

# 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; he well assured that everything about us will dwindle by degrees, until at length our concerns are shrunk to the dimensions of our minds. It is not a predilection to mean, sordid, home bred cares that will avert the consequences of a false estimation of our interest, or prevent the shameful dilapidation into which a great empire must fall by mean reparation upon mighty ruins."—BURKE.

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## NOTICE TO OUR READERS.

The Statistical Number of the 4th on sale separately, 6d.—or with the paper 1s.

### CHINESE TREATY.

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 ult., containing our Treaties with Austria and Denmark, and the Chinese Tariff converted into English Monies and Measures, and the next will be presented next week, and among other matter will contain the official copy of the Chinese Treaty.

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"If a writer be conscious that to gain a reception for his favourite doctrine he must combat with certain elements of opposition, in the taste, or the pride, or the indolence of those whom he is addressing, this will only serve to make him the more importunate. There is a difference between such truths as are merely of a speculative nature and such as are allied with practice and moral feeling. With the former 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.

### RECIPROCITY, RETALIATION, OR FREE TRADE.

Referring to two letters which Mr Joseph Hume addressed some time ago to General Duff Green, printed at Washington, on the subject of the American tariff, the *Times* has the following:—

"Mr Hume deploras the 'evils of the high tariff' of the last session, from which both countries are suffering; whereas the fact is, that since the imposition of the higher duties commerce and credit have revived, and the revenue of the republic has nearly doubled. So much for the actual results which have followed from the adoption of a system the most directly opposed to Mr Hume's theory."

Now suppose these statements to be true, does it follow that these two circumstances co-existing are necessarily in the relation to each other of cause and effect? During the last year, in this country, corn has been much cheaper, trade has been much better, and these have occurred following and co-existent with Sir Robert Peel's new sliding scale and income tax; but because they are so, will the *Times* attribute the former as the result of the latter? We believe it is not pretended by any one, even in America, that, in point of revenue, the new tariff has been successful; but that, on the contrary, it has proved a woful failure. About one-half of the whole commerce of the States

is with this country, and therefore, as far as this important portion goes, our comparative exports under the old and new tariff will show how far it has succeeded in increasing revenue; and we have reason to believe that a relative difference existed in the trade from other countries. Under the old tariff our exports to the United States were, in 1841, 7,098,642*l*.; in 1842, under the new tariff, they amounted only to 3,528,807*l*. (See "Statistical Number," page 182.) Now even with the increased rates of duty, 20 to 30 per cent., the same amount of revenue could not be raised, by a very large sum, from the trade of 1842 that had been from the trade of 1841. But, on further perusing the remarks of the *Times*, we find the insinuation, that actual results are directly opposed to Mr Hume's theory, equally applicable to its own theory; for it says, "We are not to be understood as in any way defending or approving the political economy of the United States. WE ARE STRONGLY OPPOSED TO ALL SYSTEMS OF HIGH DUTIES. We believe them to be perplexing, inefficient, and immoral in their tendency." Now if the actual results alluded to by the *Times* disprove Mr Hume's theory, they equally disprove its own theory. But enough has been said to show that they neither do so in one case or the other. One thing, however, must be obvious from the above evidence of recent imports into the United States—that the higher rates of duty have produced the three distinct effects which high duties always do: first, they have reduced their import trade to a half; secondly, they must have reduced their revenue; and thirdly, they must have raised the price of goods very much to the consumer. And we further learn, by the last American papers, that another consequence of their diminished imports has been a greatly diminished export demand for their produce. The *Times*, however, further takes an opportunity of expressing, in very strong terms, its dissent from those who wish to promote free trade irrespective of any reciprocal advantages being secured from other countries:—

"These facts are worthy of attention from those who, in their precipitate solicitude to promote free trade, are unconsciously diminishing the probabilities of all trade. Trade is essentially reciprocal. The traffic which is carried on between two parties of which the one is permitted to sell cheap, while the other is forced to sell dear, soon ceases to be any traffic at all. And yet such is the nature of the commerce which it is proposed to establish between America and England. We are to reduce our duties on their produce, at the same moment in which they are raising those on our manufactures. It is for us to consider whether we shall be mad enough to sacrifice both revenue and trade to their financial and our own ultra-liberal speculations,—whether we shall take their corn without any duty, because they all but prohibit our manufactures? We hold it to be among the truest symptoms of legislative crotchetiness and conceit, when men propose to regulate the commercial transactions between this and other countries without reference to the expressed opinions and favourite theories of the latter."

Here, then, we have the whole question of reciprocity, retaliation, and free trade opened up; and we feel that in the present state of public opinion, with the very obscure views entertained on these subjects, it is our peculiar duty to endeavour to place this subject on a clear, undeniable, simple, and practical footing; and we believe that it is capable of demonstration so clear that no mind need misunderstand it. Perhaps there is no subject in the whole range of commercial legislation that is of so much importance, and on which there has been more pains used of late to misdirect the public mind.

We will state the question as simply as we can. The advocates of an unlimited free trade hold the opinion that we ought to regulate our trade in such a way as to produce the greatest abundance and cheapness of all commodities, consistent with a regard only to the necessary provision for revenue, but without any reference to the policy adopted by other countries towards us; that all duties imposed for the purpose of protection, or retaliation, are as injurious (or more so) to us as to the countries against which they are directed;—that, in short, we ought to buy where we can buy cheapest, and sell wherever we can sell to the best advantage, without in any way making our buying immediately contingent upon our selling, but depending rather upon our cheap buying to be able to sell, either to the parties from whom we buy or to others.

But the *Times*, and the whole of that school who admit the advantages which would be derived from an extended commerce with other countries, contend that we cannot safely take any steps for that object without first securing a reciprocity of action on the part of such other countries: that it is unsafe to render buy-

ing from them easier by a reduction of duties on their produce, unless at the same time they are willing to render our selling to them easier by a corresponding reduction of their duties on our goods; that our consent to receive their goods cheaper should be contingent on their consent to receive our goods more freely; that our whole policy of reduction or imposition of duties must have reference to that of other countries, and that if they raise their duties we ought to raise ours;—if it be objectionable to reduce our duties except on the condition that they reduce theirs, it must be needful to retaliate when they raise their duties, for if we do not, the relative interests of the two countries must be disturbed just as much as if we reduced our duties while theirs continued stationary. Now we believe a short inquiry into the practical operation of the latter policy will prove that it is the reverse of what is wise or desirable; in fact, that a reduction of duties, consistent with revenue considerations, can only be attended with benefit, whatever policy other countries pursue: and we even go further, and taking the very highest ground as the test of free-trade principles in the most extreme case, we contend that an increase of import duties on our goods in other countries, instead of being a ground for raising our import duties, is, on the contrary, a strong additional reason for our reducing our duties.

We would not be understood to be indifferent to the advantages which would result from other countries adopting a liberal policy towards our manufactures, in preference to a restrictive one, but that being a matter over which we have no control, it is more necessary for us to determine what course is best for us to pursue if they persist in, or increase the strictness of the latter policy.

Well, then, let us consider the effect practically. A trade exists between the United States, or Germany, and this country; the nature of that trade, like all other, must be to exchange the surplus produce of the respective countries. Germany produces wool, corn, timber, &c. in greater quantities than required for her own consumption; England produces woollen and cotton goods in greater quantities than she requires, and we want to exchange our surplus manufactures for the surplus raw produce of other countries. Now suppose the German League impose a higher duty of 20 per cent. on the woollen and cotton goods of England, so that what hitherto sold for 100*l.* is raised to 120*l.* The effect of this is to raise the price to the German consumer, to injure the manufacturer in England by making his goods dearer to his German customer, and restricting so far the demand, thus reducing the profit to himself and the wage to the operative. Now, then, suppose we retaliate, and increase our duties upon the produce of Germany; such produce, of course, as we are in the habit of receiving in exchange,—that is, raw materials, food and provisions. Suppose that we impose an additional import duty of 20 per cent. on German corn, timber, and wool. In what way would that retaliation affect the manufacturer and operative, who had been injured by the increased German duty? He would find that he not only had his market limited, his demand lessened, his competition increased, but that in addition to this he had to pay 20 per cent. dearer for whatever he brought in exchange before he could consume it. The additional duty imposed on German produce would enhance the price of similar produce in this country, not to the advantage, but to the direct disadvantage, of the manufacturers and operatives, who had been already injured by the higher duty imposed in Germany on their goods. Whatever advantage could arise from the increased duty against Germany would be in favour of another class of producers, but in direct disadvantage to the class injured by the German duty. These additional duties could not fail, therefore, to increase the cost of the very materials of which the manufacturer either made his goods, or on which the operative subsisted, and had therefore a further direct tendency to limit his trade in Germany by rendering his goods dearer than before by our own voluntary act.

But there are other important relative disadvantages under which a course of retaliation would place the English manufacturer. The course of his trade is to supply Germany with cloth, and in that market he competes with the German manufacturer. If the Germans increased their import duty on English cloth, his German competitor has to that extent an advantage over him. If, in addition to this, the English retaliate and increase the duty on the raw produce of Germany, this would inflict a two-fold farther disadvantage on the English manufacturers. It would limit the supply and raise the price of the raw material, of the goods, and the subsistence of the labour at home, and thus give a second distinct advantage to his German competitor; but it would do more. The increased duty on German raw produce into England would lessen the demand for it in Germany, and reduce its price there, and thus give a third distinct advantage to his German competitor, and would thus enable the latter to meet the English manufacturer on more advantageous terms, whether in the German markets or in the neutral markets of the world. If the object of the German Government, in increasing their duties, was to injure the English manufacturer and encourage the German manufacturer, that object could not be in any way assisted so well as by our retaliating and imposing higher duties on their produce. By an act over which we have no control (the increase of the German duty), the demand of the

English manufacturer is limited; but by a retaliatory act, which we perform voluntarily, he is further injured by his raw materials and food being raised to him, while they were lowered to his competitor.

Now, then, let us consider what the effect would be of an opposite policy, and illustrate it by the case upon which the *Times* comments: that is, the course we should pursue towards the produce of America, while they impose higher duties on our manufactures; and the same would refer to Germany or any other country. The Americans last year imposed higher duties on our manufactures, in consequence of which the price was raised to the consumer there; the consumption was reduced, and the American manufacturer had an additional protection given to him against the competition of English goods. Now over those acts we had no control. They were prejudicial to the American public by raising the price, and to the English manufacturer by diminishing the demand. We have, however, seen that to retaliate would only make the condition of the English manufacturer materially worse in more ways than one; to remain as we are leaves our American competitors with all the advantages they contemplated; while to meet them by an opposite policy would increase our means of competition, and diminish many of the superior advantages which they at present possess.

The diminished demand for English manufactures for the American market created a great stagnation in all those branches of business chiefly dependent on that market. The manufacturer here has to contend not only against the import duty into America on his goods, but he has also to contend against an import duty equal to 7½ per cent on the raw cottons which he imports from America. The operative in Manchester and Sheffield has not only to contend against the duty which is put on his labour on its entering America, and before it comes in competition with that of the operative there, but he has also to contend against a very great difference of the cost of provisions. Now if we reduced our tariff on American produce, and supplied raw material cheaper to the manufacturer, and food cheaper to the operative, we would so far give an advantage to the parties injured by the restriction, and as far as we have the power, would frustrate the object of the foreign government in raising the duty, not only by reducing the price of American produce here, but also by raising it nearly to the same level to our competitors in America.

All attempts of foreign governments to injure our manufactures, by hostile tariffs which increase the price of our goods, are only assisted in their operations by the maintenance of restrictions on the supply of foreign products, the elements of our manufactures; while, on the other hand, the only power that we have to frustrate their attempt to make our goods dear and unsaleable, is to release them from all such restrictions.

To retaliate against foreign hostile tariffs can only have the effect of making us still less able to send our goods to the countries imposing them, and must also place us in a similar disadvantage with all the other markets which we supply. Cheapness and not dearness is the true weapon to combat commercial hostilities; and cheapness can only be secured by freedom and not by restriction.

In speaking of retaliation, Adam Smith justly says,—“*It seems a bad method of compensating the injury done to certain classes of our people, to do another injury ourselves, not only to those classes, but to almost all the other classes of them.*”

But a practical difficulty may suggest itself:—if we adopted this policy of making our trade free whether other countries imposed additional restrictions or not upon us, and even considered it more needful to do so in consequence of such restrictions, it might operate with other countries as an inducement to commit acts of hostility against our commerce. But other countries would soon discover what we have already discovered, that such policy was highly prejudicial in raising the cost of goods, diminishing their trade at home, and destroying it abroad. Already has America discovered that raising the duty on our manufactures, and limiting their imports from this country, have a direct tendency to lessen the demand for their products.

Already has France discovered that the increased duties placed on our linens and linen yarns have tended to destroy her linen trade; they raised the price, lessened the home consumption, and destroyed their foreign trade; and the linen weavers and manufacturers have suffered great depression by an act which they expected would benefit them, and a trade that before was the most flourishing in France, and annually increasing, has since the imposition of higher protective duties become the most depressed.

If, therefore, other countries continued their restrictions, or even increased them, while we diminished ours, the only effect would be to give us more and more the command of all the markets of the world, and self-protection would very soon force them into the adoption of our policy, or if not, deprive them entirely of their trade.

But there are other views, perhaps more important, to be considered in relation to our foreign trade, and the systems of restriction, reciprocity, and retaliation, which we propose to follow up next week.

## FREE-TRADE ELECTIONS.

## KENDAL AND SALISBURY.

Mr Warburton has been returned for Kendal by a majority of 63 out of 301, the numbers at the close of the poll being for

Warburton .....	182
Bentinck .....	119
Majority .....	63

Mr Warburton's opponent never had the slightest chance, though a desperate effort was made in the course of the day to break down the majority. This result is highly honourable to the Kendal constituency, on several grounds, which we may here recapitulate.

There has hitherto been no contested election for Kendal; and to avoid the chances of one on the present occasion, the spirited and intelligent electors appointed a large committee, comprising individuals of various shades of politics, to correspond with candidates, ascertain their sentiments on various grave and important public questions of the day, and to come to a decision as to the individual who would be most eligible to the majority. This was accordingly done; and various candidates replied at considerable length to the queries propounded to them.

While this business-like affair was going on, some delay necessarily took place; and a small minority of the electors, mostly vulgar-minded men, who can see no merit in *fair play*, except in so far as it gives them a chance for perpetrating *foul play*, thought they had a fine opportunity for "stealing a march." A monopolist was brought down, in the person of a Norfolk squire, who, of course, patronised the "sliding scale," and every other anti-free-trade enormity. This caused the majority of the electors to coalesce; and they decided on choosing Mr Warburton. From that moment all intention of opposition should have been abandoned. In so small a constituency as that of Kendal, a canvass may be said to decide the point, especially as the main body of the electors are honourable and pure-minded men, utterly unassailable by "bribery and corruption." But no; it was thought expedient by two or three intriguing solicitors and other parties, that there *should* be a contest; and relying on the Lowther influence, the power of the purse, and all the discreditable proceedings by which contested elections are too frequently disgraced, they thought that they would be able to seduce some of the electors from the path of duty, and thus, if they did not win *this* time, to establish a corrupting machinery which might enable them to succeed on the next occasion.

This was not all. Many of the Kendal electors are pious, God-fearing people, who cannot endure that religion should be made a matter of contempt or scorn. This was thought to be admirable ground on which to work, in order to get up a prejudice against Mr Warburton. There is in Kendal a very pious but very narrow-minded clergyman, whose austerity almost shuts him out from all communion with his brother clergymen or fellow townsmen. Some of the crafty intriguers got hold of him, and whispered in his ear that "Mr Warburton was an infidel!" In proof of this they told him that Mr Warburton had, in the year 1832, voted in Parliament that the doctrine of an overruling Providence was "cant, hypocrisy, and humbug." The poor clergyman was horror-struck. He never stopped to ask himself if it could be *true*. He never paused to reflect whether or not he were made use of as a *tool*. No; but he went about Kendal, weeping and wailing, and declaring that the curse of Almighty God would fall upon the town if it elected Mr Warburton. He published a large placard, desiring him to go elsewhere, amongst a constituency who, like him, derided the idea of the existence of a God, and who mocked the tears of the people in a time of public calamity; and he implored the Kendal people, by all that was precious in time and eternity, not to bring down ruin on their town by electing so terrible an infidel as Mr Warburton.

In our last number we gave a copy of the speech made by Mr Warburton in 1832, on which all these tremendous accusations were founded. A bare perusal of it would be enough for any man; and the first feeling excited in one's mind was, that the clergyman who could act as this Kendal gentleman did, must be a shocking scoundrel. But we do not believe that he was a *knave* in this matter. We think he was simply a *tool* in the hands of cunning men; and that now, having found out how grievously he was deceived, and how much dishonour he has brought upon religion by his rash conduct, he is "repenting in sackcloth and ashes."

Mr Warburton made a very gentlemanly reply to this unwise assailant, and in a few words prostrated all the calumnies which had been circulated against him. And the Kendal people showed their appreciation of them, and their indignant feeling against his slanderers, by returning their representative, not only at "the head of the poll," but by a very large proportion of the constituency.

Turn we now to Salisbury, where the next decision is to be made, either for or against free trade. In Salisbury, a foolish, rash clergyman, like the Kendal gentleman, might find no inconsiderable portion of the constituency, whose minds might be damaged by calumnious and wicked statements about the religious opinions of a candidate. But we are glad to hear, that so far as electioneering has yet gone, the Salisbury clergymen have

not unduly interfered. If they continue to manifest this very proper abstinence, let them have all due honour for it. The infinite damage which the unhappy Kendal clergyman brought upon holy charity and divine truth, by his rash and presumptuous interference, is fresh before their eyes; and they may rest assured, that they will best keep themselves, as well as religion itself, "unspotted from the world," by disdaining to make heavenly doctrines mere panderefs to the earthly passions of the hour.

The battle, then, to be fought in Salisbury is the battle of FREE TRADE; and it is with no small satisfaction we understand that even in Salisbury, free trade—that is, as Sir James Graham in the House of Commons termed it, *COMMON SENSE*—has a very excellent chance of success. Hitherto we had set down Salisbury as one of those benighted regions where there prevailed "thick darkness—darkness that might be felt." But we had taken too low an estimate of Salisbury. Common sense darts its enlightening rays through the surrounding gloom; and the constituency starts up, amazed that it should have hitherto been the victim of fallacy, delusion, and misrepresentation. They are now beginning, like the farmers and Sir Robert Peel, to discover that the prosperity of manufactures is the prosperity of agriculture; and as facts are worth a bushel of assertions, we here introduce a letter from a correspondent, which strikingly illustrates this:—

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

Bad debts for the year ending June 30, 1838	£176
" " " 1839	79
" " " 1840	210
" " " 1841	310
" " " 1842	569
" " " 1843	600

I have procured the above-named amounts of bad debts, made during the last six years, from a house on whose statement I can depend, and as their sales are made exclusively to shopkeepers and tradesmen dependent on AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS, I think it plainly proves the truth of the statements propounded by the free traders, and, indeed, by Sir Robert Peel at Tamworth, on the 24th ult.: that "We have had ample experience that with the increase or decay in the prosperity of manufactures, there is a corresponding sympathy on the part of agriculture."

In addition, I would just say the parties have turned annually about the same amount during the time, and have made no change in the management, except latterly being more particular than formerly as to the characters of parties to whom they gave credit. From competition and other causes, their profits have decreased nearly in the same ratio as bad debts have increased, so that Peel's own odious tax (I mean the income tax) is the more oppressive, and they cannot obtain a release from it without publishing their affairs to the world. Really John Bull is the most patient of beings, or no minister would have dared to propose such a measure to prop up another law, by which a small knot of monopolists can legally extract and waste at least 5s. per *li*. from the labourer's wages.

Comparing the two last years with the two first of the six, you will perceive the amounts of bad debts have increased nearly 450 per cent.

You are perfectly at liberty to publish the above if you think it will assist the cause of free trade, to the principles of which I subscribe myself

A CONVERT.

Bristol, November 7, 1843.

But more than this have they discovered. The Salisbury people begin to find out that free trade means, more employment for the working-man, more business for the shopkeeper, the trader, and the merchant, more consumption of sugar and coffee, more corn grown at home as well as abroad, more cloth manufactured, more of everything by which a people are rendered contented, prosperous, and happy. Every number of the *Economist* is devoted to the proof of this; and we have the satisfaction of knowing that our arguments and illustrations have come home to the understandings of thousands.

We wish, for the sake of such of the Salisbury electors into whose hands this may come, but who may not have seen our previous numbers, that we could repeat some of the arguments, illustrations, and facts, which have been already brought to bear on this great question of free trade. But our space will not permit this; neither would it be just to our other readers. But if there be a conscientious Salisbury elector pausing to make up his mind on free trade, we entreat him to take up our "Preliminary Number," and to deliberate, soberly, seriously, and earnestly, over the facts there exhibited. On the subjects of SUGAR, of COFFEE, of COTTON, of WOOL, of WHEAT, of every thing, in truth, on which our material welfare rests, figures and facts are there given, so irrefragable, that the man who, after reading them, can vote against free trade and hold his conscience clear, must be peculiarly stupid or daringly false. But we trust that the Salisbury people will do their duty conscientiously in the sight of God and man; and, undismayed by mere personal influence, uncorrupted by sophistry or fraud, will give a triumph to the RIGHTS OF INDUSTRY.

One word more. In our ninth number, under the head of "Food Polluted—Monopoly Defeated," we exhibited what may be termed the collateral mischiefs of restrictive laws; and we close this article with the commentary of a Liverpool correspondent, which, though worded somewhat strongly, is not without a point and a moral:—

## THE SUGAR FRAUDS.

By Messrs Littledale's East India Circular, I observe that those

gentlemen estimate the consumption of certain articles for adulterating sugar at not less than 20,000 tons per annum!! Why, in the name of common sense, is this state of things permitted to continue, when there is actually good sugar (*and free-labour sugar too*) to be had at less than the cost of the farinaceous and chemical stuffs which are used to such an enormous extent by the fraudulent dealers?

Never, I venture to say, in the whole history of monopolizing legislation, was there anything so monstrous and barefaced as this sugar monopoly, and it needs no prophet to tell me that if the public submit to be robbed at this rate, all sorts of marauders will stalk forth into noon-day, and argue (like the monopolists) that robbery is no robbery if the gains are spent in the country.

The trade with the West India Colonies stands simply thus: we pay them two millions per annum more for their sugar than it is worth, and they would have us believe that we regain it all by selling them two and a half millions' worth of our goods, for which they do not give us one farthing more than they are worth, as the goods could not be bought cheaper elsewhere.

We fancy the career of a shopkeeper, who should allow his customers to abstract money from his till upon condition that they should spend it in his shop the next day. Business, no doubt, might be done on such terms; but how long could the *shopkeeper* stand it?

John Bull is a nation of shopkeepers; but, as the Mayor of Liverpool said the other day, "Legislators are gentlemen; it would be disgraceful for their deliberations to be conducted on the same principles as a grocer's shop."

Liverpool, November 8, 1843.

#### WHEAT 1842-3 AND 1843-4.

So much has been proved to depend on the price of wheat, both in the financial, industrial, and social condition of the country, that the probabilities of cheapness or dearness in this article possess an interest much beyond any mere mercantile considerations; and we would, therefore, endeavour now to place before our readers such data as we think will enable them to form some judgment as to the probable course which prices will take before the next harvest; and in order to do so we would wish to draw as accurate a comparison as we can between all the circumstances which operated upon prices last year, and those which are likely to do so this year.

In the early part of 1842 a very general conviction prevailed that the wheat crop would prove defective, in consequence of the extremely bad seed time; and prices kept high till the beginning of June; and in consequence of this anticipated bad harvest a large importation took place. The sudden change which occurred early in June, and the continuance of most favourable weather, produced a greater change in the prospects of the harvest than was perhaps ever before known in so short a time, which turned out not only to be at least a fortnight earlier than usual, but in quantity and weight of produce, equal to any crop ever known. It was, however, somewhat thin on the ground; the straw was very short; but, on the whole, it may be termed a full average crop, which, however, is a most indefinite term. In addition to this large harvest, we had an importation of wheat and flour equal to about 3,000,000 quarters. These two circumstances caused so great a panic in the market, that the prices fell very low; the average price being in the London market on the 1st of August, 6s. 10d.; on the 5th of November, 5s.; and on the 31st of December 5s. 5d. The losses among the foreign corn merchants from August to December were computed to exceed two millions sterling; in consequence of which many bankruptcies occurred, much wheat was pressed on the market, and for several months the trade from these combined circumstances throughout the country continued in the most depressed state. Two circumstances combined to cause home-grown wheat to be pressed on the market quicker than usual; first, the quality being so good and dry, it was fit for grinding very soon; and, secondly, the panic which prevailed in the price of cattle and other agricultural produce, as well as wheat, rendered it needful for a farmer to sell considerably more in quantity than he had done for some years before, to make up the same money outgoings,—so much so that as early as January the country was unusually thin of stacks. Meantime, in consequence of the odium into which the article had fallen, no speculation existed to support prices amid this necessity to sell, and in consequence the price of wheat fell to a very low rate, in many places being sold at this time last year as low as 40s. to 45s. a quarter. In the middle of January it was computed that at least 1,500,000 quarters of duty-paid foreign wheat was still on hand.

During the whole of this period trade in the great seats of industry still continued very bad, and the consumption of wheat, notwithstanding the low price, was by no means large. During the whole of the time from August to March, there was only one trifling circumstance which caused any additional consumption of wheat, and that was the additional quantity required for seed in consequence of the great breadth of land sown, which cannot be estimated at less than 400,000 quarters, or about one-fifth more than customary. From the month of March a considerable improvement took place in business, and the consumption of wheat increased; and in consequence of the increased demand, as well as the low prices which had existed all the winter, a considerable reaction took place, and the price of wheat rose gradually till it reached nearly 60s. per quarter; the

harvest proved to be at least a fortnight later than usual, so that considering that the harvest of 1842 was a fortnight earlier, and that of 1843 a fortnight later, the supplies from harvest to harvest, had to serve for *thirteen months* instead of twelve months.

The circumstances of the wheat trade from the harvest of 1842 to that of 1843 deserve the serious attention both of the merchant and legislator. We had an acknowledgedly large and good harvest. We had an import of 3,000,000 quarters of wheat on which at least 2,000,000<sup>l.</sup> sterling was sacrificed. We had for the first seven months at least after the harvest a very depressed trade, and an unusually limited consumption; and yet, under all these favourable circumstances, there was an evidence of insufficient stock for a considerable time previous to the last harvest.

We would next consider what relative circumstances exist now to enable us to form an opinion of the course prices are likely to take before next harvest—which we will assume to be at the usual time, neither late nor early. The first consideration is, as to the last crop; it was very heavy on the ground, with great abundance of straw, but the heads generally throughout England were short, light, and in most places, especially on heavy cold lands, defective. In Scotland and the north of England, the weather being finer, the quality is much more uniform and better. In Ireland also there was less injury done by the weather. But against this defective quality and yield, we have to put the greatly increased breadth of land in the whole United Kingdom, and after much careful inquiry, we believe that it is a fair calculation to put the increased breadth as a set-off to the deficient acreable produce, and to consider as a calculation near enough for all useful purposes, the crops of 1842 and 1843 as equal. We are quite aware that in many places the extra breadth will not make up for the defectiveness of yield, but in Scotland and other parts it will more than do so. We are disposed, after a personal observation and inquiry throughout the country at three distinct periods during the year, to consider this a safe and fair calculation; then, if we consider the crops as being the same, we may institute the following comparison of the whole supply of each year. First,—

From August 1st, 1842, to September 1st, 1843, or 13 months;—	20,000,000 qrs.
Imported	3,000,000

	23,000,000
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Deduct 1-13th, to reduce it to a yearly comparison	1,700,000
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Deduct additional seed in 1842	400,000
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	2,100,000
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The equivalent of the supply for 12 months	20,900,000 qrs.
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Second:—

From September 1st, 1843, to August 15th, 1844, 11½ months;—	20,000,000 qrs.
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Wheat and flour, duty paid to this date	914,340
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Remaining in warehouse, 31st October	79,032
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Quantity efficient for 11½ months	20,993,372
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Add ½ month's consumption to make it equal to a yearly comparison	850,000
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	21,843,372 qrs.
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So that the crop and import of the present year give a comparison with that of last year for an annual supply of nearly one million of quarters in favour of this year; taking the quantity available last year for 13 months' consumption, and that of this year for 11½ months.

So far, then, as regards the relative supply:—the only thing that we have further to consider is the relative consumption, which we have reason to believe is very much greater this year than last. On examining the returns of sales from all the towns from which the averages are calculated, we find that—

From May 6th to Oct. 1st, in 1842—	1,840,138 qrs. were returned.
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" " " " " " " " " "	1843—2,240,670 qrs. were returned.
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This shows that a considerable increased consumption is going on; and this is more decidedly seen by referring to the sales in some of the chief markets which supply the manufacturing districts. From the 5th of August to the 1st of October, the following quantities were sold in each year in Wakefield and Leeds:—

WAKEFIELD.		LEEDS.	
5th August to 1st October.	1842.	5th August to 1st October.	1843.
1842.	1843.	1842.	1843.
19,105 qrs.	33,761 qrs.	22,378 qrs.	30,504 qrs.

No doubt this difference would be in some slight measure caused by the turn-out for a fortnight in August last year; but taking September alone, the difference this year is still very great. Then we must consider that any advantage which may be derived from increased consumption as affecting this year's crop, will only refer to half of the year, as the latter half of the last year enjoyed a consumption quite equal to the present rate. We are, however, of opinion, that the additional consumption of the half year will be considerably more than equal to the additional *one million* of quarters, which our calculations show as available for this year above last year; and that while there is no strong feature to disturb prices for a considerable time to

come, yet that the probability is that at least half a million of quarters of foreign wheat above our present stock will find consumption before next harvest, the quantity required may be less if the harvest should prove early, or a little more should it prove late; and prices will range, in all probability, from their present rate to 5s. or 7s. per quarter higher. Of course these results may be all modified one way or the other by the state of the weather and prospects of the crop for two or three months before the harvest. The practical result is that there is no ground to apprehend much higher prices, and that there is no reason for anticipating a course of permanently lower prices; and further, that no such additional quantity is likely to be required, as will interfere with the currency or regular course of trade; or create any difficulty in obtaining the supply.

#### OUR STATISTICAL NUMBER.

##### THE PROGRESS OF POPULATION—AGRICULTURAL AND MANUFACTURING.

In order that the Tables contained in our Statistical Number may be of as much use as possible, we propose, from week to week, to examine the results which they furnish. Table I is a comparative view of the population of each county in England since 1570. In constructing this Table we considered it would be very useful to separate the whole country into two divisions, classifying together all those counties which are chiefly of a manufacturing, mining, or mercantile character by themselves, and those which are chiefly of an agricultural character by themselves. On examining this Table, very curious and interesting facts are revealed, which show how much we are indebted to our manufacturing and commercial pursuits for the maintenance of a large proportion of the increased population, and we are also led to reflect on the great importance of those pursuits in providing good customers and consumers for the other parts of England, as well as relieving the agricultural districts of an increasing surplus population. It will be observed that the fourteen manufacturing divisions represent about one-third (exactly thirty-two per cent.) of the whole surface of the country; and that in 1570 on this surface there lived as nearly as possible the same proportion of the population as existed in the other parts of the country. It will be found, however, that in 1801 this portion of the country, instead of maintaining only its own proportion, had a population equal to forty-seven per cent. of the whole, and that in 1841 the proportion increased to fifty-four per cent., or more than half of the whole population subsisting on one-third of the surface of the country. We find that of the whole present population of England, amounting to 14,995,133, that only 6,939,531 are maintained in the twenty-six agricultural divisions, comprising two-thirds of the surface of the best and richest land in the kingdom; while 8,055,607 are maintained in the fourteen manufacturing divisions, comprising only about one-third of the poorest lands in the kingdom. The same facts are strikingly illustrated by the subdivisions of the occupations of the people, as ascertained at the census of 1811, 1821, and 1831—that part of the census of 1841 not yet being completed. These results have been well expressed in a letter by one of our most able economists and statisticians, from which we make the following extracts:—

At the census of 1811, there were in Great Britain 2,544,215 families, of whom 895,990, or 352 in 1,000, were employed in the production of food; there were, consequently, 1,648,217 families, or 648 in 1,000, who consumed without raising agricultural produce. At the next census, in 1821, it was found that the total number of families had increased to 2,941,383, or at the rate of 15 6-10ths per cent., while the number employed in agriculture had increased at the rate of only 9 1-5th per cent. The relative proportion between the two classes was therefore so far altered, that in each thousand there were, instead of 352, only 332 employed in raising food, while 668, instead of 648, were consumers of it, without producing. The increase had been—

Of producers and consumers ..... 82,658 families.  
Of consumers not producers ..... 314,510

Total increase ..... 397,168 families.

At the last census, in 1831, Great Britain contained 3,414,175 families, showing an increase in twenty years of 869,960 families, or 34 per cent. The number employed in agriculture had, however, increased during that interval at the rate of only 7 1-5th per cent. so that of each 1,000 families living in 1831 there were only 281 employed in raising food for themselves and for 719 other families. It will not, it cannot be pretended, that there has been any discrepancy between the natural increase in the numbers of the two classes, and it will be asked what has become of the 27 per cent. of additional souls that in the twenty years between 1811 and 1831 were brought into existence in the agricultural districts of Great Britain beyond the proportion who found occupation in cultivating the soil?

The subdivisions of occupation for 1841 have not yet been published, but if they are in the same proportion as in 1831, the result will be found to be 240 persons of agricultural to every 760 persons of non-agricultural occupations, showing a difference of 41 in each 1,000 between that time and 1831, and by the same proportions;—

In 1851 the number of families will be 4,673,664, and the re-

lative proportion of agricultural to non-agricultural will be 205 and 705.

In 1861 the number of families will be increased to 5,463,187, and the relative proportions will be 175 and 825.

It will be advantageous to bring into one view the change that has been, is, and, but for the curse of corn laws, would be always going forward in the relative proportions of the two great classes that form the population of England.

NUMBER IN EACH 1,000 OF THE POPULATION.		
	Employed in Agriculture.	Otherwise Employed.
1811	352	648
1821	332	668
1831	281	719
1841	240	760
1851	205	795
1861	175	825

It then appears that the families employed in agriculture are wholly dependent upon the progress of other branches of industry for the employment of their increasing numbers. Let us inquire how is this employment to be found? Has the quality of labour, not agricultural, so far deteriorated during the past thirty years that 760 persons are now required to do the work that in 1811 was performed by 648? We know that the opposite is the fact, and that instead of seven persons producing now only the same as six did then, the proportions are more than reversed, and that six persons now, with improved implements and processes, have a much greater effective power of production than seven had in 1811. That the off-sets of agricultural families have all found refuge in the precincts of trade and manufactures is a fact within the knowledge of every one who has inquired upon the subject. What would have been the condition of the agricultural interest of Great Britain if it had not been so? What will be its condition when those pursuits shall be closed against, not only the natural increase of the country, but of the towns also, as they inevitably will be, if our present senseless system of protection is much longer continued? Where, we would ask, are markets to be found for the products of our continually-increasing surplus labour, if we compel other countries to compete with us in the production of manufactures, by refusing to take their surplus agricultural produce? We hear continually of the great burthens that the land has to bear, and the complaint has been repeated until it is believed by many as an incontrovertible axiom. This complaint is, however, not only unfounded, it is the very reverse of the truth; so far is it from being the fact that the land bears any part of the burthens of other classes, if there is any truth in the figures we have laid before you, it is plain that the land is in the constant habit of receiving relief, the most important and substantial, from those other classes. If the 895,998 families, who, in 1811, were employed in agriculture, had been without this resource, they would at this time have been burthened with the support of 2,200,000 individuals more than they now support, and who have been progressively absorbed by other pursuits. Imagine, for a moment, that all such outlets are closed, and where could the landowner seek protection from inevitable ruin? I will venture to say, that in such a state of things there is not a farm in Great Britain which could maintain its proportion of redundant labourers, far less could it be made to yield any rent to its proprietor.

Let us contrast the condition of the landowners as it would be if the burthen of supporting that amount of surplus mouths were thrown upon them, with what it is under the existing state of things, when by means of trade and manufactures that surplus has been converted into customers for all that they consume. If we suppose that each of 2,200,000 paupers must be maintained at the small charge of 2s. per week, the land would have been burthened with additional poor rates to the amount of 11,440,000l. per annum, for which no return whatever would have been received. But this affords a very inadequate view of the case. At present, in those times at least when food being at a moderate price, the artisans of this country can obtain work, each of the families will be earning wages to the extent of at least 15s. a week—for I am speaking not of the unreasonable agricultural labourer, who complains, upon 9s. a week, while bread is at only 10d. for the 4 lb. loaf, but of artisans who earn some 20s., some 30s., and some even higher rates of weekly wages. The annual earnings of the number of families, which, in the other case supposed, would draw their support from poor rates paid by the occupiers of land, would thus amount to at least seventeen millions and a half per annum, which sum they now pay, in one form or another, to the farmer, and through him to the landlord, in the form of rent, making a difference to the latter of nearly twenty-nine millions per annum.

These facts and reasonings tend well to explain the results shown in Table XVI, to which we referred last week, and which shows that while manufactured goods have fallen in price during the last 150 years more than 60 per cent., agricultural produce has increased in price upwards of 143 per cent.

A HINT TO OUR WINE-MERCHANTS.—At eleven o'clock on Friday 103 hogsheads of adulterated wine were brought out from the *entrepot* at Paris, and their contents spilt into the Seine. "Immediately after this operation," says an eye-witness, "the surface of the river was covered to the distance of 200 yards with an innumerable quantity of fishes poisoned by that deleterious liquor."

## MISCELLANEA.

**POSTAGE STAMPS.**—Persons who find a difficulty in attaching the adhesive stamps firmly to their letters are recommended to wet the letter, in preference to applying the moisture directly to the gum; as the latter plan involves some danger of washing the gum off the stamp. Further, it is advisable to wet the face of the stamp slightly, in order to prevent the stamp from curling up at its edges, which, without this precaution, it has a tendency to do.

**MIDDLE TEMPLE.**—The undermentioned gentlemen were called to the bar on Friday, the 3rd inst., by this honourable society, and took the customary oaths in the hall on the following day, viz.: Henry Mills, Vincent Stucky Lean, John William Martin Foublanque, William Partridge, David Morrin, David William Nash, and Thomas Chaloner Smith, Esqrs.

**THE ROYAL DOCKYARDS.**—A regulation has recently been introduced of admitting the men into the yards, and keeping a record of their presence by tickets, instead of calling over every man's name, and requiring him to answer. It is estimated that a saving of half an hour in the time of each workman is effected by this plan, and this, when applied to 2,300 men, will give a total saving of no trifling amount.

**HIGH TIDE.**—On Thursday afternoon the tide flowed unusually high, several premises in low lying situations, both above and below bridge, having been flooded, but happily no material damage was sustained. At the height of the tide, the depth of water at the entrance of the St Katharine's Dock was twenty-eight feet four inches.

**ACTS OF BENEVOLENCE.**—An order for two guineas was, on Thursday, forwarded to the Thames Police Court, by Mr Salisbury, proprietor of the Napoleon Museum, for the use of the old man Griffiths and his daughter, whose very affecting case he had read in that day's paper, and for whose sufferings and privations he expressed deep sympathy. A sovereign for the same purpose was left by a gentleman who gave no name, provided the old man and his daughter were not committed on the charge of stealing the feathers. If committed on that charge, the sovereign is to go to the fund for general charity, which is unfortunately at the commencement of the severe season very much exhausted.

Several of the German Princes are imitating Father Mathew, in propagating Temperance Societies. The King of Bavaria has published a decree, by which all the municipal magistrates are obliged to become the members and heads of a new Temperance Society, and at the same time they are called upon to engage their fellow-citizens to the same.

On Saturday morning last another batch of police constables, consisting of fifteen men, and Sergeant Lupton, of the L division (all of whom volunteered their services), were despatched by the Great Western Railway to Bristol, from which place they proceeded to assist the military and police already doing duty in Wales.

The erection of new and commodious Royal Marine barracks at Woolwich has been contracted for by Mr Rigby, an extensive contractor, residing in Westminster, at an estimated expense of 70,000*l.*, to be paid by instalments of 10,000*l.* each. Workmen have already commenced operations.

On Monday, the 6th inst., a general assembly of the academicians was held at the Royal Academy of Arts, in Trafalgar square, when Mr C. West Cope and Mr Thomas Duncan were elected associates of that institution.

## POLITICAL.

**THE TOWER HAMLETS ANTI-CORN-LAW ASSOCIATION.**—The members of the committees of the Tower Hamlets Anti-Corn-law Association held a meeting, on Tuesday night, at the Grave Maurice tavern, Whitechapel road, to take into consideration the propriety of embodying themselves into an association for the purpose of watching the registry, and of causing to be placed thereon every eligible man favourable to the principles of free trade, the ulterior object having reference to the representation of the borough. Mr Allan was unanimously called to the chair, and opened the proceedings in a speech explanatory of the objects of the meeting. After various gentlemen had addressed the meeting, Mr Jackman congratulated the associations on their getting themselves into a state "ready for action," and concluded by moving a resolution to the effect—"That a general meeting of the members of all the Anti-Corn-law Associations in the Tower Hamlets be called together for the purpose of forming a general committee to attend to the registration of the Tower Hamlets."

**FRENCH OPINIONS ON THE CHINESE TARIFF.**—The French people say that the Chinese statesmen framed their tariff of imports purposely on a liberal scale in order to allow other nations to compete "with the English." Whatever motive may have actuated the Chinese commissioners in agreeing to so many valuable relaxations in regard to intercourse with strangers, their benefits are at least indisputable; and although we imagine that Sir Henry Pottinger was the real managing director of the concern, it must be satisfactory to every friend of freedom of trade to find that liberal commercial views have made good their footing in the hitherto prohibitory and protective ports of China. French statesmen might imitate the conduct of the Chinese authorities in many respects, with much propriety, and our own government, following out its vaunted principles of doing business in the reciprocity line, cannot, with any degree of fairness, refuse to show their sense of the enlightened proceedings of their brother statesmen at Peking, by proceeding to the further revision of our tariff, and reducing the import charges upon tea.

**THE IRISH ARMS ACT.**—This act is appointed by the Lord Lieutenant in council to come into operation on Monday next.

**TRIAL BY JURY.**—The forty-ninth anniversary of the acquittal of Horne Tooke, Hardy, Thelwall, Holcroft, and others, was celebrated on Monday at Radley's Hotel, Bridge street, Blackfriars, W. J. Fox, Esq., in the chair. About 150 gentlemen sat down to dinner.

In consequence of the heavy pecuniary punishment the Dover Tories have inflicted on their representative, Sir John Rae Reid, he has withdrawn his subscription from the Dover Charity-school, and other charities of the place.—*Dover Chronicle.*

## COURT AND ARISTOCRACY.

Her Majesty and Prince Albert have taken their accustomed drives during the week, and are in the enjoyment of the best of health. Thursday being the anniversary of the Prince of Wales's birthday, the Foot Guards and Life Guards stationed in the town marched at an early hour this morning into the Park, in front of the Castle, where the infantry fired a *feu de joie*. The Foot Guards then marched past her Majesty and Prince Albert, who, attended by some of the Royal suite, were

beneath the Castle Terrace. The Foot Guards passed by companies, and the cavalry followed in squadrons. The military then formed in line and saluted. The Royal pair having retired, the troops quitted the park, preceded by their respective bands, and returned to their different barracks. Rejoicings took place in several parts of the country in honour of the occasion.

It has, for the last fortnight, been rumoured that her Majesty intends to have a marine villa erected at Cowes, Isle of Wight, as an occasional residence during the summer and autumnal months. The Woods and Forests have, it is said, caused an *employé* to survey and inspect the Osborne and Norris properties at East Cowes as a preliminary, and that such agent was there last week to carry out his instructions from that department of the government. The Queen, it will be recollected, when Princess, resided for some time at Norris Castle, and has always manifested considerable partiality to that spot, as it combines beautiful marine scenery with a privacy not to be generally met with at watering-places.

**EXHIBITION OF A HYDRO-OXYGEN MICROSCOPE BEFORE THE COURT AT WINDSOR CASTLE.**—A splendid and most powerful hydro-oxygen microscope (magnifying objects upwards of 30,000,000 times larger than their natural size) was exhibited before her Majesty, his Royal Highness Prince Albert, and the illustrious visitors to her Majesty, at the Castle, on Tuesday. The grand reception room, which was prepared expressly for the occasion, was completely darkened, blinds having been affixed to the large window overlooking the north terrace. The whole of one of the large panels (upwards of twenty-five feet square), on the western side of the spacious apartment, was appropriated for the erection of the screen, upon which was thrown the reflection from the different objects exhibited, amongst which were animalcules in great varieties, insects, various sections of bones, worms, the wings of moths and birds, the decomposition of water, &c. The exhibition occupied nearly an hour.

**MARRIAGE OF THE EMPEROR OF BRAZIL.**—This event took place on the 4th of September last, at Rio de Janeiro, the Brazilian-Neapolitan squadron having arrived the day before from Naples. Rio de Janeiro was very gay on the occasion, for, having been some time looked for, almost all the respectable people in the empire had congregated to partake in the festivities and general rejoicing. The city was illuminated at night, and fireworks—both very brilliant—resounded through and bespangled the sky.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Bordeaux, who had intended to visit London about the 15th instant, has deferred his journey for some weeks, in consequence of the expected arrival of the Duke and Duchess de Nemours. His Royal Highness will take advantage of this circumstance to visit some of our manufacturing towns, making excursions from Alton Towers, the seat of the Earl of Shrewsbury, which will, for the present, continue his head-quarters.—*Standard.*

## THE METROPOLIS.

## LORD MAYOR'S DAY.

Thursday being the day appointed for the swearing-in at Westminster of the Lord Mayor elect, his lordship this morning gave a grand breakfast in the council chamber, on his entering on his office of chief magistrate of the city of London, to the sheriffs, aldermen, and principal city officers.

The morning being particularly fine for the season, a great number of persons were witnesses of the spectacle, and as early as nine o'clock crowds of well-dressed and respectable individuals were observed wending their way to the houses of those friends from whose windows they could catch a glance of the splendid *cortège*.

The new Lord Mayor, and also Alderman Humphery, the late Lord Mayor, were received on their appearance at Guildhall with great applause by the assembled company, upon their arrival at eleven o'clock.

The civic party then proceeded by water to Westminster Hall, and returned in the usual manner to the banquet at Guildhall in the afternoon of the day. Amongst his lordship's guests were the late Lord Mayor, the Lord Chancellor, Sir Robert Peel, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir James Graham, Sir Edward Knatchbull, Mr Sheriff Musgrove, the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, the Marquis of Salisbury, the Earl of Lincoln, Sir G. Murray, the Swedish Minister, the Brazilian Minister, the Mexican Minister, the French *Chargé d'Affaires*, Count Talleyrand, John Walter, Esq., J. Mills, Esq., W. De Lane, Esq.; J. R. Mills, Esq., Sir C. S. Hunter, Sir P. Laurie, Aldermen Brown, Lucas, Wilson, T. Johnson, the Recorder, Alderman Thomas Wood, Alderman J. Johnson, Sir George Carroll, Alderman Hooper, Alderman Farncomb, Sir James Duke, Aldermen W. Hunter, Challis, Hughes, the City Officers, and Under Sheriffs.

The Lord Mayor said:—

"The first toast which I have to propose is that of the Queen. (Loud cheers.) It is unnecessary to say anything in recommendation of such a toast, for the Queen reigns in the hearts and affections of her subjects. (Loud and enthusiastic cheering.) I give you "The Queen."

His Lordship, after having proposed the healths of the "Queen Dowager," "Prince Albert," &c., said:—

"I have now the honour of proposing to you the health of Sir R. Peel and her Majesty's ministers. (Loud and long-continued cheers.) When it pleased her Majesty to call them to her councils, we were engaged in wars, the result of which could not be anticipated, and which might have been fraught with evil or benefit to this country. They have been brought by her Majesty's ministers to an honourable termination. (Cheers.) The result is, that the interests of the empire have been consolidated, and our commerce placed on a more favourable footing, by the prospect of a more close intercourse with China. I may also state, that under the government of ministers there has been a great improvement in the state of our finances; and this to such a degree, that I am quite sure before long the ministers will have to congratulate themselves on the termination of a state of much anxiety and suspense, and also on the reward which this country is ever ready to pay to exalted merit and virtue. (Loud cheers.) I give you "Her Majesty's Ministers." (Enthusiastic cheering.)

Sir Robert Peel then said:—

"It is with sincere pleasure, my Lord Mayor and gentlemen, that I

appear before you, having come from a distant part of the country for the purpose of meeting my fellow citizens in this hall on this auspicious occasion. I say my fellow citizens, because I have the high honour of being a member of one of the most distinguished companies of this great corporation, and the higher honour of receiving within those walls the distinction of the freedom of the city of London. Gentlemen, I have also attended here for the purpose of discharging in person that duty which now devolves on me, of testifying in public, in the name of her Majesty's ministers, their respect for the city of London; of returning their grateful acknowledgments for the compliment you have just paid them in so flattering a manner, and of assuring you that there can be no more powerful incentive with them to persevere in the discharge of their duty to their sovereign and the country than the hope of acquiring and retaining your good opinion." (Cheers.)

Sir Robert then briefly alluded to the necessity of a good and proper understanding existing between the civic authorities and the servants of the Crown; and after paying several high compliments to the late Lord Mayor, concluded with the following:

"Gentlemen, I cannot express better my wishes for the success of the excellent man who has this day been installed in the office of Mayor, than that he may receive, on the conclusion of his year of office, the same testimony of public approbation which I, though differing in politics from the late Lord Mayor, am proud to pay. I hope and confidently believe, that he will be also distinguished by the same facility of access—by the same impartiality in the administration of justice—and by the same oblivion of party feelings and interests, when these come athwart the performance of public duties. Allow me further to express a confident hope and belief, that his year of office will be remarkable for the same generous and comprehensive hospitality, the chief recommendation of which is, not in ostentatious display, but in that kind and generous spirit which has animated and directed it. I hope, gentlemen, you will accept with enthusiasm the toast I shall conclude by giving. It is "The health of the late Lord Mayor. (Loud cheers.)

The next toast was that of "The Lord Chancellor," who returned thanks.

The company did not separate till a late hour.

**SWEARING-IN OF THE NEW LORD MAYOR.**—According to annual custom, the new Lord Mayor was on Tuesday sworn-in to his office of chief magistrate of the City of London, at Guildhall. Alderman Magnay being a member of the Stationers' Company, the master, wardens, and court of assistants of that company, in compliment to his lordship, left their hall, in Stationers' court, Ludgate hill, shortly before one o'clock, in carriage procession, headed by one of the city marshals, for the purpose of proceeding to the Mansion house, where they were met by the new lord mayor, sheriffs, &c. After having partaken of an elegant and most sumptuous *dejeuner à la fourchette*, the whole of the civic dignitaries left the Mansion house and proceeded to the Guildhall, where they arrived at a quarter before three. The whole interior of the hall was splendidly decorated with flags preparatory to the dinner. There was also a considerable number of well-dressed ladies to witness the ceremony, who were all accommodated with sittings to the right and left of the chair which Alderman Humphery, the retiring Lord Mayor, occupied. Upon taking the chair, Lord Mayor Humphery, in a very good-humoured manner, said to Alderman Magnay, "I have the pleasure, sir, of taking the chair before you to-day," Alderman Magnay was then duly sworn in Lord Mayor for the year ensuing, with the usual formalities.

**MANSION-HOUSE BANQUET TO THE DISSENTING MINISTERS.**—The Lord Mayor gave a splendid entertainment on Tuesday to upwards of fifty of the leading Dissenting clergymen of the metropolis, together with some of the most influential laymen of the several denominations. After the usual toasts, the Lord Mayor gave "Civil and religious liberty," with which he connected the name of the Rev. Mr. Burnet.—Mr. Burnet, in an eloquent and energetic speech, responded to the toast. He said time was when the individuals then seated at his lordship's table were forbidden by law to come within five miles of the city. The Mansion house, as was well known, had been built with fines levied upon Dissenters, on account of their conscientious scruples in refusing to take the tests which were at that time the pre-requisites for corporate offices. (Hear, hear.) They now lived in better times. Not only were those barbarous laws abolished, but the spirit which they had generated was fast passing away. (Hear, hear.) Scarcely a year rolled over now but the first magistrate in the first city in the world considered it within the fair scope of his official privilege to manifest his attachment to the principles involved in the toast by extending his hospitable invitations to ministers who conscientiously dissented from the discipline and doctrines of the church establishment. The history of corporations proved that in early times they were the great bulwarks of civil liberty—the citadels raised for the protection of the peaceful citizens against the outrages of the ruthless barons, by whom they were surrounded. (Hear, hear.) The principles of religious liberty were now as well understood as they were ardently cherished. The right of every man to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience was the principle upon which they rested their cause of dissent,—a cause which could only be subdued by a conquest over the independence of the human mind. (Cheers.) Religious liberty was valuable in the same proportion that hypocrisy was detestable, and it was most gratifying to observe the rapid progress the great cause of liberty was making in the public mind.—The healths of Drs. Bunting, Reed, Leitch, and other ministers were then proposed, who severally expressed their obligations for the compliment.

**ST STEPHEN'S, WALBROOK.**—A meeting of the vestrymen of the above parish (adjourned from the 28th of October) was held on Wednesday morning for the purpose of passing a vote of censure on Alderman Gibbs. Considerable curiosity was excited in consequence of the vestry having predetermined to adjourn for a month or five weeks, in order to give the alderman the legal time to produce his full accounts, in accordance with a bill which was put on the file of Chancery last week. Mr. Rock was called to the chair, and the minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, he rose, and said that they were aware that the vestry had been called for the specific purpose of getting at Alderman Gibbs's accounts, and that purpose not having been accomplished, they had adjourned from time to time, in order to attain their object. He (Mr. Rock) saw Alderman Gibbs's co-churchwarden three days ago, and he was informed by Mr. Eldiston that he was employed for some sixteen hours a day upon those accounts, and he added that they would not be finished for ten days to come. (Hear, hear.)—Mr. Williams begged to propose, "That a vote of censure is hereby given to the churchwarden, Alderman Gibbs, for his concealment of the affairs of the parish of St. Stephen, Walbrook; and the parishioners hereby express their want of confidence in him, and their determination to use all legal means to repossess themselves of all books, papers, &c., in his possession relating to the said property, with a view to

the future better management thereof."—Mr. Flight seconded the proposition.—Mr. Howett said, that in looking over the garbled statement furnished by Alderman Gibbs for the years 1825-1837, inclusive, they found that from the rates for the poor alone he made the parish indebted to him in a sum of 5,855*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*; and in the years 1837-43 he gives the further sum of 2,584*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.* as indebted to him; making a gross sum of 8,439*l.* 13*s.* from the year 1825 to 1843.—Mr. Howett wished to ask a novel question. Alderman Gibbs was not a merchant in the City—what was he? Could any one answer the question? (A voice: "He is our churchwarden and treasurer.") He is that, certainly; but nothing more. He was informed that in the Court of Aldermen Mr. Gibbs was sent to Coventry. He (Mr. Howett) asked how far that was, and was answered, "So far, that a man sent there seldom comes back again." (Laughter.) He thought they should now adjourn for a period of five weeks, that when they so met they might have something tangible before them. Mr. Howett then proposed that they should adjourn till the 15th December next.—Mr. Homer wished to know from Mr. Rock how he could prove that the accounts were garbled?—Mr. Rock: The whole internal evidence proves it. You may examine the book.—Mr. Homer: This room has been made the arena for certain busy gentlemen to make themselves a name in the city. (Hisses, and loud cries of "Oh, oh!") He had certain notes in his possession of the parish accounts, and he believed their correctness would be vouched for, and he could also state that the accounts, audited, would have been presented that day, but unavoidable circumstances prevented its being done. The select vestry had for some time past been going through the churchwarden's accounts for the last eighteen years, and he could answer them that those accounts would be printed and sent round the parish in a few days, and the world would then see that there could be nothing derogatory to the character of Alderman Gibbs in the whole transaction. (Hear, hear.) He would pledge himself that in a few days the accounts would be printed.—After some more discussion the meeting separated.

**WELSH CONVICTS.**—Upon the arrival of the Hereford coach yesterday at the Spread Eagle, Regent circus, crowds were attracted by the appearance of seven convicts, four men and three women, who were on the top of it, under heavy irons. Report like wild fire spread that they were Rebecca's daughters, sentenced at the late special commission, and the result was, that this great thoroughfare was blocked up by the curious, amongst whom were several Welsh sympathizers. The prisoners were transferred from the coach to cabs, and thus conveyed to the Millbank Penitentiary. In reply to questions, the guard and coachman said that all they knew about them was, that they were from the disturbed districts of Wales.

—Messrs. Flight, Travers, and Pilcher are named as candidates to succeed Alderman Gibbs upon the expected vacancy in Walbrook. It is said the alderman's friends will induce him to resign.

## THE PROVINCES.

**WOLVERHAMPTON.—DISMISSAL OF MINISTERS.**—On Monday evening a crowded meeting was held at the Mechanics' Institution, Wolverhampton, to memorialise the Queen to dismiss her ministers. The speakers referred to the conduct of the ministers towards Ireland, where they had, it was alleged, violated the constitutional liberty of the subject, and where they were employing the taxes levied from the English—and particularly the income tax—in suppressing liberty. The speeches were loudly applauded, and resolutions disapproving of the conduct of ministers, and memorialising the Queen to dismiss them, were almost unanimously agreed to.

**THE FARMERS AND THE SLIDING SCALE.**—The official returns of the quantity of foreign wheat and flour imported into Great Britain during each month of the present year, furnish another excellent illustration of the manner in which the farmers are injured by the sliding scale. In the seven months ending on the 5th August last, the entire quantity of wheat entered for home consumption amounted to 26,315 quarters. From that period to the 10th of October—only about nine weeks—the quantity entered for home consumption was 833,017 quarters of wheat and 73,316 cwt. of flour, the whole of which being brought into the market just when our own farmers were ready to sell their grain, caused prices to fall considerably, and thus inflicted a most grievous injury on those poor farmers who were unable to pay their rents till they had sold their wheat. What wonder though the tenant-farmers should be rapidly becoming favourable to the cause of free trade, when they find that Sir Robert Peel's best of all possible corn laws is more injurious to them than it is to any other class of the community?—*Manchester Guardian.*

—We understand that a requisition will, in all probability, be shortly presented to the High-Sheriff of this county, requesting him to call a county meeting on the subject of the corn laws, and to hear the arguments of Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright.—*Gloucester Journal.*

## IRELAND.

### THE STATE PROSECUTIONS.

The city grand jury resumed the examinations of witnesses on Monday morning. There have been some discussions amongst the members of the jury as to the mode of examination adopted.

**TRIAL AT BAR.**—Mr. Vernon, of the Stamp office, was again examined on Monday, respecting the newspapers mentioned in the indictment. The next morning the examination of witnesses was resumed, Mr. Frederick Bond Hughes and several other witnesses occupying the greater portion of the day.

**CHARGE OF PERJURY AGAINST FREDERICK BOND HUGHES.**—Mr. McDonough, Q.C., said that as he saw the Attorney-General in court he would take that opportunity, on behalf of Richard Barrett, humbly to apply to their lordships for an order in the nature of a *mandamus*, that Samuel William Tyndall, Henry O'Callaghan, and Robert Hitchcock, three of the divisional justices of the peace for Dublin, shall receive the informations tendered to them, at the instance of Richard Barrett, charging one Frederick Bond Hughes with wilful and corrupt perjury. Mr. Barrett's name was mentioned five times in Mr. Hughes's informations. He was first stated to have been present at a dinner at Mullaghmast. Secondly—he was stated to be a member of the Repeal Association—the fifth passage mentioned him as the proprietor of the *Pilot* newspaper, but it was in the third and fourth passages that criminality was attributed to him; and on those passages it was that Mr. Barrett sought to assign perjury. In the third passage Hughes swore that Barrett took part in a meeting in Abbey street, and in the fourth passage that he took part in, and spoke at a dinner, held in the Rotunda the same day.—The Attorney-General rose to oppose the motion, in the first place, because he felt it was not a *bona fide* proceeding, but was brought forward for the purpose of influencing public opinion, with a view to prejudice proceedings already

instituted in a court of justice. He called upon their lordships not to sanction so monstrous a proposition as that advanced by Mr M'Donough, by which, in a criminal prosecution, persons conscious of guilt may turn the witnesses against them into the parties accused. This proceeding, he contended, was not instituted with the remotest hope of substantiating the charge of perjury against Mr Hughes, but, as he before stated, solely with the view of prejudicing the public mind against a person who was to be examined as a witness in a criminal prosecution.—The Lord Chief Justice said: It don't appear to me that there is any substantial difference between Mr M'Donough and the Attorney-General. It is not contended on the part of the Attorney-General that the informations of Mr Hughes shall not go before the grand jury, or before the petty jury in the event of bills being found. It is not even contended that the Attorney-General interferes to prevent justice being done. His object appears to the court to be most proper and fair, namely, to see that these proceedings are not carried on so as to defeat justice. Sending up bills in the way proposed at this juncture against Mr Hughes would be in violation of the ancient and well-known rules of law.—Motion refused.

On Wednesday this Court was opened at the usual hour (ten o'clock) and in less than half an hour after the bar was completely occupied by lawyers, and the galleries were filled by the public. This interest was manifested in consequence of the general opinion that the grand jury had concluded the examination of witnesses last night, and would return the bill of indictment this morning. At a quarter after three o'clock the Solicitor and Attorney-General entered the court, and in a few minutes afterwards the Chief Justice, Justices Burton, Crampton, and Perrin took their seats upon the bench. After calling upon the inner bar, according to seniority, to know if anything was to be moved, Sir Thomas Staples made a short motion, to the effect that Samuel Gray should be brought up for judgment, in order to hear what his counsel had to offer in support of the motion for arrest of judgment.—The Sheriff, addressing the bench, said the grand jury had a communication to make to the court. They were sent for; and after a delay of a few minutes, in reply to the Chief Justice, the Sheriff said the jury were signing the bill, and would be present in a few minutes.—At a quarter to four o'clock the jury appeared, and handed down the indictment.—Mr Bourne, Clerk of the Crown, read—"A true bill, my lord, for self and fellows."—Mr O'Gorman rose in the jury box and said: My lord, I beg to express my dissent from that bill.—Chief Justice: Pray, what is your name, sir?—Richard O'Gorman, my lord.—The Attorney-General rose, and moved that the traversers be now called upon their recognizances.—The Clerk of the Crown then called upon Daniel O'Connell, Esq., John O'Connell, Esq., Thomas Steele, Esq., M. T. Ray, Esq., John Gray, Esq., Charles G. Duffy, Esq., and the Rev. Messrs Tyrrell and Tierney, all of whom appeared.—Mr Steele rose and said: My lord, as I am to defend myself in the present prosecution, as I did in 1831, I beg here to say that I object to this being carried on by the Attorney-General. (Laughter.) He has prejudged the case; and I do think he ought, in common decency, to retire and leave the conduct of this prosecution to the Solicitor-General, who has temper and discretion, and is, I am sure, actuated by feelings of justice and mercy.—Mr O'Connell, accompanied by his son, Mr John O'Connell, entered the court, and was accommodated with a seat at the side bar. All the traversers having answered to their names, the Attorney-General said: I have now to apply to your lordships, the defendants having appeared, to order that they do plead within four days from the present.—The Chief Justice: What is the condition of the recognizances?—The Attorney-General: It is to appear in person. In pursuance of the recognizances entered into by them they have all appeared, and now I call on them to plead in the time I have specified, in pursuance of the 60th George III.—Mr Hatchell, Q.C., said that he was not aware of such a course of proceeding. He now applied, on behalf Mr Daniel O'Connell, that he be furnished with a copy of the indictment, under the provisions of the same Act of Parliament quoted by the Attorney-General. The various counsel for the rest of the defendants made similar applications on behalf of their clients, and Mr Steele, on his part, made the same demand.—The Crown Solicitor said that copies should be furnished that evening to the officer, who would transmit them to the defendants.—Mr Moore, Q.C., said that nothing could be done with the copies that evening.—The Attorney-General said that copies of the indictment would be forwarded to the officer that evening, to be given to the parties making application for them, without any expense to them. The statute was precise on the point, that the rule to plead should be entered on to-day.—Mr Whiteside said that then, supposing the parties were not furnished with copies of the indictment for six days, they might be called on to plead, before they knew what they were to plead or demur to.—Mr Fitzgibbon, Q.C., said the parties should not be called on to plead until they had received copies of the indictment—the indictment itself not having been read in court.—The Chief Justice said that the defendants were bound to plead under the Act of Parliament. (Mr Sheil here entered the court, and was accommodated with a seat by the High Sheriff.)—Mr M'Donough, on the part of the Rev. Mr Tyrrell, argued that the parties were not called upon to plead until they had been regularly charged, and the parties could not be considered as charged until every syllable of the indictment should be read. If the Attorney-General should persist in his motion, it was his (Mr M'Donough's) intention to call upon the officer to read that most voluminous document at length. The Attorney-General might have obviated the difficulty by having copies served at an early hour this day.—The Chief Justice: How could he furnish copies until the bills had been found.—Mr M'Donough thought it quite possible. Judge Crampton: The parties cannot be called on to plead until they are regularly charged. Perhaps counsel would agree to have the charges read briefly.—The Solicitor-General: We propose that the defendants should be charged now.—Mr Whiteside: The indictment is against nine persons and therefore the officer must read it nine—times. (Laughter.) After a few observations from the Attorney-General, in which he again insisted on his right to have the parties charged, the court conferred for a few minutes.—The Chief Justice: If you insist on the parties being charged, how do you propose it should be done?—The Attorney-General: That the officer of the court should read the charges briefly, we undertaking to have copies of the indictment served to-night.—The Chief Justice: In the first place, I should wish to know from Mr Moore whether he is satisfied to accede to the proposition of the Attorney-General.—Mr Moore said, that if the Attorney-General insisted on his right, he saw no reason why the counsel for the accused should concede anything. He must, therefore, insist on the whole of the indictments being read.—Judge Crampton had a suggestion of offer. Would there be any objection to enter the rule to plead now, but not to run until to-morrow morning?—The Solicitor-General: If it be understood that no application is to be made for time to plead hereafter, he had no objection to the suggestion thrown out by Mr Justice Crampton.—Mr Moore said he would not enter into any consent on the subject.—Mr Hatchell never entered into a consent in a criminal prosecution, and would not now.—The Attorney-General: I understand the suggestion thrown out by Mr Justice

Crampton to be this—that the parties are to be charged now with the indictment—that the rule to plead is to be entered now, but not to run until to-morrow.—Mr Justice Crampton: Just so.—A lengthened discussion ensued, and it was ultimately agreed that Mr Justice Crampton's suggestion should be agreed to.—The Clerk of the Crown then read the first count, shortly, and having read the names of the parties charged, the discussion terminated, and the Court adjourned at five o'clock.

REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—The usual weekly meeting of this body was held at the Conciliation Hall. The attendance was very numerous. At one o'clock Patrick Lawler, Esq., Triakill, Queen's County, was called to the chair. The Chairman said this was an awful crisis—these were certainly portentous times. (Hear, hear.) The efforts of the Government at present were used to prevent the free expression of opinion of eight millions of people; but they might as well try to turn back the ocean, as to prevent the will of eight millions of people being legitimately exercised for obtaining any object they sought. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) Mr Clements moved the suspension of the standing order, to enable him to propose a resolution, which he knew would be carried by acclamation. It was upon a subject which was peculiar in itself—a subject which must be broached before Mr O'Connell arrived in that room—he meant the coming collection of the O'Connell compensation fund. (Deafening applause.) After proceeding at considerable length to comment on the subject of his motion, the learned gentleman concluded by moving the following resolution:—"That the Loyal National Repeal Association holds it as a paramount duty, at this moment, to apply all its means and influence to the successful furtherance of the national collection for the O'Connell compensation fund, fixed for Sunday, the 19th inst. On that occasion the members and associates of this national body are especially expected to co-operate personally and energetically with the respected and patriotic clergy of their several parishes, in securing results for this imperative measure worthy of the crisis and the cause."—Dr Gray seconded the motion, which was spoken to by Mr John Reynolds, and carried by acclamation.—Mr Doheny, from Tipperary, next addressed the association. He said that the county he came from would contribute at least 3,000*l.* to the O'Connell tribute. (Cheers.) There was no shrinking in the heart of Tipperary. The proclamation had had no effect upon the people there.—At this stage of the proceedings Mr O'Connell entered the Hall, and was most enthusiastically received. He moved the thanks of the association to Mr Biggs, the mayor of Leicester, who presided lately at a meeting in that town, at which resolutions were adopted, sympathising with the Irish during the present prosecutions. Mr Duffy, of the *Nation*, handed in 10*l.* repeal rent, 4*5s.* 8*d.* of which was from Belfast, 14*l.* from Strabane, and the rest from other places in the north of Ireland.—Mr J. O'Connell handed in 3*1l.* 16*s.* from Carlow. Mr O'Connell handed in 2*8l.* from New York.—Mr D. O'Connell, junior, then read the draft of an address to the Queen, to be presented by each parish in Ireland.—After which Mr O'Connell moved its adoption, and concluded by saying if they adhered to perfectly peaceable means, he saw the certainty of carrying the repeal. The Government might incarcerate him and others within four walls, but there were others to stand in their places. (Hear, hear.) Ireland had an excellent leader in the person of Smith O'Brien, who declared at the dinner given to him in the county of Limerick, that if to wish the liberty of Ireland was a conspiracy, he was a conspirator. (Cheers.)—The address was unanimously adopted. At the close of the meeting the repeal rent for the week was announced to be 1,303*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.* The Association adjourned until Monday next.

## SCOTLAND.

THE RECENT ANTI-CORN-LAW MEETINGS IN SCOTLAND.—The Haddington meeting was a great triumph to the cause of free trade. At least eighty farmers were present, men of a very different description as to character and status than the 50*l.* tenants-at-will of England. There is in the East Lothian what is called a farming aristocracy, that is, a class of men possessing very considerable capital, occupying individually large lots of land, and paying from 700*l.* to 2,000*l.* per annum of rent. We speak advisedly when we say that a great majority of this class was present at the meeting, that it contained in fact the flower of the East Lothian farmers, who are confessedly the best educated and most skillful men of their order in Britain. At this meeting only one hand was held up against a resolution, declaring that "The principle of protection is unsound and mischievous, that, applied to agriculture, its operation has been unfavourable to the interests and independence of the tenant farmers and farm labourers, and that the welfare of this country would be best consulted by the abolition of all monopolies and protective duties, whether affecting our agricultural, manufacturing, or colonial industry." This decision, stamped with the authority of the most distinguished body of agriculturists in Great Britain, cannot fail to have a mighty influence on the corn-law question. Here are the men who have embarked a large capital in the cultivation of the soil, and are qualified by their education to take sound views of their own interest, declaring that the law which was said (hypocritically) to be passed for their advantage, is not a benefit to them but an injury, and repudiating the protection it professes to give. It is not the present corn law, but the principle of protection which has formed the basis of all our corn laws, that has been submitted to a jury of East Lothian farmers, and pronounced mischievous. The men of science who have examined the question to the bottom, Smith, Ricardo, McCulloch, Mill, Senior, Whately, are unanimous in condemning the corn laws; and it can no longer be denied that their judgment is fortified by the suffrages of the most enlightened practical men.—*Scotsman.*

PRESENT TO THE MARQUIS OF BREADALBANE.—On Monday last a large company met in the Assembly Rooms, Glasgow, to witness the presentation, to the Marquis of Breadalbane, of a splendid carpet, wrought by the ladies of the Belfast Association, as a testimony of their admiration of his conduct as a friend of the Free Church of Scotland. The carpet was accompanied by an address, which, having been read, the noble marquis returned thanks in an eloquent speech. This beautiful piece of work is shortly to be exhibited in Edinburgh, the proceeds to go to the erection of churches in the Highlands, the Marquis of Breadalbane heading the subscription with one hundred pounds.—*Edinburgh Observer.*

The Free Church has chalked out England into seventeen departments, and organized as many missions to visit them, and give the people full information respecting the principles and objects of the new secession. Independently of the immediate purpose of raising funds for building places of worship, these missions can scarcely fail to do much good. They will help forward the "second Reformation," which England so much needs. We have long held, that till the mass of the English people are detached from the establishment, no good cause can prosper. We cannot have an efficient and impartial system of national education; we cannot have



the rights of the humbler classes protected by just laws, honestly administered; we cannot have a full measure of religious liberty; we cannot expect deliverance from a multitude of ecclesiastical abuses and burdens. The Free-Church deputations may not openly agitate these topics, but they cannot fail to hold up the vices and corruptions of the Church to some extent, and their efforts must tend to awaken the masses from their lethargy, and stir up some feelings of independence.—*Scotch paper.*

STATISTICS OF THE FREE CHURCH.—The official "Roll of Members of the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, held at Glasgow, October, 1843," has just been published. By the constitution of the assembly, every congregation of adherents to the Free Church, however small their number, was entitled to send two delegates—namely, one minister and one elder. It appears, from the official roll, that the whole number of congregations represented in the assembly is 590; that the whole number of ministers is 511; and of elders, 466—some congregations have sent no clerical representative, and others having sent no lay one.—*Edinburgh Journal.*

### WALES.

[In reading the following account of a public meeting which took place at Swansea, our readers will not affect surprise at the riots which have taken place, and in fact which still continue in this part of the country. The sentences which have lately been passed on some of the prisoners, though light, with one exception, are not a bit too much so, if we take into consideration the numberless provocations and unjust exactions to which the poor here have for a long course of years been subject.]

MEETING OF THE BRIDGEND TURNPIKE TRUSTS.—At Swansea, on Saturday week, a public meeting of the Bridgend-road trustees was held at the Wyndham Arms Inn, the Right Honourable John Nicholl, D.C.L., M.P., in the chair. The "public" were allowed to remain in the room.—Mr Rees Jenkins, solicitor, Bridgend, presented a memorial from parishioners of the several parishes of Coychurch, Llanillid, and adjacent parishes, imploring the removal of those obnoxious gates, toll-bars, and chains within the several parishes of Coity and Coychurch, fourteen gates, bars, and chains existing within the short distance of six miles.—Mr Jehosaphat Powell, of Margamthen, presented a statement of "the grievances of the farmers and labouring cottagers." There are a great many fields in the neighbourhood of Aberavon and Taibach let out to cottagers to set potatoes in; therefore, when the said cottagers draw their potatoes, they have no way whatever to bring them home but to go to the farmer and borrow a horse and cart to bring them. Then six or seven bags are put into the cart. Some are compelled to go through two gates, namely, Aberavon, east and west, and before they are allowed to pass they are compelled to pay sixpence for each bag—each bag belonging to separate persons. When they have occasion to pass through the other gates, they must pay there also. The same horse and cart passes five or six times a day, but only loaded with different people's potatoes, and is charged every time. The gatekeeper is occasionally in the potato-field, watching and reckoning how many bags belong to each person. The above can be verified on oath. Again, if a poor man take a donkey for a punnier of coals, which are not worth more than 3d., the charge in tolls is 2d., although the place where he gets coals is not more than 500 yards from his home.—The Chairman: If the statement is true, it is a most gross imposition. They cannot legally make a charge for each bag.—The Rev. Robert Knight: I have heard that 3s. 6d. was charged for one horse, drawing one cart, because the cart was lent to seven poor people, who took their potatoes out of the farmer's field.—Mr Powell handed some gate-tickets to the chairman, which he (Mr Powell) said fully corroborated his statement with regard to the amount of tolls charged at the gates, which were enumerated in the statement.—The Commissioners seemed quite astonished at the disclosures made by Mr Powell in his statement, and for some time could scarcely believe it possible that such wholesale imposition should ever have been committed in this country; but the accuracy of the statement in this particular was vouched for by several parties present of respectability.—After some time had been spent in conversation, the Chairman said: Gentlemen, the question that is raised is this, as far as I understand it, namely, that if six people join in loading one waggon, that waggon pays toll six times over for one passage through the gate. That is what I understand the statement to mean. If the same cart go again through the gate six times the same day, and is loaded with potatoes belonging to six different people, they must pay tolls six times over every time they pass.—A farmer said it was the case.—The Chairman conceived the toll-collector was acting most illegally, if his conduct had been fairly and truly represented. Those petitions having been presented, containing, whether rightfully or wrongfully he knew not, statements of certain alleged grievances, it was their duty as trustees, acting on behalf of the public, to take those matters up, and give them their most patient attention. He would, therefore, propose that this meeting, at its rising, adjourn to Thursday, the 23rd inst., at eleven o'clock, and that in the meantime a committee should be appointed to take all the several matters and things contained in the petitions into their careful consideration, and report thereon fully to the adjourned meeting.—This suggestion was adopted; and, after some discussion, in which the people were advised to apply to the magistrates for redress, and to punish the toll-keepers for imposition the meeting separated.

### CORRESPONDENCE AND ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR.—The following statistics of arrivals of foreign grain into this port may draw your attention to the consideration of the effect of the existing corn laws on the shipping and general interests of the country. The results of importations are taken from the Custom-house reports, from 1st January to 6th October, 1843. During that period there was imported of

Wheat	-	-	-	-	-	119,876	quarters.
Barley	-	-	-	-	-	16,694	"
Peas	-	-	-	-	-	8,376	"
Beans	-	-	-	-	-	1,430	"
The total number of ships	-	-	-	-	-	234	
Of which there were Foreign	-	-	-	-	-	205	
" " British	-	-	-	-	-	29	—234
The tonnage of 234 ships was	-	-	-	-	-	22,205	
Of which Foreign	-	-	-	-	-	20,535	
" " British	-	-	-	-	-	2,670	—22,205

There are two reasons given for employment of foreign ships, both

of which are very disheartening:—First, that foreign ships carry at a lower rate of freight; and, second, that orders are given to prefer foreign ships, even at the same rate of freight. The first reason is easily understood, as the cost of building, fitting out, wages, and provisioning, enable a foreign owner to make a profit where a British owner must incur a loss; but that a British ship, offering to carry at the same rate, should be rejected, and a foreigner preferred, is very startling, and I have made inquiry amongst some of our most respectable merchants as to its truth, and I am sorry to say it is true, it having been proved from experience that they deliver their cargoes in better condition than British ships.

This is the inevitable consequence of a thriving trade obtaining the preference over a losing one. The building, fitting out, and keeping in repair, are all attended to by the party making profit, and every kind of saving in these particulars is resorted to by the losing ship-owner. The root of the evil is the vicious legislation in this country, by which the comparative rate of living is raised to such a pitch that we cannot compete with our neighbours.

It is notorious, also, that nothing remains in this country of the freights except a trifle for coals, an article of all others of the most doubtful description as an advantageous export. In former days the freights of foreign ships were all spent on articles chiefly purchased from our shops; but now little or nothing is bought, and in addition to the cost of the corn, we have also to pay the expense of bringing it here.

If you think the view I take of this matter is correct, and you can in any way make use of it in the ECONOMIST, I may offer some further remarks. Meantime I remain, yours,

A FREE TRADER.

Leith, November 6, 1843.

A Reader of the Economist, Hawick.—We regret that this note has, by an accident, been neglected for some weeks.—The best books on Political Economy are Smith's Wealth of Nations, McCulloch's edition; the Works of Mons. J. B. Say; Ricardo's Principles of Political Economy and Taxation; Mill's Political Economy; Tooke's History of Prices, and Porter's Progress of the Nation. Smith's Wealth of Nations, as fixing fundamental principles; Tooke's History of Prices, and Porter's Progress of the Nation, as the most interesting, entertaining, and instructive practical applications of those principles, are most strongly recommended as the best books for the common student.

H. E., Liverpool.—Letter received to day, but without the newspaper alluded to, so of no use. The iron statistics we are still trying to procure, but it is difficult, as some foreign governments pay little attention to these matters.

W. F., Liverpool.—Two communications received, but too late in the week to admit of their being examined: they will have attention early next week.

S. N., Duckenfield.—Your paper should be posted from London on Saturday night and received on Sunday morning. If you will inform us from whom you get it, we will see that it is done.

E. W. J., Handsworth.—The Brazilian Circular is received with many thanks. We may trouble you on some of the subjects alluded to in your letter.

J. L., Preston.—The whole of the Statistical Tables are derived from official sources, except Nos. 18 and 19, which are derived from first-rate mercantile authorities. The expenditure column of Table IX is quite correct; it does not include the interest of the debt, which is in another column; but only the current expenditure. The sudden fall from 60,704,106l. current expenditure in 1815, to 32,231,020 in 1816, was in consequence of the termination of the war. The slight discrepancy in the exports of 1842, in Tables XIV and XV, arises from the fact, that the former are made out by the custom houses early in the year, and this classification of the exports has not yet been checked with the more accurate accounts; but the latter classification has been and is the correct one. Slight discrepancies will appear, and in the different classifications of these accounts, until they have been all checked before being finally published. The volume for 1842 containing these accounts we do not expect to be published for some months yet. As far as our newest information goes, it is the best "official" that exists, and is sufficiently correct for all practical purposes.

J. L.'s last letter comes to hand just as we go to press, and must stand over till next week.

### POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, November 11, 1843.

Paris papers and letters of Thursday state that the Duke and Duchess of Nemours left Paris on that day on their way to England. The *Courrier Francais* gives a report that the ministry had abandoned the intention of proposing, in the ensuing session of the chambers, a bill of dotation of the Duke of Nemours as future Regent of the kingdom. The Council of State has decided that in the letter of the Bishop of Chalons, respecting the system of education in the University, there was "abuse," within the meaning of the law, and a Royal ordinance appears in the *Moniteur* of Thursday, declaring the judgment of the Council of State in that respect.

Madrid papers of the 3rd of November have arrived. In the Chamber of Deputies the nomination of the president and the other officers of the Chamber was fixed for the 4th instant, a sufficient number of members having been sworn in for that purpose. The Minister of War applied to both Chambers to confirm the levy of twenty-five thousand men raised for the army by decree, and the subject was referred to committees.

Accounts had been received at Madrid, of a conspiracy at Ferrol, in favour of the Central Junta, which appears to have had some extensive ramifications. It was, however, discovered and suppressed. An uneasy feeling prevailed as to the state of that part of the country.

Private letters and papers have been received from Saragossa, to the 6th instant. The most perfect tranquillity and order have prevailed in that capital, since it was taken possession of by General Concha. The inhabitants who had taken refuge in the neighbouring villages and mountains, during the operations of the siege, were returning in great numbers. It appears that a large portion of the men, and almost all the women and children, had deserted the city. The mere operations of the siege had done little damage to Saragossa; but in its commercial relations it had suffered much, and it will be some time before it can completely recover from the effects of the late insurrection.

SALISBURY ELECTION.—Our letters this morning give us more and more hope for Mr Bouverie's success. Every day improves the prospects of the free-trade candidate—the Liberal party are more and more united: this is the great advantage of fighting any question on good grounds—in contending for just principles; the more they are discussed, the more people

are instructed and enlightened, and the more their feelings and desires are elevated to achieve great and good acts.—The eyes of the whole country are turned towards Salisbury with great anxiety; for, as it is considered one of the most unfavourable battle-fields for free trade, success will be a correspondingly greater triumph. We have every confidence in moral effect on the electoral opinion, which must result from the correct advocacy of our great principles, for which those men are so distinguished who are now in Salisbury, interceding with the electors of that town, on behalf of the industrial interests of this country.

**THE KENDAL ELECTION.—DECLARATION OF THE POLL.**—On Thursday Morning the declaration of the poll was made from the hustings in the market-place. The Mayor declared the state of the poll to be—for Mr Warburton 182, and for Mr Bentinck 119. Mr Warburton then came forward. It gave him great pleasure to hear the announcement made by the Mayor. He had been returned by a greater majority than his friends and himself had anticipated. That circumstance he thought was a sufficient answer to the various calumnies which had been circulated against him. These would doubtless recoil on the heads of those who had issued them. He had been called into active life again, after a two years' retirement; and he would endeavour, so long as his health lasted him, to use the same endeavours for the good of his constituents, and of the country at large, as he had done during the sixteen years he had before been in Parliament. He should have been most happy to have listened to his (Mr Bentinck's) parting address. He had not, however, appeared. He felt proud of the position in which they had placed him, and he would return to Parliament with a firm determination to discharge his duties both to the borough of Kendal and the public at large.

**IRELAND.—THE STATE PROSECUTIONS.**—In consequence of the announcement of the Attorney-General, on Wednesday evening, just before the adjournment of the Court, that he intended this day to send up fresh indictments against four of the traversers already charged, the deepest interest was manifested all day in the courts to ascertain the nature of those new bills. By some it was supposed that the object of the Crown was, by a supplemental indictment, to cure some defect in the one already found, in regard to the informations of Mr Bond Hughes. There were various other rumours, and amongst them was one that Mr O'Connell and three others were to be charged with high treason! The *Evening Mail* announced last night that the Government had made a grand "discovery," and this statement helped out the story about high treason. In consequence of the announcement made by the Attorney-General, that further bills of indictment would be sent before the grand jury this morning, a good deal of interest was manifested to learn the parties charged in them. Nothing definite could be ascertained on the subject, and although the bench was vacant up to three o'clock, the bar continued filled by lawyers, and the galleries were crowded with spectators. At half-past two o'clock the grand jury adjourned, after transacting some fiscal business, but no bills were sent before them by the Crown. Mr O'Connell, accompanied by Mr John O'Connell, came into the hall of the courts about one o'clock, and were warmly greeted by the barristers, and a large party of friends. It was rumoured in the Hall that the Attorney-General intends to send up bills against some members of the Repeal Association, with a view of trying the legality of that body.

**EXPORTATION OF CATTLE TO BELGIUM.**—During the last month some very extensive purchases have been made of bulls, milch cows, and ewes of the best breeds this country can produce, on account of the Belgian Government.

**COTTON.**—Early in the week the market showed symptoms of returning animation, and prices experienced a trifling improvement. The demand, however, has since become more moderate, but the quotations of last week have nevertheless been fairly sustained. The business on speculation consists of 2,700 American, 700 Surat, and 50 Maranham; Exporters have taken 300 American.

Taken for Consumption from 1st Jan. to 10th Nov.		Whole Import from 1st Jan. to 10th Nov.		Computed Stock. 10th Nov.	
1842	1843	1842	1843	1842	1843
946,360 bbs.	1,152,090 bbs.	1,079,040 bbs.	1,462,374 bbs.	458,010 bbs.	606,360 bbs.

**SUGAR.**—The demand for B. P. is still limited, and the sales are only 250 hhds., at former prices. For Bengal there has been rather a better inquiry, and 5,000 bags have been disposed of at a very fall rate; 800 bags Mauritius have also been taken, at 62s. 3d. to 65s. 9d. per cwt.—Foreign. The sales of the week are trifling, consisting only of 20 cases and 40 bbls. of low middling white Bahia at 19s. 25 boxes yellow Cuba at 20s. **COFFEE.** The sales of Plantation comprise 250 cases of Jamaica, chiefly by auction; clean ordinary to middling qualities sold at an advance, in most instances, of 4s. per cwt., whilst for a few lots of fine former prices were barely supported. 250 bags good ordinary Ceylon brought 65s per cwt. Of Foreign, 60 bags La Guayra sold at 32s to 37s per cwt.—Small lots of COCOA, PEPPER, and PIMENTO have been sold at the quotations; but nothing done in GINGER.—2,600 bags Bengal RICE sold at 11s. 9d. per cwt.—There has been but a moderate demand for RUM, without alteration in prices.

**TEA.**—The market has been rather quiet, but firm; at the public sale here on Thursday, consisting of 2,000 packages, about 700 were sold, principally green, at full rates; the remainder withdrawn without bids.

The transactions in INDIGO are confined to about half-dozen chests Bombay fig, at 1s. 10d. per lb.—75 slabs Banca Tin reported at 60s.

**DYEWOODS.**—With the exception of 100 tons Ceara Fustic at 5l. to 5l. 2s. 6d., the sales are too trifling to notice.

With a rather better inquiry for OLIVE OIL, the prices of the better descriptions have been more buoyant than of late, and considerable business might have been done, had holders been inclined to make some concession in price; the sales of the week have been chiefly in small lots, at full prices.—The transactions in Fish Oils have been confined principally to Cod, of which about 140 tons have been sold from the quay, at 32l. 10s. per ton, including nearly all the recent imports.—Pale Rape and Lined Oils continue very dull of sale, and the late quotations are barely maintained. The sales of Palm Oil this week are limited to about 110 tons, at 30l. to 30l. 10s. per ton, at which the market is steady.—Tallow is improving; a fair extent of business has been transacted during the week, chiefly in Petersburg yellow Candle, at 43s.; a few pipes South American, of fair quality, were sold at 40s. 6d. to 41s. per cwt., and 300 to 400 bbls. and kegs of Lard at 35s. to 37s. 3d. per cwt.

**GRAIN.**—The market is dull, and Wheat and Flour have moved off heavily, at rather lower prices.

## The Economist.

NOVEMBER 11, 1843.

### COMMERCIAL.

The chief matter of commercial interest during the week has been the arrival of the Overland Indian Mail, with papers of the 16th September from Calcutta, and to the 29th July from China.

In China, Sir Henry Pottinger appears wisely determined to exercise every means to suppress any contraband trade between our ships and the Chinese; which, if persisted in, might cause an interruption to that friendly feeling which now exists; at least, even though the Chinese might not show much earnestness themselves in preventing the traffic in opium in the first instance, yet, if they wanted a cause of quarrel at any time, they would again use the opium trade for that purpose. The letters from the East still dwell with great satisfaction on the commercial arrangements of the treaty and tariff; and they consider, as we do, that if the stipulations are fairly and honestly carried out, the trade of China will be fixed on a better footing than that of any other foreign country. The high duty on tea here will, however, continue an important check to the increase of the trade. Unless we buy more from the Chinese, they cannot buy more from us. The consumption of teas might, no doubt, be very greatly increased if the duty were half of its present amount, and, ere long, we believe would yield quite as much revenue, and, at the same time, form a means of extending our trade with China. In the details of business there is nothing striking.

From Calcutta the commercial accounts are of a satisfactory description; especially respecting the sale of English manufactures: during the preceding month the transactions in cotton piece goods had been considerable; and though the imports had been very heavy, yet an advance in price had been obtained, and a further advance was expected. The trade in woollens was also good: white mule twist was in demand. With the exception of iron plates for boilers, the metal market was very dull. The Indian produce market, with the exception of sugar, was much depressed, in consequence of the unfavourable accounts which arrived from England by the 6th July Overland Mail. The Indigo crop is expected to turn out large; estimates vary much, as they always do at this season, some calculating as low as 125,000 to 130,000 maunds; while others put it as high as 150,000 to 160,000 maunds: the latter will be nearer than the former. Larger exports had taken place of raw silks than usual. In other produce, the demand had been very limited. Exchange on England with bills and documents was firm at 1s. 11½d. to 2s.

From the West Indies, we have also had a mail during the week, but they contain nothing worthy of remark.

By the last arrivals from the United States, we find that in an estimate of their trade of 1842, the following was the distribution of their imports:—The whole amounts they compute at 100,162,087 dollars, of which from China they compute 4,934,645 dollars, being more than they receive from Prussia, Holland, Belgium, the Hanse Towns, and Trieste, which places include all the exports of the German League, Holland, Belgium, and Austria, and all only amount to 4,392,497 dollars. From England, Scotland, and Ireland the computation is 34,204,249 dollars. Very little consideration ought to convince both us and the Americans that the chief trade of that country must ever be done with us, as we are the only country which has a great and increasing demand for agricultural produce without the power of increasing our supply by home-growth materially. It is quite melancholy to think of the great mutual benefits which are wasted between that great producing continent and ourselves, by a silly and absurd system of restriction on intercourse.

The European markets for foreign and colonial produce are without much alteration. In the six chief markets of Europe, the following were the stocks of sugar and coffee, and the prices on the 1st of the present month, compared with the three past years:—

### SUGAR.

	1 November	1840.	1841.	1842.	1843.
Holland - - - Cwts.		262,000	330,000	200,000	239,000
Antwerp - - - "		195,000	136,000	46,000	196,000
Hamburg - - - "		240,000	160,000	140,000	220,000
Trieste - - - "		187,000	227,000	90,000	157,000
Havre - - - "		60,000	210,000	190,000	270,000
	Cwts.	852,000	1,063,000	666,000	992,000
England - - - "		990,600	1,141,000	1,171,000	1,324,000
Total - - - Cwts.		1,792,600	2,204,000	1,837,000	2,316,000
Total in Great Britain of Colonial sugar.		579,500	783,000	846,000	911,000
Total—Foreign sugar Cwts.		1,213,100	1,421,000	991,000	1,405,000

Value in the first half of the month of November, in London, per Cwt., without Duty.

	58s	30s	32s	33s
Muscovad, W. & E. India Cwts.				
Mavana, white - - - "	30s a 36s	26s a 31s	28s a 35s	23s a 29s
" yellow and brown "	22s a 26s	17s a 22s	18s a 22s	17s a 22s
Brazil, white - - - "	23s a 28s	19s a 24s	20s a 25s	19s a 24s
" yellow and brown "	18s a 22s	14s a 18s	15s a 19s	15s a 18s
Java - - - - - "	20s a 28s	15s a 24s	16s a 25s	15s a 23s
Patent - - - - - "	33s a 33s 6d	28s 6d a 29s 6d	25s a 25s 6d	25s 6d

### COFFEE.

	1 November	1840.	1841.	1842.	1843.
Holland - - - Cwts.		212,600	124,000	105,000	405,000
Antwerp - - - "		49,700	63,000	96,000	90,000
Hamburg - - - "		80,000	150,000	135,000	210,000
Triest - - - - - "		92,500	102,000	96,000	80,000
Havre - - - - - "		30,000	45,000	35,000	35,000
England - - - - - "		440,000	430,000	460,000	454,000
Total Cwts.		904,200	914,000	927,000	1,274,000

Value in the first half of the month of November, in London, per Cwt., without Duty.

Jamaica, good and fine ord. Cwt	75s a 96s	60s a 86s	65s a 82s	58s a 71s
Ceylon, middle ord. "	71s a 75s	65s a 68s	62s a 64s	62s a 63s
Brazil, good ord. "	42s a 43s	40s a 41s	32s a 32s 6d	28s a 29s
St Domingo, good ord. "	44s	41s a 42s	32s 6d a 33s	28s a 28s 6d
In Holland:—Java, good ord. per 1 kilog	28½ a 29cts	27 cts.	23½ cts.	20 cts.

In the manufacturing districts business continues good, with full employment; and the usual process by which wages are raised, is beginning to show itself in many places, by actual or threatened turn-outs. What with the tendency of raw materials as well as wages to advance, it must be expected that goods will be somewhat higher after Christmas than they have been for some time. The stock of cotton in London, Liverpool, and Glasgow was on the 31st of October—

1843.	1842.	1841.
864,700 bags.	609,950 bags.	606,100 bags.

**POLITICAL.**

The political news from India is indeed of the very greatest importance. A vast territory, inhabited by different tribes, but ruled by one predominant, because rude, active, and warlike, seems about to drop into our hands. The late Runjeet Singh, an adventurer of no ordinary character, the "Lion of Lahore," appeared to have "consolidated" this empire, and to have founded a dynasty. But on his death, his power fell into feeble hands; and by one of those sanguinary revolutions too common in oriental history, his race has been all but exterminated. It is lucky for English interests, that we have a large army ready for immediate operation, should the consequences of anarchy call for our interference.

Let us not be misunderstood. We distinctly disclaim the principle of interference with the affairs of other nations. That which is morally wrong, cannot be politically right. But the consequences of our past misdeeds are upon us. Our career hitherto in India has been one of aggression and crime; and we are now so situated, that we cannot sit quietly still, and witness anarchy, confusion, and murder, upon the very borders of our territories, without risking the stability of our Indian empire.

Our business now is to endeavour to make amends by our future conduct for our past. The atrocious monopolies by which our government of India has been hitherto characterised, and under which the inhabitants have too frequently groaned, should be utterly broken up; and the new system of "responsible government," which has been gradually, though slowly adopting during late years, should be carried out completely. Burke mourned, in his day, over the utter apathy of the British public towards Indian affairs; and some ten years ago, Mr Macaulay exclaimed, in the House of Commons, that "a broken head in Coldbath fields attracted more attention than three pitched battles in Hindostan." This wears away. The public seems to take far more interest in the affairs of India. Communication is easier, more rapid, and plans for rendering it more secure, as well as more rapid, are agitating in commercial circles, and must ultimately lead to some result. India, by being thus brought nearer to Britain, begins to participate in British advantages; and we hope the day is not far distant when, under the supervision of an intelligent British public, and of a really responsible government, the "wrongs of India" will become as obsolete as, we trust, will be the grievances of Ireland.

Looking, then, to the great interests of humanity, of religion, of everything which is comprised under the word "civilization,"—looking to those of India itself, which will be prodigiously advanced by the administration of a wise, vigorous, and paternal government—looking also to what might be effected for our trade and commerce, by the adoption of a liberal commercial policy—we cannot say that we would seriously regret if, as a necessary consequence, the Punjab should, like Scinde, become an annexation to our Indian empire. We owe a debt to India, as well as to Ireland. We should begin to pay it now. What we want is a combination of PUBLICITY with true RESPONSIBILITY. India should no longer be considered as a retreat for needy noblemen and adventurers—a nest where every plucked goose and vulture may feather themselves at the expense of the happiness of millions. Real, careful, responsible government for India, based on a truly liberal policy and comprehensive principles, would achieve more for both countries than the most sanguine at present may dream of; and let us not forget, that it was in relation to India that Burke uttered the memorable words which we have chosen for a motto:—

"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 prevent the shameful dilapidation into which a great empire must fall by mean reparation upon mighty ruins."

Free-trade movements, during the past week, have been concentrated on elections. The result of the Kendal election is not a little gratifying, considering the foul influences which were at work, more especially when spiritual perversion was superadded to temporal influence. The news from Salisbury are exceedingly cheering; the triumph of free trade there would a triumph indeed, and we are not without strong hopes of seeing it. We have referred to this subject in another part of this number.

A new drama is opening in Dublin, of which those who have commenced the first act are unable to see the termination. The Government is, in fact, in a very awkward position. To obtain a conviction of Mr O'Connell and his accused associates will turn out to be a more difficult task than the Irish Attorney-General anticipated; and the abandonment of the proceedings will cover the authorities with shame and disgrace. Even the *Times* is induced to ask:—

"But the end—the result of these proceedings—what will that be?"

Whatever it be, it cannot fail to effect in the most momentous degree the tranquillity of the two countries. Whichever way the verdict be given, it will fall on no listless ears, on no unimpassioned minds. The apathy which a protracted examination produces will be dispelled; the Irish character will show itself in all its wild enthusiasm. If the prisoners be acquitted, the tidings of acquittal will be borne through the length and breadth of Ireland by *estafettes* of fire. Bonfires blazing on every hill will announce to the peasantry that 'Dan has beaten the Government.' The Repealers will once more stand on 'vantage ground; and the necessity of resorting to other measures be practically demonstrated. If, on the other hand, they be convicted, there will be some little danger and no little difficulty to be encountered. The danger of punishing a popular leader is not trifling when the party which he heads is faithful to itself, and united by the bonds of good faith and unquestionable unity of purpose. In the present instance there is at least as much to hope from the hollow selfishness, the deliberate treachery, and the vacillating courage of the Repealers, as from the firmness or good management of the castle authorities."

The Irish Attorney-General, Mr Smith, though the son of a first-rate man, turns out to be no cleverer than the ordinary run of Smiths. He was brought into Parliament, as a powerful accession to the present Government; and he had scarcely opened his mouth in the House of Commons before he broke down. His first regular "job" was the conduct of the Irish Arms Act through the House; and in this he failed most woefully. Like a small lawyer, he peddled, and peddled, and peddled, until he could do no more than repeat his peddling; and his dull, pompous pertinacity was a main cause of the opposition which the bill encountered. Sir Robert Peel, in despair, had to send for the English Attorney and Solicitor-Generals, Sir Frederick Pollock and Sir William Follett, and compel them to attend in their places, neglecting their other important avocations, in order to do the work of the Irish Attorney-General, who sat sulkily silent, only opening his mouth when he was permitted to throw in a word, without the risk of damaging the question he had in hand. Though wishing to avoid anything like treating a subject in a party spirit, and more especially to avoid anything like an *animus* against a public man, on individual grounds, we must confess that there appears to us to be both point and truth in the following picture of the Irish Attorney-General by the *Morning Chronicle*:—

"Mr Smith is reported to be a gentleman well versed in Tidd, and possessed of other similar qualifications, which would have made him an excellent attorney. In carrying on an action of trover or assumpsit—preparing a witness, or picking holes in a pleading—he would have been distinguished above his fellows, but nature does not seem to have originally intended him for a position of extensive influence and weighty responsibility. A tincture of conceit in his manner, and a tincture of learning in his mind, are not enough to sustain the burden of duties arising out of the circumstances of such a time. In his elevation he has an infirm and rickety appearance. A man trying to stand in the water with bladders at his toes, could hardly be in more imminent danger of tumbling upon his head than the Irish Attorney-General, who seems to be buoyed up by extraneous force into a region which makes him giddy."

To such a man is committed the grave and important task of conducting the pleadings of a government against a people. For, whatever may be our opinion of the conduct of Mr O'Connell and his associates, it must not be forgotten that a very large proportion of the Irish people are enthusiastically in favour of the repeal of the Union. It is a government *political* prosecution on a great scale, and one which, above all others, called for the exercise of self-control, caution, and whatever else might surround the proceeding with dignity. In a free country like this, every prosecution undertaken by a government on *political* grounds is, and should be, scrutinized with jealousy, and watched with care. This is now keenly felt in England; and the present Attorney-General, Sir Frederick Pollock, has obtained a deserved reputation for the mildness, urbanity, discretion, and fairness with which, whether in "Chartist" or "Rebecca" trials, he has wielded the formidable powers of the Crown in his hands. Quite the reverse of this appears to be the conduct of Mr Smith, the Irish Attorney-General, who seems waspish, eager, impatient for conviction, and who, in his undignified yet pedantic hurry, has committed so many blunders, as to compel the *Times* to exclaim:—

"We cannot indeed compliment the Government on the administrative talents of their Dublin officials. There has been much negligence, much mismanagement. The emergencies of the times demand an economy of blunders. Unfortunately, these gentry have been recklessly prodigal of this article. Let us hope that they have exhausted their stock, at least for the season. No man, neither friend nor foe, will forgive blunders. The Liberal repudiates the involuntary offspring of imbecility; the admirer of a strong Executive despises the complication of halting indecision and indolent civility which fritters away great occasions without conciliating hostility or inspiring respect."

Though the *Times* affects to think that "patience and attention" will be exhausted before the proceedings, in their slow progress, will be brought to a conclusion, we apprehend that they will be watched with very great eagerness throughout, and perhaps terminate in results not altogether anticipated.

Meantime, we are glad to perceive that the Royal Commission, at the head of which is the Earl of Devon, is about to commence its labours into the law of landlord and tenant. Talk as we like about the inviolability of property, the relation of landlord and tenant is one of the great sources of Irish grievances, and we will make but little progress until it is thoroughly probed.

Thursday was the 9th of November; or, in terms more distinctly appreciable in the "City," it was "Lord Mayor's Day." The day being dry, a considerable number turned out to see the procession by land and water; the glories of which, grumbling old stagers say, grow dimmer every year. Guildhall, however, still maintains its princely hospitality; and the Lord Mayor who has just retired, Mr Alderman Humphrey, M.P. for Southwark, had the gratification of receiving a very marked, and, we believe, a very deserved compliment from Sir Robert Peel, for the manner in which he has discharged his official duties. Otherwise, the eating and drinking, and the dancing, appear to have been far better than the speeches.

## FREE-TRADE MOVEMENTS.

## ELECTIONS.

## CITY OF LONDON ELECTION.—DINNER IN SOUTHWARK.

On Tuesday a dinner was given by the friends and supporters of Mr Pattison, M.P., and the advocates of free trade in the borough of Southwark, at the Three Tuns tavern, St Margaret's hill, in celebration of the recent triumph of free-trade principles in the city of London. We observed Mr W. Hawes, chairman; Mr Pattison, M.P.; Mr B. Hawes, sen.; Mr Pattison, jun.; Mr Travers, Mr James Wilson, Mr Heppell, Mr George Wansley, &c. &c. Mr Pattison was received with loud cheers on his entering the room. The usual toasts of "The Queen" and "Prince Albert, and the rest of the Royal family" having been drunk,

The Chairman rose to propose that they should drink to the "Success of free trade and the abolition of all restrictive duties on commerce." (Cheers.) By free trade he did not mean the entire clearance of all duties and of all customs and excise, as though the necessities of the state did not require that some duties should be imposed; but what he meant was the entire freedom of food from all taxation whatever (cheering), and the repeal of all such duties as should not be absolutely essential for purposes of revenue, or as should be levied for the maintenance and protection of particular interests and classes. (Cheers.) He conceived that by the continuance of the existing restrictions men sought by their own acts to thwart the great and just laws of Providence. (Hear, hear.)

The toast was drunk amid loud cheering.

The Chairman then proposed the health of Mr Pattison, their respected representative, who, in responding to the toast, assured the assembled party of his inability to express himself in adequate language, in answer to the honour which had been conferred on him. He had been called forth by the partiality of his friends, for he had retired from political strife, and had proposed to remain in quiet and obscurity. He was fully aware of the great popularity of the cause which he sought to represent: it was a cause which, in common with all other liberal measures, he had ever supported. He could only say for the future, that they would always find him at his post, as he believed he had ever been heretofore. (Cheers.) He did not regret a single vote that he had ever given; he could assure them that he would not retract one if he had the power. (Cheers.) The struggle in which they had been engaged was a momentous one; he believed that no single-handed battle had ever created more excitement. In every part of the country its result had been looked forward to with the greatest anxiety. Had they been beaten he knew not what might have been the consequences. Such an event, however, with the support which they had had must have been impossible. They had had the warm support of large bodies of electors, whose votes had secured the election. The Jews had supported them. (Hear, hear.) He had no doubt that attempts had been made to postpone the day of election in a quarter where no private or party influence ought to have prevailed, in order that the polling might be had on the Jewish sabbath; but the members of that body had nevertheless come manfully to the poll (cheers), and a deep debt of gratitude was due to them. He had been vilified because he was a supporter of the League. All such abuse he had treated with contempt. (Cheers.) He had become a Leaguer long before he had ever thought of again entering Parliament, and he believed that that was a body which did vast service to the country, and that the citizens of London more especially had good reason to be thankful to them. (Cheers.) He would say no more now, except earnestly to request those who had given him their support to endeavour to keep the steam up with a view to any future contest. (Cheers.) There was no knowing when or how soon a contest might take place; let them take example from past events, and show, by increased unity, that they were determined not again to allow their interests to be sacrificed to their apathy. (Cheers.) Mr Pattison concluded by proposing the health of the Liberal electors of the city of London resident in the borough of Southwark. (Cheers.)

Mr Pocock returned thanks.

After several toasts had been drunk and responded to, the meeting separated, highly delighted at the sentiments expressed, and which seemed so unanimously to be felt by all present.

## REPRESENTATION OF THE BOROUGH OF KENDAL.

On Tuesday last the nomination of candidates for this borough took place in the Market place. The Mayor opened the proceedings with the usual formalities.

Mr Wilson, of Abbott's Hall, proposed Mr George Bentinck as a fit and proper person to represent the borough in Parliament.

Mr Tobias Atkinson seconded the nomination.

Thompson Burdloss, Esq., proposed Henry Warburton, Esq., as a free trader.

The nomination was seconded by J. J. Wilson, Esq.

George Bentinck, Esq., came forward and said:—Gentlemen, we are assembled here to-day on a melancholy occasion. (Laughter.) I repeat it—we are, I say, assembled for the purpose of selecting a representative for your borough in the place of the late Mr Wood, whose sudden and lamentable death we, most of all, deplore. Though differing from him on most points of politics (and I had the honour of his personal acquaintance), in common with most others, I am ready to render tribute to the good qualities of his heart, and no one can speak in his praise with greater cordiality than myself. (Hear, hear.) I must begin by thanking my friends for the kind manner in which they have supported me, and for the active assistance I have received from them, and also my opponents for the courtesy they have evinced in my canvass on the present occasion. I am a supporter of the present Government, for I believe that this country has been in a more flourishing and prosperous state with respect to agriculture, manufactures, and commerce of every description—all are in a more flourishing state than they were after ten years of the rule of the Whig Government. (Hear, and "That's an assertion, let us have some proof.") You will bear in mind that the present Government, when they came into office, had to rectify the evil effects caused by the mistakes and mismanagement of their predecessors. At that time the expenditure of the country greatly exceeded the income.—The honourable candidate then proceeded to justify the imposition of the income tax, on the ground that the Conservative Government were obliged to make up the deficiency in the revenue in some way or other. He next adverted to the poor laws, and said that although the old poor law had its defects, he would rather have had those defects amended, and he would vote for the repeal of the new poor law. He objected to the repeal of the corn laws, and concluded amidst great applause.

Henry Warburton, Esq., then rose and said: I have received the greatest courtesy from the gentlemen on the opposite side with one exception, which I would not name, but that one has, I think, exceeded the ordinary

course of opposition to a candidate of whose opinions he disapproves. (Hear, hear.) Now, allow me to tell you that if this were merely an ordinary contest—if this were a contest in which merely local topics would arise—I might address you on those topics; but in this contest, where the influence of a certain great family has been exercised to a great extent, I am bold to tell you that I think it hardly fair for that family which returns the two members for the county of Westmoreland to attempt to interfere in the election for the borough of Kendal. (Cheers.) I do not complain of my honourable opponent, the other candidate. He is perfectly right in trying to obtain a seat in the House of Commons and making the most of any influence he may derive from that source; but I do say, that with regard to the great family to which I have alluded, it is hardly fair or just that it should endeavour to exercise its influence without the consent of this borough. (Loud cheers.)

The honourable gentleman then went into a lengthened speech, in which he showed to the meeting that it was unimportant whether it was himself or Mr Bentinck that was returned, but it was the principle that was at issue—whether free trade was to progress, or monopoly and mis-called protection to continue. Mr Warburton next alluded to the disturbances in Wales, for which he blamed the magistracy of the principality, and declared himself a free trader, and a friend to the extension of the suffrage. He alluded to the borough of Kendal, which, with its 12,000 inhabitants, had only a constituency of 390 registered electors, and concluded by asking their suffrages.

The Mayor then called for a show of hands, when a large majority, about three-fourths, held up their hands for Mr Warburton, upon whom his worship declared the choice had fallen.

A poll was then demanded on behalf of Mr Bentinck, and after an address from Mr John Bright the proceedings terminated.

On Wednesday, Mr Warburton was returned by a majority of 65, the numbers being—for Warburton, 182; for Bentinck, 119: majority for Warburton, 63.

The free traders have achieved a glorious triumph over the house of Lonsdale. Notwithstanding the strong persuaders applied by the agents of Mr Bentinck, the free-traders have triumphed, by a majority greater than the most sanguine of their supporters could have expected. Mr Warburton took the lead from the commencement, and at one time he was nearly a hundred ahead.

As was expected the day did not pass off without a disturbance, Mr Tate, the landlord of the Nag's Head, was attacked by the Yellow (Tory) lambs, and now lies in a dangerous state; having lost the sight of one eye, and, at the same time, labouring under a concussion of the brain. He is now in a doubtful state.

At the close of the polling Mr Warburton and others addressed the electors upon free trade chiefly.

SALISBURY ELECTION.—The accounts that reach London of the progress of the canvass at Salisbury in favour of Mr Bouverie, the free-trade candidate, are of so encouraging a nature, that those who are acquainted with the constituency give it as their opinion, should the results of the next few days be but equal to those of the last, that the return of that gentleman may be regarded as certain. From the enthusiasm among the resident supporters of the free-trade cause, and the body of light diffused thereon by the exertions of the League, much may be hoped; and if Salisbury do but follow the succession of noble examples set it by Durham, London, and Kendal, the triumph of principle over corruption will be great indeed.

HOXTON ANTI-CORN-LAW ASSOCIATION.—At a highly respectable and crowded meeting of this association, held on Wednesday evening, the 8th instant, at the North Briton, near Hoxton Church, Mr Sidney Smith attended, and delivered an address on the present distressed state of the agricultural and manufacturing interests of the country. He congratulated the meeting on the late splendid victory in returning Mr Pattison to represent the City of London, and to follow up that victory he advised every one present to attend more closely to the registration of voters for members of Parliament in his own locality, and by that means they would be enabled to return such men as would carry out their views in the Commons House of Parliament. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr Sidney Smith for his able address, and one to the chairman for his conduct in the chair.

## FOREIGN.

## FRANCE.

The *Gazette de France* of Saturday evening denies that the members of the Legitimist party, who have left Paris to meet the Duke of Bordeaux in London, have gone on his Royal Highness's invitation. The only invitation given by the Duke of Bordeaux was given to M. de Chateaubriand.

The King and Royal family are still at St Cloud. On Saturday the Turkish ambassador had an audience of his Majesty, to present a portrait of the Sultan from the Sultan himself.

The *Moniteur* of Sunday contains an ordonnance dated the 1st of November, from the King, promoting M. Queral to the rank of Rear-Admiral, and giving a great number of other officers a step in their several ranks. Thirteen commanders are made post-captains, seventeen lieutenants are made commanders in the navy, and a hundred and twenty officers of inferior rank are promoted to the rank of lieutenant.

The French Government has, within the last few days, received tenders for the locomotive engines on the railways which have been constructed under its direction. The low rate of the offers has excited surprise.

At a recent meeting of the French council of ministers, the King insisted upon the fulfilment of the promise formerly made by the Ministry that they would present to the Chambers a proposition for a dotation for the Duke of Nemours, in his quality of future Regent of the Kingdom. There appears to have been some hesitation on the part of the Ministers, which is said to have led to some negotiation between the Court and M. Thiers. This personage is said to have promised to vote in favour of the measure, and it is hoped that he may be induced to vote for it.

## SPAIN.

The Madrid journals of the 30th ult. contain the report of the commission on the Queen's majority, drawn up and read by Martinez de la Rosa. There is nothing new in its arguments, which are conclusive enough. They amount to this, that Spain has been brought to such a state that no authority can possibly be recognised or respected except the Royal authority. That of Regent, of Cortes, of Municipalities, every-

thing constitutional, has been trodden under foot, and destroyed by inability and by popular insurrection, excited by the very men who now state their inability to master the discords they have created. They say, indeed, that declaring the Queen of age will do it, and that her name will impose respect upon the turbulent. But this altogether depends on the persons charged with acting in the name of the Queen. There are, however, strong reasons for declaring the Queen of age. The first is, to put a stop to the enormous expense of a plurality of Regents. Now that Espartero has been overturned, at no small cost, Christina demands her arrears of salary as Regent, amounting to little less than a million sterling; and nearly equal to the whole Salamanca loan. A few more such revolutions, at similar expense, and followed with similar claims, and Spain will be bankrupt indeed.

#### MEXICO.

A letter from Mexico, September 26th, says:—Our relations with England are becoming daily less and less friendly. The non-fulfilment of some pecuniary contracts has given cause for several bitter communications, and the conduct of the new chargé d'affaires is such as to make us believe that England wishes to bring things to a crisis. Among the flags and colours taken by the Mexicans from the Texans, an English flag had, by some accident, been found, and already Mr Pakenham had, before his departure from here, applied to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, requesting that, if an English flag should be found among the trophies, it might be given up to him, as it could not by any possibility be said to belong to the Mexicans. Mr Pakenham had received no answer to this application, and nothing more had been heard of the affair, until the other day, when the anniversary of the surrender of the Spaniards at Tampico, in the year 1829, was celebrated by a ball, and the great saloon was decorated by the flags and colours above-mentioned. Mr Doyle, the present chargé d'affaires, heard, before attending the ball, that an English flag was paraded among the rest, but on inquiry this was denied. Nevertheless, on his arrival, he found the flag as stated, and immediately applied to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Bocanegra, to have this obnoxious flag removed during supper, when it might be done without being observed. This also was denied, after an application by Bocanegra to Santa Anna; consequently all the Englishmen left the ball-room, and several bitter, nay, hostile notes, have been exchanged. On the 27th, a second national festival was celebrated, and the captured flags, the British among the rest, were again paraded. Mr Doyle declared, in a note dated at twelve o'clock on that day, that the diplomatic relations between the British and Mexican nations had ceased, and communicated the same, through the consul, to all British subjects; adding, that they now stood merely under the protection of the consul. Previous to this, Mr Doyle had sent an express with despatches to Vera Cruz, with which a man-of-war lying there had immediately sailed, it is said, for Jamaica, to communicate with the British admiral there.

The *Augsburg Gazette* of the 2nd inst. publishes the following extract from a letter dated from the frontiers of Poland, 25th ult.:—"I can now announce to you, without fear of contradiction, that his Majesty the Emperor Nicholas has formally disapproved of the Greek revolution, dismissed M. Katukazi, his representative at Athens, and ordered that his conduct, in having manifested too strong a feeling in favour of the new order of things, should be made the subject of a strict investigation. I am authorized to add, that the troops concentrated at Kiew are to be marched towards the Pruth."

#### ARRIVAL OF THE OVERLAND MAIL.

##### INDIA.

Intelligence despatched from Bombay on the 2nd of October reached Marseilles in the afternoon of the 2nd inst. in the *Alecto* steamer. We have advices from Calcutta to the 19th of September, and from China to the 3rd of August. The latter, however, add nothing to the news brought direct from Hong Kong to Suez by the *Akbar* steamer.

The principal item of intelligence from India is an insurrection at Lahore, and the murder of Shere Singh, his son Purtaub Singh, and all their families, on the 15th of September. The Sirdar Ajeet Singh is the perpetrator of this diabolical tragedy. General Ventura and party attacked the murderer, but were defeated. The Rajah's body was cut up by Ajeet Singh, and his head placed on a spear. The Rajah's son was killed at the entrance of the town. The wives and children of the murdered victims fell a prey to the murderers, even to a child who was born on the day before. The crime was afterwards avenged by the assassination of Dhyani Singh by the actual murderer of the king. A boy, who is said to be a son of Runjeet, now ten years old, has been placed on the throne, under the protection of the Vizier, a son or brother of Dhyani Singh.

The following are the extracts from the *Delhi Gazette* on this subject:—"This event took place at the north gate of Lahore, about a mile and a half from the palace, at half-past nine o'clock on the morning of the 15th. The conspiracy was formed by Fakeer Azeez-ood-deen and Dhyani Singh, and it fell to the lot of Sirdar Ajeet Singh to execute it; Sirdars Golab Singh, Lena Singh (Majetteea), and Sochet Singh were also concerned; Dhyani Singh made the arrangement by proposing to the Maharajah to inspect Ajeet Singh's troops, which the Maharajah said he would do the following morning, and orders were accordingly issued. On the Maharajah's arrival at the parade ground he found fault with the appearance and condition of some horsemen purposely placed to attract attention, when Ajeet Singh became saucy, words ran high, and drawing a pistol from his bosom, he (Ajeet Singh) shot Shere Singh through the head, the ball having entered his right temple. General Ventura and his party attacked the murderer, but being opposed by a powerful body of troops, were defeated. Ajeet Singh cut up the Rajah's body, placed his head on a spear, and on entering the town met Prince Purtaub Singh's suwarie, which was immediately attacked, and the prince killed; the palace was taken, and Dulleep Singh, the only remaining son of Runjeet Singh, a lad ten years old, proclaimed to the throne. The treasury was thrown open, and the troops paid up their arrears of pay; every child and all of Shere Singh's and Prince Purtaub Singh's wives were then brought out and murdered, amongst the rest one of Shere Singh's sons only born the previous evening. Troops were sent off to guard all the ghauts, and all the opposite party (except Ventura, who escaped) made prisoners. Ajeet Singh after having killed Shere Singh was returning to the fort and met Dhyani Singh; he told him he had done the deed, and asked him to return; he got into Dhyani Singh's carriage, and when they got near the gate of the fort, Ajeet Singh stabbed Dhyani Singh, and sent his body to his brother, Sochet Singh, and his son, Heera Singh. These two individuals surrounded the city with their troops, the people inside continued plundering all night. In the morning (16th) Heera Singh having entered the fort, seized Ajeet Singh, Lena Singh, and others, and having put them to death, exposed their heads in the plain and threw their bodies into the

bazaar. Dhulleep Singh has been put on the gudgee, and Heera Singh made Vuzeer. Six hundred men were slaughtered on both sides."

This is a most important event, for it proves that the empire founded with so much labour by Runjeet is on the eve of dislocation. As if it were in anticipation of the events of Lahore, a large army had been ordered by Lord Ellenborough to prepare to assemble on the banks of the Jumna.

The greatest interest is excited in India by the revolution in Lahore, which, it is expected, will terminate in placing that country, with nearly 4,000,000 inhabitants, and a revenue of upwards of 2,000,000 sterling, under the dominion of great Britain.

In the interior of India tranquillity prevails. Gwalior appears quiet for the moment, although there was great alarm created there when the intention of the Supreme Government to collect troops became known. Bundelkund is also at rest. Lord Ellenborough remains at Barrackpore, whence he is expected to proceed soon to the north-western provinces. Sir Hugh Gough has taken the command of the army. The monsoon has been eminently favourable to the agricultural products of the country.

#### AGRICULTURAL VARIETIES.

ENGLISH CATTLE IN BELGIUM.—For several years the government has given its serious attention to the improvement of the breed of horned cattle in Belgium; it has several times imported bulls and heifers of foreign raising, and their first trials have had a very favourable result; some doubts, however, having arisen respecting the quality of the Durham breed, though the Minister of the Interior had long possessed positive information on the subject, he resolved to send this year a professor of the public veterinary and agricultural school to England, with instructions to attend to great agricultural meetings at Derby, to examine the several breeds of cattle in England, as also the questions connected with the subject. He has returned from his mission, and has addressed a long report to the minister, containing a detailed description of the several breeds of horned cattle and sheep, and some observations on the English pastures, which he says are far inferior to those of Belgium, both in the quantity and quality of their produce, which is owing, he adds, to the nature of the soil in England, which is generally bad.—*Belgium paper.*

—The prospects of the farmer, this year, are greatly better than they were at this time twelvemonth. The revival of trade has already given a stimulus to the agricultural markets, and as there has been a good crop, and the prices such as will permit farmers to live, they are again recovering their spirits, and will be enabled to furnish the usual quota of work to the day labourer.—*Glasgow Citizen.*

#### COMMERCE AND COMMERCIAL MARKETS.

FRIDAY NIGHT.—Trade of all kinds continues on a very limited scale, but there is great confidence in the price and position of most of the leading articles. Indeed, there was perhaps never a time known when business could be considered as so free from any artificial impulse, and on so legitimate and safe a footing. Prices of all things are moderate—many cheap—and money abundant, yet no disposition is manifested to go out of the strict business of every-day consumption. It will be well that it continue so.

INDIGO.—The accounts received by the last mail from India leave no doubt that the culture of indigo has succeeded this season to the greatest satisfaction of the planters, as the outturn is likely to be not only abundant, but of good quality also, being the result of the most favourable weather, almost during the whole progress of growing and manufacturing. The estimates of the crop still vary, as usual at this time of the year, but as most letters mention 140,000 to 150,000 maunds as probable, we presume that this year's crop will not materially fall short of that of the year 1841, which produced 162,000 maunds, the largest product ever known. As these accounts did not come quite unexpected, they have not had any very striking effect on the market, which has for the last week or two been without any animation, the shipping season being nearly over, and the home trade well supplied from the extensive purchases made in the last October sales and immediately after. The brokers are offering Indigo of former sales, or such as have not yet passed sales, a shade under the late currency, but there are not now any buyers for parcels, and only small quantities for shipping, and the home trade have this week been disposed of at moderate rates. The total stocks of Indigo in the London warehouses were, on the 1st of this month, 20,533 chests, against 22,660 chests on the 1st of November, 1842, and 18,539 chests in 1841. To the present stock must be added about 1,700 chests arrived but not landed, and about 3,000 chests more of former crops still to be expected from Calcutta, and about 1,000 chests Madras of last season's crop. These quantities will form the total supply until May next, when the new crop of Indigo generally begins to arrive. At the corresponding time of each of the former years larger quantities of Indigo were still behind, but the crop of 1842 having been a very small one, and only produced about 78,000 maunds, the stocks at present in our bonded warehouses cannot be large, and will continue to decrease until the summer of 1844. The export has been much smaller this year, it amounts to only 12,422 chests during the first ten months of the year, but was 16,153 chests in the corresponding time 1842, and 15,161 chests in 1841. The continental dealers have held less Indigo this year in consequence of a depressed trade in manufactures in almost every part of the continent, arising from the inability of the people to consume, since human food has been at rates from 30 to 60 per cent. higher than in ordinary years, but this impediment gradually vanishing through the good and abundant corn crops of this year, it is presumed that the consumption of Indigo and everything else requisite for manufacturing on the continent, will be on a much larger scale next year. The home consumption has required this year so far 6,965 chests, against 8,371 chests last, and 7,873 chests the preceding year, the average therefore does not materially vary, if we add upwards of 1,000 serons of Spanish Indigo, equal to nearly 600 chests East India, which have been this year taken beyond the quantities in each of the preceding two years. The value of Indigo is now for good and fine as cheap as at any time since the years 1831 and 1832, when diminished consumption in Europe, and large supplies forced the prices down to the lowest rates ever known. Middling and low sorts, however, are now somewhat dearer than at the time alluded to, and are likely to decline when the new crop comes in operation.

COCHINEAL.—The stocks on the 1st of this month were in the London warehouses 3,282 serons, against 2,183 serons, at the same time in 1842 and 2,870 serons in 1841. The public sales held last week were well attended by buyers for the Mediterranean, but a small sale of about 60 serons Hon-





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