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The Political Economist.

ECONOMY AND ITS COUNTERFEIT.

THE cry for cheap government is one which has been so pertinaciously raised for the last two years; it is supported by so active and energetic a party of politicians; it finds naturally such a ready welcome in the popular mind; it comprises so indisputable a nucleus of truth surrounded by such a vast nebula of plausibility;—that it becomes necessary seriously and fully to examine what cheap government really is.

In public as in private affairs there is a true and a false, a genuine and a counterfeit, a shortsighted and a comprehensive—economy. There is a spirit of shallow, ungenerous, and niggard parsimony, which looks only to the cost of the public service, and not to the mode in which that service is performed; which considers an official salary as excessive if any fairly competent individual could be found to undertake the duty for less remuneration; which would put the service of the state on the same footing as the contract for the supply of a workhouse, and have it *done by tender*; which would starve departments that, to be efficient, require to be managed with a liberal, and even an unsparing hand; which, in a word, looks only to present saving, and disregards the future outlay and the ultimate extravagance which injudicious and untimely saving may entail. And there is a wise, sound, and far-sighted economy which is profoundly convinced that in an empire such as ours the best government is the cheapest whatever be its money cost; which is conscious that where millions are at stake, hundreds must be often disregarded; that expenditure may often be cheaper than saving; that, in fine, it is wise, necessary, and economical for the state to secure the services of its ablest citizens, and to keep every department of the public service in the highest and most perfect efficiency, whatever be the expenditure requisite for these purposes.

We do not suppose that any of the financial reformers—that any one with whom it is worth while to argue, or whose opinions can have any weight with the country—will dispute these propositions as we have affirmed them. For, consider for a moment what consequences may depend upon the conduct of any high official or the condition of any branch of the naval or military service. The Governor-General of India has 25,000*l* a year:—Upon his decision regarding the arrangement of a frontier line, the treatment of an intriguing Rajah, the preservation or demolition of a distant

fortress, may depend whether we shall escape or be involved in an Indian war, with all its grievous consequences,—frightful loss of life, deplorable augmentation of territory, and a waste of treasure equal to the salaries of a hundred governors. The Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland has 20,000*l* a year:—Supposing that the present Viceroy, finding that such salary would not enable him to discharge the functions of the office without unwarrantable dilapidation of his private fortune, had declined the appointment, and that it had in consequence fallen into the hands of wealthier but less competent and prudent hands,—is there any one who imagines that 1848 and 1849 would have passed over without a catastrophe more detrimental and more costly to the empire than the salaries of all the viceroys from the time of Cromwell until now? The First Lord of the Admiralty has 4,500*l* a year, and the Junior Lords have about 1,000*l* each:—Incompetent knowledge or imperfect judgment on the part of these officers may and does lead to the expenditure of millions in wasteful experiments, in injudicious enterprises, in profitless outlay. The same remarks will apply to every department. In the Army or the Ordnance, carelessness, haste, or incapacity, may throw away millions of the public money, either by mismanagement of stores, permitting imperfect workmanship, or inadequate supervision in any branch, or by allowing valuable scientific discoveries or applications of such to die away for want of encouragement, or to fall into the hands of foreign powers. There is probably no official in any situation of authority or trust who has it not in his power, according to his capacity or incapacity, to waste or to save the nation ten times the amount of his official salary. The first duty and object of the Government should therefore be to secure in every department the very best men whom patriotism, ambition, or emolument can induce to serve them, and to pay ungrudgingly any remuneration needed for this purpose. It may be very true (as will be objected) that the highest pay is no certain means of obtaining the highest capacity; and we shall recur to this part of the subject shortly. All that we now wish to impress upon our readers is, that *the highest rate of remuneration needed to secure the highest quality of service is the cheapest to the country.*

If the great British nation were, like a private individual, possessed only of a fixed limited income which no exertion could increase, it would then be a matter of simple necessity as well as duty to proportion our expenditure to that income, whatever the consequences might be. We should be compelled to organise our servants and establishments on a scale suited to our means—to leave objects unattained, however important, for which we could not pay the necessary price—to leave work undone which we could not manage to do—to incur perils which it would be too costly to provide against—and to forego the services of those superior talents which we could not afford to remunerate. But this is not our case: not only must we obtain at any price those objects, and do at any cost those deeds, which concern our national safety and prosperity; but we can well afford to do so. And we are satisfied that Englishmen, though justly indignant at past recklessness and waste, and wisely resolute to forbid all similar extravagance in future, will never grudge, and will scarcely even feel, any expenditure which is really necessary to the maintenance of the national honour or the national position.

That much economy may be effected in various branches of the public service by watchful parliamentary supervision, not only without impairing their efficiency, but even compatibly with an augmentation of it, we entertain no doubt whatever. We have often expressed our conviction to this effect. And now that public attention has been once fairly aroused, we do not feel any apprehension that we shall relapse into our old habits of easy *insouciance*. The danger now lies in the opposite direction; and we think it so important that the English public should not be led astray on this matter, and should not proceed to action without a clear knowledge of the facts of the case, that, before proceeding to explain the principles which should guide us in our State expenditure, we shall collect a few figures which will show that even now our Government is not fairly chargeable with extravagance on the whole (whatever may have been the case till lately in our dockyards and in some other places); but that, on the con-

trary, a fair comparison with other great nations similarly or nearly similarly situated, will show that our State expenditure is light rather than heavy. We shall take most of our figures from Mr Norman and Mr Porter; and our readers will feel satisfied that figures which have passed under the review of these two gentlemen may be fully relied upon.

But first we must observe that no other country is altogether similarly circumstanced with Great Britain. France indeed exceeds us in population; but France has scarcely any colonies except Algeria. Austria and Prussia exceed us in extent of home territory; but they have no colonies and little commerce. Holland has rich colonies and a prosperous and extensive commerce, but her population scarcely reaches 3,300,000, and her colonies are no drain upon her; while the colonial possessions of Spain are a main source of her wealth. We have a home population of 30,000,000, a commerce of unrivalled magnitude, and dependencies in every part of the world; rising colonies which require protection and fostering care, and imperfectly subdued vassals who need strong repression and control. Our colonial empire alone, according to Messrs Norman and Porter, cost us between four and five millions annually, or one-sixth of our *active* expenditure (exclusive, that is, of the interest of the debt). Yet *including* this colonial expenditure, our actual expenditure for purposes of Government is only 19s 4d per head, *excluding* it only 16s 6d; while that of Holland is 18s 4d; that of Spain 18s 3d; and that of France before 1848, 26s 4d, and since 31s. Now, if we bear in mind the fact that the average incomes of Englishmen are far higher than those of either Dutchmen, Spaniards, or Frenchmen, this will show that, for the active expenses of Government, we are decidedly more lightly taxed than our neighbours; and if we bear in mind the further fact that the remuneration of all services—the clerk, the lawyer, the peasant, the artisan—is far higher in England than on the continent, and that *Government has to compete for these services in the open market against other paymasters*, we shall see reason to believe that, so far from being extravagant, we are unquestionably economical in our public expenditure.

The truth is, that though with us the State, from the above-named circumstances, is compelled to pay a high rate of remuneration, yet it economises by employing far fewer public servants than either France, Austria, or Prussia, or any European state. The civil administration of Great Britain in 1835 employed only 23,578 persons at a cost of 2,786,000*l.*, while in Austria the number is said to be 120,000, and in France in 1843 it reached the amazing figure of 597,720 at a cost of 308 million of francs, or 12,000,000*l.* sterling. Four-fifths of these were employed under the Ministers of the Interior and of Finance. If we pass from the civil administration to the naval and military services, we find the comparison still favourable to England. The aggregate standing forces of Europe reach two millions on a population of two hundred millions, being on an average one per cent. This proportion would give for Britain 300,000 soldiers and sailors, instead of which she has only 150,000. Again, France with few colonies and little commerce has as numerous and extensive a navy as England with her ships and dependencies spread over the globe. Her standing army exceeds 450,000 men; ours reaches 110,000; that of Russia, 670,000; that of Austria, 400,000; that of Prussia, 120,000, besides the Landwehr; that of Holland, 100,000; and that of Belgium, 90,000.

Perhaps on a future occasion we may find space for a more searching comparison of the real cost—the actual burden entailed upon the country—of the military and naval establishments of the four great powers of Europe. At present we have said enough to show that the common charge of prodigality brought against the English Government is not borne out by facts. In our next number we propose to examine the Report of the Committee on Official Salaries, and to lay down the principles which should guide the State in apportioning the remuneration of its servants.

CALIFORNIAN AND RUSSIAN GOLD.

THE EFFECT ON THE CURRENCY AND ON PRICES.

ACCORDING to the last accounts received from the United States, the quantity of gold which had been received from California amounted to rather more than 25,000,000 dollars, or 5,000,000*l.* It would be a moderate calculation to say, that the gold which had been exported to China, to the South Sea Islands, to Australia, and to all other places, and that which remained on hand at San Francisco on the 1st of July, was equal to one-fifth of what had been actually received in the United States, which would make the entire production of gold in California 6,000,000*l.* in little more than eighteen months; and knowing how scant the population was during the earlier part of the period compared with the latter part, the least proportion of that sum that we can suppose to have been produced during the last entire year is 4,500,000*l.* The last year for which we have authentic official accounts of the production of Siberia and the Ural Mountains is 1846. For seven years prior the production had been rapidly increasing. From 1840 it had risen from 585 poods to 1,722 poods in 1846. Since then we have no reason to believe that the production has not been fully maintained. But as there is a duty of 20 to 25 per cent. levied

by the Government on the produce, it is well known that the actual quantity obtained considerably exceeds the official quantity returned. The calculation which has always been made on this score is, that the real quantity is at least 20 per cent. larger than the declared quantity. At this rate, the value of the gold produced in Russia in 1846 was 4,232,809*l.* Therefore, between California and Russia, the two comparatively new sources of supply, we cannot estimate the present annual produce of gold at less than 8,500,000*l.* How long this rate of production will continue, is, however, as yet a very doubtful question.

We do not propose in this article to enter into any calculation as to the relative entire supply of, and demand for, gold. That question we will consider at another time. But of course whatever conclusion we might arrive at on that subject, would be less or more a matter of opinion. We cannot then be surprised if, in the face of so large a supply from two new sources, a very general impression should prevail that gold must fall in value, as it did after the discovery of the American mines. But as there appears the greatest confusion of ideas prevailing with regard to the effect which such a reduction of value would produce upon our currency, it may be extremely useful to consider the force of some of those opinions:—

1. There was a rumour very prevalent some time ago, and which was believed in by many not only influential, but intelligent persons, that it was the intention of the Government, in consequence of the discovery of California, to introduce a Bill to relieve the Bank of England of its liability, under the Charter of 1844, to pay for all uncoined gold the price of 3*l.* 17s 9d the oz,—the difference making up the price of 3*l.* 17s 10½d being allowed for the trouble of getting it coined at the Mint, and for the loss of interest during the time required. The rumour referred to arose out of reasoning in the following way:—The Bank undertook that obligation before the discovery of California, and without any reasonable expectation either on the part of the Bank, or of the public, that any new source of supply would be discovered likely in any way to affect the value of gold;—that as the Bank undertook this obligation without any profit beyond the bare cost attending the coining of the metal at the Mint, it is a very hard thing to inflict upon it a serious loss, by holding it to a bargain of the kind, under the very unexpected circumstance of the discovery of California;—and, therefore, it would be but fair that the Legislature should relieve the Bank, by reducing the price which it is compelled to pay for any quantity of gold bullion which the public choose to carry to it.

Such was the reasoning on which the rumour referred to arose—reasoning which involves the obvious fallacy into which all that class of persons have fallen who have complained that gold should have a “fixed price” at all. On the latter fallacy we have often remarked; and it will not be difficult to show how unfounded are the apprehensions of those to whom we have referred, who fear that the Bank will be exposed to serious loss by a reduction in the value of gold, unless released from its present obligation to purchase at the price fixed by the Act of 1844. Perhaps we cannot better bring this question to a test, than by at once saying, that, no matter how scarce or how plentiful gold might become—no matter how much it fell or rose in its intrinsic value, in relation to all other commodities—no matter whether the Californian and Russian supplies were entirely cut off to-morrow, or increased by four-fold next year—the Bank of England could neither be benefited nor injured on account of the obligation which it has undertaken to purchase all the gold carried to it at the “fixed price” of 3*l.* 17s 9d the oz. No doubt this assertion will appear strong to those gentlemen who are continually complaining of the principles on which our currency is based, in consequence of our attaching a “fixed price” to gold; but probably a short inquiry into this question will be one of the most effectual means of exhibiting the fallacy of their general reasoning.

Well, the Bank is bound to pay, under whatever vicissitudes may take place in its intrinsic value, the price of 3*l.* 17s 9d for every ounce of gold bullion carried to it. For every pound weight of gold, they are bound to give 46*l.* 13s in Bank notes, and for every 100 lbs of gold the sum of 4,665*l.* But follow up the transaction, and let us see what this obligation amounts to. One hundred pounds weight of gold bullion are carried to the Bank. Notes to the amount of 4,665*l.* are given in exchange. Well, what happens then? The Bank is under the obligation to pay its notes on demand in gold coin, and in gold coin only. Suppose, then, that the same day that the Bank issues the notes amounting to 4,665*l.* they send the gold received for them (190 lbs or 1,200 oz) to the Mint to be coined. At the end of a few weeks the same quantity of gold is returned to them coined into sovereigns and half-sovereigns. The Mint price is 3*l.* 17s 10½d the ounce (or 1½d per ounce more than the Bank price), that is, each ounce of gold coins into *three* sovereigns, leaving a quantity of gold over in the proportion of 17s 10½d to 20s. So that the 1,200 ounces will coin into 1,200 3*l.* 17s 10½d=4,672*l.* 10s, or 4,672 sovereigns and one half-sovereign, which are returned to the Bank. The only obligation which the Bank has contracted is to pay their notes, issued in payment for the bullion to the amount of 4,665*l.* in gold; and the Mint has placed them in possession of 4,672 sovereigns

and one half sovereign as the quantity of coin which 1,200 ounces of gold has produced, or just 7l 10s more than the obligation contracted; but as this sum (being the difference of 1½d an ounce already referred to) is only sufficient to repay the trouble and loss of interest attendant upon the coinage, it may properly be said that the Bank, after defraying that cost, are possessed of 4,665 sovereigns to meet obligations amounting to 4,665l in notes. It is then quite evident that the Bank derives neither profit nor loss from the transaction. Profit, it must be plain the Bank could not derive, because if the difference between the Bank price and the Mint price, in place of being only 1½d an ounce, or just sufficient to cover the cost attendant upon sending the gold to the Mint to be coined, were such as to leave a profit to the Bank, the merchant in place of sending his gold to the Bank, would send it direct to the Mint; and loss, it is as clear, the Bank ought not to incur.* Well, but what does the whole transaction amount to? Simply an exchange of 1,200 ounces of uncoined gold for 1,200 ounces of coined gold, the Bank retaining the sum of 7l 10s, or 1½d an ounce, to cover the trouble and the interest attendant upon sending the bullion to be coined. The Bank receives the bullion, pays notes to the amount of 4,665l, and receives from the Mint coin to the amount of 4,672l 10s to redeem their notes, and repay the cost they have incurred.

Well, what difference would there be in this transaction, whatever change might take place in the intrinsic value of gold in relation to other commodities, so long as the ounce of gold continued to coin into the same amount of 3l 17s 10½d, and the 1,200 ounces continued to produce at the rate of 4,672l 10s; or, in other words, so long as the sovereign continued of the same weight of standard metal as it now is? No matter whether gold is abundant or scarce, no matter whether an ounce of gold is equal in intrinsic value to a quarter of wheat or to a bushel of wheat, to a ton of iron or to a cwt. of iron, all that the Bank undertakes to do is really to repay coin for bullion, weight for weight of standard quality, of the same metal. And it is a neglect of this simple fact that leads to all the error which gives rise to the common complaint against a "fixed price" for gold.

But there is another question of far more importance, which has taken strong hold of the public mind in reference to this subject. In a letter which we received some weeks ago, a portion of which was alluded to at the time, there occurs the following passage:—"In conclusion, I beg to submit to your notice, and that of your readers, the following question:—Suppose I were to purchase a Government annuity of 100l, the price of wheat being 40s per quarter, that is, 50 quarters as the value of my year's income; but in the course of a few years, by reason of large importations of gold and silver from abroad, and consequent depreciation in the relative value of those metals, it should require 8l, instead of 2l, to purchase one quarter of wheat, would the Government increase my income to 400l per annum, or how should I be compensated?" The answer is simple, the Government would not raise the annuity, nor would the annuitant be compensated in any other way. His bargain was to receive 100 pieces of gold coin of the given weight and fineness of a sovereign, and so long as that contract is complied with he cannot complain, whatever difference may arise between gold and wheat or other commodities. If the value of gold rises in relation to other commodities, that is, if from any cause prices generally fall, the annuitant with a fixed income is benefited. If, on the contrary, the value of gold falls in relation to other commodities, that is, if prices generally rise, the annuitant with a fixed income is injured to that extent. It is the risk incident to the investment. It was with a view to this risk that Colonel Thompson placed a notice of a motion on the books last session to the following effect:—"That, looking to the possibility of changes in the value of gold, like what took place in consequence of the discovery of America, it is expedient that the Chancellor of the Exchequer should be authorised to create a secured stock, with interest secured on the principle of a corn rent—the amount received for such secured stock to be applied to the purchase of other stock to be thereupon extinguished, the difference in the payments to be thenceforth made for interest, to be carried to the public account." This motion did not come on for discussion, but stood on the paper at the end of the session. But if it had been discussed, the answer to Colonel Thompson is obvious. It is no part of the duty of a Government to speculate upon a rise or fall in the intrinsic value of gold; all that it has to do is to see that its obligations are faithfully performed by adhering strictly to the weight and fineness of its coin.

We presume Colonel Thompson meant, for the words of his motion are by no means clear, that the interest of the stock in question should be paid in corn, or the price of certain specific quantities of corn, according to the average of the year. If it does

not mean that, it means nothing. Well, but would such a standard give a more equal income from year to year, even though it were adopted, than gold? However subject gold may be to a change in its intrinsic exchangeable value from an alteration of the quantity supplied from the mines, surely corn is infinitely more so from year to year. A Government or an individual, undertaking to pay interest in a given quantity of corn in place of money, would have to speculate upon the harvests much more than upon the results of the Californian and Russian mines. The precious metals have been selected as the standard of value, chiefly because they vary less in value than any other commodity from year to year, and in such short intervals of time as are usually embraced in the ordinary transactions of debtors and creditors. With regard to these, any gradual change which may take place, through a long period of time, in the intrinsic value of gold, by an increase or decrease in the quantity produced, is scarcely perceptible, inasmuch as such change being slow, and the ordinary transactions of trade being frequently renewed, a constant adjustment is taking place between debtors and creditors. The only exception is in cases where fixed money payments apply to a long series of years, as leases in perpetuity reserving fixed rents, or as the public debts of Governments on which fixed annuities are payable.

It is well understood that the foundation of all intrinsic value is labour. And, if the intrinsic value of gold rises or falls, it is only because the quantity of labour required to obtain it becomes more or less. If the discovery of the Russian and Californian mines should ever have the effect of reducing the intrinsic value of gold, it will only be because the quantity of labour required to supply it is less than formerly. From year to year the precious metals are produced by a given quantity of labour in more equal quantities than corn, and are, therefore, a much better measure of value. But if very lengthened periods of time are taken, the reverse is probably the case. The discoveries of new sources of production, or the exhaustion and closing up of old ones, at distant periods of time, have altered very much the intrinsic value of the precious metals, as measured by the quantity of labour required to obtain them; while, probably, the intrinsic value of corn, measured by the same test, however fluctuating it may be from year to year owing to the accidents of seasons, has changed but little for several centuries. In this view of the case it is that Adam Smith says:—"From century to century, corn is a better measure (of value) than silver, because, from century to century equal quantities of corn will command the same quantity of labour more nearly than equal quantities of silver. From year to year, on the contrary, silver is a better measure than corn, because equal quantities of it will more nearly command the same quantity of labour."

The distinction here remarked was seen in a very marked degree in the case of rents reserved under long leases, granted prior to the discovery of the American mines in the sixteenth century. Those rents, which had been reserved in money, became, after those discoveries, and the consequent reduction in the value of money, worth very little; while those rents which had been reserved in certain quantities of corn, have retained nearly the same value to the present time. At that time the public debts of Government were of too small an amount to attract much attention, as to the consequences upon the value of the annuities secured by them, by the changes in the value of the precious metals. But it is quite plain that a given fixed annuity, whether representing the interest of a national debt or otherwise, must have fallen in intrinsic value after the discovery of the mines, in the same proportion as the precious metals; while the rent of land, and of other real property, would remain of the same intrinsic value as before, and would be represented by such an increased amount of the precious metals as, at the depreciated rate, would be equal in intrinsic value to the old rents. Colonel Thompson, and those who, like him, have any apprehension of a "change in the value of gold, like what took place in consequence of the discovery of America," have a simple mode of "creating a secured stock," with interest secured on the principle of a corn rent," by transferring their money in the funds to the purchase of land,—the rent of which being a given share of the produce, the money rate will fluctuate, not from year to year, but from period to period, nearly in the same degree as the price of corn.

We have been led to make these observations, not from any reason which we at present see to apprehend a sensible change in the value of gold and silver, but in order to point out the obvious fallacies which are fallen into by many, who entertain such expectations.

DISTURBANCE IN HESSE CASSEL.

RENEWED troubles seem to be dawning on Germany. For nearly a century the rulers of Hesse Cassel have been distinguished for their low, plodding, mercenary, arbitrary, and selfish system of government. They had none of the sparkling intellect which redeemed the vices of the little Courts of Saxony. They were as brutal in their indulgencies as they were rapacious. Their people were considered as boorish and slavish as they were arbitrary and mercenary. No support did they find, and no regret was expressed for their loss when their territory was incorporated with the kingdom which Bonaparte erected in Westphalia for his

* Although the Bank derives no profit from the purchase of bullion in the strict form of the transaction as we have described it, and as it may take place, yet, practically, a profit is derived from it, inasmuch as they are not obliged to coin all the bullion which they receive, having generally as much coin in their possession as will answer all their objects requiring coin. If, therefore, the Bank purchase bullion, keep it uncoined, and re-sell it as bullion when a demand arises for exportation, they do obtain the profit of 1½d an ounce, the difference between their buying price of 3l 17s 9½d and their selling price of 3l 17s 10½d an ounce. But all demands made upon the Bank for bullion, being either in payment for notes presented, or to satisfy deposits, may be required in coin at the option of the person obtaining it.

brother Jerome. But that incorporation, the character of the Electoral family, and the agitation of the Revolution, roused in the Hessians strong political feelings, and elevated them to some political dignity. After being replaced under their old masters they never returned to their old slavish habits, and ever since 1815 they have displayed a liberal political spirit, and have formed a respectable opposition to the measures of the Government. In 1831, when revolution was again rife in that part of Germany, they obtained a considerable accession of freedom, remodelled their houses of Parliament, and infused into the lower house a fair proportion of democracy. In 1848 they were satisfied with what they had gained in 1831, and remained tolerably quiet, while in most of the other States of Germany great changes were effected.

The Elector, never contented either with the constitution of 1831, or the general progress of his people towards political freedom, has been continually aiming at the restoration of his old arbitrary power. To aid him in his plans, he appointed as his Minister M. Hassenpflug, who is, to say the least of him, very much disliked. In Germany the Ministers, generally speaking, are taken from professional politicians. They are not necessarily natives of the country in which they serve; have, probably, no connection with its families or its interests; and are more likely therefore to be the ready tools of an arbitrary sovereign, or a bad system. M. Hassenpflug, in ready compliance with the wishes of the Elector, is accused of having designedly delayed to convoke the Chambers, who have the power, like our House of Commons, of voting or refusing taxes till the period when the session usually closes. "The Ministers then" (we use the words of a contemporary) "immediately put before them a demand for money, and for the liberty to raise the taxes for 1850. The Parliament replied, that however little the Ministers possessed the confidence of Parliament, they would not go the length of refusing the supplies, but requested to have a regular budget laid before them, which they promised to examine, discuss, and vote. To so fair and constitutional a resolution the Minister replied by dissolving the Parliament; and he is now proceeding to levy the taxes in despite of the Parliament and the Constitution."

The Standing Committee of the Chambers, a very old constitutional body in most of the German States, on the 5th instant issued an address to the various departments of the State, pointing out at considerable length the unconstitutional conduct of the Ministers; accused them of endeavouring to destroy the Constitution; appealed to the people for support, in order to maintain the Constitution; and expressed a hope that no collector of taxes would demand them unless in virtue of ordinances to which the Chambers had assented. This paper was signed, "The Standing Committee, Schwartzenberg, Grafe, Kellner, Bayrhofer, and Henckel."

The same parties also on the same date, the 5th instant, summoned the "Finance Minister to withdraw the ordinance directing the levy of the taxes forthwith, the same being in overt opposition to Articles 143 and 146 of the Constitution, and called on him to announce immediately that it had been done; in default of which the committee would be compelled to proceed against those whom it may concern for a violation of the Constitution." They warned the Receiver-General of the Taxes and other officers of the danger of complying with the ordinance; and two days afterwards they ordered the public prosecutor to indict the Minister Hassenpflug, Major Von Haynau, and Councillor Baumbach for high treason; considering, they say, "the issue of these ordinances a monstrous and unparalleled abuse of official power, which, in fact, clearly comes under the definition of high treason contained in sec. 1 of the ordinance of February 14, 1795, since it is openly presumed to lay the institutions and laws of the land in the dust." The public prosecutor acknowledged the unconstitutional character of the acts of the Ministers; but believing that the right to indict them belonged not to the Committee of the Chambers, but to the whole body, he declined to comply with the order. Another officer, however, had commenced the process, and ordered the apprehension of the Minister.

These acts of course were not allowed to pass unnoticed. What steps were taken with respect to the Standing Committee does not appear; but the town of Hanau and other places having refused to obey the ordinances, and resistance to them apparently having been manifested at Cassel, the Elector on the 7th instant issued an ordinance declaring the whole territory of Electoral Hesse in a state of seige, placing all authority in the hands of a Commander-in-Chief, prohibiting all public meetings of the people, and all meetings of clubs and unions unless authorised by a written permission, and putting an end to the publication of all political journals except those sanctioned by the Ministers. The commandants were empowered to seize and confiscate the whole impression of any journal containing abusive expressions against the sacred person of the Elector, the Government, or its organs, or provocations to disobedience, or stirring up the people to opposition of the constituted authorities. It further ordered all offences of armed opposition to the authorities and their representatives, and all cases of rebellion and high treason, to be tried and punished according to the laws of war. Lieutenant General Bauer was appointed Commander-in-Chief, and he immediately began by ordering the suppression of the *Hesse Gazette*, but the order was at

first not carried into effect. The civic authorities protected the paper, and were stronger than the military who were sent to suppress it. On the following day, however, the printing-office was taken possession of by the soldiers, and the printing materials, &c., declared confiscated, against which their owners protested. The military are in full activity; but the towns people seem to rely on the authorities and remain quiet.

So the matter stands according to the latest intelligence. It is, however, announced that Austrian and Bavarian troops are preparing to march to the assistance of the Elector should his people resist. At the same time it is said that the King of Prussia has signified to the Elector, that if he should quarrel with his subjects in consequence of his violating the constitution, he is to expect no help from Prussia. We may infer, therefore, that his conduct is likely to bring Prussia and Austria into conflict, as the former will scarcely suffer Austrian troops unopposed to take possession of the Electorate. When the embers of insurrection are yet smoking all around, and its fuel is abundant in every State, it seems to us most unwise for any Sovereign now to provoke opposition, or do anything to keep alive hateful political feelings and hostile political demonstrations. No country can afford to have a revolution once a year, and if the Sovereigns of Germany, whose great business and great interest it is to preserve quietness and peace, cause disturbance and insurrection, they will rouse against them a spirit that will never be laid till Germany has either got rid of them, or effectually deprived them of the power to do so much injury to their people.

POSTAL COMMUNICATION BETWEEN LONDON AND PARIS.

RAILWAY AND STEAMBOAT COMMUNICATION.

THERE is probably no way in which the influence of railways and steam communication is more sensibly felt, or will be so much so in future, as in the remarkable facilities which they afford for rapid and cheap communication between this country and different parts of the continent of Europe. The evidence taken by the Committee of the House of Commons, during the last session, on the subject of the postal communication between London and Paris, brings to light in a very striking form many of the advantages already obtained, and points to many others, which the completion of arrangements now in active progress will shortly secure to this country.

It is not many years ago since the only communication between this country and the continent was by means of sailing vessels, the time occupied in making the different voyages being a matter of the greatest uncertainty. And, even after the first introduction of steamboats, for many years the intercourse was comparatively trifling. To connect the mere shores of England and those of France and Belgium by an easier and more certain mode of communication, was matter of comparative indifference so long as the capitals and the chief towns of those different countries were not approached with greater facility. It was not until the great lines of railway through Belgium connected the coast with the capital and the chief towns of that country, and with the German rivers and lines of railway; and not until Paris was joined to Boulogne and Calais by railway; and not until our own communication by the same means was completed from the coast to London, that the real advantages of steam communication across the channel began to exhibit themselves. The evidence to which we have alluded affords some remarkable proofs of the extraordinary advantages obtained by the united effects of railways and steamboats. From London there are now eight departures daily by the South Eastern Railway for Dover and Folkstone. From those ports there are no fewer than five departures to, and the same number of arrivals from, Boulogne and Calais daily. The average length of the voyage is shown in the evidence referred to, to be, from Folkstone to Boulogne, 2 hours 5 minutes; and from Dover to Calais, 1 hour 50 minutes. It is a very short time since the mails leaving London at 8 o'clock in the evening, did not arrive in Paris until the morning of the second day following. Now, the mail leaves London at 8h 30m., p.m., and arrives in Paris at 9 o'clock the following morning, saving nearly 24 hours. In the Appendix to the Report of the Committee the particulars are given of two journies from London to Paris, one performed in 9 hours 30 minutes, including a stay of one hour at Folkstone; the other in 9 hours 5 minutes; the actual time engaged in travelling having been on the first occasion only 8 hours 30 minutes, and on the second occasion 8 hours 28 minutes.

From Dover there is a departure to Ostend every night, and from Ramsgate every day, with corresponding arrivals. The time occupied in conveying the mail and passengers from London to Brussels is but 12 hours 55 minutes, the time of departure being 8h 30m in the evening, and that of arrival 9h 25m next morning. Cologne is reached by passengers and the mail in twenty hours from London, and Berlin in forty-nine hours. Already a large portion of the correspondence with the North of Europe, which formerly passed through Hamburg and Rotterdam, has been thrown into this new channel.

But one of the most important features elicited by this evidence is in relation to our communication with the Mediterranean, and thence to the East, which the arrangements now in progress

will afford when completed. From London to Marseilles the distance is 816 miles, of which however 78 miles are still performed by diligence, and 216 miles by steam-boats on the Soane and the Rhone. With all the advantages now in existence the time occupied from London to Marseilles is 62 hours, but when the arrangements now in progress are completed it will be reduced to 40 hours. With a view to our communications with the East, to say nothing of our possessions in the Mediterranean, it would be difficult to over-estimate the advantages which this country will ultimately derive from such facilities.

The evidence shows, in a very striking light, the serious impediment to the progress of all these arrangements which arose from the breaking out of the continental revolutions, but especially from the state of France in 1848; and it is only a matter of surprise—reflecting, at the same time, infinite credit on those who have had the management of these concerns—that, considering the difficulties under which the various enterprises forming these great communications have laboured during the last two years and a half, such remarkable progress has been made. There are now symptoms of a rapid development of the benefits they are calculated to confer upon this country and upon the whole of Europe. The traffic shows a steady and rapid increase between the chief continental points, through Dover and Folkestone to London. It is true that some of it may be traffic diverted from old channels; but, independent of this, there are the most unequivocal signs of a rapid and considerable increase. Between Paris and London the increase is most remarkable, being probably in some degree caused by the system of excursion parties between the two capitals, the political and social consequences of which cannot be over-estimated, in relation to the future intercourse of the two nations. During the present year we understand that the weekly excursion trains have brought from Paris to London 400 to 500 passengers each time, while very large numbers have also gone from London to Paris. But perhaps the most interesting and important feature in the communication with France is the submarine telegraph, of the success of which there is now no longer a question.

It is impossible to peruse the evidence taken before the Committee referred to, and especially that of the chairman of the South Eastern Railway Company (Mr Macgregor), without feeling that notwithstanding all that has been accomplished in facilitating the communication between this country and the continent of Europe, chiefly through the exertions of that company and its officers, the whole of the important consequences of those facilities are but yet little known or appreciated, and that when all the plans now being carried out with so much energy are completed on both sides of the Channel, we may look for a rapid and steady increase of communication between this country and France, valuable alike to the commercial, social, and political interests of the country, and which will be shown in a remarkable degree during next year.

THE PRESIDENT'S TOURS.—CHERBOURG.

THE President of the French Republic is continuing his tours, agitating the hearts and feeling the pulse of the people. He is already very frequently, not to say generally, called the Prince President. He was treated, says *La Presse*, at Cherbourg like a King. He showers on the leading men, military and civil, crosses of the Legion of Honour; to the multitude he distributes gratuities. He is very free with his purse; the contrast to the late monarch on this point endearing him to the people. The large increase lately made to his income seems to be employed, if not so intended, to bribe the people to sanction his claims to regal or imperial power. While all appointments connected with employing about 950,000 persons in the service of the State, or about one in seven and a half of the whole population, and all the honours and rewards by which the State incites or controls individuals, are at his command, he is, in fact, far more an Emperor or a King than the President of a Republic. France is a Republic in name only. The monarchy may be elective, and the French may be flattered with an appeal to them every four years, though this is rather doubtful, and many of them are opposed to it; but a man possessing such a concentration of power, whatever he may be called, is a monarch of very magnificent proportions. Louis Napoleon—Prince Napoleon—plays the monarch, too, very well: gives audiences, receives homage, makes gracious bows and replies, is surrounded by a brilliant staff, and is a popular King seeking popularity. To the many advantages of possession he adds those of the popular demagogue aspiring to power. The Bonaparte dynasty is fairly in the field to dispute with the Bourbon dynasty the monarchy of France.

Besides the advantages of possession, Louis Napoleon seems to rise by his talents above any of his Bourbon competitors. If the spirit of the nation were excessively warlike, he might succumb to the genius of a Changarnier or a Cavaignac; on this point he cannot dread the competition of a Chambord, a Nemours, or a Joinville. His Bourbon competitors are not great military heroes, and the French, being all engaged in cultivating their fields and their vineyards, or in making silks and jewellery, are now amongst the most peaceable people of Europe. His civic virtues far surpass any they have ever exhibited. He shows-off well, which is

a most desirable quality. He has no claims from Divine or long-descended right; no claims connected with the resuscitation of powers which the French dread and abhor, and seems very likely to distance his competitors. Even without the resolutions of the *Conseils Generaux* to revise the constitution, France is a monarchy in fact, and the great contest will be, who shall be king. That even the forms of a republic will be preserved is doubtful, but there can be no doubt that for the possession of the concentrated Royal power, having at its disposal a multitude of honours, a huge crowd of appointments, and no inconsiderable revenue, there will be a serious contest.

The reciprocal civilities of the proprietors of the English yachts and the President; the presence at Cherbourg of a number of our naval officers, all of whom were well received, and of crowds of our countrymen who went to see the show, are very pleasing indications of the friendship that now exists between the two countries. Nevertheless, there are not wanting those who see in the great naval preparations of the French a source of danger to England. We are secure only in the possession of a superiority at sea, and every circumstance which threatens that naturally excites alarm.

In Cherbourg roads, according to the *Morning Chronicle*, there were eight splendid line of battle ships moored in two lines. One line consisted of the *Valmy*, 144 guns, 1,200 men, Vice-Admiral Dubordieu.

	Guns.	Men.
Henry IV.....	100	950
Jena.....	100	950
Inflexible.....	100	850
Moniv (frigate).....	60	600
The other line consisted of the		
Jupiter.....	100	970
Jemmapes.....	100	950
Friedland.....	120	1,100
Licorne.....	20	corvette.
Steamers:—		
Magellan, frigate, paddle.....	16	500 H.P.
Descartes, frigate, paddle.....	16	450
Caffreli, frigate, paddle.....	10	450
Caton, steam-sloop.....	—	220

The *Buchepale*, 20-gun corvette guard-ship, was also in the roads, but not considered as belonging to the squadron.

This fleet may be considered the most powerful afloat. The ships all mount carronades along their gangways, and are equal to two four-deckers and six three-deckers; they all appear exceedingly well manned with young stout able men. In this squadron are at the least 10,000 men, and the ships are ready for service. Now peacefully manoeuvring for the amusement of holiday people, both French and English, these powerful instruments might, it is supposed, at any moment, be impelled against us in hostility, and might interrupt our trade or endanger our security. But nations do not now undertake piratical expeditions, or wantonly inflict slaughter and devastation on each other, and if we do not give the French some very good cause for hostility, they are too well aware of its cost and its danger to themselves to begin a conflict of which the success must be very doubtful, and the evil certain. We can read of these great masses being armed with huge guns, so nicely poised that a boy can point them, and read of them manoeuvred with a precision that excited the admiration of seamen, without being under the least apprehension that they are likely to be directed against us.

It is obvious that France is exposed to more danger from internal conflicts than from foreign wars. There is no enemy desirous of assailing her, and her population seem to have laid aside that factitious fever for glory which was mainly the consequence of having a successful hero at the head of their Government. At present their Government—from dynastic claims—from the ambition of rival statesmen, who support different claimants to the throne—from being a mere jumble of royal power with democratic names and some democratic forms—at once unsettled and ill-suited to the circumstances of France, is extremely weak as against foreign nations. It has no means of cordially uniting the French round President Bonaparte, or a royal Bourbon. At the same time, the French and English people are daily becoming more closely connected and more averse from a war with each other. There are still some ancient feelings of enmity ranking between them, but they will be deaf to all the ordinary reasons of statesmen for engaging in destructive warfare. We trust, therefore, as the Government is weak, and the friendship of the two people intimate, that there is little or no real ground for apprehension that the great ships our compatriots have beheld manoeuvring with so much skill at Cherbourg will ever be directed to pour their broadsides into our vessels or our towns.

To us it is, at the same time, a consolation to know that the immense trade which places so much of our wealth within the reach of a maritime enemy, gives us also the means to defend it. The French ships cannot be efficient without seamen. Nor are our seamen, wholly bred up in vessels of war, be more efficient than those who, bred up in merchant vessels, rush at a moment of danger to defend their country from attack. If they want the discipline of the others, they will have more zeal and be equals in skill and courage. Now the merchant navy of England is continually and rapidly increasing. We have repeatedly referred to the fact; but the case is the reverse in France. In the *Annuaire de l'Economie Politique* for 1850, it is stated that in



1838, the number of merchant vessels belonging to France was 15,617, and their tonnage 679,863; in 1848 the number of ships was 14,353, with a tonnage of 683,298. The number of French vessels in ten years had decreased 1,264, but the tonnage had increased 3,435. If we are not made arrogant, insulting, and careless by success, we can have nothing to fear from a nation of which the navigation is stationary, and which threatens, we regret to say, to be so taken up with disputes at home, as to be unable even to bestow much attention on affairs abroad.

SLAVERY IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE papers lately received from the United States teem with facts connected with the slavery question. In Lowndes county, Alabama, there has been an insurrection, or the apprehension of one, which has led to firing on a body of slaves, killing one and wounding several. An abolitionist is supposed to have excited the insurrection, and the authorities have offered a reward for his apprehension. At Washington, a man by the name of Chaplin has been endeavouring to carry away several slaves into the States where they will be free, and has been apprehended and committed to prison. The circumstance brought to light a general plan for abducting slaves, which has excited alarm to the owners. At Harrisburg, in Pennsylvania, an affray has taken place between the owners of some fugitive slaves whom they came to claim, the slaves, and the populace, which led to both slaves and masters being committed to prison for a riot, where the slaves were left and the masters bailed out to answer the charge at the sessions. A good deal of attention has been roused to the case of a man named William Williams, who has been coachman to four Presidents, who had purchased his own freedom, but whose family belonged to some person at New Orleans. Lately their owner claimed them, and carried them off. The man's wife, upwards of fifty years of age, three daughters, and three grandchildren, were all all forcibly taken away from their relations, with whom they had been living in freedom and placed in slavery. A subscription was entered into in Washington to redeem them; the wife and the three daughters had been purchased and restored to their husband and father, and it was certain that the grandchildren would also be redeemed. Such circumstances, however, rouse and fix attention painfully to the slavery question, and excite the zeal of the abolitionists, which in its turn begets alarm and anger in the slaveowners.

"The constitution ordains (says the *New York Herald*) that when a slave escapes from his master into a free State, on the master's demand in person, or by his agent, the slave shall be delivered up." On this principle the Judge of the Quarter Sessions at Harrisburg permitted the masters there to take away their fugitive slaves, but committed them to prison for creating a riot in the pursuit of their object. But as the principle seems not to be well worked out, the Congress have just passed a fugitive slave bill. At the latest advices it had not received the President's assent, and there is a report that he will veto it; but its object and provisions show to what extent the Legislature is willing to go to support slavery. It provides—"For the appointment of commissioners by the UNITED STATES COURTS in the States and Territories, whose duty it shall be to hear the demands and grant certificates to the claimants of fugitive slaves for their apprehension. They are to appoint assistants to execute their duties in the counties, and all are to have power to summon the posse comitatus to their aid. The testimony of claimant or agent to be prima facie evidence against the fugitives, whose evidence is not to be taken; and upon a hearing before any magistrate, justice of the peace, U. S. judge, commissioner, or assistant, upon the testimony of the claimant or agent, the fugitive is to be delivered up. Persons hindering the execution of the law to be fined 500 dols and imprisoned six months, and on conviction by trial of having caused the escape of a fugitive, are to be fined 1,000 dols, subject to recovery by law. A certificate is to be given from one State or Territory for the pursuit of a fugitive and his recapture in another State or Territory. If a marshal or his deputies permit the escape of a fugitive from their possession, they are to be amenable to the value of the slave; and for default of duty in his capture, amenable to a fine of 1,000 dols."

The Legislature, therefore, carries out as effectually as possible the provision of the Constitution, and employs the authority of the United States to arrest fugitive slaves.

By throwing the onus on the claimed slave of proving his freedom by the testimony of others, every coloured man, woman, or child, in every part of the Union, may, at any time, be liable to be claimed as a fugitive slave, and put to great difficulty to prove that the claim is not a legal one. An amendment proposed to the bill in the senate, providing that where a free coloured citizen of any State, acting as cook, mariner, &c., on board ship, shall be seized and imprisoned on the part of any other State, the district attorney, by *habeas corpus*, shall take such person out of gaol, and cause the question of his imprisonment to be tried, and if proved to be unlawful, the man shall be released, the costs of the case to devolve upon the federal treasury, was lost by 24 to 23 votes. It was contended that a coloured man was not a citizen

of the United States, and that the amendment would interfere with the right of each State to make its own municipal laws, and would cause the Southern members to throw out the bill. The United States, however, seem to us, by this measure, to have interfered with the municipal rights of the free Northern States, and to have made the maintenance of slavery the law of the whole Union.

The discussion of the measure does not seem to have soothed the agitation that prevails on the subject. In the Southern States, strong resolutions have been passed in favour of the old custom; in the North, some vehement denunciations against slavery have been issued. Comparisons between the resources of the North and the South are instituted, and the South boasts of its power to maintain its own independence. The Southern States number half a million of men, one half of whom owns each a horse and a rifle, and knows how to manage them—a formidable cavalry of a quarter of a million ready to take the field in favour of slavery. For the South it is declared, "that the liberties of these States were won by the sword, and, if necessary, by the sword they will be maintained." At various meetings in the South resolutions have been passed to support Texas, even in a collision with the United States, should one occur, in relation to the claims of that state to New Mexico. Texas seems not inclined to submit, and there may be a conflict betwixt its soldiers and those of the United States in Santa Fe.

The abolitionists of the North are not idle. At a recent meeting at Cazenovia, in the State of New York, it was resolved "that slavery is the curse of all curses, the robbery of all robberies, and the crime of all crimes." And it was declared, "That inasmuch as it is the right of every man to serve his God with all his power, we believe an active effort to prevent slave traffic is the least service we can render." They also declared that their hearts were with John Chaplin, the man who is imprisoned at Washington for abduction. They proposed him as their candidate for the Presidency, and took as their motto—"Chaplin, freedom, and civil war." This meeting, however, is described in the *New York Herald* as composed of socialists as well as abolitionists. It was certainly attended by many females, and had all the solemnity of a religious festival; hymns were sung and prayers were put up. Perhaps the politicians of the North like not such meetings; the movement is carried beyond their control, and in a recent election in Massachusetts they preferred a candidate who is not an ultra-abolitionist.

We have been long accustomed, on this question of slavery, to look for strong language from both parties, and do not, therefore, immediately anticipate any very serious consequences from the dispute. The question, however, is a very troublesome one. It becomes more and more complicated, and more and more likely to bring on quarrels. When men fancy they are serving God, while they are avowing a determination to enter into civil war, there is no answering for what they may attempt. That kind of zeal, which is fired by the intangible and unmeasurable notion that man is adding, by the indulgence of his own passions, though war and bloodshed result from them, to the glory of God, is quite uncontrollable by any ordinary laws, and it is impossible to conjecture to what indiscretions it may lead. About the conduct of the slaveowners there is in England happily but one opinion. It begins in a detestable principle, and leads only to practices that are monstrous and inhuman. It is equally injurious to the master and the slave. The usurpation, and the arrogance with which it is maintained and sought to be extended, are, out of the Southern States, universally condemned. But it is at the same time possible that those who are so zealous in abolishing slavery, may not be free from blame. We are never more likely to be wrong than when we are extremely proud of being right, and "not like this publican." If, under the influence of such a spirit, they have no toleration for the weaknesses, the vices, and even the crimes of their brethren—if they must at once sweep away what Nature has permitted from the beginning of history—the peace that has prevailed throughout the States for more than half a century will not be of long duration. From the mischievous influence on a small scale which ultra-religious zeal lately had here in relation to the Post-office, we dread its far greater influence there in a cause which appears much more deserving of its exertions. Acknowledging the vast benefits which religious motives have conferred on mankind, leading to many noble exertions, sustaining individuals, and enabling them to triumph over torture and death in a good cause, we cannot admit that they are equally beneficial as guides in political affairs; and we dread the consequences to the United States of seeing them, and the equally fierce and equally blind desire of gain, brought into hostile conflict.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE.—FRANCE.

THE indefatigable M. Moreau de Jonnes has published, in the *Annuaire de l'Economie Politique* for 1850, an account of the agricultural produce of France as compared with other countries, which shows a considerable improvement in the last century, if it be not, when rightly considered, so great in comparison to some other countries as he would make it appear. It is, however, very satisfactory, because it proves that neither revolutions, which bring

anarchy in their train—nor despotisms, which, worse even than anarchy, lame the mind and nip improvement in the bud—nor quasi despotisms, which corrupt the progress they dare not attempt openly to stifle—are capable of altogether drying up the natural sources of human prosperity. Having survived the terrible political disasters of France, we may look upon the future progress of prosperity as for ever assured.

The first subject considered, is the proportion of the soil under cultivation in different countries; and we are informed that it results, from a close examination of statistical accounts, that there are two civilised countries of which half the surface is cultivated: they are France and the British Islands. Of one hundred hectares of land, there are 54 cultivated in France, and 55 in England. Other countries have, of 100 hectares, the following proportions cultivated:—

	Hectares.
Belgium.....	48
Denmark and Prussia	46
Italy and Portugal	39
Germany and Spain	25
Holland and Austria	20
Russia and Poland	18
Sweden and Norway	14

In other countries, the proportion of cultivated land is still less. In France the proportion of cultivated land is greater than in any other country of Europe except England; and is double, and even quadruple as great as in some of them. Of course, the quantity of agricultural produce—though it varies with the fertility of the soil, and the intelligence and industry of the cultivator—is *pro tanto* great in proportion to the quantity of land cultivated.

These statements confirm, we are told, those of Mr Jacob, who showed that the excess of produce over consumption, in all the producing countries, was not more than 10,000,000 hectolitres, of which not more than a fifth part could be imported into England with advantage. Experience, however, scarcely confirms this view. Supposing, the author continues, that all the excess was disposable, it would scarcely suffice for the nourishment of three and a half millions of people. Such facts prove the error of those who imagine that dearth or famine may at any time be prevented by opening ports to a free importation from other countries. They show also that granaries, as a means of equalising the supply and preventing want, may answer the purpose in little communities like Geneva or the republic of San Marin, but they are illusory applied to communities of thirty or forty millions. The preservation of food which is practicable for a family or for a garrison, but which is difficult for a large town, is impracticable for a numerous population. There are not in the world granaries to contain millions of hectolitres of wheat, and there is no country rich enough or ill-advised enough to allow a capital of two or three milliards to lie idle, in order to guard against an event that might not happen for ten years.

It has been erroneously asserted and believed, since the age of Louis XIV, that France grows too much wheat. This assertion advanced 150 years ago by Bois Guillebert, was repeated under the revolution by M. Syries de Mairinhac, and has become the creed of those who also dread that increase of production will prevent them selling their produce at a sufficient price. To learn how far it is from the truth, it is only necessary to consult the tables of the price of corn for the last two and a half centuries. Taking as years of dearth those years when the price was more than a half above the average price, it will be found that there have been in France—

	Deaths.	Famines.	Total.
In the 17th century	33	11	44
— 18th century	28	9	37
— 19th century, in 40 years	12	1	13

In every period of five years through two and a half centuries there have been two dearths or famines, so that France, which is represented as having had an excessive abundance, has experienced through two-fifths of the time a want of the means of subsistence. On examining the matter closely, we find that the eighteenth century was less afflicted than the seventeenth, and that in the nineteenth the visitation of high prices has only occurred every third year. The eleven famines of the seventeenth century were a progress towards improvement, for historians count twenty-six in the eleventh, and fifty-one in the twelfth centuries. In those ages the population had enough only every second year, and half the time they were exposed to die of hunger.

These phenomena are not confined to France. In England, between 1760 and 1835, there were thirty-two years of dearth, which is a repetition in the best cultivated and richest country of the world of the terrible proportion of famines that is found in France in the reign of the Valois. Edward Howe reckons in England, between 1049 and 1355, or 306 years, 121 years of dearth, which proves that the evil is inveterate.

In Sweden between 1747 and 1803, fifty-six years, there were fifteen years of abundance, nineteen years of average crops, and twenty-two bad years, which gives a famine in two years out of five. The mortality was increased by the famines in Sweden, according to Mr Nicander—

In 1762	1-5th	In 1773	1-6th
1763	1-7th	1799	1-7th
1772	1-4th	1800	1-9th

In England, the increase of mortality from such years has not

been more than one-tenth, and in France it has varied from one-twelfth to one-thirty-fifth.

In Tuscany, that delicious country, there were 111 famine years in three centuries. Every third year there was a deficiency of bread, though the country gives to labour twice as much as France, and is open to receive by sea supplies from all the fertile countries of Europe.

Sixty years ago the soil of France was divided between two privileged orders: but then a great political revolution created a large increase of active proprietors, who are at once intelligent and interested in increasing the productions of the soil. But for the increase of produce from their rude toils, how could the six millions of inhabitants more now than then have been fed? The yield of wheat has since then increased more than one grain in six. According to Lavoisier, it was in 1790 only five for one, now it is 6.07 for one, calculating all sorts of grain by the cadastres of 36,000 communes. The cereals now give from thirteen to fourteen hectolitres for every hectare; in 1788, they only gave eight. In 1760 each person had 450 litres of grain; at present each person has 541, and the population has augmented by thirteen millions in eighty-six years.

The average production of wheat is now in France seventy millions of hectolitres. In 1784 it was only forty millions. Now each person has 208 litres; then each person had only 167. There is no part of Europe where the consumption is so large. It is—

	Litres.
In France for each inhabitant.....	208
Great Britain and Ireland	163
Spain	127
Austria	62
Holland and Belgium	57
Prussia	46
Poland	25
Sweden	8

The same superiority observed in relation to the principal countries of Europe was progressively acquired by the predecessors of the present race of Frenchmen, whose consumption of wheat was less by a third only twenty-seven years ago. The consumption was—

	Litres each inhabitant.
In 1700, under Louis XIV, about	118
1760, under Louis XV	108
1784, under Louis XVI	125
1813, time of the Empire.....	133
1840, in France at present	175*

In 1700, 39 persons out of 100 lived on white bread and 61 on black bread; in 1784 the number who lived on white bread was 41 in the hundred, the proportion having been scarcely augmented in 84 years; now the proportion is 60 in the 100, and the number of persons who consume wheat is out of all proportion great compared to those who consume inferior grain. An increase of one-half in the growth of wheat in sixty years guarantees the population of France that before the end of the century they will all have the advantage of living on wheaten bread. In no other part of the world and in the annals of no other people, M. Moreau de Jonnes concludes, is an example to be found of agricultural productions increased in 80 years, between 1760 and 1840, from 70 millions of hectolitres of grain to above 183 millions, or nearly trebled; nowhere has there been formed in half a century 1,600,000 hectares of artificial meadows, with upwards of 3,500,000 hectares of gardens and other means of supplying food to the people.

We must say, in conclusion, while we have thought these statements of sufficient interest to be laid before our readers, we by no means guarantee their exactness. We are not aware, for example, how M. Moreau de Jonnes ascertains so nicely the quantity of wheat consumed by each person in England. There are many conjectures on the subject, and we know correctly what quantities are imported; but the quantities grown are not registered by an appointed method, as they are in France. The quantities sold in the towns, from which the averages are calculated, are not the whole quantities grown, and though an approximation may be made to them, it is only an approximation. M. Moreau de Jonnes does not enable us to test the accuracy of his approximation to the quantity consumed in England, by stating the elements of his conclusion: and as his comparison of the quantity of corn consumed per head in France and England differs from the statements of other authorities, we must warn our readers that this part, at least, of his article is not to be implicitly adopted without further examination.

We have some doubts also as to the relative quantity of land under cultivation assigned to Holland and Belgium; but, as the author merely makes the statement without giving any authority for it, we cannot test, and yet are not satisfied with it.

Admitting that the improvement in agriculture in France which he notices, since the first Revolution, has been as great as he states, still, in relation to the agriculture of England, in relation to the produce of the soil per acre in each country, and in relation to the number of labourers employed in England and France to produce the food of the community, the present immense superiority of English agriculture cannot, we believe, be doubted, though it is not satisfactorily stated by M. Moreau de Jonnes. We have not the slightest wish to detract from the growing prosperity of

* We copy M. Moreau de Jonnes' figures, but we do not understand the discrepancy in this and the table immediately preceding. In one, each inhabitant is said to consume 208 litres; in the other, only 175.

France, or throw the least doubt on the brief comparison between the past and the present, which is so much in favour of the present; on the contrary, we rejoice in it, as a proof that the natural spring of human prosperity is so strong in all mankind, that it cannot be wholly stopped, even by those wild political pursuits and those false systems which appear terribly adverse to peaceful progress.

THE DUTCH NAVIGATION LAWS.

In another place will be found, derived from a correspondent abroad, a more full account than we formerly published, of the alterations lately made in the Dutch Navigation Laws. Our correspondent gives us reason to hope that the New Chamber, when it meets at the Hague, will be inclined to extend the reform to those restrictions on the Dutch colonial trade, of which already many complaints have been made.

From the same authority we learn with regret that the Belgians are probably not yet prepared to follow the example in relation to differential duties, which has been set them by England and Holland. It will be impossible, however, for them or for any other people long to retain restrictions. They were intended, perhaps, to injure others, but are sure to injure their authors. All nations must act on the great principles of perfect commercial freedom, or see themselves continually surpassed by those who adopt them. The Dutch have most wisely followed our example, and the more the nations come into the system, the more imperative will it be for those who resist it to alter their course and become perfect free traders.

Agriculture.

EFFECT OF CLIMATE ON CULTIVATION.

In the recently published part of the Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society, the leading paper is a prize Essay by Mr Nicholas Whitley, "On the Climate of the British Islands in its Effect upon Cultivation," which well deserves the attention of agriculturists. We propose, on an early occasion, to present a condensed and general review of its most important conclusions. There is, however, a portion which is in a measure distinct, and bears so directly on the great practical question of How far the four-course or Norfolk rotation is applicable to the more moist and cloudy districts—and, we would add, to the heavier soils—that we extract some of its main passages, as introductory to the description of a rotation which is stated to have proved most successful in Cornwall.

The writer proposes to consider—

How far it is desirable to adopt the regular four-course arable system on the western sides of England and Ireland, the same being naturally fitted for the spontaneous growth of grass. The old system of cropping in the south-west of England was to take two corn crops in succession, and to lay the land in grass for three years. There was little feeding, the cattle being driven to the rich eastern pastures. Of late a turnip crop has been introduced to some extent between the white crops, and the more advanced farmers grow rape and eat off with sheep as a preparation for wheat: still the "three years out" is considered indispensable.

In Lancashire, after two crops of corn and green crops, the land is kept in seeds and grass two or three years; and in Ireland, after an exhausting course of potatoes and oats, it is left out "to rest" for several years.

One of the worst points of this system is the wretched pasturage on land well adapted from its nature and humid climate to produce large quantities of fodder. Turnip culture forms no part of the original system, but the value of the crop has led to its occasional introduction according to the taste of the cultivator. Intelligent farmers have done much to remedy the evil, yet still the rotation is in a transition state. Few except those blinded by prejudice are satisfied with the old state of things; but many have not the means, nor others the inclination, to attempt an improvement. The door of inquiry is open, and both landlord and tenant will examine the question with much interest.

Though the climate of the south-west of England is naturally fitted for the spontaneous growth of grass, it is still better adapted to the growth of roots and fodder plants, which the introduction of the four-course shift would promote.

Most of the land is strictly arable, the soils being healthy and open, and may be "got on" at any time of the year (excepting a small portion of lias clay, and a clay district in North Devon related to the coal measure). The improved plough, drawn by two horses, has been in use for some years, and the land is easily worked. Such land will never be laid down to permanent pasture, and the present alternate system produces so small an amount of grass, that an improved rotation adapted to the climate and soil is greatly required.

With these advantages it must, however, be admitted, that the climate of the West is not favourable to an extension of the wheat crop, though on some low loamy soils it may be grown with profit oftener than it is; yet on the great mass of the arable land it shows such a tendency to run to straw, and to lodge before the westerly wind and rain, and the weather at harvest is so precarious and often wet, that the judicious growth of this grain will be limited by these circumstances.

The inquiries and experiments of the Probus Farmers' Club tend to show that the liability of the wheat in that district to lodge is attributable to deficiency of silica, which is required to strengthen the outer coating of the straw. Old ley-fields produce the stiffest straw and the fullest ear, but where the wheat crop is repeated too often, the grain, it is said, becomes inferior and the straw weak. Hence the experience of the farmers is against the growing of wheat on the grauwicke soil oftener than once in five years. At Lambourne, in the North of Cornwall, the four course shift having been strictly adhered to on such a soil, the wheat fell off so much as to induce a modification of the system. Red clover, too, has of late been found to fail in the West of England. On the other hand, rape is found to be a certain crop, and forms a cheap and excellent preparation for

wheat. The conclusion Mr Whitley comes to is, that the general introduction of the four-course system would not be successful in the West. For that climate and soil "a rotation which combines the roots and fodder of the four-course, with such an alternation of grain crops in which wheat forms a less prominent part, and then preceded by rape, is that which is best adapted to the district." And the following rotation, founded on such principles, has been carried out for some years, on a light grauwicke soil near Truro, by Mr Henry Gatley, and with good results:—

1. Grass-seeds.—Cut to hay or soiled, the after-grass depastured. About the first week in February the land is ploughed, and as soon as the weather will permit sown with

2. Black Oats.—2½ cwt of guano is sown per acre, and the average produce is 40 bushels. After harvest the land is ploughed and lies fallow through the winter. About the first week in April, if in condition, half is sown with rape and mustard mixed; the other half is sown with rape at different periods for a succession, thus forming the next course of

3. Rape and Mustard.—The mustard comes to stock three weeks before the rape; the whole is manured with artificial manure, and eaten on the land with sheep. One ploughing with muck, and the whole is sown with

4. Wheat.—The Old Cornish White; the average produce 24 bushels per acre; 62 lbs per bushel. Immediately after harvest the land is ploughed; half lies fallow for early turnips, half is sown with winter vetches, which is a stolen crop eaten off with sheep; the whole is tilled with

5. Turnips.—Manured with bone and phosphate, and drilled with field ashes, kept dry through the winter. The crop is folded with sheep and the whole goes to

6.—Barley.—Red clover and Italian rye-grass are sown, which begins the course again.

About 120 acres of light land are kept in this rotation: near the homestead some better land is worked on the alternate system; after wheat, turnips, and barley, it is laid down to pasture for some years, and receives a liberal grain dressing from the dung arising from the green crops.

The ease with which these crops follow in succession, with the little working which the soil requires, after being once cleaned, is an excellent point in this rotation; to use Mr Gatley's own expression, "The system tills itself." It is generally admitted in the West that the barley crop is not so good after turnips as after wheat; this mainly arises from the fact that the turnip land is poached, and is left unploughed until dry weather in spring so hardens the soil that it cannot be reduced to a proper tilth; Mr Gatley has obviated this by early ploughing, and by the use of Crosskill's patent clod crusher.

This rotation has all the benefit of the fodder and roots of the four-course, avoids the too frequent repetition of wheat, which it precedes by rape, and appears admirably adapted to raise the agriculture of the West.

The effects on Mr. Gatley's farm are as follow:—

	Old System.	Improved.
Store Ewes kept.....	70	120
Calves reared.....	8	20
Stock of cattle.....	50	80
Cattle fed per year.....	12 or 15	50

It is only by the introduction of such a system as this, with minor variations to meet local climate or soil, that the agriculture of the West can be effectually improved. The present wretched system of pasturage must be abandoned, and a well-arranged succession of good fodder and root-crops substituted; and to this course the climate is most admirably adapted.

The increased amount of stock kept under this system as compared with the old speaks for itself. We believe that much yet remains to be done in the way of adapting rotations to the circumstances of different soils and climates which exist in this country; and that, even in the worst-farmed districts, the local practices should often be considered and improved rather than altogether abandoned for entirely new systems. It is in adopting such portions of other systems, and the practices of other districts, and adapting them to his own soil and local peculiarities, that the greatest skill and discretion are required on the part of the farmer. And herein so many fail, either from a too rigid adherence to local usage, or from too little regard to the peculiarities on which such usage is founded.

FARM BUILDINGS.

It cannot be, and is not denied, that one of the most, if not the most urgent want of modern husbandry in England is improved farm buildings, and additional accommodation for stock. With very partial exceptions, the farm buildings are everywhere in most deplorable condition; generally much out of repair, they afford few of the conveniences required either in the most improved plans of management, or in good management according to the actual system. So sensible are all leading agriculturists of this, that whenever a farm is newly hired the first object of the farmer is to obtain as much of addition and improvement to the farmstead as possible; and most of our landed proprietors who have the means at their command—far too small a section of this body—are making great efforts to improve their estates in this important particular. This is more especially the case in the Eastern and Northern parts of England, where both landlords and tenants seem to be more imbued with that spirit of enterprise without which no great improvement to the value of landed property or the system of cultivation can be effected. Changes have, however, long been going on in husbandry which require more and different building accommodation, while scarcely any alterations or additions have been made. On the contrary, one of the motives which has induced landowners to throw two or more farms together, has been to save the expense of keeping up some of the farm buildings; and thus, while husbandry has advanced, the relative amount of building accommodation has rather diminished. Feeling the necessity for amendment in this respect, the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society offered a prize for the best Essay on Farm Buildings, which has been awarded to Sir Thomas Tancred's essay. Several of the competing essays had so much of valuable suggestion in them, that, with the consent of the writers, they also have been published, in the last number of the Society's Journal. The condition of competition was, that the plans and estimates on which the essays were founded should be adapted for a farm of 300 acres, chiefly arable. Mr Thompson, one of the judges of the essays, has also written a comment on

the essays, in which are some valuable remarks. He explains that, in deciding on the merits of the essays, the judges determined to adopt that which should be most generally useful, and that no plan would be generally satisfactory which did not provide for the latest improvements in farm management, as steam-driven machinery, box feeding, and the like. And nearly all the essays comprise one or both of these essential improvements. And, as Mr Thompson truly says, "One of the first points which will strike every one conversant with farm buildings is, that in all the plans now published, the old method of building round a rectangular area, and using the enclosure as a straw yard, has been either given up or very much modified. The cause of this change is obvious; so long as the farm horses were fed on unground corn, and uncut hay or straw, it was only necessary that the stables should be conveniently placed with respect to the barn and hay-stack; and when cattle were wintered chiefly on straw, which was supplied to them direct from the barn door, the old-fashioned square yard, surrounded by buildings, was probably the best that could have been adapted, inasmuch as it took up the least room, and was the cheapest mode of supplying shelter to the cattle." All these things have been undergoing a change, and better food and more complete shelter are deemed more profitable.

The prize essay is justly entitled to the first place, providing as it does the most perfect accommodation. There is, however, great similarity in the principle on which all of them are constructed. All substitute steam power for horse labour and the flail; and all the estimates of expense being pretty nearly the same. Sir Thomas Tancred's essay provides for the conveyance of the corn to the thrashing machine by a train way from the stack yard, as at Whitfield farm; the application of the steam power to the thrashing and dressing the corn, cutting the straw into chaff, crushing linseed and oil-cake, cutting roots and grinding grain for the stock; the steaming the food for pigs, &c., and for feeding cattle in boxes and sheep in sheds, at the estimated cost of 1,082/ 12s 5d. This assumes much of the timber and other material to be obtained on the estate at low cost. The steam-engine and machinery would cost about 400/ in addition, but this might reasonably be put up by the tenant, and disposed of by him on quitting the farm by valuation as a tenant's fixture. In this plan, there is no expensive manure tanks, which we always consider to be useless, unless it be intended to irrigate by means of pressure a portion of the farm. Box feeding, which is applicable to all kinds of stock, except pigs, dispenses with all need of tanks, and makes the most valuable manure. Mr John Ewart gives a very elaborate plan, the cost of which he estimates at 1,002/ 6s 4d; to which he adds a supplement set of buildings adapted for a breeding and dairy stock at the cost of 485/ 18s 1d more, and foldyards for young stock at a further cost of 114/ 14s.

Mr Spooner and Mr Elliott contribute a joint essay, in which they state the cost of their plan at 1,478/ 16s 5d. Mr Hudson, of Castleacre, Norfolk, has also an essay and plan full of practical suggestions, and the cost of carrying it out is set down at 1,500/ 5s. Mr Hudson remarks that "it may be thought that the plan is larger than is necessary for a farm of 300 acres, but I consider it good policy on the part of the landlords of England to provide their tenants with ample accommodation in the way of farm buildings, to enable them to cultivate the land highly, so as to grow as heavy root crops as possible; and I never knew a farmer, having capital sufficient, who would allow a good grazing yard to be without stock during the grazing season." And he might have added that the want of such accommodation prevents an immense amount of grazing and improved cultivation, which would take place if the farmers generally had good grazing yards or boxes. But when we see, by so much concurrent testimony, that from 1,100/ to 1,500/ must be expended by the landlords of most farms of 300 acres, in order to adapt them for the best and most economical system of management, it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that such improvement is not likely to become general so long as nominal ownership, and the practice of clinging to a vast extent of land without the means of rendering it profitable, shall prevail so widely amongst our landed proprietors.

HOLLAND.—THE NEW NAVIGATION LAWS.

The laws amending the legislation on navigation were already in 1848 prepared by the Netherlands Government, and lately fixed upon by the immediate influence which the abolition of the English navigation acts must necessarily exercise with regard to the regulation of our trade with other nations. The new system adapted by both the Chambers of the States-general is contained in a collection of rules forming the legal dispositions and schedules, which present the following chief measures or principal basis on which the new legislation (promulgated by the King, but still waiting the decree for fixing the time of taking effect) is to be rested.

These chief measures, each separately described according to the rules thereby concerned, are as follows:—

- 1st. Unconditional repeal of discriminating favours granted to the Dutch flag, by suppression of the rules allowing to this flag preferences above foreign flags.
- 2nd. Conditional similarity of flag in the navigation to and from the Netherlands colonies.
- 3rd. Stipulations by law, concerning the trade and navigation in the colonies and possessions of this realm in other parts of the world.
- 4th. Repeal of the interdiction to grant Netherlands registers to foreign-built vessels, by admittance of such vessels at a duty of 4 per cent. of their value for registry.
- 5th. Diminishing of import duties on head materials for ship-building.
- 6th. Suspension of the shipping duties on the Rhine and Yssel.
- 7th. Total abolition of transit duties.

The principal tendency of all these measures is to promote trade, by relieving navigation as much as possible of the impediments against

its development, which resulted from several dispositions of the former legislation.

The general system of the new legislation consists in establishing, by the way of one general law, instead of the complicated way of treaties of commerce in entirety and irrevocably desisting of the protection system, immediate and unconditional investment of the principle of free navigation, and consequently general and unconditional application of the principle of similarity of flags, by granting the favour enjoyed by the Netherlands flag equally to other flags.

Similarity of foreign flags independent of how the Netherlands flag is treated abroad; nevertheless, under certain restrictions and conditions relative to the importation from Netherlands colonies, and reservation of measures of retaliation as exception, which, however, in most circumstances will be limited to an augmentation of shipping taxes, or, if necessary, to an augmentation of the duties on importation.

Not only suppression of differential duties levied exclusively in favour of the national flag, but also of such differential duties through which the direct importation of some articles from the original countries are favoured; namely, to prevent the levy of duties on merchandises coming from Netherlands to an amount above that of coming from elsewhere.

In short, to open as much as possible all Netherlands ports for ships of all nations, a renewed adherence to liberal commercial policy, which the Netherlands formerly the first adopted, in order to stimulate other nations to abandon all system of protection and prohibition, to suppress all exclusive protection of the Netherlands flag, so that our navigation may with good success concur with other nations, and our commerce may not remain behind in the new-opened concurrence in consequence of the repealed English navigation laws.

Further Explanations of the above-mentioned Measures.

1st. Repeal of the discriminating favours to the Netherlands flag.

Abolishing the favour of freedom of duties on merchandise exported in Dutch vessels, as at present equal freedom is allowed to merchandise exported to the colonies of the realm by whatever vessel; providing the necessary measures to ascertain the places they are really bound to, and excepting the articles, viz.: broken glass, ingredients for glue, wood-ashes, ashes for soap, and salt manufactures.

Such freedom as formerly was granted to the Netherlands ships only, is now also granted to all ships importing merchandises from sea, and reloaded in other vessels, for the purpose of being re-exported from the same seaports, either immediately or after having temporarily been warehoused in the first Custom house district.

Abolishing the disposition of the former legislation, by which all merchandises imported or exported from or to sea under the Netherlands flag enjoy of a restitution of ten per cent on the amount of the in and exportation duties.

Abolishing also the deduction of 2f per last (of 30 bushels) on wheat, rye, spelt, buckwheat, barley, malt, and oats, imported by Netherlands ships.

Finally abolishing the former diminution or freedom of duties in favour of Netherlands vessels, establishing by the law on the tariff on all merchandises in or exported at the sea side in vessels having Netherlands registers.

In accordance with the former, the differential duties of the tariff of 1845 are suppressed, with regard to some articles, in lieu of which new regulations are made, whereby is abolished the existing difference concerning the amount of the duties between Netherlands and other ships.

The principle now laid down, tends in general to levy in future a higher duty on the Netherlands flag, also on goods imported which formerly enjoyed of a lower duty. The duty on tea which, by the existing tariff, was subjected to three different modes, in consequence of the place it came from and the manner of importation, is at present reduced to one equal duty of 20f the 100 kilo's on importation.

Finally, equality is established for the payment of tonnage.

The tendency of this new regulation is: a general application of tonnage according to the measuring for Netherlands vessels.

The particular freedom and favours in this respect granted by the law of 26th August, 1822, to the Netherlands flag, are also extended, as far as applicable, to foreign flags; and in case of any restriction equally so for the Netherlands flag.

The tonnage itself amounts to 45 cents per ton (1,000 kilo's) at the first voyage, and to an equal amount at the first entrance in each year (from 1st January to 31st December).

During the debates and in the written documents from the government repeated assurance has been given, that on presenting the next budget, the matter of tonnage will be taken into consideration, in order to reduce it, if not totally suppressed.

The revision of the pilots institution and of the amount of pilotage, will soon be submitted to the legislative chambers.

2nd. Conditional similarity of flag in the navigation to and from the Netherlands colonies.

The conditional stipulation is especially grounded on the principle that the liberality and reciprocity in the European commercial relations, may extend and be transplanted in the colonies, where not such development as yet is attained.

The actual legislation contains, besides other favours allowed to the Netherlands flag, the following, namely: besides merchandises which by the tariff itself are exempted from duties for in and exportation and transit are also liberated at entrance: The products of the transatlantic possessions of the realm (excepted refined sugar, molasses and tea), imported directly with unbroken cargo in Netherlands ships, if their origin be proved, and the duties paid in such possession.

The new law extends this freedom to products of our transatlantic possessions, if imported under foreign flags, so that equal freedom of duties at the entrance is allowed to vessels of such States who—

a. Grant equal rights to the Netherlands flag as to their own, in

navigating to and from their ports (excepting the coasting trade and fisheries).

b. Assimilate the Netherlands flag in navigating to and from their colonies if they possess any.

c. Do not levy differential duties to the prejudice of products from Netherlands colonies, or to the prejudice of bringing products from other parts of the world from Netherlands ports, others than those which serve to protect products of their own colonies and by direct importation.

The threefold object in view by art. 1 of the new law is 1st, to insure to the Netherlands flag, in navigating to and from the ports of other States, equality with their national flag, excepting the coast and fishing trade; 2nd, to stipulate the similarity of the Netherlands flag to that of the foreign state in their colonies, if they possess any; and 3rdly, to require that no differential duties be levied to the prejudice of our Colonial products in particular, or to the prejudice of products from other parts of the world in general, imported from the Netherlands.

However one exception is made and admitted by this last condition in favour of products from own colonies in other states and of their direct importation; the reason of which is that this same favour is maintained in our own legislation.

Moreover maintaining, as will be explained, the differential duty in Netherlands India in favour of the exportation to our home country, and the differential import duties in behalf of the Netherlands products. This stipulation cannot be modified without the interference of the legislature.

In short, the meaning of these regulations of the colonial navigation is to obtain the following four objects:—

1st. Admittance of the Netherlands flag on the same footing as the national flag in its home-country.

2nd. Admittance of the Netherlands flag on the same footing as the national one in their colonies.

3rd. Admittance of products from Netherlands colonies on equal footing as those articles coming from elsewhere.

4th. Admittance of all transatlantic goods, coming from Netherlands ports, on the same footing as by direct import from the countries of production.

The liberty to be granted by the Dutch law depends only on the fulfilling of these conditions.

In answer to the inquiry made by the States-general, whether the carrying of our East India products for account of the state by the Netherlands Trading company, will take place by continuance in Netherlands vessels, even after the promulgation of the law, the government have replied, "that it was not their intention to employ other than Netherlands vessels for the carrying of Government's products.

In accordance with the foregoing the new law proclaims:—

3rd. Legal stipulations concerning the trade and navigation in the colonies and possessions of the state in other parts of the world.

The conditional similarity of flags in navigating from and to the Netherlands colonies, is described (sub. No. 2) above.

In consequence thereof legal stipulations were required of twofold nature:—

Firstly, the determination that no alteration unless by law shall be made in the present tariffs of duties on importation, exportation, and transit.

Secondly, that only in urgent circumstances it will be left to the Governor-general to modify the tariffs temporarily, which modification is immediately to be communicated to both Chambers of the States-general.

This determination tends to regulate in future the commercial legislature in our colonies through the legislative power, instead of the executive power only, so that the decision of the question, whether and how far in future the still-existing protectional duties on the importation in the colonies of Netherlands products of growth and manufacture, and on the direct importation in Netherlands of products from the colonies, are to be maintained, is not to take place without the interference of the legislature.

As regards the other legal stipulations about the colonies, it is determined in conformity with the conditional similarity of flag on navigating to and from the Netherlands colonies. (See above, subject No. 2).

A. Those States who,

1st, Assimilate the Netherlands flag with their own, in navigating to and from their own ports (excepted coast and fishing trade); 2d, those who assimilate the Netherlands flag on navigating to and from their colonies, in case they possess any; and those, 3d, who do not levy any differential duties in prejudice to the importation of products of other parts of the world from Dutch ports. The flags of such States which accede to these conditions enjoy similarity with the Netherlands flag, even in the Netherlands colonies and possessions.

B. The exception is, that this similarity, which not extended to the coast trade in the Netherlands East India, because to this coast trade are solely entitled Netherlands ships, those belonging to the Netherlands East India, and the inland vessels assimilated to the latter.

The understanding and intention of the first part of this stipulation (A) are the following:—Wherever at present the exportation under the Netherlands flag or with Netherlands vessels (in future no distinction more between these two expressions) is charged at a lower rate, the same in future will be applied to the assimilated foreign flag.

If this reduction of exporting duties is subjected to the condition of direct exportation to Netherlands, the foreign flag will be bound to submit to the same condition.

In order to avoid all doubts, it must be understood that throughout the whole of the Indian tariff, wherever the word Netherlands is mentioned: the Netherlands flag, or the one assimilated thereto, must be understood—even as for the word Netherlands ships, all those assimilated to them.

Measures of Retaliation.

About these measures the law contains the following stipulations: It is reserved to the King to take the same concerning ships of those nations, with whom the Netherlands ships, or the goods on or exported with Netherlands ships, are subjected to higher duties than the national ships, or goods of equal nature, imported or exported by national ships; or wherever the import or exportation duties of any merchandise which are admitted by the national ships should be prohibited by Netherlands vessels.

The retaliation measures, if required through circumstances, and in behalf of the Netherlands trade and navigation when seemed to be necessary, will consist either in refusing the importation of certain articles to vessels of that nation, or to submit these vessels to a higher amount of tonnage duty, or to levy on their merchandises higher duties on importation; so that, by application of these measures, strict reciprocity be observed as much as possible. If measures of retaliation are taken, they must be communicated to the Legislature.

The object hereof is not to abandon the possibility of applying measures of retaliation. However, according to the assertions of Government, these measures shall be resorted to by exception, and even scarcely. Never, or in the utmost cases only, will be resorted to a determined exclusion. The measure tends only to urge a reasonable treatment, or to remedy any unfair one.

4th. Naturalisation of foreign vessels, providing a duty of 4 per cent, *ad valorem*, for registry.

The issuing of Netherlands registers for vessels built in foreign countries is adherent and inseparable of the new navigation laws. The limits to which as yet the liberty of navigation has been subjected, was the interdiction of navigating under the Netherlands flag, unless with Netherlands built vessels, which was connected with the preceding system of differential duties. At first, Government proposed—also in accordance with diminished duties on importation of building materials—a duty on registry of 1 per cent for foreign vessels; but, in consequence of an adopted amendment, this duty now is fixed at 4 per cent, *ad valorem*; if the declared value is found to be at least one-eighth beneath the estimated one, the expenses of estimation remain to the charge of the owner—the law containing also the clause that the amount of duty of 4 per cent will be revised at the same time, with the tariff of duties on import and exportation.

In consequence of the foregoing the stipulation of the law of 1819, containing interdiction of delivering registers to any other but ships built in Netherlands, is recalled; whereas at present are considered as subjects of the Kingdom in respect to obtaining registers all inhabitants of the Netherlands who at least during one year have had their fixed residence within the Kingdom, though at the same time subjects of foreign powers. The words "and navigating under no foreign flags" are suppressed.

As such no foreigner is excluded from the rights of being appointed master of a foreign built vessel, which in consequence of the new legislation has obtained a Netherlands register.

The Government however pretends that no limitation on that point ever existed, and do not believe, that its application will be manifold, as no shipowner would by preference fit out a foreign built vessel with foreigners, it even being little less the case with inland built vessels.

The requisite formalities are the following:—

By applying for the first register for a vessel not built in the Netherlands or in its colonies, it is wanted that the bill of partnership be registered previous to the issuing of the ship's register.

When the officers charged with the perception of the duties on registry do not agree to the declared value, the estimation will be left to three surveyors, to be appointed one by the owners, the other by Government, and the third by both parties; but in case of difference one will be indicated by the president of the court of justice.

5th Diminishing of duties on importation of the principal building materials.

This measure is directly united to the above naturalisation of foreign vessels. The lowering of these duties is introduced in the law, according to the existing relation between the duties on importation not only of manufactures and raw materials, but also of the more combined products of industry and their contents. Agreeable to that principle all the duties upon the principal raw materials of ship building are reduced generally to 1 per cent *ad valorem*; however the diminishing of the Tariff extends itself not further than to such raw materials and articles, the duties on which are a real burden on ship building.

6th. Suspension of the navigation duties on the Rhine and Yssel.

The new law contains: that the levying of navigation duties agreed by the treaty of 31st March, 1831, between the states on the borders of the Rhine, as also the water toll upon the Geldersche Yssel, are suspended; with reserve to the King, to bring them in force again with regard to the vessels of those states who will treat the Netherlands flag less favourable than the national.

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Simultaneously and on the same motives which were leading for the suppression of the navigation duties, all duties on transit upon the Netherlands rivers are suppressed; providing however those prescriptions which will be found necessary to prevent fraud with respect to the excise on salt.

The object of both these measures (sub. 6 and 7) is to prevent commerce, in consequence of heavy charges, of being removed elsewhere. The extension of iron railways in neighbouring states, and the efforts principally of Belgium to attract the transit trade to her, obliged the government to remove all superfluous charges upon the transports on our waters and rivers. The suppression of duties upon the interior-Maas, will be settled by the way of diplomatic negotiations, and the diminishing of the canal dues is in contemplation with the government.

And finally, all existing formalities and impediments will be modified or suppressed, without exposing the public revenue too much.

The government anxiously desires to see the junction of the iron railway with Prussia; and uses all efforts in their power to attain this object.

FALL IN THE PRICES OF THE NECESSARIES OF LIFE.

(From the Daily News.)

WE begin our comparisons with 1818, after prices had settled down from the disturbances arising out of war or peace, and before they began again to oscillate under the first pressure of the "Bullion Act." And our quotations will be those given for the first week of September in every year mentioned. Alphabetically, then, for convenience sake.

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II.—COFFEE in 1818 was 130*s* to 180*s* per cwt, with a duty of 3*s* per lb. In 1828 the duty was 6*d*, British; 10*d*, foreign; and the prices ranged round 76*s*. 1838, at the same duty, they were from 47*s* up to 135*s*, according to qualities. In 1846, at duties of 4*d* and 6*d*, the price was from the lowest, Sumatra, 22*s*, up to the best Jamaica, at 115*s*; and in 1850, there were no prices higher than 92*s*, a good average East Indian article selling, at 34*s* to 48*s* per cwt.

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We have gone through the principal items included in the working man's ordinary commissariat. There are other necessities to health and comfort, if not to life, and one or two luxuries which the ameliorations in our commercial code are happily placing more within his

reach every year, if he be but moderately industrious and provident. We shall proceed hereafter with our statistics of price, and finally draw our conclusions from them.

SPIRIT OF THE TRADE CIRCULARS.

(From Messrs Churchill and Sim's Circular.)

London, Sept. 6, 1850.

Our arrivals from the British Colonies during the last month have been large, comprising forty-two cargoes from Quebec, and seventeen cargoes from New Brunswick, which have thrown an ample supply upon our market, and hitherto acted as a check to purchases, more especially in respect to Quebec floated pine deals and yellow pine timber, of which a large portion of the importation consists. Two public auctions have been attempted, with very indifferent success, as might have been expected.

Bright yellow pine deals, of superior stocks, find occasional buyers; but the common sorts, and second and third-rate qualities, are neglected. Spruce deals move off slowly, with little variation in price.

Quebec yellow pine timber forced at auction has been sold as low as 46*s* to 54*s*, and red pine of small metings and secondary quality at 50*s* to 56*s* per load; whilst superior red pine has realised 62*s* 6*d* to 65*s* per load for high averages. Good rock elm continues in request at 75*s* to 80*s*; but the inferior is altogether unsaleable. Nothing has been done of any importance in oak, ash, or birch, and staves have been altogether unnoticed at the merchants' prices.

Spruce deals from St John's and other lower ports have rather stiffened in price, several cargoes of mixed deals having been sold at 14*l* for St John's, and 13*l* for Nova Scotia; and spruce battens have been in request for a temporary object. Several parcels of good birch have been placed at 70*s*, and prime yellow pine board timber at 85*s*.

The supplies from the Baltic are falling off, and considerable business has been effected in both timber and deals, the former having a tendency to advance, and if we can succeed in establishing a rise in that article it will tend to improve the value of Quebec red pine timber.

Foreign Correspondence.

From our Paris Correspondent.

Paris, September 12, 1850.

Louis Napoleon will return to-morrow from his second journey through the departments. It had been generally supposed that he would have been more welcome in the West than in the East, but his reception was as cold at Cherbourg as at Strasburg. There was a feeling of curiosity in the population, but no benevolence towards him. When he arrived at Cherbourg, the band of the marines played the *Girondins* and the *Marsellaise*. They could not obtain from the sailors the cry of *Vive Louis Napoleon*. As they were forbidden to cry *Vive la Republique*, they remained silent, or they cried *Vive le President*, as this last cry seemed to them more republican than a proper name. But among the crowds the cry of *Vive la Republique* was in a majority, as it had been in Alsace.

The language of Louis Napoleon during his progress through the Western departments was more explicit than during his preceding journey. When he was at Lyons he had spoken of his perseverance and abnegation, meaning that he would persevere in demanding the prolongation of his powers unless the will of the nation would force him to abnegation, in which case he would abandon the Presidency. But, in answer to a toast which was drunk to him in Cherbourg, he pronounced the following words:—

The more I travel through France, the more I perceive that much is expected from the government. I do not visit a department, a town, a hamlet, but the Mayors, the General Councils, and the very Representatives demand of me, new ways of communication, such as canals, railroads, the completion of the works which are begun, then some measures which may remedy the sufferings of agriculture, and give life to industry and trade.

Nothing more natural than the manifestation of these wishes; it does not strike, you may believe it, an inattentive ear; but I must tell you in my turn, that those so-much-longed-for results will not be obtained unless you give the means of accomplishing them, and that means lies entirely in your concurrence in fortifying the power, and avoiding the danger of the future.

This language has been considered as sufficiently clear. The President declares that he cannot do anything for the welfare of France, unless the nation gives him the prolongation of his powers. In another discourse he has clearly complained that he encountered a constant hostility from the Assembly. He is certainly preparing a *coup d'etat* against the Constitution and against the Assembly; but he would take great measures of freedom before hazarding such a rash measure. He hoped that his visits to the departments, and the wishes of the General Councils, would make his *coup d'etat* much easier. But both these attempts have been failures. He has perceived during his progress through the East and West of France, that there was no sympathy for his person. His affectation of never speaking of the republic displeased the low and middle classes. Instead of adopting the cry of *Vive la Republique*, he was displeased when it was shouted around him; and the papers of the Elysée considered that cry as seditious.

The President supposed that the majority of the General Councils would demand the prolongation of his powers, and the immediate revision of the Constitution. But as these resolutions were contrary to the existing Constitution, the majorities refused to vote them. Corsica and the Eastern Pyrenees gave votes for the prolongation of the powers. But out of forty-four General Councils who demanded the revision, forty-two added to their wishes that it would be made regularly or legally. Some of them demanded a revision, without adding at what moment it ought to be made. For y General Councils have separated without raising the question of revision, or after refusing to vote a proposition about that political question.

The ministerial papers have also adopted other tactics, to prepare for the prolongation and immediate revision. They affect to frighten trade about its situation during the years 1851 and 1852, if the nation remains uncertain for so long a time upon its future condition. One

navigating to and from their ports (excepting the coasting trade and fisheries).

b. Assimilate the Netherlands flag in navigating to and from their colonies if they possess any.

c. Do not levy differential duties to the prejudice of products from Netherlands colonies, or to the prejudice of bringing products from other parts of the world from Netherlands ports, others than those which serve to protect products of their own colonies and by direct importation.

The threefold object in view by art. 1 of the new law is 1st, to insure to the Netherlands flag, in navigating to and from the ports of other States, equality with their national flag, excepting the coast and fishing trade; 2nd, to stipulate the similarity of the Netherlands flag to that of the foreign state in their colonies, if they possess any; and 3rdly, to require that no differential duties be levied to the prejudice of our Colonial products in particular, or to the prejudice of products from other parts of the world in general, imported from the Netherlands.

However one exception is made and admitted by this last condition in favour of products from own colonies in other states and of their direct importation; the reason of which is that this same favour is maintained in our own legislation.

Moreover maintaining, as will be explained, the differential duty in Netherlands India in favour of the exportation to our home country, and the differential import duties in behalf of the Netherlands products. This stipulation cannot be modified without the interference of the legislature.

In short, the meaning of these regulations of the colonial navigation is to obtain the following four objects:—

1st. Admittance of the Netherlands flag on the same footing as the national flag in its home-country.

2nd. Admittance of the Netherlands flag on the same footing as the national one in their colonies.

3rd. Admittance of products from Netherlands colonies on equal footing as those articles coming from elsewhere.

4th. Admittance of all transatlantic goods, coming from Netherlands ports, on the same footing as by direct import from the countries of production.

The liberty to be granted by the Dutch law depends only on the fulfilling of these conditions.

In answer to the inquiry made by the States-general, whether the carrying of our East India products for account of the state by the Netherland Trading company, will take place by continuance in Netherland vessels, even after the promulgation of the law, the government have replied, "that it was not their intention to employ other than Netherlands vessels for the carrying of Government's products.

In accordance with the foregoing the new law proclaims:—

3rd. Legal stipulations concerning the trade and navigation in the colonies and possessions of the state in other parts of the world.

The conditional similarity of flags in navigating from and to the Netherlands colonies, is described (sub. No. 2) above.

In consequence thereof legal stipulations were required of twofold nature:—

Firstly, the determination that no alteration unless by law shall be made in the present tariffs of duties on importation, exportation, and transit.

Secondly, that only in urgent circumstances it will be left to the Governor-general to modify the tariffs temporarily, which modification is immediately to be communicated to both Chambers of the States-general.

This determination tends to regulate in future the commercial legislature in our colonies through the legislative power, instead of the executive power only, so that the decision of the question, whether and how far in future the still-existing protectional duties on the importation in the colonies of Netherlands products of growth and manufactory, and on the direct importation in Netherland of products from the colonies, are to be maintained, is not to take place without the interference of the legislature.

As regards the other legal stipulations about the colonies, it is determined in conformity with the conditional similarity of flag on navigating to and from the Netherland colonies. (See above, subject No. 2).

A. Those States who,

1st, Assimilate the Netherlands flag with their own, in navigating to and from their own ports (excepted coast and fishing trade); 2d, those who assimilate the Netherlands flag on navigating to and from their colonies, in case they possess any; and those, 3d, who do not levy any differential duties in prejudice to the importation of products of other parts of the world from Dutch ports. The flags of such States which accede to these conditions enjoy similarity with the Netherlands flag, even in the Netherlands colonies and possessions.

B. The exception is, that this similarity, which not extended to the coast trade in the Netherlands East India, because to this coast trade are solely entitled Netherlands ships, those belonging to the Netherlands East India, and the inland vessels assimilated to the latter.

The understanding and intention of the first part of this stipulation (A) are the following:—Wherever at present the exportation under the Netherlands flag or with Netherlands vessels (in future no distinction more between these two expressions) is charged at a lower rate, the same in future will be applied to the assimilated foreign flag.

If this reduction of exporting duties is subjected to the condition of direct exportation to Netherland, the foreign flag will be bound to submit to the same condition.

In order to avoid all doubts, it must be understood that throughout the whole of the Indian tariff, wherever the word Netherland-ag is mentioned: the Netherlands flag, or the one assimilated thereto, must be understood—even as for the word Netherlands ships, all those assimilated to them.

Measures of Retaliation.

About these measures the law contains the following stipulations: It is reserved to the King to take the same concerning ships of those nations, with whom the Netherlands ships, or the goods on or exported with Netherlands ships, are subjected to higher duties than the national ships, or goods of equal nature, imported or exported by national ships; or wherever the import or exportation duties of any merchandise which are admitted by the national ships should be prohibited by Netherland vessels.

The retaliation measures, if required through circumstances, and in behalf of the Netherlands trade and navigation when seemed to be necessary, will consist either in refusing the importation of certain articles to vessels of that nation, or to submit these vessels to a higher amount of tonnage duty, or to levy on their merchandises higher duties on importation; so that, by application of these measures, strict reciprocity be observed as much as possible. If measures of retaliation are taken, they must be communicated to the Legislature.

The object hereof is not to abandon the possibility of applying measures of retaliation. However, according to the assertions of Government, these measures shall be resorted to by exception, and even scarcely. Never, or in the utmost cases only, will be resorted to a determined exclusion. The measure tends only to urge a reasonable treatment, or to remedy any unfair one.

4th. Naturalisation of foreign vessels, providing a duty of 4 per cent, *ad valorem*, for registry.

The issuing of Netherlands registers for vessels built in foreign countries is adherent and inseparable of the new navigation laws. The limits to which as yet the liberty of navigation has been subjected, was the interdiction of navigating under the Netherlands flag, unless with Netherlands built vessels, which was connected with the preceding system of differential duties. At first, Government proposed—also in accordance with diminished duties on importation of building materials—a duty on registry of 1 per cent for foreign vessels; but, in consequence of an adopted amendment, this duty now is fixed at 4 per cent, *ad valorem*; if the declared value is found to be at least one-eighth beneath the estimated one, the expenses of estimation remain to the charge of the owner—the law containing also the clause that the amount of duty of 4 per cent will be revised at the same time, with the tariff of duties on import and exportation.

In consequence of the foregoing the stipulation of the law of 1819, containing interdiction of delivering registers to any other but ships built in Netherland, is recalled; whereas at present are considered as subjects of the Kingdom in respect to obtaining registers all inhabitants of the Netherlands who at least during one year have had their fixed residence within the Kingdom, though at the same time subjects of foreign powers. The words "and navigating under no foreign flags" are suppressed.

As such no foreigner is excluded from the rights of being appointed master of a foreign built vessel, which in consequence of the new legislation has obtained a Netherland register.

The Government however pretends that no limitation on that point ever existed, and do not believe, that its application will be manifold, as no shipowner would by preference fit out a foreign built vessel with foreigners, it even being little less the case with inland built vessels.

The requisite formalities are the following:—

By applying for the first register for a vessel not built in the Netherlands or in its colonies, it is wanted that the bill of partnership be registered previous to the issuing of the ship's register.

When the officers charged with the perception of the duties on registry do not agree to the declared value, the estimation will be left to three surveyors, to be appointed one by the owners, the other by Government, and the third by both parties; but in case of difference one will be indicated by the president of the court of justice.

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(From Messrs Churchill and Sim's Circular.)

London, Sept. 6, 1850.

Our arrivals from the British Colonies during the last month have been large, comprising forty-two cargoes from Quebec, and seventeen cargoes from New Brunswick, which have thrown an ample supply upon our market, and hitherto acted as a check to purchases, more especially in respect to Quebec floated pine deals and yellow pine timber, of which a large portion of the importation consists. Two public auctions have been attempted, with very indifferent success, as might have been expected.

Bright yellow pine deals, of superior stocks, find occasional buyers; but the common sorts, and second and third-rate qualities, are neglected. Spruce deals move off slowly, with little variation in price.

Quebec yellow pine timber forced at auction has been sold as low as 46*s* to 55*s*, and red pine of small metings and secondary quality at 50*s* to 56*s* per load; whilst superior red pine has realised 62*s* 6*d* to 65*s* per load for high averages. Good rock elm continues in request at 75*s* to 80*s*; but the inferior is altogether unaleable. Nothing has been done of any importance in oak, ash, or birch, and staves have been altogether unnoticed at the merchants' prices.

Spruce deals from St John's and other lower ports have rather stiffened in price, several cargoes of mixed deals having been sold at 1*l* for St John's, and 13*l* for Nova Scotia; and spruce battens have been in request for a temporary object. Several parcels of good birch have been placed at 70*s*, and prime yellow pine board timber at 85*s*.

The supplies from the Baltic are falling off, and considerable business has been effected in both timber and deals, the former having a tendency to advance, and if we can succeed in establishing a rise in that article it will tend to improve the value of Quebec red pine timber.

Foreign Correspondence.

From our Paris Correspondent.

Paris, September 12, 1850.

Louis Napoleon will return to-morrow from his second journey through the departments. It had been generally supposed that he would have been more welcome in the West than in the East, but his reception was as cold at Cherbourg as at Strasburg. There was a feeling of curiosity in the population, but no benevolence towards him. When he arrived at Cherbourg, the band of the marines played the *Girondins* and the *Marsellaise*. They could not obtain from the sailors the cry of *Vive Louis Napoleon*. As they were forbidden to cry *Vive la Republique*, they remained silent, or they cried *Vive le President*, as this last cry seemed to them more republican than a proper name. But among the crowds the cry of *Vive la Republique* was in a majority, as it had been in Alsace.

The language of Louis Napoleon during his progress through the Western departments was more explicit than during his preceding journey. When he was at Lyons he had spoken of his perseverance and abnegation, meaning that he would persevere in demanding the prolongation of his powers unless the will of the nation would force him to abnegation, in which case he would abandon the Presidency. But, in answer to a toast which was drunk to him in Cherbourg, he pronounced the following words:—

The more I travel through France, the more I perceive that much is expected from the government. I do not visit a department, a town, a hamlet, but the Mayors, the General Councils, and the very Representatives demand of me, new ways of communication, such as canals, railroads, the completion of the works which are begun, then some measures which may remedy the sufferings of agriculture, and give life to industry and trade.

Nothing more natural than the manifestation of these wishes; it does not strike, you may believe it, an inattentive ear; but I must tell you in my turn, that those so-much-longed-for results will not be obtained unless you give the means of accomplishing them, and that means lies entirely in your concurrence in fortifying the power, and avoiding the danger of the future.

This language has been considered as sufficiently clear. The President declares that he cannot do anything for the welfare of France, unless the nation gives him the prolongation of his powers. In another discourse he has clearly complained that he encountered a constant hostility from the Assembly. He is certainly preparing a *coup d'etat* against the Constitution and against the Assembly; but he would take great measures of freedom before hazarding such a rash measure. He hoped that his visits to the departments, and the wishes of the General Councils, would make his *coup d'etat* much easier. But both these attempts have been failures. He has perceived during his progress through the East and West of France, that there was no sympathy for his person. His affectation of never speaking of the republic displeased the low and middle classes. Instead of adopting the cry of *Vive la Republique*, he was displeased when it was shouted around him; and the papers of the *Elysée* considered that cry as seditious.

The President supposed that the majority of the General Councils would demand the prolongation of his powers, and the immediate revision of the Constitution. But as these resolutions were contrary to the existing Constitution, the majorities refused to vote them. Corsica and the Eastern Pyrenees gave votes for the prolongation of the powers. But out of forty-four General Councils who demanded the revision, forty-two added to their wishes that it would be made regularly or legally. Some of them demanded a revision, without adding at what moment it ought to be made. For y General Councils have separated without raising the question of revision, or after refusing to vote a proposition about that political question.

The ministerial papers have also adopted other tactics, to prepare for the prolongation and immediate revision. They affect to frighten trade about its situation during the years 1851 and 1852, if the nation remains uncertain for so long a time upon its future condition. One

of the principal papers of the Elysée, the *Constitutionnel*, published on Sunday last a long leading article, which was written by M. Grainer de Cassagnac, in order to prepare trade for the alternative of a new great commercial crisis, if the traders do not support the claims of Louis Napoleon, and do not vote for the prolongation of his powers. We read the following words in that leading article:—"Within six months, fifty great commercial firms will stop all their operations for account; within six months, fifty great banking firms will shut their offices and wait; within six months, all the capital will be concealed, or will go out until the future, at least the future of a few years, be ascertained."

I fear, indeed, that M. Grainer de Cassagnac is right when he apprehends a new commercial fear, in consequence of the political uncertainty of 1851. But such apprehensions ought not to be given in ministerial papers, because they may have an immediate effect upon mercantile transactions. Indeed, the general anxiety has already a bad influence. The preparations for the autumnal season have been very satisfactory in almost all the branches of trade and manufactures. They expected a very good season, and large orders had already been obtained for exportation and for the departments. But there is now a general abatement of activity, owing to political apprehensions. Many orders have been withdrawn, and the manufacturers begin to apprehend a new crisis for the winter.

Our agricultural information is better this week than it has been for the last month. We have now very fine weather, and the price of flour and corn begin to decline in all the French markets. The fall of wheat has been, on an average, about 1 franc per hectolitre. The price of flour is quoted at the Paris *halle* 29 to 26 francs, and it was a fortnight ago above 33 francs. The stock continues to increase, and it amounts to 44,393 metrical quintals at the *halle aux bles*. The harvest of 1850 is indeed very bad in the North of France, and about a third of the crops will be of very bad quality, because they had been cut down before the rains, and could not be gathered in. There is, accordingly, a very great difference in the prices of the different brands of wheat; the superior qualities are worth about 6 francs more than the lowest ones per hectolitre. The harvest has been generally good in the Southern parts of France, and as there was everywhere a great stock of old corn in the granaries of our farmers, the prices cannot rise very much.

The following are the variations of our securities from Sept. 5 to Sept. 11:—

	f	c	f	c
The Three per Cents improved	0	15	at	58
The Five per Cents	0	15		53
Bank Shares declined	30	0		2280
Northern Shares	5	0		455
Strasbourg	3	75		335
Nantes	7	50		237
Orleans	1	25		775
Rouen	2	50		585
Havre	1	25		245
Paris	1	25		118
Vierzon	3	75		345
Bordeaux improved	1	25		386

HALF-PAST FOUR.—The funds are slightly improving, but there was not much business. It was reported that M. de Rothschild had taken the new Piedmontese loan at 84f 60c; but I have obtained information, and I know that the negotiations about that loan are not completed.

The Three per Cents varied from 58f 10c to 58f 15c for cash; the Five per Cents from 93f 65c to 93f 90c; the Bank Shares from 2,285f to 2,305f, Northern Shares from 458f 75c to 462f 50c, Strasbourg from 336f 25c to 340f, Nantes from 236f 25c to 237f 50c, Orleans were at 775f, Rouen at 590f, Havre at 245f, Marseilles at 175f, Bordeaux at 386f 25c, and Vierzon at 347f 50c.

News of the Week.

COURT AND ARISTOCRACY.

HER MAJESTY and the royal family continue at Balmoral. On the 6th Her Majesty and His Royal Highness Prince Albert went to the top of Ben-na-Boud, accompanied by the Prince Ernest of Leiningen.

METROPOLIS.

EXHIBITION OF 1851.—The first castings for the iron columns for the building were delivered on the ground on Saturday last, having arrived the previous day at the Kensington basin from the foundry at Dudley. The sashes are being made in London; and it is expected that several hundred hands in a very few days will be engaged on the works.

ACCOMMODATION FOR ARTISANS DURING THE EXHIBITION OF 1851.—A register of persons disposed to provide accommodation for artisans, &c., from the country, while visiting the exhibition of next year, is to be opened, without fee, under the direction of her Majesty's Commissioners. Forms of application may be had at 1 Old Palace yard. Other arrangements are under consideration for guiding the visitors, on their arrival by the trains, to the lodgings they may select. The register contains a column in which the particulars of the accommodation each party proposes to afford will be entered.

FURTHER SINKING OF BLACKFRIARS BRIDGE.—On Sunday the alarm previously excited by the partial sinking of the centre arch of Blackfriars-bridge was considerably increased by a further decline of the same arch having evidently taken place towards the Middlesex shore. It is believed that, should any further sinking occur, the authorities will direct the closing of the bridge.—*Standard*.

VENTILATION OF THE COURTS OF LAW.—The Courts of Exchequer and Common Pleas at Westminster are about to be ventilated by the steam jet. The arrangements are settled, and preparations are making by the office of Woods and Forests, under the direction of Mr G. Gurney. Fresh air is to be brought in at a high level above the courts, and the vitiated air withdrawn by a separate jet from each court.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—The re-opening of the reading-rooms at the British Museum this week was marked by an unusually large attendance of students, anxious to avail themselves of the increased accommodation. The principal addition is a new supplemental catalogue of 153 vols folio, of which two copies are supplied. These and the old catalogue (removed from the west room) are ranged on shelves along three sides of the east room, and before them stand rows of strong oaken desks. The new catalogue contains manuscript titles exclusively.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.—Eight hundred and ninety-nine deaths, and 1,474 births were registered in the week ending September 7th. The mortality is, therefore, near the average; and the births registered exceed the deaths by 575. In the first week of September last year, 3,183 persons died in London; 272 by diarrhoea, and 2,026 by cholera. It was the week in which the mortality was highest. In the corresponding week of the present year, the deaths by diarrhoea have been 75, by cholera 8. The deaths from diarrhoea are now rapidly declining; cholera was fatal in 8 instead of 4 cases, the number registered in the previous week. By the Greenwich observations, the mean reading of the barometer was 30.196 inches; the mean temperature of the air in the shade was 56.5 degs through the week, or 2.4 degs less than the average of the last 7 years; the mean temperature of the Thames was 59 degs.

PROVINCES.

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH ACROSS THE MERSEY.—We are informed that experiments are about to be tried on the Mersey with the view of carrying an electric telegraph line across the river from Liverpool to Birkenhead. We hope that the dock authorities will now no longer delay to fulfil their long entertained idea of establishing wires northward along the shore to Formby, &c., and westward to Bidston. No question can exist of the importance of such a measure, so largely calculated as it is to render the existing marine telegraph effective in foggy weather.—*Liverpool Albion*.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—South Shields has just received a charter of incorporation. The whole of the parliamentary boroughs in Durham and Northumberland have now municipal corporations.

FIRING PARKHURST PRISON AGAIN.—An attempt was made on Wednesday evening se'night by the convicts confined at Parkhurst to burn down that beautiful portion of the establishment recently erected on the northern side of the bridge, upon Horsebridge hill, which is known as the juvenile prison. The endeavour was first discovered by one of the warders named Wilson, whose attention was drawn to something extraordinary occurring by a strong smell of burning linen. A strict examination was then instituted, and it was found that about a shovelful of live cinders had been obtained from one of the stoves used for heating irons in the tailors' shop contiguous, and placed on the flooring of the ward. Over this the prisoners had placed their sheets, clothing, and bedding.—*Hampshire Independent*.

REPRESENTATION OF MONTGOMERYSHIRE.—It is said that Captain Herbert Wynn, of the Seventh Fusiliers, will offer himself as a candidate for the county of Montgomery, on protectionist principles, in consequence of the death of his uncle, the late Right Honourable Charles Williams Wynn.

SHIP BUILDING IN LIVERPOOL.—There are now in course of construction, in the different shipbuilders' yards of this town, six vessels of 3,154 tons burthen. Of these two or three are being constructed on what is termed "builders' account," and the remainder under contract. The vessels launched this year, up to the present time, show a total of 2,474 tons, whilst during the whole of last year only 2,374 tons were launched; if we add the vessels in course of construction and to be completed this year, we shall find an increase in the trade to the extent of upwards of 1,000 tons over the twelve months of 1849.—*Liverpool Chronicle*.

REPRESENTATION OF HEREFORDSHIRE.—A candidate has appeared for the vacancy occasioned by the death of Mr Bailey in the person of Mr Booker, the Glamorganshire champion of protection.

DECREASE OF PAUPERISM.—At the usual sitting of the Board of Guardians of the Havant Union (Hants), last week, there was not a single applicant for out-door relief, a circumstance perfectly unique in the history of the union. Even the protectionist guardians were compelled to admit that such an event was never realised, even in the palmy days of protection.

RAILWAY EXCURSIONS FOR THE MILLION.—The railway excursions projected to take place in all parts of the kingdom are unprecedented. Nearly every railway company has projected pleasure trips for the middle and working classes, and the result has been to create a comparatively new species of traffic. The Great Western Railway have taken a prominent part, and have in addition to their weekly excursions to Windsor, run heavily-laden trains in and out of London, &c. to and from Oxford, Bath, Bristol, and all other places on their route at what is termed one fare, or in other words half the usual fare, there and back. Sunday has been selected on several occasions as a day that can be leisurely enjoyed by multitudes, and convenient for the railway company, as on other days this species of pleasure traffic would interfere with the ordinary business. The clergy and gentry of Clifton, Bristol, Bath, and other places, have memorialised the board of directors on the propriety of discontinuing the trips, by which the company it is calculated, have increased their weekly receipts to the extent of 2,000*l*. The trains that left Paddington, for Bristol, Bath, and Oxford, took 2,500 persons, and returning 2,300. Local trains between Cirencester and Bath conveyed 1,000 persons, and between Bath and Bristol 4,000.

SCOTLAND.

GLEN TILT.—The Duke of Athol is not yet done with the shutting up of Glen Tilt. Notwithstanding the recent decision in the Court of Session in favour of the opening of the pass, it has this season been more carefully guarded, than ever. It was only last week that a highly respectable party from Braemar were turned back by one of the Duke's menials, and told that without a line from his Grace no one could be permitted to pass on. And these lines of admission are gone about in the most business-like way imaginable. They are regularly printed checks, evidently torn from a book kept for the purpose, with the name of the fortunate holder inserted on a blank line, and thereafter the "open sesame" of Athol appended to the precious document. We believe the Duke states that the decision of the Court of Session only has the effect of throwing open Glen Tilt to the three gentlemen who were pursuers in the action against him.—*Aberdeen Banner*.

INCREASED VALUE OF LANDED PROPERTY.—We (*Edinburgh Courier*) are glad to find that there is now an increasing demand for investments in landed property at improved prices. The fine estates of Calrossie and Glastallie, in Easter Ross, have just been purchased by Sir Charles Ross, of Baingowan, Bart, at the price of 60,000*l*.

IRELAND.

INCUMBERED ESTATES COMMISSION.—For the week ending on the 5th instant, there were fourteen additional petitions for the sale of estates filed in the Incumbered Court, making the total number of petitions 1,197; and, before the 1st of November, they will probably amount to 1,300. Important as the sales already effected have been, they form but a small portion of the estates to be submitted to the adjudication of the commissioners. On the resumption of the sittings next month, the really heavy business of the commission will commence, and many very extensive estates are to be sold during the winter.

THE LORD LIEUTENANT.—The Earl of Clarendon arrived in Belfast on Saturday; and, after lunching with the directors of the Ulster Railway Company, proceeded by a special train on the Ballymena Railway to Garron Tower, where he was to remain for a few days as the guest of the Marquis of Londonderry. His Excellency was to make his public entry into Belfast on Thursday next, and, after receiving various addresses, was to dine with the corporation in the evening.

ENGLISH VISITORS TO IRELAND.—Within the past three months (says the *Ballasloe Star*), but more especially since the rising of parliament, there has been an immense influx of visitors to this country from England. And we have reason to know that in not a few instances the impression made is not likely to be a mere passing one—that before this day twelvemonth many of this year's visitors will become permanent residents—the object of their present visit being to see for themselves the best circumstanced land whereon to locate. Of one thing we feel assured, that there will be no lack of purchasers for desirable small estates when the Incumbered Commissioners resume operations.

DEATH OF CHIEF JUSTICE DOHERTY.—The news of the sudden death of Chief Justice Doherty reached Dublin on Monday, the unexpected event having taken place on Sunday night at Beaumaris, in Anglesea, whither he had gone with his family, as was his custom, to spend the summer vacation. It is understood that the melancholy occurrence, which took place quite suddenly, was the result of disease of the heart, the late judge having been otherwise in apparent good health.

APPLICATION OF THE "SCREW PROPELLER" TO CANAL BOATS.—An experimental trip was made on Saturday last on the Grand Canal, Dublin, to illustrate the advantages of the application of steam as a propelling power, by the agency of the screw, to boats and vessels engaged in inland navigation, and the result of which seemed highly satisfactory to numerous scientific persons and others who attended to witness it.

THE WORK DONE AT THE SYNOD.—The zealous champion of Roman Catholicity (the *Cork Examiner*), while affecting to know nothing officially of the secret proceedings in the Synod, gives the following *resume* of the subjects which occupied the attention of the Conclave during its three weeks' sittings:—"It is said, then, that there have been two decisions against the Queen's Colleges—one against their character and tendency, which was come to by a considerable majority, but not so large a majority as was anticipated by those adverse to them; the other, for withdrawing ecclesiastics from them, which was affirmed by a majority of one. It is also said that the plan of establishing a Catholic University met with general acquiescence, or rather with unanimous approval. It is also said that all sacraments are to be administered in future in churches, and that country stations have been specially condemned. It is also said that several rules have been laid down with respect to religious ceremonials, so as to establish a perfect uniformity with those in Rome. It is also said that the question of mixed marriages has not been discussed at all. It is also said that no material change has been made with respect to the observance of fasts. It is also said that no rule has been made with respect to the stricter discipline of the religious orders. It is also said that on Tuesday night all the decrees passed by the Synod were signed and solemnly approved of by all. And it is further said that the Primate will shortly publish an official address to the Catholic church of Ireland, in which it is likely that his Grace will take strong ground with respect to the colleges."

THE REPRESENTATIVE PEERAGE.—There is no longer any doubt of the election of Lord Dunasny to the vacancy in the representative peerage created by the death of the Earl of Dunraven. In politics his lordship is a strenuous supporter of Conservative principles. He sat for a short time in the House of Commons as member for the borough of Drogheda.

THE HARVEST.—The weather is like a second summer, and the harvest is approaching to a close, under the most favourable circumstances. There are letters from Belfast and other parts of Ulster, giving most encouraging reports of the abundance of the crops—the only exception, and that only to a partial extent, being in the wheat crop. Those letters mention that there is a very visible improvement in the condition of the rural population in that part of the country.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL.

FRANCE.

The Bordeaux journals, which have arrived this morning, announce the death of Lieutenant Gale, the aeronaut. It appears that on Sunday last he made an ascent with the Royal Cremerne balloon, on the back of a pony, from the Hippodrome of Vincennes, at Bordeaux. The descent, which took place at a short distance from Bordeaux, proved fatal. When the horse had been released from its slings, the peasants who held the ropes of the balloon, misunderstanding the directions given by the aeronaut, let go, and the balloon having still sufficient gas in it to give an ascensional force, after losing the weight of the horse, rose suddenly, and the anchor, which held by a tree, being loosened by the sudden motion, the shock upset the car. Mr Gale, however, clung to the ropes, and was fortunately able to pull the string of the valve to cause a further escape of gas. The ascent of the balloon was then checked, and it was thought, in consequence, at Bordeaux, that he had succeeded in climbing up into the car. This, however, was not the case, as the next day the balloon was discovered lying on the ground, some miles from the spot where the pony was liberated; and, on further search being made, the dead body of Lieutenant Gale was found in a wood, with the limbs all broken. He has left a wife and eight children.

DENMARK AND THE DUCHIES.

On the 9th an action took place along the whole line of the outposts. The fighting was more especially lively about the left wing of the Schleswig-Holstein army. This, consisting of the 9th and 11th infantry battalion, and the 1st cavalry battalion, was at first forced to fall back upon Suderstapel; after which, reinforcements having arrived, the Danes were thrown into disorder by them, and pressed back to the Treene. Fifty-eight prisoners were brought into Rendsburg, while nine waggons of the wounded of the first cavalry battalion arrived at Heide.

The centre of the Schleswig-Holstein army has advanced to Jazel (near Schleswig), and Breckendorf; this is, as yet, the only result of the fight.

A letter from Berlin, dated the 5th, says—"It is stated in diplomatic circles

that a joint note, signed by the Russian and English ministers, reached our cabinet last evening, requiring the intervention of Prussia in Holstein, for the purpose of restoring peace. Should Prussia decline this duty, the united fleets of the two powers are to bombard Kiel."

The *Swabian Mercury* says—"We learn positively from an authentic source that the great European powers have resolved to terminate the quarrel between Denmark and the Duchies. It is agreed that the order for the succession to the throne shall be settled, and that England, Russia, and France shall send their plenipotentiaries to Copenhagen for this purpose. The pretensions of the line of Augustenburg to the succession to the throne of the Duchies will also be discussed. Denmark has given formal assurance that she will observe the greatest moderation in regard to the Duchies. It is said that Prussia will accede to the arrangements agreed upon."

HESSE CASSEL.

One of the Hesse journals announces that the permanent commission of the States of Hesse Cassel have called on the Ministry to withdraw the unconstitutional ordinance authorising the collection of the taxes which the States refused to vote, warning the Government that in case of their refusal to comply with their demand, the commission will use all the means in their power to oppose the execution of the ordinance. The commission have also prohibited the finance authorities from carrying out the ordinance, or instructing their agents to do so. In case of disobedience they will be prosecuted according to the 61st article of the constitution.

The heads of the Administration of the Finances have presented addresses to the Elector, pointing out to him the danger to which the country and its commerce are exposed in consequence of the violation of the constitution by the Ministers, who have advised his Royal Highness to levy the taxes which the States refused to vote. M. Hassenpflug, the Finance Minister, has given orders to the Treasury to pay no salaries to any public functionary (though there is money enough for the purpose) until he shall have paid the non-voted taxes.

The Permanent Committee of the Hessian Chamber has not only impeached the Ministers, but ordered their immediate arrest. Several printing-offices have been taken possession of by the military.

PRUSSIA.

Letters from Berlin of the 7th instant, contain the protocol of the ratifications of the treaty of peace between Denmark and eighteen States of the Union, exchanged on the previous evening at the residence of the English Charge d'Affaires.

Berlin letters of the 9th, in the *Köln Zeitung*, state that a Cabinet Council met on that day, and that it was resolved not to allow any Austrian or Bavarian troops to interfere in Electoral Hesse.

The semi-official *Reforme* of Berlin, of the 10th, announces that the Prussian Minister of the Interior had postponed his journey into the provinces in consequence of the events which are occurring in Hesse.

SPAIN.

The elections have just been concluded. The defeat of the Progressista party has been almost without example. The Government itself did not expect anything so complete. We have now news from nearly all the provinces, and everywhere the Moderates have obtained an immense majority. Not the least remarkable feature in that defeat is, that the leaders and the distinguished men of the Progressista party have been everywhere set aside. Olozaga, finding himself in a minority, renounced his candidature; Cortina, Moron, and the Marquis of Albaida have been defeated.

The Directors of the Public Treasury have just published a detailed statement of the revenue for the current year. It appears that, from the receipts for the first six months of this year, and which amount to 538,862,640 reals, and supposing that the remaining half-year will not be superior, there will be a difference of 17,000,000 reals between the total receipts (1,077,725,280 reals) and the estimated sum of the budget for the same period.

ROMAN STATES.

The *Journal of Rome*, of the 30th ult, contains a notification ordering the payment of the taxes on real property at the end of the month, as also the surtax of 3 centimes. It also contains an order that the prohibition of the importation of foreign wines into Civita Vecchia, which was to have commenced on the 1st of October, shall be postponed for a year.

The *Statuto* of Florence has the following, without, however, guaranteeing its truth:—"It is said that Lord Palmerston has transmitted to the court of the Vatican a note, drawn up in energetic terms, recommending it to refrain from any violent measure against Sardinia, and pointing out the danger of the system adopted by the Roman Cabinet with respect to that Government."

SWITZERLAND.

CHUR, Sept. 3.—Great alarm was occasioned last night, at half past two o'clock, by the falling of the rocks at Felsberg. Nearly the entire population, roused from their beds by the fearful crash of the rocks almost an hour previous to their fall, had quitted the village, and stood on the plain beyond awaiting the awful catastrophe. The night was tolerably light; suddenly a tremendous crash was succeeded by thick clouds of dust, and large masses of rock were precipitated from the heights, apparently upon the village beneath; so fearful was the noise, that all concluded that the village was buried, but on rushing to the spot the inhabitants found a huge wall of rocks piled up at the very extremity of the village. About twenty of the blocks were as large as a small house, and innumerable others were of rather less dimensions. It is possible that these masses may stand for some time; but the danger is imminent, as they are piled immediately beneath the precipice.—*Allgemeine Zeitung*.

AMERICA.

Advices from New York are to the 20th ult.

The proceedings in the Congress of the United States have been very interesting. The Civil and Diplomatic Appropriation Bill has passed the house by a vote of 130 to 62. The Fugitive Slave Bill has passed the Senate also, and will be carried through the House of Representatives, probably, in the course of the present week.

The general statistics for the last fiscal year have not yet been published, but it is ascertained that the aggregate value of exports from the five cities of New York, New Orleans, Mobile, Boston, and Philadelphia amount to about 110,000,000 dollars, exceeding those of the previous year by 3,000,000 dollars; besides which much of the gold sent to England from California is said to have been on American account.

Professor Webster was executed at Boston on the 30th.

Property was destroyed by fire in Montreal on the preceding Saturday to the amount of 100,000.

Accounts of the 13th of August from Mexico mention the disappearance of cholera, after 100 days' duration, and 18,000 deaths in that city alone. The Mexican Congress was installed on the 8th. The President's speech recom-

mended prompt measures to provide for the great exigencies of the public Treasury. The Mexican markets are increasingly prolific.

The runaway slaves have been so numerous of late in these parts, under the instigations of the Abolitionists here and elsewhere, that the owners of this species of property have become very much alarmed, and hence are disposed to remove them to safer parts of the United States, or to sell them to slave traders. A cruel incident of this kind is exciting great sympathy at present. The family of William Williams, the coachman of Presidents Polk, Taylor, and Fillmore, were suddenly, on Friday morning the second ult., seized by a slave trader, and taken from their homes in this city, off to Baltimore to be sent to New Orleans. His wife, over fifty years of age, three daughters, and three grandchildren were thus snatched from him in an hour, to a fate worse to him than death, to be sold south to the highest bidder, and separated from him and each other. The poor man wrung his hands, rolled on the ground, was nearly crazed, in fact, by the dreadful parting. After many years' toil, he very recently purchased his own freedom, but his family were owned by some one in New Orleans. The President, feeling deeply for his distress, gave him money, and let him go to Baltimore to see them again. Williams found the trader would take the sum of 3,200 dollars for them, and returned with the hope of raising that amount here to redeem them. A petition was drawn up, and circulated about the city and House of Representatives, setting forth the fact, and asking for assistance, which was so promptly rendered that the prospect is, in the language of Williams himself, "very fair." The President, Mr Webster, General Scott, and a number of senators, members and citizens have contributed sums of from five to fifty dollars. Mr Corcoran gave two hundred dollars, which was the price asked for the aged wife, and he made her "free" at once. Besides doing this Mr Corcoran has purchased one of the women, who has lived in his family for some years, Mrs Commander Patterson another, and Mrs General Townson a third, who lived with her some years past. So the children, for whom 1,500 dollars were asked, only remain to be purchased by their grandfather, and he is in a fair way of raising this money.—Washington Correspondent of the *Express*.

Advices from Texas notice the meeting of the Legislature. The Governor in his message, is very violent against the United States on account of what he calls the unwarrantable assumption of power by the Federal Executive. He calls for authority to raise supplies for two mounted regiments, to be employed in the immediate occupation of Santa Fe. The Comanche Indians were ravaging the borders of the State, and military assistance had been asked for from the Government.

A revolution had taken place in the republic of Ecuador, and General Elzalde was compelled to take refuge on board a British man-of-war, then in the port of Guayaquil. He afterwards landed, and marched with a small force on Guayaquil.

BIRTHS.

On the 11th inst, at Ashley Clinton, the Hon. Mrs Frederick Clinton, of a son.
On Sunday, the 8th inst, in Gloucester terrace, Hyde park gardens, the wife of Lewis Phipps Eyre, Esq., of a son.
On the 11th inst, at Eastlands, Dulwich, the lady of Lieutenant-Colonel G. T. Greene, late of the Bengal Engineers, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 12th inst. at St James's church, Westminster, by the Rev. the Lord Wrothesley Russell, Charles Robert Colville, Esq., M.P. for South Derbyshire, to the Hon. Katherine Sarah Georgiana Russell, eldest daughter of the late Captain John Russell, R.N., and the Baroness de Clifford.
On the 12th inst. at St Luke's church, Chelsea, by his friend the Rev. Henry Murray, Charles James Fox Campbell, Esq., R.N., son of the late John Campbell, Esq., of Kilberny, Argyleshire, to Emily, eldest daughter of Alex. Fraser, Esq., formerly of Great James street, Buckingham gate.

DEATHS.

On the 9th inst, at the residence of her sister, Mrs Wilmot Bembridge, in the isle of Wight, the Hon. Miss Colman, Maid of Honour to Her late Majesty Queen Charlotte.
On the 5th inst, at 17, Claremont terrace, Pentonville, the Chevalier Antonio de Costa, Brazilian Vice-Consul in London, aged 64.
On the 10th inst, at Pencil court, Herefordshire, Thomas Brook, Esq., aged 60.

Literature.

THE RACES OF MAN, and their Geographical Distribution. By CHARLES PICKERING, M.D. New Edition. H. G. Bohn, York street, Covent Garden.

DR PICKERING was a member of the United States exploring expedition, which about ten years ago visited the numerous islands of the Pacific Ocean and the North-western coast of America. He has also been a great traveller, has explored India and Egypt, and the present book is at once a description of what he saw in the Pacific and a full statement of the results of his inquiries and travels. The larger part of it consists of the description, the smaller of the results, under such headings as the "introduced animals and plants of America—the Pacific—Equatorial Africa—Southern Arabia and Egypt—with the antiquities and introduced plants of Hindostan." In these chapters, what the author thinks worthy of being communicated in relation to these countries, and the animals and plants found in them derived from other sources, he succinctly states. The book is illustrated by a coloured map to represent the geographical distribution of the races of man, and portraits of individuals of the different species.

The present edition has prefixed to it an analytical synopsis of the Natural History of Man, by John Charles Hall, M.D., the conclusion of which is, that all the family of man is "descended from one common parent." To the numerous proofs which Mr Hall adduces in justification of this, as a purely scientific opinion, including the moral qualities of the race—justly said to be more important than many of the qualities that have for many years engaged attention—he might have added the common use of language, by which man is enabled to communicate with man, notwithstanding diversities of speech, all over the globe; the slow but certain progress of population, which, notwithstanding some oscillations and some checks, is spreading and has spread, from one or more known centres, gradually over all the globe; and the common and universal moral feelings relating to property and life. The similarity of the appetites, wants, and pursuits of all people, together with the close resemblance of the forms of all, notwithstanding many diversities of colour, establish the generic identity of the race.

Naturalists have as yet been too loose in their descriptions of what diversities constitute species, to decide that by their rules the

family of man may not, for the purposes of science, be distinguished into species. Nature does not establish our scientific distinctions. We make them for our convenience, and the better understanding of her works. She always proceeds according to certain methods and a certain order, and all that we can do is to describe the facts that we see and learn; but our distinctions into genera and species are altogether artificial, and till we settle amongst ourselves the bounds of what we call genera and species, we shall be perplexed by disputes and controversies. The distinctions and differences, in fact, are incapable of elucidation, because they do not exist except in our systems. For example, Dr Pickering—founding on certain peculiarities of hair, skin, colour, feature, &c.—distinguishes no less than "ELEVEN RACES OF MEN." He says,—"*I have seen eleven.*" But when we examine the distinctions on which he founds the assertion, they are qualities which other writers have considered to constitute only varieties of the same race. Admitting the differences noticed by him to exist, the question still arises whether they are sufficient to constitute different races; and whether they justify or not the conclusion that the human race have all sprung from one pair and have spread from one spot. Founding on his own artificial distinctions, Dr Pickering makes out eleven races of men, thus distinguished, named, and enumerated:—

Races.	Number.
White.....	350,000,000
Mongolian.....	300,000,000
Malayan.....	120,000,000
Telligan.....	60,000,000
Negro.....	55,000,000
Ethiopian.....	5,000,000
Abyssinian.....	3,000,000
Papuan.....	3,000,000
Negrillo.....	3,000,000
Australian.....	500,000
Hotentot.....	500,000

He supposes that the equatorial regions were the original abodes of man. "His original birthplace," he says, "has been in a region of perpetual summer, where the unprotected skin bears without suffering the slight fluctuations of temperature. He is essentially a production of the tropics, and there has been a time when the human family had not strayed beyond these geographical limits." As the human race spreads from a point and goes not back, it is consistent with this supposition, that the "equatorial countries continue," according to Dr Pickering, "save only the Poles, the least known of all the parts of the globe." In connection with this statement, the fact is somewhat curious that "Africa under various guises has always been sending forth streams of population, and at the same time prohibiting a return." "Tropical Africa," too, "is actually inhabited by no less than five" out of Dr Pickering's eleven races. It is now, we think, generally agreed that Egypt was originally peopled from the South, and that the aboriginals were of a very dark complexion, with an approximation to the features of Africans of the South. Dr Pickering thinks himself justified, therefore, in supposing that one of the centres whence mankind have proceeded is in Equatorial Africa, and another in the East Indies. "If," he adds, "we could suppose separate species, this, agreeable to known laws, would reconcile the geographical portion of the subject." But he also says of America, "that it contains two of the natural centres of civilisation." That of India he places on the table land of Thibet, and that of Africa in Abyssinia. These are curious subjects of speculation, and calculated, by provoking inquiry and extending observation, whether Dr Pickering be correct or not, to enlarge our knowledge of the physical history of man.

One or two circumstances adverted to by Dr Pickering deserve especial notice, as guides to all investigation. "There is surely no reason," he says, "why the order of nature should be set aside for the special accommodation of physical man." He, therefore, "takes it for granted that man has been placed on the globe in unison with the rest of creation." He is a part of that animated nature which makes up the greatest and the best part of creation, and is subject to the same or similar laws in regard to climate, &c., as other animals. He lives and always has lived subject to these laws, and it is only consistent with these that his progress has been made or can be traced. The order or course of nature seems, both from our instinctive and confident belief that the future will be as the past, and from experience, to be ever the same; and it is only, therefore, as the physical history of man, in respect to population, subsistence, &c., accords with the order or course of nature as we know it, that it is to be credited.

Another important point is thus stated. "If the human family has had a central origin and has gradually and regularly diffused itself, followed by the principal inventions and discoveries, the history of man would then be inscribed on the globe itself; and each new revolution obliterating more or less of the preceding, his primitive condition should be found at the furthest remove from the geographic centre, as in the case of a pebble dropped into water the earliest wave keeps most distant from the point of origin." If to this we add that an increase of people in relation to space, creating a necessity for exertion, gives birth to inventions and improvement, carrying all the individuals who remain united forward in the career of civilisation, while the isolated man retains his old habits, or relapses into something worse, but obviously a condition into which he is compelled by his isolation to descend, we shall probably agree with Dr Pickering that we must look for portraits of the earliest specimens of mankind at the points the most removed from the original centres of civilisation. It is also a fact that the earliest records of our race, of which a summary is so well given in the learned work of President Goguet, show a condition of society more resembling that of the Hotentots, the heathen inhabitants of Celebes, the wild people of Borneo, and the inhabitants of Australasia, than that of the civilised Hindoos, the civilised Assyrians, the civilised Egyptians, the civilised Greeks, and the civilised Europeans. These are important deductions, and they point to truths still more important.

The best part, however, of Dr Pickering's book, is his description of what he saw, and his accounts of the various people he visited. His theory may not be correct; his observations cannot be deprived of their merit. Here are specimens:—

SINGAPORE.

In the evening, the streets in the Chinese quarter presented a novel and astonishing spectacle. The shops were all thrown open, and the whole population seemed assembled for one purpose, that of *gambling*. The stakes in general were trifling; but the variety of games was inexhaustible; and while looking on, some of reputed European invention, appeared to be traceable to a Chinese source. Again, the occurrence of numerous games of chance in aboriginal America, seem to intimate in that quarter something more than an accidental coincidence.

Stages were erected by the side of the street, and *theatrical* representations were going on at all times; the rich tinsel of the evening, suffering however materially by the daylight. A numerous and attentive audience were always listening, and at times appeared a good deal affected, maintaining their ground notwithstanding the interminable length of the pieces. The movements of the actors were sometimes graceful; but there was everywhere a mixture of the grotesque, not agreeable to European taste. Female characters were personated by men singing in "falsetto." The male characters wore masks; these were always much broader than the face of the wearer, and often resembled the Chinese as conventionally depicted by themselves, not such as I have found the people in nature. There was always a full orchestra, and I confess being pleased with the music; notwithstanding the predominance of gong, which has procured for the Chinese the reputation of being a "noisy people." The feats of "*tumbling*" exceeded everything of the kind I have elsewhere witnessed.

Among other fantastic exhibitions, a masked demon, seeming ready to devour the bystanders, was led through the streets; and although it was mid-day, made a really formidable appearance. At first, this appeared the very original of Humboldt's "Mexican priest, in the act of swallowing a human victim;" and my companion, who also recollected the figure, observed that "he was thinking of the same circumstance." On referring, however, to the book a few days afterwards, we found only a general resemblance, more apparent in the profile.

THE TAHITIANS.

In all my experience, I have never met with a people so serviceable to the traveller as the Tahitians; for they seemed in fact to command at all times the principal conveniences of life. Half an hour of daylight was sufficient for building a house, of the stems and leaves of the fehi banana, and fire was produced by rubbing sticks. In one place, the running water was deeply sunk among stones, but by working in banana leaves they brought it to the surface. The chase of eels (*Anguilla*), which in these dripping mountains become almost amphibious, offered another instance of their ingenuity. They also tore off with their teeth the fibrous bark of the "purau" (*Hibiscus tiliaceus*), and a moment after, applied it to noosing small fish. If one was sent for fruit, he would usually make a basket on the way, by plaiting the segments of a cocoa-nut leaf. A mat was manufactured with almost equal ease. Clothing was always at hand, and a banana leaf served for an umbrella; or in fine weather they would weave garlands of flowers. Tumblers and bottles were supplied by single joints of the bamboo, and casks or buckets by the long stems; and whether we asked for a hatchet, knife, spoon, toothbrush, or wash-basin, we never found our guides at fault.

Dr Pickering's book is distinguished from similar works by the vast variety of his personal experience, which gives great force to all his theoretical observations. His account, accordingly, of the manner in which America might be peopled from Asia and Polynesia, confirmed by what he saw, is the most rational explanation we have yet seen of the disputed point how America was first peopled.

AN INQUIRY INTO THE EXTENT AND CAUSES OF JUVENILE DEPRAVITY. By THOMAS BEGGS. Charles Gilpin, Bishopsgate street Without.

MR BEGGS' researches, displaying an immense amount of juvenile depravity, end, like all such researches, in throwing a prodigious and overwhelming amount of responsibility on the government. From all sides that is accumulating, and fast becoming unbearable. Towards the conclusion he says, it was "the age of Victoria that those in power began to stoop down to study social wants, and to legislate for social necessities." Mr Beggs, therefore, charges all persons previously in power with not having stooped down to study social wants, and with not having legislated for social necessities. At the same time, throughout the work, it is implied and stated that from the action of the legislature the improved social condition of the people must arise; and their present condition is therefore the result of its action. At its hands a remedy must be sought. Such being Mr Beggs' views, we should have thought it irrational and needless to look further into the causes of juvenile depravity. They are all found in the depravity of the parents. Their ignorance, their intemperance, their vices, their crimes, are the immediate causes of their children's vices; and all the vices of the people, according to Mr Beggs' view, are caused by the legislature, which—charged with the function of providing for the welfare of society—of making the people moral and happy—has grossly neglected its duty, "never having, till the reign of Victoria, stooped to study social wants and social necessities." All the depravity and suffering, according to this view, are to be traced to the conduct of the legislature in past times.

But then arises another consideration. The legislature is not a heaven-descended institution—it is not the sun or the moon, beyond our reach; it is made by and for the people, and the people are to blame if the legislature be improperly constituted or neglect its duty. But this brings us again to the people as the primary cause of the neglect of the legislature; and this process of reasoning shows us that the juvenile depravity so bitterly complained of by grown-up gentlemen and ladies, is the consequence of the said grown-up persons having formed and tolerated a legislature which has never "stooped to study social wants and legislate for social necessities." In short juvenile depravity, as all other depravity, is the result of ignorance or erroneous opinions in the community at large, which ignorance and which erroneous opinions are, or at least have been, fully shared by the legislature and the classes who have constituted the legislature. What we must look to,

therefore, as the real correction of juvenile depravity and of the depravity of parents, is correct and improved opinion, and particularly a corrected and improved opinion in the classes constituting and forming the legislature. On that score we apprehend there is very little at present to hope; for, as far as we know and see, the influential classes have, on all subjects concerning themselves and their poorer neighbours, a most overweening, self-satisfied conviction that they themselves are perfect patterns of virtue and goodness, that amongst them there is no error, no depravity, and that it is only necessary to model the poor after themselves to produce a perfect paradise on earth. In that there is perhaps a mistake; and we can conceive nothing more disastrous than to convert the whole people into meddling, philanthropical, pharasaical reformers of their neighbours. Mr Beggs states in reference to all the inquiries into the subject made since the New Poor Law legislation was begun:—

CO-EXISTENCE OF DEPRAVITY AND PHILANTHROPY.

A large proportion of the population were found to be grovelling in the veriest debasement, yielding obedience only to the animal instincts; brooding in spiritual darkness in a day of gospel light, and as much excluded from the benefits of civilisation, as much shut out from a participation in the blessings of Christian privilege, as if they were the inhabitants of another hemisphere. Pauperism and crime were steadily, if not rapidly, increasing, and the public burdens in consequence becoming intolerable. The future of such a present seemed equally deplorable. A young generation was springing up, as low and degrading in habit and feeling and inheriting all the vices of that which preceded it. The advance of these fearful evils was contemporaneous with unwonted exertions in the cause of education, and in every form of practical benevolence. Charitable institutions have multiplied exceedingly, and their messages of mercy have been sent out with the most commendable liberality; and yet, there has been no apparent diminution of the misery that was sought to be relieved. Some mighty power of evil, seemed to baffle not only voluntary exertion, but the efforts of legislation.

"The mighty power of evil" is, of course, the ignorance of the ruling classes—meaning the classes that elect and constitute the legislature, as well as the classes that make and administer the laws, and meaning also the classes that influence and form public opinion by the press—and of their improvement there seems little hope, except that which is brought about by the pressure of circumstances, by Providence opening their eyes in its own good time to those errors which are so pernicious. We do not believe that such books as this of Mr Beggs' have any tendency, except as it merely displays by its statistics the magnitude of the evil, to hasten this improvement, because it nourishes the pharasaical spirit of the classes whose opinions most require improvement, and lauds very much some of the leading errors which they most fondly cherish. It is notorious that we have the best provided church in the world—equally notorious that larger funds are devoted, however misapplied, to education in England than in any other country—equally notorious that there is no end to professions about religion, and to the labour for collecting money for its promotion—equally notorious that, for the last quarter of a century, prodigious exertions at a prodigious cost, both to individuals and the state, have been made to extend religion and education, and improve the people by their means; and the result, according to Mr Beggs, is a prodigious increase of depravity in children, which springs from depravity in parents, and therefore, in spite of all these exertions, if Mr Beggs' views even approximate to correctness, there is a prodigious and increasing depravity in all.

If we had not more confidence in the course of nature, than in the teaching of men, we should despair of our country and mankind. But we see, in spite of all these recorded failures, that society steadily marches forward in a course of ordained improvement. Evil after evil is brought to light as society progresses, and evil after evil is put down. Material improvements, now happily of continual occurrence, are the handmaids of moral improvements. Comparing the distant past with the present, there can be no doubt that the material and moral improvements of mankind have gone on *pari passu*. Men have become humane and honest, as they have become skilful, intelligent, and opulent. Both species of improvement are obviously connected with the increase of the species, which increases the knowledge and intelligence of all, controls and subdues the hateful passions of individuals, and enlarges and encourages those which are socially beneficial. Though books like this of Mr Beggs', from flattering many common and vulgar errors, will not much hasten the progress, it will be beneficial, as all books are beneficial which collect and display facts. It has, in our view, no other merit. Its philosophy is common place; the remedies which have been tried for ages with, according to his own showing, the least success, he still praises and recommends. While he and philosophers of his class are talking about pieces of rational public entertainment for the people, they are really, by excursion trains, by visiting different parts of the country, and spreading themselves over the land, finding for themselves more rational entertainment and improvement than their best friends have ever devised for them. The freedom of industry, now happily filling the land with ingenious contrivances, with multiplying wealth, while it adds to employment and enjoyment for all, will be found the best corrective of juvenile as of all other depravity.

THE AGE AND ITS ARCHITECTS. Ten Chapters on the English People in Relation to the Times. By EDWIN PAXTON HOOD. Charles Gilpin, Bishopsgate street Without.

MR HOOD treats in a liberal spirit of most of the popular topics of the day. Other writers supply fuel for his flame. The subjects of his book are suggested by them, and it is partly made up of quotations. He is unquestionably a diligent reader and careful observer of the writings of living authors. If he have not much of his own, he makes a large use of the wisdom of others; and the passages by which he unites together the separate pieces he borrows are not destitute of eloquence. He does not seem, however, to have an accurate discrimination, and takes up every topic which appears to be a griev-

ance, an injury, or a wrong. The Architects of the Age for him are less the Stephensons, the Wheatstones, the Bretts—the railway and telegraph masters—than the Bulwers, the Carlyles, the writers in the *Morning Chronicle*, &c., who delight in describing with vigour some of the outlying and damaged parts of society. He describes less any part of the actual building and actual builders than what he supposes to be obstructions to its usefulness and sightliness. Of course he runs with the stream, in being an opponent of intemperance and an advocate of education—loves small farms, and reprobrates the improper accommodation of the peasantry—looks for improvement to women and emigration—and has some hopes of an Utopia. We are far from saying that a book, suggested chiefly by the floating literature of the day, if duly marshalled and ordered, to bring under notice some principle just dawning on mankind, must be a useless book. On the contrary, such a book might be extremely valuable; but a book, which chiefly reflects the wrongs to which powerful and persevering grumblers give a momentary notoriety, without perceiving that they have not attracted the attention of many shallow people till they are in progress to extinction, is not, however well written, a valuable book. We miss in Mr Hood's production a purpose or aim, other than that of communicating his thoughts to others. We see no one topic he adorns, nor one truth he carefully illustrates. The "Age and its Architects" is far too wide and too ambitious a theme, and almost any one of the many subjects Mr Hood rambles over, might have sufficed, with discriminating care, to supply the materials of a volume. We repeat that the book is eloquently written, but vague and purposeless, and may be described rather as a sign that the author possesses considerable power than that he has in the present volume used it with discretion.

BRITISH COLONIAL POLICY: Municipalities Confederated under a Viceroy, &c. By AN ABSENTEE PROPRIETOR OF LAND IN NEW ZEALAND. John W. Parker, West Strand.

LITTLE progress seems to have been made in the art of colonial government, notwithstanding the great attention lately paid to the subject. Judging from the success of the United States before they were independent, it was better understood when they were founded than at present. In fact they were governed by their necessities, and those necessities dictated laws; our colonies are governed, or at least their government is written about, by gentlemen who feel no such necessities, and are at liberty to speculate through the whole domain of possible government. The Absentee New Zealand Proprietor recommends that every colony should be divided into small counties, and every county should be divided into municipal districts, and that every male inhabitant of the municipal districts of sane mind and 21 years of age, being a natural born or naturalised British subject, should be entitled to nominate, in conjunction with others, an individual to represent him in the municipal council, &c. We see no provision made for a colony not large enough to be divided into counties and municipalities, nor for the case of the people preferring some other plan as more convenient than that of this gentleman. His scheme, like many others of the same kind, overlooks the trifling circumstance that colonists, like other men, are entitled to govern themselves; and the preliminary question to be settled, "What do the colonists like and wish?" is wholly shirked. The North American colonies really governed themselves, and chose their own form of government, which was the great secret of their success. They had rarely absentee proprietors to suggest their course, and where they had they finally succeeded in throwing them off, taking their own affairs into their own hands. We do not think very favourably of the Absentee Proprietor's scheme. He seems to think of civilisation chiefly as the means of providing for a genteel few who might acquire the land and see the "suburban lots increase in value without any other labour" than for the gentlemen to reside on their own properties. By such plans the wilderness was not and will not be subdued. Toronto or Kingston or Wellington may be, as he suggests, a pleasant place to reside at for persons of small fortune incapable of exerting themselves; but Wales or Scotland or London would be a still more agreeable abode for them could they only adapt themselves to their circumstances. The grand problem of colonial government—how to reconcile self-government with dependence on the government at home—is not solved by the Absentee New Zealand Proprietor.

THE EFFECTS OF CIVILIZATION ON THE PEOPLE IN EUROPEAN STATES. By CHARLES HALL, M.D. Originally printed in 1805. Reprinted in the *Phoenix Library: a Series of Original and Reprinted Works*, selected by J. M. Morgan. C. Gilpin, Bishopsgate street.

Mr GILPIN took an active part in promoting free trade, and we cannot understand why he is now engaged in publishing a series of works, selected by Mr J. M. Morgan, that are quite at variance with its principles. The present work, for example, asserts that "the greater part of manufactures, trade, and commerce are highly injurious to the poor, as being the chief means of depriving them of the necessities of life." We thought that it was, on the contrary, demonstrated that manufactures and commerce are the means by which a great multitude of the people live, and that government could in no manner so well promote the welfare of the people as by removing its restrictions on the growth of manufactures and commerce. If such works were reprinted as curiosities to show into what errors our ancestors fell half a century ago, the matter would be explicable; but to publish them as part of a popular library seems inexcusable. What is the use of now publishing books to instruct the people which contain chapters to show "that manufactures are the cause and sign of the poverty of the nation"—"that civilisation and manufactures render a nation more ignorant and barbarous"—"that civilisation and manufactures weaken a nation?" Such works should be left in that oblivion to which the good sense of mankind has consigned them. They cannot be redeemed by a few truths, such

as that "civilisation does not arise from any constitution of government, but flows from the natural propensities of mankind;" but the little truth may help the mass of error to pass current. As the editor has in one or two places expressed his dissent from some of Dr Hall's opinions and his approbation of others, he must be concluded to adopt those strange statements we have quoted, and to believe with Dr Hall that civilisation renders a nation more barbarous, though, like him, he should define civilisation to be the opposite of barbarism. We want information concerning the progress of society, but it must be founded on facts, not such contradictions as we have quoted. If the *Phoenix Library* is to be the resuscitation of such works as this, the world will have no wish to see it successful, and see them rise from their ashes.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Essays on Subjects in Political Economy. By W. P. Urquhart.
The Illustrated Hand-Book of North Wales. By John Hicken. Whittaker and Co. Shropshire, with its Railways (Map.) Collins.
The National Cyclopædia of Useful Knowledge. Part XLIV. Charles Knight.
Half-Hours with the Best Authors. Part V. Charles Knight.
Pictorial Half-Hours Part IV. Charles Knight.
The Land we live in. Part XXXV. Charles Knight.
The Imperial Cyclopædia. Part IV. Charles Knight.

To Readers and Correspondents.

Communications must be authenticated by the name of the writer.

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK RETURNS AND MONEY MARKET.

BANK OF ENGLAND.
(From the Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Saturday the 7th day of Sept. 1850:—

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	30,100,575	Government debt	11,015,100
		Other Securities	2,984,900
		Gold coin and bullion	15,840,617
		Silver bullion	219,958
	30,100,575		30,100,57

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' capital	14,553,000	Government Securities, including Dead Weight Annuity	14,430,847
Rest	3,550,244	Other Securities	11,700,259
Public Deposits (including Exchange, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts)	8,885,786	Notes	10,618,990
Other Deposits	9,106,676	Gold and Silver Coin	606,368
Seven Day and other Bills	1,260,758		
	37,356,464		37,356,464

Dated the 12th Sept. 1850.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

THE OLD FORM.

The above Bank accounts would, if made out in the old form, present the following result:—

Liabilities.		Assets.	
Circulation inc. Bank post bills	20,742,343	Securities	25,578,106
Public Deposits	8,885,786	Bullion	16,706,943
Other or private Deposits	9,106,676		
	38,734,805		42,285,049

The balance of assets above liabilities being 2,550,244l, as stated in the above account under the head REST.

FRIDAY NIGHT.

The preceding accounts, compared with those of last week, exhibit,—

A decrease of Circulation of	£245,416
An increase of Public Deposits of	624,505
A decrease of Other Deposits of	174,423
An increase of Securities of	280,878
A decrease of Bullion of	62,630
An increase of Rest of	13,582
An increase of Reserve of	138,530

The present returns show that the circulation has decreased 245,416l, the whole circulation at present being 20,742,343l, against 19,096,151l at this time last year; that the public deposits have increased 624,505l, the amount of public deposits now being 8,885,786l against 6,972,850l at this time last year; that private deposits have decreased 174,423l, the amount of private deposits now being 9,106,676l, against 9,065,606l last year; that the securities have increased 280,878l, the increase being wholly of private securities, the amount of which now is 11,700,259l, against 10,126,273l at this time last year; that the bullion has decreased 62,630l, the whole amount now being 16,706,943l; against 14,808,982l last year; that the rest has increased 13,582l; and the reserve has increased 138,530l, the whole reserve now being 11,225,358l, against 10,736,488l last year. From these returns, then, it appears that the circulation is 1,646,192l greater than last year, and the public deposits are also 1,912,936l more. There is consequently a greater demand for money, while the revenue has improved, or is more closely paid up. The amount of private securities, also showing an increased demand for money, is now 1,571,986l more than last year, the Bank

having advanced that sum more now than then. At the same time, the bullion now in the Bank is 1,897,961*l* more than then. Thus, while the Bank is doing more business than last year, or has lent more, her stock is also greater, and the Bank is flourishing as well as the community.

Quite consistent with these facts, we have to report a brisk demand for money in the market, but the Bank lending at the same time on Stock at the rate of 2 per cent, and having plenty to lend, the supply is abundant. Money is placed on call at 2 per cent, and the very best bills are discounted at 2½ and 2½. For the increasing business which is taking place, the money market is favourable.

The transactions in the public funds have not been numerous this week, they having been almost exclusively confined to the "house," the public being neither buyers nor sellers to any noticeable extent. There has been no events to affect the market, and the prices have been steady. Two defaulters, however, have been declared, Mr. J. B. King on Wednesday, whose deficiencies are said to be about 16,000*l*, and Mr. Gabert, declared to-day, whose deficiencies were not known. The transactions of both parties, however, are exclusively with other members of the Stock Exchange, and will nowise affect the public. To-day the funds underwent no change of the least importance, the business in them being of no consequence. The following is an account of the opening and closing prices of Consols on every day of the week, and the closing price last Friday and this day of the other principal stocks:—

CONSOLS.		October Account	
Money	Account	Money	Account
Opened	Closed	Opened	Closed
Saturday	96½	96½	96½
Monday	96½	96½	96½
Tuesday	96½	96½	96½
Wednesday	96½	96½	96½
Thursday	96½	96½	96½
Friday	96½	96½	96½

	Closing prices last Friday.	Closing prices this day.
3 per cent consols, account	96½	96½
— — money	96½	96½
3½ per cents	98½	98½
3 per cent reduced	96½	96½
Exchange bills, large	63s 6d	63s 6d
Bank stock	214 15	214 15
East India stock	264 7	264 7
Spanish 3 per cents	37½	37½
Portuguese 4 per cents	33½	33½
Mexican 5 per cents	27½	27½
Dutch 2½ per cents	57½	57½
— 4 per cents	89½	89½
Russian, 4½ stock	96½	96½

The following notice was posted on Wednesday in the Stock Exchange:—

"The attention of the committee having been called by Messrs Barclay and Co., bankers, to the fact that speculative business to a large extent had been carried on by members of this house for one of their clerks, who, to meet the loss arising out of these transactions, had robbed them from time to time to the amount of nearly 5,000*l*, and has since absconded, the committee proceeded to inquire into the circumstances of the case, and have ascertained that such information is correct, and that the parties who thus transacted the business did so without sufficient knowledge of the respectability, circumstances, or connections of the individual in question. Under these circumstances, the committee have felt called upon to visit such conduct with their severe censure, and have caused this public notice to be given, that it may discountenance and prevent such practices for the future."

Railway Shares continue to improve, the traffic returns showing a continual increase of revenue week after week, and a large increase as compared to the corresponding period of last year. What with improved and more economical management and greater receipts, railway property is rising fast in public estimation. It will now only be necessary for the several directories to conduct their business so as to be worthy of the public confidence to restore it to its fair level. The following is our usual list of the closing prices last Friday and this day:—

	Railways.	Closing prices last Friday.	Closing prices this day.
London and North Western	110 ½ ex div	111 12	111 12
Midland counties	35 ½ ex div	37 8	37 8
Brighton Stock	81 2	83 ½	83 ½
Great Western	64 ½	66 ½	66 ½
Eastern Counties	51 6 ½ ex div	53 6	53 6
South Western	63 ½	64 ½	64 ½
South Eastern	17 2	17 ½	17 ½
Norfolk	15 17 ex div	14 16	14 16
Great North of England	240 3	242 5	242 5
York and North Midland	17 ½ ex div	18 ½	18 ½
York, Newcastle, and Berwick	15 ½	15 ½	15 ½
Newcastle and Berwick Ext.	9 ½ dis	9 ½	9 ½
Lancashire and Yorkshire	43 4	43 5 ex div	43 5 ex div
North British	6 ½	6 ½	6 ½
Edinburgh and Glasgow	24 ½ ex div	25 5	25 5
Hull and Selby	94 6 ex div	94 6	94 6
Lancaster and Carlisle	54 6	54 6 ex div	54 6 ex div
North Staffordshire	10 ½ dis	10 ½	10 ½
Birmingham and Oxford, gua.	27 9	28 9	28 9
Birmingham and Dudley, do.	7 ½	7 ½	7 ½

	Closing prices last Friday.	Closing prices this day.
Caledonian	7 ½	8 ½
Aberdeen	9 ½	9 ½
Northern of France	14 ½	14 ½
Central	13 ½	13 ½
Paris and Rouen	23 ½	23 ½
Rouen and Havre	9 ½	9 ½
Dutch Rhenish	5 ½ dis.	5 ½ dis.

We learn from Pennsylvania, that the law prohibiting the circulation of notes from other States of less value than five dollars, noticed in the *Economist* of the 17th ult, is universally disregarded. All classes are receiving and disbursing as before. The circumstance is referred to in the American papers as a very distinct admonition to State and other Legislatures not to meddle with things that do not concern them.

The Auditor-General of Pennsylvania furnishes the annexed statement of the condition of the finances of that State on the 1st of August 1850:—

FINANCES OF PENNSYLVANIA—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

	dols	c
Balance in the treasury, 30th June 1850	394,212	0
Receipts for the month of July	1,366,658	55
	1,760,870	55
Deduct payment for July	149,459	15
Balance in the treasury, July 31	1,611,411	40
Interest on the funded debt, paid Aug. 1	939,998	81
Surplus in the treasury, after paying the August interest	671,503	1
The funded debt of Pennsylvania on the 1st day of August 1850, was	28,811,831	28
Unfunded debt same time	914,628	61
Making an aggregate of	40,726,459	89

This includes about 450,000 dols belonging to the sinking fund, which it would be proper to deduct.

The course of most of the foreign exchanges with the Continent, except the exchanges with Vienna, Austrian paper not being in repute, is for the present against England. Large purchases of corn, and continued demands from abroad on funds previously deposited in England, are the causes of the decline. With the United States the case is different, and gold to some extent is arriving by every packet from that country.

FOREIGN RATES OF EXCHANGE ON LONDON AT THE LATEST DATES.

	Latest Date.	Rate of Exchange on London.	
Paris	Sept. 12	5.25 27½	3 days' sight
		25 20	1 month's date
Antwerp	— 12	f 25 35	3 days' sight
Amsterdam	— 10	fl 12	3 days' sight
		11 95	2 months' date
Hamburg	— 10	ml. 13 7½	3 days' sight
		13 6½	3 months' date
St Petersburg	— 5	38 1-16d to 38½d	3 —
Madrid	— 6	50 40-100d	3 —
Lisbon	— 3	54½d	3 —
Gibraltar	Aug. 31	50½d	3 —
New York	— 28	10 to 10½ per cent pm	60 days' sight
		¼ to 1 per cent pm	30 —
Jamaica	— 7	¼ to ½ per cent pm	60 —
		par	90 —
Havana	— 18	12½ to 13 per cent pm	90 —
Rio de Janeiro	July 24	26½d to 27d	60 —
Bahia	— 26	27d	60 —
Pernambuco	Aug. 9	27½d to 27½d	60 —
Buenos Ayres	April 27	3 5-16d	60 —
Valparaiso	June 30	46½d	90 —
Singapore	July 2	4s 9d	60 days' sight
		... to ... per cent dis	6 months' sight
Ceylon	— 11	1½ per cent dis	1 —
		2 per cent dis	3 —
Bombay	— 25	2s 0½d to 2s 2½d	1 —
		2s 0½d to 2s 1d	3 —
Calcutta	— 15	...	4 —
		...	1 —
Hong Kong	June 23	4s 7d	6 —
Sydney	May 16	3 per cent pm.	30 days' sight

COMPARATIVE EXCHANGES.

The premium on gold at Paris is 7½ per mille, which, at the English mint price of 3*l* 17s 10½d per ounce for standard gold, gives an exchange of 25.34; and the exchange at Paris on London at short being 25.32½, it follows that gold is 0.06 per cent dearer in Paris than in London.

By advices from Hamburg the price of gold is 434½ per mark, which, at the English mint price of 3*l* 17s 10½d per ounce for standard gold, gives an exchange of 13.91; and the exchange at Hamburg on London at short being 13.8½, it follows that gold is 0.46 per cent dearer in Hamburg than in London.

The course of exchange at New York on London for bills at 60 days' sight is 110½ per cent; and the par of exchange between England and America being 109.23-40 per cent, it follows that the exchange is nominally 0.67 per cent in favour of England; and, after making allowance for difference of interest and charges of transport, the present rate leaves a profit on the importation of gold from the United States.

PRICES OF BULLION.

	per ounce	£	s	d
Foreign gold in bars, (standard)	3 17 9			
Spanish doubloons	0 0 0			
Foreign gold in coin, Portugal pieces	0 0 0			
New dollars	0 4 10½			
Silver in bars (standard)	0 5 0			

THE BANKERS' PRICE CURRENT.

PRICES OF ENGLISH STOCKS

	Sat	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri
Bank Stock, 8 per cent	214	214	214 1/4	214 1/4	214 1/4	214 1/4
3 per Cent Reduced Anns.	97 6 1/2	96 7/8	96 7/8	97 1/2	97 1/2	97 7/8
3 per Cent Consols Anns.	94 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2
2 per Cent Anns., 1726	99 8 1/2	98 9	99	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2
New 5 per Cent	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2
Long Anns. Jan. 5, 1860	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2
Anns. for 30 years, Oct. 10, 1859	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2
India Stock, 10 1/2 per Cent	266	266	266	266	266	266
Do. Bonds, 3 1/2 per Cent 1000	83s 6s p	83s 6s p	83s 6s p	83s 6s p	83s 6s p	83s 6s p
South Sea Stock, 3 1/2 per Cent	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2
Bank Stock for acct. Sept. 11	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2
5 p Cent Cons. for acct. Sept. 12	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2
India Stock for acct. Sept. 12	66s 3 p	63s 6s p	63s 6s p	66s 6s p	66s 6s p	66s 6s p
Canal Guaranteed, 4 per Cent	180	180	180	180	180	180
Exchange Bills, 1000	500	500	500	500	500	500
Do. Small	500	500	500	500	500	500
Do. Advertised	500	500	500	500	500	500

COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

	Time	Tuesday.		Friday.	
		Prices negotiated on 'Change.		Prices negotiated on 'Change.	
Amsterdam	short	17 0 1/2	12 0 3/4	12 0 1/2	12 1
Ditto	3 ms	12 1 1/2	12 2 1/4	12 2	12 2 1/2
Rotterdam	—	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2
Antwerp	—	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2
Brussels	—	13 10 1/2	13 10 1/2	13 10 1/2	13 10 1/2
Hamburg	—	25 30	25 30	25 30	25 35
Paris	short	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2
Ditto	5 ms	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2
Marseilles	—	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2
Frankfort on the Main	—	120 1/2	120 1/2	120 1/2	120 1/2
Vienna	—	11 50	11 52	11 52	11 56
Trieste	—	11 54	11 58	11 56	12 0
Petersburg	—	37 1/2	37 1/2	37 1/2	37 1/2
Madrid	—	49 1/2	49 1/2	49 1/2	49 1/2
Cadix	—	50	49 1/2	50	50
Leghorn	—	30 70	30 80	30 70	30 75
Genoa	—	26 0	26 0	26 0	26 5
Naples	—	41	41 1/2	41 1/2	41 1/2
Palermo	—	123 1/2	123 1/2	123 1/2	123 1/2
Messina	—	123 1/2	123 1/2	123 1/2	123 1/2
Lisbon	90 ds dt	53 1/2	53 1/2	53 1/2	53 1/2
Oporto	—	53 1/2	53 1/2	53 1/2	53 1/2
Rio Janeiro	60 ds sgt	—	—	—	—
New York	—	—	—	—	—

FRENCH FUNDS.

	Paris Sept. 9	London Sept. 11	Paris Sept. 10	London Sept. 13	Paris Sept. 11	London Sept. 13
5 per Cent Rentes, div. 22 1/2	95 30	96 50	93 60	93 60	95 30	96 50
Exchange	—	—	—	—	—	—
8 per Cent Rentes, div. 22 1/2	57 75	57 80	58 15	58 15	57 75	57 80
Exchange	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bank Shares, div. 1 January	2295 0	2290 0	2290 0	2290 0	2295 0	2290 0
Exchange in London 1 month	25 27 1/2	25 27 1/2	25 27 1/2	25 27 1/2	25 27 1/2	25 27 1/2
Ditto 3 months	25 20	25 20	25 20	25 20	25 20	25 20

PRICES OF FOREIGN STOCKS.

	Sat	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri
Brazilian Bonds, 5 per cent	92	92 1/2	92 1/2	92 1/2	92 1/2	92 1/2
Ditto New, 5 per cent, 1829 and 1839	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto New, 1843	—	—	—	—	—	—
Buenos Ayres Bonds, 6 per cent	59 1/2	59 1/2	59 1/2	59 1/2	59 1/2	59 1/2
Cuba Bonds, 6 per cent	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chilian Bonds, 6 per cent	103	102 1/2	103 1/2	103 1/2	103 1/2	103 1/2
Ditto 3 per cent	—	—	—	—	—	—
Danish Bonds, 3 per cent, 1825	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto 5 per cent Bonds	103 1/2	100 1/2	101	101	101	101
Ditto Scrip	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dutch 2 1/2 per cent. Exchange 12 guilders	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ecuador Bonds	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grenada Bonds, 1 1/2 per Cent	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto Deferred	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greek Bonds, 1834 and 1825	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto ex over-due coupons	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guatemala	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mexican 5 per cent, 1846, ex Jan. coupons	29 1/2	29 1/2	29 1/2	29 1/2	29 1/2	29 1/2
Peruvian Bonds, 4 1/2 per cent, 1849	82	82 1/2	81 1/2	81 1/2	81 1/2	82
Ditto Deferred	—	—	—	—	—	—
Portuguese Bonds, 5 per cent	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto 5 per cent converted, 1841	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto 4 per cent	33 1/2	33 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2	33 1/2	33 1/2
Ditto 2 per cent, 1845	—	—	—	—	—	—
Russian Bonds, 1822, 5 per cent, in £ sterling	97 6 1/2	96 7/8	110	110	110 1/2	110 1/2
Ditto 4 1/2 per cent	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spanish Bonds, 5 per cent, div. from Nov. 1846	19 1/2	19 1/2	19 1/2	18 1/2	19 1/2	19 1/2
Ditto ditto 1844	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto ditto 1849	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto Coupons	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto Passive Bonds	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto Deferred	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto 3 per cent Spanish Bonds	37 1/2	37 1/2	37 1/2	37 1/2	37 1/2	37 1/2
Venezuela 2 1/2 per cent Bonds	34 1/2	34 1/2	33 1/2	31 1/2	31 1/2	31 1/2
Ditto Deferred	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dividends on the above payable in London.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Austrian Bonds, 5 per cent, 10 gu. p. £ st.	85	85	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2
Belgian Scrip, 2 1/2 per cent	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto Bonds, 4 1/2 per cent	90 1/2	90 1/2	90 1/2	90 1/2	90 1/2	90 1/2
Ditto, 5 per cent	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dutch 2 1/2 per cent. Exchange 12 guilders	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto 4 per cent Certificates	89 1/2	90 1/2	90 1/2	90 1/2	90 1/2	90 1/2
Ditto 4 per cent Bonds	—	—	—	—	—	—

LATEST PRICES OF AMERICAN STOCKS

	Payable.	Amount in Dollars.	Dividends.	London Prices.	Amer. Prices.
United States Bonds	6	1868	65,000,000	Jan. and July	108 1/2
— Certificates	6	1862	—	—	117 1/2
Alabama	Sterling 5	1858	9,000,000	—	106
Indiana	4	1861-6	5,600,000	—	73 1/2
— Canal, Preferred	2 1/2	1861-6	2,000,000	—	79
— Special do.	5	1861-6	4,500,000	—	33 1/2
Illinois	6	1870	10,000,000	—	38 40
Kentucky	6	1868	4,250,000	—	28 30
Louisiana	Sterling 5	1850	7,000,000	Feb. and Aug.	96 xd
Maryland	Sterling 5	1888	3,000,000	Jan. and July	91 89 1/2
Massachusetts	Sterling 5	1868	3,000,000	April and Oct.	108
Michigan	6	1863	5,000,000	Jan. and July	103
Mississippi	6	1866	2,000,000	May and Nov.	—
New York	5	1860-8	5,000,000	Mar. and Sept.	—
Ohio	6	1860-70	13,124,270	Quarterly	93
Pennsylvania	5	1854-70	19,000,000	Jan. and July	106
South Carolina	5	1866	41,000,000	Feb. and Aug.	82 1/2 xd
Tennessee	6	1868	3,000,000	—	89 xd
Virginia	6	1857	7,000,000	—	103
United States Bank Shares	—	1866	35,000,000	—	2 1/2
Louisiana State Bank	10	1870	2,000,000	—	—
Bank of Louisiana	8	1870	4,000,000	—	—
New York City	5	1856	9,600,000	Quarterly	95 xd
New Orleans City	5	1863	1,500,000	Jan. and July	16 1/2
— Canal and Banking	—	1863	—	—	—
Camden & Amboy R. R.	6	1864	£225,000	Feb. and Aug.	—

Exchange at New York 110 1/2.
INSURANCE COMPANIES.

No. of shares	Dividend	Names.	Shares.	Paid.	Price pr. share
2,000	3/10s	Albion	500	50 0 0	82
50,000	7/14s 6d & bs	Alliance British and Foreign	100	11 0 0	214 1/2
50,000	6/1 p cent	Do. Marine	100	5 0 0	—
24,000	13s 6d & bs	Atlas	50	5 10 0	17 1/2
3,000	4/1 p cent	Argus Life	100	16 0 0	—
12,000	7s 6d	British Commercial	50	5 0 0	7 1/2
5,000	5/1 p c & bs	Clerical, Medical, and General Life	100	10 0 0	20
4,000	3/4	County	100	10 0 0	62
—	14s	Crown	50	5 0 0	14 1/2
20,000	6s	Eagle	50	5 0 0	6 1/2
4,651	10s	European Life	20	20 0 0	10 1/2
—	—	General	50	5 0 0	5 1/2
1,000,000	6/1 p cent	Globe	Stk.	—	130
20,000	5/1 & bs	Guardian	100	45 0 0	54 1/2
2,400	12/1 p cent	Imperial Fire	500	50 0 0	230
7,500	12s	Imperial Life	100	10 0 0	16 1/2
13,453	1/1 sh & bs	Indemnity Marine	100	20 0 0	41
50,000	—	Law Fire	100	2 10 0	2 1/2
10,000	1/16s	Law Life	100	10 0 0	43 1/2
30,000	—	Legal and General Life	50	2 0 0	4 1/2
3,900	10s	London Fire	25	12 10 0	17 1/2
31,000	10s	London Ship	25	12 10 0	17 1/2
10,000	15s p sh	Marine	100	15 0 0	11
10,000	4 1/2 p cent	Medical, Invalid, and General Life	50	2 0 0	2 1/2
25,000	5/1 p cent	National Loan Fund	20	2 10 0	3 1/2
5,000	8/1 p cent	National Life	100	5 0 0	—
30,000	5/1 p cent	Palladium Life	50	2 0 0	2 1/2
—	—	Pelican	—	—	—
—	3/1 p sh & bs	Phoenix	—	—	145
2,500	1/5s & bs	Provident Life	100	10 0 0	26
200,000	5s	Rock Life	5	0 10 0	6 1/2
689,220	6/1 p c & bs	Royal Exchange	Stk.	—	212
—	6 1/2	Sun Fire	—	—	209
4,000	1/6s	Do. Life	—	—	48
25,000	4/1 p c & bs	United Kingdom	20	4 0 0	3 1/2
5,000	10 1/2 p c & bs	Universal Life	100	10 0 0	—
—	5/1 p cent	Victoria Life	4	12 6	4 1/2

JOINT STOCK BANKS.

No. of shares	Dividend per annum
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The Commercial Times.

MAIL PACKETS TO AND FROM NEW YORK CEASING TO CALL AT HALIFAX.—General Post-office, Sept. 1850.—Henceforward the British contract mail packets on the New York line will proceed direct from Liverpool to New York and from New York to Liverpool, without calling at Halifax. Letters and newspapers, however, for Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island may still be forwarded in closed mails, by these packets, if specially addressed "via New York" or "via United States;" but those letters and newspapers which are not so addressed will be forwarded in the regular mails to Halifax by the contract packets proceeding from Liverpool, via Halifax to Boston. Letters for Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, directed to be forwarded through the United States will be liable to a postage of 1s 2d the half ounce, and so on, which may be paid in advance, or not, at the option of the senders. Newspapers for those provinces directed to be forwarded through the United States will be liable to a postage of one penny each, to be paid on delivery at their destination.

Mails Arrived.
LATEST DATES.

On 10th Sept., AMERICA, per Niagara steamer, via Liverpool—Montreal, Aug. 25; Fredericton, 27; St John's, N.B., 28; Prince Edward Island, 28; New York, 28; Halifax, 30.
On 10th Sept., LISBON, Sept. 3, per Foyle steamer, via Falmouth.
On 12th Sept., CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, July 3, per Princess Royal, via Liverpool.
On 13th Sept., BRAZILS, per Bonita, via Liverpool—Rio de Janeiro, July 24; Bahia, 23; Pernambuco, Aug. 9.

Mails will be Despatched
FROM LONDON

On 17th Sept. (morning), for VIGO, OPORTO, LISBON, CADIZ, and GIBRALTAR, per Pacha steamer, via Southampton.
On 17th Sept. (morning), for the WEST INDIES (inclusive of Havana, Honduras, Nassau, and Hayti), VENEZUELA, and WESTERN COAST OF SOUTH AMERICA, per Medway steamer, via Southampton.
On 20th Sept. (morning), for AMERICA, per Hermann steamer, via Southampton.
On 20th Sept. (morning), for GIBRALTAR, MALTA, GREECE, IONIAN ISLANDS, SYRIA, EGYPT, INDIA, and CHINA, per Ladis steamer, via Southampton.
On 20th Sept. (evening), for BRITISH NORTH AMERICA, BERMUDA, and UNITED STATES, per Cambria steamer, via Liverpool and Halifax.
On 24th Sept. (evening), for the MEDITERRANEAN, EGYPT, and INDIA, via Marseilles.

WEEKLY CORN RETURNS.
From the Gazette of last night.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
Sold.....qrs	68,913	2,453	6,874	312	1,591	767
Weekly average, Sept. 7.....	43 2	23 0	17 11	25 4	28 9	27 10
— Aug. 31.....	43 6	22 4	17 9	23 4	28 11	26 11
— 21.....	43 6	23 0	17 9	20 10	28 1	26 3
— 17.....	43 8	22 8	18 4	23 0	28 2	26 5
— 10.....	44 1	22 5	17 11	23 8	27 9	26 10
— 3.....	43 7	22 4	18 1	22 2	27 8	27 8
Six weeks' average.....	43 7	22 7	18 0	23 1	28 3	27 0
Same time last year.....	45 11	25 3	19 0	26 5	31 19	29 10
Duties.....	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0

GRAIN IMPORTED.

An account of the total quantities of each kind of corn, distinguishing foreign and colonial, imported into the principal ports of Great Britain, viz:—London, Liverpool, Hull, Newcastle, Bristol, Gloucester, Plymouth, Leith, Glasgow, Dundee, and Perth, in the week ending Sept. 4, 1850.

	Wheat and wheat flour	Barley and barley-meal	Oats and oatmeal	Rye and rye-meal	Peas and pea-meal	Beans & bean-meal	Indian corn and Indian-meal	Buck wheat & buck-wheat meal
Foreign ...	56,901	7,572	34,489	38	703	2,662	1,565	...
Colonial ...	2,434	...	44	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	59,335	7,672	34,533	38	703	2,662	1,565	...

Total imports of the week106,510 qrs.

COMMERCIAL EPITOME.

FRIDAY NIGHT.

Most of the neighbouring Continental Corn Markets are now experiencing a reaction from the late rise, and prices generally come lower from them. The weather here has latterly been favourable for gathering in the late harvest. Reports of the disease in the potatoes are not so unfavourable as they were; and altogether the statements are more cheering. From the North of England, indeed, we learn that "The gale of wind we had a fortnight ago, has done tremendous mischief in this part of the country. I have seen wheat and barley in exposed situations as completely thrashed out as if it had passed through the machine. The farmers say there has been no instance of damage to be compared to this since 1817, and then a very violent gale was three weeks later, and much corn had been cut." On the whole, however, the harvest prospects have improved, and the supply of foreign corn and flour, particularly the flour, continues large. Nevertheless, there is no decline of prices in our market. The price of wheat is very firm, with a very brisk business doing. The consumption continues unusually large, and there is no doubt whatever, however large may be our supplies, that they will all be consumed, and a good price paid for them.

In preparation for our future wants, a considerable number of cargoes of wheat, to be brought from the Mediterranean and Black Sea, have been in the course of the week purchased from Greek houses. It is pleasant to see the rest of the world most eager to supply our probable wants, and to know that if we are labouring

for them, they in turn are labouring for us. There is a great probability now, from the united exertions of all, that supplies will continue to be more abundant than they were perhaps ever known before; and with plenty of food, the great basis of the increase of population, every interest must prosper.

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All that activity will call into life some corresponding activity here; part of the equipments and iron-work of these ships will be supplied from England; so that, as our neighbours prosper, we too may prosper, if we choose to share their progress.

As we are now carrying on a trade, though not yet very exten-

THE BANKERS' PRICE CURRENT.

PRICES OF ENGLISH STOCKS

	Sat	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri
Bank Stock, 8 per cent	214	...	214 1/4	14	214 1/2	15
3 per Cent Reduced Anns.	97 6 1/2	96 1/2	96 3/4	97 1/4	97 1/2	97 3/4
3 per Cent Consols Anns.	94 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2
2 1/2 per Cent Anns., 1726	99 8 1/2	98 1/2	99	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2
2 1/2 per Cent Anns., 1726	99 8 1/2	98 1/2	99	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2
New 5 per Cent	...	...	...	...	...	...
Long Anns. Jan. 5, 1860	...	8 1/2	5-16	8	1-16	...
Anns. for 30 years, Oct. 10, 1859	...	8 1/2	1-16	8	...	...
Ditto Jan. 5, 1860	...	...	8	...	...	8
Ditto Jan. 5, 1880	...	...	...	...	...	...
India Stock, 10 1/2 per Cent	266	...	266	266	...	...
Do. Bonds, 3 1/2 per Cent 1000/	...	...	83s p	85s p	84s p	86s 4s p
Ditto under 1000/	...	...	83s p	83s p	83s 6s p	86s 7s p
South Sea Stock, 3 1/2 per Cent	...	...	96 1/2	96 1/2	...	...
Ditto Old Anns., 3 per Cent	...	...	...	...	96 1/2	...
Ditto New Anns., 3 per Cent	...	...	...	...	...	96 1/2
3 per Cent Anns., 1751	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bank Stock for acct. Sept. 11	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2
3 per Cent Cons. for acct. Sept. 11	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2	96 1/2
India Stock for acct. Sept. 12	...	...	...	...	...	...
Canada Guaranteed, 4 per Cent	...	...	...	...	...	...
Excheq. Bills, 1000/ 1d	66s 3s p	63s 6s p	63s p	66s 63s p	63s 66s p	66s 63s p
Ditto 500/	66s 3s p	63s 6s p	63s 6s p	66s 63s p	63s 66s p	66s 63s p
Ditto Small	66s 3s p	63s 6s p	...	66s 63s p	63s 66s p	64s 67s p
Ditto Advertised	...	...	...	...	...	...

COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

	Time	Tuesday.		Friday.	
		Prices negotiated on 'Change.		Prices negotiated on 'Change.	
Amsterdam	short	12 0 1/2	12 0 1/2	12 0 1/2	12 1
Ditto	3 ms	12 1 1/2	12 2 1/2	12 2	12 2 1/2
Rotterdam	...	12 2 1/2	12 2 1/2	12 2 1/2	12 2 1/2
Antwerp	...	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2
Brussels	...	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2
Hamburg	...	13 10 1/2	13 10 1/2	13 10 1/2	13 10 1/2
Hamburg	short	25 30	25 30	25 30	25 30
Ditto	3 ms	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2
Marseilles	...	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2	25 5 1/2
Frankfort on the Main	...	120 1/2	120 1/2	120 1/2	120 1/2
Vienna	...	11 50	11 55	11 52	11 56
Trieste	...	11 54	11 58	11 56	12 0
Petersburg	...	37 1/2	...	37 1/2	37 1/2
Madrid	...	49 1/2	49 1/2	49 1/2	49 1/2
Cadiz	...	50	...	49 1/2	50
Leghorn	...	30 70	30 80	31 70	30 75
Genoa	...	26 0	26 10	26 0	26 5
Naples	...	41	41 1/2	40 1/2	41 1/2
Palermo	...	123	123 1/2	123	123 1/2
Messina	...	123 1/2	123 1/2	123 1/2	123 1/2
Lisbon	...	90 ds dt	53 1/2	53 1/2	53 1/2
Oporto	...	53 1/2	53 1/2	53 1/2	53 1/2
Rio Janeiro	...	60 ds sgt	...	...	...
New York

FRENCH FUNDS.

	Paris		London		Paris		London	
	Sept. 9	Sept. 11	Sept. 10	Sept. 13	Sept. 11	Sept. 13	Sept. 11	Sept. 13
5 per Cent Rentes, div. 22 1/2	95 30	...	96 30	...	93 60	...	...	...
March and 22 Sept. Exchange	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3 per Cent Rentes, div. 22 1/2	57 75	...	57 80	...	58 15	...	...	...
June and 22 December Exchange	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bank Shares, div. 1 January and 1 July	2295 0	...	2290 0	...	2290 0	...	...	...
Exchange on London 1 month	25 27 1/2	...	25 27 1/2	...	25 27 1/2	...	...	...
Ditto 3 months	25 20	...	25 20	...	25 20	...	...	...

PRICES OF FOREIGN STOCKS.

	Sat	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri
Brazilian Bonds, 5 per cent	...	92	...	92 1/2	...	92 1/2
Ditto New, 5 per cent, 1829 and 1839
Ditto New, 1843
Buenos Ayres Bonds, 6 per cent	...	59 1/2	...	58 1/2	59 1/2	59 1/2
Cuba Bonds, 6 per cent	96	...
Chilian Bonds, 6 per cent	...	103	...	102 1/2	103 1/2	...
Ditto 3 per cent
Ditto 5 per cent Bonds	...	103 1/2	...	100 1/2	...	101
Ditto Scrip
Dutch 2 1/2 per cent. Exchange 12 guilders
Equador Bonds	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2
Grenada Bonds, 1 1/4 per Cent
Ditto Deferred
Greek Bonds, 1824 and 1825
Ditto ex over-due coupons
Guatemala
Mexican 5 per cent, 1846, ex Jan. coupons	29 1/2	29 1/2	29 1/2	29 1/2	29 1/2	29 1/2
Peruvian Bonds, 4 1/2 per cent, 1849	82	82 1/2	81 1/2	81 1/2	81 1/2	82
Ditto Deferred	33 1/2	...	...
Portuguese Bonds, 5 per cent
Ditto 5 per cent converted, 1841
Ditto 4 per cent	...	33 1/2	33 1/2	34	33 1/2	33 1/2
Ditto 3 per cent, 1848
Russian Bonds, 1822, 5 per cent, in £ sterling	110	...	...	110 1/2
Ditto 4 1/2 per cent	97 6 1/2	96 1/2	97 1/2	...	96 1/2	96 1/2
Spanish Bonds, 5 per cent div. from Nov. 1840	19 1/2	19 1/2	19 1/2	18 1/2	19 1/2	19 1/2
Ditto ditto ditto 1844
Ditto ditto ditto 1849
Ditto Coupons
Ditto Passive Bonds
Ditto Deferred
Ditto 3 per cent Spanish Bonds	...	37 1/2	37 1/2	...	...	...
Venezuela 2 1/2 per cent Bonds	...	34 1/2	...	33 1/2	31 1/2	31 1/2
Ditto Deferred	11 1/2	12
Dividends on the above payable in London.						
Austrian Bonds, 5 per cent. 10 gu. p. £ st.	85	...	...	83 1/2	...	...
Belgian Scrip, 2 1/2 per cent
Ditto Bonds, 4 1/2 per cent	...	90 1/2	...	...	...	...
Ditto 5 per cent
Dutch 2 1/2 per cent. Exchange 12 guilders	57 1/2	57 1/2	57 1/2	57 1/2
Ditto 4 per cent Certificates	89 1/2	90 1/2	90 1/2	90 1/2	90 1/2	90 1/2
Ditto 4 per cent Bonds

LATEST PRICES OF AMERICAN STOCKS

	Payable.	Amount in Dollars.	Dividends.	London Prices, Sept. 13	Amer. Prices, Aug. 24
United States Bonds	6	1868	65,000,000	Jan. and July 108 1/2	117 1/2
— Certificates	6	1867-8	...	106	...
Alabama	Sterling 5	1858	9,000,000	7 1/2	8 1/2
Indiana	4	1861	5,600,000	7 1/2	7 1/2
— Canal, Preferred	5	1861-6	2,000,000	3 1/2	38 40
— Special do.	5	1861-6	4,500,000	...	28 80
Illinois	6	1870	1,300,000	...	...
Kentucky	6	1868	10,000,000	...	49 80
Louisiana	Sterling 5	1850	4,250,000	...	103
— 1852	5	1852	7,000,000	Feb. and Aug. 96 xd	95
Maryland	Sterling 5	1888	3,000,000	Jan. and July 91 89 1/2	...
Massachusetts	Sterling 5	1868	3,000,000	April and Oct. 108	...
Michigan	6	1863	5,000,000	Jan. and July	...
Mississippi	5	1861	2,000,000	May and Nov.	...
— 1866	5	1866	5,000,000	Mar. and Sept.	...
— 1871	5	1871	13,124,270	Quarterly	93
New York	5	1860-58	19,000,000	Jan. and July 106	115
Ohio	6	1860-70	4,000,000	Feb. and Aug. 89 xd	92 1/2 3 1/2
Pennsylvania	5	1854-70	3,000,000	Jan. and July 89 xd	...
South Carolina	5	1868	3,000,000	...	103
Tennessee	6	1857	7,000,000	...	...
Virginia	6	1866	35,000,000	...	2 1/2
United States Bank Shares	10	1870	2,000,000	...	...
Louisiana State Bank	8	1870	4,000,000	...	...
Bank of Louisiana	8	1870	...	...	...
New York City	5	1860	9,600,000	Quarterly	95 xd
— 1856	5	1856	...	...	104
— 1851	5	1851	1,500,000	Jan. and July	16 1/2
New Orleans City	5	1863	...	...	...
— Canal and Banking	6	1864	£225,000	Feb. and Aug.	...

Exchange at New York 110 1/2. INSURANCE COMPANIES.

No. of shares	Dividend	Names.	Shares.	Paid.	Price pr. share
2,000	3/10s	Albion	500	50 0 0	82
50,000	7/14s 6d & bs	Alliance British and Foreign	100	11 0 0	21 1/2
50,000	6/1 p cent	Do. Marine	100	5 0 0	...
24,000	13s 6d & bs	Atlas	50	5 10 0	17 1/2
3,000	4/1 p cent	Argus Life	100	16 0 0	...
12,000	7s 6d	British Commercial	50	5 0 0	7 1/2
5,000	5/4 p c & bs	Clerical, Medical, and General Life	100	10 0 0	20
4,000	3/4	County	100	10 0 0	62
...	14s	Crown	50	5 0 0	14 1/2
20,000	6s	Eagle	50	5 0 0	6 1/2
4,651	10s	European Life	20	20 0 0	10 1/2
...	...	General	...	5 0 0	5 1/2
1,000,000	6/1 p cent	Globe	Stk.	...	130
20,000	5/1 & bs	Guardian	100	45 0 0	5 1/2
2,400	12/1 p cent	Imperial Fire	500	50 0 0	230
7,500	12s	Imperial Life	100	10 0 0	16 1/2
13,453	11s 1/2 & bs	Indemnity Marine	100	20 0 0	4 1/2
50,000	...	Law Fire	100	2 10 0	2 1/2
10,000	1/10s	Law Life	100	10 0 0	4 1/2
30,000	...	Legal and General Life	50	2 0 0	4 1/2
3,900	10s	London Fire	25	12 10 0	17 1/2
31,000	10s	London Ship	25	12 10 0	17 1/2
10,000	15s p sh	Marine	100	15 0 0	11
10,000	4 1/2 p cent	Medical, Invalid, and General Life	50	2 0 0	2 1/2
25,000	5/1 p cent	National Loan Fund	20	2 10 0	2 1/2
5,000	8/1 p cent	National Life	100	5 0 0	...
30,000	5/1 p cent	Palladium Life	50	2 0 0	2 1/2
...	...	Pelican	...	...	...
...	3/1 p sh & bs	Phoenix	...	...	145
2,500	1/5s & bs	Provident Life	100	10 0 0	26
200,000	5s	Rock Life	5	0 10 0	6 1/2
689,220	6/1 p c & bs	Royal Exchange	Stk.	...	212
...	6 1/2	Sun Fire	...	...	209
4,000	1/6s	Do. Life	...	...	45
25,000	4/1 p c & bs	United Kingdom	20	4 0 0	3 1/2
5,000	10/1 p c & bs	Universal Life	100		

The Commercial Times.

MAIL PACKETS TO AND FROM NEW YORK CEASING TO CALL AT HALIFAX.—General Post-office, Sept. 1850.—Henceforward the British contract mail packets on the New York line will proceed direct from Liverpool to New York and from New York to Liverpool, without calling at Halifax. Letter- and newspapers, however, for Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island may still be forwarded in closed mails, by these packets, if specially addressed "via New York" or "via United States;" but those letters and newspapers which are not so addressed will be forwarded in the regular mails to Halifax by the contract packets proceeding from Liverpool, via Halifax to Boston. Letters for Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, directed to be forwarded through the United States will be liable to a postage of 1s 2d the half ounce, and so on, which may be paid in advance, or not, at the option of the senders. Newspapers for those provinces directed to be forwarded through the United States will be liable to a postage of one penny each, to be paid on delivery at their destination.

Mails Arrived.
LATEST DATES.

On 10th Sept., AMERICA, per *Niagara* steamer, via Liverpool—Montreal, Aug. 24; Frederickton, 27; St John's, N.B., 26; Prince Edward Island, 28; New York, 28; Halifax, 30.
On 10th Sept., LISBON, Sept. 3, per *Foyle* steamer, via Falmouth.
On 12th Sept., CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, July 3, per *Princess Royal*, via Liverpool.
On 13th Sept., BRAZILS, per *Bonita*, via Liverpool—Rio de Janeiro, July 24; Bahia, 23; Pernambuco, Aug. 9.

Mails will be Despatched
FROM LONDON

On 17th Sept. (morning), for VIGO, OPORTO, LISBON, CADIZ, and GIBRALTAR, per *Pacha* steamer, via Southampton.
On 17th Sept. (morning), for the WEST INDIES (inclusive of Havana, Honduras, Nassau, and Hayti), VENEZUELA, and WESTERN COAST OF SOUTH AMERICA, per *Medway* steamer, via Southampton.
On 21st Sept. (morning), for AMERICA, per *Hermann* steamer, via Southampton.
On 20th Sept. (morning), for GIBRALTAR, MALTA, GREECE, IONIAN ISLANDS, SERIA, EGYPT, INDIA, and CHINA, per *Indus* steamer, via Southampton.
On 20th Sept. (evening), for BRITISH NORTH AMERICA, BERMUDA, and UNITED STATES, per *Cambria* steamer, via Liverpool and Halifax.
On 24th Sept. (evening), for the MEDITERRANEAN, EGYPT, and INDIA, via Marseilles.

WEEKLY CORN RETURNS.
From the Gazette of last night.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
Sold.....qrs	68,943	2,453	6,874	342	1,591	767
Weekly average, Sept. 7.....	43 2	23 0	17 11	25 4	28 9	27 10
— Aug. 31.....	43 6	22 4	17 9	23 4	28 11	26 11
— 21.....	43 6	23 0	17 9	20 10	28 1	26 3
— 17.....	43 8	22 8	18 4	23 0	28 2	26 5
— 10.....	44 1	22 5	17 11	23 8	27 9	26 10
— 3.....	43 7	22 4	18 1	22 2	27 8	27 8
Six weeks' average.....	43 7	22 7	18 0	23 1	28 3	27 0
Same time last year.....	45 11	25 3	19 0	26 5	31 10	29 10
Duties.....	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0

GRAIN IMPORTED.

An account of the total quantities of each kind of corn, distinguishing foreign and colonial, imported into the principal ports of Great Britain, viz:—London, Liverpool, Hull, Newcastle, Bristol, Gloucester, Plymouth, Leith, Glasgow, Dundee, and Perth, in the week ending Sept. 4, 1850.

	Wheat and wheat flour	Barley and barley-meal	Oats and oatmeal	Rye and rye-meal	Peas and peameal	Beans & bean-meal	Indian corn and Indian-meal	Buck wheat & buck-wheat meal
Foreign ...	56,901	7,572	34,489	38	703	2,662	1,565	...
Colonial ...	2,434	...	44	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	59,335	7,672	34,533	38	703	2,662	1,565	...

Total imports of the week106,510 qrs.

COMMERCIAL EPITOME.

FRIDAY NIGHT.

Most of the neighbouring Continental Corn Markets are now experiencing a reaction from the late rise, and prices generally come lower from them. The weather here has latterly been favourable for gathering in the late harvest. Reports of the disease in the potatoes are not so unfavourable as they were; and altogether the statements are more cheering. From the North of England, indeed, we learn that "The gale of wind we had a fortnight ago, has done tremendous mischief in this part of the country. I have seen wheat and barley in exposed situations as completely thrashed out as if it had passed through the machine. The farmers say there has been no instance of damage to be compared to this since 1817, and then a very violent gale was three weeks later, and much corn had been cut." On the whole, however, the harvest prospects have improved, and the supply of foreign corn and flour, particularly the flour, continues large. Nevertheless, there is no decline of prices in our market. The price of wheat is very firm, with a very brisk business doing. The consumption continues unusually large, and there is no doubt whatever, however large may be our supplies, that they will all be consumed, and a good price paid for them.

In preparation for our future wants, a considerable number of cargoes of wheat, to be brought from the Mediterranean and Black Sea, have been in the course of the week purchased from Greek houses. It is pleasant to see the rest of the world most eager to supply our probable wants, and to know that if we are labouring

for them, they in turn are labouring for us. There is a great probability now, from the united exertions of all, that supplies will continue to be more abundant than they were perhaps ever known before; and with plenty of food, the great basis of the increase of population, every interest must prosper.

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In the Produce Markets the business is steady. Sugar has maintained its full price. Some cargoes of Havana sold to-day are said to have been disposed of at an increase of price. There is a great consumptive demand for the article, and the holders generally are satisfied with the prices they obtain.

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We do not hear any complaints from our own shipbuilders of want of employment; on the contrary, we read almost daily of new vessels being built for some foreign power, while our own trade is increasing; and if the builders of wooden ships should grumble, the builders of iron ships (an almost new art) are increasing their business very rapidly. Something of the same kind is taking place at New York. In the weekly paper last arrived from the United States we read—

The ship *Arctic* will be launched from the yard of Messrs Perino, Patterson, and Stack, at Williamsburg, on Saturday next, at half-past nine o'clock. She is built for A. Tereza's line of Liverpool packets, and will be commanded by Capt. J. Tereza. The *Arctic* is a first class vessel, of 1,200 tons, is 177 feet long, 38 beam, and 23½ deep. The steamship *Franklin*, for Howard and Sons' Pacific line, is progressing rapidly at the same yard, and will be ready for launching in about four months. The same builders are also constructing a steamer for the same firm, for the Pacific river trade. Messrs P. P. and Co. contracted to build her in the unusual short space of 100 days. They have also in frame a propeller for Williams and Co., which will be ready in about three months. She is 1,600 tons burthen, 210 feet long, 32 wide, and 26 feet hold. And lastly, the same firm have just laid the keel of a clipper ship for the Canton trade, of about 1,000 tons burthen. Messrs Lawrence and Sueden, foot of Grand street, have nearly completed the large California steamer for the Norwich and New London Steamboat Company. Messrs L. and S. have also in hand two steamers for Messrs Brooks and Barden. They are to run between Savannah and Charleston, and will be of equal dimensions, viz:—500 tons burthen, 175 feet long, 27 wide, and 11 deep. Mr J. Williams, Williamsburg, has just laid the keel of a ship for the San Francisco trade. She will be of about 1,200 tons.

All that activity will call into life some corresponding activity here; part of the equipments and iron-work of these ships will be supplied from England; so that, as our neighbours prosper, we too may prosper, if we choose to share their progress.

As we are now carrying on a trade, though not yet very exten-

sive, with Vancouver's Island, it may be serviceable to some of our readers to give them some information of the wants of the neighbouring American colony of Oregon. The following is an extract from a mercantile letter from that place:—

PORTLAND, OREGON, June 25, 1850.—As this country is rapidly filling up and goods are beginning to find their way here, business of all kinds is increasing, and before long a great Western mart will spring into existence at this place. The varieties of goods are not of that kind you meet with in an Eastern city, as no shipments have as yet been made from the east direct to the Columbia river, to meet the demands of people who are living in agricultural and private life, consequently we have been obliged to look to San Francisco for our supplies, where, the goods that arrive, are more suitable for miners, or those who are not stationary, but mere consumers and lodgers. Here we need many articles that have been in vain searched for at the bay, and which we never expect to see unless shipped direct from the States; among these are articles of furniture, domestic utensils, (late patterns) farming and garden tools, horse harness, ox chains, school books of all kinds and good reading books. There is hardly a family here but what are in want of feather beds, and as they have all done well at the mines, they begin to look out for luxuries. Our young ladies mostly have a nag of their own, consequently side saddles are in great demand. Children wear deer skin moccasins, unless their father knows how to use the awl and hammer. The people here want good substantial articles, and will pay good prices. Blacksmiths, coopers, and ship carpenters will find plenty of work; also tin smiths, tailors and boot makers.

The mercantile advices from New York by the Niagara mention the failure of Messrs W. C. and A. Hunter, a highly respectable firm, chiefly connected with the flour trade. Their liabilities are stated at 422,000 dollars, and their nominal assets amount to 418,000 dollars.

INDIGO.

SOME further transactions have taken place this week, amounting in all to several hundred chests, and full previous prices have been submitted to. For the ensuing October sales nearly 12,400 chests have now been declared.

MONTHLY IMPORTS OF COLONIAL AND FOREIGN WOOL.

COLONIAL and foreign wool imported into London, Liverpool, and Hull, from the 1st of Jan. to the 1st of Sept. in the years 1849 and 1850, and the total imports, including Bristol and Leith.

	London.		Liverpool.		Hull.		Totals, inc. Bristol and Leith.	
	1849	1850	1849	1850	1849	1850	1849	1850
<i>Colonial.</i>								
New South Wales	40038	45428	...	235	...	...	40038	45663
Van Diemen's Land	14626	15641	...	...	...	...	14626	15641
P. Philip & Adelaide	44237	62677	...	641	...	...	44237	63208
Cape of Good Hope	16122	11849	...	24	...	...	16122	11873
East Indies	1601	1621	4791	3146	...	...	6392	4767
Total Colonial	110624	137206	4791	4046	...	...	115415	141252
<i>Foreign.</i>								
Germany	8785	4320	...	...	23281	16784	33587	18755
Spain and Portugal	661	509	2394	3929	...	...	4055	4438
Russia	7743	3117	221	196	566	2501	8530	5814
South America	11071	6819	25009	26995	...	...	36071	33814
Barbary and Turkey	757	2282	841	1340	...	...	1598	3635
Syria	...	...	134	...	...	...	134	...
Trieste, Leghorn, &c.	546	53	952	438	...	...	1298	491
Denmark	11	13	...	611	885	...	1012	609
United States	687	...	34	10	...	...	721	10
Sundry	1346	2455	1889	2439	145	676	3480	5570
Total	142031	156774	36256	40004	24877	19961	205901	214448

COTTON.

New York, Aug. 28.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, EXPORTS, AND STOCKS OF COTTON AT NEW YORK, OR GEORGIA, ON AUG. 21

	NEW YORK, OR GEORGIA, ON AUG. 21	NEW ORLEANS	MOBILE	FLORIDA	TEXAS
NEW YORK, OR GEORGIA, ON AUG. 21	Aug. 27	Aug. 21	Aug. 21	Aug. 21	Aug. 21
NEW ORLEANS	17	23	24	1	24
MOBILE	17	24	24	1	24
FLORIDA	14	1	1	1	1
TEXAS	10	24	24	24	24

	1849-50	1848-9	Increase 1849-50	Decrease 1849-50
On hand in the ports on Sept. 1, 1849	140,934	144,815	...	3,881
Received at the ports since do.	2,069,452	2,705,416	...	635,964
EXPORTED TO GREAT BRITAIN since do.	1,085,658	1,534,127	...	448,469
Exported to France since do.	282,642	364,829	...	82,187
Exported to the North of Europe since do.	69,919	164,840	...	94,921
Exported to other foreign ports since do.	149,567	1,621,217	...	36,650
TOTAL EXPORTED TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES since do.	1,557,786	2,220,013	...	662,227
Stock on hand at above dates, and on shipboard at these ports	146,592	110,963	35,629	...

STOCK OF COTTON IN INTERIOR TOWNS (Not included in Receipts).

	1849-50	1848-9
At latest corresponding dates	33,746	Unknown.

COTTON TAKEN FOR CONSUMPTION IN THE UNITED STATES from Sept. 1 to the above dates.

	1849-50	1848-9
Stock on hand Sept. 1, 1849	140,934	144,815
Received since	2,069,452	2,705,416
Total supply	2,210,386	2,850,231
Deduct shipments	1,587,786	2,220,013
Deduct stock left on hand	146,592	110,963
Leaves for American consumption	1,704,378	2,339,976

VESSELS LOADING IN THE UNITED STATES.

Ports.	For Gt. Britain	For France	For other Port
At New York	27	9	162
New Orleans	17	7	1
Mobile	17	3	1
Savannah	21	...	2
Charleston	23	6	1
Apalachicola	14	...	...
Total	44	17	166

Freight (Packet Rate) to Liverpool—Cotton, square bales, 3d per lb. Exchange, 110 to 110½.

On Saturday the market was very active, and prices improved that day ½ to 1 of a cent; since then, it has been more quiet, chiefly owing, however, to the small stock on sale and the firmness of holders; we advance our quotations accordingly. The total receipts of cotton at all the shipping ports are 2,069,452 bales, against 2,705,416 to same dates last year, a decrease this season of 635,964 bales. The total foreign export this year is 662,227 bales less than last, say 448,469 bales decrease to Great Britain, 82,187 decrease to France, 94,921 decrease to the North of Europe, and 36,650 decrease to other foreign ports. The shipments from southern to northern ports are 5,509 bales less this season than last; and there is an increase in stock of 34,629 bales. The sales since our last are 9,500 bales. We quote—

	Atlantic ports.		Gulf ports.	
	c.	c.	c.	c.
Inferior	11½ to 12	...	11½ to 12	...
Low to good ordinary	12½ 12½	...	12½ 12½	...
Low to good middling	12½ 13½	...	12½ 13½	...
Middling fair to fair	13½ 13½	...	13½ 14½	...
Fully fair to good fair	14	...	14½	...

LIVERPOOL MARKET, SEPT. 6. PRICES CURRENT.

	Ord.	Mid.	Fair.	Good Fair.	Good.	Fine.	1849—Same period		
	per lb	per lb	per lb	per lb	per lb	per lb	Ord.	Fair.	Fine.
Upland	6½d	7½d	7½d	8½d	8½d	10c	5d	5½d	...
New Orleans	6½d	7½d	8½d	8½d	9½d	10c	5d	5½d	7
Perambuco	8½d	8½d	8½d	8½d	9½d	...	5½d	6	7
Egyptian	7½d	8½d	8½d	8½d	10	11½	5½d	6½d	8
Surat and Madras	4½	5½	5½	5½	6½	6½	3½	4½	4½

IMPORTS, CONSUMPTION, EXPORTS, & C.

Whole Import, Jan. 1 to Sept. 13.	Consumption, Jan. 1 to Sept. 13.	Exports, Jan. 1 to Sept. 13.	Computed Stock, Sept. 13.
1850	1849	1850	1849
bales	bales	bales	bales
1,183,172	1,513,072	998,900	1,096,460
		177,890	162,170
		1850	1849
		bales	bales
		484,410	1849
			bales
			647,670

The Cotton Market has been quiet throughout the week. The operations of the trade are still on a very limited scale, and there is little of a speculative feeling. Prices, under these circumstances, have slightly given way; and, in most descriptions, we have made a partial reduction in our quotations of ½d per lb. This is, however, by no means general; and, in the last few days, rather greater firmness has been evinced by holders. Speculation this week, 3,550 American. Export, 2,830 American, 430 Brazil, and 270 Surat.

MARKETS OF THE MANUFACTURING DISTRICTS.

MANCHESTER, THURSDAY EVENING, SEPT. 12, 1850.

(From our own Correspondent.)

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE COTTON TRADE.

	Price Sept. 12, 1850.	Price Sept. 1849.	Price Sept. 1848.	Price Sept. 1847.	Price Sept. 1846.	Price Sept. 1845.
RAW COTTON:—						
Upland fair	0 7½	0 5½	0 4½	0 7	0 5½	0 4½
Ditto good fair	0 8½	0 6½	0 5½	0 7½	0 5½	0 4½
Perambuco fair	0 8½	0 6	0 5	0 8½	0 7	0 6½
Ditto good fair	0 8½	0 6½	0 5½	0 8½	0 7½	0 7
No. 30 MULE YARN, fair, 2nd qual.	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 7	0 9	0 11
No. 30 WATER do do	0 0	0 0	0 8½	0 7½	0 9	0 10½
26-in., 66 reed, Printer, 29yds, 4lbs 2oz	0 0	4 9	3 7½	4 8	4 6	5 0
27-in., 72 reed, do, do, 5lbs 2oz	0 0	5 7½	4 7½	5 7½	5 6	6 3
39-in., 60 reed, Gold End Shirtings, 37½ yds, 8lbs 4oz	0 0	8 0	6 10½	8 3	7 10½	8 10½
40-in., 66 reed, do, do, do, 8lbs 12oz	0 0	8 9	7 6	9 0	8 4½	9 10½
40-in., 72 reed, do, do, do, 9lbs 4oz	0 0	9 3	8 1½	9 7	9 14	10 6
39-in., 48 reed, Red End Long Cloth 36 yds, 9lbs	0 0	6 10	6 4½	8 0	7 1½	7 9

The first sign of a halt in the last upward movement in our market, occasioned a suspension of business in yarns and goods, which has continued now for four weeks. During this time, the efforts of producers to remain firm to their quotations have been unavailing: hardly any articles have maintained their value except the finer counts of yarns; and, within the last fortnight, the decline in some things has been very considerable. In the present week, the buyers of thistle warps, cop twist, and pin-cop weft, of the medium and lower numbers, have been able to supply their wants at a reduction, from the rates of a month ago, varying from ½d to 1½d per lb. In reeled yarns, however, the decline does not average ½d per lb. The difference in the degree in which these spinnings have given way is mainly attributable to the relative dearthness of the warps and cops referred to. In shirtings and printing cloths there has been a concession pretty nearly equal to that in the yarns out of which they are made.

Within the last day or two, however, those who are constantly feeling the pulse of the market, have observed symptoms which seem to indicate an arrestment of the downward course of things. Some spinners will not sell on terms with which they might have been brought to comply on Saturday or Monday, although they can hardly be said to receive any noticeable increase of offers. For some kinds of printing cloths there is rather more inquiry; and sales to a moderate extent have been effected in 40-inch shirtings, though at a reduction of ½d to 1d per lb from the late highest quotations.

There is an opinion manifesting itself that, as all classes of buyers have been out of the market for several weeks back, such an exhaustion of stocks in the hands of the consumers of yarns and the dealers in goods must have taken place as cannot but shortly bring on an augmented demand. Still there is a great diversity of views and feelings amongst sellers, and, consequently, much irregularity in the conditions on which they are disposed to do business.

At a meeting of creditors, held to-day, the firm of Wm Morris offered a dividend of 7s in the pound, 1s guaranteed, and that of Wm Morris and Brother 12s 6d in the pound, with 2s 4d guaranteed. This proposition has yet to be decided upon.

BRADFORD, Sept. 14.—The demand for combing wools continues very steady and the finer descriptions may be said to be in brisk demand. Prices continue very firm on all kinds. Nells and shorts are better sale, and no stocks on hand. Yarns admit of no variation since our last report; the production is taken into consumption as rapidly as produced, though for distant delivery there is evidently less disposition to enter into contracts. Prices without variation. There is not so much animation in the piece market to-day, merchants generally being in good supply are now desirous to reduce their stocks. Manufacturers have not had such clear warehouses for several years; nor is there much probability of their being otherwise for some time to come.

LEEDS, Sept. 10.—There is no change to note in the woollen cloth trade since last week. The mills continue to be fully employed, and stocks on all hands are very low. There is a good business doing in the warehouse by large buyers, and the shipping houses are busy for this season of the year.

Huddersfield, Sept. 10.—We have had a good active market to-day; a large amount of business has been done. Goods have changed hands freely, especially checks and fancies, they being chiefly inquired for. Stocks begin to look low, the manufacturers being principally working to order. The business of the week has been very brisk.

Macclesfield, Sept. 10.—During the last ten days a better feeling has existed, and sales have been effected in manufactured goods at better rates; there has, however, been a considerable diminution in the production lately, so that stocks are reported but light. For thrown silks there is more inquiry, but prices are much below the standard of raw material; we however, anticipate an advance, as old stocks are generally worked off. In the raw silk market prices are quoted firm.

ROCHDALE, Sept. 9.—We have had another brisk market to-day for flannels, but little or no change in prices. The wool market has been heavy, and the manufacturers have manifested an indisposition to purchase at any price.

HALIFAX, Sept. 7.—The demand for some description of worsted goods is scarcely so good as it was, but there is no alteration in prices. The German houses are rather more shy of giving out orders for yarns, but the Russian houses order freely and the quotations are unchanged. There is not a great deal doing in wool. The staplers are asking higher rates, which are not readily acquiesced in.

CORN.

AMERICAN CORN AND FLOUR MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Aug. 28.—GRAIN.—With considerable receipts of new wheat, the market continues depressed, and prices have further receded, the demand being almost exclusively confined to milling; the sales consist of 8,500 bushels new white Genesee at 1 dol 10c to 1 dol 15c; 7,000 new fair red southern, 1 dol to 1 dol 2c; 1,900 common Ohio, 90 cents; 1,000 inferior Canada, 80 in bond; and 1,200 do duty paid, on terms we did not learn. A portion of the above was for Philadelphia. The market for corn, with a demand for consumption only and free arrivals, continues depressed, but prices are very steady, scarcely varying since our last; the sales aggregate 80,000 bushels, closing at 62½ to 63 cents for mixed Western, 61 to 62 for heated, and 64½ for Southern yellow—these being the only kinds offered afloat.

FLOUR AND MEAL.—The flour market continues depressed under liberal receipts of new and fresh ground, in the absence of any considerable export demand, notwithstanding there is a steady good inquiry for home use; prices, in consequence, are a trifle lower for some descriptions, and we reduce our notations accordingly. Of Canada, we note sales of 3,000 bbls at 4 dols 56½c for superfine No. 1, and 3 dols 62½c in bond for sour. The sales besides were—Saturday 5,500 bbls, Monday 8,000, and yesterday 7,500. We quote sour 3 dols 62½c to 3 dols 87½c; superfine No. 2, 3 dols 75c to 4 dols; ordinary state, old, 4 dols 25c to 4 dols 31½c; common state, 4 dols 31½c to 4 dols 37½c; straight state, (both fresh ground,) 4 dols 37½c to 4 dols 43½c; favorite state, 4 dols 43½c to 4 dols 50c; mixed Ohio, Indiana, &c., 4 dols 25c to 4 dols 37½c; mixed Michigan, 4 dols 37½c to 4 dols 43½c; straight do and good Ohio, 4 dols 43½c to 4 dols 50c. Corn meal remains firm, with a good demand at previous rates: the sales are 1,500 bbls. Jersey and good state, at 3 dols 12½ cash.

EXPORT OF BREADSTUFFS, from the United States to Great Britain and Ireland, since Sept. 1, 1849.

From—	Flour.	Meal.	Wheat.	Corn.	Oats.	Barley
	bbls	bbls	bush	bush	bush	bush
New York.....to Aug. 27	3,413,6	769	291,955	2,757,843	..	..
New Orleans.....	17	3,099	212	6,342	7,995,7	..
Philadelphia.....July 23	24,333	4,670	149,548	55,724	..	..
Baltimore.....Aug. 23	36,546	333	19,391	369,985	..	..
Boston.....	24	4,438	..	134,790	..	..
Other ports.....	21	553	..	327,394	..	..
Total.....	451,085	6,096	461,276	4,866,673	..	..
About same time last year.....	1,097,005	83,218	1,083,355	12703071	1,000	1,856

CONTINENTAL CORN MARKETS.

ANTWERP, Sept. 11.—Our market has been very quiet during the past week, there being less disposition to go into stocks as the reports of the potato disease are less unfavourable than some time ago, we quote 62 lb Louvain Wheat 41s; 61 to 62 lb white Inland 44s 6d per qr f. o. b.

ALTONA, Sept. 9.—Owing to the dull reports from England the demand for wheat has been considerably checked in our market, but holders seem far from disposed to yield to any reduction, and we must still quote 62 lb Waren wheat 44s 6d; 60 to 61 lb Upland 40s 3d to 41s 6d; 62 lb new Mark 43s 6d per qr f. o. b. Barley has attracted a good deal of attention of late and is held now for very high prices, viz., 53 lb Chevalier 26s 9d to 27s; 52 lb old Saale 23s to 23s 6d; 54 lb Danish 19s per qr f. o. b. Of new Saale Barley nothing is yet offering.

STETTIN, Sept. 9.—The weather has been most unfavourable for harvesting of late, and a great portion of the wheat and barley still being in the fields, serious apprehensions are entertained for both yield and quality. Supplies of the new Corn are yet insignificant, and business has been on a restricted scale during the week, but previous prices could be fully supported, say—62 lb old Pommeranian wheat 41s to 41s 6d, 61 lb Polish 40s, 61 lb red Stettin 40s, 62 lb Uckermark 40s 6d to 41s; 52 lb old Silesian Barley 17s 9d 18s 6d, 52 lb new Uckerbruch 19s per qr f. o. b.

ROSTOCK, Sept. 8.—The weather has continued very wet and unfavourable for harvest operations since my last week's report, in consequence of

which a great portion of the crops remain still in the fields, and must have suffered very considerably. Business has been very quiet, supplies being most trifling, but prices are fully maintained. New wheats weighing, 135 lbs. Dutch, must be quoted 42s 6d to 43s; 52 lb barley 18s per qr f. o. b.

STRALSUND, Sept. 8.—In consequence of the shortness of supplies very little has been doing in our market during the past week, but holders are very firm and last week's rates are fully maintained. 62 lb new wheat 41s to 42s; 52 lb new barley 18s per qr f. o. b.

ANCLAM, Sept. 8.—The business in our market has been to a very trifling extent since our last report, owing to the shortness of supplies and the extreme firmness of holders. 62 lb new 41s, and 52 lb barley 17s per qr f. o. b.

DANZIG, Sept. 7.—In face of the dull accounts from Mark lane our market has been very animated during the past week, and several thousand lasts of wheat have changed hands at full prices. 62 lb high mixed 43s, 61 to 62 lb fine mixed 40s, and 61 lb good mixed 38s 6d to 39s per qr f. o. b.

KONIGSBERG, Sept. 7.—Our market remains in much the same position as last reported, and previous prices have been fully maintained during the past week. Wheat is in demand for Holland, and 130 lb Volynia easily commands 41s; 130 lb mixed 38s 6d, 130 lb red 36s 6d to 37s per qr. Of the latter description large sales have been made at Hamburg.

LONDON MARKETS.

STATE OF THE CORN TRADE FOR THE WEEK.

MARK LANE, FRIDAY MORNING.

The supply of English wheat at last Monday's market in Mark Lane was mostly of this year's growth, of various quality, but, from the recent dry weather, it came forward in better condition, and our millers took it off freely, the best samples at fully former rates, and all other sorts without any notable variation in value. The demand for foreign was, to a moderate extent, at quite as much money, the factors showing much firmness, and the imports are now falling off; they consisted of 2,564 qrs from Amsterdam, 1,454 qrs from Antwerp, 500 qrs from Archangel, 900 qrs from Dantzic, 462 qrs from Dunkirk, 350 qrs from New York, 541 qrs from Nieupoort, 480 qrs from Rostock, 533 qrs from Rotterdam, 1,420 qrs from Stettin, and 1,274 qrs from Wolgast, making a total of 10,478 qrs. A few parcels of new barley appeared from Essex and Kent, some good, but none fine, and they were taken by our malsters at 29s to 30s per qr in runs; whilst foreign, for grinding, was 1s per qr dearer, and in request. The imports were only 3,149 qrs, and, as sales in Denmark are now made principally for Holland, no increased quantities can for awhile be expected. Beans were quite as dear, and all sorts of peas advanced 2s per qr; the latter article is yielding most miserably, and points to much higher prices for any of useful quality, adapted for boiling or feeding purposes. New oats are coming forward from Lincolnshire and Ireland, and we have a small arrival from Scotland; of English 1,060 qrs, of Scotch 98 qrs, and of Irish 333 qrs; whilst the foreign imports consist of 37,314 qrs, nearly the whole of which came from Russian ports. Choice corn was scarce, and full prices were paid for such; but those from Archangel were easier to purchase, although the decline was scarcely quotable. On the whole, the market for nearly all good articles had a healthy aspect, and generally pointed upwards.

The arrivals of foreign flour and wheat were smaller at Liverpool than for some time past. There was not a large business transacted in wheat, although there was a fair attendance of town and country millers, but in all sales extreme prices were paid: average 41s 4d on 501 qrs.

The arrivals of wheat at Leeds were very short, trade was firm and healthy, and somewhat higher prices were paid: average 44s 5d on 1,883 qrs.

A limited quantity of wheat was brought forward by the farmers at Hull, and an advance of 1s per qr was mostly established: average 41s 10d on 484 qrs.

A fair quantity of wheat was brought forward at Ipswich, and it was cleared off readily at an improvement of 1s per qr: average 42s 4d on 1,605 qrs.

The best qualities of new wheat as well as old were taken freely at 1s per qr advance at Lynn: average 42s on 1,180 qrs.

There were scanty arrivals of all English grain at Mark lane on Wednesday, a few parcels of Irish oats, and fair imports of foreign wheat, barley, and oats. The trade generally had a healthy and buoyant aspect, and a fair extent of business was transacted in most articles, particularly choice samples of wheat, barley, and flour of the latter article the stocks are much reduced, and choice qualities of French have already become scarce.

The weekly averages announced on Thursday were 43s 2d on 68,944 qrs wheat, 23s on 2,453 qrs barley, 17s 11d on 6,874 qrs oats, 25s 4d on 342 qrs rye, 28s 9d on 1,592 qrs beans, and 27s 10d on 767 qrs peas.

The Scotch markets during this week have been firm; there were good deliveries at Edinburgh: average 42s 6d on 734 qrs.

The supply of wheat was large at Birmingham. Oil fully commanded former rates, but new was the turn in favour of the buyer: average, 43s 6d on 1,272 qrs.

The Bristol market was quite firm for both foreign and English wheat, and although the sales were not numerous, quite as high prices were obtained: average 41s 1d on 426 qrs.

At Gloucester, trade was steady generally, with a slight advance on prime samples of wheat: average, 42s 2d on 558 qrs.

There was a good supply of wheat at Newbury; old brought former rates, but new was rather easier to purchase: average 45s 2d on 590 qrs.

There was a good demand for wheat at Uxbridge, and 1s per qr more money was obtained: average 48 6d on 547 qrs.

There was a fair arrival of English wheat at Mark lane on Friday, but limited fresh supplies of other articles from our own coast. The imports of foreign wheat and barley were to a moderate extent, and large of oats, with a fair quantity of French flour. English wheat commanded fully the rates of Monday, and foreign was held at that day's currency with firmness, but no great extent of business was transacted. Flour was in request at full prices. Barley, beans, and peas, were quite as dear. Oats were unaltered in value.

The London averages announced this day were,—

	Qrs.	s	d
Wheat.....	3,472	45	1
Barley.....	13	24	2
Oats.....	1,399	17	3
Rye.....	10	28	0
Beans.....	231	27	7
Peas.....	294	31	0

Arrivals this Week.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Malt.	Oats.	Flour.
	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	
English.....	3,530	210	3,940	480	1,010 sacks
Irish.....	..	..	..	1,000	..
Foreign.....	10,459	4,210	..	20,310	3,105 sacks

PRICES CURRENT OF CORN, &c.

BRITISH AND IRISH.		Per quarter.		
Wheat	Essex, Kent, and Suffolk, red, new	40 44	Old	42 45
Do	do white do	46 50	Do	46 48
Do	Norfolk and Lincolnshire, red do	38 44	Do	40 47
Do	Northumberland & Scotch do	...	Do	44 46
Rye	Old	23s 24s	New	22 23
Barley	Grinding	21 22	Distilling	24 25
Do	Brown	44 46	Faleship	50 54
Malt	New large ticks	27 29	Harrow	29 30
Do	Old do	30 31	Do	36 37
Peas	Grey	25 30	Maple	30 33
Do	White, old	29 31	Boilers	30 33
Oats	Lincoln & Yorks feed	18 19	Short small	19 20
Do	Scottish, Angus	17 18	Potato	23 26
Do	Irish, Cork, Waterford, and Youghal, black	17 18	New	17 18
Do	Do, Galway 16s 17s, Dublin & Wexford feed	18 19	Potato	19 20
Do	Do, Limerick, Sligo, and Westport	19 20	Fine	20 21
Do	Do, Newry, Dundalk, and Londonderry	18 19	Do	19 20
Flour	Irish, per sack 30s 31s, Norfolk, &c.	30 32	Town	53 40
Tares	Old feeding	24 25	Winter	40 48
FOREIGN.				
Wheat	Danzig, Konigsberg, high mixed and white	46 50	Do	44 46
Do	do mixed and red	42 46	Pomeranian, Mecklenburg, marks, red	40 44
Do	Silesian, white	40 44	Danish, Holstein, and Friesland, do	38 42
Do	Do do do, red	36 40	Russian, hard	37s 38s
Do	French, red	28 42	White	40 45
Do	Canadian, red	42 44	White	44 46
Do	Italian and Tuscan, do	42 44	Do	46 48
Do	Egyptian	26 27	Fine	28 30
Do	Yellow	27 28	White	29 29
Barley	Grinding	21 22	Malt	24 26
Do	White	24 26	Small	26 28
Do	White	27 30	Maple	28 29
Oats	Dutch brew and thick	18 20	Russian feed	16 17
Do	Danish, Mecklenburg, and Friesland feed	15 18	Flour	23 25
Do	Danzig, per barrel 22s 23s, American	23 25	Tares	22 24
SEEDS.				
Linseed	Per qr crushing, Baltic 41s 45s, Odessa	44s 45s	Sowing	52 76
Rapeseed	Per last do foreign 23 24, English	...	Fine new	24 25 1/2
Hempseed	Per qr large	35 36	Small	30 32
Canaryseed	Per qr 55s 63s. Caraway per cwt	30 33	Trefoil	14 20
Mustardseed	Per bushel, brown	8 10	White	5 6 1/2
Cloverseed	Per cwt English white new	26 43	Red	24 48
Do	Foreign do	26 43	Do	24 44
Trefoil	English do	15 18	Choice	19 20
Linseed cake, foreign	Per ton 6 1/2 15s to 7 1/2 5s, English per M	8 1/2 0s to 8 1/2 0s	Rape do	3 1/2 18s to 4 1/2 0s

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL PRODUCE MARKETS.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(For Report of This Day's Markets see "Postscript.")

MINING LANE, FRIDAY MORNING.

SUGAR.—The market has continued firm this week, and a steady business done for home consumption at full rates to 6d advance. Since the Dutch sale of sugar, which went about 2 florins higher, holders of foreign have been asking enhanced rates here, and several large parcels withdrawn from the market. The sales in West India have been to a fair extent at full prices. 167 casks 100 barrels Barbadoes went off well, all finding buyers at the full valuations; good to fine, 39s to 41s 6d; low to good middling, 36s to 38s 6d. 120 casks Jamaica were sold at former rates: good grocery, 39s 6d; low greyish to middling yellow, 36s 6d to 37s 6d; good brown, 36s to 38s 6d per cwt. The deliveries of sugar in London last week showed considerable improvement, being estimated at 4,576 tons, viz., 3,562 colonial and 1,014 tons foreign, making the aggregate decrease from beginning of the year to the present date 4,000 tons. The deficiency in stock, as compared with the former seasons at same time, is 8,450 tons. The late favourable official returns have given increased firmness to the market.

Mauritius.—An advance of 6d was paid in most instances for 5,039 bags offered at commencement of the week, nearly all finding buyers as follows: fine grocery, 40s to 41s; middling to good, 37s to 39s; low and low middling, 35s 6d to 36s; grey, middling to fair, 36s 6d to 37s 6d; middling to good brown, 31s 6d to 35s; low, 27s 6d to 30s. Some transactions are also reported by private contract. Last week the deliveries were 55 casks 9,920 bags, equal to 634 tons.

Bengal.—There were only 550 bags offered on Tuesday, and chiefly bought in at high prices: good to fine damp grainy yellow, 44s to 47s. By private contract about 10,000 bags Khaur have been sold at 29s 6d per cwt. White Benares is rather scarce.

Other East India.—1821 bags Penang found ready buyers at an advance of 6d to 1s, as follows: fair grey to good strong white, 29s to 40s 6d; soft yellow and grey, middling to good, 34s 6d to 38s; and ground brown, 32s 6d to 34s. 649 bags Manila were taken in at 38s for good clayed brown, being above the market value; 1,884 bags low soft brown China also withdrawn at 30s 6d per cwt.

Foreign.—The market was quiet in the early part of the week, but latterly more inquiry has been made, and a fair amount of business done at full rates. Two cargoes of Havana have sold, the exact prices not known: 700 cases brown Bahia of old import have brought 18s, and 170 cases white at 40s 3d. 395 casks 192 brls Porto Rico, consisting chiefly of low and grey qualities, were taken in, as there did not appear buyers at previous rates. 290 cases 33 brls Bahia were also nearly all taken in: brown, 33s to 35s 6d; grey and yellow, 36s to 37s 6d. The sound portion of 2,833 boxes Havana was taken in rather above the market value: from 38s 6d to 41s 6d for good brown to fair strong yellow; some washed sold at 35s to 33s 6d; 1,867 boxes white were taken in at 31s 6d to 34s per cwt.

Refined.—There has been less activity in this market since last Friday, but prices remain nearly the same as then quoted, brown goods selling at 49s 6d; tilters, middling to fine, 50s to 53s; loaves, 50s to 56s; wet lumps, 46s 6d to 49s. Bastards and pieces are in steady demand at previous rates. Treacle goes off well at 13s 6d to 19s, as in quality. The bonded market was flat until the favourable result of the Dutch sugar sale became known here, when refiners demanded 6d advance, crushed being sold at 28s to 29s; 10 lb loaves, 33s. Dutch crushed is held for 1s to 1s 6d higher rates in Holland.

MOLASSES.—The demand is active, and further large sales have been made in West India at last week's rates. 113 casks Mauritius offered by auction were withdrawn at 12s.

COFFEE.—There has been a steady business done in this market at the improvement quoted last week, and holders generally appear unwilling to realise, unless at a further advance. Native Ceylons have been sold to the extent of 4,000 bags, chiefly at 47s for good ordinary, with a portion at 46s 6d. 526

bags offered by auction on Tuesday were taken in at 48s, or above the market value. Plantation kinds have met with a fair demand, and for some marks rather higher rates paid. The public sales, comprising 390 casks 516 bags, went off steadily, all finding buyers; good, 62s to 65s; low middling palish to middling bold, 54s to 58s; fine to fine ordinary, 50s to 53s 6d; ragged and ordinary, 44s to 48s 6d; pea-berry, 56s to 58s 6d per cwt. The deliveries last week were large, being 536 casks 2,813 bags; but there is a further increase in stock. Very high rates continue to be paid for Mocha, as the supply is extremely limited. Common kinds of East India are scarce. The foreign market has been firm, and a cargo St Domingo sold at 43s per cwt.

COCOA.—No public sales of West India have been held, and only a limited inquiry made by private treaty. The late heavy stock is much reduced. Foreign continues firm. A parcel fair red Bahia sold by auction at 29s per cwt; other kinds are held for higher rates.

TEA.—The market has again been quiet during the week, but importers being very firm, we cannot quote any alteration in prices, and the present depression may be partly attributed to the limited supply offering for sale. Common congou has been sold at 11 1/2d, fair common, 11 1/4d, and there are buyers to some extent rather below those prices; medium to good qualities remain dull; fine also heavy of sale at late prices, viz., 1s 3d to 1s 8d per lb. Common green teas are wanted, but the market is barely supplied; fine bring full prices in all instances, and there has been more inquiry for hyson and gunpowder. There are only nine more vessels to arrive in the kingdom with last season's crop, two of which are expected daily—the Bentinck and Earl Chester—bringing 505,000 lbs black and 688,000 lbs green. Public sales are declared for Wednesday next.

RICE.—The market has been very quiet, and the few transactions reported in East India show a decline of 3d to 6d upon the late highest quotations. 796 pockets Bengal, offered by auction, sold at 10s to 10s 6d for good broken white, 5,000 bags pinky Madras, nearly all found buyers at about previous rates, from 9s to 9s 6d for middling to fair, with a few lots low broken at 8s 6d. The stock in London is computed at 21,670 tons, against 24,600 tons at same time last year. The deliveries for export are light. Cleaned rice remains without change. A parcel Carolina sold by auction at 19s 6d to 20s per cwt.

SAGO.—113 boxes pearl sold steadily at 20s. Sago flour of middling quality has been held for 17s.

PEPPER.—Some few orders executed in common kinds of black have been at full prices. The stock continues very moderate. The clearances for export have nearly equalled the previous season's.

PIMENTO.—The market is firm, and holders demanding stiffer rates, about one-third part of 894 bags only found buyers, chiefly from 6 1/2d to 6 3/4d for middling to fair; the remainder being held at 6 1/2d to 6 3/4d per lb. There is an improvement in the deliveries.

OTHER SPICES.—Nine cases brown nutmegs sold at full rates—from 2s 8d to 2s 11d, with one lot, fair bold, at 3s 6d. Mace is held for higher rates, 10 cases being taken in above the market value. 139 barrels Jamaica ginger sold steadily at full prices, ranging from 3 1/2 1/2s to 6 1/2 1/2s; 118 bags 50 barrels African sold at 33s to 34s for fair, being rather easier; 352 bags Malabar, duty paid or allowed, sold at 24s to 25s for fair, rather wormy.

RUM.—The market has been very firm this week, and a steady business done: proof Leewards are quoted at 1s 4 1/2d to 1s 5d.

SALTPETRE.—The business done in East India has not been large, holders requiring rather higher rates. The deliveries are steady, being 823 tons last week, leaving the stock 4,123 tons, against 2,937 tons at same date in 1849.

NITRATE SODA.—The transactions are limited at former rates.

DRUGS.—The public sales yesterday were rather limited in extent, and went off flatly. Some few parcels East India castor oil brought full prices, good to fine pale selling at 6 1/2d to 6 3/4d per lb. East India gums went off at fully former rates. Some quill bark was sold from 4s 6d to 4s 10d per lb, being considerably lower. In other goods no material alteration occurred. A large business has been done in Gambier this week, 1,867 bales all finding buyers at 12s, with some lots 12s 6d for the sound portion; sea damaged from 9s 6d to 11s 9d. Camphor is dull at 85s to 87s 6d per cwt.

COCHINEAL.—The sales have comprised 78 bags, which chiefly sold at about former rates, excepting some Mexican silvers at 3s 6d, these being easier; Honduras silvers brought 3s 7d to 3s 10d; Tenerife grain, 3s 10d to 4s 5d per lb.

LAC DYE.—The market is firm, but there has not been much business done, although common kinds meet with some inquiry. The deliveries are steady.

DYE WOODS.—300 tons Nicaragua were sold at rather lower rates, from 14 1/2 10s to 15 1/2 15s per ton, 2nd to 1st pile.

METALS.—No change has occurred in the prices of British manufactured iron this week; there are buyers of common Welsh bars rather under the quoted prices. Scotch pig has again given way slightly, mixed numbers selling at 42s to 42s 6d. The principal holders of spelter demand 16d, but a few sales have been made at 2s 6d to 5s less. The stock continues large, being 2,100 tons above last year's at same date. East India tin has been very flat, and prices are almost nominal. No alteration in British. Copper has met with considerable inquiry, and an advance is looked forward to.

OILS.—There has been a limited business done in common fish, the trade being moderately stocked, but prices continue firm. Pale seal is still held at 33s. Other descriptions quiet at the last quotations. A steady business has been done in sperm. Linseed is flat, as there will shortly be an increased supply, and a few sales have been made at easier rates, viz., 32s 9d to 33s per cwt on the spot. Rape has maintained the advance quoted last week. The large sales of cocoa nut and palm declared for this day have kept the market quiet, 120 casks of the former sold at 30s to 31s 6d for Cochin.

TURPENTINE.—The sales made in rough have been at full prices. British spirits are held firmly at 30s per cwt, with buyers at 6d less.

LINSEED.—The seed market remains firm, and some business has been done in the late arrivals of Archangel, &c. for export at 41s to 42s. Black Sea may be quoted at 47s per qr. Linseed cakes are in steady demand, although the consumption is not so large as might be expected from present low rates; finest English made are worth 8 1/2 15s to 9 1/2 per thousand.

HEMP.—Considerable supplies of Russian have come in, which are in the course of landing, and few transactions yet reported. Of 734 bales Manila offered by auction, about 520 sold, at 33 1/2 10s to 34 1/2 for middling quality, the remainder being withdrawn at 35 1/2. Jute is steady, at about late rates.

TALLOW.—A large business had been done this week at a further improvement of 6d to 9d, fine new Petersburg Y. C. selling at 38s 6d to 38s 9d; old, 37s 3d to 38s 6d, on the spot. For arrival in the next and two following months, sales to some extent are reported; 38s 6d to 38s 9d now demanded. The deliveries are steady, being 2,002 casks last week, leaving the stock on Monday 24,213 casks, against 27,350 casks at same date in 1849. There have been numerous arrivals. The net price of Town was advanced to 37s last Friday.

POSTSCRIPT.

FRIDAY EVENING.

SUGAR.—The market was steady to-day, and in some instances rather higher rates paid. About 936 casks West India sold at full prices, and 185 casks 40 barrels St. Lucia, offered by auction, went occasionally 6d dearer, from 33s to 38s for mid brown to fair greyish yellow. The week's transactions amounts to 2,606 casks. Bengal—1,241 bags, consisting of white Benares, were chiefly taken

in at high prices, from 41s 6d to 42s, for fair to good. Madras—1,222 bags of the lower qualities were principally bought in at extreme rates; brown middling to good damp, 29s to 31s; low mid yellow, 32s. Other East India—5,408 bags Manila, about half sold, from 30s 6d to 33s for low damp browns; clayed taken in at 36s 6d to 37s per cwt.

COFFEE.—Several sales were reported in good ordinary native Ceylon at 47s. 280 casks 180 bags plantation sold by auction at quite 1s higher rates, good marks bringing 60s to 67s. 608 cases 4,125 bags Costa Rica sold at 2s advance on late sale's rate, from 47s 6d to 52s 6d for fine ordinary dingy to fine fine ordinary; ordinary 46s 6d. 650 bags Rio taken in at 46s to 47s. 255 bags East India sold: low brown Padang kind 38s 6d to 39s; Batavia kind 40s 6d to 42s 6d.

RICE.—5,521 bags Madras were partly sold at 9s to 10s for mid to fair. Bengal grain low broken 8s 6d. 2,853 Bengal were only partly sold at full rates, good white 10s 6d to 11s, mid to good mid 10s to 10s 6d per cwt.

ARROWROOT.—Some fine Jamaica of the mark G C sold at 1s 1d per lb. COCHINEAL.—50 bags Honduras and Tenerife silvers were taken in at high prices.

CUTCH.—2,800 bags were principally bought in at 16s 6d to 17s for the sound. OIL.—90 tons Southern sold from 32l 10s to 34l 15s; 468 casks cocoa nut, partly sold; Ceylon, 30s 3d to 30s 9d. 684 casks palm were chiefly bought in, only a few selling at 29s.

TALLOW.—The sales went off at better prices. 186 casks South American sold from 33s 3d to 37s 3d. 982 casks Australian all sold at 33s to 37s; sheep, 34s to 38s 9d per cwt.

ADDITIONAL NOTICES.

REFINED SUGAR.—The home market for refined sugar is not quite so firm this week. 6d reduction has been accepted for the lower qualities, but being barely supplied, no further reduction is expected to be submitted to on the part of the refiners. The bonded is very firm: at the beginning of the week several sales of 10 lb loaves were made at 32s to 32s 6d, and of crushed at 27s 6d, since which higher prices coming from Holland, the refiners now hold for 33s 10lb loaves, and 28s for crushed. Large sales have been made in Holland and Belgium for America, at prices which prevent any transactions in this port.

DRY FRUIT.—In consequence of the continued unfavourable accounts from Greece as to the current crop, higher prices are demanded and little disposition to sell. Eight additional cargoes (all but one very small) of Valentin raisins have dropped in, and more just at hand, price now 42s. The quality is unusually fine, but it is yet too early for an extensive business. Mogadore almonds have advanced; sweet, 59s, and bitter, 41s; few offering.

Table with 5 columns: Clearances of Dry Fruit for the week ending Sept. 9. Currencies: Currants, Spanish Raisins, Smyrna Raisins, Figs, Almonds. Rows for 1850, 1849, 1848 with cwt and price.

SEEDS.—Seed trade without alteration from last week's terms. The demand for most descriptions of seed is rather more active.

ENGLISH WOOL.—Trade still continues very active, with a tendency to advance in prices.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL WOOL.—The public sales of colonial wool are still going on with the same spirit, and large attendance of the buyers, and at fully as good prices as have been paid from their commencement. The sales are to close on Friday the 20th inst.

COTTON.—The market has been dull, and the transactions limited. Prices of Surat are again easier, the decline during the fortnight being 1d per lb. Madras, particularly Tinnivelly, command comparatively high prices, owing to its scarcity. 500 Surat are advertised for public sale on Thursday, 19th instant. Sales of cotton wool from the 6th to the 12th inst. inclusive:—400 bales Surat, at 5d to 5 1/2d, middling to fair; 260 bales Madras, at 5d to 6 1/2d, fair Western to good fair Tinnivelly.

FLAX has been very quiet this week. HEMP.—A little more business has been done by the ropemakers for the best parcels.

METALS remain very quiet, except for copper, for which the demand is large at present rates. A curious feature in this article at present is, that although makers refuse to sell, they do not raise the price. Spelter has maintained its rise in price, though but little business is doing, the rise being chiefly in anticipation of short supplies prior to the closing of navigation, which may or may not be the case. Iron very quiet, and prices not firm. Tin is again looking up in price, with, however, but little business doing.

LEATHER AND HIDES.—There is very little alteration to notice in the leather trade this week. At Leadenhall, on Tuesday, a good average business was done, generally at the quotations of last week. Light shaved hides were scarce, and brought a small advance. East India kips of the lower qualities, and bellies, both English and foreign, were also in small supply.—At the public sales of hides 89,851 East India (including tanned and buffalo) were offered, and 77,000 were sold. The demand was very spirited, especially for export, and an advance of 1d to 1 1/2d per lb on brined curas was established. The best drysalted also sold well for home consumption.

Table with 2 columns: Imports from Jan. 1 to Sept. 12, 1850. Rows for Hides, Sales, Do, Present stock, 50,000 hides.—Stock Sept. 13, 1849, 55,000 hides.

ENSUING SALES IN LONDON.

TUESDAY, Sept. 17th.—150 hds Barbadoes, 3,100 bags Bengal, 2,250 ditto Manila sugar. 170 casks Ceylon, 50 bales Mocha, 180 do Mysor, 1,000 bags Costa Rica coffee. 50 bags Trinidad, 530 do Grenada cocoa; 1000 bags Pegu Cutch. WEDNESDAY, Sept. 18.—2,100 packages tea. THURSDAY, Sept. 19.—506 bales Surat cotton. TUESDAY, Oct. 8.—12,372 chests East India indigo.

PROVISIONS.

The Irish butter markets are but scantily supplied, the farmers being generally engaged harvesting. The demand here very good for country trade; the town being supplied with Friesland at about 2s per cwt over the price of prime Irish, consequently it takes the preference. The arrivals of new bacon, both Irish and Hamburg, meet with ready sale at full prices; no stock on hand.

Comparative Statement of Stocks and Deliveries.

Table with 4 columns: BUTTER, BACON. Rows for 1848, 1849, 1850 with Stock and Deliveries. Includes Irish butter, Foreign do, and Bals Bacon.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL MARKETS.

MONDAY, Sept. 9.—Since this day so'nigh these markets have been very moderately supplied with each kind of meat, by far the largest portion of which has been beneath the middle quality. Generally speaking the trade has ruled heavy, and the quotations have had a downward tendency. Lamb is now out of season. About 1,000 carcasses of foreign meat, chiefly sheep, have been disposed of.

Table with 2 columns: At per stone by the carcass. Rows for Inferior beef, Midding ditto, Prime large, Prime small, Veal, Mutton, inferior, midding, prime, Large pork, Small pork.

SMITHFIELD CATTLE MARKET.

MONDAY, Sept. 9.—Although no material advance has taken place in the quotations here, the imports of foreign stock into London continue large. In the past week we received not less than 8,778 head, against 5,769 do in the corresponding week in 1849, 7,925 in the same period in 1848, and 6,928 in 1847. Both the sheep and calves are coming to hand in better condition, and the beasts carry a large quantity of internal fat. Most of the Dutch graziers are evidently full of stock, and it is pretty generally imagined, now that the freights from Holland are lower, that large supplies will reach us prior to the setting-in of the cold weather. The week's import consisted of beasts, 1,305; sheep, 5,898; lambs, 934; calves, 324; pigs, 117. About 1,000 head have been landed at the outports, mostly from Holland. From Ireland by sea, 19 oxen, 17 cows, and 38 sheep, were received here last week.

Very large numbers of foreign stock—especially beasts and sheep—were on offer here to-day, in but middling condition. From our own grazing districts the arrivals of beasts were again very extensive, and of somewhat improved quality. Notwithstanding that the attendance of both town and country buyers was good, the beef trade ruled excessively heavy, and in some instances the quotations gave 2d per 8 lbs. The top general figure for beef did not exceed 3s 6d, though a few very superior Scots realized 3s 8d per 8 lbs. The bullock droves from the north amounted to nearly 3,000 head, chiefly short-horns. From other parts of England, we received 350 Herefords, runts, Devons, &c.; and from Scotland, per railway, 94 horned and polled Scots.

With sheep we were again extensively supplied, and there was a decided improvement in the weight of most breeds. Generally speaking the demand was very inactive, and prices were the turn in favour of the butchers; the top figure for mutton was 4s per 8 lbs.

As lamb is now out of season we have discontinued to quote it. The few lambs offering sold at mutton prices. There was a decided falling off in the supply of calves, in which a moderate business was doing, at Friday's currencies.

We had a moderate inquiry for pigs, and late rates were well supported.

Table with 3 columns: SUPPLIES. Rows for Sept. 11, 1848, Sept. 10, 1849, Sept. 9, 1850. Rows for Beasts, Sheep, Calves, Pigs.

FRIDAY, Sept. 13.—Our market to-day was well supplied with beasts, but their general quality was inferior. The attendance of buyers being small, the beef trade ruled heavy, at barely Monday's quotations. Sheep—the number of which were tolerably extensive—met a very inactive inquiry, and late rates were with difficulty supported, the best old Downs not exceeding 4s per 8 lbs in any instance. Rather a large supply of calves was brought forward, while the veal trade ruled dull, at barely last week's decline in the currencies. Pigs were in moderate supply, and sluggish inquiry, at our quotations. Milch cows were selling at from 14l 5s to 18l including their small calf.

Per 8 lbs to sink the offal.

Table with 2 columns: Rows for Inferior beasts, Second quality do, Prime large oxen, Prime Scots, &c., Large coarse calves, Prime small do, Sucking Calves, Inferior sheep, Second quality sheep, Coarse woolled do, Southdown wether, Large hogs, Small porkers, Quarter old Pigs.

Total supply at market:—Beasts, 808; sheep, 11,500; calves, 306; pigs, 300. Scotch supply:—Beasts, 40; sheep, 30. Foreign supply:—Beasts, 191; sheep, 2,020; calves, 184; pigs, 27.

COUNTRY POTATO MARKETS.

YORK, Aug. 31.—A good supply, at from 5d to 5 1/2d per peck. MALTON, Aug. 31.—A good supply, at from 6d to 9d per peck. RICHMOND, Aug. 31.—Potatoes, 1s 8d per bush. SMITHFIELD, Sept. 3.—Potatoes sell at from 5s to 6s per load of 18 stones. MANCHESTER, Sept. 3.—Potatoes sell at from 7s to 8s per 252 lbs. NEWCASTLE, Sept. 5.—Potatoes, white, 7s to 8s per load of 20 stones. DURHAM, Aug. 31.—A good supply of new potatoes, which sold at 5d per peck. LEEDS, Sept. 3.—A good supply, at from 6d to 7d per score of 21 lbs.

HAY MARKETS.—THURSDAY.

SMITHFIELD.—Fine upland meadow and rye grass hay 75s to 77s, inferior ditto 50s to 60s; superior clover 85s to 87s, inferior ditto 70s to 75s; straw 23s to 28s per load of 36 trusses. WHITECHAPEL.—The supply at this market to-day was equal to the demand, though trade upon the whole is looking up. Old meadow hay from 70s to 80s, new ditto, 60s to 72s; old clover 80s to 90s, new ditto 60s to 80s; straw 24s to 28s per load.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET.

Several pockets of new Kent and Sussex hops have been received at market, the quality for the most part being good. The prices realised for the Kent's have ranged from 6l to 8l 8s, and Sussex 5l 12s to 5l 16s. The picking is expected to be very general in the course of a few days. Yearlings are now brought within a very small compass, and are being gradually disposed of at about the following currency, viz.:—Weald of Kent pockets, 1349, 100s to 120s; Sussex, 90s to 100s. Duty, 200,000l to 205,000l.

FRIDAY, Sept. 13.—A large public sale of hops, of the growth of 1846, 1847, and 1848, took place here on Wednesday. The total quantity offered was 793 pockets, 701 being Kent, the remainder Sussex. The attendance of buyers was large, and the whole of the hops changed hands. Kent at from 28s to 33s, and Sussex 27s to 45s per cwt. Picking is now pretty general both in Sussex and Kent, and the produce is turning out large. The duty is called 200,000l to 205,000l. Several pockets have arrived this week, and sold as under:—New Kent, 6l to 8l; new Sussex, 5l 12s to 5l 1s per cwt. A few parcels of yearlings have been disposed of on the following terms:—Weald of Kent pockets, 1349, 5l to 6l; Sussex 1849, 4l 16s to 5l 5s per cwt.

COAL MARKET.

MONDAY, Sept. 9.—Cair's West Hartley 15s—East Adairs Main 12s 3d—Holywell 14s 3d—Tanfield Moor 12s 3d—Tanfield Moor Butes 12s 3d—Townley 13—West Wylam 13s—Wylam 13s 6d. Wall's end: Bewicke and Co. 14s 9d—Ehr Park, 15s—Gosforth 14s 6d—Northumberland 14s—Original Gibson 14s 9d—Russell 14s 3d—Eden Main 15s—Belmont 15s 6d—Bradyll 15s 9d—Hetton 15s—Haswell 16s 3d—Kipter Grange 15s 6d—Lambton 15s 9d—Russell's Hetton 15s 9d—Stewart's 16s 3d—Caradoc 15s 3d—Heugh Hall 15s 6d—Hartlepool 16s—Kelloe 15s 6d—South Hartlepool 15s 6d—South Kelloe 15s 6d—Thornley 15s 6d—Whitworth 13s 6d—Adelaide Tees, 15s 3d—South Durham 14s 9d—Tees 16s—Derwentwater Hartley 15s—Nixon's Merthyr and Cardiff 21s. Ships at market, 92; sold, 63; unsold, 29. WEDNESDAY, Sept. 11.—D an's Primrose, 13s 3d—Holywell, 14s 3d—North Percy Hartley, 14s 9d—Ravensworth West Hartley, 15s 3d—Tanfield Moor Butes, 12s 6d—Townley, 13s—West Wylam, 13s—Wylam, 13s 6d—Windsor's Pontop, 12s 9d. Wall's end: Acorn Close, 15s—Bewicke and Co. 15s—Gosforth, 14s 9d—Harron, 14s 9d.

Northumberland, 14s 3d—Eden Main, 15s—Lambton Primrose, 15s 3d—Bell, 15s 6d—Belmont, 15s 6d—Braddly, 15s 9d—Heuton, 16s 3d—Haswell, 16s 3d—Keeper Grange, 15s 6d—Lambton, 15s 9d—Lumley, 15s 3d—Richmond, 15s 3d—Scarborough, 15s 3d—Stewart's, 16s 3d—Caradoc, 15s 3d—Heselden, 14s 6d—Heugh Hall, 15s—Hart'spool, 16s 3d—Kellie, 15s 6d—Thornley, 15s 6d—Whitworth, 13s 6d—Adelaide Tees, 15s 6d—Maclean's Tees, 14s 6d—Tees, 16s—Derwentwater Hartley, 15s—Hartley, 15s. Ships at market, 70; sold, 57; unsold, 13.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS.

WOOL. FRIDAY NIGHT.

(From our own Correspondent.)

WOOL.—The demand continues good. There were public sales here yesterday, consisting chiefly of common qualities of foreign, which being very much in request for the home trade, nearly the whole found buyers at full prices.

CORN.

(From our own Correspondent.)

There has been great steadiness in the grain market since Tuesday, with a fair business doing, at full prices. This morning the transactions of wheat were limited, but holders showed no disposition to relax in prices, and we cannot make any alteration in the quotations of Tuesday; a few parcels were taken for shipment to Ireland, and some to hold over. The value of Indian corn has stiffened a little, and there is no great deal offering, but the consumptive demand is small at present. All other articles remain as on Tuesday, with but little doing.

METALS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

There has been only a moderate demand this week for any description of manufactured iron, with little variation in prices. In Scotch pig iron there has been a further decline of 1s 6d to 2s per ton, occasioned by some of the makers having manifested a disposition to press sales in a heavy market; and the highest price obtainable for mixed Nos. is 41s to 41s 6d per ton, cash, f.o.b., at Glasgow, and other Nos. in proportion. Copper is firm, and few sellers at the reduced price. Other metals without change.

FOREIGN MARKETS.

AMSTERDAM, Sept. 9.

COFFEE.—At the Dutch Trading Company's public sale held on the 5th inst. at Rotterdam, the whole of the various kinds offering were sold at prices ranging from 25c to 33c. The market remains firm and several transactions from second hand have taken place at an advance on sale prices; there was also an animated business in Brazil sorts, particularly in the ordinary qualities.

SUGAR.—The sales of the week consisted in 4,700 baskets Java at 27½ to 32½, and about 300 hhds Surinam at 25½ to 28½. At the Dutch Trading Company's public sale, held this day, at Rotterdam, 82,591 baskets Java found ready buyers at 26½ to 33½, being about 2½ above prices paid on the 11th July.

DYES, &c.—Indigo—A good demand prevailed for the article, and 75 chests and boxes Java changed hands at somewhat higher prices. Dyewoods—15 tons Campeachy, 25 tons St Domingo log, 50 tons Tobacco Fustic, and 25 tons Red Saunders at former prices for export. Quercitron bark dull of sale. Madders without change.

TOBACCO.—737 hhds ordinary and good ordinary Maryland were taken from first hand at 20 to 29½ c.

SEEDS.—Rape firm. Clover—There was a good demand for red, 145 bales fair Maese and Cologne 1849 at 24½ to 25½; 160 bales superannuated ditto, 20½ to 21½; 131 bales American 17½. Mustard—About 100 hect prime brow have found buyers at 16½ per hect. Canary—A few lots fair fetched 11½ per hect for export. North Holland Caraway remains in demand for foreign account at 14½ per 50 k.

CORN.—There was little doing in wheat, sales were confined to small lots for home use, prices have remained the same. Rye—The dull accounts of foreign markets induced holders to sell at a reduction of 5½ to 10½. Barley was sold lower. Oats firm. Buckwheat remains the same.

PETERSBURG, Aug. 31.

CORN.—Heavy rye enquired for at 13½ to 14 ro. About 16,000 chets wheat taken at 23 to 23½ for Cozan of 1847, 24½ for Sursk, and 25½ for good Saxonka; and higher prices asked. Fresh arrivals are not expected till next month.

DEALS.—Gromoff refuses to sell under 14 ro; and at Wiborg they are scarcely to be had.

FLAX.—Ardamatsky and Koroleff have sold 150 tons 12 and 9-head at 120 and 110, and 90 tons 9-head at 103—all for local consumption and export to France.

HEMP.—About 60 tons Mejenjony have been taken at 88; 120 tons Mejenjonomok at 83; 130 tons half-clean at 70; and small purchases are daily making at the quotations. The shipments are about 200,000 poods short of last year.

LINSÉED.—Firm, without transactions.

TALLOW.—The week's transactions are about 6,000 casks, of which 2,400 for shipment at 107 for Ukraine, 105½ for common, and 114 and 99 for trifles of white candle and soap; and the rest settlements of contracts for the month, at 105½ to 106, and an exchange of 1,500 casks to be returned August, 1851, at a difference of 1½ ro S. For August next 500 casks sold to Russians at 111 ro 10½ down, at which there are buyers.

FREIGHTS.—All cheapening, and likely to continue flat for the present.

P.S.—Clean hemp 3½ to 30½ 10s. Tallow, on the spot, old 37s 3d to 37s; new 37s 9d—for the last 3 months, 37s 6d

The Gazette.

Friday, Sept. 6.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Begg, Brothers, Grenada, West Indies, merchants—Begg and Co., London—Syer and Page, Whitechapel road, window glass merchants—Guff and Berry, Somerset street, Postman square, milliner—Robinson and James, Nottingham, timber merchants—Aspley and Howcroft, Boxmoor, coal merchants—England and Swift, Oldham, cotton manufacturers—Kantrowitz and Co., Salford, tobacconists—Young and Son, Bolton-le-Moors, common brewers—Kay and G. C. and A. Thompson, Dunston forge, near Gateshead, iron manufacturers; as far as regards R. Kay—Pigeon and Co., Ecclehall, mercers—Griffith and Chapman, Liverpool, milliners; as far as regards R. and M. Singlehurst—Mitchell and St John, Cadogan row, King's road, Chelsea, furniture dealers—R. and J. Brown, Bodmin, drapers—Smith, Hill, and Co., Manchester; as far as regards E. Gooddy—W. and A. Cave, Rathbone place, Oxford street, English and foreign toy warehousemen—W. and G. Hesketh, Tyldesley banks, Lancashire, grocers—D'Hauregard and Co., Manchester, foreign commission merchants—Barber, Sons, and Thompson, Norwich, wholesale grocers; as far as regards F. W. Thompson—Powell and Archbold, East Tilbury, coal merchants—Wainwright, Moss, and Co., Glasgow, sugar refiners—J. and J. Baxter, Edinburgh, glass dealers.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDEND.

J. Jones, jun., and T. Oakes, Kingswinford, Staffordshire, ironmasters—first div of 2s 1d, on any Thursday, after the 12th of October, at Mr Christie's, Birmingham.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

W. Moncur, Kettle bridge, Fifeshire, merchant.
D. McQueen Moore, Birneyknowes, Haddingtonshire, farmer.
C. Manson and W. Wighton, Perth, drapers.

Tuesday, Sept. 10.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

G. and F. Hining, Podsey, Yorkshire, drapers—J. and G. Clough, Bradford, Yorkshire, ale merchants—Scott and Exall, Dear street, Scho, timber merchants—A. and T. Hickinbotham, Aldgate, retail butchers—Walker and Jones, Liverpool, ale dealers—Bryden and Porter, Liverpool, drapers—Jalhand and Hawksley, Nottingham, civil engineers—Cox and Co., Manchester, tobacconists—The Hartley Bottle Company, Seaton Sluice, Northumberland, and Cousin lane, London; as far as regards J. and G. Carr and R. Lambert—Wid and Nield, Stockport and Manchester, cotton spinners—Melross and Roberts, Northampton, curriers—Hainford and Giles, Plymouth, ironfounders—James and Nevison, Penrith—Barnards and Boulton, Norwich, ironmongers—Davy and Wilkins, South Brent and Ashburton, Devonshire—Riley, son, and Russell, Liverpool, and Carlow, Ireland, provision merchants—Steffox and Gorat, Liverpool, coal dealers—Herbert, Barnett, and Lan, Sejeant's inn, Fleet street, solicitors; as far as regards F. Herbert—R. A. and J. Pearce, Worksop, saddlers—Walker and Co. Carlisle, timber merchants—Australian Trust Company, London; as far as regards H. M. Gibb.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

Henry Ashbee, Kingscote, Gloucestershire, innkeeper.

BANKRUPTS.

Daniel Radford and Gad Southall, Gracechurch street, coal merchants.
John Dawson, Northfleet, Mitre court chambers, Temple, and Clement's lane, Lombard street, shipowner.
Richard Gadsden, Boughton Mill, Northampton hire, miller.
John Hall, Brighton, victualler.
Joseph Charles Byrne, Pall Mall, East, and Sun court, Cornhill, emigration agent.
Isaac Jessup, Kingsdown, Kent, farmer.
Joseph Brown, Gravesend, grocer.
Summerland Stanford, Plymouth, innkeeper.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

J. P. Millar Edinburgh, merchant.
J. L. He and Son, Glasgow, drapers.
G. Clark, Edinburgh, innkeeper.
J. Douglas, Edinburgh, fishing tackle maker.
A. Cheyne, Ollaberry, Zetland.
G. Bridges, Ayr, hotelkeeper.

Gazette of Last Night.

BANKRUPTS.

George Ketcher, innkeeper, Asheldham, Essex.
James Hussey, linen draper, Poole.
Thomas Booker, sen, and Thomas Booker, jun., merchants, Mark lane.
Robert Westley, bootmaker, Greenwich.
Charles Cuthbert, corn dealer, Kennington Cross, Lambeth.
James Toovey, innkeeper, Watford, Hertfordshire.
William Jefferson, painter, Kingston upon Hull.

RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY.

The second half-yearly meeting of the shareholders and proprietors of this Association was held on Wednesday, Sept. 4th, at the offices of the Company, 3, Old Broad street, when John Dean Paul, Esq., occupied the chair. The advertisement convening the meeting having been read, and the minutes of the previous half-yearly meeting confirmed, Mr A. Beattie, the Secretary, submitted the Report, which congratulated the proprietors on the firm basis on which the company was established. The following passage from the Report will show the actual working position of the Company:—

The abstract statement of the accounts of the company, to the 30th of June last, have already been placed in the hands of the proprietors; and from these it will be seen that the amount of premiums received during the half-year which terminated on that day amounted to 2,087 0s 4d; and as the income of the society for the previous half year was 1,421 7s 1d, the increase in the amount of premiums received in the last six months, over that of the first six months, is 665 13s 3d.

The entire receipts of the year just closed are 3,508 7s 5d; the expenditure, including the sums paid for compensation to parties injured, amounts to 2,480 5s 6d; and after estimating the liabilities of the company for charges which were not paid when the accounts were made up, and deducting them, the net balance amounts to 678 1s 11d, which, for the first year of a new company, the directors conceive will be regarded as a most satisfactory result.

This balance, unless reduced hereafter by payments for compensation on some of the policies issued prior to the 30th of June, will yield about 8 per cent on the capital paid up; and though for the present the directors cannot recommend its division, they trust that at the next half-yearly meeting they will be in a position to pay interest to the proprietors upon the capital; and, unless it should be deemed necessary to reserve a portion of the surplus to go in diminution of preliminary expenses, a dividend of an almost equal amount of the interest may likewise then be paid.

The obvious course which the directors would venture to recommend to the proprietors at this meeting, however, is to reserve this balance until the risks upon the old insurances are run off.

The issue of the Company's tickets, which at the date of the last half-yearly meeting of the proprietors, was established on twenty-seven railways, has since been extended to five more, so that the public can now obtain insurance tickets on most of the lines of railway. The number of single journey tickets issued during the year ending 30th June, has been, 24,788 first-class, 41,515 second-class, 43,771 third-class, total 110,074; and the periodical tickets issued in the same period has been 2,808. There is still an unwillingness on the part of two or three railway boards to sanction the issue of insurance tickets on their lines. The plea of alarming passengers has been put forward as the ground of this refusal, as if provision against a possible danger made danger more certain or imminent.

The directors stated, in the last report, that the principle of effecting insurance against railway accidents was beginning to be appreciated in France and America; they have just learned that a company is now formed in Paris, under the authority of an Act passed on the 22d and 23d April last, which will commence the issue of tickets on the principal railways in France as soon as the necessary arrangements are completed. The promoters of that company are also about to enter into negotiations with the Governments of the principal Continental States of Europe, to obtain permission to establish branches in the principal cities—viz., Vienna, Berlin, Baden, &c.

In the short period that has elapsed since the expiration of the first series of periodical tickets, so great a proportion have been renewed, that the directors are persuaded the comfort of being insured has induced the greater number of policy-holders to continue their insurances, and they trust that this may be regarded as a satisfactory feature with reference to the future business of the company.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE BEER TRADE.—By an act of parliament, which was passed a fortnight ago a duty of 1s 4d per cwt has been imposed on sugar used in the brewing of beer, to commence from the 5th of July next. From the 10th of October next brewers are not to sell at any other place than their licensed brewing premises, or on premises licensed for the express purpose. Brewers may take out a license for the sale of beer at any other place as well as their brewing premises. Taking orders for the sale of beer is not to be deemed selling beer at any other than their licensed houses.

A NEW FOSSIL FUEL.—A most interesting discovery has been made in Russia, between Dorpat and Norva, of a combustible as carboniferous and calcareous as coal. It is of a yellowish brown colour, with white spots, and is the subject of much speculation, being said to be of a much earlier geological period than any known coal-field.—*Mining Journal.*

POPULATION OF GERMANY.—The late Parliamentary census of the German States shows the following figures:—Prussia contains 16,112,948 inhabitants; Bavaria, 4,504,874; Saxony, 1,836,433; Hanover, 1,758,856; Wurtemberg, 1,742,827; Baden, 1,349,930; Electoral Hesse, 723,073; Grand Duchy of Hesse, 852,679; Saxony-Weimar, 257,373; Saxony-Coburg-Gotha, 147,195; Saxony-Meiningen, 160,515; Saxony-Altenburg, 129,589; Brunswick, 268,943; Nassau, 418,627; Mecklenburg-Schwerin, 528,185; Oldenburg, 278,909; Anhalt; Dessau, 63,082; Anhalt-Cöthen, 43,120; Anhalt-Bernburg, 48,844; Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt, 68,711; Schwarzburg-Sonderhausen, 58,682; Reuss-Major-35,159; Reuss-Minor, 77,016; Lippe, 108,236; Schaumburg-Lippe, 28,837; Waldeck, 57,604; making a total of 31,670,237 inhabitants of Germany, exclusive of the German provinces of Austria, Holland, and Denmark, of the Free Hanse cities, and the petty principalities of Hesse-Homburg and Lichtenstein.—*Kölnischer Zeitung.*

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT OF COSTUME.—Some of the leading artists of England, as well as many amateurs and admirers of the fine arts, consider that the forthcoming exposition in Hyde park would be a fitting opportunity of discussing the subject of costume. Artists, and all persons of true taste, have long complained of the irrelevance and incongruity of English and other costume. Painters and sculptors frequently have recourse to the costume of the ancient, in order to avoid the difficulties which that of the present time throws in their way when delineating the human figure. A declaration has been drawn up, embodying the above and many other collateral points, which has been numerously signed by some of our leading artists. They express a hope that some general European costume might be indicated by such a course.

STATISTICS OF RUSSIA.—The European provinces of Russia cover an area of 99,489 square miles; Transcaucasia, 2,825; Siberia, 208,600; the Steppes of Kirgis, 30,000; the Islands, 1,100; American Colonies, 17,500; making a total of 359,524 square miles. Reden, the geographer, calculates that the number of inhabitants of these vast countries amounts to 60,600,000, and among them 50,000,000 Slavonians and 4,333,000 Poles. The census of 1763, according to Schlozer and Storch, showed a population of but 20,000,000; that of 1782 showed an increase of 6,000,000; and the census of 1835 reached a figure of 55,000,000. In the European provinces of Russia the population averages 609 on a square mile. The most populated districts are those of the central provinces, where one square mile contains about 2,000 inhabitants. The minimum of population exists in the Government of Archangel, where a square mile is inhabited by 16 people. Of Russian subjects there are 50,552,000 (88 per cent of the population of Russia) belonging to the Greek religion, 6,744,145 are Roman Catholics, 3,409,330 are Protestants, 1,604,767 Jews, and 566,320 Mohametans. The rest of the inhabitants belong to various sects, or they are considered as temporary residents and foreigners. 154 periodicals are published in Russia—viz., 108 in Russian, 29 in German, 8 in French, 1 in Italian, 5 in the Polish, and 3 in the old Lettish language.—*Kölnischer Zeitung.*

BLACK LEAD IN NEW BRUNSWICK.—Within a mile and a half from this city, near the Falls, a discovery, consisting of black lead, was a short time since made, which bids fair to become a great and valuable staple article of export from this province, equal to gold itself. A company, consisting of six spirited gentlemen, was at once organized; they leased the ground from the government, consisting of a superficies of three miles in extent, and set men to work to dig. A specimen of this lead, got out yesterday, may be seen at our office; it is as pure as if it had been manufactured for use; whereas in England, whence we obtain our black lead, the yield is only 70 per cent to the miners, the other 30 being of foreign substance. The supply near the Falls is inexhaustible. The surface of the earth for two miles is coated with it, and the deeper it is dug the purer is the quality. Millions of tons of black lead, superior to any in the world, now lie at our feet, for use and exportation; and our readers may have some idea of the value of the article when we inform them that our merchants have been in the habit of importing black lead from England, and paying 38s per cwt for it. The article, as it is dug, will command in the English markets 20l a ton, and a much higher price in the markets of the United States, where, we are informed, the duty is but nominal. The St John Mining Company, the designation they are known by, have already shipped 44 cwt of New Brunswick black lead to Liverpool; to New York, 240 cwt; and as much more to Boston.—*St John's (New Brunswick) News.*

IMPORTATIONS OF PORTUGUESE WINE VIA THE UNITED STATES.—In order to show the very remarkable extent to which the importations of Portuguese wine are at present taking place, via the United States, it may be stated, that the ship Ocean Queen, just arrived in the docks from New York, has brought 55 pipes, 32 hogsheads, and 20 casks of wine, consigned to order; 5 pipes, 8 hogsheads, and 100 quarter casks, consigned to one house, and 30 pipes, 20 hogsheads, and 20 other casks, consigned to other houses in the metropolis, making together a quantity of European wine brought direct from the United States quite unexampled.

THE TRUSTEE ACT.—Among the 116 public Acts which were passed in the late session was one to consolidate and amend the laws relating to the conveyance and transfer of real and personal property vested in mortgagees and trustees. By this Act, which contains 60 sections, very considerable powers are given to the Court of Chancery over mortgagees and trustees. That court can convey estates of lunatic trustees and mortgagees, and in cases where it is uncertain whether the last trustee be living or dead, the Court can vest the trust property in other persons, and appoint new trustees. The object of the Act is to enable the Court of Chancery, by an "order" instead of a suit, to obtain possession of property with the view of carrying out the trusts vested in parties. It is provided that the person or persons who, upon the making of such order, shall be trustee or trustees, shall have the same rights and powers as he or they would have had if appointed by a decree in a suit duly instituted. The powers of the Court of Chancery over trust property are extended to the colonies. The Act will come into force on the 1st of November. It is to be cited as "The Trustee Act, 1850."

THE SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH.—The *Boulogne Gazette*, after quoting the account of the rupture of this telegraph, comments on the manner in which it is said to have been broken, and adds—"We confess we are at a loss to rightly comprehend the real merits of this unfortunate affair in presence of the fact, which we have ascertained, that one of our fishermen is in possession of a certain length of the telegraphic wire and coating, and demands 60 francs for the damage done to his nets in obtaining it. It seems pretty clear that the wire must be broken in at least two places. The circumstance demands every possible inquiry."

TRANSATLANTIC POSTAGE.—By a return on the amount of postage on letters sent and received by British steamers under the late postal treaty, it appears that from February 1849, up to June 1850, there had been sent and received letters to the extent of 773,117 dollars in 115 mails. Of this amount nineteen twenty-fourth parts are English, and the other five American postage. By the New York and Bremen line of steamers, since January last, there had been collected, for letters sent and received, 39,727 dollars. By Collins's line of American steamers in seven mails since 29th April last, the receipts have been 14,352 dollars, of which twenty one twenty-fourth parts (21-24) is United States postage, and three twenty-fourth parts (3-24) English postage.

DISASTERS AT THE CAPE.—The advices from the Cape of Good Hope reach to the beginning of July. With respect to political or commercial matters they communicate little of interest. Their maritime information is, however, of a very distressing nature. The weather during the greater part of June had been extremely boisterous, occasioning a fearful amount of shipwreck and damage along the coast. Among the more serious disasters are reported the loss of the Queen of the West, from Bombay to Liverpool; the Asiatic, from Adelaide to London; the Royal Albert, from London (cargo discharged); the British Settler, from the Cape to London; the Grindisay, from Singapore to London; and the French ship L'Aigle, from Sumatra to Marseilles. The sacrifice of life had been large in one or two cases, the whole of the crews having been lost. It was also feared from fragments of wreck and goods washed on shore that other vessels, the particulars of which were then unknown, had experienced a similar catastrophe.

THE RIGHTS OF THE NEGRO IN THE UNITED STATES.—The *Norfolk Beacon* thus notices a practice which has recently grown up in that city:—"About 25 negroes were arrested yesterday, and taken before his Honour the Mayor for violating the States law against slaves making their own bargains, and receiving the money for their services. They were discharged upon producing their badges. It will be recollected that there is a corporation law which allows negroes to work and receive their money by paying a tax of one dollar and taking a badge. No more badges will be granted hereafter, as the corporation law conflicts with the State law on the subject. We are glad to see this movement, for really the negroes have become so independent under the present system, that it is almost impossible to get one to do a day's work, and a change is loudly called for."

SIR JOHN FRANKLIN.—The annexed letter has been received this afternoon by the secretary of the Hudson's Bay Company from Sir John Ross, giving an account of the progress of his expedition in search of Sir John Franklin. It will be recollected the expedition sailed from Scotland on the 23rd of May last:—"Felix Discovery Vessel, Holsteinborg, June 1850. My dear Sir,—I leave this with the Danish Resident at Holsteinborg, merely to say that we have safely arrived here, after a fair passage; and, although we experienced two heavy gales, we sustained no damage, while we had ample proof of both the Felix and the Mary being excellent sea-boats as well as good sailers—in short, they are both everything we could desire. As I do not expect that this will reach you till October, as it will go by the Danish government vessel that leaves this in September, I shall not send my accounts, vouchers, &c., being in hopes that I shall overtake the transport Emma Eugenia at Whalefish Islands, or at least some homeward bound vessel that will reach England before that time. My object in coming here was to obtain a Danish interpreter who understands the Esquimaux language, and before I close this I shall be able to say if I have succeeded. We overtook the Danish government brig Titus, 31 days from Copenhagen, parted with her on the 16th of June, and arrived here four days before her, although we had Mary in tow. I have only to add that we are all well and in high spirits, and that I am—Yours very faithfully, JOHN ROSS.—A. Barclay, Esq.—P.S. I have the pleasure to add that I have succeeded in obtaining an Esquimaux who understands the Danish language; and, having now made all the preparations necessary for our arduous undertaking, we are now getting under weigh. I intend first to try to get across at once, and, if I fail in that, to follow the usual course up the east side of Baffin's Bay, &c."

LOUIS PHILIPPE'S PROPERTY.—A letter from Paris, of the 6th, in the *Independence of Brussels*, says:—"Since Louis Philippe's death, the journals have been speaking of the fortune which he has left, and it has been even said that the legacy duty would amount to some millions. I find the exaggeration which I suspected in these accounts is greater than I had supposed. The landed property belonging to the late King contains about 86,000 hectares (the hectare is nearly 2½ English acres) thus divided: 45,000 comprised in the donation made by the King to his children on August 7, 1830, and of which he reserved to himself the life interest; 13,000 belonging to the King himself; and 28,000 bequeathed to him, for his life only, by Madame Adelaide, his sister. The gross revenue of this property, calculated on an average of ten years, is 2,989,000f. Since 1818 it has been smaller; and for 1851 will not, it is supposed, amount to more than 3,900,000f. But from all this it is necessary to deduct the expenses of taxes, insurance, management, agency, &c., amounting to 1,611,000f. There therefore remains a revenue of 2,378,000f, which, at 3 per cent, represents a capital of nearly 79 millions. In this valuation I do not comprise non-productive property, such as chateaux, parks, and gardens, which it must be admitted are not without importance. For instance, the park of Monceaux in the Faubourg du Roule, close to Paris, is altogether unproductive, and contains 19 hectares, worth, say, 2,000,000f; also the Park of Neuilly, containing nearly 186 hectares, gives no revenue, yet, if sold in lots, it would give at least 4,000,000f. I ought to mention that I have included in this statement the property of the Duke d'Aumale's domain, of which the Queen Marie Amelie has the life use, and which gives about 137,000f a year. In fine, to be exact, I ought not to pass over in silence the moveable property of the King, consisting of matters held in common by him and Madame Adelaide, arising from canal shares and tontines, which, without any exaggeration, must be worth 325,000f a year; also government securities, belonging to Louis Philippe himself, amounting to 100,000f a year, including 30,000f a year in the 5 per Cent, for the chapels of Dreux and Neuilly. But this situation, so brilliant in appearance, is considerably diminished by the enormous debts contracted almost exclusively for the works undertaken at Versailles and in the Royal palaces. The names of the executors of Louis Philippe are now known; they are MM. de Montalivet, Dupin, sen., De Montmorency Laplagne, Barris, and Scribe, formerly advocate at the Court of Cassation."

COMMERCIAL TIMES Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are carefully revised every Friday afternoon, by an eminent house in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY EVENING. Add Five per cent to duties, except spirits, allow, sugar, nutmegs, and timber.

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including Ashes, Cocoa, Coffee, Cotton, Drugs & Dyes, Dyewoods, Fruit, Flax, and Hemp.

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including Hides, Leather, Iron, Lead, Metals-Copper, Molasses, Oils, Provisions, and Rice.

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including Seeds, Silk, Spices, Spirits, Sugar, and Tallow.

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including SUGAR-REF, Tea, Timber, Turpentine, and Wool.

STATEMENT

Of comparative Imports, Exports, and Home Consumption of the following articles from Jan. 1 to Sept. 7, 1849-50, showing the stock on hand on Sept. 7 in each year.

For the PORT OF LONDON.

If those articles are duty free, the deliveries for exportation are included under the head Home Consumption.

East and West Indian Produce, &c.

	Imported		Duty paid		Stock	
	1849	1850	1849	1850	1849	1850
British Plantation.						
West India	56,584	55,005	58,480	51,028	23,587	20,380
East India	30,681	30,999	34,580	30,625	13,104	14,334
Mauritius	23,726	25,358	25,776	24,253	9,728	6,633
Foreign	...	...	12,764	20,222	...	...
	110,941	110,462	131,600	126,138	46,419	41,347
Foreign Sugar.						
Cheribon, Siam, & Manilla	1,782	8,857	2,446	1,802	1,725	8,238
Havana	24,186	13,675	6,827	10,613	25,476	15,643
Porto Rico	8,136	5,058	682	1,210	7,186	4,454
Brazil	11,452	7,825	6,006	3,918	7,257	9,770
	45,556	35,415	15,968	17,543	41,644	38,105

PRICE OF SUGARS.—The average prices of Brown or Muscovado Sugar, exclusive of the duties:—

From the British Possessions in America	25 10	per cwt,
— Mauritius	23 11	—
— East Indies	25 5	—
The average price of the two is	25 7 1/2	—

MOLASSES.

	Imported	Duty paid	Stock
West India	6,176	4,723	4,806
	6,805	4,646	7,141

RUM.

	Imported		Exported		Home Consump.		Stock	
	1849	1850	1849	1850	1849	1850	1849	1850
West India	1,557,765	1,447,865	787,500	755,235	893,320	910,485	2,078,235	1,575,935
East India	440,730	202,500	390,915	251,460	91,845	48,615	4,345	320,625
Foreign	80,820	73,890	21,780	76,500	900	180	186,350	126,135
	2,079,315	1,724,255	1,200,195	1,083,195	916,065	958,680	2,628,000	1,960,695

COCOA.—Cwts.

	1849	1850	1849	1850	1849	1850	1849	1850
Br. Plant	16,023	11,130	405	466	12,941	14,495	10,126	7,985
Foreign	7,627	7,828	6,443	4,841	2,600	1,572	9,735	9,702
	23,650	18,958	6,848	5,307	15,541	16,067	19,861	17,687

COFFEE.—Cwts.

	1849	1850	1849	1850	1849	1850	1849	1850
Br. Plant	7,398	12,652	1,144	794	14,628	8,264	13,696	13,094
Ceylon	182,005	171,707	32,613	18,747	152,632	139,081	176,206	212,730
Total BP.	189,403	184,359	33,757	19,541	167,260	147,445	189,902	225,824
Mocha	8,763	10,099	1,365	1,366	7,732	9,745	12,313	11,367
Foreign EI.	5,010	8,509	21,356	8,109	5,101	4,617	31,395	18,257
Malabar	...	276	...	...	156	114	132	291
St Domingo	1,500	5,207	1,882	4,131	44	93	2,092	2,619
Hav. & P Ric	30,508	2,473	26,275	2,254	487	427	9,105	4,863
Brazil	43,898	22,541	52,674	15,515	13,513	4,504	15,527	21,424
African	...	7	...	...	...	7	1	2
Total For.	53,676	49,112	104,952	31,375	27,033	19,507	69,665	58,823
Grand tot.	243,079	233,471	138,709	50,916	194,293	166,952	259,567	284,617

RICE.

	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
British EI.	15,022	7,253	3,348	1,411	10,245	7,294	22,093	20,221
Foreign EI.	1,410	558	1,398	344	686	672	2,515	1,155
Total	17,332	7,811	4,746	1,755	10,931	8,166	24,609	21,676

	Bags	Bags	Bags	Bags	Bags	Bags	Bags	Bags
White	1,294	1,078	189	202	2,300	1,817	4,267	2,642
Black	20,235	37,759	16,899	15,409	22,169	17,984	50,912	50,433

	Pkgs	Pkgs	Pkgs	Pkgs	Pkgs	Pkgs	Pkgs	Pkgs
NUTMEGS	646	964	203	245	597	716	384	524
DO. Wild.	9	...	2	69	266	112	1,186	846
CAS. LIG.	8,217	12,377	7,320	9,665	691	995	343	2,604
CINNAMON.	5,089	6,656	4,020	4,862	745	591	3,102	3,483

	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags
PIMENTO	20,253	8,910	16,750	3,668	2,399	2,127	3,109	8,033

Raw Materials, Dye Stuffs, &c.

	Serons	Serons	Serons	Serons	Serons	Serons	Serons	Serons
COCHINEAL	6,986	9,944	...	...	8,852	9,992	3,027	3,867
LAC DYE.	1,768	3,639	...	...	2,671	3,644	3,518	4,458
LOGWOOD	3,901	4,349	...	...	4,110	4,479	754	1,341
FUSTIC	1,309	1,535	...	...	1,352	1,395	610	605

INDIGO.

	chests	chests	chests	chests	chests	chests	chests	chests
East India	29,394	21,849	...	...	22,102	23,329	36,151	27,583
Spanish	1,570	2,258	...	...	2,121	1,830	518	825

SALTPETRE.

	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons
Nitrate of Potass	7,756	8,754	...	...	6,665	7,823	2,937	4,122
Nitrate of Soda	5,011	5,292	...	...	3,312	2,460	2,684	2,342

COTTON.

	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags
American	2,611	3,004	...	...	2,887	3,109	264	236
Brazil	307	175	...	...	506	171	210	109
East India	9,683	29,121	...	...	28,725	52,690	22,658	37,778
Liverpl., all kinds	1,500,963	1,171,393	158,230	174,360	1,075,740	987,340	680,220	493,720
Total	1,513,564	1,203,693	158,230	174,360	1,107,858	1,037,310	683,352	521,843

The Railway Monitor.

CALLS FOR SEPTEMBER.

The following are the railway calls for September, so far as they have yet been advertised. In the corresponding month of last year the amount was £65,054. The total called this year amounts now to 9,617,096, against 16,654,215 in the corresponding period of 1849:—

	Date when due.	Amount per Share.		Number of Shares.	Total.
		Already paid.	Called.		
Cameron's Coalbrook, &c.	10	8 0 0	2 0 0	20,000	40,000
East Lancashire ff. lrs	20	0 10 0	1 0 0	60,800	60,800
Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 5/ preference	9	...	1 5 0	20,200	25,250
Great Northern, undivided 25/	30	24 0 0	1 0 0	197,466	197,466
Ditto halves, B.	30	11 10 0	1 0 0	...	...
Hartlepool, New, 21/	2	15 0 0	3 0 0	3,655	18,275
Kendal and Windermere, preference, 10/	2	5 0 0	1 0 0	5,000	5,000
Lancashire & Yorkshire, ff. lrs	18	16 10 0	1 10 0	126,819	190,229
Malton & Driffield Junction	2	17 10 0	1 5 0	12,000	15,000
Monmouthshire, preference	30	...	5 0 0	not known	not known
Royston and Hitchin, Shepreth Extension	23	0 12 6	0 17 6	10,668	9,335
					561,355

EPITOME OF RAILWAY NEWS.

NORTH BRITISH.—The report for the half-yearly meeting to be held on the 17th inst. states that the revenue account for the half-year shows receipts to the amount of 83,566l 4s, and disbursements to the amount of 60,745l 18s, leaving a free revenue of 22,820l 6s. The capital account exhibits a total receipt from the commencement of 4,265,757l. During the last half-year the total number of miles run by passenger and goods trains was 587,726. The coke consumed was 10,641 tons, at a cost of 8,102l 12s 7d, being at the rate of 40 1/2 lb per train per mile. The present rolling stock of the company consists of 64 engines, 60 first-class carriages, 70 second-class carriages, 60 third-class carriages, 26 composite-carriages, 1,968 goods and mineral waggons, 98 cattle and sheep waggons, 24 horse boxes, 28 luggage vans, 21 carriage trucks, 2 powder vans, and 32 ballast waggons.

EDINBURGH, PERTH, AND DUNDEE.—The half-yearly meeting of the shareholders of this company was held in the Hopetoun rooms, Edinburgh, on Monday; Mr. J. Balfour, of Balburnie, in the chair. The report having been read, after a short address from the chairman, in the course of which he referred to various points in the report, a number of questions were put by several shareholders, who found fault with the manner in which the company's affairs were conducted, and particularly in not sufficiently developing the goods traffic. The chairman, and Sir W. Dunbar, deputy chairman, answered these questions, and stated that the traffic could not be further developed in the present incomplete state of the line; but that they were doing everything in their power to increase the goods and mineral traffic, especially the latter. The passenger traffic, from the report, showed that they maintained a satisfactory increase. Several shareholders repeated the objections which they had made at former meetings to the purchase of shares in the Stirling and Dunfermline Railway, and complained of no dividend being as yet proposed on the ordinary share capital. After a long and very uninteresting discussion the report was approved of.—The Chairman then proposed resolutions to the effect that a dividend of 5 per cent be paid on the old Edinburgh, Leith, and Granton shares, and 5 1/2 per cent on the guaranteed 5 1/2 preference share capital, on the 1st October next, which were agreed to.—A resolution was then agreed to, declaring the forfeiture of a number of shares. In the course of the discussion it was stated that the arrears amounted to the large sum of 94,078l, and that comparatively very few of the guaranteed shares had been taken up by the shareholders, the banks holding upwards of 300,000l of them as security for the advances which they had made, and 86,940l more remaining unappropriated.—Mr Heriot, of Romorne, then moved there be no Sabbath traffic on the line, but the motion was lost by a large majority, and the meeting separated.

LANCASTER AND PRESTON JUNCTION.—The directors in their half-yearly report congratulate the shareholders on their very satisfactory position. The resolutions and orders made at the last meeting of the company respecting the Canal Company's annuity have been fully carried out by the directors, without exercising the borrowing powers intrusted to them. The new twelfth shares (10,833 in number) issued in pursuance of such orders were all promptly taken up by the proprietary, and became thereupon entitled to their proportion of dividend from the 1st of May last. Out of the disposable balance in hand on the 31st of July last the directors recommend that 15,656l be divided amongst the proprietors, being at the rate of 6 per cent per annum on the entire capital, leaving a surplus of 616l. The capital account to the 1st of August showed that 465,440l had been expended, and that the capital entitled to dividend amounted 544,300l, including 101,665l discount or bonus on the three quarter and quarter shares. The mortgage, bearing interest at 4 1/2, and 4 1/2 per cent, amounts to 113,000l. The revenue account to the 1st of August states that 32,956l had been received and 14,232l expended, leaving a balance of 18,724l, of which the proposed dividend will absorb 15,656l, and the interest on mortgage debt 2,452l, leaving a balance of 616l.

RAILWAY SHARE MARKET.

LONDON.

MONDAY, Sept. 9.—The railway market opened with a heavy appearance, and prices were in some instances quoted lower, but towards the close the aspect of business materially changed, and the result was much greater firmness.

TUESDAY, Sept. 10.—The railway market was again better to-day, the character of the business transacted giving firmness to quotations generally, and in some instances causing an advance.

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 11.—The arrangement of the account in the railway market to-day caused a further improvement in some descriptions of shares and prices altogether exhibited a buoyant appearance.

THURSDAY, Sept. 12.—The railway share market was extremely good in the early part of the day, and owing to the closing of some "Bear" accounts prices in particular instances were forced up, but less activity prevailed at the conclusion of business.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 13.—The railway market has relaxed into rather a quieter condition after the failure of Mr. J. B. King, who ascribes his losses to west-end clients. The tone generally, however, is still good, and those shares are weakest for the moment on which the party had the largest differences to liquidate.

The Economist's Railway Share List.

The highest prices of the day are given.

Main table listing railway shares with columns for No. of shares, Amount paid up, Name of Company, London (M. F.), and various share details.

OFFICIAL RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

Table of railway traffic returns with columns for Capital and Loan, Amount expended, Average cost, Dividend per cent., Name of Railway, Week ending, Receipts (Passengers, Merchandise, Total), Traffic per mile, and Miles open in 1850 and 1849.