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THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

If I might give a short hint to an impartial writer, it would be to tell him his fate. If he resolved to venture upon the dangerous precipice of telling unbiassed truth, let him proclaim war with mankind—neither to give nor to take quarter. If he tells the crimes of great men they fall upon him with the iron hands of the law; if he tells them of virtues, when they have any, then the mob attacks him with slander. But if he regards truth, let him expect martyrdom on both sides, and then he may go on fearless; and this is the course I take myself.—DE FOE.

THE DEBATE ON LORD GEORGE BENTINCK'S MOTION.

A number of sinister rumours and idle apprehensions are set at rest by the declaration of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that the Government is resolved to adhere to the Act of 1846 settling the sugar duties. There is thus to be no retrograde step,—no backing to protection under the pretence of no derogation from free trade. Certain concessions, however, are to be made to the West India proprietors, the value and equity of which we shall take another opportunity of examining.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer proposes to permit the use of molasses in distilleries on the same terms as sugar, and cane-juice also at the same rate of duty as sugar. He proposes an advance of 200,000*l.* for carrying on spontaneous emigration from Africa, Government for a short time consenting also to defray the expense of conveying liberated blacks from Sierra Leone to the plantations, with their free will. It is also proposed for five years to postpone the payment of the Hurricane loan.

In a very masterly speech, the Chancellor of the Exchequer exposed many of the exaggerations and fallacies of the West India complainants. He plainly told them that there must be an end of absentee proprietorship, and a beginning of better thrift and skill in cultivation and manufacture, or that the amelioration of their condition must be hopeless. He referred their backwardness and its consequences to their unfortunate false reliance on that broken reed, protection.

There is truth in these reproaches, but it is not the whole truth. The Home Government has also had its share of blame in the matter; for had it done immediately upon the passing of the Emancipation Act what it now proposes at the twelfth hour for the supply of labour, much of the disadvantage under which the West India colonists unfairly suffer would have been averted. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, however, asserts, and apparently not without grounds, that the deficiency of labour has been much exaggerated—and what in the world, in disputation, is not exaggerated? The fact never corresponds with the representation.

Lord George Bentinck's allegation that the low price of sugar was altogether referrible to the alteration in the duties admitting competition, was disposed of very shortly by Sir Charles Wood, who showed that sugar had occasionally fallen almost as low during the period of protection, and that other commodities, indigo, rice, and tea, had declined in price in still greater proportion during the late period of general distress.

Indeed, as reasonably might free traders ascribe the high prices of agricultural produce within the last two years to the withdrawal of the corn duties, as the protectionists attribute the low price of sugar wholly to the reduction of duties in the same extraordinary and peculiar circumstances of depression. In the state in which the country has been placed by scarcity of food and other accidents disturbing its trade, causes have been so multiplied and complicated, that no one can be pointed out as purely and solely productive of any specific effect.

The fact, however, that the revenue of the sugar duties has been increased a million by what has contributed to the comforts of the poor, is of weighty significance. Amongst the most salient and monstrous of Lord George Bentinck's charges against the change of 1846 was the attribution to it of certain mercantile failures with which it could have had no more to do than the lamb in the old fable had with the misdeeds of his father or grandfather to the wolf.

It is amusing to observe the perplexity in which Lord G. Bentinck is placed in advocating the claims of the West Indians, clashing with the interests of monopoly at home. The West Indians only want so much protection as they think will serve themselves. For the rest, they are free-traders. They say, tax yourselves to buy our sugar at an artificially enhanced price, and that done, let our sugar compete freely with your malt in your breweries, and with your grain in your distilleries, and let our rum have a fair field and no favour, in competition with your British blue ruin and pernicious compounds; and above all, let us go to the cheapest markets for the bottoms in which to ship the sugars, for which we claim the advantage of differential duties, and the rum, &c., which is to compete with your home produce.

It was pleasant to see how Lord George had to slur over these differences, not agreeing with his clients as to the repeal of the Navigation Laws, and leaving molasses for the breweries *versus* malt to the impartial judgment of the Exchequer.

The fact is, that if the Protectionists had to settle their claims amongst themselves, they would fight a battle like that of the famous Kilkenny cats. Protection is another word for the old-fashioned game called "Beggar my neighbour." Every man loves his own monopoly, and hates his neighbour's. The analogy is to rapine. The man who has secured a booty will protest most earnestly against any invasion of the rights of property. Once possessed of a spoil, he will be the first to say "Now let us start fair—no more roguery and robbery—let us be honest, and respect *meum* and *tuum*."

The close kin that exists between the principle of (so called) protection and the practice of pillage was very naively betrayed in Lord G. Bentinck's speech, in the close of which, to set things right in the West Indies, to put down slavery, and to put up the Spanish bondholders, he coolly proposed to seize Cuba! Would it not be cheap, he asked. And certainly the prime cost would be simply that of honour, honesty, and faith; and the secondary expenses probably only those of an European war, for the powers of the continent would not be very likely to submit quietly to the example of England's filching a Spanish possession.

The proposal indicates both the morality of "Protection," and the statesmanship of Lord George Bentinck, who, whenever he comes into power, will do so on the principle of seizing Cuba as a cheap and easy solution of the West India question;—not to mention the collateral advantage of cutting the American trade in two—and at making minced meat of things, parties especially, Lord George is a matchless master, superior even to Sir Robert Peel. Such a prodigy, considering the age we live in, do we consider this proposal of Lord George Bentinck, that we cannot be satisfied without a transcript of it from the columns of the *Times*:

"He had read in the *Times* an extract from an United States paper, in which it was stated, that if the United States did not possess herself of Cuba, Great Britain would, and that England had a greater claim by one hundredfold to Cuba than the United States had to Mexico, because a sum of 45,000,000*l.* was due to British subjects upon Spanish bonds, and Cuba was hypothecated for the payment of that debt. And why did the Americans think that Great Britain would like to have possession of Cuba? Because they knew she could never put down the slave trade so long as it was carried on at Cuba in its present form. He would therefore say at once, let them take possession of Cuba, and settle the question altogether; let them distrain upon it for the just debt due, and too long asked in vain, from the Spanish Government. (Hear, hear.) They would put an end to the slave trade if they could emancipate the slaves of Cuba. If the people of this country thought it right to spend 150,000,000*l.* in putting down slavery, and ruining our colonies besides, would it not be cheap policy to put an end to slavery for ever by seizing Cuba?

"The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER.—But would you seize the Brazils as well?

"Lord G. BENTINCK said the case of Cuba stood upon its own merits, and upon the debt of 45,000,000*l.* due to British subjects from the Spanish Government. Then, depend upon it, when Great Britain possessed the Havannah, as once she did, in 1762, when she held it for about a year and then exchanged it for the Floridas, and when she could cut the trade of America in two, no more boasts would be heard of what the United States could do, such as that which was not long ago uttered by one of her military officers, who declared that they never would be satisfied until Uncle Sam had set his right foot upon British Canada and his left upon California, embrace the whole of the eastern seaboard, and throw his leg, like a freeman, over the whole continent of South America to Cape Horn, with Cuba for a cabbage-garden. That was the course which should be taken to put an end to slavery and slave-trading, and that having been done, there would be no difficulty in the British planter going to the coast of Africa and obtaining, not by purchase, not by war, but by the inducement of freedom and good wages, any number of Africans he might require for the cultivation of the soil."

This would be but a beginning of the foreign policy of the Protectionists. The figure of the Hercules must be traced *ex pede*, and upon the principle justifying the seizure of Cuba the repudiating states of the American Union would be conquered and made our own. It is well for Austria, in the event of a Bentinck ministry, that she has got out of the debt of England by a shabby compromise; but Greece may yet be sold up under a distress. The opposite poles of policy just now are obviously Free-Trade and Free-Booting; unrestricted commerce on the one side, and unrestricted rapine on the other. A Bentinck ministry would hoist the black flag of the Buccaneer.

CLERICAL ENCROACHMENT REPELLED.

We differ from what seems to be a very general opinion as to the result of the arguments on the *Mandamus*. We do not think that it renders either necessary or expedient any present interference of the Legislature. The minute scrutiny to which the language and provisions of the 25th of Henry VIII have been subjected in the course of the discussions in the Court of Queen's Bench, have in our opinion established that the intention of the lawgiver and the effect of the law are clear and strong beyond what had previously been imagined. Out of the admissions of the reasoners for the *Mandamus*, quite as much as on the authority of the Crown Counsel and the Chief Justice, does this appear to us to have been established.

Mr Justice Patteson explained the statute as leaving no choice to the Dean and Chapter in the form of election. The letter missive orders them "thereupon, and with all speed and celerity, and in due form, to elect the person named, *and no other*." This election once made, the learned Judge further admitted, cannot be challenged or set aside. "The statute then declared that the election should stand good to all intents and purposes." The next step in the process of Bishop-making is marked out with the same decisive clearness. After reciting the election of the individual by the Dean and Chapter, the certificate of that election, and the approbation of the Crown, the form thus proceeds: "We, accepting of such election, have given our Royal assent thereto; and this we signify by these presents, requiring you to confirm the said election, and to consecrate the said [ ]; and to do all such other things as belong to your pastoral office, according to the laws and statutes of England." The election has been made and approved; the stage of inquiry and discussion is past; and the Archbishop is called upon to complete the work by performing the solemn ceremonies of confirmation and consecration. He is ordered to do this; he is not ordered to inquire whether it ought to be done. Nor can the appended "do all *such* other things as belong to your *pastoral* office," be by any usage of the English language tortured into a precept of judicial inquiry. "*Such* other things" plainly restricts the Archbishop to the class of ministerial duties, such as confirmation and consecration. "Pastoral office" is used in contra-distinction to "judicial office."

A statute so distinct in its language, so unmistakeable in its provisions, cannot be evaded on the untenable plea that it was merely intended to establish the Anglican Church's independence of the see of Rome. Admitting for a moment that this was the only professed object of the statute, clauses of an Act of Parliament are not rendered invalid by their containing enactments not enumerated in the preamble. Mr Justice Coleridge admits that of the "two prevailing objects" of the Act of 25th Henry VIII, "the first is to put upon a true foundation the Royal power to the nomination of Bishops."

Quite as nugatory is the attempt to neutralize the statute by arguments drawn from the forms of writs or citations issued in conformity to its directions. The law vests the right to nominate and approve the Bishop solely and exclusively in the Crown. But at the same time it prescribes that the Crown shall exercise this right by the ministry of Dean and Chapter, and Archbishop, retaining the old forms of election and confirmation. To this end the law provided these functionaries with no new forms of writs or citations, and they simply adhered to the old; not even omitting clauses which from the curtailment of their powers had ceased to have any meaning. But can it for an instant be maintained that because a court of law (civil or ecclesiastical), in carrying out the enactments of a statute, retains in its formal summons or citation phrases implying a right of jurisdiction of which that very statute has deprived it, the express intention of the statute itself may thereby be defeated? Let these idle forms be abolished, if necessary; but we should regard with great suspicion any proposed legislative confession of the inadequacy of the existing law to uphold the supremacy of the Crown. Far better than this it would be that a *Mandamus* should go, and the judgment of a superior Court finally determine the question.

The frequent references to the canon law in the course of the arguments were inevitable. They were required to explain the circumstances under which the statute was enacted, in order to place the object contemplated by those who framed it in a clear light. But their use is simply historical and exegetical. The canon law has nothing to say in the matter. Had there been any omission in the statute, the English canon law, as the common law of the Church, must have been called in to supply the deficiency. But the statute is so complete, intelligible, and *workable* in itself, as to render recourse to the canon law, with a view to its practical application, entirely superfluous.

It only remains to be asked, what is the state of the decisions of competent courts with regard to the statute in question? Since the time it was enacted, only three discussions have arisen *in foro contentioso*. In two of these cases, no steps were taken that rendered a decision necessary or even possible. In the third, the party calling upon the Archbishop to act judicially was put out of court on a preliminary question of form, and no judgment was pronounced upon the merits. The presiding judge on the occasion is indeed alleged to have declared subsequently, that but for the error in form the party would have been entitled to a hearing. But such an extra-judicial expression of opinion cannot have the weight of a decision; and that even this extra-judicial opinion was expressed, rests upon the unsupported assertion of a writer who lived some hundred years later. The obvious and natural meaning of the statute is borne out by the uniform practice of the Church, ever since it was re-enacted in the reign of Elizabeth.

All the arguments in the case by which it was sought to impugn the interpretation here given appear to us to be tainted by the indirectness of men who seek to make the law not what it is but what they think it ought to be. The exception is Mr Justice Patteson, if (which we doubt) he can be said to have argued in favour of the side which had the benefit of his decision. "I have great doubt," he said, "as to the power of this Court to grant a *Mandamus* under the circumstances; and my mind has fluctuated upon this subject, both during the argument and during the delivery of the judgment of my brother Erle. But by refusing the writ, we prevent the party from appealing against our decision; whereas, if we grant the writ, it will only lead to a

fuller consideration, and more satisfactory determination of this question. I think, then, that we ought to grant the writ." It will hardly be unfair to assume that even this impartial and able Judge, perplexed in the matter as he appears to have been, permitted the balance of his judgment to be in some degree affected by his connection with Mr Justice Coleridge. Nothing could well be more opposed than their reasons for the same decision, both in spirit and in terms. We take that portion of Mr Justice Patteson's argument in which he seemed most clearly decided that the *Mandamus* ought to go:

"The fifth section of the statute enacts, that after the election, the election is to stand good and effectual to all intents, and the archbishop is then to be required to confirm the election. But he is not required in express terms to confirm without inquiry, or in any other than the usual form. Upon that subject the statute is silent. If the statute had not introduced the letters missive, the election must have been free, and the confirmation must have been clearly a judicial act. It is important to consider the effect of these letters missive. *This proceeding makes the election a mere form. Does it also make the confirmation a mere form?* It is said the election is to stand good and effectual to all intents, so that the refusal to confirm cannot affect the election. *It may be that the election is to stand good as an election, but the statute has made no provision for the refusal of the archbishop to confirm.* It has therefore, *in some sense*, rendered it in the power of the archbishop to refuse to confirm the election, *subject to the penal consequences of his refusal.* The Legislature seems to have considered *that confirmation was not necessary where there was no election*; and in the Irish statute, which abolishes election, no mention is made of confirmation from the beginning to the end. It is contended that as confirmation is unnecessary where the Crown appoints the bishop avowedly, it was not necessary where the Crown appoints the bishop circuitously, and therefore confirmation is a ministerial act and a mere form; but that the form of confirmation was preserved, because in each case the form was a mere shadow. But if the Crown appointed a bishop by letters patent, *and any lawful impediment came to the knowledge of the archbishop*, it is impossible to believe that in such a case the Legislature required the archbishop to perform the solemn act of confirmation."

It is clear to us that Mr Justice Patteson has here no doubt of the intention of the statute, but simply doubts whether certain unrepealed forms do not rise to interfere with its practical efficiency. And why did the Legislature consider confirmation not necessary where there was no election, if it were not that the Legislature considered confirmation as an exclusively ministerial act, only called for where the Sovereign did not himself directly nominate? This appears to us also the sufficient answer to the case put by Mr Justice Patteson, of any "lawful impediment coming to the knowledge of the Archbishop." Confirmation cannot take place without election. Manifestly, if the election is in itself unlawful and void, the Archbishop cannot be called upon to confirm. There has been no election. The "lawful impediment" implies non-compliance with provisions of the statute, such for example as to the age or birth of the person elected; and there is no provision of the statute within which the case of the Bishop of Hereford could by any possibility be brought. At no step in these discussions, in no part of what we cannot help thinking this very monstrous and un-Christian controversy, has it been alleged that judgment of disqualification could pass against Doctor Hampden without previous formal trial of heresy.

The tone of Mr Justice Coleridge, as we have said, was a striking contrast to that of Mr Justice Patteson. He goes even so far, being "a member of the English Catholic Church," as to rely mainly on what his brother judge as clearly rejects, the "intention" of Henry the Eighth! He thinks Henry's statute was meant to leave the Anglican Church precisely where it was before, in respect of what he calls "the general canon law of Christendom." He regards its penalties as little more than a grim joke on the part of the "Defender of the Faith." The statute being an arbitrary one, he thinks it never could have been meant to be construed strictly;—its author being Henry the Eighth, he cannot believe that it was meant to fix "a yoke upon our necks." Readers of history will not be very ready to concur with Mr Justice Coleridge in all this.

"The statute, though severe in the measure of its penalties, is not so in reference to the scale of punishments in the age in which it passed; for the same penalties, even in the last century, were awarded to those who were mixed up with the frauds connected with the South Sea bubbles. But I cannot believe that a statute, which, though with a rough hand, freed us from the vexatious interference of Rome, at the same time intended that we should wear a yoke upon our necks, and that our archbishops should be liable to these penalties, if in the discharge of a most solemn duty they refused to confirm the election of a bishop who might be disqualified for that sacred office. I cannot believe that Henry VIII so intended, who gloried personally in the title of Defender of the Faith. It has been said that in Ireland and the colonies the Crown exercises this power of nomination without confirmation; but it is obvious that the revival in Ireland of the statute of Edward VI, which had rendered confirmation unnecessary, and its non-revival in this country shows that we have the same forms as existed before the Reformation, and from early ages."

Yes, "the same forms as existed before the Reformation" are precisely those which the Coleridge class of reasoners rest upon, and which the persecutors of Doctor Hampden desire to revive in all their efficacy. But they are very dangerous "forms." Their aim is distinctly to transfer to the clergy the authority which the Act of 25th Henry meant to vest and did vest in the Crown. The object and effect of that statute has been to confine the clergy to their ministerial functions; to strip them of the hierarchical power which the clergy of Rome had usurped, and which sections of the Protestant clergy who succeeded them have from time to time attempted to usurp. We shall not, we apprehend, do greater wrong to Mr Justice Coleridge than is already done by his recorded votes at Oxford on Tractarian questions, if we repeat that he has on every occasion shown himself favourable to such claims on the part of that "Catholic Church" of which he is so careful to proclaim himself a member. But this is not our view of the rights or duties of ministers in an English Protestant Church.

The clergy of what is now the national church of England are, by every just construction of the Protestant dogma, merely the ministers of the nation; and the power of choosing them ought to be in the nation. By the Act of 25 Henry VIII the right of nomination is indeed vested in the Crown; but as all the powers of the Crown must be exercised by ministers responsible to the people's representatives, the statute in reality acts as the mere instrument for giving effect to the national choice. The applicants for a *Mandamus* in the case of the Bishop of Hereford are seeking to deprive the laity of the power of choosing their own ministers, and to compel them to submit in this matter to clerical dictation. Their aim is to make a local Pope of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Wisely did Lord Denman say, "that he felt it was doubly the duty of the Court on such a question to take care that they did not yield too much to the authority of those ecclesiastical powers, which in his opinion it had been the duty of that Court, in all ages, to watch with peculiar jealousy;" and very creditable to the Chief-Justice was his resolve, contrary to what the general practice has been where such judicial difference existed, that the writ should not go. In emergencies like these, his firmness of character asserts itself; and the service he has rendered to the spiritual liberties of the country in resisting insidious clerical encroachment, is not second in importance to the service he conferred to its secular liberties in resisting the attempted encroachment of the Crown in the Irish indictments for conspiracy. It is not necessary, while we say this, that we should conceal our regret at anything which has the tendency to convert a court of law into a political or religious arena; and we could wish that some portions of Lord Denman's judgment, apparently suggested by the extra-judicial and very devotional tone of Mr Justice Coleridge's, had been spared. Declaring, as he did, that in the course he took he conceived himself "bound by the Act of Parliament," his recital of "the consequences which would arise from the issuing of such a writ" seemed to us out of place. It was addressed, we know, to the mere question of the usage of the Court, and as a reason for departure from it in this special case; but (having elected to insist upon his own opinion, and not, as in less important cases, to waive it) the reason given was not called for, and was subject to misinterpretation. Consequences are a consideration with which a judge should have nothing to do; and it is important that the opinions which have had the effect of preventing the *Mandamus* issuing in this case, should be understood to have been formed on judicial and not on politic grounds. The service done by the Chief-Justice and Mr Justice Erle has been to uphold the law in its substance and integrity.

EMANCIPATION OF ITALY.

There have been stirring debates and most eloquent speeches in the French Chamber. The members of the Liberal party seem to have awakened from a long trance, during which jealousy to England absorbed their thoughts and energy. Of a sudden this spell has been dissolved. The Italians are struggling for their freedom, and Englishmen and Frenchmen, both sympathising with and eager to help them, see how efficacious their help would be, were the countries united. What is the obstacle? Simply M. Guizot having quarrelled with England about the Spanish marriages, and his having in consequence formed a close alliance with Austria. The question now is, shall Italy be sacrificed to this alliance? Shall France disgrace herself by aiding Austria to enslave the Italians, whilst England takes the glorious part of striving in their behalf?

Such is the question that M. Thiers asked with consummate eloquence from the tribune of the Chamber, such the question mutually put by press and public. Mr Cobden desires the mission of peace-maker, and now is the time for him to come forward. He has no need of appeasing the French by disbanding the British army and laying up the British navy in ordinary. He has but to propose a frank co-operation to save Italy, and a mutual sacrifice of French and English pretensions in Spain on the altar of Italian liberty.

It is no easy task to rear that altar. We cannot conceive a more difficult political problem, than, Given the Pope and his supreme power, to establish in and around his dominions a free or representative government? If there are immense objections to the Pope being swayed by Austrian or by French councils, what is to be said of the Papal Cabinet being forced open by a constitutional opposition, which has acquired a majority in a Roman Parliament? M. Guizot says, the great object is to reconcile the Catholic religion and its chief with the ideas and liberal progress of the age. M. Thiers adds, that this can only be done by secularising the Roman Government. One says, that in the difficulties of reform the priest will save the sovereign; the other, that the sovereign will save the priest. We must own that we ourselves, though influenced by a sincere desire to be neither extravagant nor extreme, cannot but consider the Pope as a huge anomaly, a monster fragment of the great wreck of the middle ages, still surviving for no purpose except as a shoal and an obstruction. And with all our respect for Pius the Ninth, we do not see how either the priestly part of power is to save the monarchical, or *vice versa*. Unless, indeed, as M. Mariotti suggests, the Ferretti were to form a dynasty of Popes and proclaim themselves the Chiefs of free Italy, sacerdotal and lay. Here, however, would be the end of the universal Popedom.

The Sicilians, however, have made the important step. They have deposed a vacillating despot, driven him and his troops out of their capital, and rejected his offers of state councils and quasi-independence, insisting on nothing less than the constitution given by Lord William Bentinck in 1820. This constitution is very favourable both to the clergy and the noblesse, and would rally these classes, as well as the rural population, in its favour. But unfortunately its House of Commons is a very diminutive assembly. Sicily, divided into twenty-three districts, would elect but two members each district, which, with six for Palermo and three for the other great towns, would form a very small body for the national representation. Had Ferdinand of Sicily any wisdom, he ought to be contented with such a constitution; nay, ought to have grasped at it, since it gave him an Upper Chamber, like that of Westminster, which could be made a firm bulwark of the throne. The King has, however, flung them away, and prefers something "on the basis of the French Charter" What this something is he does not appear to say; but the Sicilians will probably ask him, and the Neapolitans too. The latter people despise their noblesse, and would gladly do without a Chamber of Peers. Therefore the refusal of the constitution of 1812 is no unwelcome act to them. But to the Sicilian nobles it will prove the contrary; and it may impel them to unseat Ferdinand altogether, and divide the island of Sicily from the mainland of Naples.

But then comes the consideration that the King has married an Austrian princess, and that Austria will desire to intervene. The Pope denies the Austrians passage. But the Austrians can go by sea. It is not for the Pope to bar their passage by this route; it is for France and England.

Have they courage?—have they unity for this? That is the question.

MR COBDEN'S PACIFIC HERESIES.

A storm of obloquy has been blowing in upon Mr Cobden from many discordant quarters. It is not the Protectionist *Herald* or ultra-Protectionist *Post* that alone assails him now. The *Times* allows cold nipping gales of sarcastic criticism to breathe upon him, and the *Chronicle* visits him with the full weight of its anger.

What has Mr Cobden done? In the matter of foreign policy, he has preached the doctrine of non-intervention; the creed of Washington and Franklin; the doctrine proclaimed by every enlightened Liberal of Europe before the Duke of Brunswick's manifesto unsettled the minds of men and sent the scum of the French revolution seething to the surface. Mr Cobden has delivered himself of this abstract opinion; and in addition has ridiculed the irrational panic which calls so loudly to have the national resources, at a period of national pressure, squandered upon augmented armies and useless fortifications.

There has been a persevering effort on the part of Mr Cobden's critics to misrepresent the speech he made at the late Manchester free-trade meeting. He drew with evident care a broad and distinct line of demarcation between the course he was resolved to pursue on the general question of British intervention in foreign politics, and that which he recommended with respect to the special question of an immediate increase of our armaments. On the first of these questions he frankly admitted his belief that he was in a minority; and that therefore it became him to assume the position of a missionary in his attempts to gain acceptance for his opinions.

"You cannot have any material reduction in our armaments, until a great change shall have taken place in the public feeling of the country with regard to our foreign policy. The English people must first abandon the notion that they are to regulate the affairs of the whole world. I wish to do no injustice to the Minister that maintains our armaments, nor do I blame him for it now; all I wish is to invoke public opinion upon the folly of conducting our foreign policy as it has been conducted in times past, and this I will do on all occasions."

On the second question he took up very different ground, and claimed the immediate co-operation of all who heard him, and of the general public:

"But the question is not whether we shall dismantle our fleets: that is not the question. It is—will you have an increase in your army and navy? When I admit that public opinion is not with me to the extent that I would carry out my views for a reduction of our armaments, I, at the same time, maintain, speaking for the West Riding of Yorkshire, speaking for Lancashire, speaking for London, speaking for Edinburgh and for Glasgow, that it is with me in opposition to any augmentation of our armaments. And if that public opinion is expressed through public meetings like this—for I have no hesitation in saying that a large portion of the press of the country has abrogated its duties on this question—I say if public opinion on this question is expressed in public meetings before the estimates are brought on in the House of Commons, there will be no increase in our armaments."

Not for the sake of Mr Cobden, who is quite competent to defend himself, and enjoys ample opportunities of doing so, but in behalf of healthy political opinion and the best interests of the nation, moral and physical, we desire to make plain the distinction thus drawn. Two subjects of discussion are proposed, entirely different in respect of their immediate urgency: the one a practical question for immediate solution, the other a great general principle to be expounded and disseminated by missionary efforts.

It is at times Mr Cobden's fault to address himself exclusively to a class, and we could have wished that, in this late speech, he had abstained from some reflections too much limited by his own pursuits and too little tolerant of others. All soldiers and sailors, nay, even all diplomatists, are not advocates of the meddling system; and on the other hand, how many of our attempts to subject the governments of foreign states to acquiescence in a policy deemed subservient to mere British interests, and how many of the wars in which these attempts have involved us, have been prompted by the short-sighted selfishness of the merchant and manufacturer classes? But to stand aloof from Mr Cobden, simply on the ground of critical objection to part of his phraseology, or even because we may deem his perception

of an important truth dimmed and discoloured by an admixture of error, would be to play the game of our common adversaries. We are not disposed to think that the hopes and wishes of the best and greatest minds of the past and present century anchored themselves altogether to a mere Utopian fallacy, in looking forward to a time when the right of every nation to administer its internal affairs free from the intervention of foreign powers should be universally recognized and acted upon. Nor are we disinclined to believe that the progress of free and unrestricted trade among all nations will materially accelerate the chances of that era; less perhaps by the promotion of brotherly feelings among the parties who engage in it, than by the creation, in every region, of large material interests which have everything to lose and nothing to gain by war. Apart from incidental and not very important expressions, we understand this to be the view propounded by Mr Cobden: and to his accompanying proposition, that it is the duty of every public writer or speaker who entertains the same view to lose no opportunity of reconciling public opinion to it, we can have no hesitation in assenting. Such are the only means by which it can ultimately be rendered the practical rule of conduct for nations. We must frankly add that the economy possible to be effected in the expenditure upon national defence by the adoption of this principle in international concerns, appears to us the least important of its benefits.

Principles of less universal application must of course determine the immediate practical question of whether there exist at this moment any reasonable grounds for largely augmenting our armaments. We have to ask ourselves whether there is anything in the present aspect of foreign affairs to render an unforeseen and overwhelming attack upon these islands probable, or even possible? We have to consider, supposing the apprehended attack is not to be immediate, whether there is any other way of placing ourselves in a position to resist it when it comes, than by serious addition to our outlay upon fleets, armies, and fortresses? And if the former of these questions is answered in the negative, the latter in the affirmative, we have still to determine whether the season of mercantile embarrassment through which we are still passing ought not in itself to be a conclusive argument against any such present increase of our annual expenditure?

With respect to the first of these questions, it is to be kept in mind, as we have pointed out very recently, that in the actual organization of Europe a mere buccanneering invasion of our soil is really a preposterous chimera. The little states of middle-age Italy indulged in desultory intermitting assaults and reprisals as the spleen of the moment suggested; but the tendency of modern Europe to aggregate itself into a few large states has put an end to this condition of affairs. Any attack by France or Russia upon Great Britain will be for the attainment of a great and permanent advantage and the preparations for it must be on a corresponding scale, requiring length of time for their completion. We have diplomatic envoys at every European court; we have consuls in all their ports; we have traders and tourists continually passing and re-passing, and mingling with all classes of society; we have merchants corresponding unreservedly with each other on every movement that may affect the operations of exchange, or the price and supply of any commodity. The workings of the great European corporation are visible to all. It is utterly impossible that an invasion of Great Britain—such as the great powers of the world would undertake—could be prepared and matured without our receiving ample forewarning in time to be prepared for it. We have repeatedly declared that, where there is proved insufficiency, we would not dispute the prudence of augmenting our establishments. We would have them maintained on such a scale, that in the event of need they could be expanded to meet the emergency. But of any such immediate need there is no symptom to be detected in any quarter at present. Nay, the language and policy just adopted by powerful oppositions in the French Chambers and in the American Congress, render any serious acts of hostility against this country less probable than they have been for years.

Having breathing time allowed us, therefore, it may be worth while to inquire, in reference to the question of insufficiency, whether by any re-distribution of our land and sea forces our national defences may not be more efficiently provided for than hitherto, with small increase of cost. We cannot say that we thought Mr Cobden very successful in this part of his speech; but that the expense of the army might be reduced and its efficiency increased by confining it to its legitimate duties, we think a plausible argument enough. If, instead of having one half of it permanently quartered in Ireland to enforce the collection of rents by the landlords, and a large proportion in the colonies to uphold very doubtful systems of government, the army were distributed with a view to defence alone, its numbers might surely be made more decidedly available. And so with the navy. If the permanent coast blockade of Western Africa were abandoned as useless, and if we were to cease sending ships to the Tagus to enable the Queen to banish to Africa our own especial friends, we might, with the same number of vessels in commission as at present, better occupy every point required for the protection of our trade and territory. At any rate *primâ facie* arguments in abundance have been advanced, to entitle these suggestions to grave consideration.

As to the inability of the people of this country to bear at present any new burdens not inevitable, that unluckily needs no demonstration.

THE BENCHERS OF THE INNER TEMPLE.

The 'Report of the Proceedings before the Judges' on Mr Hayward's Appeal has recently been published, and we are glad it has; for the course pursued by the Benchers is one which every right-thinking man must unequivocally condemn; and it seems morally impossible that so palpable an abuse can be maintained much longer, now that its existence is established by documentary evidence of the clearest kind.

The essential facts lie within a small compass. Each of the four Inns of Court is governed by a select body (from twenty-five to fifty) called Benchers, who are precisely analogous to the Fellows of a College, except that they live less together and have more important duties to perform. They possess the exclusive privilege of calling to the Bar, and exercise judicial authority in all cases of discipline or professional honour. The office, therefore, is strictly of a public character; and the Benchers of the two Temples hold the whole of their large property under a grant from the Crown (6 Jac. 1) in trust for the profession. The elective power is vested in the body itself: but the custom, time immemorial, has been for every barrister receiving the rank of Queen's Counsel or a patent of precedence to be made a Bencher of his Inn; and this custom has been the principal means of preserving what still remains of the original character of the institution; for the discretionary choice of the body (as shown in the last number of the *Law Magazine*) has almost always fallen on retired barristers of social habits, or on men of rank and influence who are only nominally connected with the bar. At Lincoln's Inn, Gray's Inn, and the Middle Temple, the votes are given openly, and the majority decide. At the Inner Temple it was the practice to subject the claimant to a ballot, in which a single black-ball excluded; but, whatever the origin of this practice, the impropriety of indulging private animosities in the administration of a trust is so obvious, that it had long come to be regarded as a mere form; and the professional understanding was that it was never to be used arbitrarily.

In this state of things Mr Hayward received his silk gown, and claimed the customary appendage of his rank. He was duly proposed at the Bench of the Inner Temple by Sir George Rose and Sir F. Thesiger, balloted for, and black-balled. Mr Roebuck told Sir George Rose, before the ballot, that he meant to black-ball Mr Hayward (a circumstance of which Mr H. was not informed till afterwards), and avowed subsequently that he had black-balled him; alleging a quarrel in 1832 as the ground. As Mr Roebuck has not attempted to support or even authenticate his version of this (as Serjeant Talfourd justly characterizes it) very trumpery affair, it need not be discussed. It is sufficient to say that the Benchers refused to give up their ballot; that Mr Hayward appealed to the Judges as visitors of the Inns; and that they delivered a judgment, which (after negativing the legal right of Queen's Counsel) concludes thus: "But they (the Judges) "all think that the mode of election, by which a single "black-ball may exclude, is unreasonable; and they strongly "recommend the Benchers of the Inner Temple in future to "conduct their elections to the Bench on some more satis-"factory *principle*."

The modified tone of this judgment, compared with the strong remarks made by some of their lordships during the argument, may be in part accounted for by the fact that five of the eleven Judges who signed it had been Benchers of this very Inn. Still the practice (the cause of all the mischief) was condemned, and perhaps the Judges thought that the Benchers would gladly avail themselves of the opportunitity of getting rid of a dangerous and utterly indefensible anomaly. But the *esprit de corps* was roused; and under the influence of feelings which should be uniformly suppressed, they enacted a new by-law: "That in future no one shall be elected to the Bench of the Inner Temple unless he obtain the votes of a 'majority of the *existing* Benchers, and that *four* black-balls shall be sufficient to exclude." There are twenty-eight existing Benchers, so that fifteen votes must be obtained; and as fifteen or sixteen is an average attendance, *one* might still exclude. The majority of those *present* elect at the other Inns, and in all other collegiate or corporate bodies. It is also a recognized principle of law, that when the trust is of a public or general character, the majority of the trustees decide; and some of the Judges intimated a strong opinion that a body like the Bench could not legally adopt a different course. The decision, therefore, is evaded in spirit as well as in letter, and the recommendation is entirely disregarded; for no one pretends to say that there is the slightest difference in principle between the new by-law and the old.

The spirit by which the body are likely to be actuated in their elections for some time to come, may be collected from the tone of their mouth-piece, the late Sir Charles Wetherall, and his successor, Sir F. Thesiger. The latter plainly says (*Rep.* p. 140) that Lord Mansfield's injunction to public trustees—"to be fair, candid, and unprejudiced, not arbitrary, capricious, or biassed; much less warped by resentment or personal dislike"—is inapplicable to a body like the Bench, who have only their own pleasure to consult; and as to considerations of fitness, in the very letter to Mr Hayward in which he justifies the continued exclusion on the ground that it is *now* necessary to promote the "*comfort* and harmony" of his colleagues (who have caused the whole mischief by upholding the bad by-law), he says: "When you obtained your silk gown, and the period arrived for considering your call to the Bench, *having known you for many years, and believing you to be in every respect entitled to admission amongst us*, I willingly undertook (I believe unsolicited) the duty of seconding your nomination." Sir F. Thesiger might have gone still further; for it is only bare justice to say that Mr Hayward's familiarity with foreign systems and general jurisprudence (shown by his juridical writings) peculiarly qualify him to be a useful member of a body who are (or ought to be) about to co-operate in establishing an improved system of legal education and remodelling the faulty constitution of the Bar. According to Sir F. Thesiger's doctrine, no wrong of the kind should ever be remedied, and to resist injustice is to justify it.

In the middle of one of Serjeant Talfourd's admirable speeches, Baron Alderson pointedly inquired whether the same principle of exclusion was to be extended to calls to the Bar, or where it was to stop? Where, indeed? Why should not a similar *veto* on the appointment of a new colleague be claimed by the members of all public boards (as the Treasury, the Admiralty, the Horse Guards, &c.); or by the Judges; or by the Bishops, who might have been saved the discredit of an open responsible opposition to Dr Hampden, had they been allowed to black-ball him? But further argument would be wasted on so clear a question; and the Benchers of the Inner Temple must know by this time, that they are discrediting the Judges, lowering the profession, impairing the stability of all the Inns, trifling away their character as a body, and even bringing their own individual conduct and motives under suspicion, for no earthly purpose but to avoid the acknowledgment of a notorious error, or maintain during a brief interval a system which, the moment any one thinks proper to mention it in either House of Parliament, must be put down.

THE COURT OF JENNERS.

The Court of Arches is a Court impersonal. In other courts the judge frequently speaks of himself, but in the Court of Arches the President's name is never heard, it is the Court that feels this and that, and does this and that. The Court was the other day "disgusted," and more recently it was "indignant;" but a Court should know only one mood, that of justice, and the calmness and dispassionateness belonging to it. Disgust and indignation should be utterly foreign to the feelings of a Court.

But this Court of Arches is unlike any other Court. It is a Court with a large family tree planted in it. The Court has a son a Proctor, another an Advocate; it has a son-in-law brother-in-law of a party in a suit, and two sons who are indebted to the same party for hospitality. There is no other Court that presents such delightful domestic features. You are in that Court in the bosom of a family amongst whom reign the most perfect concord. They are all Proctors, Advocates, &c., as like as so many peas. Take care, therefore, not to mistake the Judge for the Advocate, or the Advocate for the Judge. The Judge speaks in the name of the Court, because of the number of the Jenners, whose name is Legion. He is called Fust Jenner, a corruption of First Jenner, to signify that he stands first on the family list; but to tell who is last Jenner would require a vast deal of counting, for there are Jenners without end in that Court. The Court has ceased to be known and described as the Court of Arches (an unmeaning name), it is now called the Court of Jenners.

THE LATE MIRFIELD MURDERS.—The facts connected with these atrocious murders have engaged so much of the public attention that it is unnecessary to recount the particulars; but it may be remarked that the strong evidence which was adduced to prove the innocence of M'Cabe, coupled with the dying declaration of Patrick Reid that he (M'Cabe) had nothing to do with the murder, led to the general supposition that M'Cabe would be liberated from prison so soon as the facts connected with the trial had engaged Sir George Grey's attention. Anxious to know the intention of the Home Secretary with respect to the prisoner, his friends made application to the right honourable baronet, requesting information on the subject. To this application the following reply has been received:—"Whitehall, Feb. 1, 1848. Sir,—I am directed by Secretary Sir George Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st ult., respecting the case of Michael M'Cabe, who was convicted at the winter assizes, holden in the county of York in December last, of murder, and sentenced to death; and I am to acquaint you that since the trial the case of M'Cabe has been frequently under the consideration of the judge who tried the prisoner, and he is of opinion that M'Cabe was a participator in the crime to some extent, and has recommended that his sentence should be commuted to transportation for life, and that Sir George Grey has, therefore, recommended the prisoner to her Majesty for the grant of a pardon, on that condition.—I am, sir, your obedient servant, S. M. PHILLIPPS."—*Morning Chronicle.*

[It is possible that this may be a right decision, but we entertain very serious doubts of it. At the trial, the Judge whose authority is here relied on charged strongly for M'Cabe's acquittal; the prisoner executed for the murder repeatedly and solemnly declared all absence of guilty knowledge or participation in his fellow convict; and if any fresh evidence against M'Cabe has since been obtained, the public ought to be put in possession of it. They will not be satisfied with the decision as it stands. If necessary, we will reproduce the principal points of evidence in the case, and show how strongly they corroborate the presumption of entire innocence in the poor friendless creature whom it is the present intention of the Home Office to visit with the strange mercy of a punishment only short of Death.—ED. EX.]

THE LITERARY EXAMINER.

Memoir of the Life of Elizabeth Fry, with Extracts from her Letters and Journals. Edited by Two of her Daughters. Gilpin.

We have little to add on the appearance of the concluding volume of this book, to the remarks suggested by the first volume. We could have wished something more definite and palpable in the biographical details. The incidents even of Mrs Fry's life, and in a still greater degree those which befel her friends and relatives, are rather hinted at than related. We can understand the delicacy which has deterred two ladies from being more specific, though we regret that we in consequence obtain mere shadowy glimpses of Mrs Fry and the familiar circle within which she moved—a society of which a clear graphic account could not fail to have been both pleasing and instructive.

Mrs Fry was a true Englishwoman of the noblest class—worthy to rank with the Hutchinsons, Russells, Fanshawes, Ranelaghs, and Temples. Could anything be more beautifully conceived than the following mode of administering rebuke?

"With Miss Garrett she visited the Penitentiary at Portsea. While they went over the house, the unfortunate inmates were assembled in the parlour, where they were all standing, when Mrs Fry, and the party with her, returned to the room. This lady describes Mrs Fry as 'sitting down, laying her bonnet on the table, and making some inquiries as to the arrangements of the place, and the conduct of the young women there.' Two were pointed out to her as being peculiarly refractory and hardened; without noticing this, she addressed some words of exhortation and advice to all; and when she arose to go away, she went up to these two, and extending her hand to each of them, said, in a tone and manner quite indescribable, but so touching,—'I trust I shall hear better things of thee.' The hearts that had been proof against the words of reproach and exhortation, softened at the words of hope and kindness, and both burst into tears."

Mrs Fry was superior to the folly of weak nerves and delicate sensibilities. In the discharge of the Samaritan's duties she could compel herself to view and dress wounds:

"On the road, they saw a man lying apparently at the point of death. Mrs Fry immediately went to him, desiring her daughter to open her dressing-case and bring a vial of brandy, which, from her frequent attendance in sickness, she had learned always to have in readiness.

"She knelt down by the poor man, whose head she found dreadfully torn; she carefully replaced the scalp which was lying back, tied it down with her pocket-handkerchief; then gave him brandy, and he began to revive. After a time a cart came by, into which she had him lifted, and carefully conveyed to the next village. He had been driving a powerful team of horses—they ran away, and the waggon-wheel went over his head. He died in Norwich Hospital, after lingering some weeks and apparently ready for that solemn change."

Elizabeth Fry was in no respect sectarian. Her religion was too much of the heart to be bound up exclusively with a particular sect. For herself she preferred Quakerism to the last, but she was content to see systems of church polity in others vary according to their views. Running parallel with her philanthropy, we see her emancipation from party; not as cause and effect, but as consequences arising from the same source, branches from the same root. Some of her remarks in the volume before us, with reference to the peculiar discipline and habits of the society, are alike just and beautiful.

ON FORMS AND PHRASEOLOGY.

"We are in the midst of the Yearly Meeting; to me a very important time, as I am greatly interested in the welfare of the Society. I do most fully unite in most of its practices and principles; but still I may say, I have somewhat against it. I see that we may improve as we go on, if that which first led us to be a peculiar people, be kept to by us. I think in our Meetings for Discipline, too much stress is laid on minor parts of our testimonies, such as 'plainness of speech, behaviour, and apparel,' rather than on the greater and weightier matters of the law; these (lesser things) are well, and I believe should be attended to; but they should not occupy an undue place. I do not like the habit of that mysterious, ambiguous mode of expression, in which Friends at times clothe their observations, and their ministry. I like the truth in simplicity, it needs no mysterious garment. I also can hardly bear to hear Friends make us out to be a chosen people, above others.

"I have very much kept silence amongst them, being generally quite clear of anything to do; but as a spectator, I have rejoiced in the love, the sweetness, and the power of good amongst us, and the evidence that our great High Priest is owning us for good."

ON THE TRAINING OF CHILDREN.

"Something has occurred which has brought me into conflict of mind; how far to restrain young persons in their pleasures, and how far to leave them at liberty. The longer I live, the more difficult do I see education to be; more particularly, as it respects the religious restraints that we put upon our children; to do enough, and not too much, is a most delicate and important point. I begin seriously to doubt, whether as it respects the peculiar scruples of Friends, it is not better, quite to leave sober-minded young persons to judge for themselves. Then the question arises—When does this age arrive? I have such a fear that in so much mixing religion with those things which are not delectable, we may turn them from the thing itself. I see, feel, and know, that where these scruples are adopted from principle, they bring a blessing with them; but where they are only adopted out of conformity to the views of others, I have very serious doubts whether they are not a stumbling-block."

ON CHURCH MEMBERSHIP.

"I was too poorly to go to our Monthly Meeting to-day; which I do not much regret, as my dearest son J—— was to send in his resignation of membership; I so much feel it, that I think perhaps I am better away. I believe my dear J—— has done what he now thinks best; there I leave it, and though I certainly have much felt his leaving a Society I so dearly love, the principles of which I so much value, yet no outward names are in reality of much importance in my view, nor do I think very much of membership with any outward sect or body of Christians—my feeling is, that if we are but living members of the Church of Christ, this is the only membership essential to salvation. Belonging to any particular body of Christians has, I see, its disadvantages, as well as advantages; it often brings into the bondage of man, rather than being purely and simply bound to the law of Christ; though I am fully sensible of its many comforts, advantages, and privileges. Earnestly do I desire for this dear child, that his Lord may make his way clear before him, that he may be truly here a member of the militant Church of Christ, and hereafter of His Church triumphant."

In the spirit of these sayings and doings which we have selected as specimens—and which, even more truly than her public ministry, reveal the nature of Elizabeth Fry—is the whole book. We rise from its perusal with softened yet elevated thoughts. It is worthy—no mean praise—to take its place upon our shelves, beside the more rugged but equally kindly and catholic journal of George Fox, the great founder of the Society.

The Harveian Oration, delivered before the Royal College of Physicians, London, June 27th, 1846. By John Elliotson, M.D. With an English Version and Notes. Baillière.

The Zoist: a Quarterly Journal of Cerebral Physiology and Mesmerism, and their Applications to Human Welfare. No. XX, Jan. 1848. Baillière.

Mesmerism and its Opponents. By George Sandby, M.A., Vicar of Flixton, Suffolk. Second Edition, considerably enlarged, with an Introductory Chapter. Longman and Co.

The testimony borne by Dr Elliotson, in his Harveian Oration, to the efficacy of what, for want of a better name, we must call mesmeric treatment, has naturally led many curious inquirers to pay more attention to the periodical in which the experiences of mesmerists are recorded. This disposition cannot but be increased and confirmed by the circumstances attendant upon the recent painless surgical operations performed upon patients under the influence of ether or chloroform. There has been a curious difference in the reception lately given by medical men to the American mode of superinducing coma before performing operations, and that which they had previously afforded to the European mode of effecting the same object by mesmeric treatment. If it be true that not a few of the eulogists of gaseous administration have confessed they promoted and practised it only because it was likely to supersede mesmerism, this unphilosophical spirit of partisanship is discreditable to the professors of so important an art as medicine. At the present moment an historical review of the circumstances alluded to may not be altogether useless.

The *Harveian Oration* is delivered annually in the presence of the assembled College of Physicians, by one of the Fellows, in conformity to the will of its founder, the immortal discoverer of the circulation of the blood. The oration, as contemplated by Harvey, consists of two parts. The first, a commemoration of the benefactors of the College; the second, an exhortation to the members to study and search out the secrets of nature by way of experiment. On the 27th of June, 1846, the oration was delivered by Dr Elliotson. It has since been published by its author, with an English version and notes; an innovation on the usual practice which is thus accounted for: "I have published it in this form because I considered it *my duty* to declare my conviction of the truth of mesmerism before the assembled members of the College of Physicians, and am anxious that the public should know the fact."

The declaration alluded to concludes the oration, and in the English is thus expressed. We deem it advisable to subjoin in a note the Latin version,* some of the expressions in which appear to us more powerful and precisely scientific: and we may observe, by the way, that the author proves himself throughout, no less by the variety and pregnancy of his allusions than by his pure and expressive Latinity, an accomplished scholar.

"... A body of facts is presented to us not only wonderful in physiology and pathology, but of the very highest importance in the prevention of suffering under the hands of the surgeon and in the cure of disease. The chief phenomena are indisputable: authors of all periods record them, and we all ourselves witness them, some rarely, some every day. The point to be determined is whether they may be produced artificially and subjected to our control: and it can be determined by experience only. The loss of common feeling—anæsthesia, is but a form of palsy, and in it wounds give no pain. If this condition can be induced temporarily by art, we of necessity enable persons to undergo surgical operations without suffering. Whether the artificial production of those phenomena, or the performance of the processes which so often induce them, will mitigate or cure disease, can likewise be determined by experience only. It is the imperative, the solemn, duty of the profession, anxiously and dispassionately to determine these points by experiment, each man for himself. I have done so for ten years, and fearlessly declare that the phenomena, the prevention of pain under surgical operations, the production of repose and comfort in disease, and the cure of many diseases, even after the failure of all ordinary means, ARE TRUE. *In the name, therefore, of the love of truth, in the name of the dignity of our profession, in the name of the good of all mankind, I implore you carefully to investigate this important subject.*"

We are neither sufficiently learned in physiology, nor enough conversant with the experimental phenomena of mesmerism, to decide whether Dr Elliotson is right or wrong. But when a man of such well-deserved reputation for ability and probity made so solemn and striking a declaration as we have just quoted, in the presence of the recognised heads of medical science and practice in this country, his assertions became certainly entitled to a candid and respectful scrutiny. Instead, however, of being thus received, Dr Elliotson's testimony appears to have been generally set aside: by some, with expressions of compassion, much like *Mrs Candour's;* by others with vulgar triumph over supposed injured prospects. If his practice has been injured, as we suppose it has been, no one at least can doubt that he has suffered for sincerity's sake, and been punished for his conscientiousness. Strange as it may sound to some, it is certain that Dr Elliotson has *never mesmerized professionally;* that he has taken every step, and incurred many sacrifices, to prevent mesmerism from being in any way a source of emolument to him; and that his experiments and practice in it, which have been the subject of so much remark, have been (when not simply to benefit those who may have refused otherwise to be mesmerised at all) pursued solely on the ground of Harvey's injunction "to study and search out the secrets of nature." Such conduct, however mistaken, guided by such aims, assuredly deserved other treatment than it has almost universally received.

"It is lamentable, deplorable," is the tone of the most intelligent of Dr Elliotson's critics, "to see this great delusion supported by one of the ablest physicians of this country." With a sense of triumph it is proclaimed by another class that "This eminent physician has laboured with all his might, and most successfully, *to ruin his own* prospects." Again—"Sorely has he suffered for the part he has played. His position is irretrievably lost." One opponent went even so far as to protest against the prevention of pain, because it was "so wise a provision," and because "patients were all the better for it." Such examples may show, that with the fact of Dr Elliotson's averments having for the most part been received with expressions of incredulous contempt, avowed prejudice has had more to do than even the affectation of superior knowledge. It is to be added, that the eagerness with which the proposals to avoid pain by administering gases have since been caught at, seem to indicate a lurking consciousness of this, and some uneasiness at it.

The excuse of those who have refused to examine into the truth of Dr Elliotson's assertions, appears to rest in the main upon three averments:—that mesmerism has been practised by gross and shameless quacks; that many or most believers in mesmerism are either very ignorant, or possess only such a smattering of knowledge as is more misleading than pure ignorance; and that many of the stories told by mesmerists are obviously exaggerated and false. The truth of these allegations cannot and need not be called in question. But do they entitle the searcher after truth to exonerate himself from the trouble of inquiring, whether truth may not yet lie hid under even all this rubbish?

"Mesmerism has been practised by gross and shameless quacks." Not a doubt of it. The scenes exhibited at the first attempt to introduce it in Paris, now three quarters of a century ago, have never been surpassed in this respect. The darkened chambers, the voluptuous music, the metallic tracters, and other means and appliances to work on the fancies of patients, were quackery of the first water. Much quackery, too, though on a less magnificent scale, has been practised in our own city within these few years by sordid speculators and presumptuous sciolists, who have undertaken to lecture upon mesmerism and get up exhibitions of the mesmeric phenomena. Whenever anything curious in art or science is made a show, trickery is sure to creep in. The exhibitor labours to create an effect; he supplies short-comings; he suppresses what appears suspicious. The mere habit of showing off for money dulls the moral sense. But there must be some reality at the bottom of every show. The first impulse of the actor was genuine sentiment, though his practised exhibitions may be mere grimace. The laws of nature which uphold the juggler's balls in their gyrations, are the same which regulate the motion of the world. Mechanical philosophers have never scrupled to borrow illustrations of their principles from ingenious tricks of legerdemain: why should physiologists be more scrupulous? Is it not worth while to detect the principle in human nature by which *speciosa miracula* are played off, on the chance that it may be turned to some useful account? The veriest jugglers who have ever traded in the exhibition of mesmeric phenomena, have at least shown the possibility of throwing individuals into the state of somnambulism by artificial means: and Dr Elliotson, a wise and experienced physician, avers after ten years' trial that surgical operations may be performed upon persons in this state without giving pain; nay, that even *its benefit in preventing the pain of surgical operation is insignificant compared with its use in alleviating the distress of disease; and that where it does not offer the means of cure, it induces at the least refreshing sleep and tranquillity.* Surely it is the falsest dignity, the refusing to test by experiment this sanitary agent because quacks may have practised it.

"Many or most believers in mesmerism are grossly ignorant, or possess only such a smattering of knowledge as puffs up and misleads." Agreed. They are in this respect almost on a level with the general body of English medical practitioners. The art of healing in England is studied too much as a mere trade, and too little as a liberal profession. Physicians alone are expected to have enjoyed a university education; and the education in our English universities is so remote from the realities of the age, that few of them learn how to bring it to bear upon their professional pursuits. The surgeons and apothecaries (upon whom devolves by far the larger proportion of medical practice) enter upon their professional studies without any preliminary scientific training whatever. They work away in dissecting-rooms and chemical laboratories. They pick up the latest experiments and theories from lectures or periodicals. They become clever manipulators, without comprehensive systematic views; and the technical language of physiology or chemistry becomes in their mouths mere parrots' jargon. The intellectual tone of the profession was not unfairly represented by Sir Astley Cooper, in the hacknied boast of his lectures that he knew nothing about medicine, although he did not scruple to take fees for practising it. Thus it is not easy to determine whether in the course of a twelve years' controversy more crude empiricism has been displayed by the adherents, or the opponents, of mesmerism, among medical men. If the former have too often disfigured their statements, and incurred well-founded suspicion of their reliability by chattering about "magnetic fluids," and such-like mysterious substances and agencies, the existence of which they assume without evidence; the latter have quite as often denied the truth of averments, not on the ground of preponderating evidence or adverse testimony, but because they were irreconcilable with the existing theories of medical practitioners. The question at issue is not by what agency the mesmeric phenomena are produced, but whether they really exist, and whether they are attended by the beneficial consequences which Dr Elliotson attributes to them? The earnest seeker of truth will not discredit a story because it is told in unphilosophical terms,—because the narrator has apprehended it in an unphilosophical manner. He will endeavour to discover, through the veil of an absurd phraseology, the simple facts averred; and he will then examine impartially the evidence which supports or discredits them.

"Many averments made by mesmerists are obviously false and exaggerated." The word "obviously" implies a misconception. The averments of mesmerists regarding the phenomena of coma, somnambulism, &c., and the possibility of producing these states by artificial means, are all of them more or less contradictory to the prevailing opinions of society. The greater or less degree in which they are contradictory, is no test of their probability. In an entirely new range of inquiry, harmony with previous conceptions is no guide. The sultan in the story who swallowed all sorts of European ghost stories, revolted at the idea of water being rendered solid by extreme cold. A philosophical inquirer into the reality of mesmeric phenomena will set to work unbiassed by any prepossession, quite as much in the case of its most marvellous as of its most seeming simple tales. He will demand the same evidence for the production of the simple magnetic sleep, as for the existence of the state in which consciousness is alleged to be diffused through our whole being, and perception to be extended through all time and space. Supposing the investigation challenged by Dr Elliotson to relate simply to the former class of phenomena, these can only be substantiated by a wider range of inquiry. In vital phenomena, experiment, unless accompanied and checked by extensive simple observation, is delusive in the extreme. When experiments are made upon living subjects, a non-normal state is superinduced. False inferences are almost certain to be drawn, unless the phenomena produced by the experiments are compared with observations of the corresponding phenomena spontaneously and naturally developed. The inquiry by which Dr Elliotson's views must be confirmed or overturned, involves careful collection and strict scrutiny of all cases of coma, somnambulism, and other corresponding states, spontaneous or artificially excited, that can be collected by the most accurate and veracious observers during a protracted period.

That we are entitled to look for such an investigation, few dispassionate persons, we think, will doubt, when they read Dr

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* The allusion at the outset is to a list which had gone before, of great discoverers unworthily discredited and persecuted:

"Nunquam autem retinenda magis in animo atque memoriâ videntur ea omnia quæ enumeravi, quam hodierno die, quum nobis ad considerandum proposita sint multa quæ non solum physiologis et pathologis admiranda videantur, sed quæ summi nobis omnibus momenti esse debent, quippe quæ ostendant posse averti dolores ac cruciatus quos et manibus chirurgorum subjecti, et variis morbis afflicti fermè patiuntur. Horum quæ vocantur phænomena extrà dubitationem sunt: commemorantur enim scriptoribus quam veteribus tam recentioribus: eadem nos ipsi videmus: alii raripe, alii quotidie. Jam, quod est enucleandum, viri spectatissimi, illud est; utrum, quæ nobis agentibus neque satis perspicientibus fiunt, ea certâ quâquam ratione ac lege fieri possint, ut nostræ voluntati tanquam obediant et subjecta sint. Quod quidem solâ experientia decerni poterit. Quæ autem è tali arte consecutam sint, attendite, quæso, animis, dum brevissimè quod potero expediam. Communis sensus suspensio: sive, ut Græco verbo utar, ἀναισθησία, quid est, nisi paralysis species, in quâ nullum dolorem subjiciunt vulnera? Qui status si ad tempus et certis legibus possit induci; sequitur necessariò posse aliquem chirurgicas operationes per nostram artem ità subire, ut dolorem sentiat nullum.

"Illud etiam solâ experientiâ comperiendum est, utrum ea quæ jam perstrinxi, efficiendo, aut illis utendo rationibus quæ ad ea efficienda sæpissime valent, curari possint morbi.

"Hæc omnia, auditores, sedatè placidèque experimento pro se quemque examinare et, si poterit, decernere, professionis nostræ hominibus officium est summum atque gravissimum. Ita facientem jam me decem viderunt anni: quæ autem mihi comperta sunt et palam facta, EA APERTE AC SINE TREPIDATIONE VERA ESSE AFFIRMO: In iis qui chirurgorum manibus subjiciuntur doloris intermissionem: tum in quibusdam morbis quietem ægrotis ac tranquillitatem allatam, tum denique in aliis ipsius morbi sanationem usitatioribus modis omnibus frustrà tentatis.

"Quæ cum ita sunt, ego vos magnoperè oro atque obtester, ut tantam vim tot argumentis humanâ naturâ inesse comprobatam, si unquam apud vos veritatis amor, si professionis nostræ dignitas, si denique omnium hominum salus et felicitas valet, diligentissimè investigetis."

Elliotson's deliberate assertion published in the *Zoist* some months back:

"In my pamphlet *On Painless Surgical Operations in the Mesmeric State*, I, in 1843, recorded one amputation, one removal of a cancerous breast, one division of the ham-strings, one introduction of a seton, one removal of an excrescence, one opening of an abscess, two severe operations on the jaw, &c., and thirty-two teeth extractions—*forty painless operations*. In the *Zoist* are recorded sixteen amputations, the removal of twenty-eight tumors—some enormous, nineteen various operations by incisions of greater or less length, three applications of fire or caustic substances, three cuttings away of cancer of the breast, sixty-seven teeth extractions, three cuttings out of nails, three for hydrocele, one for polypus, one for squinting, three venesections, four introductions of setons and issues—*a hundred and two painless operations*."

We do not see upon what principle those who have welcomed, and in many forms repeated, the experiment of superinducing insensibility upon patients previous to performing surgical operations, by the administration of deleterious gases (of whose very possible fatal result a melancholy instance will be found in another part of our paper), should resolutely refuse similar trial to a process of simple manipulation, which is thus strongly and repeatedly averred to have superinduced the required state of insensibility without introducing foreign deleterious substances into the human system. Mesmeric experiments have for the most part been performed by incompetent persons, because the parties most competent to perform them have refused in the pride of their preconceptions. But they are alleged to have been performed successfully not only by Dr Elliotson, but by several distinguished medical practitioners on the Continent; and there have lately been accessions to believers in their curative agency among the most learned chemists of Germany, and their followers in our Edinburgh schools. Such accredited experiments cannot contract any discredit, from the most suspicious that can be related by ignorant quacks. All the reputation of Dr Elliotson, or the other gentlemen alluded to, does not preclude the possibility of delusion or mystification. But the part he has taken in the controversy has been manly and consistent throughout. The assertions that his practice has declined in consequence may be true; and yet it is very possible he may prove to be in the right. The late Sir Charles Bell told, in one of his lectures, an amusing story of one of his ablest pupils who had nearly been rejected at his examination for answering a question rightly; the examinator being ignorant of Sir Charles's discoveries respecting the nerves. If further dispassionate inquiry should corroborate Dr Elliotson's views, any loss of practice incurred by propagating them will of course greatly increase his claims to honour and esteem.

Readers who wish to obtain a knowledge of the actual position and progress of mesmeric research, cannot do better than consult the pages of the *Zoist*. It is a record of observations and experiments, for the most part narrated by the parties who have made them. The diseases benefited, according to a host of apparently very creditable witnesses, are not merely of the class of nervous disorders, but extend to affections of the digestive organs, and inflammation generally; and not a few of the most remarkable cases seem to establish its efficacy for the purpose of soothing and procuring sleep in all diseases, while the established methods of treatment are employed. The very inequality of ability displayed in the papers, presents in a lively manner an image of the various classes of intellects engaged in the pursuit. One feature they all possess in common; earnestness, and the appearance of good faith. From the third work mentioned at the head of our article, a general outline of the progress of mesmerism since the time of Mesmer may be gathered. Mr Sandby's *Mesmerism and its Opponents* has reached a second edition, a compliment due to the liveliness and intelligence with which it is written; and is now published in a cheap form. A considerable part of it is devoted to a vindication of mesmeric phenomena from the charge of being produced by diabolical agency; and but for the quotations with which the book is interspersed, we certainly could not have believed it necessary to undertake such a task at this day. If Mr Sandby has failed to convince any readers that the devil has no hand in mesmerism, he has at least proved that there are clergymen who gravely preach that doctrine, and audiences who believe them. Mr Sandby is somewhat diffuse here and there; but the non-diabolical part of the argument is ably written, and his book is not only lively throughout, but is evidently animated by a spirit of fearless candour that vouches for the integrity of the author.

In conclusion let us say, that should any be reluctant to enter upon the examination of the mesmeric phenomena for fear of being laughed at, they will find citations in Mr Sandby's work from Jussieu, La Place, and Cuvier, that may possibly re-assure them. Jussieu, in the separate report he made to the French government, said of one class of mesmeric facts: "They are sufficient to make us admit the possibility or existence of a fluid or agent, which is communicated from one man to another,—and sometimes exercises on the latter a sensible influence." La Place declared "that the testimony in favour of the truth of mesmerism, coming with such uniformity from enlightened men of many nations, who had no interest to deceive, and possessed no possible means of collusion, was such that, applying to it his own principles and formulas respecting human evidence, he could not withhold his assent to what was so strongly supported." And Cuvier admitted that "the effects produced by mesmerism no longer permit it to be doubted that the proximity of two living bodies, in certain positions and with certain motions, has a real result, independent of all participation of the imagination."

Journal of a Residence at the Cape of Good Hope; with Excursions into the Interior, and notes on the Natural History and the Native Tribes. By Charles J. F. Bunbury, F.L.S. John Murray.

This volume conveys to the reader a more true and lively presentation of the external appearances of nature, and of the social relations in the Cape Colony, than any which has preceded it. Considerable changes have taken place in the domestic polities of the Cape of Good Hope during the ten years that have elapsed since Mr Bunbury left it; but so felicitously has he seized upon the essential elements, the characteristic features, of society there, that his work is as available as if he had only quitted it yesterday. It is the rare felicity of such a discriminating observer that his remarks "can never all grow old." He gives a key to the secrets of social manners which rust and accretion cannot render useless. A brief recapitulation of the leading events which have taken place in the Cape Colony since 1837 enables any one to make allowance for the influence of natural development in the interim, and adjust Mr Bunbury's view to the actual state of affairs. The statesman who may be called upon to discuss or decide upon the public affairs of the Cape, the emigrant who may contemplate removing his lares thither, the curious inquirer who would "know the rights" of what has given rise to so much controversy, will find Mr Bunbury an intelligent and candid guide. The chief merits of the work may be briefly enumerated. Candid and discriminating estimates of the inhabitants—especially of that much misrepresented section of them, the descendants of the Dutch settlers; judicious and sympathising scrutiny of what has been done for education at the Cape; valuable novel contributions to the natural history of the region; a singular felicity of picturesque description, realising "the outward shows of sky and earth" to all readers; and lastly, uniform good taste and gentlemanly feeling.

Adventures of a Medical Student. By Robert Douglas, Surgeon, R.N. With a Memoir of the Life of the Author. Three vols. Colburn.

This is the re-publication of a series of papers which appeared in the *New Monthly Magazine*. A companion and friend of the author (who died at twenty-four) has prefixed a brief notice of his life, in which however there is nothing to interest the reader beyond its early close and the promise so untimely blighted. Mr Douglas had many characteristics as a writer which might have ripened into great qualities if his life had been spared. Above all he had the power of *interesting* by his narrative, whatever it might be. But in the papers before us this is obtained at too great a cost. The subjects are so uniformly painful, and the treatment so savours of the dissecting-room, that we are obliged to lay the volumes down with regret—not to say disgust. It is a pity; for passages in all the sketches that compose the *Adventures* show the author by no means insensible to the finer delicacies of feeling and description, and leave us to deplore the morbid abuse of his talents.

Switzerland in 1847; *and its Condition, Political, Moral, and Physical, before the War.* By Theodore Mügge. Edited by Mrs Percy Sinnett. Two vols. Bentley.

No foreign author need desire a more intelligent or careful interpreter than Mrs Sinnett. The task of translation and (very necessary in this case) of compression has been well done in the book before us; and as it now stands it is a more available contribution to our knowledge of the existing state of Switzerland than in its original bulkier form. The author (a German) is a fair and impartial writer on the whole, and his recollections of travel, though with too much of a blue-bookish turn, convey an impression of the Swiss condition and character which is more assured and hopeful in regard to the future than that of any reliable writer we have recently met with.

ODE TO SICILY.

1.

Few mortal hands have struck the heroic string,
Since Milton's lay in death across his breast.
But shall the lyre then rest
With vilest dust upon it? This of late
Hath been its fate.

2.

But thou, O Sicily! art born again.
Far over chariots and Olympic steeds
I see the heads and the stout arms of men,
And will record (God gives me power) their deeds.

3.

Hail to thee first, Palermo! hail to thee
Who callest with loud voice, "*Arise! be free,*
Weak is the hand and rusty is the chain."
Thou callest; nor in vain.

4.

Not only from the mountains rushes forth
The knighthood of the North,
In whom my soul elate
Owns now a race cognate,
But even the couch of Sloth, 'mid painted walls,
Swells up, and men start forth from it, where calls
The voice of Honour, long, too long, unheard.

5.

Not that the wretch was fear'd,
Who fear'd the meanest as he fear'd the best,
But that around all kings
For ever springs
A wasting vapour that absorbs the fire
Of all that would rise higher.

6.

Even free nations will not let there be
More nations free.
Witness (O shame!) our own,
Of late years viler none..

7.

To gratify a brood,
Swamp-fed amid the Suabian wood,
The sons of Lusitania were cajoled,
And bound and sold,
And sent in chains where we unchain the slave
We die with thirst to save.

8.

Ye too, Sicilians, ye too gave we up
To drain the bitter cup,
Which ye dash from ye in the despot's face..
O glorious race!

9.

Which Hiero, Gelon, Pindar, sat among
And prais'd for weaker deeds in deathless song;
One is yet left to laud ye. Years have marr'd
My voice, my prelude for some better bard,
When such shall rise; and such your deeds create.

10.

In the lone woods, and late,
Murmurs swell loud and louder, till at last
So strong the blast,
That the whole forest, earth and sea and sky,
To the loud surge reply.

11.

Within the circle of six hundred years,
Show me a Bourbon on whose brow appears
No brand of traitor. Change the tree,
From the same stock for ever will there be
The same foul canker, the same bitter fruit.
Strike, Sicily, uproot
The cursed upas. Never trust
That race again: down with it; dust to dust.

WALTER SAVAGE LANDOR.

THE THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

OLYMPIC.

We are sorry to say that Mr Brooke, in his performance of *Sir Giles Overreach* on Monday night, did not confirm even the moderate promise we found in his *Othello*. Massinger's hero must be admitted to be the exaggeration of a passion; but Mr Brooke caricatured the exaggeration. There was no variation of any kind, no light to the shadow, not a particle of relief. He was violent at the beginning, violent in the middle, and violent to the end.

It is impossible, as it would be idle, to criticize such a performance. We have only to pronounce it, which we do with the regret that all play-goers must feel, a failure so great that criticism would be thrown away upon it; nay, would probably be as unfair to Mr Brooke's general merit as it is inapplicable to what he did in this particular instance. We saw nothing original in the *Othello*, but we saw qualities which it would be unjust to depress to the level of this later performance. We are not surprised that the *Times*, with its favourable disposition to the new actor, should observe a friendly silence. The least partial of his critics may be justified in expecting better things from Mr Brooke, even yet, than the coarse commonplace of his *Sir Giles Overreach*.

We repeat, that Mr Brooke's failure in this part is matter of regret to us, as it ought to be to all who are interested in the welfare of the drama. That there is ample room upon the stage for a new actor is already very obvious, and likely to be more so before many months are over. But unhappily the want for an actor will not create one. We respect the honourable ambition which aspires to be tried and rewarded by the higher achievements of a noble art; but the ambition and the attainment are two very different things, and it is due to the interests of public taste that they should not be confounded. "Let me tell you, sir," says *Mr Carmine* to *Mr Puff*, "he that took my Susannah for a Guido gave no mighty proofs of his ignorance;" but we do not desire the reputation of this kind of knowledge. To have the ill word of the *Mr Puffs* will be better than to encourage *Mr Carmine's* blunders. If Mr Brooke has any of the power which is claimed for him by his friends, the plain truth that he has not yet developed it gives him his best chance for future success and fame. To mistake his present position is to destroy the chance. The necessity for other exertion than he has hitherto made, may make him conscious of a strength we have hitherto failed to perceive in him. When it shows itself, it will have no readier recognition than in this place.

Mr Holl played *Wellborn* much more creditably than we have lately seen him act. The evil example of rant in the chief person of the play seemed to have a chastening effect upon him. There was also merit (though the colouring was generally somewhat faint) in Mr Davidge's *Marrall*. This gentleman's speech in the last act, indeed, was the best bit in the whole play.

SADLER'S WELLS.

Twelfth Night at this theatre is well worth a visit. Mr Phelps thoroughly understands *Malvolio*, and gives a humorously grave intensity to his pedantical conceit; Miss Addison is in some respects a very charming *Viola*, having a sense of the mirthfulness as well as lovingness of the part; Mr Scharf gives the forced jests of the *Clown* with a quaint relish, and the proper far-fetched oddity of manner; Mr Young's *Sir Andrew Ague Cheek* is quite an alarming piece of feeble incapacity, an astonishing exhibition of the qualms of terror; and Mr George Bennet roars out the catches and boisterous mirth of *Sir Toby* without the least "mitigation or remorse of voice."

The ballet department of DRURY LANE has been strengthened by the appearance of Mademoiselle Fuoco. She was well received, and compelled to repeat several of her dances.—At the FRENCH PLAY M. Bocage has made a strong impression by his performance of the *Tartuffe*. He managed with consummate tact the finer transitions of the part, and the struggle of real passion with pretended devotion was subtly rendered. M. Cartigny is a capital *Orgon*.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL.

FRANCE.

THE DEBATE IN THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES.—The proceedings this week have been confined to the discussion of the Address, the affairs of Italy and Switzerland furnishing the chief topics. The last subject afforded matter for the greatest interest. The sitting on Wednesday was occupied almost exclusively with the speech of M. Thiers, which concluded with the following words:—"Providence, who has so many times protected France, will continue, I trust, to ward off from us until better times all this fatal crisis; but, in fine, if any misfortune should produce a general change, just see where you would be. You have created between France and England a dangerous hostility; you have planted in Spain the germ of a most difficult question—that of succession; in Italy the gravest complications menace the general peace; in Switzerland you are compromising the policy which constituted our force and security. Oh, I declare it in the face of Europe, you have exhibited a want of foresight wholly without example, for I will not consent to doubt your good intentions" (loud applause on the left and great agitation). M. Guizot postponed his reply until the following day.

LOUIS-PHILIPPE'S HEALTH.—The Paris papers give rather cheering accounts of the state of the King's health. He now receives company almost every evening, and has completely recovered his attack of the *grippe*. Last Saturday his Majesty drove to Neuilly for the first time since the death of Madame Adelaide and his subsequent indisposition.

THE ROYAL FAMILY.—The Prince and Princess de Joinville left Paris on Monday, for Toulon, *en route* for Algiers, where they are to pass some time with the Duke and Duchess D'Aumale. It is reported that discord prevails between the families of the Duke of Nemours and Prince de Joinville, which is the reason of the departure of the latter from Paris to Algiers.

ABD-EL-KADER.—'Le Courrier Français' says that it has been arranged that Abd-el-Kader, accompanied by four members of his family, shall come to Paris on a visit to the King. The ex-Emir will then quit the capital, and fix his residence in one of the southern towns of France. The same journal says that Abd-el-Kader has not renounced the terms on which he made his submission, but has consented to postpone, for the present, his demand to be sent to the East.

SPAIN.

ESPARTERO.—The General's name was, it appears, at first included among the invited to the royal fêtes, but was struck out on Queen Christina declaring that, if he were invited, she would not be present. It is certain that, out of this affair, a serious feud had arisen. No Progressistas were invited to the grand ball of the 23rd. The Madrid letters of the 28th ult. state that Gen. Espartero had an audience with the Queen that day to take leave, before proceeding to Logrono.

THE INFLUENZA.—The proceedings in the Congress have been with-

out interest. The discussion in the Senate had been suspended in consequence of the number of members attacked with influenza. The Political Chief of Madrid, with a view to allay the fears excited by exaggerated reports respecting the mortality in that capital, had thought proper to publish in the 'Gazette' a return of the deaths from the 10th to the 21st of January. The entire number was 547.

PORTUGAL.

MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS.—Intelligence from Lisbon has been received to the 19th ult. Baron de Francos (Colonel Solla) had been appointed Minister of War instead of Marshal Saldanha, who held that portfolio only *ad interim*. It was rumoured that Conde de Thomar (Costa Cabral) would not leave Lisbon for his diplomatic mission to Paris until next May.

ITALY.

THE INSURRECTION IN SICILY.—Since the last accounts were received the King of Naples has decided on making a partial concession to the demands of his subjects by the publication of certain ordinances, extending the powers of the Consulta of State, granting a voice to the deputies of the provincial councils in matters connected with the interests of their localities and some other legislative alterations. On the 19th ult. also, appeared in the official journal of Naples the promise of an amnesty and a law on the press. In the meantime, however, Palermo had been bombarded. On the night of the 14th, the fort of Castelmare fired bullets upon the town, though as yet no serious engagement had taken place between the troops and insurgents. No course had warned the inoffensive part of the population of the impending danger; no delay had been granted the different consuls, in order to allow them time to secure the safety of their countrymen. On the next day the commander of the English steamer, the Bull-Dog, vainly endeavoured to obtain from the king's lieutenant the suspension of the bombardment. On the 15th the shells still continued to shower down upon the town, when the French consul, M. Bresson, thought it his duty to make an appeal to his colleagues, in the interest of the French and of humanity. Conjointly with the consuls of Sardinia, Switzerland, the United States, Prussia, and Russia, he repaired to the palace, and requested the Duke de Majo to order the bombardment of the town to cease. The English consul, deprived of the use of his legs, and that of Austria, whose house was situated at too great a distance to be warned in time of the steps about to be taken, ratified the course adopted by the consuls. It was not without danger. Near the palace, the deputation was received by a firing of muskets, but fortunately no one met with any injury. Introduced into the presence of the duke, M. Bresson, the French consul, was requested by the other consuls to make known their joint request. After a long parley, the Duke de Majo gave a written promise that he granted suspension of arms for four-and-twenty hours. Thence the consuls, obliged to make their way through innumerable barricades, repaired to the palace of the senate, situated in the centre of the town, and in which the committees had established themselves, *en permanence*. The proposals presented with the view of obtaining a suspension of hostilities, failed in producing all the effect they had hoped for. Availing himself of the short respite he had obtained, the French consul hastened to procure an American three-masted vessel which was in the harbour. and on the 16th, all the French residents who were able to reach the harbour were embarked. On the ensuing days the situation of affairs suffered no alteration, but another bombardment was threatened, against which, however, the foreign consuls protested, and the protest fortunately had the desired effect. No renewal of the bombardment took place. Meanwhile, a negotiation was carried on between the Marquis Spedalatto, mayor (préteur) of the city, and the Duke de Majo. The demands of the people, vague at first, increased in their extent, and at length the ultimatum was given—"The re-establishment of the Sicilian constitution, and the immediate convocation of a parliament at Palermo." The duke, having no power to concede these, sent them on the 19th to the king at Naples. The next day the two frigates which had left for Naples returned to Palermo, bringing the four royal ordonnances of the 18th. Two months earlier such measures would have been received with enthusiasm. They were now met by a clear and firm refusal. The insurgents would not retreat from their ultimatum. A general insurrection throughout the island was counted on. Among the events which signalised these days may be mentioned the capture of the garrison of Montereale, near Palermo, by a society of Benedictine monks, who had joined in the insurrection. The reports of the loss of life vary, and are, probably, very uncertain. It was said that of the troops 200 were killed, and some fifty or sixty of the insurgents. The letters from Palermo of the 21st say that the insurgents on that day had attacked the Convent of Novizziato, in which a body of troops were posted. An English frigate arrived on the 21st. All the enlightened political characters had collected round the King, and implored him to grant at once such concessions as would satisfy the people and tranquillise the country. Among the foremost and most urgent of these were the Prime Minister, the Marquis Pietra Catella, and the Duke de Serra Capriola, late ambassador at Paris. It was especially urged that the odious minister of police, Del Carretto, and the royal confessor, Cocle, should be dismissed. The French government has received by telegraphic despatch the following important news, dated Naples, the 29th ult.: —"The King, by a proclamation dated this day, has solemnly promised a constitution on the basis of the French charter. Yesterday the King appointed a new ministry, of which the Duke de Serra-Capriola is President.

AUSTRIAN TYRANNY.—Letters from Milan of the 22nd say that an order had arrived in that city from Vienna to arrest about fifty persons, most of whom belong to the higher classes of society. The following were arrested:—The Marquis Rosales, President of the Union Club; Count Cæsar Battaglia; the young Marquis Cæsar Soncino Stampa; and some others. Rosales was placed in the dungeons of Santa Margarita; Battaglia and Soncino were sent away from Milan under escort. Their destination was a mystery. In the number of arrests effected were those of the Marquis Filippo Villani, who was formerly well known in Paris; Count Pertusalli; and Count Ercole Durini, formerly an officer in the Austrian army. Cæsar Cantu, a literary man well known in France, and Bellardi, a physician, were also to have been arrested, but they eluded the vigilance of the police, and passed the frontier. Amongst the lower orders of discontented, upwards of 400 considered the most turbulent have been lately apprehended. Of these, 180 of the youngest and most robust have been conveyed to Trieste, to be employed on board the ships of the imperial navy, and the 220 remaining have been transported, without even the form of a trial, to Styria and Moravia, where they are doomed to work as galley slaves. The regiment of Giulay, which acquired such a disgraceful notoriety in the massacre of Galicia, was one of those quartered at Pavia.

GERMANY.

AMNESTY BY THE NEW KING OF DENMARK.—King Frederick VII has commenced his reign by an act of clemency which augurs well for his Majesty's constitutional spirit. He has decreed that all proceedings pending in any of the courts of the kingdom for political offences, or for the violation of the laws which regulate the press, shall be at once cancelled and annulled. The publication of this rescript has been received with joy, and measures of reform are confidently expected which will at once unite the component parts of the kingdom, and establish the throne on a firm constitutional basis.

WARLIKE PREPARATIONS OF AUSTRIA.—The affairs of Sicily seriously engross the attention of the Cabinet of Vienna, and a strong disposition is shown to assist the King of Naples, who has demanded the aid of Austria. Persons generally well informed state that the Austrian Cabinet formally proposed to the King of Naples to send him an auxiliary corps of 25,000 men, which General Radetski was to detach from the army in Lombardy, and hold in readiness to march at the first request of his Neapolitan Majesty. The ambassador of Austria in Rome was, moreover, instructed to demand a passage across the Roman territory for those troops. The army of Italy is to be increased to 150,000 men, instead of 100,000, as at first intended. The reinforcements proceeding to Italy consist principally of cavalry. A manufacturer of arms in Vienna has contracted with the government for the supply of 100,000 percussion muskets. At the same time the state of the Austrian finances is such as to preclude any lengthened hostilities should such a category arise.

SWITZERLAND.

PROTEST AGAINST INTERFERENCE.—A letter from Berne of the 27th of January says that the committee charged by the Diet to draw up a reply to the collective note sent from Neufchatel, on January 18, by the envoys of France, Austria, and Prussia, have already met twice, and have agreed on the bases of a solemn protest. The Diet is firmly determined to maintain, by all the means in its power, the rights of Switzerland as a free and independent state.

UNITED STATES.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.—Accounts have been received from New York to the 15th ult. The Ten Regiments Bill was the great subject of discussion. In the senate, on the 4th, the resolutions submitted by Mr Calhoun came under discussion. They were to the effect that to conquer Mexico, and to hold it, either as a province or to incorporate it in the union, would be inconsistent with the avowed object for which the war had been prosecuted, a departure from the settled policy of the government, in conflict with its character and genius, and in the end subversive of the free and popular institutions of America; and that no line of policy, in the further prosecution of the war, should be adopted, which might lead to consequences so disastrous. Mr Calhoun justified his original opposition to the war, asserting that, from the outset, he had foreseen the evils it must of necessity inflict on American institutions. Unless the defensive line which he suggested should be adopted, these evils could not be avoided. There would then be left no alternative but to fall in with the recommendation of the President, and carry on the war to its termination. He protested against the subjugation of Mexico, to be held as a province, or the annexation of her as a territory to be admitted into the States of the Union. As experience had taught, it would require the constant presence of a standing army of 40,000 men to keep her in tranquillity and submission; and as States of the Union they could never admit an Indian and mixed-blood population to an equality and association with the free white citizens. There was, in his opinion, not the smallest chance for America to disentangle itself from the difficulty it was in, except to take a defensive line. He proposed to fall back upon a line—he would not say what one. He would withdraw the American troops from the centre of Mexico. He warned gentlemen that, if they went on in this career of war and debt, they would seal the death-warrant of the constitution. Free trade would become but a mere name. High taxation of every kind would be inevitable. All the cardinal principles of the administration would be reversed, and they should have debt, high tariffs, and paper-money. When the Ten Regiments Bill was debated on the 12th ult. Mr Clayton argued that no more troops were necessary unless a war of conquest was meant, and that such a war was meant was made palpable enough by the designs here avowed. Mr Clayton reviewed very pointedly some of the positions of the President, and particularly that which said that the war was designed to procure "indemnity for the past and security for the future." Not understanding exactly what was meant by this, he asked an ingenious friend, who told him that "indemnity for the past," meant one half of Mexico, and "security for the future," the other half. The policy of securing the whole of Mexico was denounced as dangerous, and as involving the peace of the Union. The Administration, he said, were attempting to colonise Mexico by the bayonet, and this was the custom with despotisms and not with republics. There was no power in the constitution to do this, express or implied; and if they meant annexation, it became them to say so at once.

RECAL OF GENERAL SCOTT.—The disunion between General Scott and many of the officers under him, has led the Cabinet at Washington to deliberate; and it seems that it was finally determined that General Scott should be recalled. The command of the army would devolve on Major-General Butler, as second in rank to General Scott. The other officers involved in the dissensions in the camp would, as a matter of course, return home.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.—Mr Clay had arrived on the 3rd inst. at Washington. The 'New York Herald' states that he will decline a nomination as candidate for the presidency. A tremendous explosion occurred on board the steamboat Sea Bird, from New Orleans, bound to St Louis, and loaded with 100 kegs of gunpowder. She took fire near Cape Geraideau, and blew up with a tremendous explosion, which was heard at a distance of forty miles around the scene of disaster. The boat was, of course, blown to atoms; but, happily, the passengers had all narrowly escaped before the explosion took place. Another steamboat accident also occurred on the Ohio. Out of seventy persons, between twenty and thirty perished.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

ARRIVAL OF SIR HARRY SMITH.—Intelligence has been received from the Cape to the 5th December. Sir H. Smith arrived there on the 3rd; he held a levee on the same day. and was to proceed in the Rosamond steamer to Algoa Bay; thence on the 7th of December to the frontier. Sir H. Pottinger would leave for Madras about three weeks or a month afterwards. The troops under Sir G. Berkeley were across the Kei, in pursuit of Pato, to whom and to Creili the terms of submission had been made known, and it was expected that they would accept them.

CANADA.

ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.—The results of the elections in Upper Canada, so far as they were known on the 8th ult., showed a return of fourteen Conservatives and two Radicals. In Lower Canada, two Conservatives and five Radicals had been elected. Lord Elgin has appointed Mr Turcette Solicitor-General for Canada East; the Hon. John A. M'Donnell, to be Commissioner of Crown Lands, in the place of the Hon. D. B. Papineau, resigned; the Hon. Francis Pierre Bruneau, to be Receiver-General of the Province of Canada, in the place of the Hon. J. A. M'Donneli, appointed Commissioner of Crown Lands; the Hon. F. P. Bruneau is also appointed member of Her Majesty's Executive Council; and Mr Joseph Edward Turcette, to be Solicitor-General for Lower Canada.

WEST INDIES.

THE BI-MONTHLY MAIL.—The Teviot arrived at Southampton on Saturday, from the West Indies, with advices from Jamaica of December 22nd, and Barbadoes 31st. The 'Jamaica Times' says,—"Our files by the present packet afford melancholy proof of the depression to which every interest in the colony has been subjected through the late unexampled reduction in the value of our staples, by the admission of foreign slave-grown produce. Our trading transactions are confined to the mere necessaries of life. Money is scarcely to be had on any terms; and agricultural operations, except under a few most favourable circumstances, are either being wholly suspended, or reduced to the lowest possible outlay; while overseers of properties by the score are receiving intimations that they must, for a time at least, be content with the mere means of subsistence, by the withdrawal of the salaries hitherto allowed over and above their expense of maintenance. Such, in a very few words, is the condition in which the present packet leaves us; while the prospect for the future—unless, indeed, the government of Great Britain at once and signally interposes—affords no alleviation."

STATE OF THE ISLANDS.—By the mail which arrived on Wednesday, we learn that the West Indian Islands were generally healthy, and the weather genial. The Jamaica markets remained in a very dull state. A destructive fire had occurred at Chagres on the 7th of December, in which nearly all the houses in the town were burnt to the ground, including the Custom-house, containing 300 bales of goods. No lives were sacrificed.

INDIA.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.—The Bombay Mail of the 1st Jan. arrived on Tuesday. The chief subject of interest connected with its arrival is the state of commercial affairs in Calcutta. It is believed that the worst of the pressure is past, though rumours have been current as to the suspension of several more firms. Only two, however, were known to have stopped, viz., Messrs Colville, Gilmore, and Co.; and B. T. Ford and Co. Disastrous and wide-spread as have been the effects in Calcutta arising out of the late failures in England, they are not so extensive as was at first contemplated would be the case. In Bombay, no further failures have taken place; and though trade is dull, there is an improvement in the markets. In political news there is nothing of particular importance. Throughout the vast empire of India, it may be said, all is tranquillity and peace,—thanks to the wisdom, firmness, and moderation of Lord Hardinge, who has accomplished his arduous mission, and is now on his return to England. The noble lord reached Calcutta on the 11th of December, where he would remain until the arrival of Lord Dalhousie, which was shortly expected. On the 15th of December a numerous deputation waited on Lord Hardinge to congratulate him on his return to the Presidency. In the course of his reply the Governor-General, speaking of the results of the war in the Punjaub, said,—"British ascendency, recognised by treaty, now extends from the Khyber Pass to Cape Comorin; and if there should ever arise in this vast empire, circumscribed by 12,000 miles of land and sea frontier, a necessity for again unsheathing the sword, the government has at its disposal a force ample in the proportion of all its arms for any contingency which can arise."

GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.—On Tuesday a Court of Directors was held at the East India House, when Viscount Falkland was appointed Governor of the Presidency of Bombay.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Thursday, February 3.

THE NATIONAL DEFENCES.

The Earl of HARDWICKE asked whether the Lord President of the Council intended to follow the course he understood would be adopted by the First Lord of the Treasury in the House of Commons, viz., that of bringing the subject of the national defences under consideration at an early period.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE thought the subject had better be originated in the other house, but could assure their lordships that it would be brought under their notice at no distant day.

THE WEST INDIES.

Lord STANLEY gave notice that on Monday next he should call the attention of the house to the condition of the British sugar colonies in the West Indies.

Friday, February 4.

The Bishop of Bath and Wells took the oaths and his seat; and after the presentation of a few petitions their lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Thursday, February 3.

THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Lord J. RUSSELL intimated his intention of making the financial statement of the year either on Monday, the 14th, or Friday, the 18th instant, on which occasion he would state what had been done by former governments and by the present with reference to the national defences.

NAVIGATION LAWS.

Lord PALMERSTON, in answer to Mr Robinson, replied that he had been in correspondence with the American Minister on the subject of the navigation laws, who said that the government of the United States would be ready to go hand-in-hand with that of England in any relaxations which parliament might make in those laws. He would lay the correspondence in question on the table of the house on Friday.

THE WEST INDIAN INTEREST.

Lord G. BENTINCK moved for a select committee "to inquire into the present condition and prospects of the interests connected with, and dependent on, sugar and coffee planting in her Majesty's East and West Indian possessions, and the Mauritius." He observed that, if he consulted his own wishes, as he knew that no opposition was intended to his motion, he should not make any statement in its support; but he had been informed that he should not be consulting the interests of the public or the wishes of those interested in the cultivation of the sugar cane, if he did not explain the reasons which induced him to bring it forward. It had been represented to him by those who were interested in the prosperity of the East and West Indies and the Mauritius, that their interests were in the agony of death, and that they might expire altogether whilst they were discussed in a committee up-stairs. It therefore became incumbent on him to consider whether he had any chance of obtaining for the East and West Indian proprietors any substantial relief by any vote of that house. Now, on recollecting the fate of his motion in July, 1846, to maintain colonial protection, when only 130 votes were given in its favour and 265 against it, he felt it to be a hopeless task, considering that no addition had since been made in the number of those members who supported his views on protection, to change his former minority into a majority. He therefore was of opinion that the West Indian body had no good case against him when they blamed him for not taking a more resolute course on the present occasion. In proposing his present inquiry, he did not preclude either himself or others from lending his or their support to any subsequent proposition which might be made for the relief of the West Indies; but looking at the deplorable state of our East and West Indian possessions, and of the Mauritius, and looking, also, at the memorials of the merchants in the great seaports of London, Liverpool, and Glasgow, whose liabilities amounted to 6,600,000*l.*, and of whom not one would have of necessity fallen but for the change of the sugar laws and the reduction of duties resulting therefrom, he hoped that by a calm inquiry before a select committee he might induce the house to change its policy on this great question. Mr M. Gibson had stated at Manchester that he considered the account of this country with the colonial sugar interests had been closed in the year 1833, when England gave 20,000,000*l.* of compensation money to the slave-holders. He would, however, show that although that sum appeared on the first blush to be a most liberal compensation, it had turned out to be no compensation at all for the losses which the East and West Indian interests had actually sustained. He was aware that the feeling which prevailed against slavery at that time in this country had since subsided; that the high sentiment of Christianity and religion, which then inspired the country as one man, had since become completely dead; and that the desire for free sugar had overcome the love of human freedom among us. At the last election not one word had been

uttered against either slavery or the slave-trade; and yet, if any measure were now proposed for the exclusion of slave-grown sugar, he would readily support it. It was in dispute whether or not we could consistently with our treaties with Spain and other countries exclude foreign slave-grown sugar, and admit foreign free-labour sugar. On that point he entertained a strong opinion; but after the declaration of Lord Palmerston that that discrimination could not be enforced, he knew that consistently with the honour of the government and the crown such a measure could not be passed without involving in it the dismissal of ministers. Now, he was not prepared on so trifling a ground as the annual admission of 30,000 or 40,000 tons of slave-grown sugar to force a policy, which, if successful, must overthrow the present government. He then proceeded to observe that the West Indians asked for many things—for the exclusion of slave-grown sugar—for differential duties—for the admission of their molasses into our breweries and distilleries—for the admission of their rum upon an equality with British spirits—for the repeal of the navigation laws—and for their admission to the coast of Africa for the purpose of getting free labour wherever it was to be found. Now, as to the navigation laws, he avowed at once that he could not go along with the West Indians in calling for their repeal, for it was inconsistent in the West and East Indian interests to ask for protection for themselves, and yet to propose to take it away from those who now enjoyed it. He then proceeded to controvert the doctrines of 'Jacob Omnium' upon this subject, and to express his gratification that he should have the satisfaction of examining that ingenious writer, now that he had thrown off his disguise. Passing from that subject with the remark that it would be no benefit to the West Indies to have the navigation laws repealed, unless they were to be repealed as far as regarded the West Indies only, and were to stand as far as regarded all the rest of the world, he next discussed the question of admitting West Indian rum upon an equality with British spirits. To such a measure he had no objection, provided that the West Indians could prove that an equality in name was also an equality in justice and equity. He thought, however, that when the question was examined into, the British distillers would be able to show, that the present differential duties were only those which, in the present state of the law, justice required to be afforded to them. The admission of molasses was a question between the West Indians and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and he should leave it as a matter of excise. Then came the question of immigration. Some of the West Indians in Demerara, Essequibo, Berbice, and Trinidad fancied that with the free immigration of labourers they could compete with all the world. Now, he did not object to give the British planters the fullest freedom to procure labour wherever they could, provided that they did not encroach upon the principles of slavery itself; but he thought that such a measure would swamp all the old colonies of the Crown. He doubted whether any free labour could compete with slave labour, or that any importation of free labour could so far beat down wages as to enable the employer of free to struggle successfully with the employer of slave labour. If he were wrong upon that point, he wanted to know how it happened that Barbadoes, which had a population three times as dense as Ireland, was quite unable to compete with the slave labour of Cuba and the Brazils even with a 6s. duty in its favour? He denied that Porto Rico was an example to the contrary, and in proof of his denial quoted the authority of Mr M'Gregor, late of the Board of Trade; of Mr Merivale, the present Under-Secretary for the Colonies; and of the present Earl Grey, who filled the same office in 1833. Having favoured the house with a long detail of the rate of wages in Jamaica and in British Guiana, for the purpose of showing that the sum so paid in wages was far more than that expended in the maintenance of slaves in Cuba and Brazils, where slaves were maintained as cheaply as ever they were in the British colonies, he expressed his opinion that, although immigration would not relieve the distress of the West Indies in any material degree, some good might be done by removing the restrictions upon, and by facilitating the conveyance of, negro immigrants into them. The condition of the African, the Hindoo, and the Chinaman would be greatly improved by their removal to those islands. Sir C. Napier had stated in one of his dispatches to government that the labourers in Jamaica were much better off than our labourers at home, and a recent despatch, containing a subscription for the starving Irish, had given a similarly favourable description of them. Why, then, were we to be so delicate about an African, a Coolie, or a Chinaman, who was only going from one hot climate to another? Why were we to say that no free labourer should be hired to work in the West Indies for more than three or five years, when our soldiers were listed to serve in those very colonies for a much longer period? He contended that all the subjects to which he had just alluded were fit subjects for inquiry before a committee. He then proceeded to consider the case of the East Indies, which he admitted had not the same claim on the consideration of parliament as the West. Adverting to the case of the Mauritius, he observed that it afforded a complete justification for the appointment of a committee, if ever case did. In the last speech which Mr Hawes made on this subject in the last session of the last parliament, he had described that colony as a very flourishing and successful colony; but nothing could be more delusive than that description. Out of six great firms in that colony only one was now left standing. Their liabilities amounted to 2,900,000*l.*, and they had been contracted not by rash speculators or gamblers, but by honourable merchants, who had not been guilty of any mistake as to the value of their estates, but as to the good faith of the British parliament. Such was the distress now existing in Mr Hawes's flourishing colony, that government had felt itself compelled to advance to its planters 400,000*l.* on the security of their sugars, and to send orders out to India that rice should be supplied to them to prevent their labourers from dying of starvation. In asking for a committee to inquire into these circumstances, he asked for it as a bridge for the ministers and free-traders to retreat over, not with drums beating and trumpets blaring in praise of our second Richard Cœur de Lion, but with arms reversed and colours covered with crape and mourning. It had been said that cheap sugar was the great triumph of free trade. He denied it utterly. Manchester had raised the cry of cheap sugar for the poor man, and how had Manchester and Lancashire fared in consequence? The cry had been, "Open wide your portals to the Brazils, and the bricks are not yet made to build the tall chimneys which will then be necessary to supply the enormous demand for your cottons which will come from that country." But what had been the result of Lancashire thus neglecting its old customers in the British colonies for new and untried customers in Brazil and elsewhere? In the sixteen months before the passing of the act of 1846 we had exported 1,980,000*l.* of cotton to the Brazils, and in the sixteen subsequent months 2,264,000*l.*, thus obtaining an increased import of 282,000*l.* But those acquainted with the Brazil trade knew that it was carried on upon a credit of eighteen months, and that the exports of 1847 were yet unpaid for. We had reduced our duties on Brazilian sugar, but Brazil had not reduced her duties on our goods, and had shown greater favour to the shipping of France, Prussia, and the United States than she had extended to us. In the same time our exports to Cuba and Porto Rico had also fallen off, so that the total increase in our exports to the sugar-growing countries did not exceed 168,882*l.* of cotton goods. What, however, had been the result in our own colonies? Our exports to Calcutta, to Bombay, to Madras, to Mauritius, to the British West Indies—of which he gave many details—had fallen off in one year to the amount of 1,339,000*l.*, against which was to be set off the paltry increase of 168,000*l.* of cotton exports, which, as he had before said, were not paid for. He then proceeded with several long details for the purpose of showing that, owing to the high price of cotton during the last year, 1,781,000*l.* was the diminution in the value of the cotton manufactures for the year; of those manufactures, which were to provide wages for the operatives and profits for the master manufacturers. Now, a penny in the price of a pound of sugar was to be a compensation to the poor man for the loss of wages which he had thus sustained—and for that the country was to be robbed at once of its colonies and its cotton manufactures. He next proceeded to show how much Lancashire and the west of Scotland had gained in the increased consumption of their goods at Calcutta by the admission of East India sugar into great Britain up to the day on which we had opened the sugar market to the whole world, and to contrast it with the diminished consumption which had since occurred. And yet this melancholy and heart-rending result had been called the triumph of free trade—the greatest fiscal triumph ever put on record! Having defended the British planters at some length from the charge, often preferred against them, of being deficient in energy and self-reliance, he next preceeded to declare himself favourable to all rational measures for putting down slavery and the slave-trade. He reminded the house that the abolition of slavery and the slave-trade had cost England in the last forty years, from first to last, 150,000,000*l.* It had been prophesied that free labour would raise twice as much produce as slave labour. Now, under a system of mitigated slavery the British colonies used to import into England every year 50,000 tons of sugar more than the country could consume. What was the case now? And yet the annual amount of produce to which he had just referred had been kept down by the pressure of the war taxes. At the peace we had taken off the war taxes from ourselves, but had not relieved the West Indies from the burden of them; and now by the act of 1846 we were proceeding to knock all down which we had done in the last forty years, and were proceeding to stimulate the slave-trade, for the abolition of which we had spent 150,000,000*l.*, to a degree far beyond any to which it had ever been stimulated before. He insisted that the West Indian proprietors had a just claim for further compensation on this country. He admitted that they would have had no such claim had the government, when it took their property, estimated its value as it did in the case of the slaves taken in the American war from the United States, by arbitration. The government however had taken their property first, and after depreciating it by impolitic measures, had fixed its own value upon it afterwards. Indeed it had valued it at 45,000,000*l.*, and had then only paid 20,000,000*l.* for it. He then proceeded to demonstrate how paltry a compensation these 20,000,000*l.* had proved to be, by showing the effects which it had produced upon Jamaica, Guiana, and Barbadoes, and by contending that those effects had inflicted a loss of 42,000,000*l.* on the planters within the last twelve years. Was it, then, surprising that the sugar planters should be grumblers? It had been said that the bargain with them had been closed in 1833; but how could that be the case, when one part of the bargain was the seven years' apprenticeship, which had been annulled by the government two years before that time was expired? Lord Stanley, in proposing the abolition of slavery, had also promised the planters a better price of sugar. Was not that a part of the bargain? His lordship had also promised them a monopoly of the sugar market, and that he contended was part of the bargain also. He then asked whether any man, who recollected the excitement which prevailed against slavery and the slave-trade at the time when Lord Stanley brought in his plan for abolishing both, would have believed that the British government would subsequently give its support to a series of measures seriously conducive to the encouragement of slavery? He entered upon a description of the horrors which had been perpetrated in Africa, in consequence of our attempts to extinguish the slave-trade on its coasts. He went into a detailed enumeration of our expenditure in life and money for the purpose of putting down that trade by blockading 10,600 miles of coast. He advised the government to strike a blow not at the hand but at the head of that trade. Instead of striking down each individual hornet, he would go at once to the hornet's nest, and extinguish the source of crime which existed in Cuba. America had gone to war with Mexico for the sake of recovering certain sums due to American citizens from that state. 75,000,000*l.* were due from Spain to British subjects on Spanish bonds, and Cuba was hypothecated to us for that sum. Let England, therefore, seize on Cuba, and there will then be nothing left for her to do than to blockade the coast of the Brazils, which did not extend above 2,200 miles. In taking possession of Cuba we should only be distraining for a just debt, of which we had long demanded payment in vain. We might then emancipate the slaves of Cuba; and having thus destroyed slavery itself in that quarter of the world, there would be no difficulty in allowing the British merchant to go to Africa, for the purpose of obtaining there, by the offer of good wages and other advantages, a number of free Africans to cultivate their estates.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER should be deceiving Lord G. Bentinck, the house, and the West Indian interest, if he led any of them to believe that in assenting to this committee, government intended to imply any doubt of the propriety of the course which it had adopted on the subject in 1846, or to give any idea that it intended to depart from the act which was then passed. He would avail himself, however, of the present opportunity, to state the designs of the government on certain points of minor importance on which he thought that the government might yield, to the great relief of the West Indian interest. He would not accede to Lord G. Bentinck's proposal to make a foreclosure upon Cuba, and to take vengeance on an ally of ours for the failure of our sugar proprietors. The sum and substance of the long speech which the house had just heard, was that at the present price of sugar the sugar planters could not maintain the cultivation of their estates, and that to avoid the evils accruing from the cessation of their cultivation they must have a protective duty of 10s. per cwt., or 10*l.* per ton. Now, so far as the government could meet the claims of the sugar proprietors, consistently with what was due to the other interests of the country, the government would do so; but the claim for such a protection as was now put forward could not be admitted for a moment. He considered it necessary to separate the depression of the price of sugar, which was merely temporary, from that which might be fairly attributed to the act of 1846, and in making that separation he called the attention of the house to the fact that many other colonial articles, as, for instance, indigo, sago, and tea, had been exposed of late to a greater depression of price than sugar. Besides, even now the price of sugar (as he showed by documents) was not lower than it had been at several periods when it was not affected either by the act of 1846, or that of 1844, or that of 1833. The distress in the Mauritius was not owing to the low price of sugar, but to the failure of two eminent houses in London, which had been in the practice of providing the planters with advances for their sugar and for the cultivation of their lands. The same cause had produced a similar effect in the West Indies. He refuted the proposition of Lord G. Bentinck, that the compensation granted to the planters in 1833 was inadequate, and read an extract from the speech made by Lord Stanley in that year to show that that noble lord estimated it at only 15,000,000. No one, therefore, had a right to say that on the ground of the want of compensation 10*l.* a ton should be paid to the planters—especially those of the Mauritius and the East Indies—to compensate them for the abolition of slavery in the West Indies. If then the question of slavery be left out of consideration, the house must come to the simple question of protection or no protection; and then it would have to consider whether in continuance of the system of protection it would support an unjust tax upon the consumer. The duty is to be 10*l.* a ton, which is an enhancement of the price of sugar to the consumer to that amount. Upon the consumption of last year, the increased taxation of the country by such a duty would amount to 3,000,000, and upon the consumption of 1849 it would amount to 5,000,000. Such sums were no light burdens on the consumers of this country, and before the house imposed them it should inquire why. Our finances were not at present as prosperous as he could wish. The produce of many duties had fallen off in the last year, but on one class it had increased; and in that class were sugar and molasses. Why had the revenue derived from those articles increased? Because we had taken off the protective duties upon them, and had thus caused low prices with benefit to the consumer and advantage to the revenue. The revenue derived from them in the last year was 4,900,000*l.* The question then between the West India planter and the consumer was just the same as between the agriculturist and the consumer. Both claimed protection, and in neither case could the government grant it; for duties were to be imposed, not for protection, but for revenue. He then examined the grounds on which the West Indians claimed protection—among which he enumerated, first, the necessity under which they laboured, of obtaining their lumber and other supplies from our North American colonies; secondly, the imposition of differential duties in favour of England on the goods they imported from foreign countries; thirdly, the restrictions under which they were placed by the navigation laws. He showed that the first of these grievances had been removed last session; that the second had been mitigated at the same time; and, with regard to the third, he stated it to be the intention of government to relieve the West Indies from the pressure of the navigation laws by a bill to be introduced in the present session. Another disadvantage under which they laboured was that the produce of their sugar was not admissible into our breweries and distilleries; but that had been partly removed, as he showed at some length, in the last session; and since then 73,000 cwt. of sugar had been used in brewing, and 26,700 cwt. in distilling. The next disadvantage was the high protecting duty on rum. In 1847 the discriminating duty was reduced one-half, and there again considerable advantage had accrued to the West Indian interest from an increased consumption. Their last disadvantage was the want of labour. But to those colonies where labour was most wanted, a great number of labourers had been imported in the last two years. Into the Mauritius 63,000 labourers had been imported; into British Guiana, 40,000; and into Trinidad, 20,969. He then adverted to those points which included the further demands of the West Indian interest. The first point was, as to the introduction of molasses into our breweries. He explained the reasons why he could not agree to that proposition, and why he could agree to their introduction into our distilleries. He therefore proposed to introduce a bill to permit the use of molasses in distilleries on similar terms with sugar. A proposition had been made to him for the admission of cane juice. He had no objection to the admission of that article, but then he must have the same duty for the cane juice as for the sugar which the cane would have produced. It had been calculated that that would amount to 11s. 4d.; but those who wished for the imposition of such a duty said that would be a complete prohibitory duty. The last point related to the supply of labour. Now that labour came either from free immigration or from the liberated negroes captured in the slave ships. His own opinion was that the present scheme of immigration had not answered. He believed that a valuable supply of labour might be got from the Kroomen on the coast of Africa. That immigration was at present carried on by means of loans raised in the colonies. He did not think that such a scheme was a provident one for the colonies; but Lord Grey had found it in existence and had therefore sanctioned it. The circumstances of our West Indian colonies were at present such that neither Trinidad nor Guiana had been able to raise a loan for this purpose, although the terms which they offered were reasonably advantageous. Such being the case, the government proposed to advance to the colonies a sum not exceeding 200,000*l.* for the purpose of carrying on that immigration. The other persons from whom the supply of labour must come, were the liberated Africans. Those set free at Rio and the Havannah were generally carried to the West Indies, and the expense of their conveyance was defrayed by the colonies. The government was prepared for a short time to take upon itself nearly all the cost of this conveyance. The main body of liberated Africans, however, were set free at Sierra Leone. Measures will be taken to increase their emigration to the West Indies to a great extent; and he trusted that such measures would be attended with benefit not only to the West Indies, but also to the colony of Sierra Leone itself. The government intended to take upon itself nearly all the expense of that removal. He also intended to postpone for five years the repayment of certains loans made to the colonies and called "Hurricane Loans;" and in the course of the session he should propose a loan to Tobago, to enable the planters there to repair the damages of a late hurricane. These were the measures which he had to propose on the part of the government. He could not flatter himself that the West India interest would deem them enough to satisfy their just demands. Those measures would not remove the distress of that interest, nor secure a permanent amelioration of its condition, unless they were accompanied with a complete alteration and improvement in the management of their estates. Instead of attributing their present distress to the act of 1846, they ought to attribute it to their own want of energy and self-reliance. After dilating with considerable energy on this point, he concluded by declaring his conviction that it was capable of proof by reference to facts, that the system of sugar cultivation by free labour might by a proper process be made as cheap, if not cheaper, than by a system of free labour.

Mr G. ROBINSON gave the government full credit for their manly declaration that in consenting to this committee they did not intend to become party to any delusive expectation of the repeal of the act of 1846. He differed widely from the views which the Chancellor of the Exchequer had expressed. He would not repeal the navigation laws—he would restore the protection of 10s. a cwt. to our colonial sugars, and would exclude all foreign sugars from our market, if we could do it consistently with existing treaties.

Mr HUME called on Lord G. Bentinck to consider how far the course which he now proposed to adopt was consistent with the principles established by the house for the appointment of committees. His lordship had laid abundant grounds for an inquiry into the condition of our colonies; but the Chancellor of the Exchequer had avowed that it was not the intention of the government to go further in the path of concession to the West Indies than he had already announced. Now, if that were the case, would not the appointment of this committee thwart that certainty which it was so desirable to create on this subject? He therefore recommended Lord G. Bentinck not to press his motion.

Mr ELLICE seconded the appeal to his lordship's good sense, for this committee, if appointed, might raise in the colonies expectations of advantage never to be realised.

Mr WILSON then rose to address the house, but a motion for the adjournment of the debate was put and carried.

The house then adjourned.

NOTICES OF MOTION.—In the House of Commons on Thursday the principal notices of motion given were the following: Sir W. Somerville, on the 11th instant, to move for leave to bring in a bill to amend the law of landlord and tenant in Ireland; Mr H. Berkeley, on the 17th inst., to move that the votes for members of parliament be taken by ballot; and Sir J. Pakington, on same day, to move for leave to bring in a bill for the purpose of preventing bribery and corruption at elections.—The Attorney-General obtained leave to bring in several bills for the amendment of the criminal law administered by justices of the peace.

*** *In this, and future Numbers, Friday night's Parliament will be found under our Latest Intelligence.*

DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

COURT AND ARISTOCRACY.

THE COURT.—We understand it is the intention of her Majesty to hold two levees in the course of the present month at St James's Palace. A Drawing-room is also spoken of as likely to take place at an early period.

ROYAL MARRIAGE.—The Count de Trapani, brother of the King of Naples, who was put forth as one of the candidates for the hand of Queen Isabella of Spain, is shortly expected to arrive at Munich, to be married to the Princess Alexandra, daughter of the King of Bavaria. The formal demand of the hand of the Princess was lately made by the Neapolitan Ambassador to the Court of Vienna, who went expressly to Munich for that purpose.

DEPARTURE OF THE KING AND QUEEN OF THE BELGIANS.—Their Majesties took their departure from Windsor Castle on Tuesday, *en route* for the Continent.

DEPARTURE OF THE GOVERNOR OF BORNEO.—Mr Brooke and suite, and attendants, embarked on board the Mæander on Tuesday, and in the afternoon that frigate put to sea.

THE VACANT GARTER.—Her Majesty has bestowed the blue riband, vacant by the death of the Earl of Powis, upon the Duke of Norfolk.

ILLNESS OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.—The bulletin of his Grace's health, which was published yesterday evening, represented the Archbishop as not having been so well on Thursday, but that after a good night's sleep he was less exhausted.

CHURCH.

THE LIBEL ON DR LEE.—The trial of Mr Gutteridge, for libelling the Bishop of Manchester, will take place at the Warwick assizes in the month of March.

DR HAMPDEN.—The Oxford protest against the recent attempted agitation on Dr Hampden's elevation to the see of Hereford, copies of which, and the signatures attached, have been received by the members of her Majesty's government, is signed by 371 members of Convocation, and between five and six hundred non-members.

THE BISHOP OF EXETER AND THE VICAR OF BRAMPFORD SPEKE.—Mr Gorham, the clergyman whom the Bishop of Exeter refuses to institute to the living of Brampford Speke, on the presentation of the Crown (and whom he has harassed by an examination of several days, one day continuing it eleven hours and a half), is a clergyman of thirty-seven years' standing in the ministry, and graduated with the highest honours at Cambridge. The real offence committed by Mr Gorham is, that he sucessfully opposed the bishop's attempt to prevent his appointing a curate who did not hold the bishop's favourite dogma of baptismal regeneration. The whole correspondence and examination will soon be before the public.—'Western Times.'

THE SENIOR WRANGLER.—Mr Todhunter, the senior wrangler at Cambridge, is the son of a Dissenting minister.—'Patriot.'

THE BISHOP OF MANCHESTER.—The installation of Dr Lee is fixed for Saturday the 12th inst.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

OXFORD, FEB. 3.—In a congregation holden this morning, the following degrees were conferred, viz. Doctor of Divinity: Rev. H. J. Hutton, Mag. Hall.—Masters of Arts: C. F. Nixon, Lincoln; Rev. G. Case, E. Swetenham, A. Joseph, Brazenose; B. Bevan, Ch. Ch., Grand Compounder; G. Richards, Pemb.—Bachelors of Arts: T. C. Sandars, Scholar of Ball.; J. W. Sillifant, J. Davies, C. Terry, Exeter; M. W. Pitman, Queen's; G. O. Morgan, Scholar of Worcester.

CAMBRIDGE.—ST PETER'S COLLEGE.—A bye-fellowship, on the foundation of Mr Ramsay, is now vacant by the death of the Rev. J. J. Woolley.

KING'S COLLEGE.—J. L. Joynes, fellow of this society, was admitted to the degree of Bachelor of Arts on Saturday last.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—The Flaherty scholarship in classics has been awarded to Mr J. H. Tayler, of Manchester.—The 40*l.* prize for general proficiency in medicine and surgery, for 1847, was obtained by Mr T. Park.

ARMY AND NAVY.

ADMIRALTY LEVEES.—It may be useful for naval officers resident in the provinces to know that during the ensuing parliamentary session, such of them as may be desirous of an audience of the First Naval Lord—Admiral Dundas—should attend at the Admiralty on the first and third Tuesdays in every month.

SURVEYOR OF THE NAVY.—Captain Sir Baldwin Walker, to whom is offered the appointment of Surveyor of the Navy, arrived from the Pacific, by the last West Indian mail steam-packet. Mr Edye, the Deputy-Surveyor, has been granted the salary of Surveyor, namely, at the rate of 1,000*l.* per annum, since the retirement of Sir William Symonds.

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.—Captain Sir James Clarke Ross (1834) has been officially charged with the expedition to search for Sir John Franklin and his lost voyagers. Sir James is appointed to the Enterprize, a ship purchased of Wigram and Green, of Blackwall.

APPOINTMENT.—Major-General Sir John Hunter Littler, of the Bengal Infantry, K.C.B., has been appointed a Knight Grand Cross of the Order.

SANITARY MATTERS.

MORTALITY IN THE METROPOLIS.—The deaths registered in the metropolitan districts in the week ending Saturday, Jan. 29, were 1,457, being exactly the number that was returned for the week ending Jan. 15. This return shows an excess on the average mortality of a week in winter of no less than 350; and as compared with the births in the same week (which were 1,346), gives a majority of 111. Influenza has continued to decrease, and now counts only 56; though a fortnight ago, when the total mortality was the same, the deaths ascribed to the epidemic were 182. Bronchitis and pneumonia, measles and fever, continued to maintain a fatal ascendancy.

THE CHOLERA.—The 'Spener Gazette' contains the following, under date, "St Petersburgh, 22nd ult.":—"Notwithstanding the excessive cold which prevails everywhere, the cholera still maintains itself, with more or less intensity, on the frontiers of Russia and in several governments of the empire. From the 2nd to the 5th instant 54 cases occurred at Moscow, 53 of which terminated fatally." The 'Zeitungshalle' of Berlin, of the 26th, announces some cases of cholera in Upper Silesia, especially at Ratibo, Pless, and Leobshitz.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

THE COUNTESS OF BEVERLEY died at the family mansion, in Portman square, on Monday last, after a protracted illness. Her ladyship was the second and youngest daughter of the Hon. James Stuart Wortley Mackenzie, and brother of the first Lord Wharncliffe.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR JOHN MACLEAN, K.C.B., Colonel of the 27th Foot, died on the 31st ult. He entered the service in 1794, and served in Holland, Egypt, and throughout the Peninsular war, in which he was five times severely wounded.

MAJOR-GENERAL LAMBERT, Commander of the Forces in the Island of Jamaica, died in that island on the 4th of January. The disease under which he suffered is said to have been a fever of a highly malignant type. He was the fourth of five sons, all of whom have distinguished themselves in the service of their country. The eldest, Richard Lambert, died after having attained the rank of Vice-Admiral of the Red. The second, Lieutenant-General Sir John Lambert, died a few months since. The third, Captain Henry Lambert, R.N., commanded the Java frigate, in her engagement with the Constitution, during which he was killed. The fourth was the deceased, Major-General Lambert, whose death has just taken place. The fifth, and only survivor, is Commodore Lambert. General Lambert served throughout the Peninsular campaign.

GENERAL FREDERICK MAITLAND, Colonel of the 58th regiment of Foot, who died on the 27th ult., was the brother of the present Sir Alexander Maitland Gibson, Bart., and fourth son of General the Hon. A. Maitland, fifth son of the sixth Earl of Lauderdale; he was in the eighty-sixth year of his age.

DR JEFFRAY, Professor of Anatomy in Glasgow University, died on Friday week. He has held the chair since 1790, and was the only professor or officer connected with the college whose appointment was made last century. The patronage is in the Crown, and it is said that the appointment will be conferred on Dr Allan Thomson, Professor of the Institutes of Medicine in the University of Edinburgh.

MR E. S. HICKMAN, Crown solicitor on the Connaught circuit, died in Dublin on Tuesday, after an illness which for nine years had incapacitated him from discharging the duties of his office. By his demise four lucrative appointments are placed at the disposal of government, as the office is not henceforward to be continued in one person.

MR T. WELSH, of great celebrity as a musician and teacher, died at Brighton on Monday, aged sixty-eight. He was brought up at Wells, and was one of the cathedral choir in that city, where his singing, as a boy, was highly admired—so much so, that Sheridan went down expressly to hear him, and engaged him for the oratorios then performing at the Italian Opera House, under the direction of Mr Linley. In the course of time, Mr Welsh became an excellent singer and teacher; and he brought forward the following eminent vocalists:—Miss Stephens, Mr Sinclair, Mr C. Horn, Miss Merry, Miss Shirreff, and Miss Wilson, whom, previous to his marriage with her, he took to Italy for improvement, but on their return home, during stormy weather, she broke a blood-vessel, which prevented her ever afterwards from singing. Mr Welsh was the proprietor of the Argyll Rooms when they were burnt in 1830, on which occasion he had a very narrow escape for his life. It may be recollected that Mr Welsh assisted Mr Rowland Stephenson, the banker, to escape to America, which, at the time, made a great noise in the world. He had resided at Brighton for some years.

PRINCE TATI, the fifteenth son of Tati-Vahine, one of the greatest chiefs of Tahiti, died last week in Paris, in the Hospital of the Val-de-Grace, in which he had been placed, in consequence of his suffering from a lymphatic disease, which it appears was aggravated by his being brought to this climate.

LA BARONNE DE GEISEN has just died at Luxembourg, at the advanced age of 107 years, some say at 111 years. She had retained every faculty, and went as late as four years ago to take the German waters, which for many years she had been in the habit of doing. Another centenarian, Madame de Cambfort, has also ended her life at Husseren, (Haut Rhin), at 103 years of age. She had a daughter, eighty-two years of age, who, less fortunate than herself, has lost the use of her intellectual faculties.

M. GARNOT, Deputy of St Domingo to the National Convention, died at Chatillon-sur-Marne, on the 28th ult., in the 90th year of his age, M. Garnot took no part in the great struggles of the Revolution. The vessel in which he sailed for France having been wrecked, he only took his seat, as representative of the people, in the first days of Messidor, year 2, a month before the downfal of Robespierre.

M. FRANCISCO XAVIER DE BURGOS, of financial notoriety, died at Madrid on the 22nd ult.

POLITICAL NEWS.

REPRESENTATION OF NORTH SHROPSHIRE.—It is now fully understood that Mr Dod, a "Protestant Conservative," comes forward as a candidate to supply the vacancy occasioned by the elevation of Lord Clive to the House of Peers.

REPRESENTATION OF DUBLIN UNIVERSITY.—Mr Frederick Shaw has announced his intention of retiring. He has been for a long time past labouring under a painful bodily complaint, so severe as to prevent his attendance during the recent short session, and his medical advisers have recommended his withdrawal from parliamentary life as indispensable towards his restoration to health. Mr Shaw has represented the College for nearly eighteen years. The circle of candidates for the vacant seat is narrowed to Mr Napier and the Judge of the Prerogative Court, whose canvassers are out in all directions; nor is Mr Napier less active. Among the gentlemen named as best fitted for the honour, and whose elevation would reflect no stain on the university, has been Mr Whiteside. He is brother-in-law of Mr Napier, and, if the latter should resign in his favour, there could be little doubt of his success. Mr Napier, however, has no idea of withdrawing from the field. Mr Whiteside would give effective support to the present government, whose principles were the principles of his youth, and, after an interval of gentle conservatism, are again become the principles of his mature age. Mr W. is devoting his spare hours to a work on Italy, from which he has recently returned. Its publication is looked forward to with much anxiety. The primate, I hear, will not interfere, which gives Mr Napier greater assurances of success

THE NATIONAL DEFENCES.—Meetings have been held in different parts of the country on the subject of the national defences. Want of space prevents our entering into detail, but it may be sufficient to state that the general feeling is decidedly against any increase to the army or navy and to the enrolment of the militia. These opinions were very strenuously expressed at a meeting held in the early part of the week at Birmingham.

JEWISH DISABILITIES.—There have been numerous meetings this week in London and various parts of the country, for the purpose of petitioning parliament in favour of the ministerial measure. On Tuesday a meeting of the inhabitants of the city of Westminster was held at the Hanover-square Rooms; Mr Smedley, the high-bailiff, in the chair. J. Macgregor, Esq., M.P., moved the following resolution:—That considering the existence of religious restrictions on the exercise and enjoyment of civil rights and privileges to be at variance with justice and sound policy, and contrary to the present spirit and practice of the constitution, and that the Jewish people, being subject to all burdens and obligations affecting subjects of this kingdom, have always shown themselves willing to discharge their duties as citizens, and loyally and peaceably to yield obedience to the laws and statutes of the realm, this meeting gives its best support to her Majesty's ministers in their purpose of removing from the statute-book the remaining civil disabilities of the Jews, an obnoxious remnant of ages of intolerant legislation. It was supported by Sir De Lacy Evans and Mr Lushington, M.P., and unanimously adopted. The chairman then read to the meeting a petition prepared for presentation to both houses of parliament, from the inhabitants of the city of Westminster, based upon the resolution, and it was agreed that the Marquis of Lansdowne be requested to present it to the House of Lords, and Sir De Lacy Evans to the House of Commons.

On Wednesday a large assemblage of the electors of Finsbury took place, at which it was resolved as the opinion of the meeting that religious belief ought not to exclude its possessor from the enjoyment of civil rights. A petition founded on the above was agreed and entrusted to the Borough members for presentation. Similar meetings took place at Cambridge and Birmingham.

THE TEA DUTIES.—On Wednesday Lord John Russell received, at his official residence, Downing street, a deputation of a very influential character, which had been appointed at a public meeting held some days since in Liverpool, to bring again before the attention of government the subject of the tea duties. Sir T. Birch and Mr Cardwell, the members for Liverpool, introduced and strongly supported the object of the deputation, which consisted of—Mr R. Gladstone, on behalf of the merchants; Mr Brodribb, on behalf of those more immediately interested in the tea trade; Mr J. R. Jeffrey, on behalf of the tradesmen and shopkeepers; Mr R. Crossley, as the President of the Tradesmen's Guardian Society; and Mr H. Littledale, as the representative of the commercial and general public of Liverpool. Lord J. Russell having attentively listened to the statements and arguments of the deputation, which occupied upwards of an hour and a half, replied that he fully appreciated the importance of the moral and social bearings of the question, but he was obliged also to weigh well the financial bearings. The argument of moral and social advantage had been applied in the instance of the reduction of the rate of postage; but the result in that case hardly justified a repetition in the instance now under discussion. The motive on the part of the Executive which led to the postage reduction, partook unquestionably more of a moral and social than of a merely financial nature; that reduction was made, too, at the time when the revenue of the country could comparatively well afford it; and though very great advantages to the community had arisen from the measure, the revenue had as yet failed to realize the expectations on that score which were formed of it by its more sanguine friends. He thought it not impossible that the desired reduction in the tea duties would be found to produce a somewhat similar result, for the two questions were parallel and were supported, to a great extent, by similar arguments; and while he was prepared to admit that the consumption of tea would greatly increase if the tax upon it rendered it more accessible than at present to the public, he must guard against being supposed to acquiesce in the extent of the consumption assumed by the members of that and a late deputation. However, it was in its financial aspect merely that the subject would have to be considered by her Majesty's First Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and it would be for them, being responsible for the revenue of the country, to see if any means could be hit upon whereby the question could be safely dealt with. The deputation withdrew, much gratified by the courtesy with which they had been received by the noble Premier.

THE WEST INDIA ASSOCIATION.—On Thursday the 27th ult. a deputation of the West India Association, Brook street, were introduced to Earl Grey, by Mr Pattison, M.P., who, in doing so, stated that among those introduced to his lordship were several determined free-traders; that he (Mr Pattison) did not wish to identify himself with the question advocated by the deputation, and that he would leave them therefore to speak for themselves.—An address was then read by Dr Norten Shaw, stating that the deputation represented some anti-slavery gentlemen, as well as some West Indians, and that there were some free-traders among them. It recommended a permanent differential duty on slave-grown sugar.—Lord Grey acknowledged the great importance of the subject, which he stated was occupying the serious consideration of her Majesty's government, and the result of their deliberation would very shortly be made known in parliament. Dr Hogdkin then stated to his lordship the reason why many of the friends of the anti-lavery cause had thought it their duty to join the colonists at the present momentous crisis. Mr Mais forcibly represented the present position of the colonies, and the necessity for speedy and immediate relief. Mr Geddes brought to the notice of his lordship the falling off of the revenue of the colonies, on which the support of the civil, religious, and educational institutions of the country depended.—A discussion then ensued on the internal taxation of the colonies, which Lord Grey thought was conducted on unsound principles, and suggested a considerable alteration in the mode by which the revenue was raised: his lordship pointed out the importance of shifting the indirect taxation upon articles of consumption that were imported into the colonies, to a direct and fair taxation on land in the shape of a quit-rent. He was opposed to the present system of taxing stock, which tended to diminish their number, and consequently the quantity of manure, so indispensable to high farming.—Mr J. Hodgkin pointed out to his lordship the criminality of any encouragement to slave labour and the slave trade. The very fact that British capital was being transferred to slave countries must be considered immoral so long as Great Britain considers the slave trade illegal, unchristian, and inhuman, and by treaties with foreign powers has declared it piracy. The question of colonial free ports having been suggested, Lord Grey replied that that depended entirely upon the colonial legislatures themselves; for since the differential duties had been removed, there existed no objection on the part of the government to the measure; the adoption of it would be left entirely to the colonial legislatures. His lordship instanced the colony of South Australia as one in which the principle of taxation which he recommended had proved eminently successful.

IRELAND.

THE SPECIAL COMMISSION.—On Wednesday, 26th ult., before the Clonmel Commission, two brothers, named Henry and Philip Cody, were charged with the murder of a man named Edward Madden, on the 9th of July, 1847. The case was remarkable, from the murder having been committed before the eyes of at least 100 persons. From the statement of the Attorney-General, it appeared that Madden, who was in humble life, was, in the month of April last, severely beaten by a party of men. He charged several with being concerned in the outrage, and amongst others the prisoner Philip Cody. Warrants were issued for their arrest, and some of the party were taken and punished. Cody, however, contrived to keep himself out of the way. That prosecution of the party was the only cause that could be assigned for the murder. At Killerney, in this county, was a large wood, belonging to the Marquis of Ormonde; and in the month of July last a number of persons were employed by his agent in felling and barking the timber. Amongst the labourers so employed were the prisoners. Madden was also employed as a kind of sub-steward, to superintend some of the work-people. It was the rule for them to go to their work at six o'clock in the morning, and, before commencing, to assemble at a little hut or shed; and it was the duty of Madden there to call over the roll of the names. On the morning of the 9th of July, Madden was proceeding, with many other persons, towards the hut, and when he came within nine or ten yards of it a shot was fired from behind a little breastwork of branches and bark, about three feet high, which had been thrown up during the night. The shot struck poor Madden, but did not kill him immediately, and he was enabled to run away. Three men followed him, and two more shots were fired at him as he ran along the road. All this occurred in the presence of some hundred people, who were near the spot, but none attempted to arrest or pursue the murderers! The poor man managed to reach the place where he was lodging, and then, after the rites of the church had been administered to him, he made a dying declaration that when the first shot was fired he distinctly saw Henry Cody discharge it; and that he at the same time distinctly saw with him the other prisoner, and a man whom he did not know. On the morning of the murder the pri-

soners were not at their work as usual, but about twelve o'clock, and before the dying man's declaration was made, one of them returned, and on the following day both were at their work. As soon, however, as that declaration was known, he and his brother absconded, and, although warrants were immediately issued, Philip was not arrested until the 24th of August, and Henry not until the 12th of September. When the latter prisoner saw the policeman after him he began running, and, being armed with a rifle, he presented and twice snapped it at the policeman, but, fortunately, without effect. This statement was fully proved by evidence, and the jury returned a verdict of "Guilty" against both prisoners—Henry Cody guilty of the murder, Philip Cody of aiding and assisting.

THE ATTEMPT ON MR BAILEY.—On the 28th ult., J. Daly, E. Roughan, and J. Ryan were tried for firing at and wounding Mr Richard Uniacke Bailey, near Nenagh, on the 18th of November last. A fourth prisoner named Carty being ill with fever in Nenagh gaol, was not arraigned.—The Attorney-General stated the circumstances of the case. Mr Bailey was a gentleman of property residing about three miles and a-half from Nenagh, and, being agent to several landed proprietors in the neighbourhood, he was in the habit of attending every Saturday at an office in Nenagh to transact the business connected with his agencies, and was generally detained until a late hour in the afternoon, or towards the evening. Previous to the outrage upon him which they had now to investigate, he had been obliged, in the discharge of his duty to Mr Rowley, one of his employers, to have recourse to the law against Daly, to recover from him a sum of 60*l.* or 70*l.* due to Mr Rowley. Daly was arrested under those proceedings, but was rescued from the bailiffs; and it appeared that that induced him to take part in the outrage upon Mr Bailey. One of the principal witnesses in this case was a person named Dwyer, who was a party to the attack upon Mr Bailey, and he would depose that that attack was, in a great degree, planned by Daly with the several other prisoners, and that an arrangement was made between them that they should meet on the night upon which the attack was afterwards made, at a certain place, about a mile and a half from Nenagh, about the time when Mr Bailey would be passing along the road, and that they should then attack him. Accordingly, on the evening of the 13th of November, about five o'clock, Mr Bailey was driving home from Nenagh in a gig, accompanied by his brother-in-law, a gentleman named Head, and as they passed the spot where the assailants had previously agreed upon for the attack, shots were fired, and Mr Bailey was most dangerously wounded in the head and neck. Mr Head, who was sitting on the side of the gig nearer to the spot whence the shot was fired, received but a very slight wound, the shots passing over him and striking his companion, who was not only a taller man, but was raised higher by the driving seat. Before the shots were fired, Mr Head heard a noise, and his impression was that it was caused by the cocking of the gun; but in all probability it was intended as a signal of Mr Bailey's approach. Roughan and Carty were two of the party who met by arrangement to make the attack, and Roughan's was the hand by which the shots that struck Mr Bailey were fired. The evidence of an approver, unless corroborated by other testimony, was not of itself sufficient to convict; but in this case other witnesses would be produced who would prove the going of Daly and Dwyer together to the appointed place; and from that circumstance, coupled with Dwyer's evidence, the jury would probably conclude that they were there for the purpose of attacking Mr Bailey. As to Roughan, evidence would be produced, independently of Dwyer's, from which, if it were of authority, it would be proved that prior to the commission of the offence Roughan was a party to the conspiracy, and was the person who had fired the shots which, to use his own expression, had "downed" Mr Bailey.—Mr Head proved that part of the murderous transaction of which he was a witness, but was unable to identify any of the assailants. The shots were fired from behind a dwarf wall on the side of the road.—William Dwyer, the approver, was then put upon the table. He is a stout, broad shouldered fellow, about twenty-five years old, with as villanous an expression of countenance as was ever stamped upon a human face. He stated that ten days before the attack he met Daly at a house in Nenagh, and Daly then spoke about shooting Mr Bailey. Some days afterwards he met Daly at the house of a man named Connor, and Connor then asked him whether he would shoot Mr Bailey, and he said he would. Daly, however, was not present when that was said. That was the day before the attack, and it was then arranged that they should meet on the following evening at a place called Cleary's Fort, near the Nenagh road, along which Mr Bailey would pass. He accordingly went there with Daly, and a short time afterwards Roughan and Carty came up. Roughan had a blunderbuss, and Carty a gun. He himself had a leaded switch. They loaded the guns at the Fort. They saw two men working in a field as they went. Daly and he had before changed coats, but he now took back his own, and Daly and Carty changed coats. They then went down to the ditch by the roadside, and lay in it behind the wall. Daly was in advance, a few yards nearer to Nenagh, and Roughan and Carty were between him and the witness. He heard a gig approach. Daly called "Halt," and a shot was fired, but he could not say by whom. No signal had been previously agreed upon. Daly found him after the shot was fired, and they then went to the house of a man named Maher, and played cards. He was "on his keeping" (eluding the police) for ten days after the attack, and then he gave himself up to the police. On his cross-examination by Mr Rolleston, the fellow said he was twenty-six years of age, and twelve or thirteen years ago Mr Bailey had taken some land from him. *He admitted that if he had been asked to murder any other gentleman, he would have agreed to do it.* His father had seventeen acres of land, but he paid no rent for two or three years. He said he gave himself up to the police, not on account of Mr Bailey, but because he found they were looking for him. He told his "story" to the governor of the gaol because he found that Daly was going to swear against him. He had heard of the reward that was offered, and then it was that he gave himself up; but he was let out the same day, because they told him that there was nothing against him. He was subsequently taken up on this charge. He was asked why he carried his leaden switch on the night of the attack, and he swore that it was not for the purpose of striking Mr Bailey; that he was only there to see the attack.—James Donohue said, he was spreading dung in a field near where Mr Bailey was attacked in the afternoon of the same day, and he saw two men crossing it to the road and jump on the wall. One of the two was Daly. He had known him before, and he had on a frieze coat, broken in the arm. (This corresponds with Dwyer's coat, which he stated Daly had previously put on.) The other was a "thick stump of a boy," with a dark coat, but he wore a "reduced" hat, but he could not say whether it was a "Jerry" or a "Carolina." (This description answered to that of Dwyer, who had on at the time Daly's coat.) The testimony of this witness was corroborated by two others, named Dorsay and Spillan.—Roney Cleary, a respectable old farmer, who held the field where the Fort is situate, said, that on the afternoon of the day on which Mr Bailey was attacked he saw two men walking over the field, and going in the direction of the Fort. One was taller than the other (Daly being, in fact, taller than Dwyer). He shortly afterwards saw the heads of two other men at the Fort. In the evening, about five o'clock, as he was sitting in his house, he heard two shots fired, his house being about 100 perches from where Mr Bailey was shot.—William Mara confirmed the statement of Dwyer, as to Daly and Dwyer's going to his house and playing at cards the same night that Mr Bailey was attacked.—After several other witnesses had added confirmation to the previous satements, a tall, reckless young fellow, named Nicholas Garraghan, was examined, and his evidence presented a sad picture of the depraved condition of the lower classes of this country. He said that Daly was married to his aunt, and that he had been living with him for two months before the attack. He had several conversations with Daly about Mr Bailey's being shot. Daly said Mr Bailey was running him out of his house and home on account of a writ, and he must have him shot. He asked witness to do it, and he said he would, but that it would be a bad job to him (Daly), as he would be the first taken up on account of the writ. About a fortnight before the outrage was committed *Mr Connor, who was also related to him, offered him a suit of clothes if he would shoot Mr Bailey, but he refused unless they would give him money enough to take him out.* That was agreed to, and Connor told him that he was then going to meet two other boys about the same business. They afterwards met by appointment at a public-house at Nenagh. Roughan, Carty, Ryan, and Daly were there, and all except himself were drinking whisky. Roughan said it would be a good thing to shoot Mr Bailey, as he had been tumbling houses at Dungarrah. They pressed him to go with them; he at first refused, but on their importuning him he at last consented. Roughan had a gun, and Carty said he had a case of pistols. They accordingly started from Nenagh for the purpose of shooting the unfortunate gentleman, but they were so drunk that the witness said he would not go further, and they all turned back. From that time he did not see any of the party until the Thursday after Mr Bailey was attacked; but on that day he met Roughan, Ryan, and Carty at Hayes's public-house in Nenagh, and Ryan then asked him why he had turned back on the first night. His answer was, that they were too drunk, and he was afraid of the police. Roughan said, "Didn't I do the job well—I downed him." "Whisht," said Ryan. "Oh, no fear," said Roughan, "there's nobody here to speak of it," and he repeated his words, "I did it well, I downed him." Ryan then said, "Oh as to that, we all had a hand in it. He is not dead yet, but he may be down in a short time." On his cross-examination he said, he agreed to murder Mr Bailey *because Daly and Connor, who had asked him to do it, were related to him.* "*Then,*" *said Mr Rolleston* (the counsel for the prisoners), "*I suppose you'd murder me if they had asked you?*" "*By Gob, I would,*" *was his reply.* The miscreant had been to mass on one of the Sundays on which he had consented to be a party to the murder. He said: "I was sober the night I speak of. All the others were drunk. I took the pledge and drank afterwards. *A priest gave me leave. I attend mass regular. I do not know whether it would be a greater crime to commit a murder or break a pledge.* I think murder would be worst, but I do not know." It appeared (though of course it was not put in evidence) that Daly had been forgiven upwards of 100*l.* arrears. Mr Rolleston contended that there was not sufficient evidence to show that either of the prisoners was actually engaged in the outrage, especially with regard to Roughan, the case against him resting entirely on the testimony of Garraghan, who was a party to the transaction; or if the prisoners were engaged in it, then the fair supposition was that they intended only to rob Mr Bailey, and not to murder him.—The Solicitor-General, in his reply, argued, that although Garraghan had consented a fortnight before to be a party to the attack, yet on that occasion he had withdrawn, and, as he was not engaged in the actual outrage, his testimony might be received as that of a person who was not *particeps criminis*, and therefore not requiring corroboration. The Lord Chief Justice, however, in summing up, said that the evidence of Whelan went to show that, although Garraghan had withdrawn on the first occasion, yet that he had a continuing intention of being a party to shooting Mr Bailey. His evidence therefore must be viewed as that of a party to the transaction, and it was for them to say how far it was corroborated by the other witnesses; but without some corroboration it would not be safe to rely on it. The jury returned a verdict of Guilty as to Daly, but of Not Guilty as to Roughan. Roughan, however, was not discharged, but would be indicted for the conspiracy.

On Monday Terence Corboys was charged with the murder of Patrick Gleeson, a process server, who in the course of his duty had served a notice on the prisoner's father. The murder was committed in the open day—not only in the presence of many men, women, and children, but they actually moved a short distance from the spot in order to give the assassin sufficient room for its perpetration. It appeared that on the 15th of October, 1846, Gleeson, in the discharge of his invidious duty, proceeded from his residence in Nenagh to serve some notices at the village of Garrafanna, one of the worst localities in the county. On that occasion he was pelted with mud and dirt by a number of women who had assembled together for the purpose, but he was allowed to perform his duty, and returned home without any attempt having been made on his life. Two days subsequently he had to revisit the village, for the purpose of serving additional notices. His coming was expected, and the prisoner was prepared to prevent his ever returning alive. Gleeson, on the morning of Saturday, the 17th of October, between eight and nine o'clock, revisited Garrafanna, transacted his business, and was on his return, when at a short distance from the village the prisoner came out of a ditch by the side of the road, and presented a blunderbuss at him. He entreated the prisoner to spare his life, and promised that never again would he disturb the peace of the village as a latitat server. But the prisoner was not to be moved; he told the poor wretch "he had had his life long enough," and instantly, in the words of the witness, "blowed" the contents of his blunderbuss through him. The poor fellow, though he was shot, did not immediately fall; the prisoner ran up to him, knocked him down, and whilst he lay on the ground fractured his skull with the butt end of his blunderbuss. There was a number of women and children within fifteen or sixteen yards of the spot, and the prisoner, before he fired, called to them to move further off. The deed having being done, the mangled victim was carried to the police barracks of Toomevara, and was found to be then not quite dead, but his wounds were mortal, and in four days afterwards he breathed his last. The prisoner directly "took to his keeping," that is, absconded, and was not discovered until April last, when he was arrested in Wales. On his passage from Waterford to Wales a tremendous storm arose, and the vessel was nearly lost; but the prisoner consoled himself with the saying, "that he could not be drowned, because he was born to be hanged."—The first witness for the Crown was a soldier of the 31st regiment, named Murray, who stated that he was living at Garrafanna at the time of the murder, and was within a few yards of the prisoner when it was committed. He saw the whole transaction, and also saw the prisoner's father take up a stone and throw it on Gleeson as he lay on the ground. He had nothing to do with the murder, but admitted that he was walking with the prisoner just after it took place. He saw him with a gun the day before, and knew that Gleeson was coming out to serve notices; but he never called to Gleeson to warn him as he came near; he never raised his hand or voice to save him, and he left the poor wretch lying in the road without rendering him the least assistance. There were many women and children near the spot. *The prisoner was laughing the whole time that Murray was describing the murder.* An old man named Mara saw the prisoner and Murray on the road just before the murder, and as Gleeson came near he said to Murray, "Mike, never mind that man;" he thought from their manner that they intended Gleeson harm, and he wanted to save him out of respect to his brothers, whom he knew. He then went into an adjacent house, and after being there a few minutes he heard the people shouting along the road, that "the man was dead." Further evidence was given to the effect of the particulars described above, and the jury returned a verdict of "Guilty." On Tuesday the five prisoners, Lonergan, H. Cody and P. Cody, Corboys, and J. Daly, were brought up to receive sentence. The Chief Justice, in a very feeling speech, passed sentence of death upon them; the three first to be executed on the 1st of March, the two last on the 4th of the same month. In the course of his address, the Chief Justice directed this warning to all who were cognizant of the crimes for which the unhappy men were shortly to suffer:—"There are other classess who ought to take a lesson of warning from your fate; there are those who have bought you to "avenge your wrongs," who have justified, palliated, and excused your crimes, and they must be responsible for the consequences—those consequences which are exhibited in your dreadful cases. Such doctrine and such teaching has been productive of such cases as yours. But there is another class upon whom I wonder that all that has occurred has made no impression. Some of you have wives—some of you have parents—some of you have children—you have friends and relatives. Have they done their duty, and warned you against the crimes that have brought you to destruction? Have they, who knew your designs, warned you against the perpetration? Have they endeavoured to prevent them, and used their influence to save you? Sorry am I to say that, from what I have witnessed, the friends and relatives, who ought to have been true to you, who ought to have been your protectors, have been the first to concur in bringing you to justice; for if they did not prevent, they have in some degree caused those crimes which have brought you here. Let your fate be a warning to them; and whatever may be the calamity and affliction which your death may produce to your friends and relatives, let it be a warning to save from destruction others who are traversing the same course."—Lonergan and Daly listened to the address of the learned judge with the most distressing watchfulness, and as he announced their fate Daly raised his eyes, and appeared to be repeating to himself some short prayer. The other three unhappy men heard their doom with the same stolid indifference that had marked their conduct during their trial. It rarely happens that any sentence is passed in the courts of this country without a wailing and lamentation from the culprit's friends breaking in on the silence of the court; but on this occasion, as, indeed, on every other when the last awful sentence of the law has been pronounced under the commission, not a sound was heard to disturb the solemn ceremony. It is satisfactory to know that Lonergan has made a full confession of his guilt. He admits that all the evidence adduced against him on his trial was correct, except as to the intentional use of the piece of paper found in the ditch, which, he says, he only took to light his pipe with.

THE FATAL CONFLICT IN LEITRIM.—The subjoined version of this dreadful affair is supplied by a correspondent of the 'Freeman's Journal':—"On Wednesday, the 26th, one of the coroners of the county Roscommon, Mr Peyton, proceeded to execute a law process, issued by one of the superior courts, at the suit of Mr Church, of Carrick-on-Shannon, against Mr Hubert Kelly Waldron, justice of the peace, of Ashford, near Drumsna, in Leitrim. The coroner was accompanied by some bailiffs and a number of the police force, but on reaching the gate entrance was met by Mr Waldron, who, with his son and a considerable number of retainers, stood inside, armed, and in an attitude of defence. The gate was closed, and the coroner demanded admission, which was peremptorily refused, Mr Waldron stating that he had 'but one life, was an old man, and valued it little.' The coroner explained that he should perform his duty, and remonstrated against the folly of resistance; but Mr Waldron could not be brought to reason. Two of the coroner's men, after some further parley, proceeded to apply crowbars to the gate with a view to force it, when Mr Waldron fired from within, through the bars, severely wounding one of the men. The police immediately fired, when the affray became general, and no less than from twelve to fifteen shots were exchanged through the gate. Mr Waldron received one ball in the forehead, and fell lifeless to the ground. Several of his relations were wounded, as also some of the police. Mr Waldron was about fifty-five years of age, of extravagant habits, and much embarrassed."

CONTINUED OUTRAGES IN LIMERICK.—The house of a man named Connell, the keeper of the county Limerick hounds, at Carhue, near Croom, was on Thursday night week attacked by a party of armed men, who first knocked at the door and demanded admittance, which being refused, they fired a shot in through the window. They then burst open the door, entered, and threatened to shoot the inmates if they offered the smallest resistance. The owner of the house happened to be in bed at the time, and one of the party was immediately placed on watch in his room. The remainder of the ruffians then proceeded to search the house, and having found a gun, the object of their search, they went off without doing any further injury. —An outrtge, somewhat similar to the above, occurred at Curragh, in this county, on the night before. A party of ruffians, with faces blackened, forcibly entered the house of a man named John M'Enerny. They dragged him to the centre of the kitchen, and placing him on his knees, threatened to blow out his brains, and to treat his wife in like manner, if he did not give them money. The poor woman, who was overwhelmed with terror, gave them all the money she had in her possession, about 25*s.* They then searched the house for more money, and found a small box, but on smashing it they found it to contain only 3*s.* 6*d.* With this much money, not finding any more in the house, they decamped.

THE CASHEL BENCH OF MAGISTRATES.—The following have been the gentlemen who, within the last few years, usually attended this bench:—R. Long—Father shot, himself twice fired at. W. Murphy —Father shot. Samuel Cooper—Brother shot. Leonard Keating—Nephew, Mr Scully, shot. E. Scully—Cousin, Mr Scully, shot. Godfrey Taylor—Cousin, Mr Clarke, shot. Wm. Roe—Shot. C. Clarke —Brother, shot; a nephew, Mr Roe, shot!

RESIGNATION OF MR D. O'CONNELL.—It was stated at the Repeal Association on Monday that Mr D. O'Connell intends to resign the representation of Waterford. His pecuniary circumstances (it is said) do not permit him to continue in parliament. The candidates for the vacant seat are, Mr Napier and the Judge of the Prerogative Court, Dr Keatinge.

DR M'HALE AND THE POOR-RATE.—It appears that the statement made respecting the non-payment of his poor-rate by Dr M'Hale was incorrect.

THE LAW'S ENCOURAGEMENT OF QUACKERY.—A case was heard the other day before the Master of the Rolls, curiously illustrative of the deficient state of medical law in this country. A Mr Freeman, a chemist, who, like all other chemists or persons in this kingdom, is allowed to concoct whatever poisons they please for the cure of diseases, and to sell them, provided they pay for a government stamp, puts together certain ingredients in the form of pills. He calls these consumptive pills; and in order to ensure more extensive notice and sale, he uses the name of Sir James Clark, who is well known for the attention he has paid to the study of consumption, and issues advertisements calling his pills "Sir James Clark's Consumptive Pills," thus leading the public to suppose that the pills were made from a prescription of this gentleman. He goes even further than this, and gulls the public into the belief that special favour had been shown to him in this instance; and says in his advertisement, "By her Majesty's permission." Now if this man were dispensing some harmless sweetmeat, or some form of farinaceous food, Sir James Clark needed not, perhaps, to have complained; but, from an examination of the pills, it appears that antimony and mercury were contained in them, which are known to be specially injurious in some forms of the diseases in which they are recommended by the advertiser. Of this use of his name, then, we think that Sir James Clark has a perfect right to complain; and against such a use of it, in the name of justice, every honest man must protest. The public purchase these pills on the faith of the advertisement, as the result of Sir James Clark's experience in the diseases for which they are sold, and, on finding themselves made worse by them, they would have their confidence diminished in the skill of the supposed prescriber. He is, therefore, directly injured by the sale of these pills. Yet the law of the country has no resource for him, and he is told by the Master of the Rolls that "it was one of the taxes imposed on eminent men to have their names thus made use of."—'Daily News.'

LAW AND POLICE.

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH, Jan. 29.—CUSTODY OF ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN. *In re* THWAITES.—In this case an application had been made to have these children put under the care of a Mrs Taylor, the sister of Colonel Talbot, who was their putative father. As Mrs Taylor was a married woman, the Court had required, before ordering the adoption of this arrangement, that the consent of her husband to it should be given. Mr Humfrey now signified that that consent had been given, and produced from him a letter stating the fact. Mr. M. Chambers said that he had an affidavit which raised an entirely new case. Mrs Taylor was staying at Edinburgh, but her husband was in the discharge of his duties residing at Tipperary, and the mother of the children naturally expressed anxiety with reference to the possibility of their removal thither. She was perfectly willing that for their own advantage they should be under the guardianship of Mrs Taylor; but it must be in the environs of London, and she must have access to them at all reasonable times. Mr Humfrey had no objection to this proposal, and it was finally arranged that it should be adopted under a rule of the Court, a distance within twenty miles of London was to be fixed on, and the mother was to have notice of every change in their residence.

REGINA *v.* THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.—The Court on Tuesday gave judgment in the case of Dr Hampden. Their lordships read their written judgments, from which it appeared that the court were divided in opinion, two of their number (Mr Justice Patteson and Mr Justice Coleridge) being of opinion that the rule should be made absolute, and the other two (Lord Denman and Mr Justice Erle) that the rule should be discharged. Under these circumstances the rule was discharged.

Mr Justice Erle, after reciting the grounds of opposition, said that the question of the confirmation of the election of Dr Hampden depended upon the construction of the statute of 25 Henry VIII. "Upon the review of the act," said his lordship, "it appears that the power of nominating bishops is given to the King, and that the archbishop has no authority to judge whether the King has properly exercised that power. On the contrary, the archbishop is made liable to the penalties of *præmunire*, if he shall not within twenty days confirm, invest, and consecrate the bishop whose election or nomination has been signified to him by the King's letters patent. In the argument on this case it was not contended that the archbishop was empowered to sit and judge of the King's nomination. When the bishop has been elected by the dean and chapter, the King is to signify that election by his letters patent, and to require the archbishop to confirm it. This brings us to the question whether or not the word 'confirm' is to be taken as meaning that the archbishop is to try the qualifications of the person elected? According to the general rule, the words of the statute are to be construed in their ordinary sense in all its parts. From this it follows that the command to confirm does not involve any authority to judge of the fitness of the person elected. It is provided by the fifth section, that the election by the dean and chapter 'shall be good and effectual to all intents;' and the command to confirm follows immediately upon this, and is in harmony with it. But an election cannot be good and effectual to all intents, if it is to be voidable by the archbishop. It then says that upon being elected by the dean and chapter, the person so elected 'shall be reputed and taken by the name of the lord elected of the said dignity and office,' which is incompatible with being liable to be declared disqualified by the archbishop. He is then to take the oath of fealty to the King, who is thereupon to issue his letters patent to the archbishop, 'commanding him to confirm the said election, and to invest and consecrate him' within twenty days. This is inconsistent with its being the duty of the archbishop to invite and receive objections, and to decide whether or not they are well founded. I am of opinion that the statute does not impose the duty or give the right alleged to the archbishop. It is said that the word 'confirm,' in reference to bishops, has a technical sense in the canon law, and includes an examination into the qualifications of the elected; that this power was exercised throughout the whole Christian world down to the time of Henry VIII, and that the Legislature intended the word to be taken in that sense. But these grounds are untenable. In the first place, the reception of evidence of extrinsic facts, with a view to alter the received meaning of known words, is not to be permitted; it would be doing violence to the statute, if not illegal. Besides, it does not appear to me that the alleged practice has been proved." His lordship then quoted the preamble of the act, to show that nominations and presentations of bishops by the King to the Pope were often delayed, which proved no bar to their subsequent consecration by the King's order; and that this was an ancient practice. Besides the foreign canon law had no binding effect in England; it had been ordered to be revised by Henry VIII, and during that revision it was enacted that such canon laws only should be in force as were not contrarient to the laws and customs of the realm. "It is impossible, then, that the parliament which so regarded the canon law should use the word 'confirm' in this statute, not in its common sense, but in a sense limited by the canon law. The proclamation made at the time of the confirmation was next pressed upon us as favourable to the suggested construction. But this proceeding can be of no avail against the statute. By the statute the election of a bishop is rendered a mere form, and so is the confirmation; for it declares every such election to be good and effectual to all intents. We here see indeed the forms and vestiges of rights which have ceased, forms which have been preserved but with a view to colour the changes which have been introduced. If these had not been preserved as mere forms, the right of opposing would have been asserted. But no such instance has been produced. There has been no examination of opposers." . . . "Another point urged was, that the sole purpose of the legislature was to put an end to the interference of the see of Rome with the English church. But I think the intention of the statute, as expressed, was to prohibit the interference of the see of Rome, and at the same time to lay down the manner of consecrating the bishops of the church so separate from the see of Rome. Effect must be given to every part of the statute, and I think the statute not only destroys the Pope's usurpation, but declares the rights of the King, and was intended to put an end to all contests between the Crown and the ecclesiastical authorities. I am of opinion that the supposed right does not exist, and therefore that the rule must be discharged."

Mr Justice Coleridge said that he rested his judgment on this narrow ground, that the applicants had laid such grounds before the court as entitled them to a *mandamus*, in order that it might be demurred to, or met by a return. "My opinion," said his lordship, "is, that this was the case of an inferior court with a question before it for decision, with parties lawfully summoned to appear, and with sufficient interest in the matter to entitle them to be heard. If this be true, it is within the province of this Court to compel the inferior court to allow those parties to appear, and to hear their allegations. It is no answer to this to say, that the court is an ecclesiastical court; for the ecclesiastical courts are not withdrawn from the control of writs of *mandamus* or prohibition. We cannot divert the course of their proceeding, nor review their decisions by way of appeal. They are to form their own judgments. But still we shall compel the ecclesiastical courts to address themselves to the discharge of their duty, and restrain them when they show that they are about to exceed their jurisdiction." After stating it as his opinion that the opposers, in spite of the objections urged, had sufficient interest to entitle them to be heard, he came to the examination of the statute of Henry VIII, where the object of the Court was to ascertain not what Henry VIII intended, but what was intended by the Legislature. The Court had to see how that statute had dealt with confirmation. "The object of the statute was to put on a clear foundation the right of the Crown as to the appointment of bishops, for the exercise of that right had been interfered with by provisions. That right was founded on the right of patronage; bishoprics were donative because the King had founded them. The second object was to prevent all interference of Rome in the making of bishops and in the confirmation of bishops. For the first object it was not thought necessary to alter the original mode of election, but that chain was preserved which bound our church with the great Christian communion. But it was preserved in form only, for the power of election was virtually taken away by the letter missive. If the dean and chapter proceeded according to the letter missive, there would be nothing new, but confirmation would go on as usual. There is not a word in the statute to derogate from the power of the metropolitan, but it was rather increased by the removal of the interference of the Pope. Here then are two parties, the dean and chapter, and the archbishop. If the former refuse to elect, a provision is made by which the King may nominate a bishop; but if the archbishop refuse to confirm, there is no provision in the statute by which the confirmation may be performed by any other. It has been urged that the King, as supreme head of the church, possesses the dispensing power of the Pope, and that he exercises that power in his letter missive. This appears to me to be a strange doctrine, to which, as a member of the English Catholic church, I strongly object." His lordship then entered into the construction of the act with regard to the speed and celerity required of the archbishop and into the meaning of the word "confirm," from which he deduced that the archbishop was empowered to exercise a judicial as well as a ministerial function. "But," continued his lordship, "if the statute enjoined the archbishop to do a judicial act, and he prosecuted it without delay, that would be an answer to an indictment. The statute, though severe in the measure of its penalties, is not so in reference to the scale of punishments in the age in which it passed; for the same penalties, even in the last century, were awarded to those who were mixed up with the frauds connected with the South Sea bubbles. But I cannot believe that a statute which, though with a rough hand, freed us from the vexatious interference of Rome, at the same time intended that we should wear a yoke upon our necks, and that our archbishops should be liable to these penalties, if in the discharge of a most solemn duty they refused to confirm the election of a bishop who might be disqualified for that sacred office. I cannot believe that Henry VIII so intended, who gloried personally in the title of Defender of the Faith. It has been said, that in Ireland and the colonies the Crown exercises this power of nomination without confirmation—but it is obvious that the revival in Ireland of the statute of Edward VI, which had rendered confirmation unnecessary, and its non-revival in this country, shows that we have the same forms as existed before the Reformation, and from early ages. The archbishop is not the only person concerned, for the bishop elect has also an interest, of which the Canon Law takes notice, otherwise he could not have appealed to the Court of Rome. The forms established by usage become binding, and all lawyers know that it is by forms that rights become substantially protected. For more than 300 years these forms have taken a judicial shape in open court, and according to that proceeding the archbishop is bound now to proceed. It has been urged that there has been a total want of the exercise of this right since the Reformation; but that has not been made out in a satisfactory manner. Considering all the circumstances which are to be taken into account, which I have endeavoured imperfectly to express, it seems to me that this rule ought to be made absolute."

Mr Justice Patteson said he did not propose to enter into an examination of the Canon Law or the general canons of the Christian church on the subject of confirmation, which established satisfactorily that in all Christian countries, wherever bishops were elected, such election was required to be confirmed in order to be perfect; that such confirmation was an act of ecclesiastical supremacy, and was a judicial and not a ministerial act; that all Christian people were interested in the election, and were cited to come forward and make their objections. "The elections," said his lordship, "were real and free elections, upon the receipt of the *congé d'élire* from the Crown, which did not state who was to be elected. It is said that the Crown recommended, but there was no power in the Crown to compel the election of any particular person; nor was there any legislative enactment on the subject; so that the power of confirmation did not trench upon the authority of the Crown. The letter missive was a mere request, and the chapter could not be compelled to obey. The words are added, that they shall elect the person so named, and none other. The effect of this is to destroy the freedom of election altogether. The repealed statute of Edward the VIth described these elections by 'in very deed no elections, but only by a writ of *congé d'élire* have colours, shadows, or pretences of elections, serving nevertheless to no purpose, and seeming derogatory and prejudicial to the King's prerogative Royal, &c.' I do not agree with the latter part of the section, for it is plain that the power of collation of archbishoprics and bishoprics did not belong to the Crown if they were filled up according to the laws of the realm. If the statute had not introduced the letters missive, the election must have been free, and the confirmation must have been clearly a judicial act. It is important to consider the effect of these letters missive. This proceeding makes the election a mere form. Does it also make the confirmation a mere form? It is said the election is to stand good and effectual to all intents, so that the refusal to confirm cannot affect the election. It may be that the election is to stand good as an election, but the statute has made no provision for the refusal of the archbishop to confirm. It has therefore, in some sense, rendered it in the power of the archbishop to refuse to confirm the election, subject to the penal consequences of his refusal. The legislature seems to have considered that confirmation was not necessary where there was no election; and in the Irish statute, which abolishes election, no mention is made of confirmation from the beginning to the end. It is contended that as confirmation is unnecessary where the Crown appoints the bishop avowedly, it was not necessary where the Crown appoints the bishop circuitously, and therefore confirmation is a ministerial act and a mere form; but that the form of confirmation was preserved, because in each case the form was a mere shadow. But it is vain to consider the reasons. If the Crown appointed a bishop by letters patent, and any lawful impediment came to the knowledge of the archbishop, it is impossible to believe that in such a case the legislature required the archbishop to perform the solemn act of confirmation. I am required, without any express words to that effect, to say that the legislature intended to carry forms into the confirmation as well as into the election of bishops. But I cannot go beyond what the express words compel me, and I construe the words according to their common sense. It appears to me that, by the fifth section the archbishop is required to conduct the confirmation as of old time, as hath been accustomed, *i. e.*, in a judicial court." His lordship then considered the question of *præmunire* in the event of non-confirmation, and was of opinion that as there were "lawful causes" admitting of delay, a *bonâ-fide* belief of the unfitness of the bishop elect would be one such as would require an ultimate refusal to confirm the election. He did not think that refusal to confirm on this ground would be a violation of the prerogative of the Crown, as had been contended. "If," said his lordship, "confirmation is a ministerial and not a judicial act, a solemn mockery has been gone through; but if it is a judicial act, the parties are entitled to appear and make their objections. That confirmation was not altered in its nature appears to have been the received opinion; and in the time of Charles II and William III, commissions were appointed to exercise a choice in the selection of bishops. There is no sufficient evidence to show that the statute was intended to alter the nature of confirmation, or to justify me in putting a different construction upon the word. If the archbishop acted judicially, he would have the same power of summoning witnesses as in other cases." "The next question is, who are entitled to be heard? The words of the citation since the statute of Henry the VIIIth are, that all persons may come forward and make their objections. The vicar-general, then, was not justified in refusing to hear objections, unless he was prevented by the statute; and though the allowing all persons to object may be inconvenient, and even prejudicial, the only question is, whether it be law. He was bound by law to hear them, as all were cited, and as two of the applicants were beneficed clergymen in the diocese of the bishop elect they ought to have some remedy. The question then comes, is the writ of *mandamus* the proper remedy? I doubt whether there would be an appeal from the archbishop under any circumstances. But in a case like this, where a party has not been allowed to appear, I cannot be in a situation to appeal. Here is a declining jurisdiction, in consequence of a misconstruction of an act of parliament." "I have great doubts as to the power of this Court to grant a *mandamus* under the circumstances; and my mind has fluctuated upon this subject, both during the argument and during the delivery of the judgment of my brother Erle. Formerly, the decree of this court was final, but now its judgment may be reviewed by a Court of Error. Now, by refusing the writ, we prevent the party from appealing against our decision; whereas, if we grant the writ, it will only lead to a fuller consideration, and more satisfactory determination of this question. I think, then, that we ought to grant the writ, unless our minds are quite clear that the applicants have not the right which they claim. I am aware of the evil connected with the agitation of men's minds upon this subject, and the delay which may be interposed, but that is not a sufficient reason for refusing the writ. I have not alluded to the nature of the objections to be urged; for the mistake has been in refusing to admit the parties to appear and state their objections whatever they might be. Upon these objections the archbishop or his vicar-general is to determine, and this Court will not interfere with their decision. Upon the whole, I think this rule must be made absolute."

Lord Denman, after stating the nature of the application for a mandamus, said: "Various arguments have been used to show that a writ of mandamus will not lie in the present case. I have no doubt that in this case the mandamus sought for ought not to issue; and even if I were at all in doubt on the subject, I should think it better not to issue the writ than to run the risk of abridging the clear and established prerogative of the Crown in a matter of such vital importance, still more to the best interests of the people than of the Crown itself. I admit that there has been established a primâ facie case of wrong, where, after citation issued for persons to appear in opposition, and after proclamation to the same effect, persons so appearing were prohibited from stating the grounds of their opposition. The proceedings by which opposers were invited to appear, and then had their mouths stopped at the very outset, and were excluded the court, clearly reflected no honour on those who instituted the form. It is an absurdity, only exceeded by the further proceeding of declaring those very persons contumacious for non-appearance, who had actually appeared, and, claiming to be heard, were not heard. That these things are anomalies there can be no doubt; but they do not constitute a case for setting aside a clear and established rule, founded on a distinct act of parliament and settled by invariable practice."

On the subject of the statute of Henry VIII, Lord Denman said, that the first observation that occurred to him in reference to the act was, that no form of confirmation whatever was set forth in it or in the preceding act on the same subject, the 23rd of Henry the VIIth; which latter statute, after denouncing former exactions of the Pope, by means of delaying the confirmation of bishops named by the king, enacted that for the future, any person presented to the Court of Rome as bishop of any English see, and whose confirmation by Papal bull should be unduly deferred, should be consecrated by his archbishop, and be then and thereafter taken to be, and be, bishop of the see to which he had been named. In this statute the word confirmation does not once occur. This statute was kept alive by the 25th of Henry the VIIIth. The statute in question was framed in that spirit of jealousy of Rome which was at that time severing one by one all the ties between this kingdom and that see, but neither King Henry nor any other king was likely to leave the means of making bishops imperfect or uncertain for the time to come. That was one of the objects of the statute, as put forth by the preamble; and it has been asked whether such a king was likely, at the same time that he deprived the Pope of his veto, to give it to one of his subjects? "The only answer which has been made to this question, was a severe reflection on that great father of the English Protestant church, Archbishop Cranmer. I understood it to have been said that the king knew how obsequious an archbishop he had in Cranmer, who would readily comply with the king's will. True, Cranmer was not a blameless man; far from it; for shortly before his death he betrayed a great want of firmness; but I may be permitted to say not greater than that exhibited by the apostle whom the head of the church selected from among his brethren as the rock upon which that church was to be built; and his death at least might have atoned for this fault, and have saved his memory from such observations. If Henry relied on Cranmer as upon a mean and servile churchman, who would truckle to his caprices, he was wholly mistaken in his man. The archbishop, on more than one occasion, thoroughly thwarted the monarch on points which the monarch was especially bent upon carrying. He opposed him in the matter of Anne Boleyn, and, despite Henry's utmost anger, manifested himself the unswerving friend of the unfortunate Queen; and again, on the matter of the Six Articles, both in and out of parliament, opposed the monarch, though it was perfectly well known that the latter was determined upon the extirpation of all views and doctrines contrary to his own by torture and death. But Cranmer was not immortal, and other less tractable metropolitans might have arisen, even supposing his character had been what it has been represented. Henry was no stranger to the obstinacy of religious faith. From experience he knew its strength, having seen his own well-beloved Chancellor lay his head on the block rather then admit his supremacy. He had witnessed constancy, too, in many of the clergy, and he was no doubt well read in that page of church history which recorded the firmness of Thomas A'Beckett. It is, therefore, inconceivable, by any ingenuity, that Henry should have allowed any doubt to remain as to the prerogative which he proposed to establish. Besides, parliament itself had made complaints with respect to the proceedings of the archbishop on this subject. These considerations are surely entitled to great weight."

Lord Denman then took a review of the proceedings at the election, confirmation, and consecration of a prelate of the Protestant church. On the trial and conviction of a felon all persons were called upon to come forward and state if they had any crimes or misdemeanours to allege against the prisoner, but no one ever presented himself; it was a mere form and ceremony. Those who had addressed the Court in support of this rule were not able to find a single case in which objectors to the election of a bishop had been heard at the time of his confirmation. And therefore, he (Lord Denman) was of opinion that no such instance had ever occurred, neither did he think it was ever contemplated by the legislature that objectors would present themselves. "But," said his lordship, "suppose opposers admitted: observe what would happen. 'Come forth,' said the proclamation, 'and offer your opposition in the case of this person to be made a bishop.' The answer is, from one, 'I knew this man at college twenty years ago, and I can tell you of some irregularities in his life.' Another would say, 'This person is justly suspected by one of having performed the service whilst in a state of inebriety.' A third might

charge him with 'vanity.' Another might throw a slur upon the chastity of his mother, or attack his conduct respecting his son. All that the Pharisee blessed himself in being free from, these people might falsely allege against the bishop. He might know all the allegations to be false and infamous; the archbishop might think the accusers utterly unworthy of belief, or know the charges to be false, but, nevertheless, the inquiry must proceed, and though they should be disproved, and the confirmation take place, still the fatal calumny must remain. How much is the case strengthened when the charge is the unfathomable charge of heresy, supported by extracts from books, probably little understood, and by reported conversations, probably imaginary, and, if real, difficult to be correctly repeated. Thus the life of a bishop might be frittered away whilst proceedings are pending against him, and his see might be left without any occupant, to the detriment of the church and of the people."

After considering the technical construction of the terms of confirmation, in which his lordship coincided in opinion with Mr Jutice Erle, he said: "The duty of the archbishop in the matter appears to me to be clear, and entirely apart from the functions of a judge. It is, in my opinion, more analogous to the duty of a returning officer at elections. His confirmation is necessary. If his inquiries lead him to the opinion that the appointment would be injurious, he can remonstrate. He can advise the Crown not to issue a *conge d'elire*. He may ask to be removed from the painful position of performing, or ordering to be performed, the duty of consecration after the election has been made. Even then he may still resort to the presence of the sovereign, and pray to have the *conge d'elire* and the letters missive superseded. But even at the worst, if the Crown persists in nominating the person to be bishop, and if he is quite clear that the *conge d'elire* ought to be set aside, he may act as his conscience doubtless would dictate, and as some of the judges of this Court have acted, and resign the office which the Crown had given them. He may resign. The present archbishop, I have no doubt, would do so after hearing the objections that were made to Dr Hampden, if he did not consider that he would not be justified in such a course of proceeding. I ask whether it has been the opinion of any person, until within the last few weeks,—until this unfortunate controversy occurred, which has so inflamed the public mind,—that the archbishop had a veto on the appointment of the Crown to a vacant bishopric? And when I hear Sir F. Kelly entreat, with the solemnity of manner peculiar to him, that we would not call upon the archbishop to invoke the Almighty in prayer, and perform as a sacred ceremony that which is in reality a mockery, a shadow, and at best a useless form, I confess that I hardly know how to meet such an observation. Are, then, the dean and chapter to be treated as nothing? Do they conduct their proceedings without prayer and solemn ceremony? And if they are required, notwithstanding, to proceed to the election, without the power of refusing to elect the nominee of the Crown, why should all this declamation be referred only to the confirmation, and not to the election? It may be an ill-considered and an impious act of parliament, and one perhaps that ought to be repealed, but why there should be any objection made to the solemn ceremony of the confirmation and not of the election, which is conducted with equal solemnity, and both of which are in conformity with the act of parliament, I cannot understand. It reminds me of the two Roman augurs who were said never to meet each other without laughing; and it certainly does appear to me, that if the Court yielded to the request of the learned gentleman on such a ground, the advocates on both sides would have good occasion to laugh at its decision. Having stated my reasons for the opinions which I deliberately, firmly, and conscientiously entertain—that what was contended for in support of the rule never has been at any time the law of England, I must say that I think the Court is bound to refuse the writ of mandamus. I think, if the writ went, it would be good for nothing, for the return which would be made to it would be a sufficient answer. But I am also bound to consider the consequences which would arise from the issuing of such a writ, viz., the frightful state of theological animosity which it would create and perpetuate for a period of, perhaps, two years, and the sanction it would give, upon the avoidance of every see, to the adoption of a similar course, where the archbishop would be called on to summon all mankind in every case as objectors to the appointment of the Crown, and keep open a court, which, in fact, might never be closed. It must also be borne in mind that the court has a discretion in the issuing of a mandamus, supposing even it thought that the proceeding complained of was of a judicial character, and that the archbishop might be compelled to hear the objectors; and, in the exercise of this discretion, without regard to the legal right, I feel bound to refuse the writ. For these reasons, and thinking myself bound by the act of parliament, and the practice which has prevailed, I think the rule must be discharged."

ARCHES COURT, January 29.—Sir H. Jenner Fust's Defence of his conduct as a Judge.—When the case of Geils *v.* Geils was called on, Sir H. J. Fust said there were some circumstances on which the Court felt imperatively bound to make some observations. He alluded to allegations of corruption and partiality being made against himself, and that in his decision of this case such motives would guide him. He repelled with indignation all such assertions. He trusted, upon the test as to his want of impartialty, to the judgments he had pronounced while he had sat in that chair. How many had been reversed? By that test he had no objction to be tried. There was an allusion made that if the Court should decide adversely to the lady, the bar of public opinion would be appealed to. This the Court considered an attempt to deter it in the exercise of a free judgment. The case was still under the consideration of the Court. The calumny, as applied to the Court, it repelled. The Court would say a word or two about the patronage it held, and its improper use of it was made a reason why the practice should be reformed or the Court entirely abolished. In was now forty-five years since he was admitted to the bar, and, including the thirteen years he had sat as judge, the only patronage he had had was the appointment to the Apparitorship of the Court of Peculiars, and the Seal-keeper of the Prerogative. To his clerk, who had been with him years before he was elevated to the Bench, he gave the former for his zeal and attention. The other office was held by the same respectable person who held then as he did still. The emoluments of the former were about 50*l.* a year; those of the Prerogative Court were considerable. The Court had not interfered either directly or indirectly in the appointment of the Queen's Proctor, though asked to do so by the late government. There were five candidates, and his reply to the question for recommendation was, that all were fit parties.—Sentence deferred.

BLOOMSBURY COUNTY COURT.—Theatrical Fracas.—This was an action against the defendant, Mr J. M. Maddox, lessee of the Princess's Theatre, brought by the plaintiff, Mr Courtney, late a member of the dramatic corps of that establishment, to recover the sum of 1*l.* 7s. 6d., one week's salary, due and unpaid. Plaintiff stated that on the opening of the Theatre, on the 4th of October last, he was engaged by the defendant, at a weekly salary of 1*l.* 7s. 6d. On Friday, the 15th of January, he was going through his first rehearsal as Captain Miguel, in "The Young Guard," when the defendant came abruptly up to him, saying, "Come, you can act very well on horses' backs, at Astley's; that's not a bit like the character." Witness remarked, "Is it any disgrace to have acted at Astley's?" and words ensuing between them, defendant called to the carpenters, ordering them to "turn this blackguard off." He felt hurt at such an expression, and said that he did not know that he was engaged to be kicked as well as to act, adding, "What is the disgrace of acting at Astley's to what you may have done in your time?" On what secret chord those words could have touched he could not tell, but the carpenters were again summoned, and by them he was put through the stage door. The next morning he found that he wa sdenied the right of *entree*. He applied for his week's salary due on the Friday night, but the defendant refused to pay him more than 25s., which of course he would not accept, and hence the present action.—By Mr Thomas: He certainly during the war of words called the defendant a "dirty beast." Mr Thomas, addressing the judge: Your honour, the defence is that my client was quite justified in getting rid of an arrangement entered into with a person making use of such opprobrious epithets towards an employer as the plaintiff had admitted doing on being temperately spoken to by defendant, who, while he was going through his part and acting with Madame Thillon, he considered to be making the character ridiculous, and likely, if so performed before the public, to get the piece damned.—Defendant was then sworn, and said that the plaintiff making the character assigned to him perfectly foolish, he spoke to him, when he said he would not act the part at all, and left the stage, first making use of the language ascribed to him, and not performing that night he did not consider him entitled to his usual weekly salary.—The Judge observed that it was not to be presumed that a performer at rehearsal could act the same as at night, when under excitement; still, after what the defendant and his witness had sworn to, he must dismiss the plaint, but the plaintiff could, if he like, sue defendant in one of the superior courts after Easter for the amount of salary which he would be then entitled to, supposing him to be still engaged.—Judgment for defendant.

THE POLICE OFFICES.

LAMBETH.—Destitution and Crime.—Louisa Boswell and C. Jones were charged with stealing a small piece of bacon from the shop of a butcher named Daniels. The male prisoner is a hemp-dresser, who, being afflicted with asthma, had been for some time out of employ, and the young woman, who has wealthy connexions in Wapping, is a servant out of place and in great necessity: being much attached to Jones, and loving him the more for the infirmity under which he laboured, she administered to his wants as fully as she could, and on Tuesday pawned the only article she could spare (her petticoat) to procure a half-quartern loaf, of which they had a remnant and three-halfpence on Wednesday morning. She told the male prisoner that she would try to get a little bit of meat with the coppers, and he walked on. Whilst standing at the shop the bacon tempted her, and not having money enough to pay for it, she snatched it up stealthily, and passing the male prisoner hurriedly desired him to put it in his pocket, which he did. The butcher's boy saw the whole proceeding, and the prisoners were taken into custody.—The female prisoner, on hearing that Jones was to be committed for trial, burst into tears and threw herself into his arms. She then started up, and addressing the bench, said: "Oh, sir, 'twas I did it. He knew nothing about it. He thought I paid. He's unhealthy. It will kill him if he goes to prison."

INQUESTS.

Murder by a young Lady.—Yesterday week an inquest was concluded at Widcombe hill, Bath, upon the body of a newly-born female child, the offspriug of Miss Julia Strickland, the daughter of Mr Strickland, formerly landlord of the New Inn, but now living retired, in Church street, in the neighbourhood. This was the third adjournment of the inquest, and the facts, as they came out in evidence, may be thus stated:—On Monday week the body of a child was found in the garden of the house, No. 8 Church street, and from its position and the situation of the adjoining houses it appeared evident that the child must have been thrown from the window of No. 9. Subsequently it was discovered that one of the Miss Stricklands was ill in bed, and an inquest being held, the mother and one of the sisters of the suspected female were examined, and their evidence being very contradictory, it was adjourned for a *post-mortem* examination of the body of the infant. At the resumed inquest, medical evidence was given upon the appearance of the child, in the course of which the two surgeons who made the *post-mortem* examination stated their belief that the child was born alive, and also said the appearances indicated a violent death, as though occasioned by concussion. The mother of Miss Strickland also admitted that her evidence on the previous occasion was given under feelings of strong excitement, and with a desire to screen her child, and deposed that on her return from church on Sunday evening she found her daughter Julia in her bedroom, sitting on the bedside very ill. Having no suspicion of her daughter being pregnant, she took no further notice of the circumstance. Next day, however, her suspicions were aroused by the discovery of the body of the infant, and, upon questioning her daughter, she admitted that she had given birth to a female child, and also that she afterwards threw the body out of the window, but said, "the child never breathed or moved." A medical certificate was produced by the legal adviser of the prisoner, stating her inability to attend the inquest. The Coroner summed up the evidence, and the jury, after nearly an hour's consultation, returned a verdict of "Wilful murder" against the mother of the infant.

A Farmer Poisoned by his Wife and Man-servant.—Yesterday week an inquest (which had been several times adjourned) on the exhumed remains of W. Howells, a farmer, residing in the parish of Llanollen, Monmouthshiro, terminated in a verdict of "Wilful murder against Mary Howells, widow of the deceased, and James Price, his servant." The evidence was as follows:—Jane Morgan, a servant to the deceased, said his family consisted of himself, his wife, a male servant named Price, and witness. The deceased, who was very deaf, enjoyed good health up to the 9th of November last. A little after nine that night he had some apple dumplings for his supper, which were made by witness. The deceased helped himself to the first dumpling he ate, but her mistress gave him the last one, which she split through the middle, and put sugar and milk upon it. About ten o'clock the deceased was seized with violent purging and vomiting, and he died at twelve o'clock the following night. Before he died the man-servant used to sleep in an adjoining room, but afterwards her mistress and witness slept in one bed in Price's room, and Price occupied a bed in the same apartment. That arrangement was made because none of them liked to sleep in the room where master died. She has several times got up before her mistress and Price, leaving them in their separate beds. She has heard her mistress call to Price on more than one occasion, "Come here, Jem, and warm my back." They had remained together in their room frequently a couple of hours after she had left. About a fortnight after deceased's death, Price and witness's mistress went off together and were away some time. After the body was taken up she heard her mistress say, "It will be better for me to stand my ground, and then I shall not be suspected so much." She further added, "If they shall find anything in him, it is you that shall be hanged, as you made the dumplings." Mr Steele, surgeon, who had made the *post-mortem* examination of the body, stated that deceased had died from the effects of arsenic. Edward Evans, druggist, of Aborgavenny, remembered selling the widow a pennyworth of white arsenic, which is about half an ounce.

FATAL APPLICATION OF CHLOROFORM.

An inquest was held on Tuesday last, by adjournment from Saturday, at Winlaton, near Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on the body of Hannah Greener, aged fifteen. J. Rayne said the deceased was his niece. She suffered a good deal in her feet, and about four months ago became an inmate of the infirmary at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, where she had one of her toe-nails taken off. After she left the infirmary her toes still continued bad. Mr Meggison, surgeon, of Whickham, was called in to attend her, and it was considered advisable to remove the nail from the great toe of her right foot. Mr Meggison and his assistant attended to perform that operation. The deceased was seated near the fire, and Mr Meggison having put something on a pocket handkerchief, held it to her mouth and nose, at the same time looking at his watch, and feeling her pulse. She appeared to faint, when Mr Meggison told his assistant to take the nail off, and witness held her leg to steady her foot. He took it off quickly. When he was taking it off the deceased shook her leg, but did not speak. She moaned after the nail was off, on which Mr Meggison dashed water in her face, when her eyes moved. He afterwards put some brandy into her mouth, and she rattled in her throat. He also bled her in the arm and neck, but very little blood flowed. She never recovered. T. N. Meggison, surgeon, said—Hannah Greener died under my hands on Friday, while under the influence of chloroform, which I had given her for the purpose of producing insensibility during the operation of removing the toe-nail. I seated her in a chair, and put about a teaspoonful of chloroform into a tablecloth, and held it to her nose. After she had drawn her breath twice she pulled my hand down. I told her to draw her breath naturally, which she did, and in about half a minute I observed the muscles of the arm become rigid, and her breathing a little quickened, but not stertorous. I had my hand on her pulse, which was natural until the muscles became rigid. It then appeared somewhat weaker—not altered in frequency. I then told Mr Lloyd, my assistant, to begin the operation, which he did, and took the nail off. When the semicircular insertion was made she gave a struggle or jerk, which I thought was from the chloroform not having taken a sufficient effect. I did not apply any more. Her eyes were closed, and I opened them, and they remained open. Her mouth was open, and her lips and face blanched. When I opened her eyes they were congested. I called for water when I saw her face was blanched, and dashed some of it in her face. It had no effect. I then gave her some brandy, a little of which she swallowed with difficulty. I then laid her down on the floor, and attempted to bleed her in the arm and jugular vein, but only obtained about a spoonful. She was dead, I believe, at the time I attempted to bleed her. The last time I felt her pulse was immediately previous to the blanched appearance coming on, and when she gave the jerk. The time would not be more than three minutes from her first inhaling the chloroform till her death. I did not apply more than a drachm to the deceased—probably less. Sir John Fife, a medical practitioner of extensive practice and long standing, said—I made a *post-mortem* examination along with Dr Glover. In my opinion the cause of death was congestion of the lungs, and that congestion I ascribe to the inhalation of chloroform. There does not seem to have been anything in the previous condition of the young woman to have prevented the surgeon from having recourse to chloroform as a means of allaying pain in one of the most painful operations of surgery. Such is my opinion of the effect of chloroform in lessening human suffering, and the small degree of danger attending its application in the cases I have seen, that if I were myself required to undergo an operation I would have no hesitation whatever in taking it. I have been using chloroform three or four times a week ever since its efficacy in relieving pain was published, and I have never seen bad effects from it. I have used it frequently in amputations, lithotomy, and a great many severe surgical operations, and never knew any bad consequence to arise from it. I attribute the fatal effect of the chloroform in the present instance to peculiarity in the constitution of the young woman. I have no hesitation in saying that the fatal issue of this case might have occurred in the hands of the most prudent and skilful surgeon that ever lived. It sometimes happens that a person will die from the shock of the operation, within a very few minutes after, and with nothing to show the cause, merely from the shock it gives the system. These cases are rare. I think in such cases the same individuals would be influenced in a similar way with chloroform. The same susceptibility of nerve that would render the shock fatal would render the chloroform fatal. No human foresight, no human knowledge, no degree of science, could have forewarned any man agaiust the use of chloroform in this case. R. M. Glover—I am a surgeon, but practise as a physician, and was formerly lecturer at the Medical School in Newcastle-upon-Tyne. I have heard the evidence of Sir John Fife, and fully agree with it. I think chloroform is safer in larger operations, where there is great loss of blood, than in smaller operations. I consider chloroform more dangerous than ether, and that has been my opinion from the first. The effect of the chloroform will depend much on the constitution. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased died from congestion of the lungs, from the effect of chloroform, and that no blame can be attached to Mr Meggison, or to his assistant, Mr Lloyd.

ACCIDENTS.

Accident on the Great Western Railway.—An accident happened to the express train which left Paddington station on Thursday evening last week, fortunately unattended with injury to any passenger, yet of a nature sufficiently alarming and perilous when the high velocity of an express train on this line is considered. It seems that soon after leaving Didcot station the passengers in one of the second-class carriages were alarmed by an unusual noise, which appeared to arise from a wheel of the carriage or from the box over it. Their attention had scarcely been given to this, when immediately smoke and fire appeared and added to their terror. Shouting was in vain, and in vain the guard made signals of distress to the travelling porter, who is placed on a tender behind the engine expressly to look out for accidents. They were unheeded, and the train sped on for miles before it was stopped, which was not effected until it reached Farringdon-road station, a distance of ten miles. On examination of the wheel, it was found that the tire was broken and a part of it was missing; fortunately, however, the break, which the carriage-guard had applied, was a most powerful one and held the other portion of the tire on to the wheel, else the consequences to the passengers in the body of the carriage over the wheel might have been most disastrous.

Accident at the Euston Station.—On Tuesday the inquest was resumed on the bodies of two of the men killed by the falling of a portion of the vestibule now in course of erection at the Euston Station of the London and North Western Railway on the 6th of January. Mr P. Hardwicke, architect to the North Western Railway, who made the design for the building at the Euston Station, was perfectly satisfied that the fall was not occasioned by any defect in the foundation or substratum of bricks. His first impression was, that the cement of the columns, on account of the work being proceeded with too fast, was not sufficiently set to bear the weight above them; it was green brickwork, and the damp weather was unfavourable. On examining some of the fragments of the columns after the fall, he found that the cement was green and not well set. Mr W. Cubitt, M.P., was, with his partner, the contractor for the works, a portion of which had fallen. He was not able to form any conclusion as to how the accident happened. It was his opinion that the cause of the fall was mainly dependent on the rain and other unfavourable weather. The men had not the slightest inducement to hurry the work at all. Mr C. Bavin, clerk of the works to Mr Hardwicke, whose duty it was to superintend the works, visited the building daily, and never had occasion to make any complaints of the manner in which it was being done, or of the quality of the materials. He accounted for the accident by a sudden leverage or swaggering of the scaffold, which was ninety feet high. He did not think the pedestals would settle from pressure. Mr W. Tite had examined the works, and thought the brickwork and mortar had not thoroughly set, and that the pedestals gave way first. The work had been carried up in wet weather, and was not thoroughly set. He thought it was a pure accident, without blame to any one, and produced by the length of the leverage. Mr E. Blore, of Manchester square, architect, was of opinion that the accident originated from some movement of the scaffold, being taken from the perpendicular, and throwing the pressure on to the columns. The inquest was then again adjourned until Thursday, when Mr Hosking's opinion was stated to the jury, to the effect that the columns, or some of them, failed under an impulse derived from the scaffold, acted upon by the movements of the workmen, and that the weakness which admitted of failure from such an impulse was mainly attributable to the unindurated state of the cement used in building the columns. Mr John Braithwaite thought if the cement had done its duty there would have been no accident. The jury returned a special verdict that the death of the two men was caused by the non-induration of the cement and mortar with which the building was erected during a wet and bad season of the year; and they added to their verdict an expression of their opinion that due caution was not taken in the erection of the building, considering the time of year at which it was put together.

The late Accident on the London and South Eastern Railway.—The inquest in this case has been resumed and again adjourned, and the prisoners, Jones and Fleming, the engine driver and fireman, have been again examined before Mr Elliott at the Lambeth police office. The evidence on both occasions has only tended to confirm the previous statements that an optional power lay with the guard to use the detonating signals or not, if the night was not foggy. The state of the weather was, however, variously described by different witnesses. The result of the examination was the committal of both prisoners to take their trial at the next Kingston assizes for manslaughter.

METROPOLITAN, PROVINCIAL, AND CONTINENTAL Miscellanea.

METROPOLITAN.

A Home for the Vernon Pictures.—The trustees of the National Gallery have made arrangements for the occupation of premises in which to lodge temporarily the Vernon Collection of British Pictures,

so that they may be immediately accessible to the public. The place is Denew's auction-room, at the top of Charles street, Berkeley square.

THE WRECK OF THE AVENGER.—A letter dated Malta, Jan. 8, contains the following passage: "Some curiosity has been excited and hopes raised by a Maltese brig which passed the Island of Galita on the night of the 2nd instant, reporting having seen a light on the island."—A letter from the British consul at Palermo also announces that a portion of the wreck of the lost ship has been washed on shore at the west coast of Sicily. Amongst other matters there have been found a boat, and a carronade gun, marked Avenger, 18lb. Some surprise is felt, not only at the distance from the wreck where those portions have turned up, but also at the state of the currents, which would make the place appear a most unlikely one from whence to expect any tidings or anything to elucidate the melancholy catastrophe.—This admits a faint hope that some of the wrecked crew may have got upon the island.

INTERESTING SALE OF AUTOGRAPH LETTERS.—An interesting sale of a collection of autograph letters, the property of the late Rev. Thomas Smart Hughes, has taken place during the past week, by Messrs Sotheby and Wilkinson, the auctioneers, of Wellington street, Strand. The following were worthy of notice:—A letter of Sir Walter Scott to Bishop Percy, dated Edinburgh, 1800, respecting the publication of his "Border Ballads." It sold for 2*l.* 10s. An interesting but melancholy letter, in the autograph of Mrs Jordan, the celebrated actress, to Mr Vickery, the hair-dresser, "regretting her inability to pay his account in consequence of a most painful and distressing illness," sold for 2*l.* "Nell Gwynne, a receipt for her quarter's allowance of 500*l.*, dated August, 1684, sold for 2*l.* 4s. A sketch of a letter to Lord Palmerston, in the handwriting of Dean Swift, dated January 31, 1726, and endorsed by the dean, "Answer to Lord Palmerston's civil, polite letter," sold for 2*l.* 5s. "A Running History of Poetry," also in the autograph of Dean Swift, sold for 1*l.* 10s.

NEWSPAPERS CAN BE LEGALLY LENT ON HIRE.—In the case of "Miller *v.* Champion," it has lately been decided by Mr Dubois, at the Bloomsbury County Court, that newspapers could not be lent on hire. This decision, we learn, from a competent legal authority, is erroneous. There is no law against lending newspapers for hire. There was formerly an Act (29 Geo. III. c. 50, 1798), which prohibited it under a penalty of 5*l.*, but that Act was repealed by the present Newspaper Act, 5 & 6 Will. IV. c. 76, and the provision has not been re-enacted. Indeed, for many years previously to the repeal the enactment had, so far as the Stamp-office was concerned, become a dead letter, it having been ascertained that the practice of letting out newspapers tended to promote the sale of them.—'Daily News.'

PROVINCIAL.

SCOTTISH HOSPITAL.—CURIOUS AND ENCUMBERED BEQUEST.—A special general court was held on Tuesday in the Hall of the Scottish Corporation, Crane court, for the purpose of considering the propriety of accepting the amount of a bequest to the institution. The secretary read a communication from the Rev. J. A. Ross, Vicar of Westwell, Kent, who was the trustee of Mr Ross, of Belmour House, Bishop's Waltham, Hants, a gentleman recently deceased, and by whose will a sum of 1,000*l.* was bequeathed to the Scottish Hospital on certain conditions. The Rev. Mr Ross, the trustee, desired an immediate answer from the governors, stating whether or not they accepted those conditions. He enclosed a copy of a letter written by himself to the deceased, and dated Feb. 14, 1845, by which he agreed that, if he or his heirs should ever come into possession of Nos. 12 and 13, Queen-square, Westminster, he or they would for ten years lodge 100*l.* a year in the Bank of England, adding the accruing interest to the capital, and that at the end of that time the amount should be paid to the Scottish Hospital, on condition that the managers expended the yearly interest in the following manner:—In food, money, raiment, medicine, but not in education, to persons born in Sutherlandshire or Ross, who might be considered fit and worthy objects of charity; that there should be oak boards fixed up in conspicuous places in Tain, Dorwich, and the Scottish Hospital, recording the bequest; farther, that the letters on the boards should be one inch in length; such boards, in the first instance, being at the expense of the managers, and that, from time to time, as occasion required, they should be renewed at their sole charge; that after the managers came into possessiou of the bequest they should from time to time repair the vault where the donor's remains were deposited, and also the iron railing round it, at their own expense; that if the above conditions were not complied with the bequest would be transferred to the Seamen's Hospital Society; and further, that the trustee and his representative should from time to time have seats at the board of the society, in order to see the conditions fulfilled. The question of the adoption of these somewhat singular provisions gave rise to some discussion among the governors, which resulted in an agreement to refer the matter to their legal advisers, who should decide whether the governors could accept them consistently with the constitution of the hospital.

KING EDWARD'S GRAMMAR-SCHOOL AT BIRMINGHAM.—The election of Head Master took place on Wednesday. There were in all 17 candidates, but of these three only were submitted to the ballot, viz.:—the Rev. C. H. Gifford, M.A., second master of the grammar school at Shrewsbury; the Rev. S. J. Rigaud, M.A., senior assistant master of Westminster School; and the Rev. G. E. L. Cotton, M.A., one of the masters of the school at Rugby. The election was declared to have fallen upon Mr Gifford.

WANT OF EMPLOYMENT IN GLASGOW.—It is supposed that there are upwards of 12,000 unemployed persons in Glasgow at present, and serious considerations are beginning to obtrude themselves as to the means which ought to be employed for the relief of so much destitution, which has farther the appearance of increasing rather than diminishing.

INCREASE OF DRUNKENNESS IN EDINBURGH.—The police cases of this description were 4,900 in 1844, and have gradually increased to 7,585 in 1847.

MR KNOWLES.—Mr Sheridan Knowles is delivering lectures on the Genius of Shakespeare, with illustrations, in the lecture theatre of the Athenæum at Manchester.

CONTINENTAL.

A TOWN SWALLOWED BY AN EARTHQUAKE.—Intelligence has been received at Malta from Syracuse that the earthquake which was felt there on the 11th ult. had laid the city of Augusta in ruins. The first shock was felt at 1 p.m., and was so violent that all the people fled from their houses. The following one, a few minutes afterwards, destroyed the whole place except 27 houses: the mole sank, and where it formerly stood there was no bottom at 50 fathoms. The last accounts received at Syracuse state that 35 dead bodies had been found, and 59 wounded recovered from the ruins. The earthquake was also felt at Noto, Syracuse, and Catania, with partial damage, and at Messina, without damage.

STEAMERS LOST.—Intelligence has been received of a terrible hurricane off the African coast between Bona and Tunis, which continued from the 11th to the 16th. Several vessels were damaged, and the British steamer Scotia, Capt. Pereira, 120 horse-power, totally lost, officers and crew saved. The Scotia plied between Malta and Tunis. —The French Government has received intelligeuce by telegraph from Perpignan, of the total destruction of the war-steamer Cuvier, 320 horse-power, by fire, at Porto Dicampos, on the 25th ult.—The screw-steamer Aram was lost off the south-east coast of Ireland on the 23rd ult., owing to her coming into collision with the packet-ship Susquehanna, from Philadelphia. The following were lost:—Mr Livingstone, chief engineer; Mr Hardy, second engineer; Robert Logan, fireman; J. Selsby and — Lewis, seamen; J. Quin, engineer's boy.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. R., and several other correspondents, next week.

B. R. is somewhat too indignant at a half-jesting phrase. What he desires us to say in future he would have found said in the same paper, if he had read anything but the paragraph of which he complains.

It was the father of Michelet, not Michelet himself, to whom the announcement referred. The latter is still living.

We cannot answer legal questions.

Latest Intelligence.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1848.

Arrangements are being made at Buckingham Palace for the reception of the Court on Tuesday next, on which day it will leave Windsor for the London season.

The reigning Duke and Duchess of Saxe Coburg, who are expected to arrive in England this afternoon or to morrow morning, will remain upon a visit to her Majesty until after the approaching royal accouchement.

The Duchess of Kent, who had hitherto escaped the prevailing epidemic, was seized with a severe attack on Thursday morning. Yesterday evening her Royal Highness was considered to be slightly improved.

The Archbishop of Canterbury is considered to be in great danger.

In the Central Criminal Court yesterday Harriet Parker was tried for the murder of the two children of R. Blake, a man with whom she cohabited. The facts of the case were too clear to admit of any doubt, but the jury, in finding her guilty, accompanied their verdict by a strong recommendation to mercy "on account of the unparalleled provocation she had received," to which Baron Alderson, one of the judges who tried the prisoner, shortly replied that "the children had given her no provocation." In passing sentence, Baron Alderson said that he could not but consider her offence one of great aggravation. Blake had, no doubt, behaved very ill to her, but what ground was that for her to wreak her revenge upon his children, who had given her no offence? The recommendation to mercy should be forwarded to the proper quarter, but under such circumstances, he dared not hold out any hope that her life would be spared. Sentence of death was then passed in the usual form. The prisoner, when the sentence was delivered, exclaimed, "God forgive you, Blake, you have brought me to this."

Yesterday evening, a little before five o'clock, C. Ducker, a private in the Coldstream Guards, was shot by a young Frenchwoman, named Annette Mayers, in Birdcage walk. The deceased, after attending the four o'clock parade, left the quarters at the Wellington Barracks, and just as he entered on the pathway he encountered the female above mentioned, to whom he had been paying his addresses for about five weeks. They shook hands, and walked together as far as the Queen-square gate, when the female suddenly dropped behind, and taking a large horse-pistol out of her pocket, discharged the contents at the head of the unfortunate soldier, who, without uttering a groan, fell on his face a lifeless corpse. Two policemen off duty witnessed the occurrence. One of them seized the prisoner, while the other conveyed the deceased to the barracks. The bullet went right under the left ear, through the right eye, shattering the head in a most frightful manner. As soon as the prisoner had fired the shot, she threw the pistol on the corpse, and turned round in a most cool manner. Jealousy is the cause assigned for the commission of this crime.

From Ireland we learn this morning that the Special Commission has been adjourned till the 21st of February. The sentence on Mathew Hourigan, who with Michael Butler was convicted of the murder of Patrick Cleary, and was to have been executed on the 17th, has been commuted to transportation for life.

The distress in the County of Mayo is represented as being of the most deplorable character, numbers dying of sheer starvation.

The Sicilian insurgents had, according to the 'Presse,' seized the important posts of the Bank and Royal Chateau, the news of which, with the menacing aspect of Naples, determined the King to yield a constitution.

The local papers mention the death of Mr T. Ferguson, a gentleman of great sporting notoriety, the owner of the celebrated race-horse, Harkaway.

The debate in the Chamber of Deputies on the affairs of Switzerland was brought to a close on Thursday evening, the speech of M. Guizot, and short explanations from M. Thiers and M. Odilon Barrot, having occupied the whole of the sitting. On the question of the adoption of the paragraph the chamber divided, when the majority in favour of the government was no less than 80; the numbers for the government being 206, against it 126. The Prince of Syracuse left Paris on Thursday for Naples.

Accounts from Rome mention the appointment of two laymen as members of the new Roman ministry. Count Pietro Ferretti, brother of the cardinal of the same name, has been appointed minister of finance; and Duke Michael Gaetani, Prince of Teano, a man of acknowledged liberal principles, minister of police. These two appointments had given the greatest satisfaction to the Roman people.

It is reported that the King of Denmark means to grant a liberal constitution.

LAST NIGHT'S PARLIAMENT.

Mr Morris and Lord Somerton took the oaths and their seats.

On the motion of Mr O. GORE, a new writ was ordered for the northern division of Salop, in the room of Lord Clive, now Earl Powis.

Mr CARDWELL gave notice that next week he should ask a question relative to our present relations with China.

Mr HUME gave notice that on Tuesday week he should move the re-appointment of the committee on shipwrecks.

Mr ANSTEY postponed his Roman Catholic relief bill till the 23rd instant; and

Mr LABOUCHERE postponed his committee on the New Zealand bill till Wednesday next.

Mr B. COCHRANE begged to inquire whether it was the intention of the government to make any alteration in the law relating to the trial of election petitions. He complained that under the present system the party petitioned against, even when he defeated the petition, was put to an enormous expense, and also to much inconvenience, from not knowing in what order the allegations in the petition would be brought forward.

Sir G. GREY said the government had not at present any intention of making any alteration in the law. The expense and the mode in which it should be divided was generally a matter of arrangement between the parties.

Mr DISRAELI inquired whether the government had any intention of laying on the table the correspondence between Lord Howden and the government of Rio Plata, seeing that his mission had failed.

Lord PALMERSTON said negotiations were still pending with that country and the representatives of France and England, and it would not be for the benefit of the public service to lay any portion of the correspondence before the house until those negotiations had terminated.

THE WEST INDIES.

The adjourned debate on Lord George Bentinck's motion for a committee on this subject was resumed by

Mr WILSON, who said he would be content to place the whole merits of the question upon the interests of the West Indians themselves. Four arguments had been relied upon:—First, that moral considerations impelled them to prohibit the produce of slave labour, as they were opposed to slavery itself; second, that slave labour was cheaper than free labour, and that it was unjust to the West Indians to compel them to use only free labour, and to compete with slave labour; thirdly, that for the protection of the British colonist the sugar of Cuba and the Brazils ought to be excluded; and fourthly, that it was the duty of the legislature to impose heavier duties upon sugar the produce of slave labour. If the first argument was to prevail, they must abandon all trade with Russia, Egypt, America, and other countries where slavery still existed. He maintained that it was in many cases impossible to form a proper estimate of the relative value of free and slave labour; but it had been shown in the Mauritius and the Isle of Bourbon the quantity of sugar produced by the free labourers considerably exceeded the produce of the slaves. He then referred to the cultivation of sugar in Java and the settlements of Singapore and Penang by Chinese labourers, in order to show that the cultivation was carried on as economically by these free labourers as in any part of the world. He reminded the West India planters that there was a new element of competition which they now had to meet, namely, the manufacture of sugar from beet-root, which was rapidly extending all over the country. In short, within the last twenty years they had from various parts of the world between 300,000 and 400,000 tons of sugar produced entirely by free labour, which necessarily have the effect of lowering the value of property in the West Indies, which had formerly a monopoly of that article. He contended that it would now be impossible to exclude sugar the produce of slave labour from this country. There must be a change in the social relationship of the West Indies, if these islands were to be saved. He saw already signs of improvement in their West Indian colonies, and he trusted that the result of the committee moved for by Lord George Bentinck would be to still further develop that improvement.

Mr THOMAS BARING regretted to find that Mr Wilson had drawn so flattering a picture of the slave colonies, while at the same time he had held but little hope that these free colonies would be able to sustain the increased competition that had sprung up of late years. He pointed out the fall that had taken place in the price of free labour sugar, and the corresponding rise in the price of slave-grown sugar, which he considered the immediate result of the alteration of the duties in 1846. He thought they had dealt most unfairly with the West Indian planters, who had invested their capital on the faith of the recorded resolutions and pledges of that country against the admission of slave produce. Many suggestions had been thrown out for the amelioration of the condition of the West Indies, but he wanted to know where the capital was to come from, for it was well known that our colonists had now neither capital nor credit; while in Cuba and Brazils the increased trade that had flown in upon them had enabled them still further to increase the value of their property. He complained that this country had violated its principles, and alienated the affections of its colonies, merely that they might carry out the principles of free trade, and obtain sugar one penny a pound cheaper. Let them at once declare what their policy was to be, and allow them to sell themselves in the dearest, and buy their rulers in the cheapest market.

Mr HEYWOOD admitted that the West Indian interests were in a most serious position at the present moment, and would vote for the committee, under the impression that some benefit would result to them.

Mr DISRAELI said the doctrine of free trade had been tried with respect to one great branch of our industry and commerce, and upon that the system had been proved to be a total failure. It was a system of dry abstractions, which they had baptised with a nobler name than it had ever deserved. They had proclaimed the principle of buying in the cheapest market, but that was not the true principle of commerce—it was the principle of retail trade, and was wholesale only in the ruin it entailed. The whole amount of the compensation granted to the Mauritius, and upwards of two millions more of capital, had been embarked in the sugar-trade, and had resulted in the ruin of those engaged in it. All the compensation they had received was the being taunted as reckless over-traders who had brought the ruin on themselves. It was admitted that the position of the West Indies was desperate, and yet the remedies proposed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer would not be at all satisfactory to the planters. In fact, all they were to receive was an encouragement to competition and renewed enterprise. What were these men to do to save themselves from destruction? The answer of the government was, let there be competition. He concluded that, when the slaves were emancipated, the people of this country had a very imperfect notion of what they were doing. Public opinion, however, had been stronger than truth and justice, and England had been led into the greatest blunder she had ever committed, and had been since then paying a tremendous penalty for that mistake. The Chancellor of the Exchequer feared to expose the people of England to the calamity of paying an increased price for sugar; but if their policy threw the West Indian colonies out of cultivation, the loss of 250,000 tons of sugar would enhance the price to a far greater extent. Notwithstanding the vaunted justice of their principles, the result had been the ruin and bankruptcy of their colonial merchants and proprietors.

Mr LABOUCHERE repeated the arguments that had been used by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and contended that none of these arguments had been in the slightest degree affected by the speeches of hon. gentlemen on the other side. So convinced were other countries of the greater value of free labour, that they were being substituted in many places for slave labour. That had already been done to some extent in Cuba. He regretted the distress that the alteration in the duties had entailed upon the West India proprietors, but they could not lose sight of this fact, that the position of the great bulk of the labouring population of these colonies had been considerably ameliorated; and he had every hope that after a period of pressure and calamity these colonies would ultimately right themselves.

Mr GOULBURN censured the policy of compelling sugar the produce of free labour to enter into competition with slave-grown sugar. The contest was an unequal one, and the result had been the beggary and ruin of the West India proprietors. They refused to admit molasses for consumption in their distilleries; and while they denounced protection to the West Indies, they protected the distillers in England and the revenue as against the planters. Mr Burke, in a prophetic spirit, had warned the house of the dangers and losses that were likely to result from the abandonment of the system of slavery, and his predictions had been too truly verified in the present unfortunate condition of the planters. He had heard with the deepest regret the determination of the government not to grant these colonies any relief, a determination which he feared would be attended with the most disastrous results.

Sir E. N. BUXTON said that posterity would be astonished at the extraordinary efforts that had been made to abolish slavery in the colonies, but they would be still more astonished to find that the men who had carried emancipation had been the very parties to admit slave-grown sugar into the markets of this country on the same terms as sugar the produce of slave labour. He believed the result had already been a great increase and stimulus to the slave trade in Cuba and the Brazils, and the consequent decline of our own colonies.

Lord G. BENTINCK replied at some length, and the motion for the committee was then agreed to.

The distilling from sugar bill went through a committee, and the house adjourned at two o'clock.

SPORTING INTELLIGENCE.

TATTERSALL'S, Thursday.—LIVERPOOL STEEPLE CHASE.—500 to 25 agst Sir Arthur (t.)

NEWMARKET STEEPLE CHASE.—500 to 100 agst Eagle (t.), offers to take 7 to 1 about Profligate.

NEWMARKET HANDICAP.—10 to 1 agst Mr Sandford's Kimblesworth (t. to 150*l.*)

CHESTER CUP.—Even on the field agst 25 (t.), 23 to 1 agst Colonel Anson's Blaze (t.), 25 to 1 agst Mr F. Clarke's Cracow (t. freely), 33 to 1 agst Mr Bouverie's War Eagle (t.), 40 to 1 agst Mr Henderson's Lady Hylda (t.), 40 to 1 agst Mr C. Marson's Rufus (t. and afterwards offered), 40 to 1 agst Mr Clifton's Giselle (t. and afterwards offered), 50 to 1 agst Mr J. B. Day's The Tartar (t. and afterwards offered), 2,000 to 40 agst Lord Eglintoun's Glen Saddel (t.), 1,000 to 20 agst Mr Rolt's Collingwood (t.), 2,000 to 30 agst Mr Courtenay's Bantam (t.), 1,000 to 15 agst Mr Isaac Day's Milliner (t.)—The transactions on the above race were few, and of small importance, Blaze and Cracow having been the only horses in any demand; the former was backed at 22 and 23 to 1, and the latter for a good deal of money at 25 to 1; nominally, there was a difference of two or three points—in reality, none at all.

DERBY.—9 to 1 agst Mr Mostyn's Surplice, 12 to 1 agst Mr Payne's Glendower (1,000 to 80 t.), 20 to 1 agst Mr Bowes's Springy Jack, 20 to 1 agst Mr B. Green's Assault (t. and afterwards offered), 30 to 1 agst Mr J. Scott's The Stinger, 30 to 1 agst Mr Payne's Cervus (t.), 40 to 1 agst Colonel Peel's Sesostris (t.), 40 to 1 agst Mr Pedley's Besborough (t.), 40 to 1 agst Mr Wigram's Keraun, 40 to 1 agst Mr Gully's Edie Ochiltree, 1,000 to 20 agst Mr Greville's Rosslyn (t.), 50 to 1 agst Mr Sandford's The Sheriff. The principal bets were 600 to 50, 1,000 to 80, and 13 to 1 to a pony agst Glendower, 1,000 to 35 and 30 to 1 to 100*l.* agst Cervus, and 6,000 to 150 agst Besborough, the taker offering to go on.

Commerce and Trade.

THE FUNDS.

MONDAY.—Consols opened at 89¼ to ⅜ for the account, and 89½ for money, and fell to 89⅛ to ¼ for account, and 89¼ for money. They rallied, however, towards the close of the day, and left off 89⅜ to ½ for account, and 89½ to ⅝ for money. The Three per Cents. Reduced, 89⅝ to ¼; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 90⅞ to ⅛; Bank Stock, 200 to 202; India Stock, 241 to 243; and Exchequer-bills, 35s. to 38s. premium.

TUESDAY.—Consols opened at 89⅛ to ¼ for money, receded to 88⅞, and closed at 89⅛. For the account the last price was 89¼. Bank Stock left off 200 to 202; Reduced Three per Cents. 89⅝ to ¼; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents. 90⅞ to ⅛; Long Annuities, 9 to 1-16; India Stock, 240 to 243; and India Bonds, 25s. to 30s. Exchequer-bills dated March were 35s. to 38s. premium, and those dated June were 1s. higher, in consequence of the longer period they have to run before a reduction can be made in their rate of interest.

WEDNESDAY.—Consols for money opened at 89 to ⅛, and receded to 88⅞ to ⅞, at which price they closed. For the account the last price was 88⅞ to 89. Bank Stock left off 200 to 202; Reduced Three per Cents. 89 to ⅛; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents. 90 to ⅛; Long Annuities, 9 to 1-16; India Stock, 241 to 243; India Bonds, 25s. to 30s.; and Exchequer-bills (March), 36s. to 38s., June, 38s. to 41s. premium.

THURSDAY.—Consols opened at 88⅞ to ⅞ for money and account, and after some fluctuations closed at 89 to ⅛ for money, and 89⅛ to ¼ for the account. After business hours, a decline took place, and Consols left off at 88⅞ to 89. The other Stocks were:—The Three per Cents. Reduced, 89⅛ to ⅜; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents. 90⅛ to ⅜; Bank Stock, 200 to 202; India Stock, 240 to 243; and Exchequer-bills, 33s. to 9s. premium.

FRIDAY.—Consols opened at 88⅞ to ⅞ both for money and account, and after some fluctuations closed at three o'clock 88⅞ to 9. After business hours an advance took place, and the final quotation was 89⅜ to ½ both for the account and for money. The Three per Cents. Reduced, 89½ to ⅝; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents. 90⅛ to ⅜; Bank Stock, 200 to 202; India Stock, 241 to 243; and Exchequer-bills, 30s. to 38s. premium.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Saturday, the 29th day of January, 1848.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

	£.		£.
Notes issued	26,782,235	Government Debt	11,015,100
		Other Securities	2,984,900
		Gold Coin and Bullion	11,339,220
		Silver Bullion	1,443,015
	£26,782,235		£26,782,235

Dated the 3rd day of February, 1848.
M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

	£.		£.
Proprietors' Capital	14,553,000	Government Securities (including Dead Weight Annuity)	11,553,914
Rest	3,726,950	Other Securities	14,321,905
Public Deposits (including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts)	4,171,203	Notes	7,640,315
		Gold and Silver Coin	608,079
Other Deposits	10,768,087		
Seven Day and other Bills	904,973		
	£34,124,213		£34,124,213

Dated the 3rd day of February, 1848.
M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

SATURDAY, ELEVEN O'CLOCK.

(LATEST QUOTATIONS.)

From the list of Messrs Holderness, Fowler, and Holderness, (late Wolfe, Brothers), Stock and Share Brokers, 'Change alley, Cornhill.

BRITISH.	Price.	FOREIGN.	Price.
Consols	89¼	Belgian	90
Do. Account	89⅜	Brazil	85
3 per Cent. Reduced	89½	Venezuelan Equador	39
3½ New	90½	Danish	84
Long Annuities	9⅛	Dutch 2½ per Cent.	54½
Bank Stock	201	French 3 per Cent.	74⅛
India Stock	342½	Mexican 5 per Cent. New	19
Exchequer Bills	32s.	Portuguese Converted	26½
India Bonds	27s.	Russian	109
		Spanish 5 per Cent.	23
		Ditto 3 per Cent.	32½
		Ditto Passive	5 ⅛

RAILWAYS AND PUBLIC COMPANIES.

SHARES.	RAILWAYS.	PAID.	CLOSING PRICES.
£		£	£ — £
100	Birmingham and Gloucester	100	125 — 127
13 . 6 . 8	Blackwall	13 . 6 . 8	5⅝ — 6½
Stock	Brighton	50	39½ — 40
100	Bristol and Exeter	80	64 — 66
50	Caledonian	50	35½ — 35¾
50	Chester and Holyhead	37½	21½ — 23½
Stock	Eastern Counties	20	15⅝ — 16½
50	Edinburgh and Glasgow	50	42 — 44
100	Great North of England	100	235 — 240
50	Great Southern and Western (Ireland)	37½	24 — 25
100	Great Western	90	102 — 104
50	Hull and Selby	50	182 — 184
100	Lancashire and Yorkshire	82	78 — 80
50	Lancaster and Carlisle	50	53 — 56
50	Leeds and Bradford	50	96 — 98
Stock	London and North Western	100	147 — 149
Stock	Midland	100	114 — 116
Stock	Norfolk	100	82 — 86
25	North British	25	27½ — 28
50	Northern and Eastern	50	52 — 53
25	Scottish Central	25	29 — 31
50	South Devon	40	22 — 24
33 . 2 . 4	South Eastern and Dover	33 . 2 . 4	31½ — 31⅝
50	South Wales	18	9 — 10
41 . 6 . 8	South Western	41 . 6 . 8	52 — 54
Stock	York and Newcastle	25	34½ — 35½
25	Ditto original Newcastle and Berwick	25	31½ — 32½
25	Ditto new ditto	10	13 — 13½
25	Ditto Preference 6 per Cent.	8	10 — 10½
Stock	York and North Midland	50	77 — 79
25	Ditto East & West Riding Extension	25	36 — 37
25	Ditto Preference 6 per Cent.	10	16½ — 17½
	FOREIGN.		
20	Boulogne and Amiens	20	13½ — 14
20	Dutch Rhenish	7	2 — 2½
20	Northern of France	10	11½ — 11⅝
20	Orleans and Bordeaux	6	5 — 5½
20	Paris and Lyons	10	5½ — 5¾
20	Ditto and Orleans	20	45 — 47
20	Ditto and Rouen	20	34 — 36
20	Rouen and Havre	20	17 — 18

40	Australasia Bank	40	14 — 16
50	London Joint Stock Do.	10	15½ — 16⅛
100	London and Westminster Do.	20	24⅛ — 25½
100	National Provincial Do.	35	34 — 36
25	Union of Australia Do.	25	22 — 24
100	E. London Water Works	100	177 — 180
average	Grand Junction Do.	41 . 13 . 4	81 — 83
100	West Middlesex Do.	100	117 — 119
Stock	East and West India Docks	—	117 — 119
Stock	London Do	—	97½ — 98½
Stock	St Katherine's Do.	—	79 — 81
50	Imperial Gas	50	76 — 78
50	Phœnix Do.	45	33½ — 34½
50	United General Do.	49	14 — 16
50	Westminster Chartered Do.	50	55½ — 56½
100	Alliance Insurance	11	17 — 18
100	Do. Globe	100	118 — 120
100	Guardian Do.	36	44½ — 45

SMITHFIELD MARKET.

MONDAY.—The arrivals of foreign meat into the port of London during the past week have been exceedingly limited, owing to the prevalence of frost on the Continent. The return gives 61 oxen, 57 cows, 23 calves, and 324 sheep; being a total of 465 head. The supply of meat at market to-day was larger than on last Monday, although the numbers were not heavy. The attendance of butchers was indifferent, and a general disinclination to purchase prevailed throughout the day. Prices were lower than last week. The supply of beef comprised 3,000 head of beasts of average quality. The inquiry was slow and rates declined. Prime Scots fell to 4s. 10d., and middling beef made but 4s. 6d. per stone. There were about 20,000 head of sheep returned for the payment of toll. The mutton trade was even more sluggish than that for beef, and the decline in prices was in proportion. Half-breds made only 4s. 8d., and South Downs 5s. 2d. per stone. The veal and pork trade was dull, but no alteration occurred in the respective value of these two descriptions of meat.

Prices per Stone.					At Market.	Monday.	Frid.
Beef	4s 4d	to	5s 0d		Beasts	3083	744
Mutton	4s 6d	to	5s 2d		Sheep and Lambs	19900	1450
Veal	5s 0d	to	5s 8d		Calves	86	178
Pork	4s 6d	to	5s 2d.		Pigs	350	340
Lamb	0s 0d	to	0s 0d				

HOP MARKET.

MONDAY.—The market continues firm, and prices remain without any alteration. The demand seems to run upon the fine samples more particularly.

COAL MARKET.

MONDAY.—Prices of Coals per ton at the close of the market:—

Adair's Main	16s 6d	Original Tanfield	14s 0d	Haswell	23s 6d
Dean's Primrose	16s 3d	Wylam	17s 6d	Lumley	21s 0d
Dipton Tanfield	14s 6d	Wall's-end	—s —d	Stewart's	23s 3d
Hastings Hartley	20s 6d	Bewicke and Co.	21s 6d	Adelaide Tees	22s 0d
New Tanfield	15s 0d	Brown's Gas	15s 6d	Seymour Tees	21s 6d
Ord's Redheugh	17s 0d	Harton	20s 9d	Tees	22s 9d
		Riddell's	21s 3d		

Ships at market, 119.

CORN MARKET.

CORN EXCHANGE, Monday.—On Friday we had intense frost, which gave way on Saturday to a rapid thaw; and we had torrents of rain during last night and this morning, but the wind is now N.E., and we have had snow and sleet. The arrivals are short, but the condition rather improved by the frost. English wheat is taken at about last Monday's rates, but there is no spirit in the trade. Barley is better sale, and 1s. dearer. The supply of oats is short, but there is no improvement in price; the foreign agents ask for orders to buy f. o. b. in Spring in Sweden at 13s. 6d. per qr., at Archangel at 10s. per qr. Good English rye is offering at 32s. New beans and hog-peas are 1s. dearer, as the seed time is approaching. There is no improvement in flour. Indian meal is in good demand at 14s. per barrel.

	Per qr.		Per qr.
Wheat, Essex, Kent, and Suffolk, red	52s 53s	Oats, Irish Feed	20s 24s
—— Ditto, white	54s 60s	—— Ditto, Black	20s 22s
—— Lincoln, Cambridge, and Norfolk, red	50s 53s	—— Ditto, Potato	24s 27s
—— Ditto, white	—s —s	Malt, Suffolk and Norfolk, pale	—s —s
—— Dantzic (free) fine	—s 60s	Beans, English Harrows	44s 51s
Barley, English Malting and Chevalier	32s 34s	—— Mazagan	39s 44s
—— Grinding, &c.	—s 29s	—— Foreign (free)	30s 32s
—— Distillers'	30s 31s	Peas, English White	44s 70s
Oats, English Feed	22s 24s	—— Boilers	—s —s
—— Polands	—s —s	—— Blue	50s 86s
—— Scotch Feed	—s —s	—— Grey and Maple	38s 40s
—— Potato, English and Scotch	26s 29s	Flour, per sack, Town-made Household	44s 48s
		—— Norfolk and Suffolk	38s 40s

CORN EXCHANGE, Friday.—The weather is milder, we had white frost this morning with south-westerly wind, and it now rains slightly. The arrivals are short. The trade is exceedingly dull. Wheat in limited demand at Monday's prices. Barley is exceedingly dull in consequence, no doubt, of the government having announced their intention to permit distillation from molasses. Oats are firm, in consequence of the shortness of supply. No change in beans and peas. No improvement in flour. The demand for Indian meal only in retail.

IMPORTATIONS

Into London from Jan. 30, to Feb. 3, both inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats	Malt.	Flour.
	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	
English and Scotch	3890	3510	200	2290	2340 scks.
Irish	—	—	2060	—	— scks.
Foreign	190	—	100	—	— bls.

Gazette Averages.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Week ended Feb. 3	52 0	30 8	21 3	30 6	38 7	43 5
Six Weeks (Governs Duty)	52 3	38 8	21 3	30 0	38 7	43 5
No Duties payable till March 1.	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0

Hay and Straw, per load of 36 trusses.
Hay . . 3*l.* 0s. 0d. to 3*l.* 10s. 0d. | Clover . . 4*l.* 0s. 0d. to *l.* 15s. 0d.
Straw, 1*l.* 0s. 0d. to 1*l.* 6s. 0d.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, February 1.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

G. Holland, Portway, Warwickshire, licensed victualler—J. Stringer, Kingston-upon-Hull, draper—J. Hall, Coventry, riband manufacturer.

25 BANKRUPTS.

W. Wyatt, Neithrop, Banbury, Oxfordshire, coachmaker. [Sharp, Vernlam buildings, Gray's inn.

J. Clayton, Crown court, Cheapside, Manchester warehouseman. [Teague, Crown court, Cheapside.

W. P. Barrett, Palace row, New road, ironmonger. [Lawrance and Plews, Old Jewry chambers.

J. O'Donnell, Sidney street, Chelsea, bricklayer. [Druce and Sons, Billiter square.

J. Sheppard, Shirley, near Southampton, common brewer. [Walker and Gridley, Southampton street, Bloomsbury.

J. Bezzell, High street, Deptford, builder. [Atkins and Andrews, White Hart court, Lombard street.

T. Luker, Great Coxwell, innkeeper. [White and Co. Bedford row.

A. King, Oxford, timber merchant. [Ruck, Mincing lane.

J. Bentlett, East Peckham, Kent, grocer. [Dods, St Martin's lane.

J. G. Moore and H. Bayliss, Norwich, warehousemen. [Abbott and Wheatley, Roll's yard, Chancery lane.

W. Star, Lynn, Norfolk, currier. [Haslam, Copthall court.

J. Pigg, Fulbourn, Cambridgeshire, grocer. [Nicholls and Doyle, Bedford row.

R. R. Fretwell, Greenwich, ship owner. [Cotterill, Throgmorton street.

H. Pross, Kirton, Suffolk, farmer. [Kirk, Symond's inn.

C. M. Kernot, West Cowes, Isle of Wight, chemist. [Catlin, Ely place, Holborn.

J. Thompson, Sheffield, licensed victualler. [Moss, Serjeant's inn.

J. Parker, Blackburn, grocer. [Milne and Co. Temple.

J. Bumby, Manchester, cattle dealer. [Gregory and Co. Bedford row.

J. Rand, Preston, Lancashire, provision dealer. [Mayhew and Co. Carey street.

T. Fox, G. Rippon, C. A. Wawn, and W. Lishman, West Cornforth, Durham, lime burners. [Crowdy and Bowlby, Old Fish street, Doctors' commons.

G. Cradock, Darlington, ropemaker. [Burn, Great Carter lane, Doctors' commons.

J. Tucker, Tavistock, attorney. [Keddell and Co. Lime street.

R. Spencer, Exeter, printer. [Harris, Lincoln's inn.

S. B. Serjeant, Callington, Cornwall, attorney-at-law. [Fox, Finsbury circus.

W. Bagnall, Burslem, Staffordshire, grocer. [Harding, Burslem.

CERTIFICATES to be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary on the day of meeting.

February 21, J. Edwards, Nag's Head court, Gracechurch street, ironmonger (and not J. Edwards, Upper Stamford street, Blackfriars, corn merchant, as advertised in last Friday's 'Gazette')—February 22, J. Baines, Whitechapel road, baker—February 22, T. S. Jukes, Great Winchester street, tailor—February 24, J. B. Falkner, Old Broad street, merchant—February 24, J. Barrett, Strand, machine printer—February 22, W. Barton, Old Brentford, grocer—February 22, G. Rougemont, Broad-street buildings, merchant—February 24, W. D. Hay, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, bread baker—February 24, T. Paley, Durham, builder—February 23, J. Gilbert, Paternoster row, bookseller—February 23, G. Bennett, Southampton, wine merchant—February 23, T. Marriott, Moor street, Seven dials, licensed victualler—February 24, H. H. B. Paull, Peckham, lodging house keeper—February 24, W. Thomas, Catherine street, Strand, publisher—February 23, J. Williams, Westminster-bridge road, licensed victualler—February 23, J. Archer, Deptford, baker—February 24, T. Dalton, Darlington, rope manufacturer—February 23, E. Thompson, Salford, licensed victualler—February 23, W. Crankshaw, Preston, Lancashire, cotton spinner—February 24, T. Berridge, Manchester, dealer in cigars—February 22, W. Jones, Liverpool, merchant—February 26, W. Fitzpatrick, Walsall, railway contractor—February 22, J. Hughes, Llanddeiniolan, Carnarvonshire, miller.

CERTIFICATES to be granted by the Court of Review, unless cause be shown to the contrary on or before February 22.

J. Parish, High street, Newington, draper—G. A. Sour, Great Marylebone street, St Marylebone, glass cutter—C. Proctor, Witham, Essex, wine merchant—W. F. Merrett, Greenwich, draper—W. Newson, St Mary axe, merchant—S. Riley, Pilkington, cotton manufacturer—F. Rippingale, Ordsall, Nottinghamshire, auctioneer—W. H. Treacher, Regent street, Quadrant, furrier—J. Hall, Broadway, Westminster, carrier—C. Davies, Liverpool, bookseller—W. Bundey, Stamford bridge, Fulham road, builder—M. L. Tait, Manchester, bleacher—W. Astill, Lenton, Nottinghamshire, ironmonger

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

J. Houston, Auchtermuchty, Fifeshire, manufacturer—R. Craig, Edinburgh, tailor—T. Burns, Edinburgh, writer to the signet—D. Hall, Cambusnethan, Lanarkshire, merchant—W. Moffatt, Glasgow, merchant—J. Blair, Paisley, manufacturer—J. G. Peebles, Glasgow, commission agent—A. Cay, Edinburgh, stockbroker—J. Ross, Edinburgh, commission agent—A. Coupar, sen. St Andrew's, shoemaker—J. Inglis, Edinburgh, leather factor.

Friday, February 4.

WAR-OFFICE, February 4.

Scots Fusilier Guards—Ensign and Lieut. the Hon. E. K. W. Coke to be Lieut. and Capt. by purchase, vice Brevet Major the Hon. D. H. Murray, who retires; the Hon. A. H. Vernon to be Ensign and Lieut. by purchase, vice Coke.

20th Regiment of Foot—Ensign J. E. Deane to be Lieut. by purchase, vice the Hon. R. Daly, who retires; C. Lutyens, Gent. to be Ensign, by purchase, vice Deane, G. S. Peard, Gent. to be Ensign, by purchase, vice Kelly, who retires.

26th Foot—Assistant Surgeon W. A. Heise, from the 35th Foot, to be Surgeon, vice Johnston, who resigns.

35th Foot—W. H. Short, Gent. to be Assistant Surgeon, vice Heise, promoted in the 26th Foot.

37th Foot—Capt. T. W. Geils, from the 93rd Foot, to be Capt. vice Macdonald, who exchanges.

93rd Foot—Capt. W. Macdonald, from the 37th Foot, to be Capt. vice Geils, who exchanges.

Unattached—Lieut. W. R. L. Bennett, from the 16th Foot, to be Capt. without purchase

OFFICE OF ORDNANCE, February 2.

Corps of Royal Sappers and Miners—Serjeant Major J. Jones to be Quartermaster, vice Hilton, retired on full-pay.

ADMIRALTY, January 30.

The following promotions have this day taken place, consequent upon the death of Rear Admiral P. Stoddart:

Rear Admiral of the Blue C. F. Daly, C.B., to be Rear Admiral of the White.
Capt. Hon. G. A. Crofton to be Rear Admiral of the Blue.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

J. Belling, Fore street, Bodmin, Cornwall, watchmaker.

28 BANKRUPTS.

J. Garrett and F. H. Phillips, St Pancras Saw Mills, Cambridge street, Old St Pancras road, saw mill proprietors. [Chilcote, George street, Mansion house.

G. Freeman, White cottage, Southampton street, Camberwell, dealer in colonial produce. [Shaw, Fish-street hill.

T. Bockwood, Shadwell-dock street, ship chandler. [Nixon, Clifford's inn, Fleet street.

C. Street, Ventnor, Isle of Wight, Hampshire, builder. [Adams, George street, Mansion house.

J. M. Bridgland, Wardour street, Soho, pianoforte maker. [Howard, Great Marlboro' street.

W. S. Gray, High street, Camden town, auctioneer. [Cox, Pinner's hall, Old Broad street.

J. A. Morse, Bicester, Oxford, currier. [Chambers, Copthall buildings.

H. J. Elmes, Queen street, Cheapside, builder. [Williams, Bucklersbury.

W. Bennett, Camberwell green, cook. [Hine and Robinson, Charter-house square.

G. Hickes, Huddersfield, Yorkshire, commission merchant. [Thomas, Ely place, Holborn.

J. Taylor, Blackfriars road, victualler. [Selby and Mackeson, Lincoln's-inn fields.

W. D. Collard, College street, Chelsea, slater [Lane, Falcon square.

C. Bertram and W. Parkinson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, merchants. [Meggison and Co. King's road, Bedford row.

W. F. Lockwood, Manchester, share broker. [Abbott, Lincoln's-inn fields.

E. Courtney and W. Robertson, Old Swan, near Liverpool, coal merchants. [Keightley and Co. Chancery lane.

J. Hughes, Birkenhead, Chester, plasterer. [Vincent, Temple.

W. W. Baker, Birmingham, engraver. [France, Godliman street.

R. Dickenson, Golden hall, Staffordshire, grocer. [Harding, Burslem, Staffordshire.

C. J. Mason, Fenton, Staffordshire Potteries, Stafford, earthenware manufacturer. [Clarke, Longton, Staffordshire.

J. Walker, Huddersfield, Yorkshire, woollen cloth manufacturer. [Jaques and Co. Ely place.

D. Ross, Birkenhead, Chester, builder. [Cotterill, Throgmorton street.

G. Shardlow and J. Bradshaw, Stone, Staffordshire, shoe manufacturers. [Robinson, Eccleshall, Staffordshire.

J. Lockett, W. Baker, and J. Nicholson, Stone, Staffordshire, railway contractors. [Smith, Temple street, Birmingham.

C. Warren, Exeter, wine merchant. [Keddell and Co. Lime street.

W. Walford, Bridgewater, Somersetshire, tailor. [Holme and Co. New inn.

E. Godwin and G. Lowman, Bath, bootmakers. [Jones and Co. Crosby square.

R. Blackford, Swindon, Wiltshire, butcher. [Crowdy, Swindon.

C. Broad, Bristol, timber merchant. [Hinton and Son, Bristol.

CERTIFICATES to be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary, on the day of meeting.

February 25, S. Lawford, Church street, Luton, Bedfordshire, straw plait dealer—February 25, W. Silcock, jun. Crawley street, Oakley square, victualler—February 25, R. Flatman, Saxmundham, Suffolk, draper—February 25, J. Robison, Ipswich, Suffolk, draper—February 25, J. Hills, Billericay, Essex, auctioneer—February 26, T. Pope, Kidbrooke, near Blackheath, Kent, cowkeeper—February 24, G. Tattersall, Davies street, Berkeley square, saddler—February 25, H. E. Field, Mark lane, eating house keeper—February 25, E. Rose, Roade, Northamptonshire, licensed victualler—February 28, W. H. and J. E. Hitchcock and W. Connor, Broadwall, Stamford street, Blackfriars road, saw mill proprietors—February 25, H. Smith, East Malling, Kent, paper manufacturer—February 25, J. Hill, Southampton, builder—February 25, J. Hyams, Jewry street, Aldgate, City, watchmaker—February 29, T. W. Crowhurst, Bristol, grocer—February 28, W. Hodgson, jun. Leeds, Yorkshire, licensed victualler—February 29, C. H. Fereday, Tettenhall, Staffordshire, coal dealer—February 28, E. Wallington, Stockport, Chester, carpenter—February 28, W. Smith, Colne, Lancashire, cotton manufacturer—February 26, D. Greenwood and J. Bateman, Bury, Lancashire, joiners.

CERTIFICATES to be granted by the Court of Review, unless cause be shown to the contrary on or before February 25.

T. Ryland, Birmingham, Britannia metal worker—W. L. Ryland, Birmingham, Britannia metal worker—W. H. Hill, Walsall, Staffordshire, merchant—T. Sampson, Nailsworth, Gloucestershire, grocer—J. F. Kemp, Uxbridge, grocer—I. Williams, Merthyr Tydvil, Glamorganshire, grocer—W. C. Wells, Claremont terrace, Pentonville, merchant—J. Burnett, Sunderland, hosier—W. Wayte, Basford, Nottinghamshire, ironfounder—J. Nicholls, Bristol, mason—J. Baker, Redcliff hill, Bristol, grocer—J. Lawton, Heywood within Heap, Lancashire, grocer—E. Winscom, Southampton, pastrycook.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

B. Martin, Meikle Kilcattan, Kingarth, farmer—A. D. Campbell, Glasgow, merchant—P. Grassick, Glenlogie, Aberdeenshire, farmer—M. Inglis, Edinburgh, stockbroker—J. M'Gill, Glasgow, provision merchant—J. Reid, Anderston of Glasgow, bricklayer.

Births.

MEIK—January 26, at Teignmouth, the lady of Captain F. T. Meik, H. P. 16th Lancers, of a daughter.

MILBANK—January 28, in Chapel street, Grosvenor square, the Lady Margaret Milbank, of a daughter.

TREVOR—January 29, at the Rhysnant, near Oswestry, the lady of E. S. R. Trevor, Esq., of a daughter.

EVERARD—January 30, at Claybrooke hall, the lady of H. Everard, Esq., of a son and heir.

SMEE—January 31, at Ockley, Surrey, the lady of Lieut.-Col. Walter Smee, of the Bombay Army, of a daughter.

SUTHERLAND—February 3, at Stafford house, the Duchess of Sutherland, of a daughter.

BOYLE—February 3, at Hamilton place, Piccadilly, the Hon. Mrs Richard Boyle, of a son.

MOSS—Jannary 19, at Rotherhithe (in the nnconsciousness of mesmeric sleep, indnced by Mr Chandler), the wife of Mr Thomas Moss, of a son.

Marriages.

BROWN—STALMAN—At St Andrew's, Holborn, Spencer Brown, Esq., of the Ordnance Office, London, to Elizabeth, danghter of Mr Stalman, of 18 Hatton garden.

PALMER—WALDEGRAVE—February 2, at All Souls' Chnrch, Langham place, by the Hon. and Rev. Samuel Waldegrave, M.A., rector of Barford St Martin, Wilts, Ronndell Palmer, Esq., M.P., to Laura, second danghter of Rear-Admiral Earl Waldegrave, C.B.

HARROLD—DELL—Janoary 31, at Cheshnnt, Herts, Ewen Baillie, eldest son of Edward Harrold, Esq., of Cheshnnt, to Alicia Catherine, youngest daughter of the late Robert Dell, Esq., of Mickleover house, in the county of Derby.

HARRISON—CAZALET—February 2, at Weston-super-Mare, the Rev. H. B. Harrison, B.D., rector of Elston, Notts, to Henrietta, only surviving daughter of the Rev. James Cazalet, of Cwintoyddwr, Radnorshire.

Deaths.

MACEVOY—Jannary 28, at Wimbledon Common, in the 58th year of her age, Antoinette, wife of Peter MacEvoy, Esq.

BACKHOUSE—January 17, suddenly, at the age of 27, on board ship off Palermo, to which place she had gone for the benefit of her health, Anna, the wife of John Church Backhouse, of Blackwell, near Darlington, and only daughter of the late Joseph John Gurney, of Earlham, near Norwich.

MAC DONNELL—Jannary 31, at Bellsize cottage, Hampstead, Anna Mac Donnell, widow of Colonel Edward Mac Donnell, late of the 105th Regiment, aged 73.

SAWYER—February 1, at Slindon, near Arundel, in the 83rd year of her age, Sarah, widow of the late John Sawyer, Esq., of Heywood lodge, Berks.

SAPSWORTH—February 1, at her residence, Brunswick place, Islington, Mrs Mary Sapsworth, aged 81.

GAGE—February 2, at Tonbridge Wells, Lucy, daughter of Sir Thomas Gage, Bart., of Hengrave hall, Suffolk.

BUNSEN—February 2, William Ernest, infant son of Mr and Mrs Ernest Bunsen.

ROCHFORT—February 2, at Brighton, Col. Gnstavus Rochfort.

DOYLE—February 3, in Regent street, Major-General Carlo Joseph Doyle, in his 62nd year.

SWINFEN—Jannary 19, of infinenza, aged 71, Snsannah, the wife of S. Swinfen, Esq., of Swinfen Hall, Staffordshire.

DUFF—Jannary 21, at Wiesbaden, Major George Duff, formerly of the 19th Lancers, and of Jnmpers house, near Christehnrch.

HUSSEY—January 25, at Putney, Mrs Hussey, formerly of Dover street, Piccadilly, aged 82.

TODD—Janusry 25, at Sonthampton, Sir William D'Arcy Todd, K.H., aged 77.

BADGER—January 27, at Chelsea, Albert Badger, Esq., late Anditor of the Land Revenue of Wales, in his 84th year.

WILLIAMS—January 15, at Gwersyllt park, Denbighshire, John Williams, Esq., in his 82nd year.

DUTHOIT—Jannary 29, Mr James Duthoit, formerly of the Bank of England, aged 86.

STUART—Jannary 30, at Henlow, Bedfordshire, Mrs Mary Ann Stuart, in the 87th year of her age.

HOFFHAM—January 16, at Exmouth, Devon, Elizabeth Sophia, relict of the late Lnder Hoffham, Esq., in her 85th year.

DISNEY—Jannary 23, at Twickenham, aged 68, Colonel Algernon Disney.

REECE—Jannary 27, William Reece, Esq., of Connanght sqnare, aged 83.

BRYDGES—January 27, at Herne Bay, of a deep decline, Frances Isabella, youngest surviving daughter of the late Sir S. Egerton Brydges, Bart., of Denton court, near Canterbury.

WATERS—January 28, at Lansdown crescent, Cheltenham, E. T. Waters, Esq., in his 84th year.

STREET—January 28, at Britley, in Surrey, in her 84th year, Elizabeth, relict of the late John Street, Esq.

FLETCHER—Jannary 28, in Gnernsey, in her 82nd year, Frances, relict of Joseph Fletcher, Esq., of Ealing, Middlesex.

JOHNSON—January 29, at Islington, J. L. Johnson, Esq., aged 83.

ALLEN—Jannary 31, at 45 Porchester terrace, Bayswater, Margaret, relict of the Right Rev. Joseph Allen, D.D., late Lord Bishop of Ely.

LUTTRELL—November 28, in the East Indies, aged 15, Arthur John Fownes, son of Col. F. Fowne Luttrell, of Kilve court, Somerset.

LEYROS—January 30, at Montdidier, France, after a long and painful illness, in the 76th year of his age, Lonis Nicholas Leyros, for many years the faithful attendant and ecretary of his late Majesty Charle X.

GOWER—Jannary 31, at Torbrien, Devon, aged 80, Mrs Gower.

TOONE—Jannary 31, at Keston lodge, Sarah Frances, relict of Colonel Toone, in her 84th year.

ADAMS—January 31, at Grove-hill terrace, Camberwell, Robert Adams, R.N., late of Witham, Essex, in his 80th year.

POPKIN—January 31, Mr Charles Alphonsus Popkin, second son of the late Henry Popkin, Esq., of John street, American sqnare.

Advertisements.

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Dancing, for which Weippert's Band is engaged, will commence at Ten o'clock, and conclude at One o'clock precisely.
Master of the Ceremonies, M. Barnett.
Tickets may now be obtained (by Members only) at the Offices of the Institution; Offices, Cheapside and 189 Strand.
G. W. YAPP, Secretary.

MANCHESTER, SHEFFIELD, and LINCOLNSHIRE RAILWAY.—Notice is hereby given, that the ordinary HALF-YEARLY MEETING of the PROPRIETORS of the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Company will be held, for the despatch of ordinary business (including the confirmation of the forfeiture of certain shares in the Company), at the Albion Hotel in Manchester, on WEDNESDAY, the 16th day of February next, at one o'clock in the afternoon.
And Notice is hereby further given, that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Proprietors of the said Company will be held at the same place, at three o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, for the purpose of submitting, for the approval of the Proprietors present at the said Extraordinary Meeting, Drafts of the following Bills now depending in, or about to be introduced into Parliament; that is to say—
1st. "A Bill for vesting in the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Company the Canal Navigation from Manchester to or near Ashton-under-Lyne and Oldham."
2nd. "An Act for enabling the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Company to make improved communications to their Station in Manchester."
3rd. "A Bill to enable the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Company to carry the Line of their Railway across Sheffield street in Manchester, to increase their Station Accommodation at Manchester and Stalybridge, and for other purposes."
4th. "An Act for enabling the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Company to make a Railway to Barnsley, with branches therefrom, all in the West Riding of the county of York."
5th. "An Act for vesting in the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Company, the Sheffield Canal."
6th. "A Bill to enable the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Company to construct an additional or enlarged Station at Sheffield, and to make a Branch Railway to the Sheffield Canal."
7th. "A Bill for improving the Steam Communication across the river Humber, belonging to the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Company; for erecting a Pier at Kingston-upon-Hull, and enlarging the Works at New Holland; for making a connecting Line near Habrough, in the county of Lincoln; for regulating the Pilotage of the Port of Great Grimsby; and for amending the Acts relating to the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Company."
And 8th. "A Bill for enabling the Manchester, South Junction, and Altrincham Railway Company to provide additional Station Accommodation in Manchester, and for other purposes."
And Notice is hereby further given, that the Registry of Transfers of Shares in the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway will be closed from the 3rd to the 16th day of February next, both days inclusive.
YARBOROUGH, Chairman.
JOHN CHAPMAN, Deputy-Chairman.
JAMES MEADOWS, Secretary.
Manchester, Jan. 5, 1848.

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