of illustration which may be made applicable on both sides of the question; and thus we run the risk of exposing the Scriptures to the contempt of the ignorant and foolish, who are led away, by contradictory citations, to affirm that its language is ambiguous. Thus, such a man as Sir James Graham, in a speech at Doncaster, in 1841, as an argument for maintaining a restrictive policy, quoted that passage in the Acts, where the people of Tyre and Sidon are represented as suing very humbly for peace to King Herod, "because their country was nourished by the King's country." This is pitiful work, on whatever side of the question these misapplications of the Scriptures are made.

Free trade stands on its own principles and reasonings, like any other branch of natural philosophy, and it can no more be proved from Scripture than the demonstrations of Euclid. But inasmuch as it constitutes a branch of moral science—inasmuch as the application of its principles is intended for the welfare of the human race—so far may we expect to find that free trade does not clash with the Bible, but rather harmonises with it. In this point of view we accept the aid of the little book whose title we have given below;\* and as what is really politically right cannot be morally wrong, we will make some extracts from it, in the hope that they may have some influence over benevolent and Christian minds, who like a scientific truth all the better if it appears stamped with the express approbation of the Bible.

The work, it will be observed, is addressed to "Thomas, David, and Peter Whitehead, Esqrs. of Hollymount, Rawtenstall, Lancashire." As it may interest some of our readers to know something respecting these gentlemen, we extract the following from Dr W. Cooke Taylor's 'Notes of a Tour in the Manufacturing Districts of Lancashire':—

"We stopped at the mills of Hollymount, belonging to three brothers named Whitehead. They received us with great kindness and cordiality, readily offering to conduct us over the establishment. The mill, which is being erected in place of one that had been accidentally burned down, is one of the most extraordinary architectural works in Lancashire. A river flows beneath its arched floor, and has necessitated an expenditure of nearly as much building below as appears above the surface. The engine-bed is, I believe, without a parallel: no one who looks at the enormous blocks of stone of which it is composed can any longer feel surprised that the Orientals believe the monoliths of Egypt and the Cyclopic masses in the walls of Baalbec to have been shaped and brought to their places by beings of a superior order. The machinery exhibited all the latest refinements of mechanical ingenuity: I was particularly struck by some improvements in the carding-machines and drawing frames, and I may perhaps be permitted to specify a contrivance for throwing the latter out of gear whenever a sliver breaks, by which means the tenter's notice is at once directed to the deficiency.

"The school attached to the factory was one of the most elegant and convenient buildings I have ever seen devoted to the purposes of education: it was well ventilated, and furnished with the best apparatus for being

lighted with gas and heated with warm water. It could not have cost less than a thousand pounds. The children pay twopence per week for instruction, but the expenses are defrayed by the benevolent proprietors, and the weekly stipend is allowed to accumulate as a reserve fund, to be paid back to each pupil at twenty-one years of age.

"The Messrs Whitehead are very properly strict in enforcing this weekly payment; they deem it of importance to impress continually on the minds of parents the moral duty of providing for the education of their children, and they are doubtful of the propriety of affording perfectly gratuitous instruction, since what is given for nothing is too often valued at nothing. My own experience confirms the propriety of their view, for I know an instance of a benevolent landlord, who, upon urging one of his tenants to take advantage of a charity-school for his children, and inquiring whether he would do so, received the answer which Mungo gave when asked 'Would he be honest?' that is, 'What will you give me, Massa?'

"I found the villagers of Hollymount healthy, happy, and contented. The operatives, one and all, declared that their only anxiety was, lest the progress of distress should reach the establishment of Hollymount, and deprive them of the employment they possessed, and the comforts they produced.

"I found that the Messrs Whitehead were Methodists: they took me to see the chapel which had been erected in Hollymount, a building of the Ionic order, and which to me, uninitiated in the rules of art, appears one of the prettiest specimens of the modern imitations of Grecian architecture I have ever seen."

These are the men to whom the Reverend Mr Shrewsbury has addressed his 'Christian Thoughts on Free Trade.' It is a subject about which he and they

"Have had several conversations. At first, and for a length of time, we differed in judgment; I was steadily the opponent of your views, and you of mine. Three against one, and one against three, I kept my ground as long as I could. And though we differed, we mutually honoured God, and desired our country's prosperity, as no doubt many others do on both sides of the question, if they would but give each other credit for the equally fair and honourable motives by which they are influenced. It becomes me now, however, to acknowledge that, not so much by your arguments, and the reasonings of others who hold the same opinions, which have occasionally met my eye (though they have not been without their influence), as by an impartial consideration of what the book of God teaches, a gradual but complete change has been wrought in my views; so that I frankly admit that, according to my present light, I believe the truth is with you, and that consequently error was with me. And in compliance with your desire, I am willing to communicate my thoughts to so many of my countrymen as may choose to read them, in few and plain words, not without hope that some good may be done thereby, without provoking anybody to anger."

In this amiable and Christian spirit Mr Shrewsbury proceeds; and as it may interest the reader to know something also about him, we quote the following:—

"In the year 1827, my missionary brethren, Messrs William Shaw and Stephen Kay, accompanied me on a journey to Hints, the principal Chief of Kafirland, for the purpose of endeavouring to establish a new Wesleyan mission in the vicinity of his residence. In this we ultimately succeeded; the station called Butterworth was formed, and continues to be a flourishing settlement unto this day. It is distant nearly 200 miles from Graham's Town, the chief town of south-east Africa. At that time the country was but little traversed, and there being no beaten roads, we frequently met with inconveniences and hindrances in travelling with our ox-waggon. We experienced our greatest difficulty in ascending the heights of the Kye River (the Kafirs call the river Inciba), though that part of the journey is now ordinarily accomplished without much toil. When we had succeeded, after hours of labour, in ascending by an untracked route the steep heights of the mountain, and were fairly on the level ground, we rested for the night by a fountain of water. There, while sitting round the fire in the open air with our attendants before evening service, old Plaatje, our Hottentot driver, thus accosted the missionaries with much simple earnestness, his furrowed countenance and a previous sigh betokening at once the depth of his thoughts and emotions: 'Well, sirs, I formerly thought a waggon could never travel up these mountains, but I now see the word of God can make a road anywhere.' We were all struck at the time with the force and beauty of his simple observation; and in fact it appeared to us an illustration of the words of the prophet, as though they were capable of a literal application, as well as figurative of spiritual blessings."

The object of Mr Shrewsbury is to demonstrate the following propositions:—

- First. Free Trade is implied in the primeval benediction God pronounced on man.
- Secondly. Free Trade is sanctioned in sundry other scriptures of the Old Testament.
- Thirdly. Free Trade is favoured by God's providential arrangements in the government of the world.
- Fourthly. Free Trade accords with the genius of Christianity.
- Fifthly. Free Trade is promoted by Christian missions: and
- Sixthly. Free Trade will be exemplified when Christianity gains her final triumphs in the conversion of the world.

These are worked out in a very able way, marked by a strong and abiding sense of religious feeling. With the following practical illustration of his economical views we conclude:—

"In most countries where missionaries labour there is more or less of incipient civilization, and some rude manufacturers are existing, if it be but the manufacture of a bullock's hide for clothing. Suppose, then, that a missionary should conceive it his duty, as a friend of the Aborigines, to advise the barbarous or semi-civilized nations to imitate us in our refinement, to adopt a system of laws for the protection of their own interests, by prohibiting or rendering difficult of introduction into their country the products of human ingenuity, skill, and industry, that might be sent or conveyed from foreign lands;—where, think you, would the hue-and-cry against the barbarous policy of such a missionary end? Why, the very depths of our philosophical, sagacious, and calculating philanthropy would be stirred within us, to think that the poor, ignorant, woolly-headed blacks of Africa, or the tawny Asiatics of the Eastern hemisphere, should adopt, from our civilized selves, measures so unfriendly to civilization, and the best temporal interests of mankind! And we should be correct enough both in principle and in argument, for the wealth of nations consists in exchange; even gold and silver are of no value only as mediums of ex-

\* Christian Thoughts on Free Trade, in a Letter to Thomas, David, and Peter Whitehead, Esquires, of Hollymount, Rawtenstall, Lancashire. By William J. Shrewsbury, Wesleyan Minister.

change; they are the circulating medium, on which circumstance their intrinsic worth depends. Consequently nations prosper, not by doing everything for themselves, but by exchanging with their neighbours; and the simpler and freer that exchange is, the more rapid and steady will that prosperity be. Now those tribes and nations that are brought to receive the Christian religion, through the instrumentality of Christian missionaries, never dream of anything like protection or prohibition of useful things; they never establish calabash and cocoa-nut laws to protect them against the manufacturers of porcelain, earthenware, and iron pots and kettles; nor bullock's-hide laws to protect them against blankets and Manchester cottons, &c.;—they have too much common sense to allow such a notion one moment's serious discussion;—for, awaking as they do spontaneously, as by a common impulse of nature, to a desire of obtaining whatever is best suited to their new wants in the readiest way, they are glad to get them for exchange from whatever nation the articles may be brought; and whoever the carriers be, they are welcomed to their shores, or to their inland regions, with as much cheerfulness and freedom as if they were their neighbours or their friends. Thus it is evident that in the merely natural order of events, in the progress of society, though the missionary is solely ordained for spiritual purposes, yet the gospel which he publishes removes the barriers of intercourse, and opens the way for free trade; a trade so absolutely free, that it would be a happiness for the first-rate nations of Europe if they could get rid of their cumbrous machinery, and allow their national movements to be equally simple and free."

#### OPINIONS ON FREE TRADE.

(From an English Peer to a French Legislator.)

It is strange how much the opinion, often the sincere opinion, of individuals on subjects of the greatest national and public importance, is influenced by their personal and private interest. It is the case with your manufacturers on the subject of protection. It is the case here with the proprietors of land on the subject of the corn laws. The League itself originated in the same feeling. But it is equally true that the real interest of every individual is identical with the interest of the public, and that monopoly and protection are as prejudicial to those who are meant to be benefited by them, as to the public in general, so that by enlightening individuals on their personal interests, they may all be united in a league for the purpose of freeing themselves from protection. The proprietors of land enjoy the protection of the corn laws, and complain of being ill off. The possessors of land in the West Indies have the monopoly of sugar, and declare they are entirely ruined. On the other hand, the trade in wool has been deprived of the protection which it formerly enjoyed, and that of the manufacture of silk has been greatly diminished; yet since that period they have both flourished more than they did before. It is the same with you; do not the proprietors of woods and forests complain? I have been told so, and it seems to me highly probable. Notwithstanding they are largely protected. For their benefit English iron is, I think, prohibited; if not prohibited, subject to so considerable a duty, that, upon agricultural implements alone, the loss of the cultivators of land is upwards of forty-nine millions of francs, or nearly two millions of pounds sterling, yearly. Every article also in which iron is contained, as a component part, is made dearer, as also every article in the construction of which an iron implement has been used. Again, wood is rendered dear by its large consumption in the smelting of the iron ore, and consequently every article of which wood is an ingredient. I think that in every part of France wood is used for firing; firing, therefore, is also raised in price. There is not a peasant who makes a fire to warm himself, or to boil his soup, who does not contribute to the protection of the proprietors of woods and forests; yet I should imagine that these proprietors received a very poor profit from this tax. For the natural effect of wood having such high advantage is, that it is cultivated in soils unfit for the purpose, and where the proprietor might with much greater profit sow corn, or depasture sheep or oxen. And that is what his private interest would lead him to do, if that mischievous tax did not tempt him to his ruin.

There is, at the present moment, a difference of opinion amongst economists on the subject of reciprocity taxes. A certain Colonel Torrens, who has heretofore made himself remarkable by the zeal with which he inculcated the most liberal principles of political economy, has lately come forward (it is not exactly known why) to propose the doctrine of the necessity of perfect reciprocity between two nations which deal with each other. He argues that if a nation (France, for example) imposes a new duty on some English article entering France, England should, in her turn, impose an equal duty on some French article, not to return the injury and obtain vengeance, but, from political motives, to prevent the injurious effects of the French legislation. It is not necessary to detail to you the reasonings on which this theory is founded. You will see at a glance that it is absurd; for it would lead to the conclusion, that the prosperity of a country is not dependent on its own government, but is at the mercy of foreign legislators, who might thus compel it to deprive itself of all foreign commerce. We, on the other hand, maintain that the best remedy for the evil would be to lower the duties on French articles coming to England. For example, to remedy the injury you have done us by increasing the duties on linen, we ought to diminish the duties either on your silks, or on your wines, or some other French production or manufacture. We say that if you choose to deprive yourselves of our linens, or pay dear for them, that is no reason why the people of England should deprive themselves of French wines or silks. On the contrary, it is but fair that they should have these articles cheap, to compensate for the loss in the sale of their linens. To me this appears the true doctrine, and you will admit that at least it is the most amicable way of carrying on the war of custom houses. If it rested with me, it would be adopted, not because it is the most amicable, but because I think that it is the true method; and it would not please me the less because it is the most amicable. I omit the reasonings of both parties. One example is worth more than whole sheets of arguments; and I will give you one which, I think, will leave the Colonel without reply. Since the year 1830 we have not increased the duties upon French commodities entering England; but, on the other hand, you have, I believe, at different times, added to the duties upon our commodities

entering France. According to this new theory, the result ought to be most disadvantageous to the English. What is the fact? It appears that in the year 1830 the value of the English goods carried into France was about 475,884 livres sterling; in 1842 it amounted to 3,193,909 livres. What is more I see that the progress has been almost uniform. Taking only the first figures (those of the hundred thousands), I find that the progress from year to year is as follows:—4, 6, 6, 8, 11, 14, 15, 16, 23, 22, 23, 29, 31. In the *Journal des Debats*, of the 6th of this month, I read an allusion to the increase of the production of "Patentes" in France, and that since 1830 the decennial increase of the raw material of manufactures imported has been from seventy-five to two hundred and fifty-five millions, and that of manufactured goods exported from forty to two hundred and seven. This report gives me great pleasure; it proves that France becomes more commercial, and more rich, and after the welfare and wishes of my own country, that which I have most at heart is the welfare and riches of the neighbouring countries; we are merchants, and we sell, and it is better to have rich customers than poor ones. The progress of our exports into France are a proof of it.

I believe that it is imagined in France that we wish to be the only manufacturers in the world, and that we see with jealousy the progress of manufactures among strangers. I own to you it appears to me, in the actual state of England and the continent, it would be very advantageous for both parties that with respect to many articles we should manufacture for you, and you should buy of us, and not manufacture for yourselves; but I assure you it is only on this ground I desire it. If one can buy an article cheaper than one can make it, it is wise to buy it. It is what every one does in his private affairs, and I do not see why nations should act differently. In the case of iron, mentioned above, it is clear that if trade had had free course, the French would have profited greatly. How many millions (I ought to say billions) of livres absolutely wasted and thrown away, as much as if they had been cast into the sea, would have remained in the hands of the buyers of articles of iron and wood, to fructify and produce new riches for themselves and the country. As for me, I have no doubt that, in the interested sense of the monopolist, it is in the end more advantageous for England that you should not depend on us for iron. Free trade would give a spur to all your labours and manufactures. The prosperity which would follow would be advantageous to us, but only by a reaction. The wealth of our nearest neighbour would be very useful, but in the rivalry of commerce (if rivalry there must be) this change would be more to your advantage than ours. All the objections that I have marked out as resulting from the duty on iron, belong also to our corn laws in a much higher degree. It is for this reason I hate them with a deadly hatred. Forgive me, my dear sir, this long and tiresome letter. I have the subject much at heart, and it appears to me that I cannot in any other manner be so useful, as in spreading the principles of political economy and free trade.

#### COURT AND ARISTOCRACY.

CHRISTMAS DAY AT WINDSOR CASTLE.—At the Royal banquet, on Monday evening, the chief dish, according to the good old English custom, was a splendid baron of beef (furnished for the occasion by Mr Alderman Bannister), nearly four feet long, and between two and three feet in width, and weighing 180 lbs. There was likewise placed upon one of the side tables the hump of the Brahmin ox, presented to her Majesty by Viscount Combermere, and slaughtered at the Royal dairy in the early part of the month.

HER MAJESTY AND THE ROYAL KITCHEN.—On the afternoon of Christmas-day, her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert very unexpectedly paid a visit to the Royal kitchen at Windsor Castle, for the purpose of inspecting several splendid joints of beef previously to their being cooked, the produce of beasts fattened upon the farm of the Prince Consort in Windsor great park. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness were attended by Major-General Wemyss and Colonel Bouvier.

VISIT OF THE COURT TO CLAREMONT.—It is expected that her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert will visit Claremont shortly after New Year's-day, where the court will probably remain for a period of four or five days, for the purpose of enabling the Prince Consort to enjoy the sport of shooting over the well-stocked preserves of his Majesty the King of the Belgians. The game upon his Majesty's manor at Claremont has been most carefully preserved during the whole of the season, and is this year more than usually plentiful, especially with reference to pheasants and hares. There are, also, immense numbers of rabbits in the immediate vicinity of Claremont, and a very fair sprinkling of woodcocks. Should a favourable change take place in the weather, it is not improbable that the Royal Family will accompany her Majesty and the Prince.

—The report that her Majesty intends to visit Warwick Castle has been denied.

—His Royal Highness the Duke of Bourdeaux, attended by Admiral Villeret Joyeuse and suite, has left Belgrave square, *via* the Western railway, on a visit to Lord Clifford, at Ugbrook park, Devon, whence the Duke is expected to visit Plymouth and other south-western ports, and also the Principality, and return to town in ten days or a fortnight. His Royal Highness entertained the Earl and Countess of Shrewsbury at dinner on Sunday, and visited the Earl and Countess at the Clarendon hotel on Tuesday.

—Count Nesselrode, whose arrival and visit to Windsor we mentioned in our paper of Friday, is the bearer of the ratification by the Emperor Nicholas of all the proposals which were suggested by Prince Oettingen Wallerstein during his mission here, respecting the final settlement of the affairs of Greece. The Emperor not only consents, but is anxious that a constitution upon the most liberal principles should be secured to the Greeks.—*Morning Post*.

#### THE METROPOLIS.

INCOME-TAX APPEALS IN THE CITY OF LONDON.—The Commissioners for General Purposes acting under the new Income-Tax Act have been most active in disposing of the appeals that have come before them from the different city wards, to the general satisfaction of the parties who have considered themselves surcharged. The number of appellants has not exceeded fifteen to twenty a day, and their cases have soon been decided, preventing delay and unnecessary attendance.



**THE BRITISH MUSEUM.**—The number of visitors to this popular place of public resort on Boxing-day was 18,377. The visitors exhibited the utmost decorum, notwithstanding the crowded state of the rooms; and the original copy of Magna Charta, the standard of the liberties of England, was a very attractive source for their inspection. Although this large assemblage dispersed throughout the day in the various convenient rooms of the Museum, there was no single case of robbery, no damage was committed, and no person was refused admission on the grounds of intoxication. The number of visitors on "holiday days," with their orderly conduct, must be a subject of gratulation to those members of the legislature through whose exertions the Museum has been thrown open for public inspection on the only days on which it is accessible to the working classes.

**NATIONAL MERCANTILE TRAVELLERS' LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.**—The annual dinner of the National Mercantile Travellers' Life Assurance Society took place on Wednesday evening at the London Tavern. Robert Curry, Esq., took the chair, and was supported by Mr E. Baker, Mr Thomas Bax, Mr Jasper Capper, Mr Wilcoxon, Mr Cooper, Dr Cushman, Mr Thomas Lloyd, and many other friends and supporters of the society.

**COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.**—On Thursday evening the anniversary festival of this charitable institution, established in the year 1800, for the relief of the widows and families of commercial men in London and the provincial towns, was celebrated at the London Coffee house, Ludgate hill, the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor presiding. The total receipts for the past year had been 5,581*l.*, in which was to be included a donation of 250*l.* from Thomas Chapman, Esq.; and the funded capital now standing in the names of the trustees amounted to 23,024*l.* A variety of toasts were proposed and spoken to during the evening's entertainment, the health of the right hon. the Lord Mayor and of the President, Sir Chapman Marshall, being enthusiastically responded to.

**MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL.**—Yesterday a special court of the governors of Middlesex Hospital was held for the purpose of electing an assistant physician in the room of Dr Crawford, who has succeeded to the office of physician, become vacant by the resignation of Dr Watson. The chair was taken by T. Fielder, Esq. There were two candidates, viz.:—Dr Thompson, of No. 19 Lower Brook street, and Dr Woodfall, of Dean street, Westminster. The ballot commenced at 10 o'clock, and was carried on with great spirit until 2 o'clock, when it closed, and the chairman announced the result to be a majority in favour of Dr Thompson of 126.

**MUD PAVEMENTS.**—Both in the City and Westminster the scavengers seem to be so busy demanding Christmas-boxes for sweeping the streets, that the streets are not swept at all. From Mile end to Hyde-park corner the pavements are in a curiously contradictory condition of being sticky and slippery at the same time—slippery if you wish to stand, and sticky if you wish to walk. Pavements were originally intended to assist pedestrians, but at present they are rather an inconvenience than otherwise.—In consequence of the complaints that have been made to the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of the neglectful manner in which the scavengers fulfil their contracts in cleansing the principal thoroughfares in the City, an order has been issued on the subject by his Lordship and by the Commissioner of Police, Daniel Whittle Harvey, Esq., to the effect that inhabitants and shopkeepers shall strictly attend to the Act, in having the pavement before their doors cleaned every morning, or the full penalty will be enforced.

**FATAL ACCIDENT.**—The family of Mr Turner, engineer, of No. 20 Stepney causeway, where he had resided many years, has been placed in a state of great affliction by his sudden and melancholy death, which took place on Saturday evening. Mr Turner had been on board a foreign steam ship off Blackwall, and was returning to the shore, when he fell into the river between two barges, and disappeared immediately. Search was made for the body, which has not been found.

**ROBBERY IN THE CITY.**—On Monday last information was forwarded to the various city police offices and stations that, during the preceding day (Sunday) some thief or thieves had entered the premises, No. 22 Laurence lane, Cheapside, occupied as silk warehouses, and stolen a large quantity of goods, the extent and amount of which cannot at present be ascertained. The police are actively engaged in endeavouring to trace out, if possible, the stolen property and the thieves.

## THE PROVINCES.

**DEATH FROM CHOLERA.**—On Tuesday evening se'night Hugh Aikin, an elderly man, who resided in Chisenhale street, was sitting by the fire, when he complained suddenly of a pain in his bowels and a cramp in his stomach, which was immediately followed by copious vomiting. He died on the following morning. Mr Woods, surgeon, made a *post-mortem* examination, and was of opinion that he had died from Asiatic cholera. On the inquest a verdict to that effect was returned.—*Liverpool Chronicle.*

**MORMONISM IN LEICESTER.**—This strange sect has obtained a footing in this town, and meets on Sundays and Tuesdays, near St Nicholas's Church, when the initiated members speak in the "unknown tongues." After one has thus spoken, another brother interprets the mysterious language. Upwards of one hundred persons are said to have already joined the "latter day saints." They "take the sacrament" in common with other sects, baptize, lay on hands, and believe the Book of Mormon to be equal in importance to the Mosaic writings or the New Testament.

**TUNNELLING THE TYNE.**—An ingenious plan has been suggested of crossing the Tyne by passing through a tunnel under the river, on the principle of the centrifugal railway. The carriages would descend by their own gravity into the tunnel from one side, and rise up on the other by the momentum acquired in the descent. It is proposed to construct the tunnel of metallic tubing, and lay it just within the bed of the river, so as not to form an obstacle to the navigation, the tunnel to be constructed of such a bore as to obviate the possibility of the carriages getting misplaced in their passage. Railway carriages and vehicles of all kinds, as well as passengers, would thus be safely and rapidly transferred from one side to the other. It is considered that, with the present low price of iron, three tunnels might be cheaply constructed, all starting from the station of the Brandling Junction Railway, one proceeding in the direction of Neville street, the other in that of the Castle garth, and the third going towards the station of the Newcastle and North Shields Railway.—*Newcastle Journal.*

**Huddersfield College.**—BANQUET TO LORD MORPETH.—On Wednesday se'night the usual half-yearly distribution of prizes to the students of this prosperous institution took place. The Right Honourable Lord Viscount Morpeth, one of the patrons of the college, having engaged to preside, an additional attraction was given to the half-yearly proceedings, which under ordinary circumstances are ever viewed with deep interest and pleasure. Almost immediately after the close of the distribution of prizes to the successful students of the Huddersfield College, a banquet was given to Lord Morpeth in the college hall, which was elegantly and appropriately fitted up for the occasion. The tickets of admission were

sold at 10*s.* each, but notwithstanding their high price, such was the demand for them that the whole number which the committee had provided were disposed of. With reference to this entertainment, the *Leeds Mercury* of Saturday says:—"The enthusiastic reception given to Lord Morpeth at Huddersfield on Wednesday last, though on an occasion not political, must have convinced his lordship that he retains a strong hold on the affections of the West Riding. When, at the banquet in the college, two of the speakers expressed a hope that the noble lord would not think it his duty, in times like these, longer to continue retired from public life, the loud and earnest applause of the company must have showed him that that is the general opinion of his political friends. We cannot but cherish the hope that the noble lord will ere long see it his duty to re-enter the House of Commons, where his high character and distinguished ability would render important service to the Liberal party, especially in this momentous crisis for Ireland."

**AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS.**—A seminary is now being established in the county of Northampton, where the rudiments of agriculture and agricultural chemistry, as propounded by Liebig, Playfair, and others, are to be taught, combined with a classical education.

**PROPOSED AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE AT CIRENCESTER.**—The establishment of an agricultural college on an example farm in the oolite district, comprising the country called the Cotswold hills, is now engaging the attention of several influential agriculturists, amongst whom are the Earl of Radnor, Earl Bathurst, Earl Ducie, Marquis of Lansdowne, Earl Fitzharding, Lord Sudeley, and others. The establishment, which originated with the Cirencester Farmers' Club, is to consist of a farm of from 400 to 600 acres in extent, in the neighbourhood of Cirencester. The college is to accommodate a principal and 100 scholars, the sons of farmers of the district, who, together with the rudiments of a liberal education, are to be taught the analysis and study of soils, and the principles of husbandry and horticulture.

**PECULIARITY OF TASTE.**—A gentleman who visited our Zoological gardens the other day, and stood amusing himself with the antics of the elephant, was very disagreeably surprised by the bulky animal taking a fancy to his umbrella. The gentleman kept fast hold of the stick and pulled away; the elephant, becoming indignant, left him with that portion of his property in his hands, but swallowed the silk covering, whalebone and all, and could probably have swallowed the owner if he had been within his reach.—*Liverpool Albion.*

## SCOTLAND.

**FINE ARTS IN SCOTLAND.**—We learn from the late annual report of the Association for the Promotion of the Fine Arts in Scotland, which has now been ten years in existence, that, since its institution, it has collected 36,000*l.* from subscribers; that it has purchased 771 pictures, of which 300 were landscapes, and 63 historical and imaginative paintings; also 40 pieces of sculpture; and that the sum distributed among artists is about 27,000*l.*, the remainder being expended in engravings and charges of various kinds. This report furnishes remarkable evidence of the progress of a taste for painting in Scotland.—*Chambers' Edinburgh Journal.*

**EDINBURGH AND GLASGOW RAILWAY.**—Length of line 46 miles.—Return of traffic for week ending December 23, 1843:—Passengers, 9,356; receipts, 1,214*l.* 18*s.* 10*d.*; horses and carriages, 32*l.* 17*s.* 0*d.*; goods, parcels, cattle, &c., 574*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.*—Total, 1,822*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.*

**REVENUE OF SCOTCH RAILWAYS.**—It is gratifying to notice that the revenues of the leading lines of railway in Scotland are all more or less on the increase, as compared with the corresponding week of last year. The revenue of the following lines for the week ending 1st December, 1843, as compared with the corresponding week of 1842, stands thus:—

	1842.	1843.
Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway	£1,573	£1,830
Glasgow, Kilmarnock, and Ayr do.	882	1,108
Dundee and Arbroath do.	245	257
Arbroath and Forfar do.	124	200
Glasgow and Greenock do.	645	662

The increasing success of Scottish railways thus demonstrated, should act as an encouragement towards the formation of new lines.

**THE EDINBURGH PROFESSORSHIP OF MUSIC.**—Several candidates are in the field for the post vacated by Sir Henry Bishop; but the chances of success are now entirely between two persons, namely, Mr Donaldson, who ran so close a race with the ex-professor at the last election, and Dr Gauntlett. Mr Donaldson was formerly a music teacher at Glasgow, but marrying a lady of fortune, studied at the bar, and became a barrister. He is regarded as a good classical scholar, but not known by his works on music. He is the popular candidate in Edinburgh. Dr Gauntlett has been distinguished as a lecturer, and by his improvements in organ building. He is a profound theorist and practical musician, but has little local influence, being a resident of London.

**PAISLEY SHAWL TRADE.**—It is a melancholy fact that the general trade of Paisley, during the course of the last five years, has been very unstable; a few weeks' business preparatory to the autumn and spring months being all that could be reckoned upon like "gleams of sunshine amid renewing storms." It is pleasing, however, to reflect that, notwithstanding the stagnations and depressions to which we have been subjected in the years alluded to, our manufacturers, with a praiseworthy perseverance, have used every exertion, on the approach of each succeeding season, to bring out goods as varied, as new, and diversified from former patterns as the power of the harness and the skill of their pattern drawers could make them. We have pleasure in intimating, that some of our enterprising manufacturers are now busily engaged bringing forward against the spring, goods which for style, costly material, and beauty of finish, will surpass their former labours in the production of these splendid fabrics.—*Glasgow Saturday Post.*

**DEATH OF A FAMILY.**—A poor man, Angus Macmillan, residing at Manish, island of Harris, died about three weeks since of fever, caught, it was said, by an infection communicated by a sailor's jacket, purchased from the crew of a foreign vessel. His two children, a young woman twenty-four years of age, and a young man sixteen, both took ill after the decease of their father, and died within a few hours of each other on the 21st ult.—*Inverness Courier.*

— The collections in the United Secession Church exceed in amount 6,000*l.*

## IRELAND.

### REPEAL ASSOCIATION.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Monday, at one o'clock, W. Magennis, Esq., in the chair.

Mr John O'Connell, M.P., said he had to commence the business of the meeting by announcing the death of the excellent member for the county Tipperary, Valentine Maher, Esq. In the course of a warm eulogy on the character of the deceased gentleman, he said he was not a repealer; but

he had no doubt the people of Tipperary would fill the vacancy by electing a thorough repealer.

Mr John O'Connell read a letter to Lord Devon, in connexion with the resolutions passed at the last day of meeting, respecting the propriety of calling upon all persons throughout the country who could give evidence as to the relations of landlord and tenant before the commission, to which his lordship had replied in the following terms:—

"Monastereven, Dec. 21, 1843.  
"Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date.

"I must beg leave, in this early stage of the inquiry, to decline pledging myself or my colleagues as to the course which, upon framing our report, we may think it right to pursue with respect to the evidence; and I give this answer with the less reluctance, because I feel that any uncertainty upon this point cannot possibly impede or embarrass the production of any evidence which it may be thought right to submit for our consideration.

"The commissioners will sit again in Dublin on the 5th of January, and I take this opportunity of stating that it is our intention to visit and to take evidence in different parts of Ireland in the course of the next autumn.

"I have the honour to be your faithful servant,  
"J. O'Connell, Esq."

"DEVON.  
Mr J. O'Connell commented at some length on the vagueness of Lord Devon's letter, and designated the commission as a mockery.

The repeal rent for the week, announced at the close of the meeting was 474.

**STATE TRIALS.—THE JURY LIST.**—The revised jury list, arranged in alphabetical order, has been transmitted to Mr F. Shaw, the recorder, who is now in England, for his final inspection, previous to its delivery into the hands of the high sheriff, Mr D. C. Latouche. The new sheriff, Mr Bail, may not be sworn in before the commencement of the trials, on the 15th of January. In that case, it will become the duty of Mr Latouche to make out, from the general list of jurors, a special jury panel. In the general list there are about eight or ten thousand names, comprising all classes of jurors, but placed according to rank and property. The sheriff is to make his selection from the general list; but he is bound to place upon the special panel all persons marked or qualified to act as special jurors. The special panel will probably contain seven or eight hundred names, including, in all likelihood, not much more than two hundred Roman Catholics. This is a much smaller number than it ought to have been; but the old exclusive and condemned panel had not more than thirty available Roman Catholics altogether. About Monday, the 8th of January, the high sheriff will be required by the Attorney-General to attend the Court of Queen's Bench, in order that a special jury should be struck for the trial of the traversers in the state prosecutions. Numbers, corresponding with all the names in the special panel, will be placed in a box; and, in the presence of the solicitors of both sides, forty-eight names will be drawn by ballot. The crown solicitor, and a solicitor acting in the name of the traversers, will then strike off twelve names each. On the day of trial the first twelve of the remaining twenty-four answering to their names will constitute the special jury in the state prosecutions.—*The Freeman's Journal* says:—"Several alterations are being made in the Court of Queen's Bench, preparatory to the approaching trials, for the purpose of rendering it as commodious as possible. Some of the timber work at either side has been removed, and the effect is to render the passage to the interior of the court more spacious than it previously was; several additional seats have been erected in the gallery fronting the bench, which will afford increased accommodation to a considerable number of witnesses. A portion of the outward bar has been allotted to the Queen's counsel, their own seat at the table not being sufficient to contain all the silk gowns engaged for the Crown and the traversers. The county grand jury box is to be appropriated to the use of the press.

**MR O'CONNELL'S FIELD SPORTS.**—*The Evening Post* says:—"We have seen a most interesting letter from Mr O'Connell, dated the 17th inst., from Derrynane Abbey, and we have been favoured by the following extract:—"What a tasteless fellow that Attorney-General was not to allow me another fortnight in these mountains! I forgive him everything but that. Why, yesterday I had a most delightful day's hunting. I saw almost the entire of it—hare and hounds. We killed five hares. The day's run, without intermission, five hours and three quarters. In three minutes after each hare was killed, we had another on foot, and the cry was incessant. They were never at more than a momentary check, and the cry, with the echoes, were splendid. I was not in such wind for walking these five years; and you will laugh at me when I tell you the fact, that I was much less wearied than some of the young men—and we had a good three miles to walk home after the last hare was killed, just at the close of the day. I was not prepared for such good hunting, as the plague amongst the dogs had thinned my pack. It killed six couple of beautiful beagles of mine. I could almost weep for them. Yet the survivors seemed determined to indemnify me. If to-morrow be dry, I hope to have another good day's hunt."

**CORK.**—Mr O'Connell will not be present at the dinner to be given to Mr Beamish, on Monday next, to which he had been invited. He will reach this city on Tuesday next, and leave on the following morning for Fermoy, where he has business to transact which will occupy him the greater part of that day, and then proceed to Clonmel, where he is to be entertained by the patriots of Tipperary on the fourth.

**REGISTRY OF ARMS.**—Notices have been served upon Hugh Morgan Tuite, Esq., one of the members for Westmeath, and upon Sir Richard Nagle, Bart., an extensive proprietor in that county, that the applications on their behalf for the registry of their fire-arms will be opposed at the quarter sessions. Mr Tuite is a Protestant of large fortune, one of our most eminent agriculturists, and a most moderate, although decided and honest, politician. But the ruling faction seem determined to force a convulsion. Government has forwarded instructions to the assistant barristers of counties, directing them, in all cases of appeal from the decisions of magistrates, under the Arms Bill, to disregard altogether objections arising out of the political opinions of the applicants.

**ARBITRATION COURT.**—Lord Ffrench and his son, the honourable Martin Joseph Ffrench, presided in Ballinamore, on Monday last. Upwards of fifty cases were entered for hearing, some of which were adjourned.

**FEDERAL UNION.**—The Hon. Henry Caulfield, brother and heir presumptive to the title of Charlemont, has declared in favour of domestic legislation for Ireland on a federal basis. Mr Caulfield perceives the necessity of some decided demonstration of public opinion in Ireland previous to the state trials and the meeting of Parliament.

**THE FORTIFICATIONS.**—It is stated that government has given directions to an officer of engineers to inspect the Castle of Leighlin bridge, with a view, if practicable and necessary, of putting it in a state of repair suitable for the accommodation of a military party.

**DEATH OF MR VALENTINE MAHER, M.P.**—A correspondent of the *Dublin Evening Post* gives the following particulars:—"Thurles, December 25.—I regret to have to announce to you the very unexpected death of Valentine Maher, Esq., one of the representatives of this county, and also the proprietor of very considerable estates in it. Mr Maher seemed in his usual good health yesterday, and about four o'clock in the afternoon was riding near Turtulla, his residence, in company with his agent and relative, Mr N. Maher; he suddenly complained that he felt very ill, and was immediately taken from his horse, apparently insensible, by Mr N. Maher; a car at the time passing, he was placed on it and removed to Turtulla. Drs Butler and Knaggs, of this town, were in almost immediate attendance on him, but medical aid was of no avail, and he breathed his last this morning at five o'clock. Mr Maher's death will be severely felt in this part of the country, where he was so much loved and respected by all classes. Since his residence amongst us he had given much employment to the poor of this neighbourhood, and was, in all respects, a most excellent landlord." Independently of his large estates, valued at 14,000*l.* per annum, the late Mr Maher possessed a considerable sum, upwards of 100,000*l.* in the funds. He died without issue, never having been married, and a large portion of his fortune goes to his nephew, Mr Smith. There are already various rumours as to the Liberal candidate to succeed Mr Maher in the representation of Tipperary. It is said that the Honourable Cornelius O'Callaghan, son of Lord Lismore, is to be called upon. One of the letters from Tipperary mentions that Mr Daniel O'Connell, jun., youngest son of Mr O'Connell, would be put forward, in order, by his election at this crisis, to exhibit the determination of the people of Tipperary to sustain Mr O'Connell against the state prosecutions.

**THE FINNOE OUTRAGE.**—Mrs Waller continues in very delicate health at Finnoe house, and is unable to be removed to Kyle park, the seat of her son-in-law, Mr Stoney; Larkin, the butler, is still suffering from his wounds.

—A correspondent from Trim gives the following:—"Yesterday, about six o'clock, a cold-blooded murder was committed at a place called Rathcan, about five miles from this town. The victim, a respectable man named Sherlock, holding a snug farm, was on his return from Navan with his wife, where they had been marketing. He complained of being cold and got down off his car to walk, when a man came up and shot him. He survived about five hours. Had he been fired at on the car, it is more than probable that two lives would have been sacrificed instead of one. The reason alleged for shooting Sherlock is for dispossessing some tenants on the estate of Lord Trimblestown.

—*The Tralee Chronicle* announces a meeting in progress in that town for the purpose of inviting Mr O'Connell to a public dinner prior to his return to Dublin. The Tipperary monster banquet is fixed for the 4th of January, the "Liberator" communicating his readiness to place himself at the disposal of the patriots of Tipperary." The state traversers and Mr Smith O'Brien are among the more distinguished guests bidden to the feast.

—The Cork guardians have resolved upon sending out 166 paupers from the workhouse, as emigrants to Australia, the greater number young women. The cost to the Union will be 7*l.* a head, while their maintenance in the workhouse averages 9*l.* a year.

—In the West of Clare apprehensions are felt for the potatoe crop. It was short of an average crop this year, and the continued wet weather has damaged the potatoes in pit.

## CHINA AND INDIA.

An extra India mail, direct from Calcutta to Suez, has brought dates from Eastern India and China considerably later than those of the last regular Bombay mail. Those from Calcutta come down to the 19th ult., and yet give little news from that quarter, except the extreme abundance of the indigo crop. The journals of Victoria, Hong Kong, are to the 12th of October. The sickness in that island had been such as to induce the officers of the government to remove for a time to Macao. The trade had been opened with the ports of Foochowfoo, Amoy, Ningpo, and Shanghai; Messrs Gribble, Thom, and Balfour being appointed consuls to the three latter ports. Notwithstanding the previous confinement of the trade to the military stations, it had been carried on to a great extent since the signature of the treaty. More than a million and a half of dollars' worth of India and Straits produce, exclusive of opium, were disposed of at Chusan and Amoy, and other towns of the east coast. The raw cotton imported from India to China amounts alone to more than the previous annual export of British manufactures to China, whilst the opium trade surpasses calculation. Some inconvenience was felt at Canton at first, in consequence of there being no responsible persons, like the Hong merchants, to deal with. Sir H. Pottinger declares the answer of the Chinese commissioners, when applied to on the subject, as most satisfactory. The payment of their debts by the Hong was a more difficult matter; their wish to shirk off some of the weight was no doubt the chief cause of the difficulties experienced. We regret to see the death of Mr Secretary Morrison, at Hong Kong, an individual highly gifted, and universally regretted.

Although the news from the Punjab is not much later than that by the last mail, it is still important as contradicting the reports of Heerah Singh's murder; Lena Singh also survived. And both these chiefs, though previously opposed to each other, were reconciled for the moment, and wielded joint sway over the Sikh empire, that is over the 10,000 men collected in the vicinity of Lahore. To keep these 10,000 men in obedience would, however, require the coming in of revenue from the provinces and their chiefs, of which there seemed little prospect. Goolab Singh preserved his hostile attitude. The forces left in guard of Peshawur had deserted it. And the Indian papers argue, as if we were bound by the treaty of 1838 with Runjeet to maintain the integrity of his empire. Except the distribution of ammunition to the army of observation, and the announced purpose of the Governor-General to visit the north-western provinces, and quit this council once more, there are no tidings of the intentions of the Indian government. At Gwalior, the Khasee has been seized by the troops without bloodshed, and his reign is at an end. It is supposed that this event will render the advance of an army unnecessary. Dost Mahomed has been shot dead at Cabul by order of the Prince of Believers, the Khan of Bokhara. It is said that the Khan sent several papers, with his own seal, to Cabul, stating that whoever should kill the Dost would go to heaven. This event will probably lead to a suspension of any effort on the part of the Afghans to occupy Peshawur. The accounts from Sukker are more distressing than ever. It appears that of the troops there 1,371 are in hospital, and only 153 well. Every officer but one in each corps is inefficient from illness. The *Delhi Gazette*, of the 28th of October, announces the arrival, on the 6th of September, of a messenger from Col. Stoddart, at Hyderabad (in Scinde), who had left Bokhara eighty days previously, but whose papers had been taken from him in the Pishcen Valley, by Meer

Delkhan. He declares to have left the colonel alive, though a prisoner in the citadel of Bokhara; but Captain Conolly had been put to death. This messenger's story is corroborated by a letter received by Colonel Sheil, from Abdool Sumund and the Topcheebashee at Bokhara, in whose house Conolly and Stoddart had lived, and who claims 3,000 tillahs, which he had lent Conolly, as a voucher for which Stoddart had supplied him with a leaf from out of Conolly's journal, and which had been safely delivered to Colonel Sheil.—*Chronicle*.

#### COLONEL STODDART AND CAPTAIN CONOLLY.

Sir,—As everything relating to Dr Wolff's mission must be interesting, I send you a literal translation of the Sultan's letter to the Ameer of Bokhara. This is a remarkable document, showing the efforts the head of the Mahomedan faith is making in behalf of Christian soldiers. It also shows the great influence of the English government at Constantinople, and the kind and zealous manner in which the Earl of Aberdeen is availing himself of that influence in aid of Dr Wolff's mission. Dr Wolff expresses the most lively gratitude for the great kindness and valuable assistance he has received from Sir Stratford Canning and every one attached to the British embassy. The Sultan's letter to the Khan of Khiva differs so little from the one to the Sovereign of Bokhara, that I have not translated it. I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN GROVER, Captain Unattached.

Army and Navy Club, Dec. 26.

#### LETTER FROM THE SULTAN ABDE LMEDJID TO THE KHAN OF BOKHARA, DATED NOV. 21, 1843.

Your Greatness knows that the English government, having requested some time since that we should graciously assist in the deliverance of two English officers that you had put in prison, we wrote to you to that effect.

As now Dr Wolff, an English clergyman of distinction, is sent by some Englishmen to Bokhara to obtain information concerning the fate of the two officers abovementioned, as well as of two other Englishmen since arrived there, to take them with him and conduct them to their country, the English government has again, on this occasion, requested, in a particular manner, that we should write to you a sovereign letter to request you to deliver up the abovementioned prisoners, to consign them to Dr Wolff, and to cause them to return home.

Your Greatness knows, and it is superfluous to tell you, that the maintenance and preservation of the close and sincere friendship which exists since the most ancient time between our Sublime Porte and the Court of England is the object of the desire of both parties; it is, therefore, that the requests of the abovementioned court are favourably received.

It is, therefore, certain that we ought to interest ourselves to the effect that the abovementioned prisoners be restored to liberty and sent back to their country.

In fact, it is a thing incompatible with the principles observed by governments, and with the dignity of sovereignty, to arrest and imprison such Messafirs; and it is fit that your Greatness should cause them to return whence they came.

From the sentiments of equity and justice which animate you, and your obedience to our august person, in our quality of Khalif, we have the certainty that, conformable to what we have above remarked, you will be graciously disposed to liberate the prisoners, if they are still at Bokhara; we expect that your Greatness will have the goodness to consign them to the clergyman abovementioned, and to make them depart immediately, that they may return to their country by way of Constantinople.

It is to express this expectation and to consolidate the edifice of our sincere friendship, as well as to inquire the state of your health, that we have written to you this sovereign letter, on the receipt of which, if it please God, we expect that your Greatness will kindly employ your willing attention to the end abovementioned.—*Times*.

### POLITICAL.

MR ROEBUCK.—The honourable member for Bath has published a letter denying the truth of the rumour of his having been appointed to an Indian judgeship. Mr Roebuck says:—It may possibly save the expectants of a vacancy in the representation of Bath some trouble for me to state, emphatically, that I never, either from the present or any preceding administration, solicited for myself any place; and that no place either in or out of England, will be sought by me, or accepted if offered, from or by those now in power.

TYNEMOUTH.—It is reported in North Shields that it is the intention of Henry Mitealf, Esq., the member for Tynemouth, to resign his seat prior to the meeting of parliament, physical debility being assigned as the cause of his intended retirement.—*Newcastle Journal*.

KELSO.—It is currently reported here that at the next election for a member to represent the county of Roxburg in parliament, it will be contested by the Marquis of Douro on the Tory interest.—*Edinburgh Chronicle*.

SUNDERLAND.—To set at rest a good deal of speculation as to the future parliamentary representation of the important borough of Sunderland, we may state that Colonel Thompson, the veteran free trader, will unquestionably be brought forward by the Liberals at the first vacancy.—*Durham Chronicle*.

SIR JOHN RAE REID, BART., M.P.—We are authorized to state that the report of the intended resignation of Sir J. R. Reid of his seat in parliament for this borough is without foundation.—*Dover Telegraph*.

UNIVERSITY REFORM.—We understand that Mr Christie, M.P. for Weymouth, who last session so ably introduced the question of University Reform, will, in the ensuing session, renew the subject in the shape of a motion for a commission of inquiry.—*Oxford Chronicle*.

FREE-TRADE MEETING AT LEICESTER.—A meeting took place on Wednesday at the Theatre in Horse-fair street. The speakers were Mr Cobden, M.P.; Colonel Thompson, and Mr Moore. The proceedings were somewhat disturbed by the disgraceful uproar kept up by a few half-intoxicated fellows, sent there, it is stated, by parties opposed to the League. There were about 2,000 persons present, and the arguments addressed to them told with great effect. The first resolution, moved by Mr Harris, the Mayor, was—"That this meeting, impressed with a firm and decided conviction of the injustice and impolicy of the corn laws, pledges itself to a continued effort to obtain their total and immediate repeal." This resolution, as well as the second, pledging the meeting to aid the League fund, was carried by acclamation. Mr Cobden then addressed the meeting with his usual convincing force and perspicuity. He began by alluding to the fact of the chairman being a landed proprietor, and contrasting his behaviour with that of those persons who were disturbing the meeting, and who seemed to be working men—a class which would be specially benefited by the repeal of the corn laws. Passing from thence to the general subject, Mr Cobden, in a long and able address, did much to convince his auditory, if they required such conviction, of the folly and injustice of

the corn laws. Colonel Thompson then delivered one of his forcibly put speeches. He was succeeded by Mr R. R. R. Moore, and subscriptions were handed in at the close of the proceedings to the amount of 808*l.* 3*s.* The announcement of the total sum collected was received with tremendous cheering; after which the meeting, with the usual formalities, broke up.

PROGRESS OF THE ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE FUND.—The subscriptions at Bradford, commenced at the meeting on Wednesday night last, when 1,700*l.* was subscribed, have since been increased to 2,100*l.*; and, on Friday evening last, at Accrington, a very spirited meeting was held, the Rev. Mr Bailey in the chair, when Mr Cobden and Mr Moore addressed the meeting; and, though many of the larger subscribers of last year were from home, or unable to be present at the meeting, the amount raised during the evening was 250*l.*, which is confidently expected to be considerably increased. In our next we shall probably have to record the opening of the subscriptions in the Midland Counties.

PROGRESS OF FREE-TRADE PRINCIPLES.—A lecture on the fallacy of Protective Duties was delivered on Wednesday evening, by Mr R. G. Rose, jun., of the Lambeth Anti-Corn-law Association, at the Parthenium Club house, St Martin's lane, under the auspices of the Westminster Anti-Monopoly Association. At the close of the lecture an elderly gentleman, of highly respectable appearance, stepped forward and stated that prior to this evening he was prejudiced against attending any free-trade meeting, but that now, after the able arguments and familiar illustrations of the lecturer, he was convinced that his former opinions were erroneous. He should henceforth advocate free trade, and, as a proof of his sincerity handed one guinea for the Great League Fund. (Applause.)

A CONVERT TO THE LEAGUE.—We are glad to state that Richard Alison, jun., Esq., of Woolton, a gentleman of large landed property, has just announced his adhesion to the Anti-Corn-law League, and, in proof of the sincerity of his conversion, forwarded a donation of 50*l.* to J. T. Crooke, Esq., the respected treasurer of the Anti-Monopoly Association, in aid of the Great League Fund.

IMPORTANT DECLARATION OF EARL HARDWICKE.—At Earl Hardwicke's annual rent audit and feast, held last week at the Eagle hotel, Cambridge, the noble earl is reported to have made the following significant declaration:—"After alluding to the late incendiary fires, he urged upon the farmers the advantages of adopting an improved system of cultivation by which they might grow a double quantity of corn. He then observed that there had lately been a great deal of agitation on the subject of the corn laws. For himself, he, in common with Sir R. Peel and the Duke of Buckingham, was opposed to free trade, but he thought that ultimately free-trade principles must prevail. But he conceived the result would not be so disastrous as had been anticipated." If Earl Hardwicke be correctly reported, these observations seem to presage an approaching change. His lordship is one of the lords in waiting to the Queen, and, of course, closely connected with the government.

### MISCELLANIES OF TRADE.

PROBABILITY OF A GENERAL STRIKE IN THE COLLIERIES.—We are sorry to learn that the pitmen of another considerable colliery, in addition to Thoruley, have struck work since our last; and it is currently reported that others will shortly follow their example. We dread the misery that these occurrences will inflict upon this district, especially at this season of the year, both as regards the throwing of great numbers of persons out of employment, and depriving the public of a supply of coals, so essential to the comforts of all classes. Several of our neighbours have already taken the alarm, and are laying in stocks of fuel in anticipation of the threatened strike.—*Durham Chronicle*.

THE PORT OF HULL.—Business has scarcely ever been remembered so brisk as at the present period. During the past week there left this port 108 vessels. Of these 44 were in ballast, 17 were steam packets with goods and passengers, and the remainder laden with wool, linseed oil, and seed cake, &c. During the same period, 104 vessels entered this port, including 5 in ballast, and 16 steam packets. The principal importations during the week have been wool, wood, corn, seed flax, hemp, iron, and tallow. No less than 17 of these vessels have arrived from St Petersburg.

LIVERPOOL.—This week's imports of each article of the trade from Ireland and coastwise are small: but from Canada there have arrived 10,580 barrels of flour. Two or three parcels of the middling qualities of foreign wheat have been taken for the interior; but the local millers and dealers have bought sparingly, and on the whole the business in wheat has been of limited amount, without any change in prices.

THE FLAX TRADE.—The best practical answer which can be given to those who contend that the farmers of Great Britain cannot compete with those of the continent, is to point to the increase which has lately taken place in the cultivation of flax in this country. Here is an article of agricultural produce to which the legislature has extended no protection, and yet, as we find from a report of the proceedings of the Belfast Flax Society, lately published, the cultivation of it is rapidly increasing in the north of Ireland. At the annual meeting of the society to which we refer, it was stated by one of the speakers, amidst the cheers of a large majority of the audience, that "the growth of flax, although it is a crop which receives no premium for production, and is not protected by any duty, pays the farmer, on a series of years, as well as any crop he can grow." Should this statement be correct—and we are not aware that it can be called in question—it is well worthy the attention of those who allege that all the land would be thrown out of cultivation were the corn laws abolished. According to a statement made at a meeting of the Belfast Society, the cost of the flax imported into Great Britain amounts to about 5,000,000*l.* annually, although the soil and climate of Ireland are as well adapted for its cultivation as those of any country in the world.—*Manchester Guardian*.

CHINESE TRADE.—The Canton market for all kinds of imports has been excessively dull, more owing to the circumstance that none of the late Hong merchants have transacted business, than to a glut, although the quantity of goods unsold was considerable. The few sales of British and American cotton goods were at reduced prices. There was not the same inactivity in exports, most of the new teas having found buyers, and considerable purchases of Nankin silk having been made.

THE MARQUIS OF SALISBURY AND HIS TENANTS.—This Marquis is reported to have said, at his half-yearly audit at Hatfield, that the corn laws formed exclusively a tenant's question—that it was not a landlord's question at all—and that, come what would, he should make no abatement of rent; that they had contracted to pay the existing rents; and that, as he granted no leases, any of his tenants who were dissatisfied could quit their farms by giving six months' notice.—*Globe*.

—The Grand Council of the Canton of Geneva has just adopted, by a great majority, the system of trial by jury for every kind of offence.

## CORRESPONDENCE AND ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES.

INCIDENCE OF DUTY ON CORN.  
TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—It appears to me that our doctrine of the incidence of duty is impeded by our attempting to prove too much.

I think the following is a more correct way of putting the case than that usually adopted.

The price of corn in all markets varies with the supply and demand. Let the demand increase—the price rises : let the supply increase—the price falls.

Let us, then, suppose the price here is 50s., and the price abroad, with the addition of the cost of transport, &c., 40s.; that an additional demand there for 1,000,000 quarters would raise the price 2s., for 2,000,000, 5s.—while here similiary an additional supply of 1,000,000 would lower the price 2s., and of 2,000,000, 5s. Of course the correctness of these figures will not affect the reasoning. The principle is unquestionably correct. In this case, then, were there no duty, we should import 2,000,000, and the general price in the country would be 45s.; but were there a duty of 6s., we should only import 1,000,000, and the general price would be 48s. In one sense, then, the foreigner might here be said to bear half the duty, as the price is only by half the duty higher than if there were no duty. Should, however, our foreign demand not raise foreign prices as much as it lowered ours, then to that extent more of the duty would fall on us. For instance, if in the above case we put the foreign rises at 1s. and 2s., and our falls at 3s. and 8s., then a 6s. duty would fix prices at 47s., while with free trade they would have fallen to 42s., and thus we should have to pay 5s. out of the 6s.

Now, with the ports always open, and we drawing corn to our one home market in small portions from numerous foreign markets, it is obvious that our prices will be by far the most affected; and as in either case foreigners will prepare an extra supply according to our probable demand, and we have no reason to suppose the supply for the larger demand, should there be no duty, could not be raised except at an increased cost, it is most probable foreign prices will not be perceptibly affected, and then the whole of the duty must be borne by ourselves.

At all events it is quite clear there can be no wide margin of profits for the foreigner or importer to pay it out of, as some fancy. With the ports always open, prices can never be far apart, and to whatever extent they are apart, by that extent will importation be ruled. In this, as in all similar cases, competition will leave no merchant, be he foreign or native, more than average profit.

And even if it should prove that foreign prices would have risen a trifle, had not the duty lessened our demand, surely there is still case enough against the duty. This alone is case enough; for this portion of the duty is only thrown on the foreigner through our being kept on short allowance and prevented from purchasing the food we desire and need. But, besides this, as has been repeatedly shown, whenever any corn is imported, then for, say, the half million of money the Exchequer will get, the people will have to pay for nothing two or three millions more on the remainder of the food which they are allowed to have; and, whenever the duty prevents any importation at all, then, without the Exchequer receiving a farthing, the people will still be forced to pay for nothing a heavy tax on all such portions of food as they are allowed to have.

Your obedient servant,

Leeds, December 27, 1843.

S. S.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Through the medium of your columns I beg to be permitted to make a suggestion with regard to any alterations which may be made in the duties on articles the produce of slave labour. It is argued by the honest friend of the slave that a large consumption of slave-grown sugar by this country would increase the demand for slaves in the Brazils, Cuba, and other slave-holding colonies,—that an increased importation of slaves must necessarily follow the relaxation of our duties. It seems impossible to prove that this would not be the case, and the argument, that so long as our protecting duties are continued no foreign nation will abolish slavery, however true, does not carry conviction to the minds of the class of men whose prejudices it is the object of this letter to remove or to conciliate; though without, as far as the writer can see, in the slightest degree compromising the principles of free trade, but in fact carrying them out with a strict adherence to that noble spirit of justice which does not even shrink from sacrifice of its own immediate interests, when the right of any portion, however oppressed and despised, of the human family are in danger of being violated.

The plan which I would propose for the consideration of the free traders of this country is a very simple one, viz., that after placing such a duty on all articles of import on which it was advisable to have a duty for purposes of revenue, there should be imposed an additional duty of 10s. per cent. on all articles the produce of slave labour, and a moderate duty on those articles the produce of slave labour, which, when produced by free labour, would be exempt from duty.

By this means we should maintain our noble testimony against the iniquity of slavery without imposing on the suffering poor of our own country a tax greater than might easily be borne, and we should give an additional proof to other countries of the sincerity of our zeal for the oppressed negroes.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Sunderland, Dec. 27, 1843.

D. Y.

[We think a little reflection will show our respected correspondent, that if the admission of the produce of Brazil, Cuba, &c., is to be objected to at all on the ground of the encouragement which its consumption would give to slavery, in point of principle we can only consistently reject it altogether. It is a moral objection, in which there can be no degrees of right or wrong. If it be morally wrong to consume slave-grown sugar at 36s. per cwt. duty, it must be wrong to do so at 63s., or at any duty. True it is that the violation of the moral principle contended for is more effective and operative the

lower the duty, but a little breach of a moral principle never can be defended because it is no larger. Now our correspondent must see that, if the principle be admitted at all, what he proposes would amount not only to a breach of an acknowledged moral principle, but in such a way as to give little or no discountenance to it; for if the duty was so low as not to be oppressive to the consumer here, it would also be so low as not to be felt as any discouragement to the slave owner to go on with his own plan of cultivation. We sincerely believe the whole thing is untenable, and we propose to dedicate some time to it before the meeting of parliament and shortly after.

—EDITOR.]

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—In the last *Economist* there is an admirable article under the head of "Misgovernment of Ireland," but, in estimating the present peaceful position of Ireland, it seems to me that you have fallen into an error in almost entirely attributing the quietness and calmness which prevail to the personal influence of O'Connell. You seem to have left altogether out of your mind the fact that our people are teetotalers; that they are now under the guidance of those reasoning powers which they may be possessed of; that their passions are not aroused and placed in the ascendant by that destroyer of man's happiness—alcohol. This is a "great fact," which should not be left out of calculation by any man in estimating the present moral and social position of Ireland. To O'Connell's great—deservedly great—influence over the minds of Ireland, must, no doubt, in a great measure be attributed the present peaceful position of my country, and the consequent extraordinary interest she has excited in her favour in all civilized countries; but that great man well knows, and indeed it is almost universally admitted, that our present moral greatness is owing to teetotalism. In an economical point of view, this view of our condition is worthy your attention. I am persuaded that it is utterly impossible to benefit any people without destroying their taste for intoxicating drinks where such taste exists; and all modes of effecting that great object which have yet been tried, except teetotalism have failed. I think it is demonstrable by the evidence of a large experience in the history of these countries (Great Britain and Ireland), that an addition to the people's means of obtaining the comforts of life, in the shape of increased wages, has hitherto tended to do evil rather than good, by giving them the means of indulgence in the vice of intoxication. The passion for strong drink is sustained and increased just in proportion to its indulgence. If this be true, and if the people of these countries are prone to this vice, is it not equally true that it is the duty of all men (of those in an especial manner who come forward to lead and direct philanthropic movements) to make teetotalism the basis, or foundation, of our moral and social improvement? Is there any rational prospect of success on any other grounds? It has been computed, and I have no doubt the computation is correct, for it has never been disproved, and there are hundreds of brewers and distillers deeply interested in its disproval, that the expenditure and loss from the use of alcoholic drinks in Great Britain and Ireland amounted to one hundred millions of pounds annually. This is an enormous drain on the nation's resources, and it serves to show what would be the amount of happiness and comfort in these countries if the earnings of the people were but turned into healthy channels. It may be said that all luxuries have a tendency to injure and pauperize a nation, and that therefore intoxicating drinks are not alone fit objects for the Economist's animadversions; but there is this distinction between them and all other useless articles of consumption with us, that they are productive of evil and evil only; there is nothing of a useful tendency about them to neutralize their injurious effects on society; they injure men morally and physically; morally, inasmuch as they are the great instigators to crime—physically, because they all contain the poison alcohol, which is inimical to health. These truths will not be denied by well-informed men. If, then, one hundred millions of money are expended in Great Britain and Ireland on articles only fitted to produce crime and misery, and that this money, if turned into healthy channels, would always create abundance of employment and the means of happiness, is it not the business of the Economist to insist on the practical adoption of a means capable of producing such incalculable blessings? Great exertions are now being made in England to procure perfect freedom of trade, and most heartily do I desire that these exertions may soon be crowned with success, but I do not believe that any measure of the kind will be permanently beneficial unless accompanied by the practice of teetotalism, and I am fully persuaded that its adoption would be productive of wealth and happiness to all classes. One hundred millions of money annually expended in the production of the comforts of life, instead of being, as they now are, wasted in the promotion of every conceivable evil, would soon create the busy hum of prosperous industry, and shed smiling happiness over the land. God has done all that is needful for us; we have only to avail ourselves of His bounty to be happy.

It is to teetotalism that Ireland is mainly indebted for the high position which she now occupies; and it will be a glorious incident in the history of man if we shall succeed by peaceful and moral means, guided by the commanding intellect of our great O'Connell, in gaining our own liberties, and in proving to mankind that these means are effectual for such noble ends. I am sorry to see all allusion to teetotalism carefully avoided in the discussions of free traders in your country. The League is now exercising astonishing influence in England; when it gains its end, it will find that its labours to benefit the people have fallen far short of their object, if drinking customs still prevail.

If you deem these remarks worthy a place in the *Economist*, I shall feel obliged, and remain yours respectfully,

JAMES HAUGHTON.

34 Eccles street, Dublin, Dec. 27, 1843.

*The suggestion of A Land Agent and Farmer, at Hawkshead, will be considered. Meantime we are obliged to him. Mr Haughton, Dublin, has our very best thanks, W. P. is incorrectly informed.*



## POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, December 30, 1843.

Intelligence from Paris has been received up to Thursday. The Paris papers are filled with comments upon the King's speech at the opening of the session, and, as might be expected, very bitter animosity is displayed in the views taken of that document. The *Débats* says the speech gave great satisfaction in the Chamber, and is calculated to have the same effect in the country, and it congratulates the ministry upon the circumstances on the inauguration of the fourth year of its administration—it being the only ministry since 1830 that has met a fourth parliament.

The Chamber of Deputies assembled on Thursday, under the Presidency of M. Laffitte, its senior member, for the purpose of electing its President, Vice-Presidents, and Secretaries. Of the 18 officers returned, 10 were Ministerialists, and the remaining 8 belonged to the Opposition. The deputies afterwards re-entered the hall, and the ballot for the presidency having been proceeded with, gave the following result:—The number of voters was 326; the majority required was 165; M. Sauzet obtained 157 votes; M. Dupin, 65; M. Odillon Barrot, 91; M. Dufaure, 1; Dupont de l'Eure, 5. None of the candidates having obtained the absolute majority, another scrutiny was opened, and Sauzet was elected president of the Chamber. He obtained 170 votes out of 306. M. Dupin had 82 votes; the remainder were given for M. Odillon Barrot, with the exception of the few votes given for MM. Dufaure, Garneron, Dupont de l'Eure, and Laffitte. M. Dufaure had one vote; M. Dupont, five; M. Garneron, one; and M. Laffitte, one.

The *National* publishes a letter from Rome, announcing that the utmost distress prevails in that city. Commerce, agriculture, and manufactures are in a deplorable state, and the only income derived by the shopkeepers is from strangers.

Madrid papers to the evening of the 22nd have come to hand. On the previous day the Ministers had issued an ordinance, suppressing the inspectorship and sub-inspectorship of the National Militia, on the plea that they were useless. The real object, however, was to place the National Guard under the Minister of War, instead of the political chiefs and municipal authorities. What effect this will have either in Madrid or in the provinces we really hardly know at present. Spain seems to be paralyzed by the bold and successful attacks of the Moderados on their liberties. They have submitted to so much within the last few weeks, that we will not venture to say how far their patience may go. These military tyrants have it all their own way, and a pretty use they are making of their authority.

The Queen of Portugal has conferred the Cross of the Order of Christ on M. M. Lopez and Joachim de Frias.

The *Espectador* says that, in consequence of the scandalous attack made upon the office of the *Ecodel Comercio*, a meeting of the proprietors and editors of the Madrid papers, of all shades of opinion, was held, to protest with energy against such outrages. The meeting lasted seven or eight hours; but in consequence of a difference of opinion as to the most effectual way of proceeding, it broke up ultimately without doing anything effectual, beyond agreeing to the protest.

Accounts from Ireland relate another murder in the county of Cork, committed in the neighbourhood of Cloyne, back of the Deer park, Castle Mary. The unfortunate victim was a young girl named Fitzgerald, a servant in the employ of an officer residing in the vicinity of Cork, and she was returning to her friends in Cloyne to spend the Christmas holidays with them, when she was met by some men, who, it is supposed, murdered her; for she was found dead on the road, her face disfigured, most of her clothes taken off, and with marks of violence on other parts of her person. An inquest was held at Cloyne on Monday, but we have not heard the result.

THE QUEEN'S AND THE PRINCE CONSORT'S NEW YEAR'S GIFTS TO THE POOR OF WINDSOR.—On Monday next (New Year's-day), nearly two hundred pairs of blankets, and a large quantity of meat, bread, plum pudding, potatoes, coals, and ale, will be given to the poor and needy residents of Windsor, by her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert. It is expected that the distribution of the blankets, meat, pudding, and bread, will take place in the New Riding school, and that her Majesty, his Royal Highness Prince Albert, and several members of the Royal household, will be present, to be spectators of the gratifying scene.

EARL GREY.—We are glad to announce that, by accounts received in town yesterday, the noble Earl is somewhat better. His strength continues to improve, and his medical attendants are of opinion that there is a prospect of his recovery.

At the Secondaries' Court an action was tried yesterday before Mr Potter, in which the plaintiff, a chandler's shopkeeper, named Seager, residing in West street, Mile end, sued Gibbon, the defendant, a pensioner in the East India Company's service, for 10*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.* for goods sold and delivered. The defence was that they were supplied to a woman who lived with him as his wife, but was not so. She had borne him children, who, as well as herself, went by the name of Gibbon, but he denied his liability for the debt. The Secondary, however, put another construction upon the law, and informed the defendant that the judges had held that when a man cohabited with a woman, and allowed her to assume his name, he became responsible for debts contracted by her for actual necessities. The jury took the same view of the law, and gave a verdict for the plaintiff.

At Union Hall, yesterday, Charles Hughes was brought up for re-examination, charged with throwing a youth, named Parrall, down the gallery seats of the Surrey Theatre, by which he received a compound fracture of the right arm. Mr Trail inflicted the full penalty of 5*l.* on the defendant; and in default of payment committed him for six weeks.

The complainant's father said that it would be a long time before he was able to work, owing to the injury he had received, and that he (the father) must be at the expense of his support during the whole time; he, therefore, trusted that, if his son's assailant paid the fine, the boy would derive some benefit from it. Mr Traill said that it appeared very improbable that the penalty would be paid, but if it was he would advise the father to memorialize the Lords of the Treasury, detailing the circumstances under which it was inflicted, and probably their lordships would order the money to be devoted to his use. Had he (the magistrate) the power of appropriating the fine he would order it to be given to him without hesitation.

We are sorry to say that the accounts from Liverpool this morning represent the fire at Messrs Braucher's sugar-refinery to be much more serious than at first anticipated. It is as yet impossible to ascertain correctly the number of lives lost;—the following are the names of the men at present missing—Robert Jenkins, Thomas Tyrer, and — Jenkins. The loss sustained, including buildings, machinery, goods, &c., is estimated under 70,000*l.*

LIVERPOOL, FRIDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 29, 1843.

COTTON.—The market opened with a good demand from the trade, which continued throughout the week, accompanied by considerable speculation. In Brazil and Egyptian there is little change, but the low and middling qualities of American are  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. higher, whilst the better kinds are comparatively little inquired for. Surat have also advanced  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. Speculators have taken 10,550 American, 1,650 Surat, and 500 Egyptian; and there has been forwarded into the country unsold during the month 500 American.

Taken for Consumption from 1st Jan. to 29th Dec.		Whole Import from 1st Jan. to 29th Dec.		Computed Stock. 29th Dec.	
1842	1843	1842	1843	1842	1843
1,127,260 bls.	1,315,389 bls.	1,247,835	1,552,267	441,030	622,420

TEA.—The inquiry has been limited, and the prices may be considered nominal.

GRAIN.—There is very little doing in the market, but prices are fairly supported. The duty on Wheat is again at the highest point.

## The Economist.

DECEMBER 30, 1843.

### COMMERCIAL.

CONSUMPTION OF WHEAT.—Our attention has been drawn to paragraphs which have appeared in our much-respected and able contemporaries, the *Leeds Mercury* and *Mark Lane Express*, pointing out a supposed error into which we had fallen in our article, "Wheat, 1842-1843," which appeared some weeks ago, by having overlooked the influence which the great additional quantity of foreign wheat had on the sale of English wheat in the autumn of 1842, compared with that of 1843. In that article we showed that the sales of English wheat in Leeds and Wakefield, as returned by the corn inspectors, had increased in a very great proportion in the present when compared with last year. We, however, did not lose sight of the fact of the additional imports, as the main calculations in that article were based in a great measure upon the different amount of imports in the one year as compared with the other; but after making a fair calculation for the influence of such imports, we were still of opinion that the great excess of sales in 1843 served at least to corroborate other unquestionable evidences of a greatly increased consumption of wheat in the present year; not indeed to the whole apparent excess of the sales, which showed a difference of more than 50 per cent. We do not, however, think that a much larger portion of the crop of 1843 has been brought to market than had at this period last year, notwithstanding the greater quantity of foreign wheat available in 1842; for it will be remembered that in the autumn and winter of 1842 a most unusual disposition prevailed among the farmers to sell, so much so that by the month of January little wheat appeared to be left on their hands. In the desire to realize their stocks quickly, the farmers were materially assisted by the unusually fine quality and condition of the grain; and foreign wheat was accordingly not so much required for mixing. In the middle of January of the present year it appeared by an inquiry then instituted, that at least 1,500,000 quarters of foreign wheat still remained in first hands. We have, however, examined the returns from the 1st of May, 1842 (the date when the additional towns were first included in the returns), to the 1st of August, with the same period in 1843, before any foreign wheat had come in consumption in either year, and we find that the sales in these three months were, in 1842, 1,071,172 quarters; 1843, 1,379,766 quarters, for the whole kingdom. These sales are, however, never to be used as a strict and accurate comparison, but only as an approximation to the progress of consumption; for there are many circumstances which affect these returns in different degrees, at different times, irrespective of the consumption; for example, in a time of much speculation the same parcels of wheat may frequently change hands, and swell the quantity without affecting the consumption. These circumstances were, however, more in favour of large returns in the summer of 1842 than in the present year; for in that year a great effort was made to work the averages and reduce the duty in those months. We have no doubt that the consumption of wheat is considerably larger now than it was a year ago, and still we see every reason to adhere to the general results of the calculation which we made in the article referred to, as to the future state of the wheat market.

Business in Sydney continues in so unsafe and unsatisfactory a

condition, that the commission houses have very generally raised the charge for *del credere* from 2½ per cent. to 5 per cent.; in little more than one year upwards of seven hundred and fifty traders had taken the benefit of the Insolvent Debtors' Act in that small community. Our correspondent says,—“The colony is in such a state that it would at present be dangerous to sell on credit, as it is impossible to get bills paid with any regularity, if at all. Such indeed is the state of things, that an eminent barrister, who is chosen to represent the city of Sydney in the legislative council now about to assemble for the first time, drew up a petition to the judges praying them to postpone the *present* civil term to the *next*,—in other words, to shut up the council; and had not we, aided by some mercantile friends, exerted ourselves to prevent it, we have every reason to believe the request would have been complied with. Just now men's minds are kept in a state of uncertainty respecting the measures which will be pursued in the new legislature. In our opinion it can afford no relief to the distress now prevailing, and some time must elapse before any wholesome business can be transacted.” In all this we see forcibly the reaction of a sudden advance in mercantile prosperity; but while the production of the colony progresses in the manner in which it has done of late years, we cannot entertain any fear of soon outgrowing all the present difficulties.

The rapid growth of the production of wool in these colonies is without parallel in the history of commerce; for it is little more than twenty years ago that their whole produce of wool for one year was lost in one ship, on its way home.

In the home trade there is no new feature worthy of remark; the holidays having, as usual, diverted the public mind to other matters.

### POLITICAL.

Our Sovereign and her illustrious Consort, with numerous visitors, have been enjoying themselves at Windsor during the past week, keeping Christmas in a style congenial to her Majesty's taste; dispensing, with a liberal hand, numerous bounties to the poor and distressed in the vicinity. On the evening of Christmas-day three imitation fir trees, in green stands, and upwards of eight feet in height, were placed in the drawing-room (to which her Majesty and the Prince, with the royal attendants, retired after dinner), each beautifully ornamented with seventy-two wax lights appended to the branches, which consisted of twenty-six, composed of metal, covered with the natural leaves. The stems, to which the branches and lights affixed, were of real fir. One of the trees was entirely frosted over to resemble icicles and snow. To the branches of each were suspended an immense quantity of *bons-bons* (for presentation to the company) contained in small boxes and cases of various devices, richly and elaborately ornamented. One of these trees was for her Majesty, another for the Prince Consort, and the third for her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent. There was a fourth, similarly illuminated and ornamented, and festooned with *bons-bons*, for his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

As the session of Parliament draws near, people begin to discuss the policy which Ministers will adopt. There are all sorts of rumours abroad; it is said that Sir R. Peel has declared privately to some of the more urgent of his friends that he will not touch the existing corn laws during the next session. Others say, and these are amongst persons likely to know something of his intentions, that he will actually propose an enlarged grant to be given to Maynooth College, as well as the endowment of the Irish Roman Catholic Clergy, including the giving the latter glebe lands and houses.

Mr Ferrand has been “going the whole hog” lately, but more particularly during the last few weeks. His assertion that Mr Brooks went to London to oppose the reduction of the coffee duties, Mr Brooks, in his presence, denies, and explains that his object was not to oppose the reduction of the duty on foreign coffee, but to procure a greater reduction than that proposed by the Government; but because he admits that he has an individual interest in the matter, being a large holder of foreign coffee, Mr Ferrand persists, and his followers at the meeting and in the press throw up their caps, and exclaim, “Here is a free trader for you!” How weak must be the cause which its advocates seek to serve by such pitiable shifts as these. For a further elucidation of this gentleman's peculiarities, we refer our readers to our second article.

At a meeting at Wadebridge of farmers and others, held yesterday week at the Molesworth Arms hotel, in that place, Sir W. Molesworth “showed,” in his true colours. Considerable interest was excited in consequence of the present state of political affairs, and the general belief prevailed that Sir William, who has lately devoted himself entirely to his literary pursuits, would express his opinions on the great question which is now agitating the country. Neither was the meeting disappointed. We give a short extract as showing the feeling of Sir William on the repeal of the corn laws. He said:—

“I believe a repeal of the corn laws and a settlement of this question will be ultimately and permanently beneficial to landlord and tenant, to the owner and cultivator of land; if it will augment the wealth of the manufacturing and commercial classes, can it for one moment be doubted

that it will be beneficial to the agricultural labourer? (Hear, hear.) His interest requires that there should be the greatest demand for his labour, so that his wages may be high, and that with these wages he may be able to purchase the greatest quantity of the commodities he may require. Now, improved methods of cultivation and improved wealth in a community, will tend to augment the demand for labour, and, on the other hand, free trade causes commodities to be supplied as cheaply as possible. In the general benefit, therefore, the agricultural labourer will undoubtedly have his share. (Loud cheers.)”

The spirit of incendiarism still continues; each successive morning print seems to leave its predecessor far behind in the number of fires described as having taken place, till the picture now daily presented is truly awful. Surely some energetic measures will be adopted on the opening of the session to counteract this disgraceful destruction of property.

A lengthened correspondence has taken place between Sir Edward Sugden and Daniel Dineen, the individual concerned in the transaction which has lately attracted so much attention, as illustrating the mode of dispensing justice in West Carberry. One part of the memorial states,—“These, and many other acts of Mr O'Driscoll, added to his ungovernable temper, would seem to me to demand Mr O'Driscoll's dismissal from the commission of the peace. Such a step, whilst it would afford me some redress for the injury inflicted on me, would be calculated to give the public in this neighbourhood more confidence in and respect for the Skibbereen bench.” The following is the Lord Chancellor's reply:—

“Secretary's Office, Four Courts, Dublin, Dec. 7, 1843.

“Sir,—I am directed to inform you that the Lord Chancellor has made an inquiry, and has had transmitted to him copies of the information before Messrs Fleming and Somerville, and their warrant of committal. He does not think that Mr O'Driscoll should have acted as a magistrate at all in his own case, but, under all the circumstances, he thinks it is not a case in which he is called upon to act. Mr O'Driscoll is, of course, liable to an action if he acted illegally towards you. I am, sir, your obedient servant,  
“Mr Daniel Dineen.” “Henry Sugden, Secretary.”

Of all the documents in connexion with the proceedings of the Irish magistracy which have emanated from the office of Sir Edward Sugden, the reply to Dineen's memorial cannot fail to be regarded as the most remarkable, and certainly the least satisfactory. It seems strange that an action at law should be indicated as the source of redress for injuries inflicted on a poor man whose circumstances effectually precluded him from such a proceeding.

Foreign news will be found rather abundant under its proper head. Spain seems on the eve of a mighty revulsion. The members of the existing government place no reliance upon the faith or quality of their own acts or their own principles. Armed with authority, they are ready to strike the blow against those who are disposed to manifest signs not of open attack, but of the slightest opposition. They intend to place immediately, all around the capital, an immense army to act as occasion may require. Nor is this display of military power accompanied by matters of another character. The system of dismissals is carried into full operation—dismissals on the part of those who, however long in possession of the posts which they respectively occupy, or with whatever zeal they may have been filled in furtherance of the general good,—those who are, in the least degree, suspected of entertaining Liberal opinions, or of sentiments in any way opposed to the party that has worked itself into authority, whether by fraud, misrepresentation, or deception of the worst and most ignoble character. Every political chief who happens to labour under ministerial imputation is visited with dismissal.

The speech of the King of the French possesses nothing of any particular importance. His Majesty was received with every demonstration of attachment from the people. The moment his Majesty appeared on the estrade, loud and prolonged cries of “Vive le Roi!” arose. He bowed repeatedly to the Chamber in acknowledgment of his affectionate reception, and on proceeding to take his seat, fresh bursts of acclamation were raised. The Duc de Nemours, in a general's uniform, took his seat on the right of the King, the Duke de Montpensier being next his brother. The Prince de Joinville sat on the left, and wore a naval uniform. The King, after a moment's pause, signified to the Chamber to be seated, and then read the speech, which will be found in another column.

The message of the President of the United States has likewise been received. The President recommends the establishment of military posts from the United States into Oregon, to protect emigrants, &c. In a few days notice of motion will be given in Congress in relation to the Oregon territory, that will go much further than the President's message. Although nothing is absolutely said in the way of recommending an annexation of Texas to the United States, yet the whole passage of the message in relation to Mexico and Texas is understood to have that tendency and meaning. The recommendation of the President to increase the army and to put the navy in a condition fit for actual service is known to point particularly to the possibility of some contingency of a hostile character with Mexico.

Accounts from India are not of that favourable character that could have been wished; there is, indeed, no cause for actual discouragement, but it is evident that shipments from England more than keep pace with the demands of the Indian population, and stocks of British goods were consequently accumulating.

## FOREIGN.

## FRANCE.

**OPENING OF THE FRENCH CHAMBERS.**—The opening of the French Chambers took place on Wednesday. No less than 20,000 troops were under arms. His Majesty left the Palace a little after half-past twelve, and reached the Chamber of Deputies at one o'clock precisely. The following is the speech:—

"Gentlemen of the Chamber of Peers and Deputies.

"The good harmony between the powers of the state, and the loyal support you have afforded to my government, have yielded their fruit. Amidst the order maintained without effort, and under the sway of the laws, France displays with confidence her fertile activity. The situation of all classes of citizens is improving and advancing. The effects of this prosperity will enable us to restore between the expenses and the revenue of the state, in the law of finance which will be shortly presented to you, a justly-desired equilibrium.

"We can enjoy with security these blessings of peace, for it never was better secured. Our relations with all powers are pacific and friendly.

"Serious events have occurred in Spain and in Greece. Queen Isabella II, summoned so young to the cares of state, is at this moment the object of all my solicitude and of my most affectionate interest. I hope that the issue of these events will be most favourable to two nations friendly to France, and that in Greece as well as in Spain monarchy will strengthen itself by the mutual respect for the rights of the throne and the public liberties. The sincere friendship which unites me to the Queen of Great Britain, and the cordial understanding existing between my government and hers, confirm me in that confidence.

"I have concluded with the King of Sardinia and the republics of the Equator and Venezuela treaties of commerce, and I am pursuing with other states in several parts of the world negotiations which, whilst maintaining our national labour in the security which it is entitled to, will open new paths to its intelligence and activity. I have the satisfaction of seeing the circle of my family enlarged by the marriage of my son the Prince de Joinville with the Princess Francesca, the sister of the Emperor of Brazil and of the Queen of Portugal. This union, by ensuring the happiness of my son, adds one consolation more to those which God has reserved to me.

"Our domination in Algeria will soon be universal and tranquil. Under the command of experienced leaders, among whom I am proud to reckon one of my sons, our brave soldiers unite with admirable constancy the fatigues of war and the labours of peace.

"The necessary measures for the execution of the general system of railroads, and for various enterprises of national utility, will be submitted to your deliberations. A bill relative to secondary instruction will satisfy the wish of the charter for the freedom of instruction by maintaining the authority and action of the state over public education.

"I behold, gentlemen, with deep gratitude to Providence, the state of honourable peace and of increasing prosperity which our country enjoys. Always guided by our devotedness and our fidelity to France, I and mine have never had any other ambition than that of serving her well. It is the assurance of accomplishing that duty which has given me strength through the trials of my life, and which will, to its end, be my consolation and my firmest support."

A circumstance has occurred at Paris which has excited great surprise. The Prince of Moskowa, the son of the renowned Marshal Ney, and the son-in-law of M. Lafitte, has resigned his commission in the French army. The Prince has been, for the last six years, a "chef d'escadron." Marshal Soubt appointed him a lieutenant-colonel, and presented the commission to the King for his Majesty's signature, but the King positively refused, and stated, as his reason, that the Prince, being in the opposition, had no right to expect favour; and the Prince immediately resigned his commission in the army.

The Prince belongs to the party of the Left Centre (Thiers' party), and he is on the most intimate terms of private friendship with M. Thiers. This circumstance has created an immense sensation among the party of the Left Centre, and is, no doubt, very impolitic at the present moment, as many of them had intimated their intention of supporting the Duke of Nemours' dotation.

A new candidate has appeared for the presidency in the person of M. Salvandy, who, moreover, claims ministerial support, and who pleads that his rivals, Sauzet and Dupin, are neither of them Conservatives sufficiently pure.

The question which will immediately occupy the chamber, is, without doubt, that raised by the journey of certain deputies to London; the government of July being the popular government, can well allow such demonstrations to go further than it would in other circumstances, but that it is necessary to make an example, to demonstrate the principle that oaths taken to a sovereign are not mere words of course.

The opposition are trying to bring forward again the question of the right of search, and say the ministry are mistaken if they think they have got rid of it. Questions respecting the *Marabout* will certainly be put in the chamber.

The French government has received a telegraphic despatch, stating a Madrid journal announces that M. Olozaga has left Madrid, and has taken refuge in Portugal, to avoid the prosecution of the government and of the attempts made against his life by assassins.

## SPAIN.

In the sitting of the 17th, the congress adopted, by a majority of 101 to 48, the proposition of a message to the Queen. This address, which has been so long an object of discussion, was to be presented to her Majesty by a committee of the congress, of which M. Martinez de la Rosa was appointed president. The *Heraldo* says that it has been arranged that M. Martinez de la Rosa shall be ambassador at Paris, and adds, that the appointment has been made at the special request of Louis Philippe, and that great advantages are expected from his acceptance of the appointment. The two new secretaries of the embassy are already on their way to Paris.

The cortes was not to meet on the 18th, but on the 19th. It was expected that the discussion of Olozaga's impeachment would not be proceeded with. Olozaga is still in concealment.

It is stated that in the answer of her Majesty to the long-discussed address from the congress, she will declare that, satisfied with that proof of the affection and loyalty of congress, and desirous of showing herself generous in regard to an offence which was without doubt an inconsiderate one, she will request that the accusation against M. Olozaga be not followed out.

The Madrid news of the 20th states, that none of the intended resolves, moves, and changes of the last days have taken place. Gonzales Bravo is still minister—Martinez de la Rosa is not yet ambassador. The Queen has not declared her will that the prosecution against Olozaga should

cease, as her own wish and that of all the leading Moderados dictate. Narvaez will not have it so.

It is rumoured that Olozaga had fled to Portugal. Letters received since confirm the intelligence, so far that it was thought certain he had left Madrid. Some said that he had gone to France, others to Portugal, while by some it was affirmed that he had merely gone to Logrono, the province which he represents in the cortes, with the view of securing his re-election. The general opinion, however, was, that he had fled to avoid the practices of his enemies.

Every post brings fresh proofs that at Madrid military force is the only law. Letters from the Spanish capital of the 21st state that on that day a band of military ruffians broke into the office of the *Eco del Comercio*, and having failed in discovering the editors, who were the real objects they wanted, they broke and destroyed everything they could lay their hands on, and brutally maltreated the compositors and other persons whom they found upon the premises. They then proceeded to another office, that of the *Sarantala*, where they in the same way destroyed everything, and were about to follow out their brutality at a third office, when they were fortunately stopped by the Political Chief of Madrid, with the assistance of the municipal authorities. All this is done, and goes unpunished! The government rather instigates than quells such demonstrations.

On the subject of the rumoured ministerial changes at Madrid, the *Gazette* (the government paper) of the 20th says, "we are authorised formally to contradict the reports which have been circulated some days, respecting a change or modification of the ministry. These reports have been inserted in some papers as deserving of credit. In order to prevent these reports from having a bad effect upon timorous minds, we are under the necessity of contradicting them; and we can assure the public that the present cabinet has the full confidence of her Majesty, and that there is not the slightest difference between them."

The *Phare des Pyrenees* states, that on the 19th an engagement took place between 500 of the insurgents of Figueras, who made a sortie, and the Queen's troops. A great number were killed on both sides. General Prim is getting tired of the present operations, and has been endeavouring to get the garrison to capitulate. For that purpose he has written to Madrid for better terms than those offered by General Sans. If his request be acceded to, he will remain at Figueras till the business is closed; if not, he will persist in his intention of going to Madrid.

## PORTUGAL.

A letter received from Lisbon of the 19th contains the minister's defence of the new financial projects, amounting to the usual plea of necessity. The same plea was made for having failed in concluding the treaty with England, and thereby relieved the wine interests of Portugal, "want of power" being his excuse. The law against the press is faithfully copied from the French law, or rather the interpretation of the Fieschi code, by which seditious libels are considered as *atentats*, and tried before a Court of Peers, not a jury. This, which the French chambers think of amending, the Portuguese meditate passing into a law. As M. Royer Collard protested against such a law in free France, Senhor Pinheiro (a man of analogous position and weight) protests in Portugal. But Costa Cabral must carry matters with a high hand, or perish.

## HOLLAND.

An extraordinary supplement of the 22nd instant, publishes the programme of the ceremonies of the funeral of his Majesty King William Frederick Count of Nassau. The body is to be interred in the new church at Delft.

In the evening sitting of the Second Chamber yesterday, the project of law fixing the budget of the marine department for 1844 and 1845 was adopted by a majority of 43 to 7.

In this morning's sitting, the address in answer to the King's message, announcing the death of his late Majesty King William Frederick, was adopted by a majority of 47 to 2. The two members who voted against it were Messrs Van Dam van Isset, and Corver Hooff.

## BELGIUM.

The Chamber of Representatives, in its sitting, after the presentation of several petitions, proceeded to the debate on the project of law for granting to the department of public works a provisional vote of credit for 2,002,524f., which was agreed to unanimously, by the fifty-nine members present, without a debate.

The chamber then continued the debate on the project of law relative to the excise duty on salt. Several amendments were proposed and adopted, and the law passed by a majority of 75 to 6.

The chamber resolved that the vacation should be till the 9th of January, and appointed the members of a deputation to compliment the King and Queen on New Year's-day.

Count de Baillet, treasurer of the bank at Antwerp, died suddenly in that city on the 22nd inst.

Letters from London say that General Espartero is preparing to leave that city, and, in fact, one of his aides-de-camp has arrived at Brussels, and is negotiating with the proprietor of one of our hotels.

## RUSSIA.

We have received from Moscow, from a good authority, the unexpected intelligence that the exportation of Russian articles on the Chinese frontiers has lately fallen to a sixth part of what it used to be. As there is no doubt of the fact, it must be presumed that the Chinese have obtained a sufficient supply of European goods from the English. Perhaps, under existing circumstances, Russia may be induced to allow the German transit trade, which was formerly so flourishing, it being well known that the Russian prohibitory system was chiefly founded on the apprehension that the Russian export trade to China might suffer by permitting the transit of German goods.—*Hamburg Borsenhalle*, Dec 23.—(From the *Mannheim Gazette*.)

## GREECE.

Mr Katakazy's recal is still the universal topic of conversation, and all the German and French papers we receive are filled with articles concerning it. They are all wrong, however, as to the supposition that M. Katakazy, or any other foreign minister, could have prevented the revolution, as every one of the Greeks were determined on getting rid of their Bavarian rulers; and the financial state of the government would not have allowed it to continue a long struggle had there been a shadow of opposition on the part of the few friends the government had. The most fortunate thing for Greece, and perhaps for the Bavarians themselves, was its beginning and ending in the capital, where the presence of the *corps diplomatique* would induce the chiefs to keep better order than they could have done perhaps in the provinces. The Greeks for a long time were afraid the powers would interfere on behalf of the King and his Bavarians, but the note of M. de Nesselrode, and the discussions in the Chamber of Deputies in France and the British Parliament, showed them that the powers had no greater reasons to be pleased than themselves with their government, and that they consequently had nothing to fear from them.

## UNITED STATES.

The President's message is a weak and ill-written document, inferior to most of its predecessors. With regard to Great Britain, the message is unsatisfactory, threatening—we may say presumptuous—in its tone; and if we did not know that Mr President Tyler is a weak, vain man, whose opinions on any subject are very little respected by the great body of his countrymen, at whose head he has been placed fortuitously, and not by their deliberate choice, we should be disposed to augur a marvellously-short duration for the settlement effected by Sir Robert Peel, through the agency of Lord Ashburton, which we were told to consider as full, complete, and final. We will briefly allude to the leading topics of the message, so far as they relate to this country.

After the usual congratulations on the prosperity of the country, and exhortations to thankfulness towards God for the manifold blessings bestowed upon it,—unaccompanied, by the way, from first to last, with any censure whatever on the repudiating states, or the most remote suggestion to them as to the propriety of showing their gratitude by the honest payment of their just debts,—the Message speaks of the treaty of Washington as having increased the good feeling with Great Britain, and then, by way of strengthening this understanding, proceeds to insist on the right of the United States to the whole of the Oregon territory now in dispute. Professing the utmost unwillingness to set up any unjust claim, it declares that the United States are quite as unwilling to "consent to a surrender of their rights;" and having settled, to their own satisfaction, that the entire territory belongs to them, the President cites the fact that certain "hardy adventurers" have already taken possession, as a reason for building forts and exercising other acts of ownership. Mr President Tyler's ultimatum is total surrender on the part of Great Britain. In this he is probably encouraged by the result of the Ashburton mission; and, judging from the past, he may be right in assuming that, in this as in the former instance, a bold demand on the part of America will be followed by full submission on the part of the administration which now sways the destinies of the British empire. If this should be the course determined upon, we would venture to suggest that the cession may be completed without the expensive farce of another special mission to Washington.

Other grounds of complaint against Great Britain are, the admission of rice from Africa at a penny per quarter duty, whilst that from America is charged 20s., which is said to be contrary to the treaty of 1815, and certain claims of American merchants still unadjusted.

The government of Mexico is roundly rebuked for having declared that it will meet the proposed annexation of Texas to the United States with a declaration of war. The President recommends congress to discuss the question as if such threat had no existence, and is evidently bent, at least, on interference to put an end to the war, being much moved by the consideration that "the war is calculated to weaken both parties, and finally to render them, and especially the weaker of the two, the subjects of interference on the part of stronger and more powerful nations, which, *intent only on advancing their own peculiar views*, may, sooner or later, attempt to bring about a compliance with terms, as the condition of their interference, *alike derogatory to the nation granting them, and detrimental to the interests of the United States.* WE COULD NOT BE EXPECTED QUIETLY TO PERMIT ANY SUCH INTERFERENCE TO OUR DISADVANTAGE." Here is a plain declaration that if Great Britain and Texas should enter into any treaty founded on the abolition of slavery in the latter country, the United States of America, so far as Mr President Tyler may be considered as expounding its determination, will not permit its execution.

## CANADA.

The Montreal papers are of the 2nd inst., and from Kingston of the 28th of November. The late ministers had announced their resignation, in form, to the Assembly, on the 27th, but deferred assigning their reasons to a future day. The lakes remained open, and there had consequently been no interruption to the navigation—a fortunate circumstance for the emigrants that were late in the season in arriving. The *Kingston Whig* says that the Governor-General had made the following appointments:—Hon. John Beverly Robinson, to be Deputy-Governor of the province, formerly Upper Canada; Hon. J. B. Macaulay and the Hon. J. Jones, to be members of her Majesty's Executive Council for the province of Canada.

## MISCELLANEA.

POPULATION OF THE PRINCIPAL CITIES OF THE UNITED STATES.—We copy the following table from the *American Almanac* for 1844; exhibiting the population of the principal cities of the States, every tenth year since 1790:—

	1790	1800	1810	1820	1830	1840
New York	33,131	60,489	96,373	123,706	203,007	312,710
Philadelphia*	42,520	70,287	96,664	108,116	167,118	258,037
Baltimore	13,503	26,614	46,555	62,738	80,625	134,379
New Orleans	...	...	17,242	27,176	46,310	102,193
Boston	18,038	24,927	32,250	43,298	61,392	93,383
Cincinnati	...	750	2,540	9,644	24,831	46,338
Brooklyn	...	3,298	4,402	7,175	12,042	36,233
Albany	3,498	5,349	9,356	12,630	24,238	33,721
Charleston	16,359	18,712	24,711	24,480	30,289	29,261
Washington	...	3,210	8,208	13,247	18,827	23,364
Providence	...	7,614	10,071	11,767	16,832	23,171
Louisville	...	...	1,357	4,012	10,352	21,210
Pittsburg	...	1,565	4,768	7,248	12,542	21,115
Lowell	...	...	...	...	6,474	20,796
Rochester	...	...	...	1,502	9,269	20,191
Richmond	...	5,537	9,735	12,046	16,060	20,153
Troy	...	...	3,885	5,264	11,401	19,334
Buffalo	...	...	1,508	2,095	8,653	18,213
Newark	...	...	...	6,507	10,953	17,290
St Louis	...	...	...	4,598	5,852	16,469
Portland	...	3,677	7,169	8,581	12,601	15,218
Salem	7,921	9,457	12,613	12,731	13,886	15,082

CHESS MATCH.—It may be interesting to our chess readers to learn that a return match has been agreed on between Mr Staunton and M. St Amant, and that the play will probably commence about the end of January.

—The French government are pushing their Atlantic steamers towards completion at a rapid rate, for the purpose of an early start in the spring. Four of them will be ready to leave Havre when the *Great Western* and *Great Britain* leave Liverpool. Eleven steam ships will, therefore, be employed in 1844, in running from Liverpool and Havre to New York.

\* Including the county.

CHRISTMAS FARE IN WHITERCROSS-STREET PRISON.—It is generally known that the debtors inmates of this prison receive an extra allowance of beef at Christmas time. A letter from one of the recipients complains of the quality of the meat, and hinting that the fault does not probably lie with the benevolent donors, but with the agents by means of whom their bounty is distributed.

LIVERPOOL THEATRE.—On Tuesday evening the Theatre Royal opened for the season, with *Madame Celeste* and Mr Webster as lessees.

THE LATE LORD LYNEDOC.—The remains of this venerable and gallant nobleman were removed at an early hour on Wednesday morning, from his lordship's late residence in Stratton street, for interment in the family vault at Methven, near Lynedoch, Perthshire.

CHATHAM.—An order has been received for the entry of one hundred labourers in the dockyard. This is one of the wholesome effects arising from the removal of the convict establishment—the substitution of free labour for that of convicts.—*Kentish Chronicle*.

—The Lords of the Admiralty are preparing, not only a new set of naval regulations and instructions, but also a general code of port orders, for which purpose a clerk from the Admiralty has recently visited each of the out ports, and examined into the local orders. It is intended to deliver a copy of the port orders to every captain immediately he has commissioned a ship, so that the difficulty at present experienced by a captain on first joining a ship, arising from his uncertain knowledge of his first act of duty, will be obviated, and officers be no longer called upon to copy 300 or 400 written general orders, of which, perhaps, not one-half are in force, or of any utility.—*United Service Gazette*.

—The underwriters at Lloyd's, through the directors of the Great Western Steam-ship Company, have presented Captain Hosken with a sum of 100*l.*, in testimony of their high opinion of his nautical skill in having successfully accomplished sixty-four passages to and from America.

—The will of the late Mr B. G. Hodges, the eminent distiller, of Church street, Lambeth, was proved last week, the probate being granted to his widow and executrix. The property is sworn under 160,000*l.*, and may be stated at full 150,000*l.*

—It is stated, in a letter from Berlin, that the Countess of Nassau-Oultremont intends to fix her residence at Rome, where one of her brothers is living. The remains of the late King William will be taken to Delft, and deposited in the vault of the church where those of several members of the House of Orange repose.

## COURTS OF LAW.

## COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH.

THE QUEEN v. PETER TOWNSHEND.—Mr Sergeant Talfourd (with whom was Mr Humphrey) stated that this was a prosecution against the defendant for wilful perjury. The jurors were probably aware that the Duke of Brunswick had been obliged to institute certain proceedings against the *Age* newspaper for libels published on him in that paper. In the course of those libels reference was made to a lady with whom the duke was acquainted, and whose name was wantonly and scandalously introduced into these libels. In taking proceedings against the *Age*, it was necessary to set forth the alleged libels, but the duke was naturally and properly anxious that the name of this lady should not be mentioned. Discussions ensued between him and Mr Vallance, who was then his attorney, as to this matter, and finally it was arranged that it should be referred to counsel, to know whether it was not possible to draw the affidavits without mentioning the lady's name. The counsel who were consulted answered this question in the negative, and the duke then consented that the libels should be fully set forth, on the understanding that the name should not be mentioned in court. The name was, accordingly, inserted, and the affidavit sworn at Mr Justice Patteson's house, and before that learned judge, who put his initials against each interlineation on the affidavit. The defendant was, at that time, in the service of Mr Vallance, the prosecutor of this indictment; but left him soon afterwards, and before long an application was made to this court to strike Mr Vallance off the Rolls, and the application was founded on and supported by the affidavit of the defendant, which was sworn before Mr Justice Williams, and which stated that the Duke of Brunswick had never consented to the introduction of the name of the lady, but had forbidden it to the last; that the affidavit had been sworn without her name, and that after it had been so sworn, Mr Vallance, knowing that the libel must be fully set out in the affidavit, or that the purpose for which it was made would be defeated, introduced the required alterations and forged the judges initials to them. This charge was, as would now be proved, wholly false, and it was for making it that the defendant was now indicted. The evidence would leave no doubt on the mind of the jury, who would have no hesitation in pronouncing a verdict of guilty. Several witnesses were then called who corroborated the facts stated by the learned counsel, and the jury returned a verdict of guilty. Lord Denman, in passing sentence, made use of the following remarks:—I think it is of the greatest possible importance, when such a case as this is proved to the entire satisfaction of the judge, who finds that the power of the court has been sought to be abused by the conduct of a defendant, that no doubt ought to be left on the public mind as to the impression which the case has created on the mind of the judge. There is not the smallest shadow of a defence in this case, there is not the least doubt as to any one step in the case, and there is not the least question as to the motives of all the parties concerned. The offence of which the defendant has been found guilty is one of the highest character against the administration of justice. In the absence of the defendant I shall abstain from commenting on his individual conduct in this case towards the prosecutor, further than to say that it does not afford any motive whatever to the court to take off, in the least degree, the amount of the punishment. It is of the very worst description. One cannot hear it without extreme indignation and sorrow. The sentence of the court is, that he be transported for the term of seven years.

HONESTY.—Many men there are, who for the world would not take a purse, yet who would steal what is of far greater value and importance. An instance has just reached us, where a firm of long standing, Messrs Rowland and Sons, has acquired a high reputation—a "good name," in short, for the value of those articles which they have discovered and prepared for the toilet. Learning the success which Messrs Rowlands had achieved, and the reputation which attached to their productions, other parties, by a new and despicable species of fraud, have concocted some trashy compounds, resembling those prepared by Messrs Rowlands, and by adopting the very same names, and closely copying the advertisements, coolly endeavour to pass off their trash as "true Macassar Oil," "real Ka'yulor," &c., though a glance at the signature, which is not that of Messrs Rowlands, at once convinces the purchaser that he is buying not the real production, but a spurious and trashy imitation. We forbear mentioning the names of parties, in the hope that the hint thus given will prevent a repetition of practices so injurious and unjust.

## POLICE.

**EMBEZZLEMENT.**—Yesterday, at Bow street, a respectable-looking young man, named *Thomas Wright*, was brought up charged with embezzling several sums of money, the property of his employer, Mr Richard Hockin Perker, haberdasher, Parliament street. The prisoner was shopman in the service of the prosecutor, and in that capacity had received several sums of money on account of his employer, which he never accounted for to him. Mr Perker said he had suffered very extensively by depredations of this description. The prisoner said nothing in his defence, and was remanded till next week.—Several persons against whom warrants had been issued at the instance of Mr Le Breton, the clerk to the parish of St Martin's, were brought up this morning, and ordered to find bail to answer the charge, at the next session, of keeping disorderly houses.

**Mr Barber and Mr Fletcher**, the parties in custody on a charge of forging the will of a Miss Anne Slack, were re-examined at the Mansion House, on Thursday, when another charge was produced against them by Mr Clarkson—that of having forged the will of a Mrs Mary Hunt, of Bristol, for the purpose of obtaining possession of certain stock belonging to the deceased. The evidence in support of the charge not being yet completed, the prisoners were again remanded.

**MONOMANIA.**—A young man, named *Armstrong*, was brought up at Clerkenwell office, charged with using threatening language in reference to the Queen. He had given himself up to the police fearing that he should be tempted to do her Majesty some violence. He appeared to be suffering from some mental delusion, and was therefore remanded for further inquiry.

**ROBBERY.**—At Clerkenwell, yesterday, *John Morgan* was charged with stealing a horse and van, and a quantity of oats and sacks, value 90*l.*, the property of Mr Neville, corn dealer, Chichester place, Gray's-inn road. The prisoner went to the shop of Mr Neville a fortnight ago, and stated that he was sent by Mr Taylor, of Southampton row, in whose employment he was, to purchase some oats, and that his master would deal with Mr Neville. Mr Neville's shopman treated the prisoner, and nine bushels of oats were ordered, which the prisoner and the cart set off with. The prisoner said the stables were in Gloucester street, Queen square, and that Mr Taylor lived in Southampton row. Accordingly, when they reached a large doorway in Gloucester street, the prisoner was left in charge of the cart, whilst the cart went round to Southampton row. No such person as Mr Taylor lived there, and when the cart returned the horse and van were gone. Mr Neville, however, recovered them the same day, but the oats, sacks, &c. he did not recover. The prisoner was fully committed for trial.

**IMPOSITION.**—Mr Harding, the eminent artist, appeared at Marlborough street office, on Thursday, to complain of an imposition to which the nobility and gentry of London and the watering places were subjected, by a woman calling herself *Mrs Harding*, who went about telling a lamentable story about her husband's house having been burned down and his drawings destroyed, by which they were reduced to a state of destitution. By these representations she had succeeded in many cases in levying contributions on the benevolent. Mr Harding stated that he had been subjected to great personal annoyance by the affair. The magistrate assured the applicant that if a clear case could be established against the woman, she was liable to transportation.

**STEALING TYPE.**—*James Messenger, John Benjamin Franklin, Joseph Sumners, and Elias Somers*, four lads, whose ages varied from 13 to 16, apprentices to Mr Forde, an extensive printer, in Beech street, Barbican, were charged, at Worship street, with stealing a quantity of type and other property belonging to their master, and *George Hubert*, a tobacconist, living in Shepherdess walk, Hoxton, was charged with receiving the same. They were all remanded.

## ACCIDENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

**HEROIC CONDUCT.**—On Saturday evening, between the hours of five and six o'clock, as the ship *John Willis*, a West Indianman, was being hauled through the East London Dock, the boatswain accidentally fell overboard, and, after struggling a short time in the water, disappeared. The cry of "A man overboard; the drags," was raised by a great many persons, and a labourer, named James Wilson, immediately after made his appearance and asked where the boatswain had gone down? The spot was pointed out by a Custom-house officer, and Wilson, without divesting himself of his hat or coat, leaped into the dock and dived down. In half a minute afterwards he appeared again on the surface holding the drowning boatswain by the collar and called for assistance. A rope was thrown to him by the people on the quay, to which he held on until a boat reached him, and both men were taken into it. The boatswain appeared quite insensible, and was immediately carried to the Dock-house, where the apparatus, always kept in readiness by the London Dock Company for the recovery of persons apparently drowned, was put in requisition. A surgeon was called in, and by the exertions made, the boatswain was resuscitated and conveyed to his home. After Wilson had taken the boatswain out of the water he ascertained that he had lost 18*s.*, his week's wages, out of his pocket, and observed, with much *sans froid*, "Well, this is a pretty go—no Christmas dinner for me this year, never mind;" and went home to dry his clothes. He is an old sailor, and is now in the employ of the Dock Company. About three months ago he plunged into the dock and saved another man from drowning, under similar circumstances; but he has never sought for or obtained any reward for his heroic conduct.

**ACCIDENT TO MR OSBALDISTON AND MISS VINCENT.**—Yesterday afternoon, shortly after two o'clock, Mr Osbaldiston's carriage, in which were that gentleman and Miss Vincent, started from the stage door of the Victoria Theatre. Before reaching the turnpike in the Waterloo road, the horses started off at a furious pace, the coachman in vain endeavouring to check their career. They passed through the Circus turnpike and by the Surrey Theatre, at the same fearful pace. A moment after, the near horse and two near wheels got on the pavement, and the near fore wheel was driven with great force against an iron post, throwing the coachman from the box into the road, by which two of his ribs were fractured, and he was otherwise bruised. Both the horses were thrown down, and it was found that one of the thighs of the near horse was so severely fractured, the side so much lacerated, besides other injuries, that it was deemed necessary to have the animal (a fine valuable one) instantly destroyed. Considerable damage was done to the carriage, but Miss Vincent and Mr Osbaldiston both fortunately escaped unhurt.

**ALARM OF FIRE AT THE PRINCESS'S THEATRE.**—On Wednesday evening, about eleven o'clock, just after the first act of the spectacle of the *Magic Mirror*, an alarm of fire was raised from the gallery. The stage-manager, Mr Walton, directly came forward, and, addressing the audience, asked them what occasioned their alarm? He was answered from all parts of the house by the cry of "Fire, fire," and the audience immediately commenced rushing out of the theatre. Mr Walton declared that he knew of no fire; but it was soon discovered that the water closet on the upper tier of boxes was in a blaze. The fire-brigade from Wells street, adjacent to the theatre, promptly attended, but the flames had been previously extinguished by the box keepers and other servants of the establishment. A portion of the audience returned to their seats on the danger being over, and the performances were continued. We are happy to state that no accident whatever occurred. The cause of the fire was the melting away of one of the gas pipes.

**DESTRUCTION BY FIRE OF THE GREAT SUGAR REFINERY OF MESSRS BRANCKER, LIVERPOOL.**—On Thursday morning, the great sugar refinery, belonging to Mr James Brancker, was totally destroyed by fire. It was one of the largest establishments of the kind in this or any other town, employing some hundreds of men. The fire first appeared about eight o'clock, and in a short time the extensive premises were entirely consumed. The worst feature of the catastrophe is the report as to the number of lives lost, varying from five to nine, who, it is feared have perished in their anxiety to save the property of their employers. All estimations of the value of the property are at present merely conjectural.

**EXTENSIVE FIRE IN THE COMMERCIAL ROAD.**—Wednesday morning, about half-past two, an extensive fire broke out upon the premises in the occupation of Mr T. Merrion, jeweller and watch-case maker, &c., 5 Waterloo place, Commercial road, near to Stepney toll-gate. The fire was discovered by the occupier, who was awakened from a sound sleep by a most suffocating smoke, which he found to proceed from the lower part of the building. In another instant the whole of the house was in flames, and he was obliged to escape almost in a state of nudity. There were no other persons in the house at the time, and by the assistance of a police constable, Mr Merrion was placed out of the reach of danger. Several engines speedily arrived, and the fire was extinguished by three o'clock. The occupier is insured.

**DESTRUCTION OF A MERCHANT SHIP BY FIRE.**—A large merchant ship was discovered to be on fire in the Waterloo Dock. She is called the *Meg of Melton*, and only arrived from Calcutta a few days since, laden with a valuable cargo of saltpetre, hemp, rice, &c. Her owner is Mr Sinclair. The fire seems to have originated from some cause or other not ascertained, but most probably from combustion. She lay at the time in the centre of the Waterloo Dock, surrounded by vessels on every side, and, in order to prevent additional damage was immediately towed into the lock. It was what might be called a smouldering fire, which all through sent forth dense volumes of smoke. There were no fewer than ten engines playing on it up to five o'clock, when, seeing that the smoke was thickening, it was resolved to scuttle the vessel. In about an hour after she had been scuttled the fire might be said to have been completely got under. The damage to vessel and cargo has been roughly estimated at from 10,000*l.* to 15,000*l.*

**FIRE.**—On Wednesday night, between the hours of nine and ten, a fire was discovered raging in the extensive premises belonging to Messrs Wilson and Co., hat manufacturers, Holland street, Blackfriars road. The fire, when first perceived, was raging in the basement floor. The police constable on the beat despatched a messenger to the various engine stations with intelligence of the outbreak, and during the interval the officer kept all the doors of the factory closed, which prevented the fire making that havoc it otherwise would. The West of England engine from the Waterloo-road station was the first to arrive, with the powerful fire corps and Mr Connorton. The Southwark-bridge-road brigade engine followed soon after, and also several more brigade engines, with Mr Superintendent Braidwood and the foreman of the district, Mr Henderson. After three-quarters of an hour of hard working on the part of the firemen, the conflagration, which at one time began to assume a very alarming aspect, was entirely extinguished. The origin of the fire could not be ascertained. Messrs Wilson are insured in the West of England Fire office.

**COAL PIT EXPLOSION.**—On Tuesday last, as soon as the colliers at Tonge lane coal-pits, Middleton, near Manchester, went to their work, an explosion of fire damp took place in one of the pits, and one of the miners named Roger Gregory was burnt in a shocking and dangerous manner. Several others were slightly hurt, but not dangerously.

**MORE INCENDIARISM.**—Information was on Wednesday received at Bow street, that on the night of the 20th inst. some evil-disposed persons wilfully and maliciously set fire to a stack of hay standing in a field called Morton's field, in Great Moor lane, on Stockport Great Moor, in the township of Stockport, the property of Mr Peter Oldham, farmer. A reward of 5*l.* has been offered for the apprehension of the incendiaries.—On the night of the 18th inst. some evil-disposed persons set fire to a rick of hay, which stood on the farm of Mr J. B. Malins, at Pollicott, in the parish of Ashendon, in the county of Bucks, and the whole was destroyed. A reward of 20*l.* has been offered for the apprehension of the incendiaries by the overseers of Pollicott.

**LORD WILLIAM PAGET v. LORD CARDIGAN.**—In reference to this case, the trial of which, in the Court of Common Pleas, was so unexpectedly put a stop to, several letters have been, by both parties, published. Lord Cardigan, in answer to one from Lord W. Paget, couched in terms of bitter vituperation, says:—"I give the most unqualified denial to the accusation of having 'bought or sent out of the way' the man named Winter, and declare most solemnly that I have neither directly nor indirectly had, or authorized, or sanctioned, any communication whatever with any of his witnesses, or been in any manner privy to, or cognizant of, any attempt to buy or put out of the way any one of them, or to prevent the most searching inquiry being made into the whole charge Lord William Paget thought fit to bring against me, which I was fully prepared to meet and to show was altogether without foundation." Lord Cardigan adds that it is his intention to take legal proceedings against Lord William Paget for the publication of the letter alluded to. Messrs Powell, Broderip, and Wilde, desire, as the solicitors for Lord Cardigan, "to give the same unqualified contradiction to the accusation," which they state they can prove to be false.

**MELANCHOLY SUICIDE OF A MERCHANT.**—An inquest was held on Tuesday, before Mr G. J. Mills, deputy coroner, at No. 27 Sussex street, New road, on the body of Mr Mark Anthony Harris, aged 47, until lately carrying on business as a merchant in the city.—Mrs Mary Dickey said she was the landlady of the house, and that the deceased, who was a widower, had occupied apartments there for the last two years. He carried on business until lately as a merchant in the city. About a quarter past two o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, the deceased not having made his

appearance as usual to breakfast, she went up to his bed room, the door of which she found unlocked. On entering she discovered that he was lying on his side, quite dead. She raised an alarm, and, on Mr Dickey coming up stairs, he found the phial now produced, with the cork out, lying in the bed close to the deceased's left hand; it had a label on it, bearing the words, "Prussic Acid—Poison."—The deputy coroner here inquired if the witness knew the deceased's handwriting, and she having replied in the affirmative, Mr Mills handed to her a letter, which she identified as the one found on the table in the deceased's room. It was as follows:—"Christmas-day, 1843.—There is no hope—no more—Oh, God forgive me, I am in despair. What will become of my dear children? God will protect them—I cannot; but the unfortunate father can only bless them.—M. A. H." She had heard him once or twice say "That he should be happy if he were in his grave, for he should then be free from trouble."—After some further evidence, Mr H. Hancock said the deceased was his brother-in-law. He resided at Newport street and at Wandsworth. The last time he saw deceased was about a fortnight ago, when he met him in Lisie street, Leicester square. He seemed dreadfully dejected, and spoke about his children, who had been at a boarding school at Gravesend, but who, in consequence of deceased's inability to pay for their staying there longer, had been brought up to London, and left at witness's door.—The room was cleared, and after some discussion the jury returned a verdict—"That the deceased was found dead in bed, and that he destroyed himself by taking poison, being at the time in a state of unsound mind."

**DISTRESSING SUICIDE.**—On Saturday evening an old woman, about sixty years of age, leaped from the bridge at Pimlico into the Grosvenor canal. She was soon after got out by a man of the name of Cawan, but she was dead. The body has not yet been owned. She was very badly clad.

COMMERCIAL MARKETS.

FRIDAY EVENING.

**METALS.**—For most descriptions the demand has become very slack. Tin forms the only exception; the French and Dutch markets having experienced a further rise, there have been purchases made in ours of Bancas at 65s. to 66s., and good Straits at 62s. to 63s. Lead maintains its value at 17l. 10s. for best pig. Iron depressed, and the best quality of common sized bars can be shipped in Wales at 4l. Copper declining, tough cake obtainable at 85l. Spelter offering at 22l. 5s. to 22l. without buyers.

**INDIGO.**—The transactions in this article, which we indicated in our last number, have been of somewhat greater magnitude than stated. At the close of the last week, and in the course of this, nearly a thousand chests have been forced upon the market by the unfortunate speculators of November, 1842, and disposed of at rates which leave a loss of about 2s. per lb., or 25 to 30 per cent. The exact present prices at which these parcels have been sold have not transpired, but we have reason to suppose that they are about 1s. per lb. under the average of the last October sales.

For the next quarterly sales, which commence on the 16th January, 6,330 chests have been declared; and it is said that little more will be added to the present quantity. The assortments consist of about one-third shippers, none of them fine, but only middling and ordinary, and two-thirds low sorts, of all descriptions, suitable for the home trade. It is presumed that the prices will be about 6d. for the former, and nearly 1s. per lb. lower than the last quarterly sales in October. If so indigo will be cheaper than at any time since January, 1831, and July, 1832.

**COCHINEAL** continues in some demand, at firm prices. The markets having been closed for most descriptions of colonial goods during this week, no transactions are to report in other articles.

FOREIGN.

From the continent of Europe the letters received this week report an almost entire cessation of business transactions, on account of the Christmas holidays. At Hamburg there was some demand for barley for England, and some sales of spelter had been made for spring delivery at lower prices. At Havre the purchases of cotton had been but trifling, at barely maintained quotations. Sugar in brisk demand at full prices, and stock reducing. A sale of 180 chests of indigo was reported, price not suffered to transpire, but thought to be lower again.

From New York letters, price currents, and newspapers have been received up to the 7th of December, the latter containing the President's speech at the opening of Congress. This document does not contain much that is novel or important upon financial or mercantile subjects. The tariff is commended, but in somewhat ambiguous terms, not using any decisive language as to its continuance. The state of the country is said to be in a progress of improvement; in the meantime no mention is made of state debts, and one yearly deficit of revenue appears to be accumulating the other. A further and permanent issue of government paper, independent from banks, is strongly recommended, and held out as the panacea to cure all remaining evils.

The commercial advices are sanguine as to the internal commerce of the country when under the fostering protection of the tariff. Manufactures are springing up where they were not thought of before. Stocks of every description were buoyant. The favourable accounts from Europe had stimulated the cotton markets of the Union, and large purchases had been made at prices which at the present Liverpool rates would have a loss of about 1/2d. per lb. There had been received from the interior in all the ports 335,097 bales against 424,667 bales in 1842, and 292,425 bales in 1841. Shipments, 118,642 bales against 184,809 bales in 1842; and 132,346 bales in 1841. At New York coffee was in better demand, influenced in some measure by the belief that a duty would be imposed. Sugar but little inquired for, and rather depressed, though the stock was light. Prices of flour and wheat upon the advance; some purchases of the former made for Liverpool at 4 dollars 62 cents.

The accounts from the United States respecting the cotton crop hold out the prospect of a quantity not exceeding 1,800,000 bales.

The India Extra Mail, which arrived on Tuesday, brings letters from Calcutta up to the 19th of November. The steamer having gone direct from Bengal to Suez, there are no letters from Bombay and that neighbourhood. The purchases of British manufactured goods in the Calcutta market were large, and mostly at remunerating prices. Metals remained depressed. Shipments of produce were making to Europe upon an extensive scale. Of sugar the supply was rather short. Money was plentiful and easy. Exchange upon London for mercantile paper 1s. 11 1/2d. to 2s. Freights advancing. The accounts latterly received at Calcutta from China, up to October, were considered favourable. The demand for manufactured goods was on the increase, and the want of proper arrangements for carrying on the trade which formerly formed an object of considerable complaint, has been in a great degree remedied.

By a return received from Singapore, it appears that the trade of that island, for the year 1842, amounted to no less than 5,500,000l.

PRICES CURRENT, DEC. 29, 1843.

ENGLISH FUNDS.	PRICES THIS DAY.	FOREIGN FUNDS.	PRICES THIS DAY.
Bank Stock	183 1/2	Austrian, 5 per cent.	—
3 per Cent. Red	97 1/2	Belgian, 5 per cent.	—
3 per Cent. Consols	—	Brazilian Bonds	—
3 1/2 per Cent. Red	102 1/2	Buenos Ayres, 6 per cent.	—
New 3 1/2 per cent.	—	Chilian, 6 per cent.	—
New 5 per Cent.	—	Columbian, 6 per cent.	—
Long Annuities to expire	—	Cuba Bonds, 6 per cent.	—
January, 1860	12 11-16	Danish, 3 per cent.	—
October, 1859	12 9-16	Greek, 1825, 5 per cent.	—
January, 1860	—	Mexican, 5 per cent.	31 1/2
India Stock	—	Ditto, 6 per cent., 1837	—
Ditto Bonds	77	Peruvian, 1825, 6 per cent.	—
Ditto Old Annuities	—	Portuguese 5 per cent.	—
Ditto New Annuities	—	Ditto, New, do.	—
Exchequer Bills, 1,000l. 1/4	64	Prussian, 5 per cent.	—
Ditto 500l.	64	Russian, 5 per cent.	117
Ditto Small	64	Spanish, 5 per cent.	21 1/2
Bank Stock for Account	184 1/2	Ditto, 3 per cent.	31 1/2
India Stock for Account	—	French, 3 per cent.	—
Consols for Opg.	96 1/2	Ditto 3 per cent.	—
		Dutch, 2 1/2 per cent.	56
		Ditto, 5 per cent.	99 1/2

CORN MARKETS.

(From Messrs Gillies and Horn's Circular.)

**CORN EXCHANGE, MONDAY, DEC. 25.**—Monday last being Christmas-day, we had no market. The weather continues extremely mild, and though we have no rain, it is damp, and the condition of the corn rough and soft. The arrivals since Monday week are pretty large of all kinds of grain, but in other years we have so frequently had a glut of supplies at this season, that the present show of samples is greatly under an average. Wheat sells to the millers at the same prices as last week. Barley is taken off as it arrives at fully as much money. Oats are firm. No alteration in Beans. White Peas are 1s. lower. No change in Flour.

BRITISH.	PER QR.	FOREIGN AND COLONIAL.	PER QR.
Wheat, Essex, Kent, Suff. &k, white	54s to 60s	Wheat, White Spanish, Tuscan	60s
Lothian, Fife, Angus, do.	56s to 59s	High mixed Danzig	61s to 64s
Inverness, Murray, &c.	50s to 56s	Mixed do.	58s to 61s
Essex, Kent, Suff. &k, red	50s to 55s	Roussel, new	58s to 61s
Cambridge, Lincoln, red	50s to 53s	Red Hamburg	48s to 60s
Barley, English Malt, and Chevalier	21s to 37s	Polish Odessa	50s
Distiller's, English & Scotch	30s to 35s	Hard	50s
Coarse for grinding, &c.	— to 29s	Egyptian	25s to 37s
Oats, Northumberland & Berwick	30s to 35s	Barley, Malt, &c.	—
Lothian, Fife, Angus	29s to 35s	Distiller's, &c.	— to 33s
Murray, Ross	29s to 35s	Grinding, &c.	— to —
Aberdeen and Banff	19s to 23s	Oats, Brew, &c.	— to —
Caithness	19s to 23s	Polands, &c.	— to —
Cambridge, Lincoln, &c.	19s to 23s	Feed, &c.	19s to —
Irish	17s to 19s	Do, dried, Riga, &c.	19s to 21s
English, black	18s to 21s	Rye, Dried	—
Irish	17s to 21s	Undried	—
Potato, Scotch	22s to 26s	Beans, Horse	34s to 38s
Irish	19s to 22s	Mediterranean	26s to 29s
Poland, Lincoln, &c.	21s to 24s	Peas, White	35s to —
Beans, Ticks	30s to 32s	Yellow	36s to —
Harrow	32s to 37s	Flour, French, per 280 lbs. nett weight	—
Small	33s to 38s	American, per Bar. 120 lbs. nett weight	—
Peas, White	35s to 36s	Danzig, &c., do. do.	30s to 32s
Boilers	37s to —	Canada, do. do.	—
Flour, Town-made Households	50s to 54s	Sour, do. do.	—
Norfolk and Suffolk	38s to 40s		

**CORN EXCHANGE, FRIDAY, DEC. 29.**—The weather continues mild, but not quite so damp as it was. The wind is south-west. The arrivals short of everything, but a good many Irish Oats are supposed to be near at hand. Notwithstanding the supplies of both wheat and flour have been very large since harvest, and the condition of all very soft, prices are firm. The supplies of barley since harvest have been so much shorter than usual that prices are about eight shillings higher than this time last year, when the panic about the then recently passed present corn law made our farmers throw away their barley. To-day the market is firm, best malting samples make 37s. per quarter, and in the country we believe 38s. has been given. Oats sell to needy buyers at a shade over last week's prices, and unless we get increased supplies we may look for a further advance. Beans are firm. Peas continue dull. No change in flour.

LONDON AVERAGES. For the week ending December 29.

Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
3,780 qrs.	4,381 qrs.	18,253 qrs.	84 qrs.	1,175 qrs.	1,022 qrs.
51s. 8d.	32s. 5d.	19s. 5d.	31s. 1d.	29s. 5d.	32s. 5d.

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Weeks ending	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
Nov. 23rd	51 7	32 4	18 11	30 5	29 4	34 0
— 30th	51 0	32 1	19 0	30 8	29 4	33 7
Dec. 7th	51 1	31 8	19 0	30 7	31 10	33 6
— 14th	51 0	31 8	18 8	30 1	32 0	33 0
— 21th	51 9	32 0	18 6	30 0	31 6	32 4
— 28th	50 3	32 2	18 7	29 9	30 10	30 10
Aggregate of the six weeks	50 11	32 0	18 9	30 3	31 10	32 10

Duties till Jan. 3rd inclu.	On Grain from B. Possession out of Europe
20 0	5 0
6 0	0 6
8 0	2 0
10 6	2 6
10 6	1 6
10 6	1 0

Flour—Foreign, 12s. 6d. per 190 lbs.—British Possession, 3s. 6d. ditto.

SMITHFIELD MARKET.

**MONDAY.**—This being Christmas-day, the market closed at the early hour of 12 o'clock. The supplies were rather small, even for the time of year, and being a good description, generally met with a brisk sale at better prices.

**FRIDAY.**—Our market was, on the whole, well supplied with beasts as to numbers, but a great deficiency was observed in quality. The attendance of buyers being small, the beef trade was very dull, at barely Monday's quotations. Although the numbers of sheep were seasonably large, the sale for them was comparatively steady, at full prices. The supply of calves was good; yet, the demand was active, and the prime qualities advanced 2d. per 8 lbs. In pigs, a steady business was doing, on full as good terms as of late. Milch cows moved off slowly, at from 16l. to 19l. 5s. each.

Prices per Stone.		At Market.	
Monday.	Friday.	Monday.	Friday.
Beef 3s 0d to 4s 4d	2s 10d to 4s 0d	Beasts	1,041
Mutton 3s 2d to 4s 4d	3s 4d to 4s 8d	Calves	18
Veal 4s 4d to 5s 2d	3s 4d to 4s 6d	Sheep	8,900
Pork 3s 10d to 4s 8d	3s 4d to 4s 8d	Pigs	150

Prices of Hay and Straw, per load of 36 trusses.  
Hay, 2l. 15s. 0d. to 3l. 10s. 0d. | Clover, 3l. 10s. 0d. to 5l. 0s. 0d. | Straw, 1l. 4s. 0d. to 1l. 10s. 0d.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET.

This market continues in a very healthy state, and prices are still looking upwards. Scarcely any Sussex Hops can now be had under 6l. per cwt. There are now fewer Hops on offer than at many previous corresponding periods of the year. —Wald of Kent pockets, 6l. to 6l. 12s.; Mid. Kent ditto, 6l. 15s. to 9l. 10s.; East Kent, ditto, 7l. to 9l.; Choice, ditto, 10l. to 11l. 11s.; Sussex, ditto, 5l. 12s. to 6l. 10s.; Farnhams, 8l. 15s. to 11l. 15s.; Mid Kent bags, 6l. 15s. to 8l. 10s.

THE GAZETTE.

Tuesday, December 20.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

J. Bosworth and R. Parr, Leicester, drapers.—G. Williams and J. Henderson, Margaret street, Cavendish square, milliners.—Mather and Moore, Hayfield, Derbyshire, and Manchester, calico printers.—A. Preston and Co., Salford, Lancashire, wholesale brewers.—D. Reed and P. Blamey, Sibley, Cornwall, woolstaplers.—H. Wartyauy, C. E. Dampier, and R. A. Westbrook, Ware, Hertfordshire, attornies (as regards C. E. Dampier).—Weatherley and Davis, Ferdinand street, Camden town, trimming manufacturers.—E. Paget and G. W. Reynolds, Bury street, St. James's, bookellers.—Biden, F. M. Fricker, and G. W. Southampton, drapers.—Chase and Whites, Norwich, wine merchants.—W. Hanigan and W. Walker, Hammersmith, schoolmasters.—E. Bryant and A. C. Fenouillet, Wellington road, Regent's park, surgeons.—R. Parkinson and Co., Lancaster, stonemasons.—Lyette and Coston, Manchester and Prestwich, calico printers.—E. Paine and S. Verrall, Cliffe, near Lewes, Sussex, tea dealers.—G. Hawkins and R. J. Chaplin, Beech street, Barbican, pawnbrokers.—Bell, Hyslop, and Co., Leighton Buzzard, drapers.—Machin and Sons, Weatherby, Yorkshire, cutlers.—J. W. and L. F. Tatham, Barnstaple, chemists.—Roberts and Dummilow, Parker's row, Bermondsey, wheelwrights.—Capel, Cuerton, and Cundy, Pope's head alley, stock brokers.—Webster and Horton, Worcester, rope manufacturers.—Rodger and Gregg, Greenock, cloth merchants.

BANKRUPTS.

WELLS, A., Wickford, Essex, surgeon. [Lambert, Raymond buildings, Gray's inn. DOBSON, J., Old Gravel lane, Ratcliff highway, ship carpenter. [Hughes, Kearsey, and Masterman, Bucklersbury. HANCOCK, T., Canterbury, coachsmith. [Richardson and Talbot, Bedford row. CHAMBERLAIN, W., Peckham, linen draper. [Sole, Aldermanbury. MORRIS, T., Badajos cottages, and Salamanca place, Hertford road, and Mortimer road, De Beauvoir square, Hackney, builder. [Trott, Crown court, Threadneedle street. THOMPSON, R., Strood, Kent, draper. [Cattlin, Ely place, Holborn. WEBB, C., Oxford, apothecary. [Cook and Sanders, New inn. BERKELEY, W., Narrow street, Limehouse, coal merchant. [Jordeson, St. Mary-at-hill. HOLDEN, J., Mornington crescent, Hampstead road, builder. [Jones, Church court. EVERSHEDE, R., Pulborough, Sussex, timber merchant. [Hill and Heald, Throgmorton street. JENKINS, J., Symond's street, Chelsea, cowkeeper. [Dickinson, St. Martin's place, Charing cross. HICKINBOTTON, G., Burbage, Leicestershire, baker. [Jarvis, Hincley. NEWTON, J., Wolverhampton, locksmith. [Smallwood, Birmingham. HALL, M., Stoke Golding, Leicestershire, farmer. [Jarvis, Hincley. CORNISH, J., Bridport, Dorsetshire, painter and glazier. [Biacé, Surrey street, Strand. PRINGLE, W., Morpeth, Northumberland, carrier. [Cox and Stone, Poultry.

INSOLVENTS (PETITIONERS).

W. Fuller, Cotton street, Poplar, coal merchant.—J. Sugden, Calverley, Yorkshire, clothier.—J. Midgley, Barnsley, Yorkshire, tailor.—J. Tempest, Kilnwick, Yorkshire, joiner.—H. Scott, Woodhouse, Yorkshire, farmer.—W. Gamble, Manchester, omnibus driver.—W. Watkins, Cumberland new north, Bryanston square hackneyman.—T. Lewis, Manchester, butcher.—R. D. Browne, Exeter, out of business.—T. Laycock, Whalley, Lancashire, weaver.—W. Boardman, otherwise W. Matley, Mottram in Longendale, Cheshire, bookkeeper.—J. A. Woolman, Little Clacton, Essex, farmer.—J. Dolan, Liverpool, licensed victualler.—H. Harrison, East street, Walworth, coffee shop keeper.—W. Giles, Cheltenham, baker.—J. Eyars, Hounslow, saddler.—G. Bogue, Robert street, Chelsea, teacher.—T. Lamplin, Newark-upon-Trent, commercial traveller.—J. Spence, Page street, Westminster, paver.—J. Vensibles, Gower mews, Bedford square, gentleman's coachman.—J. Showsmith, Ilkey, Yorkshire, shoemaker.—J. Horrocks, Bolton, tea dealer.—H. Barrow, Thorne, Yorkshire, farrier.—R. Burnett, Shanton, Durham, ticket clerk.—N. Donnithorne, Tregoney, out of employment.—W. Jameson, Great Marylebone street, chirapodist.—W. Cromwell, Bradford, Yorkshire, flour dealer.—J. Brinkworth, Chippendale, baker.—W. M. Whirter, Leeds, guard on a railway.—D. Pryde, Birkenhead, Cheshire, joiner.—T. Moxton, Shrewsbury, draper's assistant.—S. Akehurst, jun., Brighton, out of business.—G. Danvers, Beaumont square, Stepney, coal merchant.—W. Roberts, Gloucestershire, farmer.—G. P. Hunter, Bristol, grocer.—W. T. Male, otherwise F. Male, Aston, Warwickshire, bookbinder.—W. C. Newport, Little Mount street, Newington, attorney's clerk.—F. T. Welch, otherwise F. Welch, Dean street, Soho.—G. Woolley, Trinity court, Aldersgate, guard to a luggage van.—W. Fawcner, Kildminster, furniture dealer.—W. Pedley, Claremont place, Pentonville, dealer in bottled beer.

T. W. Outhwaite, Susannah row, Curtain road, cabinet maker.—R. Burge, Lamb's Conduit passage, cabinet maker.—G. Priest, Misterton, Nottinghamshire, joiner.—S. Miles, Cadoxton, juxta-Barry, Glamorganshire, grocer.—A. Mayor, Liverpool, draper.—J. Hayes, Manchester, assistant to a keeper of a theatrical booth.—J. Holmes, Sheffield, scissor manufacturer.—H. Holt, Huddersfield, cloth drawer.—G. Tyler, Cheltenham, cellarman.—J. Burrow, Chard, Somersetshire, farmer.—T. Sykes, Almondbury, Yorkshire, out of business.—J. Wych, Chesdale, Cheshire, publican.—J. Heathorn, Ripley, Surrey, baker.—W. F. Waller, Great Carter lane, fruiterer.

DECLARATION OF DIVIDENDS.

Jan. 19, E. Miles, Bridge-house place, Newington causeway, saddlers' ironmonger.—Jan. 19, T. Nutter, Paul street, Finsbury square, brewer.—Jan. 19, J. Scott, Brick-hill lane, Upper Thames street, merchant.—Jan. 19, W. Mayhew, Crutechfields and Camberwell, wine merchant.—Jan. 19, K. F. H. M'Kenzie, King's Arms yard, Coleman street, merchant.—Jan. 16, G. F. Widnall, Edgware road, stationer.—Jan. 16, E. H. Foster, Hathers, Leicestershire, tanner.—Jan. 16, W. Grayling, jun., Wapping, tallow chandler.—Jan. 16, N. W. Corp, Yarmouth, merchant.—Jan. 16, C. Hawkins, Tottenham-court road, draper.—Feb. 2, W. Scott, Dewsbury, Yorkshire, blanket manufacturer.—Feb. 11, J. Ellis, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, brush maker.—Jan. 18, J. Swan, Fleetwood-on-Wyre, bricklayer.—Jan. 16, J. Herring, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, merchant.—Jan. 18, I. Bell, South Shields, drapers.—Jan. 18, J. Harrington and W. Pattinson, Woodbank, Cumberland, calico printers.—Jan. 18, R. Ainsworth, Warrington and Manchester, cotton spinner.

CERTIFICATES.

Jan. 16, J. G. Poett, University street, St. Pancras, surgeon.—Jan. 16, G. T. Whittington, Great St. Helen's, merchant.—Jan. 16, J. Pierce, Dean street, Soho, licensed victualler.—Jan. 16, J. Cowherd, Kendal, miller.—Jan. 18, T. Bourne, Liverpool, corn factor.—Jan. 19, R. Youd and W. Rennards, Liverpool, cheese factors.—Jan. 18, J. Porter, Nantwich, tailor.—Jan. 31, F. Messenger, Liverpool, corn merchant.—Jan. 29, T. Fisher, Selby, linen draper.—Jan. 18, T. and W. Withell, Padstow, Cornwall, ship builders.—Jan. 22, G. Wheldon, Dudley, clothier.—Jan. 22, G. Drury, Dudley, licensed victualler.—Jan. 22, J. Bate, Dudley, ironmonger.

CERTIFICATES, JANUARY 16, 1844.

R. Kay, Halton, Yorkshire, grocer.—J. Ridgway, Manchester, merchant.—J. Anderson, Manchester and elsewhere, calico printer.—J. Vincent, Edmonton, bookseller.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

J. Jamieson, Greenock, surgeon.—J. Martin, Dundee, manufacturer.—W. Wilson, Dundee, merchant.—D. Swan, Edinburgh, underwriter.

Friday, December 29.

BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSEDED.

PHILLIPS, J., Pinner's-hall court, City, tailor. COLLINS, D., Bennett's place, Bethnal green, machine maker.

BANKRUPTS.

VINE, T. W., Peerless row, builder. [Watson and Broughton, Falcon square. CARTER, W. C., Ashford, Kent, druggist. [Manning, Craven street, Strand. WOLLAND, J., and WOLLAND, W., Exeter, turners. [Keddell, Baker, and Grant, Lime street, London. POWELL, C., Covent garden, watch manufacturer. [Royle, Coventry. COOK, S., Dudley, draper. [Bourn and Wainwright, Dudley. REDSHAW, T., Bourn, Lincolnshire, saddler. [Gem, Son, and Docker, Birmingham. PUGHE, E., Everton, Lancashire, tailor. [Chester, Toulmin, and Chester, Staple inn, London. THOMPSON, W., Newcastle-upon-Tyne, merchant. [Shield and Co., Queen street, Cheapside, London.

INSOLVENTS (PETITIONERS).

W. Lawson, Oldham, cabinet maker.—J. Mort, jun., Little Bolton, Lancashire, grocer.—J. Butcher, Withnell, Lancashire, shopman.—I. Olton, Hansacre, Staffordshire, brickmaker.—P. Lane, Kenington, boarding-house keeper.—J. Hallam, Skipton, Yorkshire, piece maker.—T. Pycoc, Atterby, Lincolnshire, farmer.—J. Cox, Capel St Mary's, Suffolk, shopman.—G. Platts, Sheffield, ironmonger.—W. Jeffs, Bristol, out of business.—L. Gompertz, Upper Kennington green, Lambeth.—G. Lea, Syston, Leicestershire, brush maker.—W. Hancock, North Curry, Somersetshire, attorney.—W. White, Shaftesbury, Dorsetshire, carpenter.—J. Hardy, Eiland, Yorkshire, beer-seller.—C. A. M. Count de Wuits, Wellington road, Regent's park.—S. Heilbut, High street, Shadwell, hardware dealer.—B. B. Beams, Bath place, Brook street, Lambeth, clerk.—F. Halford, Mount Tabor, Yorkshire, stone dealer.—J. Petherick, Ragland, Yorkshire, boot maker.—H. Setchell, Buckden, Huntingdonshire, butcher.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN. M. JULLIEN'S CONCERTS.

M. JULLIEN begs to return his most sincere and grateful thanks for the continuation of the patronage and support still extended to his Concerts, and to assure his kind friends and patrons that the extraordinary success he has met with since entering on his present great undertaking will only prove a stimulus to further and more strenuous exertion.

The NEW DECORATION and general arrangement of the Theatre have given universal satisfaction, and present a coup-d'oeil at once novel and splendid.

On MONDAY, JANUARY 1st, 1844,

will be performed for the first time, an entirely NEW QUADRILLE, composed expressly for the Christmas Holidays, entitled the TOY QUADRILLE, with numerous novel effects.

MASTER THIRLWELL,

(only Eleven years of age), who created such an extraordinary sensation on Friday last, will make his second appearance.

HERR KENIG

will perform an Air with Variation on the Cornet a Pistons.

Solo, Flute, Mr RICHARDSON.

Grand Fantasia from Donizetti's Opera of "Lucia di Lammermoor," with Solos (First Time), &c. &c. &c.

Doors open at Half-past Seven; commences at Eight o'Clock.

PRICES OF ADMISSION.

Table with 2 columns: Description of seats and Price. Private Boxes, to hold Six Persons - 1 1 0; Dress Circle, with the privilege of passing to and from the Promenade - 1 0 0; First Circle of Boxes - 0 1 0; Second Circle of Boxes - 0 0 0; First Gallery - 0 0 0; Promenade - 0 0 0.

The First and Second Circles of Boxes communicate with the Promenade, and as those portions of the Theatre have sittings for an immense number of Persons, visitors who may during the evening wish for seats will find accommodation without extra charge.

\* Tickets to be obtained of Mr Reilly, Box office of the Theatre; of Mr Mitchell, Old Bond street; Mr Andrews, New Bond street; Mr Sims, St. James's street; and at Mons. Jullien's office, 3 Maddox street, Bond street.

FRAMPTON'S PILL of HEALTH

Effectually relieves the stomach and bowels by gentle relaxation, without griping or prostration of strength. They remove head-ache, sickness, dizziness, pains in the chest, &c.; are highly grateful to the stomach, promote digestion, create appetite, relieve languor and depression of spirits, while to those of a full habit and free livers, who are continually suffering from drowsiness, heaviness, and singing in the head and ears, they offer advantages that will not fail to be appreciated. Sold by Prout, 229 Strand, London, price 1s. 1ld. per box; and by most Medicine Vendors in the Kingdom.

WESTERN LITERARY INSTITUTION, LEICESTER SQUARE.

(Entrance to the Theatre from Prince's street.)

On Wednesday, January 3rd, and Monday, January 5th, at eight o'clock in the evening, "Two Hours of Pleasure," exemplified in a conversation on Music and Literature, by Mr WILLIAM GARDNER, the Popular Writer and Lecturer. Illustrated by Miss WOLFE, late of the Theatre Royal, Drury lane; Mr CHARLES SLOMAN, the only English Improvisatore, Author of the 'Maid of Judah,' 'Daughter of Israel,' &c. &c.; Mr C. A. BANNISTER, late of the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden; and Mr CHARLES SOLOMON, Author of 'Hebrew Melodies,' &c.

In the course of the Illustrations will be introduced a variety of the most popular Solos, Duets, and Glee; and Mr Charles Soman will deliver an Improvisation, or Poetize Extemporaneously on subjects proposed by the Audience. Admission, One Shilling.

ROYAL NURSERY. — "DELCROIX'S

MACASSAR OIL," imported under the sanction of the "Lords of the Treasury," for the use of her Majesty and their Royal Highnesses, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, &c. is protected by two elegantly executed correct likenesses, in embossed medallions, of her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, with the signature and the address of the proprietors. It produces beautifully flowing curls, and by the transcendent lustre it imparts, renders the hair truly enchanting. To avoid the counterfeits generally sold by hairdressers, be sure to ask for "Delcroix's Macassar Oil," 138 New Bond street. Price 3s. 6d. per bottle.

TO LADIES.—DELCROIX'S KALYDOR, a French Cosmetic, surpassing all others for preserving and beautifying the complexion, prepared for the use of her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen and her Majesty the Queen Dowager, by special command, and protected by letters patent, the label bearing the Royal Arms, elegantly embossed, surrounded by the Prince of Wales's plume. This all-perfect requisite for the lady's toilet imparts a softness to the skin, and removes all cutaneous eruptions, giving to the complexion a clear and healthy appearance. Ask for "Delcroix's Kalydor," 138 New Bond street. Price 4s. 6d. per bottle.

CAUTION TO LADIES AND FAMILIES.—The high repute, and consequently great demand for Delcroix and Co.'s Unique Preparations, have excited the cupidity of impostors (despiteful of honour and talent), quacks, who, for the sake of "GAIN" impose (by a connivance with unprincipled vendors of perfumery) their pernicious compounds upon the public as the real "Delcroix's Kalydor" for the complexion, "Delcroix's Macassar Oil," for the Hair, "Delcroix's Odonto," or the Queen's Own Dentifrice for the Teeth, &c. &c. To frustrate such impostors, Delcroix and Co. have obtained Injunctions from the High Court of Chancery against several offenders; also a Chancery Protection Label, which in future will be affixed to every genuine article, with the signature of "J. DELCROIX," in Red Ink, at the top; a "Crown," and the address, "138 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON," in the centre, surrounded by the words "Protected by the Court of Chancery," and at the bottom "J. DELCROIX and CO." in Blue Ink. Purchasers will do well to return all articles not so guaranteed. The extreme caution in executing this label (which is on the principle adopted to prevent forgery in the departments of Government) precludes the possibility of imitation, and will effectually protect THE NOBILITY FROM IMPOSITION AND FRAUD.

\* Orders for India shipped on board free of expense; and the usual discount allowed to Merchants.

TO MR PROUT, 229 STRAND, LONDON.

Sir,—The great benefit which I have received by taking Blair's Gout and Rheumatic Pills induces me to inform you of the particulars of my case. About three weeks ago I became afflicted with a severe attack of rheumatism, which, for three days and nights, prevented my having rest or sleep, and was totally incapable of attending to business, when I was recommended to try Blair's Gout and Rheumatic Pills, which I did, and took them regularly for four days, by which time the pain had entirely left me, and on the fifth day I was able to attend to business as usual. I shall endeavour, by every means, to recommend a medicine which has given me so much relief. If the publication of my case will render any service, you are at liberty to use it.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

G. E. SMITH,

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