

The Economist,

WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette, and Railway Monitor:

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. VII.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1849.

No. 316.

CONTENTS.

THE ECONOMIST.	
German Commerce—The New German Federal Empire.....	1017
The Board of Trade Tables.....	1018
The New Agricultural Agitation ..	1018
The National Debt—Mr Gurney's Warning	1019
Conduct of Naval Officers	1020
The Proposed Fast Day	1021
One Element of the Price of Corn ..	1021
The Consumption of Brandy	1022
AGRICULTURE:—	
Agricultural Labourers' Cottages..	1022
The Yield of the Wheat—Potatoes	1023
Rural Retrospect	1024
Spirit of the Trade Circulars	1024
FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE:—	
Paris	1024
THE BANKERS' GAZETTE	
Bank Returns and Money Market...	1030
The Bankers' Price Current	1031
Mails	1032
Weekly Corn Returns	1032
Commercial Epitome	1032
Indigo	1032
Colonial and Foreign Wool	1033
Monthly Statement of Sugar and Coffee	1033
Cotton	1033
Markets of Manufacturing Districts	1033
Liverpool Markets	1034
THE RAILWAY MONITOR.	
Calls	1037
Railway News	1037
Railway Share Market	1037
CORRESPONDENCE:—	
Political Economy in France	1025
Can Tenant Farmers pay any Rent, at present Prices for Produce?	1025
NEWS OF THE WEEK:—	
Court and Aristocracy	1025
Metropolis	1025
Provinces	1026
Scotland	1026
Ireland	1026
Foreign and Colonial	1027
Births, Marriages, and Deaths ..	1027
LITERATURE:—	
John Howard and the Prison—World of Europe.....	1028
The Monthlies—September.....	1029
AND COMMERCIAL TIMES.	
State of Corn Trade for the Week...	1034
Foreign and Colonial Produce Markets	1035
Postscript	1035
Additional Notices	1035
London Markets.....	1036
Foreign Markets.....	1037
Gazettes Current	1037
Prices Current	1039
Imports, Exports, &c.	1040
Trade and Navigation Accounts	1041

the true importance of the commercial intercourse between this country and Germany can look with apathy upon the efforts now making at Berlin to consolidate into some rational confederation the scattered elements of the great German empire. We are in no humour at the present time to criticise too severely the errors of the past, whether of omission or commission, which have been made by those in whose hands the destinies of Germany have been placed. They have been sufficiently numerous. We are rather disposed to aid, in every way we can, what appears to us to be the most likely means of cementing, if not all Germany, at least those States in the North which, from identity of interests and similarity of views, are capable of forming one great union, which will be sufficiently powerful to suppress domestic anarchy and forbid foreign aggression. By such an union alone can the peace of the North of Europe be guaranteed.

Taking the brilliant speech of M. de Radowitz, in the Second Chamber at Berlin, as the true exponent of the policy of Count Brandenburg, and of the views and wishes of the King of Prussia, we must admit, that, for the first time since the revolutions of 1848, do we now see a well-founded hope for a re-organization of the German States into one united and intelligible policy. In the Frankfort Assembly we never had any confidence. It was based upon a theory which, however grand and imposing, embraced conflicting elements, which we had no hope to see reconciled. However much Austria and Prussia might appear to do homage to the "occasion," no one who considered the different principles and material interests which they represented, to say nothing of the private ambitions and jealousies which animated the representatives of two such great powers, could believe that either contemplated a true adherence to an arrangement which neither believed could be permanent.

But the Frankfort Assembly is now a matter of history. German unity, in the grand sense contemplated by that body, proved a failure, because it was based upon a vague theory, and not upon the wants and interests of the people. Since its dissolution it has been evident that the two great Powers of Prussia and Austria have been striving to influence a future organisation of the German states. These efforts on the part of Austria no doubt would have assumed a more decided shape long before now but for the occupation which she has had in Italy and Hungary. At the present moment there are three plans open to Germany. The first is to remain in its present dislocated condition, with even the organisation of the Zollverein, although literally in force (unless superseded) till 1853, practically, for any great object of progress or improvement, in abeyance; the second is to make another attempt to form one empire, with the reigning family of Austria at its head; and the third is to form such a limited union of the states which comprised the Zollverein of 1833, with such others in the North as are disposed to join it, leaving Austria and some of the minor states in the South to an independent existence. The first of these plans could lead only to continual intrigues, conflicts, and anarchy. The second to a reactionary policy, both with regard to the liberties of the people and the freedom of commerce, which would soon prove fatal (in the present temper of the German nation) to the Governments themselves, both central and local, however formed. The third seems the only plan which promises anything like permanency, because it is based upon actual existing facts, and not upon any vague theory, because it assimilates itself to the material wants and the views of the people, and does not rely upon the people assimilating themselves to its dogmas; because it is a constitution made for a people, suited to their interests and actual existence, and does not depend upon a people for its sake changing their habits and views in order to adopt it. Such is the proposal now made at Berlin, under the immediate sanction of Prussia.

We have confidence in the Berlin constitution, because it is moderate in its pretensions, avoiding the grand but impracticable visions which proved fatal at Frankfort, and confining itself to an attempt to meet the real and present wants of that portion of Germany which can ever be permanently united. The whole objects and policy of this constitution are most ably explained in the speech of M. de Radowitz, already alluded to. He dwells with great

The Political Economist.

GERMAN COMMERCE. THE NEW GERMAN FEDERAL EMPIRE.

In whatever light we regard Germany, it is unquestionably the most important "foreign relation" which this country can boast of. The only other country that has any pretensions to a comparison with it, is the United States of America. The manufactures of Great Britain are consumed in Germany to a larger amount than in any other country whatever. On the other hand, Germany supplies this country with wool, timber, flax, hemp, and grain, to an aggregate amount exceeding our imports from any other single country, unless it be in some years from the United States, in the trade of which cotton alone forms so important an item. If to our direct exports we add those which pass through Belgium, Holland, and other channels, the amount of British manufactures disposed of in Germany is not less than *twelve millions* annually. In other words, Germany, as a market for our goods, is equal to those of the possessions of the East India Company, Ceylon, the whole of the Australian colonies, the Cape of Good Hope, and the British possessions in North America, all taken together. When the German markets were paralysed and deranged last year, in consequence of the political disturbances, which destroyed all credit and confidence, we had a striking example of the influence exerted by them on British industry. In the course of a few months our exports fell off upwards of 5,000,000. With tranquillity partially restored in Europe, our exports have increased as suddenly in the present year as they declined in 1848. According to the Board of Trade Tables, which we publish this day, the exports for the month of July in the present year, show an increase of more than *two millions*, compared with the same month last year; while those of the seven months exhibit an increase of more than *five millions* in 1849, compared with 1848. What was lost by continental revolutions in 1848, has been restored to our general commerce by the tranquillity, such as it is, which now reigns in Europe. And those sudden and great changes have chiefly affected our trade with Germany, because it is so much larger than any other.

In everything, therefore, which affects the permanency of that tranquillity, this country has a deep and important stake. There is no more vulgar error, common as it hitherto has been, than that our success and prosperity can be built up on the misfortunes of our neighbours. Thus it is impossible that those who understand

stress upon the misfortunes of the past year—upon the anarchy which long prevailed—and against which, as yet, no permanent security has been taken. The old organisations of 1815 and of 1833 have equally fallen to pieces, and are no longer of any true force. Yet, without organisation, what is Germany? Confederation is not more needful to the United States of America than it is among the numerous petty states of Germany. "Germany can only present itself as a union, in relation to foreign states. Its politics and representation must offer a united whole, with whose several divisions foreign powers have nothing to do. It is necessary I should show that this demand contains the condition upon which the life of the nation depends." Prussia, in short, now seeks to establish a federal union, following the example of the United States of America, in determining the rights and powers of the federal governments, and those of the independent separate states, and based upon a free and liberal representative system.

What, then, has Germany to choose between at this moment? On the one hand, there is Prince Swarzenburg's proposal for a great confederate empire of seventy-four millions, of discordant and dissimilar elements, with Austria at the head, and to include a mutual guarantee of all possessions, and consequently of Lombardy and Venice; and of which, no doubt, the Cabinet of Vienna would be the moving spirit, as well with respect to its commercial policy as its general liberties. On the other hand, there is the proposal of Prussia, to establish a federal union of those states whose interests and views are similar and identical—based upon a liberal representative system. The one is re-action in politics—protection in commerce. The other is "progress" in both. The one addresses itself to a vision—an incompatible theory; the other, to actual existing facts—to living realities. The one, from its discordant elements, and re-actionary attributes, could not fail to lead to confusion, anarchy, and (finally) to military despotism; the other, to a gradual amelioration of the present condition of the people, the expansion of their liberties, and the accomplishment of free trade. At the present moment, the one works by private intrigue; the other, by open and clearly announced principles and plans.

No one who has at heart the maintenance of that tranquillity which is so far re-established in Europe can feel indifferent as to the success of the Berlin project. It is already far advanced. Austria has lost its opportunity, if, indeed, it ever existed. On the 30th of the present month, the Reichstag will be fully convened in both houses, senate and representatives, at Berlin, when the constitution will be formally submitted, and, no doubt, accepted. On the 15th of October the General German Parliament will be convoked, representing the new Federal Empire, which will embrace, including Holstein, a population of about twenty-eight millions, of which Prussia alone possesses sixteen millions. The only thing which is now necessary for the full success of a project so admirably calculated to meet the peculiar position and wants of the German States, is that the King of Prussia, and those statesmen who have originated and proposed it, shall carry it out in the true spirit of M. de Radowitz's professions. The cabinet of Berlin must be prepared to carry it out in a frank, liberal, and enlarged spirit. We tell them that they cannot afford to vacillate or hesitate. They have put their hand to the work, and, for their own sake and the sake of Germany, they must persevere in it. If they do, they will have the credit and the honour of having laid the foundation of a great confederation, which, though independent in all its parts for local purposes, will form a powerful unity for all common objects, which will contain within itself the germs of progress and rational liberty. For our own part, we greatly rejoice that Hamburg has given its influence for the accomplishment of this scheme. By the constitution, that free and intelligent city is accorded a pre-eminent share in the representation in both houses of the Federal Legislature, in which it cannot fail to have the influence which its importance deserves. This must be regarded as a great guarantee that the policy of the confederation will, especially in commercial objects, be more enlightened than has hitherto prevailed in Germany. Prussia has always used her influence against the projects of the Southern States for increasing the protective duties, and in favour of a liberal tariff. And now, when she will be strengthened by the accession of Hamburg, we have every confidence that a great reform will be made in the commercial system now in use.

Hamburg will cease to be a free port. But Hamburg is, at present, free only for itself, while it is essentially the port of Germany, in respect to which all its freedom vanishes. No duties are collected in Hamburg; but very high protecting duties are now collected upon their imports, a few miles out of Hamburg, in whichever direction they go. How infinitely more important will it be that the influence of Hamburg shall be used in liberalising the whole policy of Germany, than simply in retaining a system, however valuable in itself, which extends to scarcely a twentieth part of the population for whom the merchants of Hamburg are employed. Of what value would it be to England, were London and Liverpool free ports, if all produce and materials, on leaving for the interior, were exposed to heavy protective duties? What London and Liverpool are to England, Hamburg is to Germany. With a view, therefore, only of advancing their own interests, by extending a free commercial policy

throughout Germany, the citizens of Hamburg have pursued, in our estimation, a wise and enlightened course, in throwing the whole weight of their influence into the Prussian confederation, and thus doing much to counteract the projects and designs of Austria, in every way opposed to their principles and interests.

THE BOARD OF TRADE TABLES.

THE most important feature in the Board of Trade Tables, which we publish this day, is the enormous increase in the amount of the exports of British manufactures. In the month ending August 5th 1848, they amounted to 4,351,926*l*—in the same month of the present year to 6,364,426*l*, being an increase of 2,012,500*l* in one month. In the seven months of 1848 they amounted to 27,125,752*l*; in the same months of this year, they amount to 32,879,865*l*. In cotton goods and cotton yarn alone, the increase is fully 3,000,000*l* in the present year; and of woollen goods and yarn, the increase is nearly 1,200,000*l*.

In the quantities of produce imported and cleared for consumption, the accounts are generally much the same as those of recent months. The numbers of cattle imported continue to decrease considerably. Of grain the imports have continued large, though not on the same scale as the average monthly imports of the year. Of wheat in the month there was imported 270,516 quarters, and in the seven months to the 5th of August, 2,516,722 quarters, besides 2,128,823 cwt of flour. Of provisions the quantities imported for the month show a general decline, but the comparison for the seven months is still favourable to the present year.

There is still a considerable decline apparent in the consumption of coffee, but the deficiency consists almost exclusively of that of foreign growth. In the seven months (Jan. 5 to August 5) the following is the comparison:—

CONSUMPTION OF COFFEE—Jan 5 to Aug. 5.			
	lbs	1848	1848.
Colonial .....	..lbs	17,569,717	17,496,951
Foreign.....		4,430,750	3,060,295
Total		22,000,467	20,556,246

The importations of the month were only 6,097,288 lbs, against 11,385,799 lbs in the same month of 1848, but then they were swelled to an unusual extent in consequence of the blockade of the Elbe.

Of sugar, there is a great decline in the quantity cleared for consumption in the present year, compared with 1848; but this is more apparent than real, so far as it is connected with actual consumption. It will be recollected that, between the 5th and the 12th of July last year, about 25,000 tons of foreign sugar were cleared for consumption, by payment of the 18s 6d duty, in the interim before the new sugar bill took effect. The chief portion of that quantity remained unconsumed for several months, and on the 1st of Jan. in the present year, no less than 12,000 tons remained in the warehouses. In the present year, no similar inducement existed to pay duty upon more than was required for actual use. So we find that, of foreign sugar, only 56,032 cwt were cleared in the month of July, against 535,550 cwt last year. But in the present year a much larger quantity of colonial sugar has been cleared for consumption. The comparison for the month is as follows:—

SUGAR DUTY PAID—Month July 5 to Aug. 5.			
	1848	1849	
	cwt	cwt	
West India	258,931	464,824	
Mauritius	106,665	151,534	
East India	163,207	154,230	
Total of colonial.....	522,803	710,588	
Foreign	537,641	61,481	
Total	1,060,444	772,069	

In the month, therefore, there is an excess of nearly 200,000 cwt, or 10,000 tons, consumed of colonial sugar, and making allowance for the foreign sugar cleared last year before it was required for use, the actual consumption of the month of July in the present year exceeds that of 1848. The same remarks apply to the quantity of sugar duty paid in the seven months. Making allowance for the 25,000 tons foreign sugars duty paid in July last year, the consumption of sugar in the present year is about the same as it was last year.

In other articles, the accounts of the present month are very similar to those of recent months.

THE NEW AGRICULTURAL AGITATION.

THE agriculturists have turned agitators. Instead of stirring the soil, they are to stir the Parliament, and their deep ploughing is to be in the public mind. Their crops from this new cultivation are not likely to be valuable. Their industry has a wrong motive. Being no longer allowed to tax the consumers' bread, they have become all at once an ill-used class. The farmers of Kent and Sussex might have paid their hop duties but for free trade; now, they are so wretchedly poor, they cannot pay them; and have held meetings and appointed deputations to assure the Chancellor of the Exchequer that they shall all be ruined if the payment be not postponed. They draw a most melancholy picture of their own reduced resources, according to which, if the State h

nothing but the landlords and the farmers, nothing but agriculture, to depend on, it would be the poorest and most miserable State of Europe. Fortunately for them, as well as for the State, the other classes are not so destitute; and though the hop growers cannot pay a paltry 100,000*l.*, it may hold up its head in full reliance on the national resources.

The farmers in Buckinghamshire are as badly off as those of Sussex and Kent. "The agricultural interest," said Mr Disraeli at the meeting on Wednesday, "is in a state of great suffering." "We have no capital," responded one of the listening farmers, "it is all gone." Being very poor, the agriculturists are ready for a little agitation; they are borrowing the tactics of O'Connell and Mr Cobden—they are taking the advice of Jeremy Bentham, and trying to make "the ruling powers uneasy"—they are worrying the Chancellor of the Exchequer down in Yorkshire, and Mr Disraeli takes advantage of their distress to urge them on. "You got," he told the assembled farmers of Buckinghamshire, "the franchise at the period of the Reform Bill "by your exertions, and the same spirit upholding you now will "enable you to get what you demand." Buckinghamshire, according to Mr Disraeli, has taken the lead in all kinds of reform, and the Buckinghamshire farmers are now, under his guidance, to be as influential as in the days of Hampden and ship money. They are to compel the Parliament to grant their requests. We might be very much alarmed at such a formidable demonstration, were Mr Disraeli certain of obtaining for his scheme the support of all the farmers of England.

He does not in Bucks say one word about the terrible grievance that gives eloquence to the generally mute tongues of the farmers of Kent and Sussex. He cares nothing about the hop duties, on which they have despatched a mission to disturb the repose of the Chancellor of the Exchequer in Yorkshire. The grievance—the special grievance, in Bucks, is the land tax. That unfortunate county pays 1*s* 5*d* on the rental, while Lancashire pays only 2*d*, and Liverpool only one farthing in the pound. How the working agriculturists—the men who hire land to get a profit out of it—are interested in that, Mr Disraeli did not explain; but at their head, and at the head of the farmers of other counties, including those of Lancashire, where the landowner pays only 2*d* per pound, he is to badger the Parliament into equalising the land tax. He is to subdue it to his will, and become its master. There are other counties besides Lancashire where the land tax is lower than in Buckinghamshire. In twenty agricultural counties the land tax is a little under 1*s* in the pound, and Mr Disraeli is, by the help of the farmers, to force Parliament to tax them at the rate of 1*s* 5*d* in the pound. The ruined landowners and hop growers of Kent and Sussex are not likely to support a scheme for adding 5*d* a pound in the rental to their taxes. Mr Disraeli is, however, quite confident of success, and he starts a new agitation for the equalisation of the land tax.

His proposed application of the proceeds of this new tax to assist the farmers and promote agriculture, is as curious as his proposition to increase their burdens—if they have anything to do with the land tax—in twenty agricultural counties. He calculates that the equalisation would realise 5,000,000*l.*, instead of the 1,000,000*l.* now raised. He would have therefore 4,000,000*l.* to dispose of, he says 5,000,000*l.*; but the sum now obtained by the land tax is appropriated, and if he otherwise appropriated it, that sum must be made good out of the other taxes. We will suppose, however, that he has succeeded by the help of the farmers, in making the Parliament, chiefly composed of landowners, augment and equalise the land tax, and that he actually has from that source a sum of 5,000,000*l.* to dispose of. Now comes his panacea: with that sum he is "to form a real sinking fund, which in less than ten months is to raise consols above par, and thus enable" those who now hold them to sell out at a gain of about 7*l* 10*s* per hundred?—not exactly so—that is a mode of conferring a little advantage on the owners of consols, by increasing the land tax, which Mr Disraeli wholly overlooks—but "to enable landlords," from whom the increased tax is to be taken, "to borrow money to apply to their land at three per cent, instead of paying, as they now do, four and four and a half per cent." A more strange financial scheme is rarely met with. Taxing the farmers to expend the money in buying their produce, and so raising the price of corn, is the only one akin to it which we happen just now to remember, though doubtless in that vast limbo, called finance, some other scheme more closely resembling that of Mr Disraeli may be discovered. He is certainly a most ingenious contriver. He will take away the landlord's money to raise the price of the funds, make money easy, and enable them to borrow at three per cent a portion of the sum he has applied to enrich the owners of consols and enable them to lend. The impracticability of the plan is of less consequence than its ingenuity. We have witnessed curious subjects selected for agitation. Mr O'Connell's scheme of repeal kept him in great power and splendour for many years. Mr O'Connor's land scheme has obtained many followers; but Mr Disraeli outdoes both these gentlemen. He seems to suppose that the farmers and landowners are not quite so clear seeing as the Nottingham chartists and the Irish repealers. We give them credit for greater sagacity, and can assure the Parliament which Mr Disraeli is to force into submission, and the ministry whom he is to drive from power, that there is no reason for alarm. The new agitation proposed by Mr Disraeli for "equal taxation and cheap capital" will not win the hearts of the farmers and landlords. He will not ride into the first lordship of the Treasury on his plan for forming a sinking fund out of an increased land tax to give a large bonus to the owner of consols.

Mr Disraeli admitted that it was possible to improve our present system of cultivation. He wants cheap capital to enable the farmer to accomplish that, and the landlord to improve his land. He admits further, with all the agriculturists, that there is little or no capital amongst them. They are a beggared race. What, then, has become of all the capital that the landowners and farmers ought to

have accumulated during the time they have had protection? There is a great abundance of capital in the country, only it does not belong to the agriculturists. They have not been enriched by that system of which others complained. They have been impoverished by it. They have relied on protection, and have wasted their capital; now they are driven to rely on their own resources, and they find they are impoverished and ruined. All trades seem to thrive in proportion as they are exposed to competition. The cotton trade has been always free, and has been the most successful in the country. Till the silk trade got rid of protection, it dwindled and died away: since then it has happily rivalled the silk trade of France. The energy with which our agriculturists are inspired, of which this new agitation, however misdirected, is a proof, will soon produce corresponding results. They will extend their improvements—they will accumulate capital by saving, not by borrowing their own money taken from them by taxation, as Mr Disraeli proposes; and they will, we have neither doubt nor fear, soon succeed equally with the silk and the cotton manufacturers.

THE NATIONAL DEBT.

MR GURNEY'S WARNING.

MR SAMUEL GURNEY is not only the most eminent "Bill-broker" of the day—he is also one of the most enlightened and persevering philanthropists of whom even this country of charity and benevolence can boast. He is a worthy successor of his late high-minded brother, Mr Joseph John Gurney, of Norwich, and of his sister, of unwearied good works, Mrs Elizabeth Fry. His letter, addressed to Mr Sturge, we regard as an important document. It enforces high and great principles, which, however we may despair of their ever being carried out to the extent which he enjoins, we are glad to see advanced and promoted by men who have so much influence on the opinion of the world as he and many of the members of the Peace Congress have justly acquired. It reminds us, too, of a very discreditable fact. After thirty-four years of comparative prosperity, and we may say profound peace, but little has been done to diminish the enormous load of debt which had accumulated at the close of the war. In 1793 the whole amount of the National Debt, funded and unfunded, was 261,735,059*l.*; in 1802 it had increased to 637,000,000*l.*; and in 1816 to no less than 885,186,323*l.* In twenty-three years, therefore, the sum of 613,451,264*l.* was added to the amount of our national debt. On the 5th of January, in the present year, the amount of the funded debt of the United Kingdom was 774,022,638*l.*, and the unfunded debt, on the same day amounted to 23,770,211*l.*, making a total of 797,792,849*l.* So that while the debt increased during twenty-three years of war by 613,451,264*l.*, it has been reduced, in thirty-four years of peace, by only 87,393,474*l.*; even including all the terminable annuities which have fallen due during that period. It is not a matter of surprise that such a disclosure should produce a powerful impression upon a mind like that of Mr Gurney, so much accustomed to calculate the consequences of such facts upon the credit of nations. It is a staggering reflection to all who fairly look at it. Mr Gurney boldly meets the question; he says—

In respect of my own country, I more boldly assert that it is my judgment that, unless she wholly alters her course in these respects, bankruptcy will ultimately be the result. We have spent from fifteen to twenty millions sterling per annum for warlike purposes since the peace of 1815. Had that money been applied to the discharge of the national debt, by this time it would have been nearly annihilated; but if our military expenditure be persisted in, and no reduction of our national debt take place, at a period of our history certainly characterised by very fair prosperity and general political calm, how is it to be expected that the amount of revenue will be maintained in a time of adversity, which we must from time to time anticipate in our future history? Should such adversity come upon us, I venture to predict that our revenue will not be maintained, nor the dividends paid, unless more efficient steps be taken to prevent such a catastrophe in these days of prosperity and peace.

It seems to have been laid down as a principle that the National Debt shall only increase; that during the best of times we must think ourselves lucky if we can make both ends meet, and that when great and unforeseen demands are made upon us, we must resort to borrowing and increasing the amount of the debt. That such a course must, if persevered in, ultimately lead a nation to bankruptcy there can be no doubt. It may be a question when that time will arrive, but, notwithstanding the failure of all similar predictions in the past, and the extraordinary resources which this country has shown in meeting the increased charges upon it, it is certain that, if on every emergency we add to the amount of the debt, without reducing it in periods of peace and prosperity, such a catastrophe must arrive some day.

The history of the National Debt during the last century, and the remarkable failures of the predictions of all who, from time to time, as Mr Gurney does now, predicted future bankruptcy, seem to have produced an unjustifiable confidence that we may go on increasing the burdens of posterity to an indefinite extent. In 1736 the amount of the National Debt was only 50,000,000*l.*—when it was said that "the vast load of debt under which the "nation still groans is the true source of all those calamities and "gloomy prospects of which we have so much reason to complain," and which led to such an increase of taxes, as "distressed "the poor labourer and manufacturer, disabled the farmer to "pay his rent, and put even gentlemen of plentiful estates under "the greatest difficulties to make a tolerable provision for their

"families." In 1749, when the National Debt amounted to less than 80,000,000*l*, Lord Bolingbroke described it as a sum "that would appear incredible to future generations, and is so almost to the present." In 1756, when the debt had been reduced to 75,000,000*l*, Mr Hanway says, that "it has been a generally received notion among political arithmeticians, that we may increase our debt to 100,000,000*l*, but they acknowledge it must soon cease, by the debtor becoming bankrupt." In 1778, Mr Hume, in his history of England, says, in speaking of the National Debt, "the ruinous effects of it are now become apparent, and threaten the very existence of the nation." (Porter's Progress of the Nation.) It is common to rely upon such quotations to show the inexhaustible resources of this country—and the unlimited extent to which our obligations may be pushed. But let it not be lost sight of, that there is a great difference between fifty or seventy millions, and eight hundred millions, and also that sources of wealth have been discovered during the last century, which cannot safely be looked for during the next. While, therefore, we may now smile at the predictions of Lord Bolingbroke, Mr Hanway and Mr Hume, there are sufficient reasons why we should look very gravely upon the opinions of Mr Gurney.

One of the most discreditable things done of late years, has been increasing the National Debt by the amount of 12,000,000*l*, since 1846, viz.,—10,000,000*l* in 1847, and 2,000,000*l* in 1848—the former for the relief of the Irish famine, and the latter to make good a deficiency caused, in a great measure, by the same fact. No one will be disposed to deny that, considering the difficulties arising from the Irish famine in three successive years, from at least one very defective grain crop in the United Kingdom, and from the continental revolutions, this country has made an easy escape, if the only permanent trace of those events shall be an addition of 12,000,000*l* to the National Debt. We will not even question the policy of the expenditure in Ireland. Public opinion demanded it. Parliament, without any opposition, voted it. Had we taxed ourselves for our humanity no blame could have attached to our acts. But it was surely a discreditable act of the age to hand our contributions down as a burden to posterity; to increase the debt in times of peace. The present finance minister of France has attempted to expound a doctrine that all state debts should be contracted in the shape of terminable annuities, so that they may always be undergoing a reduction. We will not question the convenience or even the policy of throwing over any unusual burden, such as that entailed by the Irish famine, for a few years, but the least that should be done in such cases should be to adopt the French Minister's proposition, and make the amount payable in terminable annuities, or otherwise provide for its liquidation, within a reasonable period.

But the excuse for thrusting these burthens upon posterity, and the excuse for not reducing the National Debt in the time of peace, is the same as it has ever been. "It is with difficulty the current expenditure is provided for. The country is taxed to the utmost possible point, and no greater pressure of taxes could be borne." Judging from the comparative condition of the country, from the enormously increased expenditure on articles of taste and luxury,—from the quadrupled numbers of expensive and elegant equipages,—from the increase of the highest order of dwellings in all our chief cities,—from the thronged watering places, from the pleasure-travelling at home and abroad, from the enormous increase of charitable institutions and voluntary contributions for objects of every conceivable kind, and from all that marks in such striking contrast the habits and expenditure of the country now, compared with past times, and in every grade of life, we are bound to say that there never was a period in English history when there were so many proofs of the ease with which taxation is borne, or when it would have been so practicable to reduce the amount of the National Debt. The means which might be easily appropriated to such a creditable object are wasted in luxurious indulgences which detract from the purity and force of the national character. When an additional property tax was proposed two years ago, it was repudiated by one general expression of the public mind.

Mr Gurney's warning is, however, full of meaning, and deserves the earnest attention of all prudent and reflecting men.

CONDUCT OF NAVAL OFFICERS.

A VERY sad example of misconduct in the navy has recently come to light. A few months back the public generally, and especially the naval service, were astonished to hear of the open desertion of two naval officers. The circumstance was, at most, unexampled. In the open day, they left the ship to which they belonged, the *Childers*, and one of them, Lieutenant Graham, to mark his act the more strongly, threw his commission on the deck. Both he and Mr Elliott, the master, the partner in his flight, afterwards gave themselves up, were tried by court martial, found guilty, dismissed the naval service, and sentenced to be imprisoned. As an excuse for their misbehaviour, they alleged great cruelty on the part of Captain Pitman, and demanded a court martial on him. His trial at Plymouth on charges of cruelty and oppression, of falsifying the ship's log, and wasting the stores, making false

accounts of the expenditure was concluded on Wednesday. He was found guilty in part, and has been dismissed her Majesty's service. On his trial facts have come out which are very disgraceful to the navy, and could we suppose them of frequent occurrence, which they are not, we hope, would mark the service as one of disgusting vice and cruelty.

Commander Pitman, in the course of his defence, brought home to the two gentlemen who deserted, acts of repeated and brutal drunkenness; and though he was not charged with that offence, one of the witnesses, a Mr Temple Chevalier, deposed that Captain Pitman himself also occasionally got drunk. Such conduct—disgraceful anywhere—is excessively dangerous on board ship, exposing the whole crew to destruction. It is, indeed, surprising that the *Childers* was only once run aground, when that kind of vice sat at her helm. But drunkenness, though the parent of the other vices, was not the only one. The crew, Captain Pitman says, were bad men; his marines, even, were bad; the discipline was bad, and a very bad example was continually set them. The captain called one officer a liar; he struck another. Amongst such men quarrels were frequent, and changes of officers were frequent. No one appears to have remained in the *Childers* who could get away from her. The men, of course, were badly treated when the officers misbehaved. Lieutenant Graham is said to have got drunk with them, and encouraged their misconduct. Commander Pitman was prompt to threaten and punish. To some offenders he gave three dozen or four dozen lashes, and others he threatened with such a terrible punishment. Some were made to walk the deck for hours, with their hammocks on their shoulders, and some bearing a heavy wooden collar—such as we read of in slave countries. For others a punishment was invented, that was at once severe and ridiculous. They walked about with the ship's funnel on their heads, which was painful to them and laughable to all who saw them. Some were caned over the hands and arms; and some, as a punishment, had half their heads shaved. Captain Pitman had a boy for his servant, whom he was accustomed to kick and beat till he screamed. He pinched his ears till they required the doctor, and cut his head by flinging a boot at him. He frequently "corrected him" with his own hand. The little space of the brig, with all these enormities continually practised and continually present to the minds of the crew, must have been a perfect pandemonium. The *Childers* carried about 90 men; and amongst them two committed suicide, from fear of punishment—a much greater proportion than the deaths from cholera that now so alarm us. Some deaths occurred that were ascribed to the actual infliction of punishment, and fourteen men deserted. Drunkenness, vile language, and vile blows—torture of the crew, and ignorance or neglect on the part of the officers, so that the vessel was run aground—the records of the ship's proceedings falsified, and her stores improperly made away with—form an unexaggerated but melancholy picture of the scenes on board the *Childers*.

We are apprehensive that such events occur more frequently than they are known to the public. There are so many means of keeping them secret, and so many motives for stifling complaints, that certainly every case of the kind is not dragged into day. From Smollett's time till the present, scenes of this description occasionally startled the public, and convinced them that, beneath the fine show and glitter and smartness of our men of war, there rankled many an outraged feeling and festered many a lacerated back. Now and then the authorities themselves and the public were frightened by some flagrant case of mutiny and murder—of officers put to death, and ships carried into the enemies' ports—of fleets putting their officers on the beach and defying the authorities—and then some inquiry was, perhaps, made—some few grievances were redressed—but in general it was thought quite sufficient if the mutineers and the murderers were caught and hanged. Gradually, however, great improvements were introduced into the discipline of the navy. It could not escape the genial influence of advancing civilisation; but now and then, though rarely, we are happy to say, cases, like this of Commander Pitman and Lieutenant Graham and Mr Elliott and the crew of the *Childers*, remind us of the savage slaughter of the officers of the *Hermione*, of the frightful mutiny at the Nore, and of the pictures of Smollett. Against the recurrence of such cases too much care cannot be taken; and the superior authorities cannot be held blameless if, in addition to proper regulations—proper means for making known and promptly redressing the grievances of the subordinate officers and men—they do not take great care in the education and selection of those into whose hands they entrust the peace and happiness and lives of the seamen.

For a case of this description, though it is not likely to be generally so viewed, the Legislature, the supreme power of the State, is responsible. A case of vice or cruelty, or dirt or negligence, in private life, may occur without any blame attaching to it. It is not bound to look after individuals. It is only bound, when they are assailed or injured, to interpose with its authority for their protection; but her Majesty's navy is the creature of the public will. It is organised by authority; the funds for maintaining it are annually voted by Parliament; all the laws and regulations concerning it derive all their validity from its sanction. The Parliament and the public are bound to see that its functions are properly executed; and, though naval officers are very apt to check public investigation by claims of peculiar profes-

sional knowledge, the moral and governing principles of the navy require the supervision of the public and the Parliament. It has been customary, but it can scarcely be justified, for the Legislature to rely on the Ministers, for Ministers to rely on the Board of Admiralty, or on some one or two admirals, which, in the end, makes the Legislature responsible for what these admirals advise or do, who have no responsibility at all. A case like that of Captain Pitman, the officers, and crew of the *Childers*, must make the public, now so extremely anxious for all kinds of physical and moral improvement by the exercise of its authority, feel a great interest in the discipline of the navy, and must make the Parliament alarmed at the scenes which may be enacted by its authority. Neither the public nor the Parliament will tolerate for one moment the continued existence of such torture as was practised on board that vessel; and, if the punishments inflicted by Commander Pitman be, as he said, consistent with the regulations of the service, the sooner the Admiralty overhaul them, and devise an improved system, the more reason will the Parliament have to confide in the Admiralty, and the public to be pleased with the performance of its duties.

THE PROPOSED FAST DAY.

It has been customary in all ages when calamities overtake men, particularly if they come from some unfathomable source, to propitiate by ceremonies the Power which governs the universe. It has been so universally the custom, that it may well be called natural for the mind to turn back, in all cases of doubt and dread on its own maker for support. It is the feeble relying on the strong, the ignorant on the wise; and it seems as lovely as it is natural. Often springing, however, from ignorance of natural phenomena, the occasions for its origin must gradually diminish, and our reverence for the great Author of the Universe must rest on a surer rock, than an ignorance which is continually lessening. In remote ages men worshipped the god of storms, and deprecated his wrath. Franklin's discoveries in relation to electricity, and the discoveries of other men of science, have hardly sufficed to banish from amongst us the notion that lightning was a messenger of wrath, and that when an electric storm passed over us we must propitiate the Deity by prayer. However amiable and natural, therefore, is the old custom, it is scarcely in accordance with the advancing knowledge of mankind.

There are many amongst us, at this moment, who propose that we should have a general fast on account of the cholera. At present that visitation is altogether inscrutable; and, therefore, men turn to the Author of all with prayers for help. But should the source of the disease be to-morrow discovered to be the absence of ozone, or any other component part of the atmosphere which man can supply at pleasure—should it be clearly ascertained that it is caused by filth, or want of drainage, or want of cleanliness in our persons, our apparel, or our houses, or from crowding ourselves too closely together, while there is room in abundance, and art enables us to transport ourselves from place to place with the velocity of the bird, or from insufficiency of food—the cholera will then take its place amongst the ascertained and explained phenomena of the universe; and it will appear no more necessary to institute prayers and fasts on account of its presence amongst us than on account of the continual existence of oxygen and hydrogen in the atmosphere.

Already it assumes all the characteristics of an explicable phenomenon. Its course is almost as regular as that of a stream, and less variable than the wind. Twice within eighteen years it has visited Europe, pursuing nearly the same course, falling heavily on the same cities, and similar classes of persons, and sparing others. It confines itself also only to some parts of those cities, and, with some exceptions at both periods, spares and afflicts the same parts. Its march is calculable, if not exactly regular. It does not proceed in straight lines, but it moves, we have seen it stated, at the rate of seventeen miles a day. It is, therefore, more systematic to our senses than the movements of the atmosphere, or the phenomena of magnetism or electricity. We have not yet learned the art of guiding, regulating it; but that knowledge will probably come, and then the cholera will be classed with the scurvy or the gaol fever—and we shall see plainly that it is our duty to provide against it by very different means from praying and fasting.

We are far, however, from saying that there are no mysteries in Creation which beget wonder, self-annihilation, and reverence. When science pushes its discoveries to the utmost, it is just as far off a solution of the mysteries of our existence as before it began its observation. In fact, all scientific explanation consists in reducing some strange phenomena to the category of phenomena with which we are already familiar; but the most familiar phenomena—except as they are familiar—are quite as inscrutable as the strangest. Who can "explain his own beginning and his end;" who explain vision and touch, or show how an impression on a nerve becomes a sensation? Who can explain the laws of repulsion and gravitation? if these be anything more than mere general phrases, that circumscribe a great number of phenomena, and rather serve to conceal than enlighten our ignorance. All nature is, in fact, in whatever quarter science pushes its inquiries, inscrutable, and the ignorance and alarm that suggest a fast day on

account of the cholera might as well suggest it on account of a storm or a flood. With the metaphysical part of the subject, and with the reasons drawn from them, why the proposed fast seems unsuitable, unless every calamity, however clearly to be traced to our own fault, and an obvious correction of our own errors, be a proper subject for a general fast, we have less to do than with the probable consequences of ordaining one.

It is quite impossible to make such a fast universal, like Sunday. Some people must carry on their business, and others will. It is impossible, because it is not customary, like Sunday, to adapt business arrangements to it; and impossible, therefore, to give it a fitting and becoming solemnity. The institution is exposed to ridicule, and is sure, whether it increase reverence or not, to excite much scoffing. Some who receive the holiday, would prefer the wages; and some who get the wages would prefer the holiday. Some are discontented because they are constrained to be idle, and some because they must work when others are idle. Such feelings are not favourable to happiness nor reverence, and should be stifled by observing regularity, rather than promoted by departing from the ordinary course.

For many persons, too, a day of idleness is a day of dissipation. When the shop is shut, and the warehouse closed, the generally busy inmate does not take refuge in a cold church or in a crowded meeting house. He hies him to the rail or the steamboat, and spends the greater part of the day at some place of refreshment on the river side or in the country. As much scandal as devotion ensues. Many of those who are obliged to work, must work the harder for the suspension of work forced on others. Many are driven to spend on a day's pleasure what should be preserved for their families, and neither morals nor health are promoted by such a day's idleness.

We are not aware that this disease has spared countries in which many days are set apart to church festivals. It has been more fatal, on the whole, in Paris than in London, in Catholic than in Protestant countries. While we are no condemners of holidays, therefore, and are far from saying that the people should not have days of rest, we are taught, by the example of Catholic countries, that church fast days do not promote health. In fact, the reverse is the case. They have, therefore, in a political and worldly sense, nothing to recommend them, while they must diminish the emoluments of the labourer, deprive him of some resources, and expose him to disease. At present, even more than at healthy times, the poor can ill spare the day's wages; and it seems almost cruel in the opulent and well-provided, who chiefly move in the matter, to tempt the industrious poor into a day's idleness, on the score that a fast day may possibly have some influence in checking the cholera. It is misdirecting their thoughts and exertions, as well as wasting resources that might give them security and health.

A fast day seems more likely to bring religion into disrepute than strengthen it in the heart. It associates reverence with ignorance, and brings it into collision with the knowledge that is daily advancing. It leads to dissipation—it wastes and diminishes resources—and is far more calculated to extend and continue than restrict and diminish the disease.

ONE ELEMENT OF THE PRICE OF CORN.

It seems to be supposed, as the number of people is not suddenly increased or diminished, that the demand for food is nearly invariable, and that the chief, if not the sole, element of the variation of price in corn is the greater or less quantity brought to market. Undoubtedly, the influence of the season and of the supply is of prodigious importance; but the demand is far from being invariable, and is worth much consideration. When men reflect on the subject, they cannot, and do not, fall into such an error; for the state of trade, railway undertakings being numerous or otherwise, new or decaying manufactures, and many similar circumstances, are continually assigned as reasons for a brisk or slackened demand for food, and for a high or a low price. But even those who do not overlook this palpable influence, do not sufficiently attend to the circumstance, that it is what other men produce which constitutes the effective demand for the farmer's produce, and that, in the long run, the selling price of his corn will, in a great measure, depend on their success.

Mere consumers are obviously of no use to the farmer. Payment cannot come from their appetites, but from their industry. The farmer would have no pleasure in supplying treble the present number of paupers; he wants to be paid for his corn. He grows it for the purpose of sale, and he will get more for it in proportion as other industrious men, such as manufacturers and merchants, have more to give in exchange for it. He does not want mouths to feed, he wants heads and hands to produce; and his receipts, mainly dependent on his own skill and industry, will also bear a relation to the skill and industry of his customers.

So far as the sale of the farmer's produce is concerned, we may say that the mere landowner receiving rent, and neither contributing by his counsels nor his care to the production of food, stands in the same relation to the farmer as the pauper. He gives nothing to the farmer in exchange for his share of the produce. He allows him to use the land, but he does not give him groceries, wine, and clothing in payment of his wheat. The same

rule holds good with tithes and other taxes. If they appear nominally to increase the selling price of corn, that is of no advantage to the grower. He has to give the whole amount of what is laid out with him, and cannot, so far as the sale of his wheat is concerned, be benefited by paying other persons to enable them to eat the bread he grows. For much of the farmer's produce, he receives no tangible products in exchange; he receives services—privileges—advantages, which he values highly, but they do not tell on the price of corn.

Taxes, tithes, rent-charge, rent, interest of money borrowed, may all be looked on as debts, or obligations, of a fixed amount, which the farmer has to acquit, and which will be proportionably light or heavy as he obtains a large or small quantity of the products of other labours for the corn he sells, or receives a large or small money price for his produce. With the debts of the farmer this argument has nothing to do; with them, free trade has nothing to do. They, or similar obligations, weigh on every business; and some of them—as the taxes—weigh equally on all; and they are so much cut off from the merchant's and manufacturer's profit, as well as from the farmer's produce. All of them are better able to pay their debts when their produce bears a high money value, than when it bears a low one, in relation to the cost of production. All debtors are benefited by the comparatively high prices of their commodities, and if the farmer suffers, as is said, more than other classes, from the low prices of his commodities, it is because he has more debts annually to pay. The rest of the community cannot be called on to pay these debts for him. With the exception of the taxes to which all are subject, he incurs these obligations with his eyes open. Hiring a farm is a voluntary act, like freighting a ship; and the farmer, like the merchant, to succeed, must take into consideration all the charges to which his undertaking makes him liable. It is his business not to incur these charges, if he cannot redeem them; it is not the business of the rest of the community to bear them for him.

The great matter for the farmer to keep in view is, not merely the number of consumers, though he and his friends are extremely anxious to increase them by precluding competition in the supply, but what the consumers produce to give him in exchange for his corn. In fact, it is obvious that an increase in the number of paupers, and an increase in the number of those who must be fed, without giving the farmer any material products in exchange for his corn, does not add to his wealth, but diminishes it, or increases his toil without increasing his reward. At present the price of corn is comparatively low, notwithstanding the scarcity of old corn, though it is not so low as it was in the year 1835. It is now about 40s; it was, in the corresponding week of 1835, 38s. At that period there was no disturbance, either at home or abroad; taxes had been reduced, and were in progress of reduction; the "trade and manufactures of the country were," as Mr Tooke states, "in a remarkably sound and healthy state, carried on with adequate capital and reasonable returns, and there was a general confidence in the prospect of improving markets for all the great staple articles, both of export and import;" and the fall in the price of corn was entirely owing to the great crops of three successive years. Now, there has not been a similar succession of fine harvests either here or abroad; the present is the first one for some years; and we must look to the other cause, the non-production of commodities which constitute the payment for food, to explain the price of which the farmer complains.

It is notorious that the selling price of wheat in Poland or Hungary or Russia is generally low, because the community is almost exclusively agricultural, and there is no produce of any other industry to exchange for food. Each man grows his own corn, and when there is a surplus, it finds no market. We cannot for one moment suppose, looking at the state of agriculture amongst the Poles, their rude tools, poor animals, bad roads, &c., that it requires less labour, or costs less to grow a given quantity of wheat in Poland than in England. On the contrary, we believe it costs more, but there is nothing to give for it on the spot, and therefore it sells for much less. It is also notorious that wheat, or flour, as the rule, sells for a higher sum of money at New York than in any part of Poland. The obvious reason is, that about New York and the whole seaboard of the United States there is a large thriving mercantile and manufacturing population, which has much need of flour and much to give for it and for all kinds of food; and what they have to give, measured in money, is the selling price of flour in New York.

On this principle, the price of agricultural produce is temporarily low in England, and low on the continent, because comparatively little other produce in the last year has been created to give to the farmer. The extensive production of railways, if we may so speak, which was in progress two or three years ago, and which has added so much to the farmers' convenience, is now at an end. Our trade and our manufactures suffered severely last year by the disturbances on the continent, and they are now recovering from the consequences. But trade and manufactures abroad suffered still more. It may be doubted whether either last year or this year the agricultural produce of the continent was at all diminished by the late disturbances, except in Hungary. The corn was sown and the harvests gathered in as usual. Trade, however, has been suspended, manufactures stopped, all production carried on by

credit has been arrested, and the productive industry of the towns in France, Austria, Italy, Hungary, and Prussia, has been seriously checked, and in some places annihilated. The blockade of the Baltic ports at once put at end to much trade. Throughout the continent, agricultural produce may be said to be in excess, in relation to the other produce for which it is to be exchanged; and there being at the same time a good harvest in England, the price of our agricultural produce shares the general decline. It is an important doctrine that only products pay for products, and manufacturing and commercial products being deficient, agricultural products are in excess, or are low priced.

In the supposed interest of the agriculturists, all the Governments of Europe, our own amongst the rest, have continually hampered and restricted the industry of the towns. They have been checked in their growth in order to find a market for farm produce. The real customer of the farmer has been injured or destroyed. His interest requires that the industrious inhabitants of towns be increased; but all over Europe, various duties of customs and excise, the requiring men to take out licenses to carry on different trades, restricting the importation of some commodities, and prohibiting others, have tended to check the growth of the various industries of towns, and prevent the production of those commodities which are the only payment for the farmers' produce. In consequence of this erroneous system, the produce of other industries, in relation to the produce of agricultural industry, is deficient. It is far more abundant, however, in England than in other countries, and here, therefore, agricultural produce obtains a higher price than elsewhere, except, sometimes, in the seaboard towns of the United States. Agricultural produce is largely imported, particularly from those countries of Europe in which there are few or no manufactures, and little or no trade.

Some persons are unable to understand how a free importation of food for our manufacturers should keep up the price of our own agricultural produce; but, from the principles here stated, such a result is plain. The importation of food enables our manufacturers and merchants to produce more, and to have more to give to the farmers. As they increase in prosperity, they increase in numbers, and their means of payment continually increase. The higher price of food which obtains here, means that here there is more of other things to be given for corn than elsewhere, and every particle of imported food, which adds to the prosperity of our manufacturers and the gains of our merchants, enlarges the market for our own farmers. There can be no doubt that the present low price of food here and abroad will everywhere stimulate trade and manufactures; and we think that their productions will more than keep pace with the production of food—unless the next harvests should be unusually abundant—and, therefore, there is no doubt whatever that the farmer will obtain ere long a higher price for his produce. We are disposed to think, looking at this contingency, that the price of food at present is lower than the future demand and supply will justify.

THE CONSUMPTION OF BRANDY.

In the Board of Trade Tables, which we publish this day, there is a striking evidence of the rapid increase in the consumption of brandy during the month ending the 5th of August, and which we have no doubt will be even more perceptible in the month ending the 5th of September, when the accounts are published. In the single month ending the 5th of August, the quantity of brandy duty paid for consumption was 205,968 gallons, against 136,379 gallons in the same month last year, thus showing an increase of no less than 69,589 gallons in the month; so that the additional duty derived from brandy for the single month, was no less than 52,191*l*. In the quantity imported the increase is even more striking. In the same month it amounted to 552,178 gallons in the present year, against 57,325 gallons in the corresponding month of last year. The quantity imported in the first seven months of the year, amounts to no less than 2,407,117 gallons, against only 1,623,096 gallons in the same period in 1848. The effects of the prevailing epidemic are here most strikingly seen by the increased consumption of this spirit.

Facts and Figures.

PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS.

The space occupied by the Board of Trade Tables in our present number, necessarily precludes the matter prepared under this head till next week.

Agriculture.

AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS' COTTAGES.

THE recent part (No XXIII, July 1849) of the "Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society" contains two very interesting and useful papers on Cottages for Agricultural Labourers. The one is a letter from the Duke of Bedford to the President of the Society, which accompanied copies of plans and drawings of cottages his grace has lately erected on his estates in Bedfordshire and Devonshire. A second

lection of these plans and elevations, with the quantities of materials in detail—in fact, specifications—is published in the journal with the Duke's letter. The other is a prize essay, by Mr Henry Goddard, of Lincoln, architect and surveyor, "On the Construction of a pair of Cottages for Agricultural Labourers." This essay consists of a brief description of the specifications and estimates, with plans and elevations, which are given in the journal. Mr Goddard has appended the prices of his specified works to his items; but the Duke has given quantities of material only, omitting the prices—"because prices vary in different localities, and therefore to furnish the prices of one locality would be useless, and might mislead."

Every one intimately acquainted with our rural districts will admit that this is a subject of great importance, and one to which landowners will wisely direct a good deal of attention. It is undeniable that, while the rural population has much increased, cottage accommodation, so far as it depends upon the owners of considerable estates, has much diminished. That cottages were once more plentifully dispersed amongst the farms of the old enclosed agricultural districts of England than they are at present, is a matter of notoriety. Various motives have led to the pulling down country cottages. Sometimes they have been too near the preserves, and the peasant's dwelling has been removed lest the pheasants should be disturbed. In other cases, they have stood in the way of farm homesteads, of parks, of roads, or of merely agricultural improvements. But the most constantly operating inducement to pull down cottages in rural parishes, where the property is in the hands of a small number of landed proprietors, has been to prevent labourers obtaining settlements, and thereby adding to the pauperism of the parish. The consequence has been that the rural population has been compelled to congregate in villages and the smaller towns, where their dwellings are often extremely wretched, and at the same time exorbitantly dear. Some of the most appalling instances of the miserable dwellings of the rural poor, which have at different times been published, may be traced to this cause. The distances the labourers in many localities have to walk to the farms on which they are employed, and the want of cottages on and near to the farms, are serious evils both to the labourers and their employers, the farmers; and it will be well if landowners be induced, always with caution and discrimination, to provide a remedy. Every farm should be furnished with a certain number of decent cottages, let with the farm, in which the chief permanent workmen may reside. There should likewise be a certain proportion of cottages let directly by the landowner to the labouring man, who would thus be able to serve sometimes one farmer and sometimes another, without being compelled, on changing his service, to remove from his cottage. The latter should, as much as possible, be let to the most steady and intelligent labourers, and their occupation of them should be deemed an object of desire among the working population. Such cottages may, therefore, be usefully built according to a somewhat higher standard, and be furnished with rather better gardens and other conveniences, than the ordinary cottages of the district. The possession of a superior dwelling is, undoubtedly, one of the means of elevating a labouring man, and, perhaps, even more, his family. It should, however, be borne in mind, that large dwellings are not required by agricultural workmen who are constantly out of doors, and absent from home during the day; and, with the actual notions of comfort entertained by our country labourers, too large a house is sure to lead to the taking in lodgers, which, in a general way, is undesirable. We proceed to give a few passages from both these papers:—The Duke of Bedford says—

My inquiries into the condition of the cottages on those estates led me to the conclusion, first, that, notwithstanding a very considerable annual expenditure upon them, many of them were so deficient in requisite accommodation as to be inadequate to the removal of that acknowledged obstacle to the improvement of the morals and habits of agricultural labourers, which consists in a want of separate bed-rooms for grown-up boys and girls; and secondly, that the practice of taking in lodgers had led to still further evils. The improved methods of cultivation, extensive draining, and general improvement in husbandry, (requiring additional hands) that are going on, more or less, in all parts of the country, and the breaking up of inferior grass lands, and converting woodland into tillage (especially since the passing of the Tithe Commutation Act), by giving work to many more labourers than were formerly employed have caused a proportionate augmentation of their numbers, and consequently an increased want of cottage accommodation. To meet this increased want, and at the same time to improve the habitations of the labourers, I determined to re-build the worst of my cottages, and to add to their number in those parts of my estate in which it appeared necessary to do so. I, therefore, directed my surveyor to prepare a series of plans of cottages for families, of different sizes and descriptions, sufficient to satisfy the reasonable wants of the labourers and their families, and to be so constructed as that (avoiding all needless expense) the cottages should be substantial, and not subject to premature decay, or likely to require costly repair.

And after referring to the plans and estimates, he adds:—

Cottage building (except to a cottage speculator, who exacts immoderate rents for scanty and defective habitations) is, we all know, a bad investment of money, but this is not the light in which such a subject should be viewed by landlords, from whom it is, surely, not too much to expect that, while they are building and improving farmhouses, homesteads, and cattle-sheds, they will also build and improve dwellings for their labourers in sufficient number to meet the improved and improving cultivation of the land.

But, in adding to the number of cottages on our estates, there should, of course, be a limit, or we may fall into evils of another kind. That limit may easily be drawn, either by the proprietor himself, or by an intelligent steward, and made to agree with the reasonable wants of the districts or parishes in which his employer's estates are situated.

To improve the dwellings of the labouring class, and afford them the means of greater cleanliness, health, and comfort, in their own homes, to extend education, and thus raise the social and moral habits of those most valuable members of the community, are among the first duties, and ought to be among the truest pleasures, of every landlord.

The cottages of which plans are given are of three classes; the first with a kitchen or living room, washhouse, and woodhouse on the ground floor, and one bedroom over the kitchen. These cottages are built in pairs, with a well and rain-water tank to serve the two houses, and a drying ground and garden to each. The next class

is built in rows, two houses with three bedrooms alternating with one with two bedrooms. These have each detached out-houses, with a pig sty. The elevation is plain and neat, and the materials used are of the most solid kind. No estimate of the cost is given, and it is probably considerable, in comparison with the rent the tenants can afford to pay; but cottages of this sort must be looked upon by the landowner as an outlay with a view to benefit his property indirectly, by elevating the character, by increasing the comforts, of the rural population, and at the same time affording convenience to the tenant farmers.

Mr Goddard states the object of his plans is "to attain at the smallest cost the greatest amount of comfort and convenience in the construction of suitable residences for the large majority of the *bona fide* agricultural labourers." The following is his description of the "exterior and interior arrangements."

EXTERIOR ARRANGEMENTS.—The cottages are proposed to be built in pairs, and should be placed at a distance of five or six yards from the road, leaving a small space for cultivation of flowers, herbs, and the smaller kinds of garden produce; and the good feeling which it is desirable should exist between the occupants, is most likely to be secured by rendering them as independent of each other as circumstances will permit. With this view a separate entrance is made to each, and in the minor arrangements the pump only is used by both tenants. If further separation is desired, it may be accomplished by planting a privet fence between the two in front, and a post and rail fence at the back, and making the pump with a double handle to work both ways. The author conceives it to be objectionable to make the entrance-door fronting the road, not only on account of its publicity, but because an indolent tenant is in the habit of throwing the ashes and other refuse matters into a heap immediately before the doorway, owing to its remoteness from the rear of the house. In the plan it will be seen that a receptacle has been provided within an easy distance of the door, to render such a practice unnecessary and inexcusable.

INTERIOR ARRANGEMENTS.—As the surest preventative of the house becoming a residence for two families, and as being more consonant with the wants and means of the labourer, one living room only is provided, which is approached by a small porch, for the sake of privacy and warmth. The fireplace is recessed in the wall, and leaves an available space for household purposes of 13 feet by 11 feet in the clear (being equivalent to 13 feet by 12 feet 6 inches where the chimney-breast and cupboard project into the room). The window is designed with a small recess on each side to receive fall-back shutters. The only door (except the outer one) in the living room communicates immediately with the staircase, scullery, pantry, and coal-place. The scullery is 8 feet 6 inches by 7 feet in the clear, and is fitted up with a boiling-copper and stone sink. Another external, or "back door," and a second fireplace in the scullery are purposely omitted for the reasons before mentioned. If it is deemed advisable to have either one or the other, the former may be placed between the pantry and coal-place, and the latter beside the copper in the scullery. Neither of these alterations are recommended; another door would make the living room much colder, and, under any circumstances, the cooking required for a labourer's family is never of such magnitude as to require two fireplaces, or to render the living room even in summer (when the fire is seldom used except morning and evening) so hot as to be unhealthy. Immediately contiguous to, but apart from, the living room and scullery, is a convenient pantry, the floor of which is intended to be 16 inches below the level of the others, leaving sufficient height for suspending bacon and other provisions from the joists above, and permitting a bench to be placed at the end nearest the porch to receive milk and other articles requiring a cool temperature. In addition to a sufficiency of shelves, a cupboard is proposed to be fixed at a height of three feet above the bench for the safe custody of such articles as are usually deposited in a similar convenience beside the fireplace, in living rooms of cottages. The upper story is divided into three separate bed-rooms, and, from the mode of construction adopted, a larger amount of space is secured to these rooms than low walls and high pitched roofs would permit. The height of each room is 8 feet, and the dimensions are—No. 1, 11 feet by 10 feet; No. 2, 11 feet by 7 feet 6 inches; and No. 3, 8 feet 6 inches by 7 feet, containing 860, 645, and 469 cubic feet respectively. One room only (the largest) is provided with a fireplace, which will be found quite sufficient both for ordinary and extraordinary occasions. One might be placed in every room if required, without deranging the plan. A convenient closet is obtained at the top of the stairs, and another in a recess adjoining the fireplace in bedroom No. 1.

He provides amply for the supply of water, ventilation, and drainage.

The total cost of erecting a pair of cottages according to Mr Goddard's plan and specifications he estimates, the cottages at 200/ 17s 11d, and the offices at 26/ 9s 1d, making each cottage cost 113/ 13s 6d. This would require a rental of from 6/ to 7/ for each cottage with the land, to give even a moderate per centage on the cost and value of the property. But as we have before observed, landowners must not look for direct remuneration from cottage building; indirectly they will be amply repaid.

THE YIELD OF THE WHEAT.

POTATOES.

IN various quarters we meet with instances of disappointment at the yield of so much of the wheat crop as has been tested. Messrs Sturge, in their circular of the 5th inst, say—"We anticipate an improved demand for wheat, if not an advance, shortly—the more so, as the growers generally express disappointment with the yield, in proportion to the quantity of the straw, as far as it has been tested." And the Review of the Corn Trade, in the *Mark Lane Express*, says:—"In some parts of the country, the yield of wheat is said to disappoint the growers; but, in general, the reverse is, we believe, the case." It is by no means impossible that the yield may not turn out so good as was expected; for it must be recollected that there was some very cold and ungenial weather late in the spring, and at the beginning of June, the wheat plant was very backward. The effect of this on the crop is shown by the fact, that, notwithstanding the fine dry and warm weather we had throughout June and July, and part of August, the harvest has been decidedly late, and the grain has ripened with a slowness quite unusual in dry summers. This much is certain, that our own market has gone down, under the influence of a reported large crop, below the level of the continental and American corn markets. Thus, Messrs Sturge, in their circular, say:—"The imports [of wheat] have been comparatively small; and we believe that the serious losses sustained by the houses who

have been the principal importers from the Black Sea, &c., will induce caution for some time to come. The quotations from all foreign ports would still leave a considerable loss on our currency." And, with reference to the American growth, they add:—"By recent reports from the United States, it appears not unlikely they may import wheat, as was the case in 1835, 1836, and 1837, instead of exporting." On the continent of Europe, prices will not allow of profitable importations from thence. In France, prices are said to be "relatively higher than with us." At Hamburgh, there was no export demand for wheat. In Russia, Poland and Germany, there has been a good deal of rain, and the wheat crops in those regions are not expected to turn out so well as our own. The potatoes and rye are much complained of; and the general result seems to be, that "dull reports from hence do not appear to have produced much influence on prices abroad, and quotations are relatively higher on the continent than in our markets." The crops in the United States are said to be so unpromising as to lead to the impression "that no further shipments of breadstuffs would be made from thence to Europe." The activity which prevailed in Mark Lane on Monday last shows that these circumstances are producing their effects on our dealers, so that the present probabilities are in favour of a rise in the price of wheat.

That the potatoes are now generally diseased is admitted, and the hopes entertained are chiefly founded on the fact that in many places the leaf and the haulm only are affected; but disease in the tubers follows with certainty the appearance of disease on the leaf, and we have no doubt that potatoes will be much forced on the market early in the season. This will lead to a rapid consumption of them and will at the same time diminish for a time, the consumption of wheat. Farmers who are not compelled to bring their wheat will naturally hold back for the present, and there seems but little chance of the predictions of extremely low prices, which were hazarded by protectionists, being fulfilled.

RURAL RETROSPECT.

In an old book, called "Select Transactions of the Society of Improvers in the Knowledge of Agriculture in Scotland," published in 1743, Sir James Fergusson, of Kilkenny, Bart., addresses the following to the society:—

I have a piece of level ground, consisting of about forty acres. About one third thereof is croft land, as it is called; another third is homing or haugh ground, stretched along the side of a river; a third is meadow land.

The nature of the croft-land is light ground, with a mixture of small stones, but nothing so as to be called stony land; and there is one small part of it a good rich soil. The method of using it hitherto has been to sow it first with bear; then two years with oats; then with peas; and then bear again; at which time it only gets dung. The increase is about five the first year of the oats, and the second is not so much.

The nature of the haugh-ground is a rich deep earth, with a clay mixture, though not so as to be called a clay soil. A good part of it is overflowed by the river by small speats—the rest not overflowed but when great speats come. The method has been, these hundred years past, to sow it every year with oats, without giving it any other manure than what it gets by the overflow of the river. The increase does not exceed three seeds, having great abundance of grass among the grain.

The meadow is of the common nature of meadow-land, a sour ground, which in general throws up a pretty plentiful crop of hay; and, being saved from the 1st of March, cuts about the 10th of July. But part of it is of a very coarse kind, called spret; and in that place it is rank and thick. Other parts of it bear a thin grass, and in the go-harvest and winter season is of a yellowish colour, which would appear to proceed from its being too wet; as, indeed, the whole is of a wet, spouty nature.

It is desired of the society to give their opinion and direction how I may manage the ground for the future, so as to bring it to better account? I have plenty of lime, of clay, of moss, of ferns, and the river a sufficient level to any part of it.

The low state of husbandry, indicated by the above statement, will contrast strikingly with the condition of the best Scotch husbandry of the present day. The society's answer recommended draining, trench ploughing, fallowing, lime, and dung, with a judicious course of cropping. Now, let the actual mode of cultivation, and the true produce of some of our English farms of the present day, be as plainly and candidly stated as Sir James Fergusson stated the condition and produce of his piece of land a hundred years ago, and we shall find a waste of property and neglect of the most obvious means of improvement as astonishing as recorded in the above extract.

SPIRIT OF THE TRADE CIRCULARS.

(From Mr Henry W. Eaton's Circular.)

London, Sept. 1, 1849.

In Italian silk, though perhaps less general business has been done, further contracts have been made for good filatures, at prices varying from 4s to 6s per lb higher than the opening rates of last year.

In Chinas also considerable sales have again been made, and holders are extremely firm, especially for best qualities. The accounts by the August mail state the exports as extending to 18,000 bales, but say nothing more decisive as regards the new crop, and though certainly not favourable, must be considered too premature to have of themselves any marked effect. The late buoyancy in our markets must therefore be attributed more to the high rates paid in France and Italy, under the impression that their crops will be short. It is reasonable also to expect, that France will require considerable supplies this year.—At a public sale at Liverpool, on the 16th ultimo, of 300 Chinas, all were sold.

In Bengals there is no new feature. All good and fair silk sells currently as it arrives, but the low sorts are still comparatively neglected. The shipments in June were 520 bales.

In Bruttias some sales have been made; Sells from 11s to 11s 9d, Mestoop from 10s 9d to 11s. The present stock consists of about 700 bales, chiefly of middling qualities.

Prices generally have been well supported during the month, and there is every reason to confirm the opinion hazarded in my circular of the 1st ultimo, that best China silk might yet advance.

The imports in August were:—China, 917 bales; Bengal, 353 bales; Chines thrown, 6 bales; Italian raw, 277 bales; Italian thrown, 70 bales; and Bruttia 9 bales.

(From Messrs Churchill and Sim's Circular.)

London, Sept. 7, 1849.

The arrivals from British America continue to be moderate—from Canada nineteen cargoes in August, added to the previous importation, give us sixty-one cargoes for this, against ninety cargoes last season:—from the Lower Provinces we have also nineteen fresh cargoes during last month, and these, with previous arrivals, are about equivalent to 1848. It will be observed that in every article of colonial wood (except railway sleepers) the stock in the public docks continues to be less than last year—of oak, elm, birch and red pine timber, the reduction is very striking—and in deals is considerable.

	Oak	Elm	Ash	Birch	Red Pine	Yellow Pine	Deals	Battens.
	Loads.	Loads.	Loads.	Loads.	Loads.	Loads.	Loads.	Loads.
Sept. 1, 1848	1,274	1,787	1,362	6,230	3,466	1,410,000		
" 1849	545	465	348	1,876	3,370	1,130,000		

We think that we may safely say that the amount of sales effected since the season commenced has been fully proportionate to the importation. There is no speculative demand, nor the appearance of extensive consumption; but watching the deliveries from the docks and the private yards, there is evidently a steady progress in business, which will suffice to prevent accumulation, and gradually restore our trade to a healthy condition—meantime our market prices are very tender, and at sales by auction, goods fresh arrived have been sold at five to ten per cent under the prices obtained in the ordinary course of business. We are therefore compelled to reduce our quotations even for the articles of which the stock is so small. If some forbearance is exercised, we shall be enabled to keep prices steady and perhaps resume earlier rates.

Circulars have been received from—

Messrs Sandars and Claxton—Taylor and Bright—Stitt and Co.—Philpotts and Co.—B. S. Gaden—Shuttleworth and Co.

Foreign Correspondence.

From our Paris Correspondent.

Paris, Sept. 13, 1849.

The great all-engrossing subject of conversation has been, this week, the following letter, which was addressed by the President of the Republic to M. Ney, his aid-de-camp, whom he had sent to General Oudinot:—

MY DEAR NEY,—The French Republic has not sent an army to Rome to smother Italian liberty, but, on the contrary, to regulate it, by preserving it from its own excesses, and to give a solid basis, by re-establishing on the papal throne the prince who had the first placed himself at the head of all useful reforms.

I am sorry to find that the Holy Father's benevolent intentions, as well as our own actions, remain fruitless, owing to inimical passions and influences, which would adopt proscription and tyranny as the basis of the Pope's restoration. Tell General Rostolan, on my account, that he must not allow that under the shade of the tri-colour flag they do any act which may pervert the character of our intervention.

I thus sum up the re-establishment of the Pope's temporal power,—a general amnesty, the secularisation of the administration, Napoleon's Code, and a liberal government.

I have been personally hurt, on reading the proclamation of the three Cardinals, when I saw that no mention was made of the name of France, and of the sufferings of our brave soldiers. Any insult to our colours, or to our uniform, goes to my heart; and I pray you to declare that if France does not sell her services, she demands at least that they should be thankful for her sacrifices and self-denial.

When our armies went round the world, they left everywhere, as a print of their passage, the destruction of the abuses of feudality and the seeds of liberty. It must not be said that in 1849—a French army has acted in another sense, and have brought other results.

Tell the General to thank the army, in my name, for their noble conduct. I am sorry to hear that they were not treated—even for their material wants—as they ought. Nothing must be neglected in order to establish our troops comfortably.—Receive, my Dear Ney, &c. LOUIS NAPOLEON BONAPARTE.

National Elysium, Aug. 8, 1849.

To Colonel Edgar Ney.

This letter confirms completely the particulars I gave you several weeks ago about the President's projects towards Rome. He desired to put a stop to the undertakings of the revolutionary party, and to restore the Pope's temporal power. But he desired to establish liberal institutions in Italy, because he remembered that his brother and himself had fought in Italy for liberal principles. The date of this letter corresponds to the departure of M. de Falloux for the Battu of Neris. It is said that the President, before sending his letter, had communicated it to the Cabinet Council; but M. de Falloux had declared that he could not approve of such language, and would immediately resign if it was made an official document. He could not prevent the President from sending a private letter to one of his aids-de-camp, but he desired that the communication made to the council should not be considered as official. The President agreed to erase a paragraph, in which he desired that his letter should be put as the order of the day in the army of Italy, because he would not consent to a change of ministry before the meeting of the Assembly.

M. de Falloux and all the legitimists whom he represents in the cabinet were much irritated when they saw the text of this letter published in the *Moniteur*, and they knew that it had been circulated publicly in Rome, and published by all the newspapers in Italy. M. de Falloux, who was absent, hastened to return to Paris. He declared that he could not remain in the cabinet, and was expected to resign; but after a conference with the principal chiefs of the legitimist party, he determined to yield to the President's prayers, and to preserve his situation in the cabinet until the meeting of the Assembly. But he sent a note to the *Moniteur*, in which he declared that the letter ought to remain private, desiring by that note to imply that he did not approve of the language of the letter and the system of politics it adopted towards the Pope.

It is indeed very difficult to guess how these intricate affairs will

end. The French Government has so much compromised itself in favour of the secularisation of the Papal Government and of liberal institutions, that it would be a shame to go back and yield to the system of despotism which the Cardinals will force upon the Roman States. But, on the other side, it is reported that the Pope has declared to M. de Rayneval that he had confessed to God for the sin he had committed when he had the front to adopt liberal reforms, as he ascribed all the evils which had visited Europe to such a change in the institutions of Italy. He was determined to re-establish all the old institutions such as ever existed under his predecessors.

General Rostolan, who has been left at the head of the French army in Italy, after General Oudinot's departure, had taken a firm language towards the three Cardinals, manifesting the resolution to oppose all their illiberal acts. He thought that this conduct was the best after the letter of the President which had been communicated to him. But as he supposed that his acts might be condemned at Paris as compromising, he had sent his resignation.

It was at first decided that M. Rostolan should be maintained in his command and full powers should be sent to him. But this resolution has been changed as soon as it was decided that no change of the Cabinet would take place. General Randon, a brave officer, but without a great personal renown, is named to the Government of Rome. He departed yesterday night.

It is confidently asserted in several diplomatic saloons that a partial change of policy has already taken place in the French Cabinet since the publication of the President's letter in consequence of despatches from Gaeta. The Pope, they say, proposes mutual concessions. He will preserve an ecclesiastical consulta, but he will change the three Cardinals whose measures have encountered so much opposition among the Roman population and in the French Cabinet. The Government will be partly secularised, that is, all the high functions will be held usually by laymen, but they may be also holden by clergymen when they have qualities for the high dignities of the state. In other words the Pope is the master of secularising the administration or continuing to employ clergymen. An extensive amnesty is granted, but there is a certain number of persons who are excepted, as the members of the National Assembly, the late triumvirs, the chiefs of all the political meetings and clubs. The Roman army would be carried off 24,000 men.

This piece of news, which was given by a Florentine paper, is not generally credited, as the private letters from Gaeta say on the contrary, that the Pope is furious against Louis Napoleon, and determined to resist to the utmost his claim. But if we consider the tone of our ministerial papers, it seems evident that the President regrets having written his letter, and is already disposed to make concession. It is already repeated every morning by the *Constitutionnel* that the letter was never official, but was only sent privately by the President to his Aide-de-Camp. But they will hardly bereave it of its official character, since the *Moniteur* has published it among the official documents.

There is much talk this morning about a very strong dispute which has taken place between M. Dufaure and General Oudinot, in the very Cabinet Council, which was holden at the Elysium. The debate had been broken off by the general, who said that he would not go any further for the moment with a man who was at the head of the cabinet, but that he would explain himself before the Legislative Assembly, and would tell openly all the particulars of the Roman affairs, and of the minister's behaviour.

The following are the variations of our securities from Sept. 6 to Sept. 12:—

	f c	f c
The Three per Cents declined.....	0 55	at 55 60
The Five per Cents	0 80	88 40 ex div
The Bank Shares	25 0	2,345 0
Orleans	5 0	770 0
Rouen	10 0	530 0
Havre	5 0	265 0
Marseilles	2 50	225 0
Northern	1 25	440 0
Strasbourg	3 75	355 0
Nantes	2 50	305 0
Vierzon	5 0	310 0

HALF-PAST FOUR.—The market exhibited some uneasiness at the beginning of business. But the prices rallied on the Rente, and on every description of shares, on the report that the Pope was ready to grant concessions and return to Rome.

The Three per Cents varied from 55f 50c to 55f 75c, the Five per Cents from 88f to 88f 40c, the Bank Shares declined from 2,345f to 2,325f, the Northern Shares were at 440f, Strasbourg at 356f 25c, Nantes at 303f 75c, Bordeaux at 402f 50c, Vierzon at 402f 50c, Orleans at 760f, Havre at 270f.

Correspondence.

POLITICAL ECONOMY IN FRANCE.

To the Editor of the Economist.

SIR,—I see one of your correspondents wants information respecting the free trade movement in this country. You may inform him that after the revolution all agitation for free trade (not unnaturally), entirely ceased: that indeed for some time previously it had been very languid; that the only regular free trade organ now published is the *Journal des Economistes*; that there is no agitation now going on for free trade, nor is there any likelihood to be any until political matters become more settled. But as a set-off to this, you may tell him that several of our principal free traders—Bastiat, Wolowski, and others, have become members of the legislature: that Michel Chevalier has been restored to his chair at the College de France; that free trade publications are not rare; that the *Société des Economistes* (consisting of our principal economists) continues to meet and discuss the different economical questions that arise; and that as soon as politics shall permit, the French free traders will begin a brisk campaign. Of their probabilities of success it is impossible to speak; but it is not at all unreasonable to assume that they would have some success. Perhaps

the excessive coal and iron duties would become their chief object of attack, and the reduction or abolition of them would be of immense advantage to England. —Your obedient servant,
A FREE TRADER AT PARIS.

CAN TENANT FARMERS PAY ANY RENT, AT PRESENT PRICES FOR PRODUCE?

To the Editor of the Economist.

SIR,—I have frequently heard it asserted, that "the farmers cannot pay any rent, at present prices of produce," and I am sorry to find that many persons unacquainted with farming believe the assertion. Ask any farmer how he previously managed to pay his rent; the corn grower would tell you he could pay it when wheat was 60s a quarter; the cheese maker that he could pay when cheese was 70s a cwt; and so with all the farmers. It is well known amongst farmers that, if it be a corn farm, the corn forms the principal sum out of which he is to pay his rent. Supposing a farm, producing 100 quarters of wheat at 60s is 300l—if his rent be 300l, there is the rent; but supposing him still to raise 100 quarters, and the present price of wheat only 45s, which would amount to 225l—if he still has to pay 300l rent, he evidently loses 75l; but this upsets the assertion, that the tenant cannot pay any rent, as he has 225l towards it: this is so plain that it needs no other illustration. The real fact of the case is, it is a rent question; and landlords who wish to retain good tenants must lower the rents. How can we expect tenants to pay their rents when prices are 25 per cent lower than when they first took their farms? It is evident the tenant cannot go on losing, so the landlord must lower the rent in proportion to the present prices of produce. As to land going out of cultivation, because of low prices for produce, is absurd; if a farmer can pay 300l a year rent with 100 quarters of wheat at 60s, the same farmer, could pay 100l a year rent with 100 quarters at 20s a quarter: so that all this cry of "farmers being ruined by low prices," is a gross fallacy; it is a breeches-pocket, a rent, question, only; it is rents which will cause the ruin, not low prices for produce.—Yours truly,
Cheshire, Sept. 11, 1849.

L. H.

News of the Week.

COURT AND ARISTOCRACY.

HER MAJESTY and the Royal Family continue at Balmoral.

Mr Alison, the historian, has been on a visit to the Queen and Prince Albert during the week.

The *London Gazette* of Tuesday contains the following official announcement:— "Whitehall, Sept. 10.—The Queen has been pleased to direct letters patent to be passed under the Great Seal, granting the dignity of an Earl of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland unto his Royal Highness Albert Edward Prince of Wales, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, and his Heirs, Kings of the said United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland for ever, by the name, style, and title of Earl of Dublin."

On Wednesday morning, her Imperial Highness Beatrice Archduchess of Austria, consort of his Royal Highness Prince Juan, Infanta of Spain, was safely delivered of a prince, at her residence in the Regent's park.

The Right Rev. Edward Stanley, D.D., Bishop of Norwich, expired on the 6th inst, at Braban castle, near Dingwall, after a short illness, which terminated in fatal congestion of the brain. Deceased was son of Sir T. J. Stanley, Bart., and was born in 1779. He was educated at St John's College, Cambridge, and having taken holy orders, obtained rapid preferment in the Church. In political feeling he was eminently liberal, and gave the benefit of his patronage to the literary and mechanics' institutions, and to the other educational establishments, not only of his diocese, but of the country at large.

METROPOLIS.

EXPLOSION OF A FIREWORK MANUFACTORY.—On Monday evening part of Kensington was thrown into great alarm by a tremendous explosion, which shook the houses in High street to their foundation. It was soon ascertained to have occurred at the house of a man named Jones, a firework manufacturer. Hundreds of persons instantly rushed to the spot, when it was found that the house in question had been blown completely into the air, and that part of the next house had been carried with it. A strong body of police, of the T division, began searching the ruins, it being at the moment believed that the whole of the inmates were amongst them. Mr Jones was, however, soon found to be uninjured; but Mrs Jones, his wife, was got out a frightful spectacle, being completely blackened from head to foot, and dreadfully burnt over the head and body. She was immediately conveyed on a stretcher to the Kensington workhouse, wrapped up in a blanket, by the police, where she died the next morning. It seems that Mr Jones had obtained a larger order than usual for a stock of fireworks for the Flora gardens, and that they were nearly finished when his wife accidentally let fall a box of lucifers, which becoming ignited fired the whole of the fireworks, as well as a quantity of loose composition and gunpowder. So loud was the noise occasioned by the explosion that people at a distance at first thought the powder magazine in Hyde Park had blown up. Mr Jones, the proprietor of the premises, is also remaining in the infirmary, suffering from the injuries he received.

MR JUDGE, the defendant in the late case respecting the royal etchings, has been released from gaol, Colonel Anson having, by command of Prince Albert, forwarded to his wife a cheque for 180l, the amount of the costs for which he was imprisoned.

PROPOSED REFORM CONFERENCE.—We learn from a paragraph in the *Daily News*, that the National Parliamentary and Financial Reform Association contemplate the holding of a Conference of Delegates, at some period bordering upon the opening of next session.

THE CHARGE AGAINST LOLA MONTES.—At Marlborough street, on Wednesday, Mr Clarkson said he had received information that the person called Mrs James, who was charged at the instance of Miss Heald with bigamy, would not appear that day, and did not intend to appear. The magistrate had been kind enough to inform him that he had received an intimation to that effect from Mrs James's solicitor. It therefore became his (Mr Clarkson's) unpleasant duty to apply to the magistrate to estreat the recognisances. He wished, however, to say one word more, in consequence of a rumour that these proceedings were instituted on the part of Miss Heald, not substantially, but with a view, which, indeed, was rather confirmed by the arrival of Mrs James on Friday under the pretence of undergoing examination, of effecting a compromise. On the part of the sister of the father of this deluded young man, he begged to say there was no foundation whatever for such rumour, and his first proof that there was not might be seen in the fact of his now praying that the bail might be estreated. This was accordingly done. It appears that Lola Montes and Mr Heald had again left London for Paris on Sunday last.

THE JEWS EXEMPT FROM CHOLERA.—A correspondent of the *Morning Post* says—"It is a singular circumstance in connection with the prevailing epidemic, that not a single fatal case has occurred amongst the Jews in Houndsditch, or the close and badly ventilated vicinity of Petticoat lane, a neighbourhood not over remarkable for its cleanliness." The *Spectator* says—"An intelligent Jew has confirmed this statement to us, and explained it by reference to the direct and intended sanitary character of many of the Jewish observances."

THE BERMONDSEY MURDER.—The girl who assisted Mrs Manning in cleaning the house after the murder, has been found. Her name is Hannah Fermor, and she informed the authorities that about 9 o'clock on Saturday morning, the 11th of August, Mrs Manning called her into No. 3 Miniver-place, and engaged her to clean the house. She cleaned the upper part, and found several spots like blood on the wall of the passage leading to the kitchens, which she endeavoured to wash off. After she had cleaned that portion of the place, she proceeded to the back kitchen, and was about to clean it, when Mrs Manning came up to her and pulled her away, exclaiming, "I cleaned this place yesterday, and it don't want scrubbing any more." The girl said that the back kitchen was extremely wet, and that the stones in the passage appeared to have been recently rubbed with a brick or stone. She also found that the dust hole was full of mould dirt and some mortar mixed with it. Evidence that has recently come out, tends to confirm Manning's statement with respect to his wife being the chief actor in the murder. The cholera has attacked some of the witnesses since the last examination. Mr Basset, clerk to Messrs Killick, share brokers, Bank-buildings, to whom Manning disposed of O'Connor's Eastern Counties shares, was suddenly attacked on Friday night, and expired on Saturday morning. Mr Hammond was also attacked, and is not expected to live.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.—The mortality in the week ending Saturday, September 8th, declined in the west and east districts of London, and increased slightly in the north and central districts, the deaths registered (1,741) on the north side of the Thames being 19 less than in the previous week. It was otherwise on the south side of the river, where the deaths in the week were 1,442. The total deaths registered in London were 3,183: of males, 1,460; females, 1,723. The deaths of females exceeded the deaths of males by 263, the reverse of the usual proportions. The deaths from cholera were 2,026; the numbers decreased in the districts of Shoreditch, Bethnal green, Whitechapel, Stepney, Westminster, increased in Bermondsey, St George, Southwark, Newington, Lambeth, Wandsworth, Camberwell, and Rotherhithe. The epidemic, which had been partially subdued, broke out again with terrible violence in Lambeth, where 279 persons died of cholera in the week.

PROVINCES.

COMPETITION IN FARMS.—In reply to an advertisement, which recently appeared in a local paper, announcing a farm to be let, the agent, a solicitor, at Deddington, had upwards of twenty applications by the next post, and a large number by subsequent ones.

REPRESENTATION OF WEST SURREY.—On Saturday a meeting of the Conservatives of West Surrey was held at the White Hart hotel, Guildford, for the purpose of hearing the sentiments of Mr Evelyn on the subject of protection, to which rumour had described him as unfaithful. He declared his opinion that in the present state of England it was unadvisable on the part of the Government to withdraw protection suddenly, and he thought that the agricultural interest was not ripe for the experiment of free trade, which had been made with undue haste and precipitancy. There were many abuses which he desired to get rid of, but he wanted the changes to be made on conservative and not on destructive principles. But he would not pledge himself through thick and thin to any party; he would always do what he considered most beneficial to his constituency and the country. Some dissatisfaction was expressed at the explanations which Mr Evelyn had offered, but a vote of confidence in him was passed.

POSTPONED PAYMENT OF THE HOP DUTY.—A meeting was held at Maidstone last week consisting of between fifty and sixty gentlemen deputed by the various parishes in the hop-growing districts of West Kent, to meet the central committee appointed at the same place on the 23rd of August. The leading farmers of this part of the county attended. The following resolution was passed:—"That Thomas Law Hodges, Esq., be requested to go down into Yorkshire, to obtain an interview with the Chancellor of the Exchequer, as the most judicious and immediate course of obtaining the objects set forth in the memorials, so numerous signed, and forwarded to the meeting that day; and that he be also empowered to urge upon the attention of the Chancellor the necessity of the final arrangement of the hop duty of 1d per lb on hops, or by a fixed duty of 3d per statute acre on land planted with hops." The meeting was unanimously of opinion that it would be utterly impossible for the government to collect the duty next month, and that any attempt to do so would be attended with the most serious consequences to the hop districts.

A COLLIERY ACCIDENT arising from choke damp, occurred at a coalpit in Prior Field Colliery, Coseley, near Birmingham, on Wednesday morning last. Four lives were lost, and others endangered.

MR DISRAELI AT AYLESBURY.—The anniversary meeting of the Royal Bucks Agricultural Association was held at the George hotel, Aylesbury, on Wednesday. The usual ploughing match took place in the morning, on the grounds of Mr Morris, at Bedgrove, within a short distance of the town. The awards having been made, and the ordinary business disposed of, the members dined together. About 80 gentlemen sat down. Mr W. Lowndes, of the Bury, near Chesham, late high-sheriff of the county, occupied the chair, and was supported by Mr Disraeli, M.P., and other gentlemen of the district. Mr Disraeli took the opportunity of making a protectionist oration, the only novelty in which was a scheme for obtaining "cheap capital." An exposition of his views, with comments upon them, will be found elsewhere.

COMMANDER PITMAN.—The Court Martial on this individual which has been held at Plymouth, and has lasted twelve days, was brought to a close on Wednesday, when the Judge Advocate read the decision of the court. Having stated the constitution of the court, it set forth the charges, which were as follows:—"General cruelty, from or about the 4th September 1846, until the 20th of May 1849; and for false statements in the log of her Majesty's ship *Childers*, on or about the 9th day of October 1848. General cruelty and oppression during the period commencing on or about the 4th of September 1846, and ending on the 20th of May 1849. False expenditure of stores, viz., a hammock cloth represented to have been washed away on or about the 14th of October 1846; and a maintop sail to have been lost on or about the 9th of October 1848. False statements in the log-book of her Majesty's ship *Childers*, from September 1846, to 20th of May 1849." The learned gentleman proceeded to state that—"The court having heard the evidence in support of the charges, as well as what the prisoner has offered in his behalf, and very maturely and deliberately weighed and considered the same, is of opinion that the charge of general cruelty and oppression has been in part proved against the prisoner, Commander J. C. Pitman; and the court is further of opinion that the charge

of false expenditure of stores, and the charge of false statements in the log-book of her Majesty's ship *Childers*, have been proved against the prisoner, Commander J. C. Pitman; and the court doth in consequence adjudge the said Commander J. C. Pitman to be dismissed from her Majesty's service."

SCOTLAND.

THE EXHIBITION OF ARTS AND MANUFACTURES.—A meeting has just been held at Glasgow for the purpose of considering certain resolutions to be submitted by a deputation from the Society of Arts in London, in reference to a proposal of his Royal Highness Prince Albert for a grand exhibition in Hyde park, London, of specimens of the arts and manufactures of all nations. Amongst the gentlemen present were Sir James Anderson, Lord Provost; Sir James Campbell, Baillie Stewart, Mr Lumsden, Mr Paton, Mr Paterson, Mr Laing, &c. Mr Cole, one of the deputation, explained the proposal had emanated entirely from Prince Albert, who had drawn up certain resolutions on the subject, and forwarded them for the consideration of the Society of Arts. His Royal Highness also expressed a desire that the resolution should be submitted to the manufacturers in the principal towns in England and Scotland. Mr Cole then read the resolutions, which were to the following effect, viz:—"That the exhibition should consist of specimens from all parts of the world, so that it might be seen in what the British manufactures were deficient, and in what they excelled; that it be held in 1851, so as to afford ample time to get the specimens forward, and to get all arrangements perfected; that the premiums to be given should amount to at least 20,000*l*; that of that sum 5,000*l* be a premium for the most valuable invention of improvement either in arts or manufactures; that in the event of the proposal being approved of, government should be requested to issue a Royal commission for the purpose of superintending the arrangements, judging of the specimens, and distributing the premiums; that the exhibition take place in a temporary erection in Hyde park, London. Mr Cole stated that the proposal had been well received and highly approved of in the towns which he had already visited; he stated also his expectation that a great variety of articles would be sent from Manchester. The erection in Hyde park would be a mile and a half long. Prince Albert further stated that in order that the working classes might be present from all parts of the country, cheap trains would be run to London, thus affording them a good opportunity of viewing the state of the manufactures of all nations. Everything, so far as advertising, &c., was concerned, would be completed by the month of June 1850. Mr Cole concluded by stating that Prince Albert further proposed to give gold medals along with all the premiums; and it is not unlikely that her Majesty the Queen would present them to the successful competitors. The proposal in all its details was then fully considered by the meeting, and all present gave it their unanimous approbation. It was agreed, on the suggestion of Sir James Campbell, that committees should be appointed in the various towns to co-operate with the Society of Arts in London, in carrying out the proposal of Prince Albert.

DEATH FROM CHLOROFORM.—Dr Adams, resident physician in the Clyde street Hospital, Glasgow, has been for some time past experimenting with chloroform, and on Thursday last took an extra strong dose, and no sooner had done so, than he fell back and expired.

HERRING FISHING IN THE NORTH FOR SEASON 1849.—The herring fishing for the season has now, in effect, terminated at all the stations in the north. The catch has been everywhere most abundant, and the aggregate produce must considerably exceed that of any bygone year. The following is an approximate statement of the catch at the principal stations in the north of Scotland, comprehending all that cure for exportation to the continental markets:—

Place.	Number of Boats.	Aver. Crans per Boat.	Gross Quantity. Crans.
Peterhead, including Boddam & Burnhaven, <i>circa</i>	446	157	70,022
Fraserburgh, incl. Sandhaven & Rosehearty, <i>circa</i>	320	175	56,000
Pennan	2	200	1,800
Gardenstown	37	190	7,030
Banff and Macduff	62	140	8,680
Whitehills	17	110	1,870
Portsoy	23	130	2,990
Cullen, including Findochty and Buckie, <i>circa</i>	16	170	2,720
Hopeman, Lossiemouth, and Burghead, <i>circa</i>	80	175	14,000
Helmsdale, <i>circa</i>	170	150	25,500
Latheron coast, comprehending Lybster, Clyth, Forse, Latheron, and smaller stations, <i>circa</i>	350	140	49,000
Wick	800	140	112,000
Total			351,612

At the more southerly stations the produce has been equally abundant. On the Fife coast, in the Firth of Forth, and off the coasts of Berwick, the fishing has been very heavy, but the greater portion of the produce at these stations is taken for home consumption. Some, however, of the late heavy takes in the Firth of Forth have been prepared for the Russian market.—In the Western Lochs, the fishermen have also met with fair success.—*Banffshire Journal*.

IRELAND.

THE IRISH PLANTATION SCHEME.—The *Freeman's Journal* gives a prominent position to the subjoined announcement:—"We have heard, on what we deem very good authority, that the Committee of the London Corporation, to which was referred the consideration of the proposed Irish estate project, is about shortly to present its report, and that this report will be adverse to the corporation entering into the contemplated enterprise, one of the chief grounds of view taken by the committee being that the condition of the properties already owned by the corporation in Ireland is not of that prosperous character that would at all encourage further speculation in the same direction."

THE O'CONNELL'S.—On Tuesday Mr Maurice O'Connell, the first-born of the late Liberator, arrived in his yacht in the Suir. He was accompanied by his brother "Dan." They promenade our quays for some time on Tuesday, accompanied by a young gentleman, probably a nephew or relative, and passed along without a cheer or scarcely a recognition by any of the serfs who kissed the dust at the footstep of their father.—*Waterford Mail*.

SECRET SOCIETIES IN TIPPERARY.—The following communication appears in the *Evening Mail*:—"CLONMEL, Sunday Evening.—The events which occurred here during the past week would almost lead one to anticipate a renewal of the scenes we had the misfortune to witness this time last year, but the object appears to be different, as the disturbances at present have arisen from an organised and wide-spread conspiracy to defraud the landlords of their just rights, by making away with the crops. It was apprehended that serious disturbances would have taken place in Carrick-on-Suir on last Thursday (a locality rendered notorious in consequence of the frequent outbreaks last year), and in consequence, a large addition was made to the police and military force stationed there, which had the effect of checking any contemplated disturbance. The

authorities appear to have obtained extensive information of the conspiracy, if one can judge from the active preparations made to resist any further attempt at aggression. A large body of police arrived from the depot in the Phoenix park, on Thursday night, and most of them were distributed next day amongst the disturbed districts. The patrols are again in constant requisition at night about this town and the adjacent country.

THE WHOLESALE HOUSES IN DUBLIN are beginning to receive orders from the country shopkeepers in the South and West for corduroys and other coarse fabrics worn by the humbler classes—a branch of trade almost entirely neglected for three years past.—*Dublin Correspondent of the Morning Chronicle.*

THE CHOLERA.—This fearful malady continues its ravages among the upper and middle classes. One of its most recent victims has been Dr Cooke Taylor, LL.D., who expired on Wednesday, after a short attack, at his house in Herbert street. It is, however, gratifying to be able to announce that there has been a marked decrease in the mortality since Sunday last, and the visitation is provisionally passing away from the city and its vicinity.

According to a correspondent of the *Limerick Chronicle*, the cholera has been committing dreadful ravages at Carlow. He says:—"This week hundreds died. It was most awful on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. The church and graveyards are all crammed with dead bodies, and a new graveyard was this day opened by Colonel Bruen. The deaths exceed 100 daily, and a dozen bodies were interred together in one grave." It is thought, however, that this report is exaggerated.

HARVEST HOME IN THE WEST.—The "stop the harvest" cry has been caught up west of the Shannon, the "croppies" having extended their operations to the neighbourhood of Athlone, on the border of the counties of Westmeath and Roscommon, where, it appears, so great is the scramble for growing crops become, and so wide-spread the new system of fraud, that the police are kept constantly employed in endeavouring to prevent affrays between bailiffs and defaulting tenants.

THE POTATO CROP.—The bulk of the potato crop still holds good, and it is probable that there will be a pretty fair supply of sound potatoes for some months at least. But, beyond all question, the disease is progressing amongst "Kempes" (which had been previously unaffected), and all other kinds. A case has occurred within a mile of Dublin, where a large field of potatoes had been in fine condition last week. The owner dug out and pitted a portion of them. Those in the pit soon became a dense mass of rotteness, and it was then discovered that the potatoes left in the ground were completely destroyed by the blight. At the same time, the markets continue well supplied with sound potatoes, excellent in quality, at moderate prices, and the cereal and green crops are generally described as very abundant.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL.

HOLLAND.

An Amsterdam letter of the 3rd inst states, that the difficult operation of draining the sea or lake of Haarlem is being carried on with the greatest activity. The works are not even suspended on Sundays or *fete* days; nay, they are sometimes continued during the night. During the month of August the waters of this immense lake were lowered to the extent of 27½ inches, Dutch measure. It is hoped and expected that they will be entirely drained off before the month of March 1850.

ROMAN STATES.

Letters from Rome of the 5th inst mention that the crisis there is becoming more menacing, and a rupture more imminent. It was considered probable that the Pope would end by placing himself under the Austrian flag in the Legations. It was stated at Gaeta that had the President's letter been officially published, the *Corps Diplomatique* there would have thought it their duty to protest against it. It was also rumoured at Gaeta that Russia would take upon itself the Roman loan.

It is said that the idea is industriously circulated amongst the populace that Saint Peter lately appeared to his Holiness in a vision, and announced to him that he had lost all chance of salvation, in consequence of his having encouraged infidelity by granting political reforms to his subjects, and that the only way to regain the favour of heaven was by at once retracing his steps, and restoring the old *regime* as in the days of Gregory XVI.

CENTRAL GERMANY.

The Archduke Vicar of the Empire returned to Frankfurt on the 3rd, and was received with great acclamations by the crowd. A guard of honour of Prussians and Austrians was placed at his hotel. He was accompanied by two Archdukes, Stephen and Albert. The Prince of Prussia had previously arrived, and had a long conference with the Archduke.

The states of the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg resolved on the 1st, by a majority of one, to adhere to the constitution of the three Kings.

The Duchess d'Orleans and her children arrived at Eisenach on the 1st. She was received with great respect by the population.

A council of the different Protestant churches based on Lutheranism is about to be held at Wittenberg, in Germany.

SPAIN.

A letter from Madrid says:—"The Queen, who likes gossip herself, cares very little what gossip takes place at her expense. She gives herself up to the noisiest pleasures with childish ardour, and seems to take pleasure in teasing that solemn nullity to whom the profligate calculations of French intriguers caused her to be united. When the ministers talk to her of public affairs, she tells them with girlish petulance to consult her mother—that it is she who takes care of that sort of thing. Every night dancing takes place by her orders in the spacious gardens. She becomes peevish the moment the music ceases, and there are always two bands, that relieve each other alternately. She forbids any kind of illumination; it is true that the moon, especially at La Granja, sheds triple light, and artificial lights are seldom necessary. From the moment the Queen arrives she gives herself up to dancing and laughter of the most energetic kind. She tires out the strongest limbed, and then looks round with the most reckless merriment stamped upon her round face, and instantly accepts another partner. Half an hour after you may see her seated, eating and drinking with the same vigour as she dances, at some rustic table under the trees. From these balls ancient Spanish etiquette has fled affrighted; nankeen gables, summer frock coats, cravattes *a la negligé*, replace the stiff uniform or formal black coat with white cravat of the Spanish don. With an utter carelessness of all etiquette her youthful Majesty, whenever her partner is young, handsome, or amusing, does not scruple to walk off alone with him in the sylvan solitudes. Paquo (Frank), as she calls her husband, Don Francisco, used to fret at first, but he has got used to it, and is becoming plethoric and listless. The representations of her elderly friends she laughs at, even when they hint that her crown is in danger; and it is this last fact that has caused the word 'abdication' to be pronounced in some corners, whence, like the news about King Midas's ears, it has got abroad."

AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

The armistice has been renewed between the garrison of Comorn and the Imperialists. Whatever may be the issue of the negotiations which have recommenced, it is certain that the disaster of Atah cannot be repeated, as the beleaguering army will be so powerful as to preclude the possibility of the garrison making a successful sally. According to the opinion of Gorgey's aide-de-camp, the garrison of Comorn could hardly, under the most favourable circumstances, hold out a year, and even to effect this, the troops would be reduced to the greatest extremities. The terms proposed by the garrison, are:—

- "1. A complete amnesty in Hungary.
- "2. The garrison to retain their arms, with permission to retire into some neighbouring country.
- "3. An independent Ministry for Hungary."

It is reported to be the intention of government to grant an amnesty to all the imperial officers of Magyar race who joined the rebellion, and to proceed leniently with all the others.

The last financial statement of the Austrian government shows an expenditure of 15,000,000 florins, against an income of 7,000,000 florins. The money expended in the first half-year of 1848 (November to April) amounted to 91,000,000, the income being 45,000,000, leaving a deficit of 46,000,000. The financial statement of the Austrian Bank for the month of August shows a decrease of silver money to the amount of 258,821 florins, and an increased issue of notes to the amount of 1,351,541 florins. In the last six months the amount of silver in the bank decreased by 6,000,000, and the number of notes increased by 24,000,000. The army estimates show as high a figure as 41,000,000, exclusive of the expenses of the army in Italy. The deficiency of the last half-year amounts thus to above 60,000,000 florins. It is expected that the present half-year will show a still larger deficit, and that of the whole year is calculated at 150,000,000 florins. This sum adds 10 per cent to the national debt. Nevertheless public confidence is gradually returning. Five per cents are now at 97 and 98, and silver at 9 and 10 premium, with every prospect of improvement.

Mention has been lately made of the important documents which had been found in the possession of Czaplicki, the Polish emissary, who was arrested at Breslau on the 22nd of July. Among these papers was a copy of a protocol taken at a conference held on the 18th of May in the house of Prince Adam Czartorysky at Paris, at which Count Teleky, the Hungarian minister in Paris; Szarvady, his secretary; Pulsky, the Hungarian agent in London; and Rieger, an ultra-Czech deputy at the Austrian Diet, were present. The principal resolutions passed were—that the dethronement of the house of Hapsburg was necessary for the weal of all the nations forming the Austrian Empire, and, it was desirable that a mighty power should exist between Russia, Turkey, and the west of Europe, that a federative state should be formed, to be composed of Bohemia, Moravia, Silesia, Illyria (Galicia, if it should be found to its interest), and the newly constituted Hungary. Provisions were also made for the German and Italian races in the Empire, according to which they were to be at liberty, the first to join the central power at Frankfort, and the last to unite itself to some Italian state. The members of the Hungarian embassy declared that the nations forming Hungary would be divided into two classes. Those in the first would be connected with Hungary proper by a federal tie—for instance, Croatia, the Voivedina, and the Romanen; those in the second, the Slovacks and Germans, would be allowed to have an administration formed from their respective races, the free employment of their own language in their schools and courts of justice, municipal institutions conformable to their habits and social condition, and the enjoyment of their own peculiar form of Divine worship.

It was also determined that the Hungarian Diet should solemnly make these resolutions known to the non-Magyar races inhabiting Hungary, in order that they might turn their arms against the common enemy, that is, the Austro-Russian coalition. This remarkable document is given in the *Oesterreichischen Correspondent*, and there can be no doubt of its authenticity.

PRUSSIA.

The King has returned from Dresden and Toplitz. In the latter place he visited the young Emperor of Austria. His Majesty was only accompanied by an adjutant, and it is understood that, before he left Berlin, a Cabinet Council decided that it was not necessary either of the ministers should go with him, the visit having no political object. It is believed that the interview relates more to the arrangement of the temporary government of Federal Germany and the replacing of the Archduke John, than to any final settlement of the new constitution for the empire.

Letters from Leipsic state that there is every prospect of the great fair being a good one, a large number of purchasers from Greece and Moldavia having already arrived, who usually come in much later.

On the 9th the First Chamber of Prussia commenced the revision of the Constitution. It resolved to do away with the introduction, but to request the government to republish the Constitution as revised. It adopted several articles, among them those which enact that all Prussians are equal before the law, and that there are no privileges of class, as also those which protect individual liberty and the inviolability of the domicile. In the course of the discussion the government intimated that it would present a bill for the re-organisation of the Grand Duchy of Posen, but that the bill would not enact that Posen should be a separate state merely united to Prussia by being under the same sovereign.

BIRTHS.

- On the 8th inst, the Right Hon. Lady Cochrane, of a daughter.
- On the 10th inst, at Landport cottage, Portsmouth, the wife of Major Robinson, Royal Engineers, of a son.
- On the 8th inst, at Sydenham park, the lady of Frederick R. Kite, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

- On the 6th inst, at Rotherfield Greys, Oxfordshire, by the Rev. Richard Pryor, the Rev. F. B. Pryor, youngest son of John Izard Pryor, of Clay hall, Herts., to Louisa Mary, youngest daughter of Colonel West (late of the 33rd Regiment), of Henley-on-Thames.
- On the 10th inst, at Cossington, Somersetshire, by the Rev. W. H. Fowle, the Rev. J. Somerville Broderip, rector of Cossington, to Frances Freeling, only daughter of the late Thomas Hood, Esq.

DEATHS.

- On the 6th inst, at Braham Castle, Dingwall, after a short illness, which terminated in congestion of the brain, the Lord Bishop of Norwich, aged 70.
- On the 7th inst, at her own residence, Westhow villa, Norwood, Lady Hamlyn Williams, relict of the late Sir James Hamlyn Williams, Bart., of Clovelly court, North Devon, and Edwinstford, in the county of Carmarthen, aged 84.
- On the 10th inst, at 7 p.m., at the house of the Rev. W. Mills, of Exeter, the Ven. Archdeacon Jeffreys, of Bombay, in the 61st year of his age.
- On the 9th inst, at Hampstead, whither she had removed from her mother's residence, Somerset House, Charlotte Mason, only daughter of the late Captain Skyring, R.N.

Literature.

JOHN HOWARD AND THE PRISON-WORLD OF EUROPE. By HEWORTH DIXON. Jackson and Walford, St Paul's Churchyard.

THE second title of this book indicates the point of view from which Mr Dixon regards the illustrious Howard, and his motives for undertaking what might at first sight appear a superfluous task. The history of Howard has passed long ago into our popular literature; and if not well written, is, at least in its outlines, known to the public. Mr Dixon brings him more distinctly forward as the great reformer of our prisons. His private life—interesting in many respects, in some romantic—is carefully and even eloquently drawn up; but it is as the leading man in a great work that, since his time, has been continually prosecuted, and before his time was scandalously neglected, that Howard is the object of Mr Dixon's researches. Appropriately, therefore, he describes at the commencement of his book the condition of our prisons before Howard's time, and at the period when he began his labours. In rummaging the archives of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, the secretary unexpectedly turned up an old MS., which proved to be a record of the society's proceedings in the time of Will. III and Anne. At that period the disorders of Newgate had attracted the attention of the society, and a committee had been appointed—at the head of which was Dr Bray—to visit the prisons and examine into the condition of the prisoners. As this is probably the first effort made by any public body or individual in England to improve prison discipline, Mr Dixon properly quotes Dr Bray's Report, which, written in 1701-2, summarily says:

CONDITION OF PRISONS IN 1701.

The vices and immoralities of prisons appear to be these following:—

1. The personal lewdness of the keepers and under officers themselves, who often make it their business to corrupt the prisoners, especially the women.
2. Their confederacy with prisoners in their vices, allowing the men to keep company with the women, for money.
3. The unlimited use of wine, brandy, and other strong liquors, even by condemned malefactors.
4. Swearing, cursing, blasphemy, and gaming.
5. Old criminals corrupting new comers.
6. Neglect of all religious worship.

A great number of recommendations were given to effect improvement, amongst which was, "that a table of orders, containing the duties of officers and ministers, as well as prisoners, signed by my Lord Bishop of London and the Committee of Aldermen and Common Council, be hung up in every prison." At present the Bishop of London is not supposed to have anything to do with the prisons of London, which have become wholly secular affairs, though then they appear to have been considered as in some measure under the supervision of the bishop. Whether any improvement ensued from the philanthropic exertions of the society or not, does not appear; but the state of the prisons continued so bad, that it excited the attention of the House of Commons in 1726. On the 25th of February of that year, the house appointed a committee to inquire into the state of the gaols of this kingdom. The first report of the Committee brought to light such scenes of profligacy and cruelty, that they excited disgust and horror. The House of Commons ordered at once the arrest of the warden, tipstaff, and others of the gaols reported upon, and passed a resolution for the Attorney-General to prosecute the delinquents. The continuation of the inquiries of the committee and the evidence brought forward on the trials of these parties, revealed the perpetration of continued and great crimes in our prisons, which may well serve to explain the continued and increased crimes of those who were unfortunate enough to get into them. Most of our readers have been made acquainted, by the writings of Fielding, with some of the horrors of prisons; they may suppose these to be exaggerated, but they will find the reality far exceed all the descriptions of the novelist. Criminals were then hanged in multitudes for trifling offences. Debtors and pirates were shut up together. All the offices of the prison were farmed out, and the gaoler and his servants made their living by extorting whatever they could from the prisoners and their friends by the most illegal and barbarous means. We will take one example of cruelty:—

TORTURE IN 1726.

In the year 1726, Thomas Bless, a carpenter, not having any friends to support him, was almost starved to death in the Marshalsea prison, upon which he attempted to get over the prison by a rope lent him by another prisoner. In the attempt he was taken by the keepers, dragged by the heels into the lodge, barbarously beaten, and put into irons, in which he was kept several weeks. One afternoon, as he was standing quietly in the yard with his irons on, some of Acton's men (Acton was a butcher, and lessee of the prison) called him into the lodge, where Acton was busy making merry with company. In about half an hour Bless came out again, crying, and gave an account "that when he was in the lodge, they, for their diversion, (as they called it), fixed on his head an iron engine or instrument (which appears to be an iron skull-cap) which was screwed so close that it forced the blood out of his ears and nose." And he further declared, that his thumbs were at the same time put into a pair of thumb screws, which were screwed so tight that the blood started out of them, and from that time he continued disordered till the day of his death. He was let out of prison without paying his debt, and at his going out Acton desired that all that was past might be forgotten, and that he would not bear him any ill-will. This miserable wretch was put into St Thomas's Hospital for help, but died very soon. These wicked keepers, in their pretended magistracy over the prisoners, found a way of making within the prison a confinement more dreadful than the strong-room itself, by coupling the living with the dead; and made a practice of locking up debtors who displeased them with human carcasses. One person those keepers confined in the lower part of the yard, separated from the rest, whilst there were there two dead bodies which had been there for days; yet was he kept there with them six days longer, in which time the vermin devoured the flesh from their faces, eat the eyes out of the heads of the carcasses, which were bloated, putrified, and turned green, during the poor debtors' dismal confinement with them.

From Howard's own works, we know that the prisons were sinks of abomination when he began his investigation; that men and

women were confined together; that many of the prisons were mere loathsome dungeons; that disease was continually engendered in them; that persons were starved to death; that food was continually short, except purchased; that the gaolers and others, paid by fees, continually plundered and ill treated their wretched captives; and that prisoners, both criminals and debtors, were treated far worse than negro slaves are now allowed to be treated. We are not sure even if the horrors of English prisons a century ago might not match the horrors of a slave ship under the measures taken to prevent the brutal traffic in slaves; nor are we sure that the one might not have been in former times justified by the other; but we are sure that we, who have only as yesterday cleansed ourselves from the foul stains of our barbarous prisons—even if we may be said yet to be cleansed—have no right to reproach even the African slave traders with perpetrating unheard of cruelties. Some notion, however, may be formed of the vast services rendered to humanity by Howard—not of his merits, for they must be judged of by his motives and his opportunities, his immense exertions and his self-sacrifices—by contrasting the condition of our prisons now and formerly. At present they are nearly all roomy, well aired, and as healthy as prisons can be. Some of them even enjoy a greater exemption from disease, and experience less mortality, than the habitations of the free poor. Some of them are even comfortable dwellings within, and stately palaces without—the food supplied is sufficient and wholesome; and, but for the restraint, the confinement under inspection, which, after all, is not much worse than is experienced by workers in factories and many species of manufacture, the prison life of this generation is as pleasant as the ordinary life of many of the working classes. That great service to humanity may be immediately traced to Howard. He gave a stimulus to philanthropy—he gave it a proper direction, and he conducted it to a good end. He began at home. He corrected himself and his own country before he went abroad. It is plain, indeed, that the evils of our prisons had got to such a height that they must have found a remedy, or the prison discipline itself would have perished; but Howard made the public sensible of the horrors, and was the great instrument of effecting a reformation. That the new system answers any better than the old, so far as preventing crime goes, we will not assert; but it is hard to believe, great as are the complaints we now hear of the increase of crimes, that the suppression of all those barbarities, of all those crimes, committed by the state, or with its connivance, and in its name, should not have led to an improved morality of the people. Putting an end to them was an essential part of the general progress; but when the state itself has lately been so criminal, and there is no doubt it yet commits many crimes, it should have some misgivings whether the crimes it still undertakes to punish be not connected with its own criminality, and the offspring of acts of which it has properly learned to be ashamed itself, though it have no compassion for the weakness of the people.

Mr Dixon's book opens up some of the largest questions that ever agitated humanity. He speaks of prison science, of theories of crime, and brings under review the whole system of secondary and capital punishments. It is impossible that the present dissatisfaction which exists on the subject—the condemnation of transportation, the denunciation of capital punishment, the uncertainty that hangs over the effect of prison discipline, the doubt whether the criminals do not still, as before, return into society hardened, from every species of punishment hitherto invented, except that of death, if that which is the universal lot can be called a punishment—it is impossible that the present general dissatisfaction with our penal system can continue without leading to some extraordinary results. What actions are crimes we all know; we have been expressly informed of the chief crimes by the Scriptures; but why such actions are crimes, or why forbidden, yet remains subject to many doubts. The state, being constituted to provide for the general welfare, necessarily concludes that the reason is their injuriousness to that; and the state having much influence over the theories of the people, almost all public writers have come to the same conclusion. The most prevalent opinion is that crimes are actions injurious to the public welfare, or to the welfare of some other persons than the criminals, and that they are beneficial to the criminals. It is, however, obvious, though it must be admitted that almost all crimes are injurious to other persons as well as the criminals, that the public welfare, which really means the welfare of the whole human race, is something beyond the measurement and comprehension of man. If that, too, were the reason why actions are crimes, the mistakes of politicians, their prison laws, and corn laws, which are almost infinitely more injurious to the public than any act of any individual can be, would be the greatest crimes; and it might then be doubted whether legislators were, not merely the chief, but the only, criminals. But the public repudiates such a conclusion, and regards legislators, whose intentions are excellent, even when they commit the greatest errors, as the very reverse of criminals. Why certain actions are forbidden, therefore, still remains a question of doubt and dispute; and we believe there is no probability of prison discipline or punishment, or penal laws, being placed on a right footing till that doubt be cleared up, and the question, why are actions considered crimes?—the foundation of all penal systems—be set at rest. We are not about to prosecute further such an interesting investigation; but we advert to it to say, that we do not think Mr Dixon, though familiar with many details of prison discipline, has reached the "height of this great argument;" and that he would do well, before pursuing his researches, to make himself perfectly acquainted with the "theories of crime." That would not be necessary if he intended only to describe the "Prisons of London and the Provinces;" but the present work assures us that he will mix up his description with moral observations, that he will continually draw conclusions and lay down dogmas and principle; and to do that with safety he must be well acquainted with what he dogmatizes about. The subject is most important and most extensive, and not lightly to be undertaken, nor even lightly to be noticed.

The private life of Howard is almost as memorable a lesson as his

public life. His father was a dissenter of the old and rigid school, and brought up his son in the strictest obedience. There being nothing remarkable in the promise of his early days, he was bound apprentice to a wholesale grocer, and continued in that business till his father's death. The lessons he had before learned were continued; he practised obedience, and acquired habits of punctuality and despatch. It is not unlikely that the little training he received to business, confirmed, if it did not beget the habit, which he followed through life, and so essential to success, of attending closely to one thing at one time. But the mere drudgery of trade was not suitable to Howard's taste, nor to his weak health; and, on his father's death, having inherited a handsome fortune, he withdrew from business, and assumed, though under age, with the consent of his guardians, the management of his own fortune. One little anecdote of this early period of his life, we must preserve. After his father's death, but before he had given up business, he undertook to repair the family house at Clapton, and proceeded thither regularly every day, always at the same hour. He never missed, and never failed to arrive as a baker's cart was passing the place. He then purchased a loaf, and throwing it over into his garden, would desire his old gardener to see if there were not something for him under the cabbages. So, he liked to confer benefits without ostentation, and without ostentation hating it in every form, and conferring great benefits on his servants, cottagers, friends, the public, and the whole world, he continued to the end of his life. We need not here repeat the story of his journeyings in the first instance to establish his health and invigorate his feeble frame, in which he was after a time tolerably successful. He was always a temperate man; he was even abstemious, eating no meat, and living on a crust of bread and fruit and vegetables. He disliked or even loathed meat, and to forego it was to him a pleasure, while to others it was a great privation. For his first wife he took an elderly but amiable lady, with whom he had lodged, who had nursed him in sickness, and on whom he bestowed himself and his fortune from a sense of duty. His strong will, his command over himself, his rigid obedience to what he conceived to be his duty, were shown on this as on every other occasion, and without regarding the opinion of friends or the world, he united himself with his nurse. She did not live long; and he afterwards married the daughter of Mr Serjeant Leeds, a lady about his own age, rank, and station. With a view, we presume, not of invariably commanding, as instances are given of their consulting together, and the suggestions of the lady being adopted; but to insure an undivided rule, he stipulated that in all differences of opinion, his voice was to be obeyed. Such a stipulation would not alter the relative character and duties of the two parties, and with or without it Howard would have commanded where necessary, but it was a means adopted by him to guard against quarrels and disputes with no judge to decide them. He seems to have had no occasion to enforce his authority, for his lady was gentle, kind, and affectionate, and shared all his labours. She even went before him in those philanthropic exertions for benefiting the poor of his neighbourhood, which he devised. She laid aside her jewels and avoided other marks of ostentation just as her husband desired. With this amiable lady he lived happily at Cardington in Bedfordshire, for seven years, when she suddenly died in childbirth, leaving him an infant son, and at once annihilating all the charms which her presence had spread round his home. From that period, 1765, dates the commencement of his labours devoted through the remainder of his life, first to the improvement of prisons and prison discipline in his own country, and the consequent repression of vice and crime; and next to the improvement of the prisons of other countries; and finally to the examination of the plague and improvement of quarantine establishments. For nearly twenty-five years did he labour assiduously in that one cause, and he became known by his exertions, and admired and loved over all Europe. Howard died at Cherson in 1790.

HOWARD'S FUNERAL.

Never perhaps (says Mr Dixon) had mortal man such funeral honours. Never before perhaps had a human being existed, in whose demise so universal an interest could be felt. His death fell on the mind of Europe like an ominous shadow, the melancholy wail of grief which arose on the Dnieper was echoed from the Thames, and soon re-echoed from the Tagus and the Neva and the Dardanelles. Everywhere Howard had friends more than could be thought; but death cut off restraint, and threw the flood-gate of sympathy wide open. Then the apparent tide rolled in like the dawn of a summer day. Cherson went into deep mourning for the illustrious stranger, and there was hardly a person in the province who was not greatly affected on learning that he had chosen to fix his final resting place on the Russian soil. In defiance of his own wishes on the subject, the enthusiasm improvised a public funeral. The Prince of Moldavia, Admirals Priestman and Mordoinoff, all the generals and staff officers of the garrison, the whole body of the magistrates, and merchants of the province, and a large party of cavalry, accompanied by an immense cavalcade of private persons, formed the funeral procession. Nor was the grief by any means confined to the higher orders. In the wake of the more stately band of mourners followed on foot a concourse of more than three thousand persons—slaves, prisoners, soldiers, peasants—men whose best and most devoted friend the hero of these martial honours had ever been: and from this humbler train of followers arose the truest, tenderest, expression of respect and sorrow for the dead. When the funeral pomp was over, the remains of their benefactor lowered into the earth, and the proud procession of the great had moved away, then would these simple children of the soil steal noiselessly to the edge of the deep grave, and with their hearts full of grief, whisper in low voices to each other all that they had seen and known of the good stranger's acts of charity and kindness.

A more memorable example of what can be done by an individual is not on record. It shows that all human hearts can be touched by those who ought to touch them, if they do but apply the right word and the right deed at the right time. Till those who pretend to guide mankind have all found out the art of Howard, they should spare the reproaches they now heap on the people. The fault is in them. John Howard, too, is as striking an example as any on record of what one man of iron will can accomplish. In his way, Howard, though of a calm temperament, was an enthusiast. He systematically devoted himself to the service of mankind, from an opinion that it was

his duty, and he unswervingly pursued his object to the end of his career. The account which is given of his visit to the quarantine establishment at Marseilles is the best illustration of his character we are acquainted with. He had applied to the French government for permission to visit that establishment, which was formally refused, and he was peremptorily forbidden to enter France on pain of being sent to the Bastille. He braved this threat. Disguised as a physician, he went to Paris, but the French government had information of his proceedings, and a spy accompanied him in the diligence.

HOWARD OUTWITS THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

On reaching Paris of a dark wintry night, his first step was to carry his small trunk to an obscure inn, where he hired a bed and paid his bill. A diligence started from a neighbouring street early in the morning for Lyons, and, having taken his place in this conveyance, he retired to rest, flattering himself that he had completely baffled the ingenuity of the police. Fatigued with travelling two whole days and nights, he was soon buried in a profound slumber. But he was not left to enjoy it long. An hour or two had hardly elapsed when he was suddenly aroused by a tremendous knocking at his bedroom door, quickly followed by a threat of breaking in if it were not opened. He was well aware that an unpleasant visit was within the range of chance, and he was therefore more alarmed than annoyed at the disturbance. He got up, unfastened the bolts, bade them come in if they wished, and then coolly returned to bed. The *femme de chambre*, with a lighted candle in each hand, entered, followed by a tall fellow in black, with a sword dangling at his side, and his hands enveloped in a huge muff. Howard at once recognised an agent of the Prefecture, and waited in silence for his interrogatives. Several questions having been asked, which at once made Howard aware that his disguise was known, the visitor withdrew, and Howard felt that he had only a moment for escape: so dressing hastily, and shouldering his trunk, he left the house. So far as he could see, the street was clear, and he made a quick *sortie* from the hotel, knowing that in a few minutes it would be placed under strict surveillance. Keeping himself secluded for an hour or two, he then repaired to the diligence office, and long before daybreak was rattling over the stony pavements of the suburbs of Paris towards the great southern highway, for the first time, since he had left the capital of Holland, free from the company of a spy.

Favoured by circumstances, he succeeded; and, in spite of the French government, which was acquainted with his whereabouts and of his design, actually visited and inspected the Lazaretto at Marseilles, and then, escaping from Toulon, proceeded to Italy. The calm determination evinced by Howard on this occasion distinguished him through life. His resolutions were indomitable. They concerned, however, things within his reach; and we should err most grossly, as many people do, were we to infer that similar resolutions are in all cases wise. It is common to suppose that masses of men, or societies, are to be governed by the same means as an individual rules himself, and a strong will is continually praised as essential to statesmen. But society is not under the control, nor within the reach, of individual will, like the passions with which the will is conjoined. If it be virtuous in one man to have a strong will, it must be virtuous in others; and applying this principle to society, each man acting on his own will, war must ensue—interminable war—except as it alternated with temporary despotism or anarchy. Howard's strong will was directed to controlling his own course, to subduing his own passions, and not to mastering and controlling other men. He succeeded in reforming prisons by pointing out existing evils; he succeeded in ameliorating quarantine establishments by the same method, and he was imperative only over himself.

Mr Dixon's work is very estimable. It takes a fair view of Howard's character. It is, perhaps, if anything, over written; the narration is not simple, and the style is a little disfigured by a few stilted phrases. The book, however, is a worthy memento of the wisest, if not the greatest, philanthropist of any age or country.

THE MONTHLIES.—SEPTEMBER.

THE BANKERS' MAGAZINE contains the first of a series of articles, which promise to be very interesting, on "The periodical fluctuations in the Currency of the United Kingdom." It is obvious that the payment of the dividends on shares on the various railway and other companies, as well as on the national funds, as well as the periodical employment at harvest time of a much greater number of persons in agriculture, must cause periodical fluctuations in the currency. They may be called natural or necessary fluctuations, though the funds and the companies are the work of man, and an account of them is necessary to enable us to compare and understand all the irregular fluctuations in the currency. The writer of these articles, therefore, promises to perform a good service to the public. We shall quote his account of the Branch Bank circulation of the Bank of England, as bringing under notice a new phase in the management of that establishment:—

In 1832, The country circulation of the Bank of England was 2,700,000, and the London circulation 14,300,000; but by January 1847, the country circulation had increased to 5,214,000, while the London circulation was 13,300,000.

The change in the amount of the issues of the several branches of the bank since 1834, are shown in the following table:—

	In 1834.	In 1847.
	£	£
Manchester	1,605,260	2,129,062
Liverpool	581,228	1,118,691
Birmingham	353,125	658,231
Newcastle	59,251	742,328
Gloucester	37,039	71,975
Swansea	58,318	166,634
Bristol	94,630	421,590
Leeds	229,606	359,595
Hull	58,822	112,039
Plymouth	42,018	311,480
Portsmouth	35,672	317,332
Norwich	25,117	10,353

We have not inserted in the list the Leicester and Exeter branches; the former only commencing in 1844, when the amount was 127,205, and the business of the latter branch being now amalgamated with that at Plymouth. The Gloucester branch is also now amalgamated with that at Bristol.

From these tables it is very evident that a great change has taken place in the nature of the circulation of the Bank of England within the last few years, and that instead of the bank swallowing up all the minor banks of issue, it is by no means improbable that it may become at last a local bank of issue itself.

Mr Bullion completes in this number his series of instructive and entertaining letters to a Branch Manager, and will no doubt resume his labours in some other direction, as well as comply with the request to collect his letters together in a durable, well-bound, much-read book. Many useful articles and tables are as usual found in this valuable auxiliary to all those who are interested in promoting correct monetary and banking knowledge.

TALES OF THE FIRST FRENCH REVOLUTION. *Parlour Library, No. 31.*
Simms and M'Intyre, Paternoster row.

THE author of "Emilia Wyndham" in this little volume of the Parlour Library presents the public with four tales, each referring to a different period of the first French revolution, and each possessing a peculiar moral applicable to the period of which it treats. The whole are intended to inculcate the evil of sudden revolutions and the dangers into which they thrust the cause of humanity. At the same time they exhibit the benefits derived from calm perseverance in individuals as the best means of benefiting society. These tales are a pleasant medium of conveying an excellent lesson. They are all taken from the French, and are full of that charming *naivete*, that sweet sentimentality which has deservedly so many attractions for young people. The longest tale, "A Soldier's Fortune," is the best it will delight all classes.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Practice in German, By Falck-Lehman. Whittaker and Co.
Direct Taxation: Frize Essay. (Pamphlet.) Simpkin and Marshall.
Summary of the Moral Statistics of England and Wales. By Joseph Fletcher, Esq.
The Learners' Poetic Task-Book. By Joseph Guy, Jun. Cradock and Co.

To Readers and Correspondents.

Communications must be authenticated by the name of the writer.

A CONSTANT READER must stand over until next week.
CIVIS.—Received.

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK RETURNS AND MONEY MARKET.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From the Gazette.)

AN ACCOUNT, pursuant to the Act 7th and 5th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Saturday, the 8th day of Sept. 1849:—

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	27,908,230	Government debt	11,015,100
Rest	27,908,230	Other Securities	2,984,900
		Gold coin and bullion	13,631,153
		Silver bullion	277,077
	27,908,230		27,908,230

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' capital	14,553,000	Government Securities, including Dead Weight Annuity	14,334,255
Rest	3,575,909	Other Securities	10,126,273
Public Deposits (including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts)	6,972,850	Notes	9,841,730
Other Deposits	9,065,606	Gold and Silver Coin	894,758
Seven Day and other Bills	1,029,651		
	35,197,016		35,197,016

Dated the 13th Sept. 1849. M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

THE OLD FORM.

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

Liabilities	L.	Securities	Assets.	L.
Circulation Inc. Bank post bills	19,096,151			23,907,528
Public Deposits	6,972,850	Bullion		14,802,988
Other or private Deposits	9,065,606			
	35,134,607			38,710,516

The balance of assets above liabilities being 3,575,909, as stated in the above accounts under the head REST.

FRIDAY NIGHT.

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

A decrease of Circulation of	£412,340
An increase of Public Deposits of	635,760
A decrease of Other Deposits of	204,505
A decrease of Securities of	6,325
An increase of Bullion of	26,788
An increase of Rest of	1,548
An increase of Reserve of	409,138

The circulation by these returns has decreased 412,340l. The public deposits have increased 635,760l, they continuing to increase faster than at the corresponding period last year. Private deposits have decreased 204,505l. Securities have decreased 6,325l, the decrease being of private securities. There is a small increase of bullion, 26,788l. The rest has increased 1,548l, and the reserve has increased 409,138l, the diminution of the circulation being almost accounted for by the accumulation in the bank till. The returns present no feature of importance.

The Money Market was firmer to-day. Money was in demand to be placed on call at the former rate of 2 per cent, and discounts were a shade higher. The slightly increased demand was wholly for the purposes of trade.

The exchange business was active to-day, and there was a demand for bills on Vienna and Trieste.

The arrival at Portsmouth of bullion to the amount of 2,850,000 dollars will add something to the stock accumulated in the Bank vaults, and increase the supply of money, which is already abundant and cheap.

The Funds have been very steady through the week, and continued to-day without any essential alteration. The following is our usual list of the opening and closing price of Consols on each day of the week, and of the closing price of the principal Funds last Friday and this day:—

	CONSOLS.		Account	
	Money	Account	Money	Account
	Opened	Closed	Opened	Closed
Saturday	92½	92½	92½	92½
Monday	92½	92½	92½	92½
Tuesday	92½	92½	92½	92½
Wednesday	92½	92½	92½	92½
Thursday	92½	92½	92½	92½
Friday	92½	92½	92½	92½

	Closing prices last Friday.	Closing prices this day.
3 per cent consols, account	92½	92½
— money	92½	92½
3½ per cents	93½	93½
3 per cent reduced	92½	92½
Exchequer bills, large	39s 42s	35 8
Bank stock	199 200	Shut
East India stock	250 3	250 4
Spanish 3 per cents	34½	34½
Portuguese 4 per cents	28½ 9d	28½ 9d
Mexican 5 per cents	27½ 8	27½ 8
Dutch 2½ per cents	53½ 4d	53½ 4d
— 4 per cents	84 6	84 6

The Railway Share Market has been dull and declining through the week, and closed to-day without hope of immediate improvement. Some slight falling off in the traffic returns of the different lines is assigned as one of the causes of the decline. It appears, however, to be unimportant, and not more than might be expected from the cholera, probably inducing opulent people to sojourn more than usual in the country rather than visit or travel by the railways through the crowded towns where the disease prevails. The main cause, however, is the stigma cast on this species of property by the improper proceedings of several directors. The following is our list of the closing prices last Friday and this day:—

	Closing prices last Friday.	Closing prices this day.
London and North Western	118 19 ex div	114 16
Midland counties	56 8	53 4 ex div
Brightons	74 5	71 2
Great Westerns	66 8 ex div	63 5
Eastern Counties	72 8	71 ½ ex div
South Westerns	33½ 4 ex div	32½ 3d
South Easterns	21½ 2	19½ 20
Norfolk	34 7	32 6 ex div
Great North of England	220 5	210 15
York and North Midland	22½ 3d	21 ½
York, Newcastle, and Berwick	17½ 18½	16½ 17½
Newcastle and Berwick Ext.	25 3 dis.	32 30 dis.
Lancashire and Yorkshire	12½ 13	11½ 12½
North British	58 9	37 9
Edinburgh and Glasgow	92½ 3d ex div	93 1
Hull and Selby	49 5d	48 5d
Lancaster and Carlisle	6½ ½ dis.	7½ ½ dis.
North Staffordshire	25 6	25 6
Birmingham and Oxford	5 6 pm ex int.	5 6 pm.
Birmingham and Dudley	20 ½	17 17½
Caledonian	18½ 19½	17 18
Aberdeen	3½ ½ dis.	2½ ½ dis.
Great Northern of France	11½ 12½	11½ 12½
Central	20½ 21	21 ½
Paris and Rouen	9½ 10½	10 ½
Rouen and Havre	7½ 6½ dis.	7½ 7 dis.
Dutch Rhenish		

FOREIGN RATES OF EXCHANGE ON LONDON AT THE LATEST DATES.

	Latest Date.	Rate of Exchange on London.	
Paris	Sept. 12	£.25 37½	Sight
		25 30 to 25 32½	1 month's date
Antwerp	— 12	£.25 55	3 days' sight
			3 months' date
Amsterdam	— 11	f.12 7½	3 days' sight
		12 2½	2 months' date
Hamburg	— 11	m.13 11½	3 days' sight
		13 10	3 months' date
St Petersburg	— 1	37½d to 37½d	3 —
Madrid	— 7	50 90-100d	3 —
Lisbon	Aug. 29	53½d to 53½d	3 —
Gibraltar	— 31	50½d	2 —
New York	— 22	9½ to 9½ per cent pm	60 days' sight
		1½ per cent pm	30 —
Jamaica	— 7	1 per cent pm	60 —
		par	90 —
Havana	— 11	15 per cent pm	90 —
Rio de Janeiro	July 26	25d to 25½d	60 —
Bahia	Aug. 1	25½d	60 —
Perambuco	— 4	25d	60 —
Buenos Ayres	July 11	2 9-16d	60 —
Valparaiso	April 30	45d	90 —
			30 days' sight
Mauritius	June 23	5 to 6 per cent pm	3 months' sight
			6 —
Singapore	July 4	4s 4d	30 days' sight
			6 months' sight
Ceylon	— 14	... to ... per cent pm	1 —
		... to ... per cent pm	3 —
Hong Kong	June 24	4s 2d to 4s 2½d	6 —
			6 —
Bombay	July 25	1s 10½d	3 —
		1s 10½d to 1s 10½d	6 —
Calcutta	— 16		4 —
			1 —
Sydney	May 19	3 per cent pm	30 days' sight

PRICES OF BULLION.

	£	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	0	0
Silver in bars (standard)	0	0	0

THE BANKERS' PRICE CURRENT.

PRICES OF ENGLISH STOCKS

Table listing prices of English stocks including Bank Stock, Consols, and various annuities with columns for days of the week (Sat, Mon, Tues, Wed, Thur, Fri).

COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

Table showing exchange rates for various cities like Amsterdam, Paris, and London, with columns for time and prices on change.

FRENCH FUNDS.

Table listing French funds such as 5 per Cent Rentes and Bank Shares with columns for Paris and London prices.

PRICES OF FOREIGN STOCKS.

Table listing prices of foreign stocks including Brazilian Bonds, Spanish Bonds, and Russian Bonds with columns for days of the week.

LATEST PRICES OF AMERICAN STOCKS

Table listing latest prices of American stocks including United States, Alabama, Indiana, and others, with columns for payable amounts and dividends.

Exchange at New York 109 1/2.

INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Table listing insurance companies such as Albion, Alliance British and Foreign, and others, with columns for shares, dividends, and prices.

JOINT STOCK BANKS.

Table listing joint stock banks including Australasia, British North American, and others, with columns for shares and dividends.

DOCKS.

Table listing docks such as Commercial, East and West India, and others, with columns for shares and dividends.

The Commercial Times.

Mails Arrived.

LATEST DATES.

On 12th Sept., BRAZILS, per *Seraphina*, via Liverpool—Rio de Janeiro, July 26; Bahia, Aug. 1; Pernambuco, 4.
On 14th Sept., CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, July 10, per *Lady Nugent*, via Deal.

Mails will be Despatched

FROM LONDON

On 17th Sept. (morning), for MADEIRA and WEST INDIES; also for Venezuela, New Grenada, Grey Town, Chagres, Panama, and Western Coast of America (Bermuda, Nassau, Porto Rico, Havana, Mobile Point, Vera Cruz, Tampico, and Honduras excepted; mails to these places on the 2nd of each month only), per *Avon* steamer, via Southampton.
On 17th Sept. (morning), for VIGO, OPORTO, LISBON, CADIZ and GIBRALTAR, per steamer, via Southampton.
On 20th Sept. (morning), for GIBRALTAR, MALTA, GREECE, IONIAN ISLANDS, SYRIA, EGYPT, INDIA, and CHINA, per *Hindustan* steamer, via Southampton.
On 21st Sept. (evening), for BRITISH NORTH AMERICA, BERMUDA, and UNITED STATES, per *Hibernia* steamer, via Liverpool.
On 24th Sept. (evening), for the MEDITERRANEAN, EGYPT, INDIA, and CHINA, via Marseilles.
The American steamship *Hermann* is appointed to sail from Southampton on the 20th inst for New York; letters in time on the 19th inst.

WEEKLY CORN RETURNS.

From the Gazette of last night.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
Sold.....qrs	63,174	2,148	10,041	599	1,056	1,034
	s d	s d	s d	s d	s d	s d
Weekly average, Sept. 8.....	44 6	26 9	18 4	25 11	31 2	29 7
— 1.....	45 8	26 3	19 3	27 0	32 3	28 6
— Aug. 25.....	44 8	26 4	18 10	26 5	32 2	28 8
— 18.....	46 3	26 1	19 0	27 5	31 9	29 2
— 11.....	47 4	25 8	19 2	26 7	32 0	31 1
— 4.....	49 1	26 3	19 4	25 6	31 10	32 1
Six weeks' average	45 11	26 3	19 0	26 5	31 10	29 10
Same time last year	52 8	31 2	21 11	31 3	37 5	37 4
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. 5, 1849.

	Wheat and wheat flour	Barley and barley-meal	Oats and oat-meal	Rye and rye-meal	Peas	Beans	Indian corn and Indian-meal	Buck-wheat & buck-wht meal
Foreign ...	66,638	31,814	40,920	1,825	6,174	3,817	20,974	...
Colonial ...	1,498	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	68,136	31,814	40,920	1,825	6,174	3,817	20,974	...

Total imports of the week172,763 qrs.

COMMERCIAL EPITOME.

FRIDAY NIGHT.

The Corn Market was firm to-day, and for first-rate wheat we heard of an advance being obtained of from 1s to 2s per quarter on Monday's prices; but on no kind of corn was there any further decline. Broken weather through the week, which has extended over a wide space, while a large part of the harvests of the North are yet in the fields—and statements, which admit of no contradiction, that the potato disease has shown itself amongst the tubers in Ireland and in several parts of England—account for the firmness of the market. Hitherto, the dry weather has preserved the potatoes, and the rain that has latterly fallen has developed the disease. From the continent, prices, having followed to some extent our previous markets, come lower; but the letters do not bring assurances of very large crops, and it is supposed that prices there have reached the lowest. The further arrivals of grain-laden vessels this week from abroad have not kept pace with those of last week, when a change of wind favoured the entrance of a great number of vessels that had been wind-bound. Supplies of wheat of home growth are now coming rapidly forward, and the farmers of Kent and Sussex, whose corn was extremely bad last year, seem likely to obtain a compensation this for their wheat, contrary to the reports from other places, is said to yield remarkably well, the dry weather having been favourable to their heavy land.

The Sugar Market has been steady, with a moderate business doing, and prices rather firmer than otherwise. The recent sales in Amsterdam, which went off very well at prices above the estimate, though below the prices of the last sales, had some influence on our own markets; and, notwithstanding the large stocks on hand, and the promise of large future supplies, lower prices are not anticipated.

Coffee has been quiet through the week, and the business done, though good, not so much as last week. The prices we then quoted have been hardly maintained; but the reports of the forthcoming crops, and the present rate of consumption, imply a further rise in the price.

There are complaints generally of dulness of trade, which may be attributed to the momentary dulness in the manufacturing districts, and to the prevailing epidemic which takes some away from business, and disheartens others. The absence of one, too, prevents another from operating, and takes him out of the

market. The latest returns both here and abroad show a decrease in the number of cases; we hope, therefore, that the disorder is rapidly passing away, and that business will feel the influence of the improvement in the public health.

The colonial wool sales, the third of the season, which commenced yesterday, were at first rather dull, although the attendance of buyers was numerous. To-day there was more spirited bidding, and the prices were full July rates. The buyers for the continent operated freely. The sale room was better attended than yesterday, and business more animated.

We have no arrivals from the United States this week, and the remarkable punctuality with which the mail packets perform their voyages has begotten more apprehension for the retarded arrival of the *Hibernia* than ought to be felt, considering the usual delays of the ocean.

From the Cape of Good Hope, of July 10th, we have received intelligence of not a very pleasant nature. The excitement in the colony, on account of the few convicts that are ordered thither, had surpassed all reasonable bounds. Most of the banks had issued advertisements, announcing—"That no application for dis-counts, or for the loan of money in any way whatsoever, shall be entertained from any person or persons who shall employ or take into his or their service any convict under sentence of transportation; nor shall any bills, notes, or other obligations bearing the name or names of such party or parties, be discounted or received in pledge; nor shall any person applying for, or in any way holding connection with the convicts expected to arrive from Bermuda by the ship *Neptune*, be allowed to keep any money or account with this bank."

At a very great public meeting held on July 4, it was resolved, amongst other things:—

That we will not employ or knowingly admit into our establishments or houses, work with or for, or associate with, any convicted felon or felons sent to this colony under sentence of transportation, and that we will discountenance and drop connexion with any person who may assist in landing, supporting, or employing such convicted felons.

And—

That the conduct of the Governor Sir Harry Smith, in refusing to take upon himself the responsibility of suspending this injurious and degrading measure—and his determination to carry out the measure in violation of a pledge to the contrary given to the people, in the name of Her Majesty's government,—and in contempt of an opposition on the part of an injured and insulted people, such as never was before equalled in any part of the British Empire, being absolutely universal,—prove that the government of this colony, as at present administered, is wholly at variance with the just and inalienable rights of British subjects, and perilous to the honour, safety, and happiness of the country.

To meet this state of things, the government had issued the following:—

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

Colonial Office, Cape of Good Hope, 9th July 1849.

It having come to the knowledge of the governor, that a combination has been formed among certain persons residing in Cape Town, for the purpose of presenting contractors supplying the government with food and other necessaries for the convicts who are shortly expected to arrive in the colony, and that the same combination has been employed to prevent gentlemen from accepting the vacant seats in the Legislative Council, whereby the necessary business and legislation of the colony will be seriously impeded, the action of the colonial government obstructed, and many private persons injured in their lawful trades and occupations; and it having been further represented that some of the banks in Cape Town have likewise combined for the purpose of refusing the usual accommodation and assistance to such contractors, and to any gentlemen who may accept seats in the Legislative Council, with a view to embarrass, distress, and injure such persons; his Excellency feels, though with great regret and reluctance, that the time has arrived when it becomes incumbent upon him to step forward and assist those persons who are likely to suffer from such combinations.

His Excellency, therefore, desires it to be notified that persons so circumstanced will receive pecuniary advances from the Colonial Treasury, upon real or such other securities as may be approved by a board of officers, to be appointed for that purpose: these advances to bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent per annum.

Applications for such advances will be received from 10 to 12 o'clock daily until further notice, at the colonial office, on and after the 10th instant: and will, whenever practicable, be disposed of on the same day.

And inasmuch as it will be necessary, in order to carry out this measure, that the government should issue promissory notes payable on demand, and as government collectors and accountants are prohibited from receiving, on account of the government, any bank notes or other paper money issued by the local banks, except upon their own responsibility, now government officers of every description are hereby permitted and required to receive as cash, in payment of all dues, rents &c., upon the responsibility of the government, such government promissory notes as may be issued on this occasion.

His Excellency desires it to be distinctly understood, that this is only a temporary measure caused by the exigency of the present moment, and that so soon as the combinations have ceased, and the reasons of the present measures have terminated, no further advances will be made. Care will, however, be taken, that the repayment of these advances by the persons who may have received them, will not be suddenly required, but proper arrangements will be made for their gradual liquidation.

By Command of his Excellency the Governor,
(Signed) JOHN MONTAGU, Secretary to Government.

A conflict to be fought out by weapons of that kind, is much to be deplored; and we cannot justify the banks and the colonists for beginning such extreme measures.

INDIGO.

The quantity now declared for the October sales amounts to nearly 19,000 chests of all sorts, of which however about 1,000 chests have already been withdrawn. The total comprises about 1,000 chests Madras, and as much Kurpah. Of Bengal, &c. sorts the show exhibits a large proportion of inferior and middling indigo, ranging from 3s 4d to 4s per lb, according to July rates. The transactions in this market during the week have been of no importance.

We have this week to report a more decided giving way in prices; not a very surprising circumstance when it is considered how small the business done during the last four or five weeks has been, owing to prices being forced far above the limits of buyers for all foreign markets, by the rapid and great advance that has been established upon cotton, and which has caused the purchasers for home consumption to be able only to supply immediate wants; therefore, prices for some weeks past have been more nominal than real, as comparatively little business has been done at the advanced prices of the last five or six weeks.

Now we have arrived at the tug of war between buyers and sellers. On the one hand, there is a large accumulation of orders in the hands of merchants and agents, at limits much below present prices; and, although the advices from abroad are satisfactory, so far as regards the amount of business doing, as yet no advance of any moment has been obtained. On the other hand, spinners and manufacturers are getting very near the completion of all their orders, the greater part of which were taken at low and slightly advanced prices, and stocks, now increasing on their hands—but still very small—produced from cotton 1d to 1½d per lb higher than the cotton used for the execution of the very large orders taken in June and during the early part of July. It is quite clear that spinners and manufacturers are in a very much worse position than they have been at any other period of this year. Notwithstanding this, nearly the whole of the spinners at Bolton have turned out for an advance of wages, which has caused the stoppage of 34 mills, a very ill-advised proceeding on the part of the operatives.

The only business of any consequence done in cloth this week has been for India and home consumption. For India offers have been made for very large quantities, but the prices offered were too low to lead to business. A little more is doing in domestic and T cloths. In every description of yarn little or nothing is doing; and prices of some qualities suitable for home manufacturing are as much as ½d per lb lower than a fortnight ago, but they were then relatively high.

The arrival of the *Hibernia* is now anxiously looked for.

LEEDS, Sept. 11.—There has been little business done to-day at the Cloth halls, but on the whole the woollen trade continues pretty brisk. No change in prices.

Huddersfield, Sept. 11.—Business continues healthy throughout the whole of this district. Every piece of a saleable quality was early disposed of in the Cloth hall. Not many buyers have visited the warehouse to-day, but orders continue to come in steadily.

MACLESFIELD, Sept. 11.—The throwing department is going on smoothly, and all the principal mills are working full legal time. The manufacturing department has still a gloomy aspect, and manufacturers have had a bad week in the way of selling, owing, no doubt, to the unsettled state of the weather. The fancy trimming trade is now brisk, but the power-loom trade is very slack, and has been so for some length of time.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS.

WOOL. FRIDAY NIGHT.

(From our own Correspondent.)

There has been more business done this week, both for the home trade and export, and prices are firmer, but we cannot state an advance having been actually paid.

CORN.

(From our own Correspondent.)

There has been more steadiness in the grain market since Tuesday, and a moderate extent of business doing at that day's rates. This morning the market was well attended, and we experienced a good demand for wheat at the rates of Tuesday; the Baltic supply is now getting in, and our buyers have a better choice. No change in the price of flour, good qualities meeting a fair demand. Oatmeal, both new and old, was scarce, and rather dearer. Oats without alteration. Indian corn in good request, at 1s per qr advance.

METALS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

The iron market remains very quiet, but prices are firmly maintained for most descriptions of manufactured iron. Scotch pigs have continued throughout the week very dull, with a very limited business doing, and rather lower prices have been accepted. The demand for copper, of late, has been large; and in consequence, prices have advanced ½d per lb. Present rates are, therefore, for manufactured copper, 9½d per lb, and for tile copper, 83d per ton. Tinplates are still scarce, and in good demand.

STATE OF THE CORN TRADE FOR THE WEEK.

The quantity of wheat at Mark lane on Monday was pretty good, from Essex and Kent, but there was very little from Suffolk, and the town millers took off the driest parcels tolerably freely, at a decline of 1s to 2s per qr, whilst other sorts of home grown were more readily placed at a reduction of 2s per qr, and on the whole a fair clearance was effected. The demand for foreign wheat revived at the close of the market; several country millers having taken a fair quantity off, principally of the better sorts, fine Dantzic white, 62lbs, at 50s; fine mixed Dantzic, 63lbs, at 48s; Wolgast and Wahren red, 62lbs, at 42s to 43s per qr, and other sorts in proportion. The importations were large, consisting of—176 qrs from Antwerp, 10 qrs from Bordeaux, 19,698 qrs from Dantzic, 68 qrs from Fauborg, 1,607 qrs from Koningsberg, 766 qrs from Memel, 15 qrs from Pellivorka, 500 qrs from Petersburg, 5,111 qrs from Rostock, 120 qrs from Kirgenwald, 55 qrs from Skielskier, 2,571 qrs from Stettin, 1,460 qrs from Stralsund, 8 qrs from Struer, and 1,180 qrs from Wolgast, making a total of 33,345 qrs. The supply of English barley was moderate, amongst which were several coarse parcels of new, and prices ranged from 27s to 32s per qr; the demand for grinding was to a fair extent, at a reduction of 1s per qr; the importation of foreign amounted to 31,961 qrs. Town made flour was put down 2s per sack, and other sorts declined in proportion; the arrivals were—2,720 sacks coastwise, 4,233 sacks per Eastern Counties Railway, 410 sacks, and 481 barrels foreign. The imports of foreign oats were immense, amounting to 61,731 qrs, and an abatement of 1s per qr was submitted to, on the general supply; even the short quantity, 994 qrs, from our own coast, 275 qrs from Scotland, and 150 qrs from Ireland must be quoted cheaper. Beans were steady in value and demand. Peas commanded as much money, and good boilers were in fair request.

Liverpool market was well attended, and a large amount of business was transacted in wheat, but at a reduction of 1d per 70 lbs on foreign, and 2d to 3d on Irish new; average 42s 6d on 87 qrs. Flour declined 6d per barrel and 1s per sack with a moderate sale. The trade was slow for both oats and oatmeal. Barley, beans, and peas were each dull sale, prices of Indian

corn were unchanged, 25s 6d to 26s per 480 lbs for best yellow, and 28s for the best white.

The attendance at Hull was small, and the little old wheat on sale was taken off at last week's prices. More new was offered of various quality, and the best samples were in moderate request at former rates: average 46s 3d on 419 qrs.

There was a fair sale for new wheat at Leeds at a decline of 2s per qr, and good runs of old were 1s per qr cheaper: average 45s 6d on 2,202 qrs.

A fair quantity of new wheat was brought forward at Lynn, most of which found buyers at 1s per qr abatement in price: average 42s 10d on 1,442 qrs. New barley sold at 1s per qr less money.

The arrivals of all English grain at Mark lane on Wednesday were very limited, but there was a fair additional quantity of foreign wheat and oats. Somewhat more firmness was visible in the wheat trade, and a few buyers took the finest samples of Dantzic, Wolgast, Wahren, &c., at full prices. Oats met a better sale, and although the importation of this article has recently been so immense, good samples are going off well and extensively.

The Scotch markets, held on Wednesday, were generally lower, the abundance of foreign supplies more than balancing the effect unfavourable weather would have had on prices. The supplies from the farmers at Edinburgh consisted of 233 qrs wheat, 598 qrs barley, 538 qrs oats, and 61 qrs beans. Wheat was taken slowly, at a decline of 1s to 2s per quarter; a few samples of new were shown of various quality, and in very damp condition. The demand for barley was languid. New oats were scarce, and 1s to 1½d cheaper. Three-fourths of the crop are cut in the Lothians, but only a trifling portion secured, and the state of the weather is sadly against harvesting. The imports at Leith consisted of 19,947 qrs. Foreign wheat, 5,875 qrs barley, 4,934 qrs oats, 469 qrs beans, 1,363 qrs peas, and 20 sacks flour. Considerable sales of wheat had been made to the merchants at a further abatement of 1s to 2s per qr, and the bulk of arrivals seems likely to pass into second hands immediately. The demand for spring corn has been fair, at prices in favour of the buyers.

The supplies coastwise and from Ireland were inconsiderable at Glasgow, but the imports of foreign were good, amounting to 6,335 qrs wheat, 2,440 qrs oats, 357 qrs beans, 69 qrs peas, 1,255 sacks and 6,000 brls, 574 loads oatmeal, 6 qrs Indian corn, and 73 brls Indian corn meal. Wheat and flour moved off slowly at 1s to 1½d per qr and sack. Home barley was steady in value, but foreign declined 6d to 1s per 320 lbs. The imports at Grangemouth, intended for Glasgow, were 9,719 qrs wheat, 3,853 qrs barley, 5,160 qrs oats, 817 qrs beans, 1,236 qrs peas, 1,047 qrs rye, and 200 sacks flour.

The averages announced on Thursday were 44s 6d on 63,174 qrs wheat, 26s 9d on 2,148 qrs barley, 18s 4d on 10,041 qrs oats, 25s 11d on 599 qrs rye, 31s 2d on 1,056 qrs beans, and 29s 7d on 1,034 qrs peas.

Supply of wheat at Birmingham was limited, and it readily obtained former prices: average 44s 5d on 1,345 qrs.

Wheat met a fair sale at Bristol, at fully as much money: average 37s 8d on 624 qrs.

Trade was slow at Uxbridge. There was a fair supply of new wheat, and no change on its value: average 48s 6d on 931 qrs.

There was rather a large supply of wheat at Newbury, which was taken off steadily at 1s to 2s per qr decline: average 44s 2d on 985 qrs.

The fresh arrivals of all English grain at Mark lane on Friday were small, but the importation of foreign wheat and oats was good, and a fair quantity of barley was reported. Very little English wheat was on sale, and prices much the same as on Monday, with a good demand for the best descriptions of foreign both from town and country millers, and fully as much money was obtained for all fine qualities. Grinding barley was rather cheaper. Oats were quite as dear, and prime corn met a good sale.

The London averages announced this day were:—

	Qrs.	s	d
Wheat.....	4,644	47	11
Barley.....	244	30	1
Oats.....	1,230	20	6
Rye.....	26	23	2
Beans.....	246	23	7
Peas.....	308	32	0

Arrivals this Week.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Malt.	Oats.	Flour.
	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	
English.....	3,490	410	2,430	1,420	1,260 sacks
Irish.....	..	..	..	610	..
Foreign.....	9,070	3,620	..	19,410	3,956 sacks .. brls

PRICES CURRENT OF CORN, &c.

BRITISH AND IRISH.		Per quarter.	
		s	d
Wheat ...Essex, Kent, and Suffolk, red, 1849	38 42	Old	40 44
Do do white do	40 48	Do	42 48
Norfolk and Lincolnshire, red do	37 42	Do	40 42
Northumberland & Scotch do	38 40	Do	42 44
Rye ...Old	25s 26s	New	24 26
Barley ...Grinding	23 24	Distilling	25 26
Malt ...Brown	48 50	Paleship	54 56
Beans ...New large ticks	26 28	Harrow	32 34
Do Old do	30 32	Do	35 38
Peas ...Grey	28 29	Maple	31 32
Do White, old	26 28	Boilers	27 28
Oats ...Lincoln & Yorks feed 15 16 Short small 17 18	15 16	New	20 21
Irish, Cork, Waterford, and Youghal, black 15 16	15 16	Poland	24 26
Do, Galway 14s 15s, Dublin & Wexford feed 15 16	16 17	Potato	14 16
Do, Limerick, Sligo, and Westport	16 17	New	17 18
Do, Newry, Dundalk, and Londonderry	17 18	Do	18 19
Flour ...Irish, per sack 33s 34s, Norfolk, &c.	32 33	Town	39 40
Tares ...Old feeding	24 26	Winter	44 45
FOREIGN.			
Wheat ...Danzig, Konigsberg, high mixed and white	46 30		
Do do mixed and red	42 44		
Pomeranian, Mecklenburg, marks, red	42 43		
Silesian, white	39 40		
Danish, Holstein, and Friesland, do	32 34		
Do do do, red	32 34		
Russian, hard	34 36		
Canadian, red	36s 38s	Soft	42 44
Italian and Tuscan, do	38 40	White	42 44
Egyptian	38 40	Do	26 28
Malze ...Yellow	24 25	Fine	25 26
Barley ...Grinding	25 26	White	26 28
Beans ...Ticks	19 23	Malt	27 31
Peas ...White	26 28	Small	30 32
Oats ...Dutch brew and thick	26 30	Maple	19 21
Russian feed	15 17		
Danish, Mecklenburg, and Friesland feed	15 18		
Flour ...Danzig, per barrel 21s 22s, American	22 24		
Tares ...Large Gore 32s 34s, old 21s 25s, new	28 30		

SEEDS.			
Linseed	Per qr crushing, Baltic 38s 41s, Odessa	40s 41s	Sowing ... 50 52
Rapeseed	Per last do foreign 27 1/2 28 1/2, English ...	27 1/2 28 1/2	Fine new 29 1/2 30 1/2
Hempseed	Per qr large	34 36	Small ... 30 32
Canaryseed	Per qr 6s 7s. Caraway per cwt ...	32 34	Trefoil Wet 14 17
Mustardseed	Per bushel, brown	8 10	White ... 6 9
Cloverseed	Per cwt English white new	32 42	Red ... 34 46
	Foreign do.	32 40	Do ... 28 36
	English do.	14 16	Choice ... 17 18
Trefoil	Per ton 6 1/2 6s to 7 1/2 7s, English per M	21 5s to 21 10s	
Linseed cake, foreign	Per ton	4 5s to 4 10s	Do per ton ... 4 5s to 4 10s
Rape do			

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL PRODUCE MARKETS.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

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

FRIDAY MORNING.

SUGAR.—Prices of colonial descriptions have not experienced any further decline, the demand being steady during the week. There is a limited business doing in foreign for consumption. The West India market has been rather active, about 1,800 casks being sold to yesterday at full prices, and the show is much reduced; low to middling refining sugars are selling at 36s 6d to 37s 6d. The sale of Barbadoes on Tuesday, containing 165 hds, went off without much spirit, but all the lots sold at former prices: good to fine 39s to 40s 6d; low and soft to middling, 37s 6d to 38s 6d per cwt. There is still a heavy stock of this description. Arrivals have been rather large, but the deliveries of colonial continue steady. Last week, 2,614 casks, 1,167 barrels West India were taken from the docks, leaving the stock on the 8th inst., 31,300 casks, 8,674 barrels, against 42,869 casks, 10,495 barrels at same time in 1848.

Mauritius.—No public sales were held at the commencement of the week, but there have been two or three parcels sold privately, at full prices. The deliveries showed some improvement last week, being 7,635 bags 45 casks, and the stock at the close consisted of 143,403 bags, 1,532 casks, against 157,799 bags, 3,657 casks at same date in the previous season.

Bengal.—There was only one sale on Tuesday of 3,744 bags, consisting principally of strong descriptions, which sold readily at full prices: low soft qualities were dull; good to fine grocery Mauritius kinds brought 39s to 40s 6d; middling, 38s to 39s 6d; fine Dhubah kind, 42s 6d to 44s, white ditto, 44s 6d; low to middling, dingy yellow, bought in at 35s to 36s 6d per cwt. There was not any white Benares brought forward, but a few sales have been made privately at last week's rates. Arrivals are large.

Madras.—There has been a limited inquiry for low qualities, but few parcels are offering, and prices remain without alteration. 7,605 bags have arrived this week.

Refined.—A further decline of 6d has been accepted for the lower class of goods, and the market continues very flat. Brown patent lumps have been sold at 47s 6d to 48s; low to middling titlers, 48s to 49s; good to fine 50s to 52s; wet lumps 46s to 48s. Pieces and bastards are dull of sale, and prices rather lower than last quoted. Treacle is about 6d lower, without leading to much improvement in the demand: sales have been made at 15s 6d to 20s, as in quality. Sugars refined in bond have been quiet. There is an inquiry for crushed, but the refiners having nothing on hand, few sales are reported; an advance is demanded, viz., 29s to 30s 6d. Several parcels Dutch have been sold at full prices. Leaves are dull, and lower: 10lb 32s 6d to 33s per cwt.

Foreign.—More inquiry has been made for export since the result of the Dutch Company's sale was known, and the transactions reported privately are to a fair extent. A cargo of brown Bahia has sold at 19s 6d; about 2,500 bags Pernambuco—brown, 18s 6d; white, 22s 6d to 25s 6d; and 450 casks Cuba Muscovado, in bond, at 19s 6d. 190 hds 25 barrels St Croix sold by auction at full prices: middling to good grocery, 40s 6d to 41s 6d. 575 boxes Havana, in bond, about half sold, at 18s 6d to 21s for washed good brown to fair yellow, the sound portion being taken in at 19s to 23s 6d for similar qualities. 1,720 boxes Trinidad de Cuba, in bond, partly found buyers at former rates: middling to fine strong greyish yellow, 21s to 23s 6d; brown and low, 20s to 21s; washed sold cheap, from 19s to 22s per cwt. Arrivals continue rather large.

MOLASSES.—The transactions in West India have been to a moderate extent at 15s 6d to 18s per cwt for Trinidad to fine Antigua.

COFFEE.—The speculative demand having partially subsided, there has not been much activity in the market, yet the principal holders continue firm, and last week's prices sustained. The continental markets are active, and all common export kinds very scarce here. A few small parcels Jamaica offered in the sales this week have found buyers at full prices. There has not been much spirit in the demand for plantation Ceylon, and prices went occasionally rather lower; 2,044 bags 307 casks were nearly all taken by the trade: middling qualities brought 56s to 60s; fine fine ordinary to low middling, 51s to 55s; good to fine ordinary, 48s to 52s; ragged and triage, 40s to 46s; triage, 38s to 42s; pea berry, 56s to 58s 6d; low ditto, 45s to 48s. At the commencement of the week about 2,000 bags native sold at 40s for good ordinary, being rather dearer. The market has since become quiet; 2,874 bags in the public sales were rather more than half sold at 39s 6d to 40s for similar quality, with one pile superior at 41s, being for the former a shade lower. There has been less inquiry by private contract. There has been less inquiry by private contract. The price of good ordinary at this time in 1848 was 28s to 28s 6d. Last week the deliveries were large, amounting to 4,609 bags 177 casks, including 2,132 bags 52 casks for export. The stock shows a decrease of 19,900 bags, &c.; 7 bags 507 casks Tellicherry (4d duty) sold to the home trade at full prices: fine to fine fine ordinary, 50s to 59s 6d, with a few lots middling, 61s 6d to 63s 6d; triage, 42s 6d to 48s 6d; pea berry, 53s to 64s 6d. 309 bags ordinary brown Singapore Java sold at 39s to 39s 6d per cwt. Foreign is firm, and about 2,000 bags Rio are reported at 37s. A cargo of Costa Rica has come in.

COCOA.—The demand for West India is rather limited. 220 bags Trinidad in public sale were partly sold: a few lots bright red realised high prices—48s to 49s; low grey to good red, 38s 6d to 44s per cwt, which were barely previous rates. The deliveries are steady, and the stock on the 8th inst, consisted of 6,576 brls, &c., and 75 casks, or about the same as that of 1848 at corresponding period.

TEA.—The amount of business done has been very limited during the present week, in consequence of the large public sales declared for the 15th inst. Common congou continues firm, and there are few parcels offering. The transactions by private contract in other kinds of black as well as green have been quite unimportant, and general quotations remain without change. One vessel has arrived here since last week, bringing only 5,119 pkgs. This morning 19,000 pkgs were advertised for sale next Tuesday.

RICE.—All kinds of East India have been neglected, but the few small sales effected show no alteration in prices. There were not any public sales to yesterday. The deliveries are steady, and the total stock on 8th inst, was 24,609 tons, against 21,616 tons at same time last year. Cleaned rice remains without alteration. London dressed Carolina 28s and 23s per cwt.

PIMENTO.—The market is firm, with a good demand. At auction 197 bags sold with spirit at stiffer rates, chiefly from 4 1/2d to 4 1/4d per lb for good middling quality.

PEPPER.—There is a steady demand for Sumatra, and 1,793 bags found buyers

at previous rates: common to good sifted, 2 1/2d to 3 1/4d: grey 2 1/2d to 2 3/4d. Few sales have been effected by private contract. 272 bags middling Singapore white found buyers at 4 1/2d to 4 3/4d per lb.

OTHER SPICES.—Jamaica ginger is in good demand, 53 casks 252 barrels were nearly all sold at former prices: low to fine bold bringing 37 1/2s to 9 1/2 5s, with a few lots very fine as high as 10 1/2 13s. 46 cases brown nutmegs found steady buyers at stiffer rates for fine bold, but small sizes went irregularly: low to fair, 2s 6d to 3s 11d; a few lots fine, 4s 3d to 4s 5d; 26 cases mace sold at rather lower prices, from 2s 1d to 2s 3d per lb for common to middling. Cassia Lignea continues very scarce, and high rates paid for small parcels.

SAGO, &c.—200 boxes 96 bags sold at easier rates: fine bold grain, 18s 6d to 19s; small 20s 6d. 50 bags sago flour realised 21s 6d per cwt. Arrowroot continues in demand at high prices. 1s 6d to 1s 7d has been paid for fine Bermuda, which is scarce.

SALTPETRE.—There is a partial speculative demand for East India, but no advance in prices has been paid. Of 3,057 bags in public sale, about 2,000 were sold without material alteration on previous rates: Bengal, refrac 9 to 5 1/2, ordinary small to good crystalline grey, 27s to 27s 6d; Madras, refrac. 5 1/2; dingy small grey 26s 6d to 27s per cwt. The deliveries continue steady, and the stock is 2,937 tons, against 2,105 tons at a like period last year.

NITRATE SODA is firm, and there are buyers at 12s per cwt.

GUANO.—The price of fine Peruvian still continues at 9 1/2 5s; but there is not much business doing for export. Other kinds are very dull, and prices nominally unaltered. No further supplies have come in this week.

COCHINEAL.—Yesterday 100 bags Honduras found steady buyers, the better kinds of silvers bringing 2d to 3d advance, but low to middling barely the former value, the extreme prices being 3s 7d to 4s 4d; blacks sold at 4s to 5s for common to good. 65 bags Mexican were chiefly taken in at former rates: low to middling silvers, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; blacks, 2s 8d to 3s 10d per lb. The deliveries last week were 255 serons, &c.

LAC DYE.—The market has been flat, and scarcely any business done. 33 chests common marks, offered yesterday, were bought in at 9d to 10d per lb.

DRUGS, &c.—The prices of most kinds of produce have not experienced any material alteration, in the absence of public sales. 240 chests East India camphor sold steadily at 52s 6d to 53s. There have been several arrivals of East India gums. Shellac continues dull. Gambier meets with a steady inquiry at last week's rates. Arrivals of Cutch have been very large, and several parcels will shortly be brought on the market. Other goods remain without alteration.

METALS.—The market for British manufactured iron is steady, and there is no further change in prices this week. Welsh bars are quoted at 5 1/2 2s 6d to 5 1/2 5s; rails the same. Scotch pig is still dull, and the market has a downward tendency: sales have been made this week at 44s to 45s per ton. Spelter has given way 2s 6d to 5s, in consequence of continued large arrivals. The price of British copper is 1/4d per lb higher, and the market looking firm. East India tin has been neglected during the week, a large sale being declared for this day.

HEMP.—There is a limited inquiry for clean and other kinds, but prices do not show any further change this week. Manilla is still scarce. Jute has been in fair demand; 740 bales sold by auction, at 14 1/2 19s to 15 1/2 17s 6d per ton for middling to fair quality. Coir goods are rather higher.

TURPENTINE.—There are not any further large transactions reported in rough. Spirits are steady, and 31s 6d paid for British drawn.

LINSEED.—The seed market is very firm, with few parcels offering, unless at an advance of 2s; prices are almost nominal; Odessa, 41s. Arrivals have been large this week. Linseed cakes continue rather dull, at 19s 5d to 19s 10d per 1,000.

OIL.—All kinds of common fish have met with an inquiry for export, and the market is firm. Several sales have been effected in cod, at 27 1/2 10s to 28 1/2. Pale seal has advanced to 36 1/4, at which business to a moderate extent is reported; the stock is light. Southern and sperm have continued as last quoted, with a steady demand. Linseed has again advanced 3d to 6d, the supply being unequal to the demand; several sales are reported at 27s 3d to 27s 6d; a higher price than at any former period this year. Rape is unaltered. 1,150 casks cocoa nut, offered in public sale yesterday, were all withdrawn, at 33s to 34s per cwt for low Ceylon and Cochin. The market for olive is firm; and rather higher rates are again demanded: fine Galipoli, 43 1/2 to 43 1/2 10s per tun.

TALLOW.—The market continues depressed, although a further decline of 6d has been submitted to, and supplies are coming in rather freely. Sales have been made in fine St Petersburg yellow candle, on the spot, at 37s 9d to 38s. The price for arrival in the last three months is 37s 6d to 37s 9d; but there are not many sellers. Other kinds are flat. The deliveries show no improvement.

POSTSCRIPT. FRIDAY EVENING.

SUGAR.—No further change occurred in the market to-day, but there was a steady demand for nearly all kinds of colonial at previous rates. The sales in West India amounted to 455, making 2,353 casks for the week, at last Friday's rates. Mauritius—4,242 bags offered to-day sold steadily at full prices: low to good yellow 36s 6d to 39s 6d; middling refining kinds 37s to 38s; low to good brown 32s to 36s. Bengal—3,852 bags, chiefly found buyers at previous rates, and went with some spirit; low middling to good and fine white Benares 39s to 42s 6d; other kinds as quoted in Tuesday's sales; a few lots damp Khaur realised 31s 6d; 216 bags Singapore brought 35s 6d to 41s for low damp grey to good yellow. Foreign—A few lots Porto Rico sold at full prices, from 38s to 41s, for middling to good. Refined—The market was flat this morning.

COFFEE.—719 bags Ceylon were offered to-day, and about 250 bags, consisting of native, sold at 39s 6d; with a few lots superior, 41s to 41s 6d. Plantation sold without spirit at yesterday's rates. 1,100 bales Mocha were nearly all sold for export, at 49s to 50s 6d for fair ungarbled. 1,276 bags other East India were chiefly bought in at high prices: low Singapore Java sold at 38s; Batavia kind taken in at 44s; a few lots selling at 41s; old Padangs out at 33s 6d to 34s.

RUM.—The market has been quiet. About 50 puns Jamaica are reported at 2s 7d to 2s 8d for fair, 3s to 3s 6d o.p., and 250 casks East India proof at 1s 3d per gallon.

TIN.—1,373 slabs East India Straits, offered in public sale, were bought in at 6s to 6s 8d; inferior, 56s per cwt.

OIL.—24 tons sperm, at auction, realised 76 1/2 to 79 1/2 10s; and 30 tons Southern whale, 32 1/2 to 33 1/2 15s per ton.

TALLOW.—The sales went off at lower prices, 513 casks Australian partly sold: beef, 34s 9d to 35s 3d; sheep, 34s 6d to 37s. 216 casks 1,025 boxes South American partly sold at 34s to 36s; 26 casks Taganrog, 35s to 35s 9d; and a parcel East India, 39s 3d to 40s.

ADDITIONAL NOTICES.

SUGAR.—The home market for refined sugar has been very much neglected. Some few parcels have been sold at rather lower prices, but even at a further reduction there is not any disposition to make purchases, except for immediate consumption. In the bonded, prices continue very firm for crushed, owing to the small quantity on hand; leaves are much neglected, owing to the increase of duty at Odessa. Treacle flat. About 600 tons of Dutch crushed sold at 26s 3d to 27s 6d, in Holland.

DRY FRUIT.—A small cargo of New Valencia raisins, ex William, arrived this week and sold by John Dalgliesh at 46s; the crop turns out very short. A cargo of Mascatells, ex Secret, also on tap, at 60s to 90s for layers, as in quality. Figs move off pretty well at quotations, but sultana raisins are neglected. More inquiry for the lower kinds of currants.

Table with columns: Currants, Spanish Raisins, Smyrna Raisins, Figs, Almonds. Rows for 1849, 1848, 1847.

GREEN FRUIT.—The market is steady. Barcelona nuts are a trifle lower, the demand being now interfered with by Dutch fresh walnuts and home grown filberts. Lemons are in limited demand, and the stock is light—100 cases, ex Priscilla from Naples, offered at public sale by Keeling and Hunt, part sold at a decline of 3s per case. The parcels of grapes by steamer have been cleared off the market, and a further supply may be daily expected. A small parcel of autumn Malaga lemons has been received, a portion of which is to be sent to an outpost. Brazil nuts without inquiry.

SEEDS.—We have no alterations to notice in the prices of seeds this week. New crops of hempseed and maw, are about making their appearances. Linseed is in little better demand.

FOREIGN WOOL.—The public sales of colonial wool commenced on Thursday, with a full attendance of buyers from the clothing districts, and some from the continent. The biddings were spirited, and the prices ruled fully up to those of last sales. These sales will continue daily to the 13th October, and will consist of at least 40,000, the whole of which are expected to go off well.

COTTON.—The transactions have been moderate, and the market dull, prices of last week being barely maintained. Sales of cotton wool from Friday 7th Sept. to Thursday 13th, inclusive:—

Table with columns: Surat, Madras. Values in 700 4d to 4 1/2d and 1,030 3/4d to 4 1/2d.

Total 1,730 bales.

SILK.—There has not been quite so much doing this week, but prices are firm, and the demand for export continues fairly brisk.

FLAX AND HEMP.—Flax generally very quiet; but a few sales made of Egyptian at fair prices. Hemp, very little passing; merely small parcels to supply retail wants.

LEATHER AND HIDES.—We have had a rather cheerful market this week at Leadenhall. The supply of leather was abundant, and fully an average portion of it was sold. The buyers were not numerous, but a disposition to make purchases was more evinced. We have not any alteration in prices to notice. Not anything important occurred at the last week's public sale of foreign raw goods. East India kips were the principal article, and they sold at about former rates, as also did the salted New South Wales hides.—Bristol Leather Fair was held on the Tuesday and three following days of the past week. The attendance there of buyers was unusually limited; the fear of the prevailing epidemic, no doubt, keeping many away from that city. Still, a fair amount of business was transacted at, and in the week preceding, the fair, without any alteration in previous prices; which prices so exactly correspond with ours in London, that it is only needful to quote those of the best saddler's hides, which were 10d to 12d; best Cornish, shaved bridle hides, 14d to 17d; and best pattern calf skins 17d to 20d.

TIMBER.—No change in prices; markets are steady, and the importation moderate.

METALS.—The only alteration we have to notice this week is the rise of 3d per lb on manufactured copper, and 4/ 10s per ton on tough cake and tile. The demand continues good. Iron is firm, and makers have their hands full of orders. Tin plates continue in good request. Tin is flat, and looking downwards. A sale of Straits took place yesterday of about 1,700 slabs, which all sold at prices varying from 56s to 68s per cwt.

ENSUING SALES IN LONDON.

TUESDAY, Sept. 18.—150 hhd's Barbadoes sugar. 34,300 pkgs tea. 900 cases Calicut ginger. 250 cases do do.
WEDNESDAY, Sept. 19.—100 bags Ceylon coffee. 150 casks do do. 2,000 casks Costa Rica do. 500 casks Black pepper. 209 boxes casia lignea.
THURSDAY, Sept. 20.—2,600 boxes Havana sugar. 600 bags Pegue Cutch.
FRIDAY, Sept. 21.—21 cases tortoiseshell. 2 tons East India Ivory. In about 14 days.—450 serons Guatemala indigo, 16 tons East India and Cape ivory. 100 tons Nicaragua wood.
TUESDAY, Oct. 9.—18,593 chests East India indigo.

LONDON MARKETS.

PROVISIONS.

The finer sorts of Irish butter are more in demand, at prices a shade better, while the lower quality butter are a heavy sale without any improvement in price. A good demand for fine Friesland, at an advance of 2s per cwt. Prime parcels of bacon are cleared up as fast as they come to hand, whether from Ireland or Hamburg, at prices ranging from 1s to 2s above last week. Lard dull. American singed bacon more inquired after, very little good on hand. Scalded middles a drug. Pork legs the same.

Comparative Statement of Stocks and Deliveries.

Table with columns: BUTTER, BACON. Rows for 1847, 1848, 1849. Includes Irish butter, Foreign do, Bacon.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL MARKETS.

MONDAY, Sept. 10.—Very few arrivals of country-killed meat have taken place for these markets during the past week, and the supplies offering slaughtered in London have been very small. Prime beef, mutton, and veal have moved off steadily at in most instances an advance in the quotations of 2d per sibs. All other kinds of meat have sold freely at full prices. Nearly 1,200 carcasses of foreign meat have been disposed of.

FRIDAY, Sept. 14.—These markets were fairly supplied with each kind of meat, which sold steadily at full prices.

At per stone by the carcase.

Table with columns: Inferior beef, Mutton, inferior, Prime large, Large pork, Veal, Lamb. Values in s d s d.

SMITHFIELD CATTLE MARKET.

MONDAY, Sept. 10.—Although the imports of foreign stock into London in the past week have been somewhat large, they have fallen considerably short of those at previous corresponding periods. The total arrival has amounted to 5,769 head. Last

year at the same time we received 7,925, and at the same period in 1847, 6,928 head. The general condition of the importations, within the last few days, has been by no means prime. The items were—beasts 1,189, sheep 4,051, lambs 175, calves 163, pigs 189. At the northern ports about 900 head of stock have been landed, mostly from Holland. The total imports at Southampton have been confined to about 20 oxen from Spain.

The receipts from Ireland have been only 30 oxen, in very middling condition. Nearly the whole of the preserved meat lately received from Sydney has been destroyed; hence the speculation has turned out a complete failure.

Fresh up to this morning's market, the arrivals of home-fed beasts were comparatively small, the time of year considered, and of very middling quality. As the quantities of dead meat on sale at Newgate and Leadenhall were very small, and the attendance of buyers considerably on the increase, the beef trade was somewhat brisk, at an advance in the quotations of Friday of 2d per sibs, being a rise on those of Monday last of 4d per sibs.

Prior to the conclusion of business, nearly the whole of the stock had been disposed of.

From the northern grazing districts we received about 900 short-horns; from Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, 1,100 Scots and short-horns; from the western and midland counties, 600 Herefords, runts, and Devons, &c.; from other parts of England, 200 of various breeds; and from Scotland, 110 horned and polled Scots.

There was a slight falling off in the numbers of sheep, all breeds of which commanded a ready sale, at prices quite 4d per sibs above those obtained on this day se'night. The primest old Downs sold freely at 4s 2d per sibs.

Lambs were in full average supply, and steady demand, at full prices, viz., from 4s to 5s per sibs.

We had a better inquiry for calves, at 2d per sibs, more money. The supply was by no means extensive. The pork trade ruled dull, yet prices were well supported.

SUPPLIES.

Table with columns: Sept. 13, 1847, Sept. 11, 1848, Sept. 10, 1849. Rows for Beasts, Sheep and lambs, Calves, Pigs.

FRIDAY, Sept. 14.—The supply of beasts on offer this morning was tolerably good as to number, but very deficient in quality. The attendance of buyers being rather numerous, the beef trade was steady at prices fully equal to those obtained on Monday, the primest Scots selling without difficulty at 4s per sibs. There was a slight falling off in the numbers of sheep, all breeds of which were in good request, at full rates of currency. The primest old Downs realised 4s to 4s 2d per sibs. Lambs were in fair average supply and moderate request at last week's prices, viz., from 4s to 5s per sibs. There was a slight improvement in the veal trade, but no advance was noticed in value. Pigs met a slow inquiry at late rates. Milch cows were quoted at from 14l to 18l 10s each, including their small calf.

Per sibs to sink the offals.

Table with columns: Inferior beasts, Second quality do, Prime large oxen, Prime Scots, &c., Large coarse calves, Prime small do, Suckling calves. Rows for s d s d.

Total supply at market:—Beasts, 845; sheep, 10,400; calves, 355; pigs, 300. Foreign supply:—Beasts, 215; sheep, 2,500; calves, 90; pigs, 10. Scotch:—Beasts, 10.

POTATO MARKETS.

YORK, Sept. 1.—A good supply, at from 6d to 8d per peck.
MALTON, Sept. 1.—A good supply, at from 6d to 3d per peck.
SHEFFIELD, Sept. 4.—From 5s to 7s per load.
MANCHESTER, Sept. 4.—5s 6d to 6s 6d per 252lbs.
RICHMOND, Sept. 1.—1s 6d to 2s per bushel.
LEEDS.—A good supply, which met a moderate sale at 5 1/2d to 7d per score of 21lbs. A very fine sample of potatoes was shown by Mr G. Thompson, having been grown on his farm in Holderness.
CARLISLE, Sept. 1.—A good supply of excellent potatoes, at 3d and 4d per stone of 18lbs.
DURHAM, Sept. 1.—We had a good supply, at 6d per peck.
KESWICK.—2 1/2d and 3d per stone.
SUNDERLAND, Sept. 1.—We have still to report favourably of the potato crop; the supply is abundant, and the quality excellent; the best 6d per stone, from that down to 4d.
NEWCASTLE, Sept. 6.—White, 6s 6d to 8s per load of 20 stones.
EXETER, Sept. 7.—7d to 8d per score.
NORWICH, Sept. 6.—Well supplied throughout the week; generally speaking very clear and free from disease. Retail price—per peck, from 5d to 7d; by the sack, from 4s to 6s.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET.

MONDAY, Sept. 10.—We cannot report any alteration in the state of our market, which remains heavy at last week's rates. Picking has partially commenced, and is expected to become general in a few days. Duty, 95,000l.
FRIDAY, Sept. 14.—In several parts of Sussex and Kent, picking has been commenced this week, but the produce is represented as small. Although the mould is stated to have increased in some of the plantations, the demand for all kinds of hops is heavy, at barely the late decline in the quotations, the supply of hops offering is by no means large, and the duty is called 95,000l to 100,000l. Sussex pockets, 3l to 4l 4s; Weald of Kent ditto, 3l 5s to 4l 5s; mid and East Kent ditto, 3l 5s to 3l 17s per cwt.
WORCESTER, Sept. 7.—Our hops have gone on very well during the last week; but if these cold nights continue, they will come down deficient in weight and quality. Duty, 8,000l. Market very quiet. We expect there will be a few lots of new ones at our annual hop fair (Wednesday, the 19th), but picking will not be general for a week or ten days.

HAY MARKETS.—THURSDAY.

REGENT'S PARK.—Fine upland meadow and rye grass hay 73s to 75s, inferior ditto 60s to 65s, new hay 45s to 60s; superior clover 90s to 93s, inferior ditto 80s to 85s, new ditto 60s to 80s; straw 26s to 34s per load of 36 trusses.
PORTMAN.—New meadow hay 50s to 58s, old ditto 63s to 74s, useful ditto 60s to 70s; new clover ditto 50s to 60s, old ditto 90s to 95s; wheat straw 32s to 38s per load of 36 trusses.
SMITHFIELD.—Fine upland meadow and rye grass hay 70s to 73s, inferior ditto 60s to 65s, new hay 45s to 60s; superior clover 92s to 95s, inferior ditto 80s to 85s, new ditto 60s to 80s; straw 26s to 32s per load of 36 trusses.
NEW HUNGERFORD.—Fine upland meadow and rye grass hay 70s to 72s, inferior ditto 60s to 65s, new hay 45s to 60s; superior clover 92s to 95s, inferior ditto 80s to 85s, new ditto 60s to 80s; straw 26s to 32s per load of 36 trusses.
WHITECHAPEL.—The supply at this market to-day was rather short, with a dull trade, prices remaining tolerably steady, except in straw, which has declined. Best old meadow hay from 60s to 75s, inferior ditto 45s to 55s, new hay 60s to 70s; best old clover 90s to 100s, inferior ditto 50s to 60s, new ditto 63s to 80s; straw 27s to 28s per load.

COAL MARKET.

MONDAY, Sept. 10.—Bate's West Hartley 14s 6d—Buddle's West Hartley 15s—Carr's Hartley 15s—East Adair's Main 13s—Hastings's Hartley 15s—Holywell Main 14s 6d—Jonas-ohms Hartley 14s—North Percy Hartley 14s 6d—Ord's Redheugh 13s 6d—Ravenworth West Hartley 14s—Tanfield Moor 14s 6d—Townley 14s—Walker Primrose 12s—West Hartley 15s 6d—Wylam 15s—Eden Main 15s 6d—Lambton Primrose 15s 6d—Cowpen Hartley 15s 3d—Hartley 14s 6d—Howard's West Hartley Northerton 15s 3d—Sidney's Hartley 15s. Wallsend: Acorn Close 15s—Brown's 14s—Brown's Gas 13s—Morrison 14s 9d—Percy 14s 3d—Riddell 14s 3d—Walker 14s 6d—Bell 15s—Denison 14s 9d—Hengh Hall 15s 6d—Kelloe 15s 6d—West Hetton 15s—Whitworth 14s—Richardson's Tees 14s 3d—South Durham 15s—St Helen's Tees 14s 3d—Tees 16s 6d—West Cornforth 15s. Ships at market, 216; sold, 162; unsold, 114.
WEDNESDAY, Sept. 12.—Bate's West Hartley 14s 6d—Buddle's West Hartley 14s 9d—Carr's Hartley 14s 9d—East Adair's Main 13s—Hastings's Hartley 15s—Holywell

Main 14s 6d—New Tanfield 13s 3d—Ord's Redhenge 13s 6d—Ravenworth West Hartley 14s—Tanfield Moor 14s 6d—Townley 14s—Walker Primrose 12s 3d—West Hartley 15s 6d—Eden Main 15s 6d—Hartley 13s 9d to 14s. Wallsend: Brown's 14s—Brown's Gas 13s—Morrison 15s—Percy 14s 3d—Riddell 14s 6d—Walker 14s 6d—Bell 15s 3d—Belmont 15s 9d—Hetton 16s 6d—Haswell 16s 9d—Lambton 16s—Plummer 16s 3d—Russell's Hetton 16s—South Hartlepool 15s 6d—Whitworth 14s—Adelaide Tees 15s 9d—Cowdon Tees 15s—Seymour Tees 15s—Tees 16s 6d. Ships at market, 148; sold, 84; unsold, 64.

FOREIGN MARKETS.

AMSTERDAM, SEPT. 11.

COFFEE.—At the Dutch Trading Company's public sale held on the 6th inst, there was an advance of almost 1 to 1 on the rates established at Rotterdam. SUGAR (RAW).—The sales during the week amounted to 400 boxes Havana at 29s, and 250 hhd's Surinam at 26½ to 27½.

DYES, &c.—Indigo remains firm. Dyewoods at former rates. Madders—Without alteration.

SPICES, RICE, FRUIT.—Spices without doing. Rice calm and without doing. Fruit remains the same.

SEEDS.—Rape for direct delivery well maintained. Linseed calm at former prices. Clover, red, in good demand: several lots Cologne of 1846 were taken for export at 19s, 20s, 20½, and 21s per 50 ko; white remains scarce; offered sales were made at 23½ to 25s per 50 ko. Although the demand for brown mustard for export was of little importance, the prime sorts found ready buyers at the country markets on speculative account, and these were difficult to obtain under 15½ per hect; inferior qualities brought 14½ per hect; fair dry yellow scarce; 9½ to 10s was readily obtained; inferior abundant at 7s to 8½. North Holland canary 11s; Frisian 10s per hect. North Holland caraway found ready buyers at 15½ per 50 ko.

CORN.—Wheat. In the former part of the week business was confined to sales for home use, the arrival of some cargoes threw prices 10s to 30s down, principally the Polish descriptions, a few lots red were taken for export. Rye, closed dull; no sales can be made unless at a reduction. Barley nothing doing. Oats remain the same.

PETERSBURG, SEPT. 1.

CORN without transactions. The accounts of the harvest are generally favourable, and prices in the interior declining.

DEALS.—Nothing done. FLAX.—200 tons taken by a foreign house of the Brothers Ardamatsky and Koroleff, at 97½, 87½, and 77½ b. ro., and 95, 85, and 75 b. ro. would be paid for a considerable quantity to the same parties.

HEMP.—Shack, with little doing. Small parcels have been bought at 84 and 83 b. ro. for picked, 82 and 81 b. ro. for good, and 80 b. ro. for inferior clean. 75 to 76 b. ro. for outshot, and 75 to 71 b. ro. for half clean. 100 tons for next year have been done among Russians at 85 b. ro., with 10 b. ro. down.

LINSEED.—Nothing doing, and prices nominally unaltered, though in some instances it might probably be had cheaper.

TALLOW.—The purchases during the week have been extensive, say 6,000 to 7,000 casks, mostly at the lower quotation, say 114 and 113 b. ro. for Ukraine, 112 and 111 b. ro. for common, 111½ and 110 b. ro. on settlement of contracts for the month, and 108 and 107 b. ro. for soap. Some inferior Ukraine had been done at 112½ b. ro.; but in consequence of the large transactions, the Russians were again rather firmer. White candle tallow 130 b. ro.

FREIGHTS, notwithstanding some arrivals at the beginning of the week were stiff, and room scarce.

The Gazette.

Friday, Sept. 7.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Bailey, Shorter, and Co., Oporto—Gordelier and Payne, Star-corner, Bermondsey, carriers—Hughes and Groves, Naunton Beachamp, Worcestershire, farmers—Garnham and Gates, Aylesford, Kent, grocers—J. Crossdale and Sons and Messrs Heber, Ormerod, Crossdale, Brothers, and Co., Clayton-le-Moors, Lancashire, grocers—Dobson and Taylor, East Ardsley, Yorkshire, coal owners—Hart and Boal and Hart and Co., Liverpool, bakers—Tubb, Wilks, and Cowell, Pitt street, St George's fields, brewers; as far as regards W. Tubb—Oliver and Swindells, Bollington, Cheshire, cotton spinners—Sutton and Lidbetter, Manchester, limeburners—J. and W. G. Brittan, Sherborne, Dorsetshire, newspaper proprietors—Goddard and Brothers, Stockport, dyers—Martin and Co., Exeter, ironfounders—Allen and Evershed, Brighton, soap manufacturers—Lewis and Church, Birmingham, patent card manufacturers—Classey and Harris, Wells, Somersetshire, bakers—Shubotham and Co., Longton, Staffordshire, manufacturers of earthenware—Hall, Broom, and Co., Llanelly, Carmarthen, timber merchants; as far as regards C. N. Broom—Louks and Stubbs, Manchester, coal merchants—Williams and Hatton, Oxford street and Regent circus, silkmercers—Wilkinson and Morris, Wem and Ellesmere, Shropshire—Wesron, Dignam, and Co., Old Change and Watling street, warehousemen; as far as regards W. Leaf, J. Coles, Jun., W. Smith, M. Brankston, W. L. Leaf, and C. J. Leaf.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

G. and C. Davidson, Edinburgh, woollendrapers.
J. Macindoe, Leith, merchant.
J. Cook, Currie, contractor.

Tuesday, Sept. 11.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

J. and W. Clark, Rhasell mews and Conway mews, Fitzroy square, carmen—J. and C. Winter, Holborn hill, tailors—King and Sheath, Regent street, Westminster, linen-drappers—Gouldston and Walker, Hampden street, Harrow road, and Praed street, Edgware road, builders in general—Brentini and Cometti, Kirby street, Hatton garden, looking glass makers—Richardson and Newton, Manchester, calico printers—A. Andrade and D. Andrade, jun., Newgate market, meat salesmen—Frankieys and Atrill, Portsea, woollen drapers—G. and F. Rumsey, Dean street, Shadwell, tripe-dressers—Harrison and Saw, Leeds, dyers—J. and W. Demeza, and Demeza and Son, Manchester, stationers—Baylis and Co., Bilston, Willenhall, and Wednesfield heath, Staffordshire, blacksmiths—Osborn and Manby, Bourne, Lincolnshire, furnishing ironmongers—Ryley and Catford, King's Lynn, Norfolk, linen-drappers—Frichard and Ingram, Stourport, Worcestershire, attorneys—Wheeler and Co., Stock Exchange, stock brokers—Crabtree and Lynd, Leeds, commission agents—Robinson, Nevell, and Collins, Northampton, carriers; as far as regards S. Nevell—The Scotswood Brick and Tile Manufactory, Scotswood, Northumberland; as far as regards F. Fothergill.

BANKRUPTS.

Louis Ensoll, Great Titchfield street, linen-draper.
William Rogers, John street, Edgware road, licensed victualler.
John Joseph and Sarah Ann Bowers, Worcester, grocers.
William Tyers, Gosport, bootmakers.
Frederick Barford, St Alban's, straw plait dealer.
Thomas Francis, Birmingham, nail manufacturer.
Alfred Viner, Bristol, hop merchant.
William James Bebell, Gloucester, ship builder.
John Durham Worksop, miller.
William Dixon, Manchester, ironmonger.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.

H. P. Macdonald, Monkstadt, Isle of Skye, farmer.

Gazette of Last Night.
BANKRUPTS.

Charles Hodge, draper, Plymouth.
James Bragg, lime merchant, St James's wharf, Bermondsey wall, Surrey.
Henry Aldrich, corn merchant, Ipswich.
John Francis Knobel, wine merchant, Charles street, Berkeley square.
John Tuhey, builder, Willow walk, Surrey.
Charles Rowland, stonemason, Horsham, Sussex.
Francis Jenkinson, baker, Regent street, Middlesex.
Henry Coppin, bootmaker, Colchester.
Thomas Chambers, baker, Kingsland road.
Francis Kindon, draper, Manchester.
Edwin Calder, miller, Birmingham.
George Molini Cowley, scrivener, Nottingham.
Charles Edwin Wilson and Henry Wilson, grocers, Rhoymedre, Denbighshire.

The Railway Monitor.

	Date when due.	Amount per Share.		Number of Shares.	Total.
		Already paid.	Called.		
Anglo-Italian	15	5 0 0	0 5 0	44,422	11,106
Belfast and County Down	1	25 0 0	1 10 0	10,000	15,000
Bolton, Blackburn, Clitheroe, & W. Yorkshire, A.	5	19 0 0	1 0 0	12,000	12,000
Charleroy and Erquennes	6	...	2 0 0	...	...
Cork and Brandon	5	42 10 0	1 5 0	4,606	5,578
Dundalk and Enniskillen	1	25 0 0	2 10 0	15,000	37,500
Dundee, Perth, and Aberdeen Quarters	3	1 5 0	1 0 0	24,000	24,000
Hartlepool, New 201	1	5 0 0	5 0 0	3,655	18,275
Kendal and Windermere, Preference 101	1	2 0 0	1 0 0	5,000	5,000
Leeds and Thirsk Extension, 48, 36, 512 to 47,859	1	3 10 0	1 10 0	11,347	17,020
London & North Western, L. and B., 401	1	2 0 0	5 0 0	65,111	325,555
Malton & Driffield Junction	15	12 0 0	1 10 0	12,000	18,000
Midland Great Western Ireland, 251	20	15 0 0	2 10 0	16,000	40,000
Shrewsbury and Hereford	1	3 0 0	1 0 0	40,000	40,000
South Wales	20	38 0 0	5 0 0	56,000	280,000
St Helen's Canal and Railway	4	3 15 0	2 10 0	6,336	15,840
Total					865,954

EPITOME OF RAILWAY NEWS.

LANCASHIRE AND YORKSHIRE.—The half-yearly meeting of this company was held on Wednesday at Manchester. Mr Henry Houldsworth presided. There was a numerous attendance of proprietors. The report exhibited the following results:—Capital received on account of calls, 6,804,551; ditto, 6 per cent preference stock, 792,477; loans, 2,568,758; total received, 10,165,787; calls in arrear, 304,733. The total capital which the company is authorised to raise, including the powers granted by parliament in the last session, amounts to 13,854,045; the estimated outlay to which the directors limited themselves in their statement to the shareholders, on the 10th of November 1848, for the completion of all the works then in progress, was 11,253,000; the actual outlay up to the 30th of June last was 10,063,862; the balance of estimated outlay yet to expend, 1,189,138. The lines represented by the above capital comprise about 200 miles of railway and 16 miles of canal. No expenditure beyond that sum will be incurred without the express sanction of the shareholders. The directors recommend a dividend at the rate of 4 per cent per annum, which will leave a balance, after providing for the defalcations before named, 22,868, to be carried forward to the next account. By the constitution of the fifth shares the dividend upon them will be subject to the deduction of 2½ per cent for the half-year on the amount uncalled. The total mortgage debt at this date is 700,074, whilst the works and property of the company have cost 10,063,862. The report and dividend were approved.

DUNDEE, PERTH, AND ABERDEEN JUNCTION.—The half yearly meeting of this company was held at Dundee on Friday, Lord Kinnaird in the chair. The report stated that there had been a falling off in the passenger traffic amounting to 674, chiefly arising from the prevalence of cholera in Dundee. There was an increase in the goods traffic over the corresponding period of last year, amounting to 4,560. A dividend at the rate of three per cent per annum for the past half year was agreed to. The directors expressed their determination to compel the Caledonian Company to fulfil the agreement for leasing the line at a guaranteed rent, and to apply to parliament for legislative sanction to the arrangements entered into between them, and ratified by the shareholders of both companies.

RAILWAY SHARE MARKET.

LONDON.

MONDAY, Sept. 10.—The railway share market has been steadily supported throughout the day; but the amount of business has been limited.

TUESDAY, Sept. 11.—Those lines only are quoted in which business has been done this day, or for which closing prices can be given.

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 12.—There was some little flatness in the railway share market to-day, and prices with few exceptions showed a tendency to decline.

THURSDAY, Sept. 13.—The railway market continues heavy, sales having again preponderated.

FRIDAY, Sept. 14.—The market for railway shares is lower again, and with an extremely limited business doing.

THE NINEVEH EXPLORATIONS.—A letter from Constantinople of the 30th ult. says: Mr Layard, author of "Nineveh and its Remains," left this yesterday in a Turkish steamer for Trebizond, on his way to the scene of his late brilliant discoveries. Mr Layard is accompanied by an artist, a medical man, and a secretary. He is in excellent health and spirits, and anticipates, I believe, with the resources now at his command, to prosecute his researches with even more success than before. Mr Layard does not intend, I understand, to confine his labours to the Assyrian ruins in the neighbourhood of Mo-sul, but will visit Mount Ararat, Lake Van, and the whole of that part of the East which abounds in religious and historical associations. The scientific and literary world may anticipate a rich treat when the fruit of Mr Layard's present expedition will be given to the press. Shortly before the publication of his late work, Mr Layard was appointed by Lord Palmerston Paid Attache to the British Embassy at Constantinople.

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 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 per last Report, Average cost per mile, Dividend per cent. per annum on paid-up capital (1846-1849), Name of Railway, Week ending, Receipts (Passengers, Merchandise, Total), Same week 1848, Traffic per mile per week (1849-1848), and Miles open in (1849-1848).

COMMERCIAL TIMES Weekly Price Current.

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

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

Ashes duty free First sort Pot, U.S. p cwt 39s 0d 40s 0d Montreal 39 0 40 0 First sort Pearl, U.S. 34 0 35 0 Montreal 34 0 35 0

Cocoa duty B.P. 1d p lb. For 2d. Trinidad per cwt 38 0 50 0 Grenada 36 0 46 0 Para. Bahia, & Guayaquil 26 0 29 0

Coffee duty B.P. 4d p lb. For 6d Jamaica, triage and ord, per cwt, bond 20 0 34 0 good and fine ord 36 0 46 0 low to good middling 48 0 65 0 fine middling and fine 72 0 100 0

Berbec and Demerara triage and ord 24 0 35 0 good and fine ord 32 0 42 0 low middling to fine 42 0 60 0 Ceylon, ord to good 38 0 40 0 plantation kind 40 0 85 0 Mocha, fine 60 0 70 0 cleaned garbled 50 0 59 0 ord and ungarbled 25 0 44 0 Sumatra 27 0 30 0 Padang 31 0 33 0 Batavia 53 0 42 0 Manila 34 0 40 0 Brazil, ord to good ord 30 0 34 6 fine ord and colour 35 0 37 0 St Domingo 34 0 37 0 Cuba, ord to good ord 29 0 35 0 fine ord to fine 37 0 50 0 Costa Rica 35 0 60 0 La Guayra 34 0 54 0

Cotton duty free Surat per lb 0 3 0 4 Bengal 0 0 0 0 Madras 0 3 0 4 Pernam 0 5 0 8 Bowed Georgia 0 5 0 6 New Orleans 0 5 0 6 Demerara 0 0 0 0 St Domingo 0 0 0 0 Egyptian 0 5 0 7 Smyrna 0 0 0 0

Drugs & Dyes duty free COCHINEAL Black per lb 3 7 5 3 Silver 3 6 4 4 LAC DYE D T per lb 1 9 1 10 Other marks 0 7 2 5 SHELLAC Orange p cwt 45 0 55 0 Other sorts 34 0 60 0 TURMERIC Bengal per cwt 17 0 18 0 China 15 0 17 0 Java and Malabar 11 0 16 6 TERRA JAPONICA Cutch, Pegue, gd, p cwt 16 0 17 0 Gambier 9 0 10 0

Dyewoods duty free LOGWOOD Jamaica per ton 4 15 0 0 Honduras 5 0 5 5 Campeachy 6 5 6 10 FUSTIC Jamaica per ton 5 0 6 0 Cuba 7 0 7 10 NICARAQUA WOOD Lima per ton 13 10 20 0 Other large solid 10 0 13 0 Small and rough 9 0 10 0

SAPAN WOOD Bimas per ton 12 0 14 0 Siam and Malabar 8 0 11 0 BRAZIL WOOD Unbranded per ton 18 0 50 0

Fruit—Almonds Jordan, duty 25s p cwt, l s 1 s new 8 0 10 10 old 6 10 7 0 Barbary sweet, in bond 2 4 2 5 bitter 1 14 0 0 Currants, duty 15s per cwt Zante & Cephal 1 14 1 16 Patras, new 1 16 2 0 Figs duty 15s per cwt Turkey, new, p cwt d p 3 8 4 10 Spanish 0 0 0 0 Plums duty 20s per cwt French per cwt d p 0 0 0 0 Imperial carton, new 0 0 0 0 Prunes, duty 7s, new d p 0 18 1 2 Raisins duty 15s per cwt Denia, new, p cwt d p 0 0 0 0 old 2 6 0 0 Valencia, new 2 0 0 0 old 0 0 0 0 Smyrna, black, new 2 4 2 7 red Elme 3 15 0 0 Sultana, new, nom 3 0 4 10 Muscatel, new 3 0 4 10

Flax duty free Riga, P T R per ton 34 0 38 0 St Petersburg, 12 head 32 0 33 0 9 head 0 0 0 0 Friesland 35 0 45 0

Hemp duty free St Petersburg, clean, p ton 29 10 0 0 outshot, new 27 10 0 0 half cleaned 26 10 0 0 Riga, Rhine 30 10 0 0 Manila, free 32 0 33 10 East Indian Sunn 0 0 0 0 Bombay 0 0 0 0 Jute 13 0 17 0

Hides—Ox & Cow, per lb B A and M Vid. dry 0 3 0 6 Do. & R Grando, salted 0 2 0 3 Brazil, dry 0 3 0 3 drysalted 0 2 0 3 salted 0 1 0 2 Rio, dry 0 3 0 5 Lima & Valparaiso, dry 0 5 0 4 Cape, salted 0 1 0 3 New South Wales 0 1 0 2 New York 0 0 0 0 East India 0 3 0 10 Kips, Russian, dry 0 8 0 10 S America Horse, phide 4 0 8 0 German 5 0 8 0

Indigo duty free Bengal per lb 1 6 5 4 Oude 2 2 4 4 Madras 2 0 4 6 Manila 0 8 2 4 Carracas 2 1 4 3 Guatemala 1 10 4 5

Leather, per lb Crop Hides 30 to 40 lb 0 7 1 0 do 50 65 0 10 1 4 English Butts 16 24 0 8 1 10 Foreign do 16 25 0 9 1 10 Calf Skins 20 35 0 10 1 8 do 40 60 1 0 1 7 Dressing Hides 6 6 1 1 Shaved do 0 7 0 11 Horse Hides, English 0 7 1 1 do Spanish, per hide 8 0 11 0 Kips, Petersburg, per lb 1 0 1 5 do East India 0 8 1 4 5

Metals—COPPER Sheathing, bolts, &c. lb 0 9 0 0 Bottoms 0 10 0 0 Old 0 8 0 0 Tough cake, p ton 3 4 0 0 Tile 83 0 0 0 IRON, per ton Bars, &c. British 6 0 0 0 Nail rods 6 15 7 0 Hoops 8 0 8 5 Sheets 8 15 9 0 Pig, No 1, Wales 3 10 3 15 Bars, &c. 5 5 5 10 Pig, No 1, Clyde 2 5 6 0 Swedish, in bond 11 10 0 0 LEAD, p ton—Eng, pig 15 16 0 0 sheet 16 10 16 12 1/2 red lead 19 10 0 0 white do 23 0 0 0 patent shot 19 10 0 0 Spanish pig, in bond 15 0 15 8 STEEL, Swedish, in kgals 14 0 0 0 in faggots 14 0 0 0 SPELTER, for per ton 14 15 15 0 TIN duty B.P. 3s p cwt, For 6s English blocks, p ton 73 0 0 0 bars 74 0 0 0 Banca, in bond 69 0 0 0 Straits do 68 0 0 0 TIN PLATES, per box Charcoal, 1 C 31s 0d 32s 0d Coke, 1 C 27 6 28 6

Molasses duty B.P. 4s 6d, For 6s 4d West India, d p, per cwt 15 6 18 6 Refiners', for home use, fr 17 0 20 0 Do export (on board) bd 14 6 0 0

Oils—Fish Seal, pale, p 252 gal d p 35 10 36 0 Brown and yellow 28 0 33 0 Sperm 81 0 81 10 Head matter 83 0 84 0 Cod 27 10 28 0 South Sea 27 10 32 0 Olive, Galipoli... per ton 43 0 43 10 Spanish and Sicily 41 10 42 0 Palm 30 10 31 0 Cocoa Nut 31 10 36 0 Seed, Rape, pale 38 0 41 10 Linseed 27 5 27 10 Black Sea p qr 43 0 44s 0d St Petersburg Morshank 41 0 42 0 Do cake... per ton 71 5s 71 10s Do Foreign 5 0 7 12 1/2 Rape, do 4 0 4 10

Provisions All articles duty paid. Butter—Waterford 60s 0 63s 0 Carlow 68 0 70 0 Cork, new 64 0 66 0 Limerick 56 0 62 0 Friesland, fresh 80 0 83 0 Kiel and Holstein, fine 72 0 78 0 Leer 60 0 64 0 Bacon, singed—Waterfd. 52 0 68 0 Limerick 0 0 0 0 Hams—Westphalia 70 0 76 0 Lard—Waterford and Limerick bladder 56 0 60 0 Cork and Belfast do 0 0 0 0 Firkin and keg Irish 40 0 42 0 American & Canadian 38 0 42 0 Cask do 23 0 34 0 Pork—Amer. & Can. p b. 60 0 70 0 Inferior 0 0 0 0 Beef—Amer. & Can. p tc 75 0 90 0 Inferior 0 0 0 0 Cheese—Edam 36 0 42 0 Gouda 28 0 32 0 Canter 21 0 22 0 American 30 0 48 0

Rice duty B.P. 6d p cwt, For 1s Bengal, white, per cwt 8 0 11 0 Madras 6 6 8 6 Java 7 0 13 0

Sago duty 6d per cwt. Pearl, per cwt 17 0 23 0 Flour 20 0 20 6 Saltpetre Bengal p cwt 27 0 28 0 Madras 26 0 27 0 NITRATE OF SODA 12 0 12 6

Seeds Caraway, for. old, p cwt 28 0 32 0 Eng. new 34s 36s, old 32 0 34 0 Canary per qr 70 0 75 0 Clover, red per cwt 0 0 0 C white 0 0 0 Coriander 16 0 20 0 Linseed, foreign... per qr 38 0 46 0 English 6 0 0 0 Mustard, brown... p bush 10 6 14 6 white 10 0 12 6 Rape per last of 10 qrs £27 0 £30 0

Silk duty free Surdad per lb 11 0 13 0 Cassimbuzar 8 0 12 6 Gonatea 7 0 13 0 Comercoly 9 6 13 6 Bauleah, &c. 5 6 11 6 China, Tsattee 21 0 26 0 Raws—White Novl 18 6 22 0 Fossombrone 15 6 18 0 Bologna 14 6 18 0 Friuli 14 6 18 0 Royals 16 0 17 0 Do superior 19 0 20 0 Bergam 17 0 22 6 Milan 17 0 22 6

ORGANZINES Piedmont, 18-22 24 0 25 0 Do 24-28 23 0 24 0 Milan & Bergam, 18-22 20 0 21 6 Do 24-28 19 0 19 6 Do 30-34 18 0 18 6 TRAMS—Milan, 18-22 22 0 24 0 Do 24-28 18 0 19 0

BRUTIAS—Short reel 10 9 11 0 Long do 10 6 11 0 PERSIANS 9 3 10 6

Spices—PIMENTO, duty 5s per cwt... per lb bond 4 0 4 1/2 PEPPER, duty 6d p lb Black—Malabar, half heavy & heavy bd 0 2 1/2 0 3 1/2 light 0 2 1/2 0 2 1/2 Sumatra 0 2 2 0 2 1/2 White, ord to fine 0 3 1/2 0 7 GINGER duty B.P. 5s p cwt, For 10s Bengal, per cwt 23 0 50 0 Malabar 23 6 75 0 Jamaica 50 0 210 0 Barbadoes 30 0 36 0

CAS. LIGNEA duty B.P. 1d p lb, For 3d ord to good, p cwt...bd 94 0 98 0 fine, sorted... 100 0 101 0 CINNAMON duty B.P. 3d p lb, For 6d Ceylon, per lb—1st bd 3 3 4 3 second 2 0 3 8 third and ordinary 0 9 2 2

CLOVES, duty 6d, per lb Amboyne & Bencoolen 1 2 2 0 Cayenne and Bourbon 0 6 1/2 0 8 MACE, duty 2s 6d, per lb 2 0 3 6 NUTMEGS duty 2s 6d ungarbled, per lb 2 0 4 0 shrivelled and ord 0 9 1 3

Spirits—Rum duty B.P. 8s 2d p gall, For 15s 4d Jamaica, 10 to 20, O.P. per gal...bond 2 3 2 8 30 to 40 2 9 3 4 fine marks 4 0 5 0 Demerara, 10 to 20 O.P. 1 7 1 9 30 to 40 2 1 2 3 Leeward I., 5U to 5 O 1 5 1 6 Bengal, proof, with cer. 1 3 1 3 1/2 Brandy duty 15s p gal 1st brands, 1838... 6 2 6 4 1839 6 4 6 6 1840 6 6 6 8 1841 6 1 6 3 1842 6 1 6 3 Vintage of 1844... 6 5 6 7 1845 6 3 6 5 Geneva 1 10 2 0 Extra fine 2 6 0 0

Sugar duty B.P. 12s or 14s p cwt, For 17s, 18s 6d, or 19s 10d W I, B P br d p, p cwt 35 0 36 0 middling 36 6 37 6 good and fine 38 0 41 0 Mauritius, brown 20 0 36 0 yellow 37 0 38 0 good and fine yellow 39 0 42 0 Bengal, br 30 0 38 6 yellow and white 35 0 48 0 Madras, brown 39 0 32 6 yellow and white 33 0 42 0 Java, brown and yellow 26 0 39 6 grey and white 40 6 45 0 Manilla, low brown 34 6 36 6 current qual of clayed 37 0 39 0 Rio, brown and yellow 34 0 37 6 white 38 6 41 6 Pernam, brown and yel 34 6 38 0 white 39 0 42 0 Bahia, brown and yellow 35 0 39 0 white 40 0 43 0 Havana, brown & yel 35 6 42 0 white 44 0 55 0 Porto Rico, low & mid. 37 0 39 0 good and fine 40 0 43 0

REFINED duty Br. 16s, For 24s 8d Bounty in H. ship, per cwt, refined 15s, bastards 12s Do leaves, 8 to 10 lb free 57s 0d 60s 0d Equal to stand, 12 to 14 lb 52 0 54 0 Tilters, equal to stand 49 0 50 0 Ordinary lumps, 45 lb 47 6 48 0 Wet lumps 46 0 47 0 Pieces 38 0 42 0 Bastards 31 0 36 0 Treacle 15 6 20 0 In bd, Turkey lvs, 1 to 4 lb 40 0 48 0 5 lb loaves 34 0 0 0 10 lb do 33 0 33 6 14 lb do 33 0 0 0

SUGAR—REF. contd. bd s d s d Tilters, 29 to 28 lb 31 0 31 6 Lumps, 40 to 43 lb 30 6 31 0 Crushed No. 2 29 0 31 0 Dutch superior 29 6 0 0 No. 1 27 6 28 0 No. 2 26 0 27 0 Belgian crushed, No. 1 28 0 0 0 No. 2 27 6 0 0 Pieces 25 0 26 0 Bastards 20 0 21 0 Treacle 15 0 15 6

Tallow Duty B.P. 1d, For 1s 6d p cwt N. Amer. melted, p cwt 35 0 37 0 St Petersburg, new Y C 37 6 37 9 N. S. Wales 34 0 37 0 Tar—Stockholm, p bri 15 9 16 0

Tea duty 2s 1d Bohea Canton, per lb, bd 0 2 0 3 Congou, ord and com 0 9 0 9 1/2 middling to fine 0 10 1 9 1/2 Souchong, ord to fine 0 10 2 9 Pouchong 0 0 0 0 Capor 0 9 1 8 Pekoe, Flowery 1 6 4 0 Orange 0 11 1 9 Twankay, ord to fine 0 6 1 0 Hyson Skin 0 6 1 0 Hyson, common 1 0 1 2 middling to fine 1 4 3 7 Young Hyson 0 6 8 2 Imperial 0 11 2 4 Gunpowder 1 0 3 6

Timber Duty, foreign 15s, B.P. 1s per load. Danzig and Memel fir 65 0 to 75 0 Riggs 67 0 75 0 Swedish 60 0 0 0 Canada red pine 58 0 65 0 yellow pine 57 6 62 6 New Brunswick do, large 70 0 82 6 do, small 50 0 55 0 Quebec oak 90 0 100 0 Baltic 110 0 130 0 African—duty free 160 0 200 0 Indian teak duty free 220 0 260 0 Wainscot logs, 18ft. each 60 0 85 0 Deals, duty foreign 20s B.P. 2s per to 25 Norway per 120 of 12ft. 20 to 25 Swedish 14ft 20 25 Russian, Petersburg standard 13 15 1/2 Canada 1st pine 13 14 2nd 9 9 1/2 spruce, per 120 12ft 12 17 Dantzig deck, each 15s to 25s Staves duty free Baltic per mille £110 to 130 Quebec 67 1/2 to 70

Tobacco duty 3s per lb Maryland, per lb, bond brown and leafy 0 8 0 6 1/2 colour 0 6 0 7 1/2 fine yellow 0 8 1 0 Fine Irish & spinners 0 4 0 5 1/2 middling do 0 4 0 4 1/2 fine long leafy 0 4 0 4 1/2 Amersfoort or German 0 3 1 0 Havana and Cumana 1 0 4 6 Havana cigars, bd duty 9s 4 6 14 0

Turpentine duty For. Spirits 5s Rough per cwt d p 6 7 1/2 7 3 Eng, without cks 31 6 32 0 Foreign do, with casks 32 6 33 0

Wool—ENGLISH.—Per pack of 240 lb Fleeces, So. Down hogs 11 1/2 12 6 1/2 Half-bred hogs 11 0 12 0 Kent fleeces 10 0 11 0 S. Down ewes & wethers 9 0 10 0 Leicester do 8 0 9 0 Sorts—Clothing, picklock 14 0 15 0 Prime and picklock 12 0 12 10 Choice 11 0 11 10 Super 10 0 10 5 Combing—Wethermat. 14 0 14 10 Picklock 12 10 13 10 Common 11 0 12 0 Hog matchin 15 10 16 10 Picklock matching 13 10 14 10 Super do 11 0 12 0

FOREIGN—duty free.—Per lb Spanish— Leonasa, R's, F's, & S 1 2 1 3 Segovia 1 0 1 2 Caceres 0 11 1 0 Soria 0 10 0 11 Seville 0 9 0 10 German, 1st and 2d Elect 2 16 3 6 Saxon, prima 2 0 2 4 and secunda 1 6 1 9 Prussian (tertia) 1 0 1 4 Moravian, Electoral 2 9 3 2 Bohemian, prima 2 0 2 4 and secunda 1 9 1 10 Hungarian (Lamb's) 1 10 3 0

Australian and V D L Combing and Clothing 0 11 2 7 1/2 Lambs 0 9 2 1 Locks and Pieces 0 7 1 6 Grease 0 7 1 0 Skin and Slips 0 9 1 4 1/2 S. Australian & Swan River Combing and Clothing 1 1 1 4 Lambs 1 0 1 7 Locks and Pieces 0 11 1 0 Grease 0 5 0 6 Skin and Slips 0 11 1 3 1/2 Cape—Average Flocks 0 5 1 3 1/2 Lambs 0 8 1 0 Locks and Pieces 0 8 1 0 Grease 0 8 1 1

Wine duty 5s 6d per gal £ s d Port per pipe 17 0 52 0 Claret 5 0 45 0 Sherry 12 0 76 0 Madeira pipe 18 0 55 0

STATEMENT

Of comparative Imports, Exports, and Home Consumption of the following articles from Jan. 1 to Sept. 8, 1848-9, showing the stock on hand on Sept. 8 in each year. FOR THE PORT OF LONDON.

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

East and West Indian Produce, &c.

	Imported		Duty paid		Stock	
	1848	1849	1848	1849	1848	1849
<i>British Plantation.</i>	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons
West India	58,745	56,584	46,960	58,480	32,207	23,587
East India	27,459	30,631	28,680	34,580	12,857	13,104
Mauritius	27,747	23,726	23,485	25,776	11,691	9,728
Foreign	...	...	20,828	12,764	...	...
	113,951	110,941	119,953	131,600	56,255	46,419
<i>Foreign Sugar.</i>			Exported			
Cheribon, Siam, & Manilla	5,822	1,782	1,534	2,446	5,479	1,735
Havana	19,152	24,186	5,662	6,827	14,858	25,476
Porto Rico	3,369	8,136	661	689	2,421	7,186
Brazil	12,071	11,452	6,801	6,006	6,215	7,257
	40,414	45,556	14,658	15,988	28,973	41,644

PRICE OF SUGARS.—The average prices of Brown or Muscovado Sugar, exclusive of the duties:—
 From the British Possessions in America 25 7/8 per cwt.
 Mauritius 24 1 1/2
 East Indies 30 3/4
 The average price of the three is 26 4 1/4

	Imported	Duty paid	Stock
MOLASSES.			
West India	2,689	3,972	4,044
	6,176	4,723	4,806

	Imported		Exported		Home Consump.		Stock	
	1848	1849	1848	1849	1848	1849	1848	1849
	gal	gal	gal	gal	gal	gal	gal	gal
West India	1,879,920	1,537,765	557,100	787,500	762,120	823,320	1,968,435	2,078,235
East India	371,790	440,730	208,575	390,915	106,515	91,845	328,590	413,415
Foreign	94,770	80,820	123,975	21,780	6,795	900	89,820	136,350
	2,346,480	2,079,315	889,650	1,200,195	875,430	916,065	2,386,845	2,628,000

COFFEE.—Cwts.

	Br. Plant...	7,398	1,372	1,144	17,189	14,628	28,670	13,096
Ceylon	173,171	182,005	7,105	32,613	147,815	152,632	170,006	176,206
Total BP.	200,001	189,403	8,477	33,757	164,995	167,260	198,676	189,902
Mocha	11,505	8,763	732	1,365	9,634	7,732	15,034	12,313
Foreign EI.	10,062	9,010	5,340	21,356	2,808	5,101	52,383	31,395
Malabar	31	...	45	...	75	156	324	132
St Domingo	5,217	1,500	6,660	1,882	123	44	4,035	2,092
Hav. & P. Ric.	8,323	20,568	1,915	28,275	317	487	14,758	9,105
Brazil	35,054	43,895	27,190	52,074	15,392	13,513	42,634	14,627
African	36	...	...	...	...	...	37	1
Total For...	70,228	93,676	51,792	104,952	27,869	27,033	129,205	69,665
Grand tot.	270,229	283,079	60,269	138,709	192,864	194,293	327,881	259,567

COCOA.—Cwts.

	Br. Plant...	16,023	235	405	12,289	12,941	10,115	10,126
Foreign	10,267	7,627	4,811	6,443	2,665	2,600	7,611	9,736
	25,133	23,650	5,046	6,848	14,954	15,541	17,726	19,861
<i>RICE.</i>								
British EI.	16,709	15,922	1,153	3,248	10,229	10,245	19,309	22,098
Foreign EI.	2,723	1,410	216	1,498	1,017	686	2,307	2,516
Total	19,432	17,332	1,369	4,746	11,246	10,931	21,616	24,609
<i>PEPPER.</i>								
White	492	1,294	298	189	1,818	2,300	3,966	4,267
Black	27,692	20,235	13,165	16,899	19,216	22,169	59,076	50,912
<i>NUTMEGS.</i>								
Do. Wild.	1,081	646	388	203	706	597	653	384
CAS. LIG.	603	9	33	2	73	266	1,554	1,186
CINNAMON.	3,403	8,217	2,191	7,220	1,951	691	546	343
	2,904	5,089	3,775	4,020	567	745	2,684	3,102
<i>PIMENTO.</i>								
	13,463	29,253	9,309	16,780	5,261	2,399	1,590	3,109

Raw Materials, Dye Stuffs, &c.

	Serons	Serons	Serons	Serons	Serons	Serons	Serons	Serons
COCHINEAL.	5,703	6,986	...	...	6,738	8,852	1,942	3,027
LAC DYE.	862	1,768	...	...	1,926	2,671	4,918	3,518
LOGWOOD.	3,520	3,091	...	...	4,129	4,110	1,888	754
FUSTIC.	972	1,309	...	...	1,178	1,352	600	610

INDIGO.

	chests	chests	chests	chests	chests	chests	chests
East India.	18,183	29,394	...	...	18,598	22,102	31,736
Spanish.	1,074	1,570	...	...	1,058	2,224	1,761

SALTPETRE.

	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons
Nitrate of Potass.	7,458	7,756	...	...	6,003	6,665	2,105
Nitrate of Soda.	678	5,011	...	...	1,611	3,312	651

COTTON.

	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags
American.	1,727	2,611	...	...	1,593	2,887	749
Brazil.	272	317	...	...	109	506	342
East India.	23,559	9,683	...	...	25,215	28,725	28,630
Liverpl., all kinds.	1,239,571	1,500,963	102,380	158,230	943,730	1,140,760	556,890
Total.	1,265,129	1,513,564	102,760	158,230	970,697	1,172,878	596,611

ARTICLES CHARGED WITH DUTIES OF EXCISE, &c.

An Account of the Quantities of the several Articles charged with duties of Excise, the Quantities Exported on Drawback, and the Quantities Retained for Home Consumption, in the half-year ended July 5, 1847, 1848, and 1849.

Articles.	Quantities Charged with Duty.			Quantities Exported to Foreign Parts.			Quantities retained for Home Consumption.		
	Half-year ended July 5			Half-year ended July 5			Half-year ended July 5		
	1847	1848	1849	1847	1848	1849	1847	1848	1849
ENGLAND.									
Bricks	1103,979,725	714,957,290	712,919,933	7,412,329	5,582,684	5,734,013	1096,567,396	709,374,606	707,185,920
Hops	...	...	...	255,698	150,666	192,608	...	...	...
Malt	15,960,639	20,075,390	20,683,433	...	...	...	15,960,639	20,075,390	20,683,433
Paper	49,774,526	45,523,613	50,155,943	1,914,760	1,959,577	1,825,023	47,859,766	43,564,036	48,330,920
Soap	74,940,051	81,091,086	84,461,127	4,161,933	4,923,297	5,457,885	70,778,118	76,167,789	79,003,242
Spirits	4,179,270	4,332,014	4,131,435	...	...	33,401	4,179,270	4,332,014	4,107,625
Spirits from Chan. Isl.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sugar	...	177	...	...	...	...	...	177	...
Beer exptd.	...	...	...	70,267	78,243	69,638	...	...	...
SCOTLAND.									
Bricks	32,469,449	17,570,202	19,739,793	1,358,094	1,066,937	865,960	31,111,355	16,503,265	18,873,833
Malt	1,895,905	2,077,999	2,216,827	...	...	...	1,895,905	2,077,999	2,216,827
Paper	12,359,098	12,385,231	13,564,891	890,932	483,087	397,057	11,468,166	11,902,144	13,167,834
Soap	9,345,631	9,960,444	10,293,131	104,205	594,136	184,182	9,241,426	9,366,308	10,108,949
Spirits	2,849,323	3,161,059	3,238,634	...	...	86,165	2,849,323	3,161,059	3,238,634
Beer exptd.	...	...	...	6,224	8,097	9,541	...	...	...
IRELAND.									
Malt	630,848	1,003,309	857,293	...	...	...	630,848	1,003,309	857,293
Paper	3,209,194	2,919,890	3,150,072	5,559	4,931	4,762	3,203,635	2,914,959	3,145,310
Spirits	2,500,259	3,319,906	3,090,797	...	...	34,515	2,500,259	3,319,906	3,090,797
Sugar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Beer exptd.	...	...	...	1,174	721	1,923	...	...	...
UNITED KINGDOM.									
Bricks	1136,449,174	732,527,492	732,659,726	8,770,423	6,649,621	6,599,973	1127,678,751	725,877,871	726,059,753
Hops	...	...	...	255,698	150,666	192,608	...	...	...
Malt	18,487,392	23,156,698	23,757,553	...	...	...	18,487,392	23,156,698	23,757,553
Paper	65,342,818	60,828,734	66,870,906	2,811,251	2,447,595	2,226,842	62,531,567	58,381,139	64,644,064
Soap	84,285,682	91,051,530	94,754,258	4,266,138	5,517,433	5,642,067	80,019,544	85,534,097	89,112,191
Spirits	9,528,852	10,812,979	10,460,866	...	...	154,081	9,528,852	10,812,979	10,437,056
Spirits from Chan. Isl.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sugar	...	177	...	...	...	...	...	177	...
Beer exptd.	...	...	...	77,664	87,061	81,102	...	...	...

ACCOUNTS RELATING TO TRADE AND NAVIGATION.

For the Seven Months ended the 5th of August 1849.

I. IMPORTS INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM.
An Account of the Imports of the Principal Articles of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise, and of the Consumption of such Articles, in the seven months ended 5th August 1849, compared with the corresponding periods of the year 1848.

Articles.	Imports.		Articles.		Entered for Home Consump.	
	1848	1849	1848	1849	1848	1849
Animals, living:—Oxen and Bulls	10,879	6,878	Free	Free	Free	Free
Cows	10,420	8,301	—	—	—	—
Calves	7,937	8,511	—	—	—	—
Sheep	41,979	41,147	—	—	—	14,701
Lambs	752	934	—	—	—	Free
Swine and Hogs	500	580	—	—	—	—
Ashes, Pearl and Pot	32,532	64,676	—	—	—	—
Barilla and Alkali	1,532	905	—	—	—	—
Bark for tanners' or dyers' use	181,531	179,622	—	—	—	—
Bones of Animals, &c., whether burnt or not, or as Animal Charcoal	22,003	17,498	—	—	—	—
Brimstone	428,504	545,508	—	—	—	—
Caoutchouc	2,818	3,999	—	—	—	—
Clocks	38,003	35,930	36,250	34,723	36,250	34,723
Cocoa	3,439,286	4,108,467	1,755,476	1,860,030	1,755,476	1,860,030
Coffee:—Of British possessions	15,999,249	12,593,645	17,569,717	17,495,951	17,569,717	17,495,951
Foreign	13,317,904	16,496,153	4,430,750	3,060,295	4,430,750	3,060,295
Total of Coffee	29,317,153	29,089,798	22,000,467	20,556,246	22,000,467	20,556,246
Corn:—Wheat	786,908	2,516,722	648,257	2,080,647	648,257	2,080,647
Barley	359,906	719,821	357,639	880,774	357,639	880,774
Oats	378,359	622,442	366,833	704,450	366,833	704,450
Rye	4,249	162,197	4,249	174,609	4,249	174,609
Peas	44,776	93,138	40,247	135,166	40,247	135,166
Beans	308,159	347,763	292,867	361,625	292,867	361,625
Indian Corn, or Maize	768,914	1,469,447	768,535	1,471,751	768,535	1,471,751
Buckwheat	183	215	183	215	183	215
Beer or Bigg .....	...	843	...	1,749	...	1,749
Total of Grain	2,651,464	5,932,588	2,478,810	5,810,986	2,478,810	5,810,986
Wheatmeal or Flour	385,922	2,128,823	373,333	2,589,556	373,333	2,589,556
Barley Meal	4	69	3	69	3	69
Oatmeal	1,748	25,071	1,505	24,568	1,505	24,568
Rye Meal	11,027	16,241	11,028	21,424	11,028	21,424
Pea Meal	103	388	103	388	103	388
Bean Meal	5	2	5	1	5	1
Indian Corn Meal	161,719	88,782	161,720	88,790	161,720	88,790
Buckwheat Meal	26	524	26	524	26	524
Total of Flour and Meal	560,554	2,259,900	547,723	2,725,350	547,723	2,725,350
Grand total Grain, Flour, and Meal as Grain, qrs	2,811,622	6,578,299	2,635,306	6,590,085	2,635,306	6,590,085
Cotton Manufactures, not made up:—East India Piece Goods	106,672	85,392	Free	Free	Free	Free
Cotton Manufac., not made up (con.)—East India Piece Goods	37,870	22,220	Free	Free	Free	Free
Other Articles	179,250	152,301	—	—	—	—
Cotton Manufac. wholly or in part made up	16,306	28,475	—	—	—	—
Cotton Yarn	246,564	239,921	—	—	—	—
Do	30,088	28,265	—	—	—	—
Dyes and Dyeing Stuffs:—Cochineal	7,066	7,448	—	—	—	—
Indigo	33,912	55,877	—	—	—	—
Lac-dye	2,048	4,460	—	—	—	—
Logwood	13,545	12,456	—	—	—	—
Madder	41,417	58,498	—	—	—	—
Madder Root	92,791	112,283	—	—	—	—
Shumac	5,010	6,548	—	—	—	—
Terra Japonica	3,585	3,207	—	—	—	—
Cutch	444	215	—	—	—	—
Valonia	5,161	7,114	—	—	—	—
Embroidery and Needlework	58,441	46,996	—	—	—	—
Flax, and Tow or Cordilla of Hemp and Flax, cwts	643,498	857,326	Free	Free	Free	Free
Fruits: viz.—Currants	114,442	199,436	—	—	—	—
Figs	2,291	4,299	—	—	—	—
Lemons {	287,517	231,569	—	—	—	—
and {	54,183	34,865	—	—	—	—
Oranges {	3,081	2,157	—	—	—	—
Raisins {	21,097	29,493	—	—	—	—
Glass Manufactures:—Window Glass not exceeding one-ninth of an inch thick, and Shades and Cylinders	17,589	14,362	—	—	—	—
All Glass exceeding one-ninth of an inch thick, all Silvered and Polished Glass of whatever thickness	43,740	37,664	—	—	—	—
White Flint Glass Goods (except Bottles) not cut, engraved, or otherwise ornamented	114,050	51,880	—	—	—	—
All Flint Cut Glass, Flint Coloured Glass, and Fancy ornamental Glass	313,382	392,298	—	—	—	—
Guano	40,200	51,480	—	—	—	—
Hemp, undressed	270,192	323,481	—	—	—	—
Hides, untanned:—Dry	58,856	71,099	—	—	—	—
Wet	177,463	294,616	—	—	—	—
Hides, tanned, tawed, curried or dressed (except Russia Hides)	483,462	937,937	—	—	—	—
Lace, Thread, & Cushion or Pillow Lace	57,195	53,459	—	—	—	—
Leather Manufactures:—Boots, Shoes, and Calashes: viz., Women's Boots & Calashes	6,606	9,725	—	—	—	—
Women's Shoes with Cork or Double Soles, Quilted Shoes and Clogs	2,444	2,212	—	—	—	—

* The consumption of the several species of corn exhibited above for the year 1848 includes those quantities entered previously to the 1st March 1848, which were exempted from duty under the temporary act 11 Vic., c. 64.

Articles.	Entered for Home Consump.		Importations.		Entered for Home Consump.	
	1848	1849	1848	1849	1848	1849
Timber (con.)—						
Timber of Wood, not being articles sawn or split, or otherwise dressed, except hewn, and not otherwise charged with Duty:—Of British Possessions.....loads	200,515	167,987	3,496	3,516	Free	Free
Foreign	144,983	62,177	158,611	85,748	158,392	136,048
Tobacco, viz.—Unmanufactured	11,827,147	6,333,549	4,153,993	4,197,889	3,654,025	3,726,815
Manufactured, and Snuff.....lbs	991,160	858,051	4,170,660	5,337,222	Free	Free
Turpentine, common	186,171	208,723	32,638,221	31,940,367	—	—
Watches	38,450	48,126	643,647	773,113	—	—
			213,204	301,932	—	—
			70,061	86,730	60,778	77,948

II. EXPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL MERCHANDISE FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.
 AN Account of the Exports of the Principal Articles of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise, in the seven months ended 5th August 1849, compared with the Exports in the corresponding periods of the year 1848.

Articles.	Quantities Exported.		Articles.	Quantities Exported.	
	1848	1849		1848	1849
Cheese.....cwt	1,874	1,651	Spices, viz.—Cassia Lignea	165,710	432,265
Cocoa.....lbs	352,297	1,935,804	Cinnamon	291,520	327,326
Coffee, viz.—Of British Possessions.....	651,602	2,490,764	Cloves.....	124,332	71,120
Foreign	10,727,418	16,505,445	Mace	18,020	17,155
Total of Coffee	11,379,020	18,996,209	Nutmegs	85,677	71,734
Corn, viz.—Wheat	3,442	339	Pepper	1,833,576	2,146,144
Barley.....	...	51	Pimento	11,086	16,679
Oats	4,414	3,662	Spirits, viz.—Rum.....proof gallons	483,022	935,976
Wheatmeal or Flour.....cwt	8,034	9,888	Brandy	529,619	742,101
Cotton Manufactures not made up—viz. East India Piece Goods	101,920	99,824	Geneva	204,484	250,415
Do.....value thereof	41,167	35,726	Sugar, unrefined, viz.—Of the British Possessions in America	61	89
Other Articles	51,466	65,272	Of Mauritius.....	185	11
Cotton Manufactures wholly or in part made up	8,441	13,894	Of British Possessions in the East Indies.....	2,287	593
Do.....value thereof	354,100	265,224	Foreign	158,733	329,040
Cotton Yarn	40,143	27,704	Total of Unrefined Sugar.....	161,266	329,733
Do.....value thereof	5,158	7,545	Sugar, Foreign refined and Candy; viz.—	...	149
Dyes and Dyeing Stuffs, viz.—Cochineal.....cwt	27,028	35,393	Of British Possessions	34,574	106,895
Indigo.....	2,715	3,010	Foreign	1,847	567
Lac-dye	2,328	1,839	Melasses.....	1,925,414	2,869,053
Logwood.....	229	574	Tobacco; viz., Unmanufactured.....	4,281,392	8,082,491
Terra Japonica	189	186	Foreign Manufactured, and Snuff.....	602,589	755,864
Cutch	11,794	20,958	Wine, viz.—Cape.....gallons	441	881
Embroidery and Needlework	14,014	11,946	French	132,405	115,544
Glass Manufactures: viz.—Window Glass, not exceeding one-ninth of an inch thick, and Shades and Cylinders.....cwt	13,784	12,298	Other sorts	735,946	849,280
Glass exceeding 1-9th inch thick, Silvered or Polished Glass, whatever thickness.....sq.ft.	109,905	33,742	Total Wine.....	868,792	965,705
White Flint Glass Goods (except bottles) not cut, engraved or otherwise ornamented, lbs	91,346	118,477	Wool, viz.:—Cotton	270,708	477,747
Flint Cut Glass, Flint Coloured Glass, and Fancy Ornamental Glass	6,316	8,574	Sheep and Lambs'	3,184,235	5,167,680
Guano			Alpaca and the Lama Tribe.....	35,174	31,268
			Woolen Manufactures not made up.....value	102,169	116,291
			Wholly or in part made up	9,628	8,782

III. EXPORTS OF BRITISH AND IRISH PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURES FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.
 An Account of the Exports of the Principal Articles of British and Irish Produce and Manufactures, in the seven months ended 5th Aug. 1849, compared with the Exports in the corresponding periods of the year 1848.

Articles.	Quantities.		Declared Value.		Articles.	Quantities.		Declared Value.	
	1848	1849	1848	1849		1848	1849	1848	1849
Alkali: viz.—Soda	278,029	383,367	127,823	162,821	Metals: viz.—Iron, Pig	119,382	100,061	336,600	261,695
Beer and Ale	86,569	88,339	261,553	258,088	Bar, bolt and rod	207,146	230,467	1,691,996	1,536,429
Butter	18,590	32,545	78,144	111,553	Wire	874	1,863	22,702	40,593
Candles	817,603	1,395,293	30,616	47,887	Cast	13,457	7,093	141,519	77,242
Cheese	3,199	3,346	12,340	12,259	Wrought of all sorts	46,065	69,042	687,885	784,803
Coals and Culm	1,623,603	1,599,960	621,812	615,401	Steel, unwrought	4,237	4,334	166,748	177,237
Cordage and Cables	29,988	50,283	59,519	90,883	Copper, in bricks and pigs	32,651	77,132	150,518	332,432
Cotton Manufactures:—Entered by the Yard (exclusive of Lace and Patent Net)	590,746,709	787,572,403	8,733,324	10,823,717	Sheets, nails, &c. (including mixed or yellow metal for sheathing)	87,253	129,330	407,963	555,575
Lace and Patent Net	34,837,757	57,791,443	185,279	268,980	Wrought of other sorts	6,460	11,393	37,199	56,655
Thread for Sewing	1,904,726	2,857,772	187,830	235,316	Brass of all sorts	5,757	11,451	31,371	56,752
Stockings	127,495	152,181	46,303	56,925	Lead	3,538	8,137	66,781	137,640
Of all other descriptions .....	...	...	223,454	239,638	Tin, unwrought	23,024	19,553	93,586	80,905
Total Value Cotton Manufac. ....	...	...	9,376,190	11,624,576	Tin plates .....	...	...	312,837	418,799
Cotton Yarn	64,821,715	82,265,435	2,768,968	3,537,703	Oil, Linseed, Hempseed, and Rapeseed	1,399,704	1,427,741	134,803	141,482
Earthenware	32,415,456	36,175,293	433,103	464,482	Painters' colours and materials .....	...	...	95,655	124,453
Fish: viz.—Herrings	42,026	67,759	42,717	68,675	Salt	10,420,599	11,786,265	149,954	162,873
Of other sorts	8,764	10,250	45,368	47,605	Silk Manufactures:—Of Silk only: Stuffs, Handkerchiefs and Ribbons	112,683	201,799	133,927	217,038
Glass Manufactures:—Flint Glass	14,833	10,615	20,697	13,718	kerchiefs	6,919	10,311	13,877	20,725
Window Glass	119,785	133,581	70,948	76,989	Of all other descriptions .....	...	...	50,494	88,080
Bottles, Green or Common .....	...	...	8,020	6,763	Of Silk mixed with other Materials: Stuffs, Handkerchiefs and Ribbons	117,091	192,682	86,984	107,299
Plate Glass .....	...	...	145,033	145,075	Stockings .....	...	951	...	726
Total Value Glass Manufac. ....	...	...	145,033	145,075	Of all other descriptions .....	...	...	1,227	11,499
Haberdashery and Millinery .....	...	...	527,922	694,057	Total Value Silk Manufac. ....	...	...	286,509	445,367
Hardware and Cutlery	4,419	8,802	34,627	64,177	Silk, Thrown	19,984	33,523	12,698	22,340
Leather, Unwrought	6,836	7,828	4,684	5,332	Silk Twist and Yarn	69,924	163,237	24,270	53,890
Wrought: viz.—Gloves	549,686	907,110	103,594	149,464	Soap	56,643	61,021	87,949	93,921
Of other sorts .....	...	...	59,031	56,155	Stationery .....	...	...	142,672	178,049
Saddlery and Harness .....	...	...	1,542,293	1,759,811	Sugar, refined	144,444	132,394	255,282	227,783
Linen Manufactures:—Entered by the Yard (exclusive of Lace of Thread)	53,306,968	62,159,049	529	1,964	Wool, Sheep or Lambs'	1,569,159	6,397,747	77,667	295,415
Lace of Thread	13,505	56,585	102,104	141,656	Woolen Manufactures:—Entered by the Piece	906,836	1,347,125	1,901,460	2,563,689
Thread for Sewing	1,036,857	1,496,804	7,552	12,930	Entered by the Yard	18,415,038	29,042,055	1,072,170	1,401,756
Of all other descriptions .....	...	...	1,652,478	1,916,361	Stockings	54,735	78,482	32,526	35,909
Total Value Linen Manufac. ....	...	...	274,343	379,484	Of all other descriptions .....	...	...	151,367	200,283
Linen Yarn	6,188,886	9,493,535	132,130	71,208	Total Value Woollen Manufac. ....	...	...	3,157,523	4,201,637
Machinery and Mill Work: viz.—Steam Engines and parts of Steam Engines .....	...	...	335,584	239,076	Woollen Yarn	31,975	49,568	345,385	498,852
Of all other sorts .....	...	...	...	...	Total declared value .....	...	...	27,125,752	32,879,865

Statistical Department, Board of Trade, Aug. 1849.

W. D. OSWALD.