

# THE EXAMINER.

No. 1978.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1845.

PRICE 6<sup>d</sup>.

## THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

If I might give a short hint to an impartial writer, it would be to tell him his fate. If he resolves to venture upon the dangerous precipice of telling unblinded 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 their 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 CHRISTMAS GAMBOLS.

Sir Robert Peel's Ministry is like Mother Hubbard's dog,—

She went to the undertaker's to buy him a coffin,  
But when she came back the dog was laughing.

The other day it was broken to bits like the Portland Vase, if we may compare small things with great, the commonest earthenware with the most precious material, and now like it we see it restored and replaced in that most curious of museums, her Majesty's Cabinet. But this simile is too fine for the occasion. We prefer the parallel of the voucher for Holloway's ointment, who had the misfortune to be blown into a hundred pieces by the explosion of a powder-mill, so as to be wholly unable to go to his work the next day, but who was happily enabled to collect himself, and completely repiced and made whole by the use of the invaluable salve. Sir Robert Peel has beat Holloway hollow. The sudden cure of his Ministry is the most marvellous thing that has ever yet appeared, either in fact or fiction.

We see Sir Robert Peel, like Liston in Apollo Belvi, with hatband, scarf, and weepers, announcing to the Queen his own demise, "the sudden death to which he was always so subject," and presently afterwards giving the most undesirable signs of unimpaired vitality.

No one ever so perished and came to life again except Lord Brougham, who was dashed to pieces by a kicking horse one post, and as well as ever by the next advices. Lord Brougham was not as good as his word on that or indeed on any other occasion, and having in consequence lost all credit with the public, when next he announces his own decease he will be the last man that the public will believe. So too will it be with Sir Robert Peel. No one will ever take his word again for his official demise.

The stalest and shallowest of all tricks is to sham dead to make one's value felt; but we really cannot conceive what else Sir Robert Peel's Ministry can have been doing. And how obstinately it was dead; what a deaf ear it turned to all solicitations to revive. In vain Lord John Russell entreated Sir Robert Peel to resume his Ministerial existence with such support as he could furnish in aid of all good purposes. The Peel Ministry was incurably extinct. In this extremity the Whigs assembled to form a Ministry, and after having screwed their courage to the pitch of taking the Government with a minority for the abolition of the Corn Laws, a sudden crotchet broke them up—a disaster resembling in its disproportionate causation the lamentable fate of the puissant giant Widenostrils in Rabelais, who dieted ordinarily on windmills, but who was miserably choked by a pat of butter swallowed the wrong way, at the mouth of a hot oven. The thing which the Whigs swallowed the wrong way was, to be sure, not the least like butter, but let that pass in a simile, the unlikeness in which is as apposite as similitude. Upon the catastrophe in the Liberal conclave, Sir Robert Peel's Ministry springs to life again, nothing ailing it, nothing having ailed it, all peace and concord within and satisfaction without, if we are to believe the Ministerial papers. It only broke up like the schools for holiday amusement. It was no breaking up of its bad constitution.

For a fortnight the country was without a Government, in the predicament of Drury Lane Theatre when the committee of mismanagement having shut it up, found how prosperous it was to carry on the thing without the nightly losses, and exclaimed 'Oh that we could always go on so!'

There was, however, a deep moral in all this. The lesson to be impressed on the country was its helpless dependence on Sir R. Peel, and that it is only by his great goodness that it has a Government to its back, and that without him it would be utterly naked and resourceless. The nation must learn to know when it is well off, and to be thankful for the Peel it can get. Beggars must not be choosers. The potato crops have failed, and so have the supplies of statesmen. If there was any Buckland who could show us how to extract the starch from one or two of the Whigs, the case might not be

utterly hopeless; but, as it is, one superlatively stiff-necked noble proves a bar—or a bolt to all—either word will do in any sense.

The fireside puzzle for the season will be, what broke up Sir Robert Peel's Ministry and what brings it together again. Indeed some Mr Tackleton will doubtless make a Christmas puzzle of the Administration, affording little boys and girls the opportunity, level to the meanest capacity, of playing Sir Robert Peel, and breaking up the Ministry, and putting it together again just as before, with the difference only of the pony Peel, Mr Gladstone, in place of the Angry Boy.

We are told that the country is delighted at the restoration of Sir Robert Peel; if it be so, it convinces us more strongly that the world is indeed a stage, and that in the burlesque extravaganza of public affairs, as in other farces, there is a great liking for the roguish servant who tricks everybody, the *Scapin* who says—

"A vous dire la verité, il y a peu de choses qui me soient impossibles, quand je m'en veux mêler. J'ai sans doute reçu du ciel un génie assez beau pour toutes les fabriques de ces gentillesses d'esprit à qui le vulgaire ignorant donne le nom de fourberies; et je puis dire sans vanité, qu'on n'a guère vu d'homme qui fût plus habile ouvrier de ressorts et d'intrigues, qui ait acquis plus de gloire que moi dans ce noble métier."

"There is not a subtler fellow breathing," says the English version of the same worthy; "he can cheat one newly cheated;" upon which eulogium the character, who may be supposed to represent the public, exclaims, "He is the fittest person in the world for my business."

The beauty of the present juncture is that nobody knows what Sir Robert Peel is going to do, and yet everybody is satisfied that he is the man to do nobody knows what.

The idea, however, is that a Jonas is to be thrown overboard; and when that is to be done everybody feels that Peel is the man for that sort of performance; for it so happens that he is always sitting side by side with the person who is to have a tilt over the side by a back-hander. A friend only can do this work handily, the vicinity or juxtaposition which Terence punningly holds in *pro-pinquâ parte amicitia*, exceedingly favouring the exploit.

Against what body that he has petted, and fondled, and pampered has he not sooner or later turned his hand? The monopolists are now in the pleasing predicament of the folks in the cave of Polyphemus, waiting their turn for the spit, but though they are all by their own account men of many woes, they have no one the least like an Ulysses amongst them, and cannot by any means get up a red-hot-poker for the arch enemy's arch eye.

There is certainly nothing in the world more probable than that Sir Robert Peel intends to play some of his friends his old trick, but, granting all the honours due to the intention to the full extent insisted on by some of our contemporaries, we have yet to suggest that the amount of the benefit he may propose for the public is by no means so certain as some very sanguine folks imagine. Let us not make the mistake of reckoning without our host.

It is commonly said that Sir Robert Peel is best able to accomplish what Lord John Russell proposed; but the question is, whether Sir Robert Peel's plans and Lord John Russell's are the same, or nearly the same.

We believe not. We have reason to suspect that the total and immediate abolition of the Corn Laws was not the project which Sir Robert Peel was prepared to recommend to her Majesty; and when we see his administration re-instated, and continuing to include amongst its members men most strongly and recently pledged to the principle of protection, we can hardly conceive it possible that he can have advanced from a lumbering complicated scheme for gradual abolition (with compensation!) to the conclusion of the instant and sweeping demolition of the restrictive system.

In the pranks and bunglings of the last three weeks, there is one part which, according to all report, has been played most faultlessly,—that of a constitutional sovereign. In the pages of history the directness, the sincerity, the scrupulous observance of constitutional rules which have marked her Majesty's conduct in circumstances the most trying will have their place of honour. Unused as we are to deal in homage to royalty, we must add that never, we believe, was the heart

of a monarch so warmly devoted to the interests of a people, and with so enlightened a sense of their interests.

### THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The Message of the American President turns out not to be the very dreadful thing which people expected. Mr Polk has evidently become more moderate, in language at least. He may still breathe the spirit of the "Far West," but he has modified his words. He has abandoned the fiery for the ratiocinating, the imperative for the persuasive, the minatory for the didactic. Instead of declaiming what he will most positively do with the Oregon, he very circumstantially narrates the negotiations which have taken place on the subject, and winds up by saying, that although, in his opinion, notice ought to be given for putting an end to the convention of mutual tolerance and neutrality, yet he leaves the matter to Congress, and will abide by its decision. The President, instead of eyeing Sir Robert Peel as an antagonist, and bandying words with the British Minister, directs his attention, with more wisdom and dignity, not only towards his political foes, such as Clay and Webster, who are ready to denounce any exuberance of war policy, but also towards his fellow-democrat, Calhoun, who is known to be equally opposed to any idle provocation of England. The statesmen of the South and of the North are arrayed against the peremptory tone first employed by Mr Polk. He then spoke the sentiments of the West. He now moderates them in order to propitiate the more pacific and more civilized portions of the Union. This is gratifying to remark, for were we to judge by the struggle for the Speakership, carried on between a member for Indiana and a member for Ohio, we should say that the West so far predominated as to have won the exclusive right of filling all the great federal offices of the Union.

With respect to the Oregon, whoever will take the trouble of opening a map will see at once how very diminutive a portion of territory lies between the offers of each country. The Americans offer the forty-ninth parallel. The British propose the line of the Columbia from where it meets that parallel, offering, in addition, the large peninsula contained between the Pacific and Admiralty Inlet. Of the whole disputed tract, between the Columbia and the forty-ninth parallel, this forms the one-fourth in extent and certainly three-fourths in importance. It forms, with the exception of the free navigation of the Columbia, the only point of the disputed territory worth having or worth cavilling about. When two great nations have come so very near to an agreement, and left such very little space between their proposals, it would be quite absurd and preposterous to suppose that they could quarrel. Whatever may be thought of our own claims, and we have not been disposed to hold them beyond all doubt, yet considering the point to which negotiations have proceeded, the future object is to conclude them with honour; and after the full disclosure by President Polk of the offers made by the British Government in 1826 and in 1844, the point of honour ought to be no more difficult to adjust than the line of frontier.

Of Texas, which forms the first subject of the Message, we need say little, except to remark that Mr Polk, in giving an account of the differences between the United States and Mexico, represents the former as the injured party. Mexico, he says, had no earthly right to complain of Texas being taken from her, whilst the Americans, in not invading and destroying Mexico to avenge the losses of some thousand dollars which had befallen their merchants, have displayed a forbearance and a magnanimity quite unparalleled. The Mexicans, however, had opened their eyes to the enormity of their own conduct—so the President informs us—and on the 9th of November they consented to receive an American plenipotentiary, who was to dictate further conditions. There never certainly was or will be any passage in the autobiography of nations so monstrously, so ludicrously, or so successfully impudent as this. It is the burlesque of Knickerbocker rendered into sheer reality.

Scarcely less amusing is the tirade, in which the President indulges, on the subject of the Balance of Power. He will have none of it, even in theory. It is a heresy, and an invention of the foul fiend, and is as untenable and unpardonable, as the idea of any European Power having any "airthly" interest in the New World. President Polk almost

arraigns England for having ever sent a colony to America, which, according to his doctrine, she should never have done. He holds his presidential fist in his parent's face, and asks, how durst he have enacted parent to so fine a child. The accident of our holding Canada does not at all enter into Mr Polk's consideration, or the possibility of our having a wish or a right to keep or defend it. The idea that France, or England, or Russia should be at all interested in the independence of Mexico, for example, and anxious that the Spanish race should not altogether give way to the Anglo-American—the possibility of so very natural a thought excites the President's bile. He does his utmost, by violence of language, to excite fear and mistrust of the predominance of the United States in the other maritime powers of the world; and he foams with resentment at finding such fear and mistrust entertained and expressed. The principle of the balance of power is but a feeling for one's own independence and security. We cannot but feel it when contemplating the strides of Russia towards the mastery of southern and of northern seas. We cannot but feel it when the same power stretches along the Pacific, and the Atlantic, and the Gulf of Mexico. How far it is right to act upon this fear, is one question. But as to President Polk's forbidding us to entertain it, he must proscribe thought, and prudence, and common sense all over the world, ere he can enforce such hyper-autocratic commands.

The political economy of the Message offers a pleasing contrast with its politics. It is as large as its diplomacy is narrow, and treats the prohibitionists of the North with as little ceremony as the diplomatic portion of it does M. Guizot or Sir Robert Peel. The President's statement of the financial case is clear and irrefragable. A duty for revenue he declares to be necessary and good. But a duty ceases to be merely for revenue, when the augmentation of the rate diminishes the receipt of the customs. He denounces *protection* as the robbing of Peter to pay Paul, and denies that manufacturing products have more right to the title of *industry* than agricultural ones. He declares the present prohibitive tariff pernicious in spirit, aggravated by the juggle of a *minimum* of value and of false estimates, placed on, and taken of, all manufactures imported. These he proposes to abolish, substituting a fair *ad valorem* duty for revenue, and nothing more.

How lamentable is it that we have not already responded to such an advance on the part of America, by flinging our ports open to its corn, with the prospect of their remaining permanently so? Both people might then defy their Governments to quarrel for a barren frontier. Instead of a swelling of navy estimates, we should have multiplied lists of commercial shipping, and that ghost of the "Balance of Power," which Messrs Guizot and Polk have raised so needlessly to affright each other, would soon give way to the more substantial presence of a Balance of Trade.

#### STABBING BY A CORPORAL AND STABBING BY AN OFFICER.

We had lately to remark on the good fortune of Lieutenant Kirwan, who, having offended both against the laws of the land and military discipline, in stabbing Quarter-Master Tarleton, nevertheless escaped any punishment whatever. The Magistrates who heard the charge very courteously took bail, and as evidently took their leave of the matter at the same time. What conclusion the Court of Inquiry came to we know not; but the Duke of Wellington, upon receiving its finding, satisfied himself with a lecture against smoking, and directed the release of Mr Kirwan from arrest.

Now let us see how the same act is regarded when committed, not by a well-connected gentleman, but by a humble corporal.

At the Central Criminal Court,

"William M'Carthy, corporal of the Royal Marines, was indicted for feloniously cutting and wounding John Mogeridge, with intent to do him some grievous bodily harm. In a second count the prisoner was charged with a common assault."

It appeared that the prisoner, who had been drinking (though not at a mess-table), had struck a girl who had endeavoured to persuade her companion to quit him; that upon this the prosecutor twice threatened to thrash the prisoner if he molested the girl any more; that the soldier thereupon drew his bayonet and stabbed the man.

"Mr Bodkin, on behalf of the prisoner, submitted that the act imputed to the prisoner was the result of sudden provocation, and not of premeditated violence.

"Colonel Compton, the prisoner's commanding officer, and several of the prisoner's comrades, gave him an excellent character for good behaviour, humanity, and general habits of sobriety.

"Mr Baron Alderson summed up the case to the jury, who, after a short consultation, returned a verdict acquitting the prisoner of a felony, but finding him guilty of a common assault.

"In answer to a question put by the Court, Colonel Compton stated that the probable result of this verdict would be to reduce the prisoner from his position as corporal to the ranks.

"Mr Baron Alderson, in passing sentence, commented upon the disgraceful situation in which the prisoner had placed himself by an indulgence in drink. He had disgraced the service to which he belonged by his unmanly assault upon the girl, and he must stand also disgraced in the eyes of his comrades by the cowardly use of the weapon with which he was intrusted for the protection, and not the abuse, of the subjects of the realm. The sentence of the Court was, that he be imprisoned and kept to hard labour in the House of Correction for the space of three calendar months."

The justice of the punishment, and of the Judge's terms of reprobation, will be admitted by all; but still the question remains to be answered, how it is that the act of stabbing an unarmed man is regarded as so disgraceful and criminal in the instance of a corporal, though in the case of an officer it has escaped both all punishment and all animadversion? The parallel is a pretty close one. The corporal stabbed the man who endeavoured to deter him from more violence by the threat of a beating. The officer stabbed the friend, who, without an irritating word or provocation of any sort, was kindly standing between him and an outrage that would have ruined him, yet how different the results of the two acts—as different as the sword and the bayonet, as different as the ranks of corporal and officer.

#### COOKERY FOR THE POOR.

We are taken to task for having treated the Duke of Norfolk unkindly and unjustly, and if we have said anything implying impugnation of the motives of his whimsical suggestion, we must admit that we have been to blame, for the benevolence of his Grace's intention is at least as unquestionable as the absurdity of his proposal for giving effect to it.

As the wisest of men says, "There is a time for all things," but the precise moment for recommending condiments to the poor is not when they happen to have the prospect of nothing to eat. The present business is to provide the wherewith to support life, not the seasoning which may give relish to the meal.

We believe, however, that one of the greatest lasting services that could be rendered to the poor would be the introduction amongst them of some little skill in cookery, by which many a savoury mess might be made of materials, some of which are now wholly neglected, and others dressed so as to be insipid, distasteful, and innutritious. Our neighbours the French have much the start of our poor in this respect, and will make a good soup of what would go to the pigs in this country.

At all the schools for the poor, cookery should be made a branch of education. The children should all take their turn in the business of the kitchen. The benefit would be great to the labouring poor, and would ascend upwards to the middle classes, who suffer much under the plain-cook grievances, the cook who modestly calls herself a plain cook being a cook who can do nothing whatever but spoil meat at low wages, while the cook, who calls herself a *professed* cook, spoils a greater quantity of food for a proportionately greater amount of wages. The loss of temper, the loss of materials by waste, and the trial to digestion from this prevalent grievance, exceed all calculation. In the present cook lottery there are ninety-nine blanks to a prize, and how can it be otherwise when cookery, like the reading and writing of Dogberry, seems to be supposed to come by nature. A cook who can boil a potato, and dress a mutton chop, is a jewel of the first water. And yet very little instruction and attention will make a tolerably good cook. Soldiers and sailors, for example, are generally pretty good cooks, what little they can do they do well, having a self-interest in the duty.

As things are now ordered the accomplishments of common cooks do not exceed, if they come up to, those of North American Indians, of whose offices and wages for the same a great chief gave this account to the traveller Hearne. "Women," said Materiabbee, "were made for labour; one of them can carry and haul as much as two men can do. They also pitch our tents, make and mend our clothing, keep us warm at night, and in fact there is no such thing as doing without their assistance, and though they do everything, they are maintained at a trifling expense; for as they always stand cook, the very licking of their fingers in scarce times is sufficient for their subsistence."—'Journey to the Northern Ocean,' p. 55.

"The licking of the fingers" implies in those savages a much higher degree of culinary skill than the average in this land of bad cooks.

Goldsmith remarks that the French would be good cooks if they had any butcher's meat. It has been the want of good meat that has made the French such good cooks. The proverb that Heaven sends us good meat, and the devil cooks, has profound truth in it, as the skill in cookery is in inverse ratio to the goodness of viands.

The foundation of a culinary education in this country would be laid by instructing the poor how to make the best of their slender materials,

#### RESIGNATION OF LORD JOHN RUSSELL.

[The following article appeared in the Latest Edition of our last Number.]

Lord John Russell has failed in his attempt to form an Administration, and has accordingly resigned his commission to her Majesty.

The miscarriage is not attributable to any difference of opinion on the main question. The agreement was complete as to the principles to be acted on with respect to the Corn Laws, and the appointments bearing on the Free Trade cause, and the claims arising from it. The difficulties besetting the chief object would have been dared, but other embarrassments, we believe, arose, apart perhaps of no great importance, and probably not insuperable, but which superadded to weighty causes of doubt and hesitation gave preponderance to the scale of objection to the attempt. So it is as the Eastern proverb says, that "the last hair breaks the camel's back."

The failure is more a matter of regret than of wonderment when the prospect before the liberal party is considered. Lord John Russell would have had to conduct the business of the country in the House of Commons with a majority of one hundred against him, and in the House of Lords he could hardly have reckoned on a minority of half-a-hundred Peers. The dependence of the Government for its very existence must have been on the undefined precarious support of Sir Robert Peel; and we cannot blame men who had their distrusts of this aid: first, whether it would be faithfully and fairly accorded; secondly, whether it would be available to the requisite extent, Sir Robert having thrown up his hold on his party.

A dissolution would have been the ultimate resource, but for various reasons relating to public business, it could not have been immediate, and meanwhile how was the Government to be carried on?

These difficulties, great as they were, but still possibly surmountable, should not have deterred Lord John Russell from undertaking the Government in the circumstances in which it was thrust upon him; nor should they, nor did they, we believe, induce the resolution to abandon the enterprise; but we can easily understand how minds strongly impressed with them were led to throw the thing up when other vexatious entanglements not relating to the main question presented themselves. We wish it had been otherwise, we wish that Lord John Russell had persevered, trusting to the great purpose of his Cabinet, however composed, for its true tower of strength, but we know that men, as Homer qualifies "such as men are," having to cope with great difficulties are in the worst mood for compounding minor ones, when both great and little difficulties can be shaken off by the same resolution. Repugnance to a task is mightily strengthened by secondary causes of doubts and distaste.

The Government is now going begging. Will Sir Robert Peel, who has been sent for by her Majesty, retake it after having so resolutely thrown the leadership of the Forlorn Hope on Lord John Russell?

Sir Robert Peel is like that Jean St André celebrated by Canning:

"Who fled full soon on the 1st of June,  
But bade the rest keep fighting."

As Lord John Russell, however, cannot fight the battle which Sir Robert Peel so generously left to him, will he, for want of a substitute, take the field himself, representing the minority of his party, and resting on the Liberals for support through the conflict.

Or will the Dukes and Lord Stanley try their hands at the formation of a Cabinet without men or measures? A Government of the boy and the blockheads, the Marplot and the Wrongheads, would be rather a hazardous farce in the present circumstances and temper of the country.

#### TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Sir,—It is in your remembrance that, a few years ago, the intellectual capabilities of the Earl of Portsmouth were subjected to inquisition. He had many foibles;—one, of going to funerals—"black jobs," as he called them;—another, of mischievously driving his own carriage into the midst of a crowd of all kinds of vehicles, and then, throwing the reins to the coachman, humorously telling him to get out of the scrape as well as he could. Thinking that I perceive, in the conduct of the eccentric peer, a similitude to that of our Premier, and knowing your aptitude and penchant for similes, I have humbly endeavoured to turn this trifle into a Christmas jingle; and here it is at your service, as is likewise

Your obedient servant,

G. BUDOUBLET.

Dec. 23, 1845.

The curious amateur of each "black job"  
In one respect exemplified Sir Bob:

As thus:—  
When Portsmouth reined his steeds, Jehus would cry,  
"Look sharp, my lads, you'll see a spill bye-and-bye."  
Behold my lord, on hammercloth he sits,  
Whilst puzzle-pated jurors try his wits,  
My Lord the coachman makes to ride inside  
Whilst master gently drives down thronged Cheapside!

Till fix'd at last, 'midst carts and drays a crowd,  
His grinning Lordship bawls to John aloud,  
"Now, Johnny, come and mount the box, and see  
The precious mess I'm in—the out-and-out *melée*;  
Now take the ribbons, Johnny, try your skill;  
Let me look on, and do you what you will."

"But, oh, my Lord!" says John, "you're surely rash;  
Suppose the carriage should sustain a smash!"

"That is the business of my committee,  
With which we've nought to do, John, you nor me."

The wily peer sits chuckling at each sound  
Discordant, grating, harsh, as John turns round.  
The Earl, regardless of himself and purse,  
Nonchalant of each grumble and each curse,  
Smiling, lago-like, without a frown,  
And trusting to a regular break down,  
Leaves all to John, to temper and command  
The restive hot-bloods of his four-in-hand.

So Paddy, mad as Portsmouth was, or madder,  
Ascended (in his comrade's hod) the ladder,  
And, to his disappointment, at last found  
Himself, in whole skin, on the topmost round.

So, fair and softly, Peel his State car drives,  
Heedless of passengers' and others' lives;  
Still obstinately following up his tricks,  
Till, stuck at last, and in a perfect fix,  
Lets fall the reins—despairs—gives up the job,  
And honest John is called in aid of Bob.  
But John comes out, at length, with prudent care,  
And thus escapes the sly, insidious snare;  
John gets the carriage into driving trim,  
And now 'tis subject to Sir Bob's next whim.

THE LITERARY EXAMINER.

*The Cricket on the Hearth. A Fairy Tale of Home.* By Charles Dickens. Bradbury and Evans.

It was said of the portraits of a great artist that it was they who looked at you more than you who looked at them. We have something of this feeling about the persons of Mr Dickens's books. They live, long before criticism can set its wits to consider whether they should live or not. They look so sharply at us in the first moment of our meeting, that we can hardly hope at any later time to get half so sharp a look at them. And more than this. Being facts after their fashion, real existences in their way, they have moved in us that sort of consideration which we are anxious to claim from other living people. "There goes my Wicked self," said good, generous Jeremy Taylor, when he passed a notoriously bad creature of Mr Dickens pass him by, without the hope that some portion of his Better self may linger in them? To say it is unnatural that the poor man's hearth should be lighted with these cheerful fancies, or dignified with these gentle and affecting thoughts, is little more than to say that we sit in a small private darkness of our own, and are unable to feel the light and warmth that we behold. But what we cannot immediately find, let us try to make. It will be the best possible exercise to begin with ourselves.

And in that way, we take it, we shall get most swiftly and surely into the real drift and purpose of these little Christmas books. In another, a much higher and purer form, they are to teach the manly and social virtues, which were also the charm of the Ghost, the Goblin, and the Fairy fancies of our childhood, however rudely set forth in those earlier days. What we are now to conquer, are the dragons and giants yet more formidable which we have suffered to grow up at our own hearths; what weapons we are now to use, have a finer than the "ice-brook temper." With brave and strong restraints, what is evil in ourselves is to be subdued; with warm and gentle sympathies, what is unreclaimed or bad in others is to be redeemed; the Beauty is to embrace even the Beast, as in the divinest of all those fables; the star is to rise out of the ashes, as in our much-loved Cinderella; and we are to play the Valentine with our wilder brothers, and bring them back, with brotherly care, to civilization and happiness.

It is our strong belief that, in this largest and freest sense of benefit, very great public and private good has been done by the extraordinary popularity, the universal acceptance, of these Christmas Tales of Mr Dickens;—much positive, earnest, and practical good. For they have carried to almost every fireside, with new enjoyment of the season, a new apprehension of its claims and duties; they have mingled grave and glad thoughts with rich advantage to both; they have brought within reach of the charities what seemed too remote for them to meddle with, and what was near and familiar they have touched with a dearer domestic tenderness; they have comforted the generous, rebuked the selfish, cured not a little folly by ridicule and comic humour, and for how many of their readers may not even have revised (as the philosopher tells us one happy thought has often done) the whole manner of a life, and said, *Thus you have done, but it were better thus.* Mere literary fame is a second-rate thing to this.

*The Cricket on the Hearth* is, as its title imports, a tale of Home. It is aimed at no special individual wrong, as the *Carol*; and at no general social wrong, as the *Chimes*; but is meant to show what a cordial healthful music sings through household thoughts at the fireside of the humblest man; how the remembrance of past certainties should guide us in our judgment of present doubts; how plain homely truth, however ragged or rude; and every hearth, in happiness as in trial, in joy as in sorrow, to bear and to forbear, and to trust and believe in each other. It is a gay good-humoured tale, with a charming moral. There is but one sour-faced exception to its happiness; and what old Ben Jonson calls "the cheerful chirping charm" of the cricket puts happiness even into tudes of hearths!

We do not mean to enter into any detail of the characters, but we must claim for the busy little bustling breathless Dot, wife to John Peerybingle the Carrier, a wide and lasting popularity. You see in her case the absurdity that people may commit when they wring their foolish hands and lament over unequal matches. Be the balance ever so unequal, Dot shows you how to set it right. Most pretty is her young maternity with all its airs and graces; most 'foolish fond' her liking for the husband that might have been her father; most sweetly laughable her matronly assumptions and burlesque little dignity of housekeeping; and so intense her homely love of home, that every household thing in her cottage, from the singing kettle on the fire and the musical Dutch clock in the corner, to the chirping cricket on the hearth, seems in glad communication with its joyous mistress. This style has been objected to as unreal; but it appears to us of the very reality and essence of a Christmas story. All things, however mean or insignificant, are to be turned to pleasurable account, with what native, happy, unchecked luxuriance can be given them. Thus the quaint absurdity and the refined beauty shoot up side by side; and, as in Shakspeare's Christmas comedy, the *Clown* and *Viola* are heard in harmony together.

We must have the picture of Dot and her Husband as the first scene of the story frames it.

"It was pleasant to see Dot, with her little figure and her Baby in her arms: a very doll of a Baby; glancing her delicate little head just enough on one side to let it and agreeable manner, on the great rugged figure of the Carrier. It was pleasant to see him, with his tender awkwardness, endeavouring to adapt his rude support to her slight need, and make his burly middle-age a leaning-pi-pleasant to observe how Tilly Slowboy, waiting in the back-ground for the Baby, took special cognizance (though in mouth and eyes wide open, and her head thrust forward, taking it in as if it were air. Nor was it less agreeable to observe how John the Carrier, reference being made by Dot to the aforesaid Baby, checked his hand when on the point of touching the infant, as if he thought he might crack it; and bending down, surveyed it from a safe distance, with a kind of puzzled pride: such as an amiable distastiff might be supposed to show, if he found himself, one day, the father of a young canary.

"An't he beautiful, John? Don't he look precious in his sleep?"

"Very precious," said John. "Very much so. He generally is asleep, an't he?"

"Lor John! Good gracious no!"

"Oh," said John, pondering. "I thought his eyes was generally shut. Halloa!"

"Goodness John, how you startle one!"

"It an't right for him to turn 'em up in that way!"

said the astonished Carrier, "is it? See how he's winking with both 'em at once! and look at his mouth! why he's gasping like a gold and silver fish!"

"You don't deserve to be a father, you don't," said Dot, with all the dignity of an experienced matron.

But perhaps we should first have given the song with which Dot's Kettle has welcomed the good Carrier's approaching wheels. It is an instance of the mingling of the ideal and the grotesque in the structure of the story, much to the purpose of what we have just been saying.

"That this song of the Kettle's, was a song of invitation and welcome to somebody out of doors; to somebody at that moment coming on, towards the snug small home and the crisp fire; there is no doubt whatever; Mrs Peerybingle knew it, perfectly, as she sat musing, before the hearth. It's a dark night, sang the Kettle, and the rotten leaves are lying by the way; and above, all is mist and darkness, and below, all is mire and clay; and there's only one relief in all the sad and murky air; and I don't know that it is one, for it's nothing but a glare, of deep and angry crimson, where the sun and wind together, set a brand upon the clouds for being guilty of such weather; and the widest open country is a long dull streak of black; and there's hoar-frost on the finger-post, and thaw upon the track; and the ice it isn't water, and the water isn't free; and you couldn't say that anything is what it ought to be; but he's coming, coming, coming!"

"And here, if you like, the Cricket DID chime in! with a Chirrup, Chirrup, of such magnitude, by way of chorus; with a voice, so astoundingly disproportionate to its size, as compared with the Kettle; (size! you couldn't see it!) that if it had then and there burst itself like an overcharged gun: if it had fallen a victim on the spot, and chirruped its little body into fifty pieces: it would have seemed a natural and inevitable consequence, for which it had expressly laboured.

"The Kettle had had the last of its sole performance. It persevered with undiminished ardour; but the Cricket took first fiddle and kept it. Good Heaven, how it chirped! Its shrill, sharp, piercing voice resounded through the house, and seemed to twinkle in the outer darkness like a Star. There was an indescribable little trill and tremble in it, at its loudest, which suggested its being carried off its legs, and made to leap again, by its own intense enthusiasm. Yet they went very well together, the Cricket and the Kettle. The burden of the song was still the same; and louder, louder, louder still, they sang it in

And for another instance of a like happy kind, we turn to a description, marvellously done, of one of the Carrier's journeys; where this piece of natural poetry, such as Crabbe might have thoughtfully seen from a carrier's cart, suddenly greets you.

"You couldn't see very far in the fog, of course; but you could see a great deal, oh a great deal! It's astonishing how much you may see, in a thicker fog than that, if you will only take the trouble to look for it. Why, even to sit watching for the Fairy-rings in the fields, and for the patches of hoar-frost still lingering in the shade, near hedges and by trees, was a pleasant occupation: to make no mention of the unexpected shapes in which the trees themselves came starting out of the mist, and glided into it again. The hedges were tangled and bare, and waved a multitude of blighted garlands in the wind; but there was no discouragement in this. It was agreeable to contemplate the summer greener in possession, and the summer greener in expectancy. The river looked chilly; but it was in motion, and moving at a good pace; which was a great point. The canal was rather slow and torpid; that must be admitted. Never mind. It would freeze the sooner when the frost set fairly in, and then there would be skating, and sliding; and the heavy old barges, frozen up somewhere, near a wharf, would smoke their rusty iron chimney-pipes all day, and have a lazy time of it."

Does not this mingling of rich thought with dry description set off the more vividly a literal exactness, when such is to be set before you? For example, in the adjoining sketch of Boxer? He is the Carrier's dog; and, wanting nothing more than he has in the way of life or energy, is painted with a Flemish nicety.

"Everybody knew him, all along the road, especially the fowls and pigs, who when they saw him approaching, with his body all on one side, and his ears pricked up inquisitively, and that knob of a tail making the most of itself in the air, immediately withdrew into remote back settlements, without waiting for the honour of a nearer acquaintance. He had business everywhere; going down all the turnings, looking into all the wells, bolting in and out of all the coterages, dashing into the midst of all the Dame Schools, fluting and trotting into the public-houses like a regular customer. Wherever he went, somebody or other might have been heard to cry, 'Halloa! Here's Boxer!'"

Boxer plays his part at home, too, as the following may show:

"Boxer, feeling that his attentions were due to the family in general, and must be impartially distributed, dashed in and out with bewildered inconstancy: now describing a circle of short barks round the horse, where he was being rubbed down at the stable-door; now feigning to make savage rushes at his mistress; and facetiously bringing himself to sudden stops; and facetiously from Tilly Slowboy, in the low nursing-chair near the fire, by the unexpected application of his moist nose to her countenance; now exhibiting an obtrusive interest in the Baby; now going round and round upon the hearth, and lying down as if he had established himself for the night; now getting up again, and taking that nothing of a fag-end of a tail of his, out into the weather, as if he had just remembered an appointment, and was off, at a round trot, to keep it."

Tilly Slowboy is the Baby's nurse, and a most surprising creature. She takes rank with the Marchioness herself.

"She had a rare and surprising talent for getting this Baby into difficulties: and had several times imperilled its short life, in a quiet way peculiarly her own. She was of a spare and straight shape, this young lady, inasmuch that her garments appeared to be in constant danger of sliding off those sharp pegs, her shoulders, on which they were loosely hung. Her costume was remarkable for the partial development on all possible occasions of some flannel vestment of a singular structure; also for affording glimpses, in the region of the back, of a corset, or pair of stays, in colour a dead-green. Being always in a state of gaping admiration at everything, and absorbed, besides, in the perpetual contemplation of her mistress's perfections, may be said to have done equal honour to her head and to her heart; and though these did less honour to the Baby's head, which they were the occasional means of bringing into contact with deal doors, dressers, stair-rails, bedposts, and other foreign substances, still they were the honest results of Tilly Slowboy's constant astonishment at finding herself so kindly treated, and installed in such a comfortable home. For the maternal and paternal Slowboy were alike unknown to Fame, and Tilly had been bred by public charity, a Foundling; which word, though only differing from Foundling by one vowel's length, is very different in meaning, and expresses quite another thing."

In what way the united efforts of nurse and mother were brought on special occasions to bear upon the Baby, we must illustrate in another extract:

"In the meantime, there had been a pretty sharp commotion at John Peerybingle's; for little Mrs Peerybingle naturally couldn't think of going anywhere without the Baby; and to get the Baby under weigh, took time. Not that there was much of the Baby: speaking of it as a thing of weight and measure: but there was a vast deal to do about it, and about it, and it all had to be done by easy stages. For instance: when the Baby was got, by hook and by crook, supposed that another touch, and you might finish him off, and turn him out a tip-top Baby, challenging the world, he was unexpectedly extinguished in a flannel cap, and

hustled off to bed; where he simmered (so to speak) between two blankets for the best part of an hour. From this state of inaction he was then recalled, shining very much and roaring violently, to partake of—well! I would rather say, if you'll permit me to speak generally—of a slight repast. After which, he went to sleep again. Mrs Peerybingle took advantage of this interval, to make herself as smart in a small way as ever you saw anybody in all your life; and during the same short truce, Miss Slowboy insinuated herself into a spencer of a fashion so surprising and ingenious, that it had no connexion with herself or anything else in the universe, but was a shrunken, dog-eared, independent fact, pursuing its lonely course without the least regard to anybody. By this time, the Baby, being all alive again, was invested, by the united efforts of Mrs Peerybingle and Miss Slowboy, with a cream-coloured mantle for its body, and a sort of nankeen raised-pie for its head; and so in course of time they all three got down to the door, where the old horse had already taken more than the full value of his day's toll out of the Turnpike Trust, by tearing up the road with his impatient autographs—and whence Boxer might be dimly seen in the remote perspective, standing looking back, and tempting him to come on without orders."

Also proper to pair off with Tilly Slowboy and her amazing charge, is the excellent, stately piece of faded worth, Mrs Fielding, reduced from a highly remote condition of gentility by mysterious operations in the Indigo trade:

"A little querulous chip of an old lady with a peevish face, who, in right of having preserved a waist like a bed-post, was supposed to be a most transcendent figure, and who, in consequence of having once been better off, or of labouring under an impression that she might have been, if something had happened which never did happen, and seemed to have never been particularly likely to come to pass—but it's all the same—was very genteel and patronising indeed."

Nor do we think the full-length figure of Mr Tackleton the toy maker undeserving of a place in all this exquisite company:

"Tackleton the Toy merchant was a man whose vocation had been quite misunderstood by his Parents and Guardians. If they had made him a Money-Lender, or a sharp Attorney, or a Sheriff's Officer, or a Broker, he might have sown his discontented oats in his youth, and after having had the full-run of himself in ill-natured transactions, might have turned out amiable, at last, for the sake of a little freshness and novelty. But, cramped and chafing in the peaceable pursuit of toy-making, he was a domestic Ogre, who had been living on children all his life, and was their implacable enemy. He despised all toys; wouldn't have bought one for the world; delighted, in his malice, to insinuate grim expressions into the faces of brown-paper farmers who drove pigs to market, bellmen who advertised lost lawyers' consciences, moveable old ladies who darned stockings or carved pies; and other like samples of his stock in trade. In appalling masks; hideous, hairy, red-eyed Jacks in Boxes; Vampire Kites; demoniacal Tumblers who wouldn't lie down, and were perpetually flying forward, to stare infants out of countenance; his soul perfectly revelled. They were his only relief, and safety-valve. He was great in such inventions. Anything suggestive of a Pony-nightmare, was delicious to him. He had even lost money (and he took to that toy very kindly) by getting up Goblin slides for magic lanterns, whereon the Powers of Darkness were depicted as a sort of supernatural shell-fish, with human faces. In intensifying the portraiture of Giants, he had sunk quite a little capital; and, though no painter himself, he could indicate, for the instruction of his artists, with a piece of chalk, a certain furtive leer for the countenances of those monsters, that was safe to destroy the peace of mind of any young gentleman between the ages of six and eleven, for the whole Christmas or Midsummer Vacation."

"What he was in toys, he was (as most men are) in all other things. You may easily suppose, therefore, that within the great green cape, which reached down to the calves of his legs, there was buttoned up to the chin an uncommonly pleasant fellow; and that he was about as choice a spirit and as agreeable a companion, as ever stood in a pair of bull-headed looking boots with mahogany-coloured tops."

All these sketches are in Mr Dickens's best manner; with fine, marked humour in them, delicate touches of moral satire, and great dramatic liveliness of style.

But connected with Mr Tackleton are Caleb and his Blind Daughter; and Bertha and Caleb divide the interest with even the wedded Peerybingles. They live in a cracked old crumbling tenement—

"It stuck to the premises of Gruff and Tackleton, like a barnacle to a ship's keel, or a snail to a door, or a little bunch of toad-stools to the stem of a tree. But it was the germ from which the full-grown trunk of Gruff and Tackleton had sprung; and under its crazy roof, the Gruff before last, had, in a small way, made toys for a generation of old boys and girls, who had played with them, and found them out, and broken them, and gone to sleep."

—Whereof the following is an interior recalling the riches of Hogarth's pencil:

"There were houses in it, finished and unfinished, for Dolls of all stations in life. Suburban tenements for Dolls of moderate means; kitchens and single apartments for Dolls of the lower classes; capital town residences for Dolls of high estate. Some of these establishments were already furnished according to estimate, with a view to the convenience of Dolls of limited income; others could be fitted on the most expensive scale, at a moment's notice, from whole shelves of chairs and tables, sofas, bedsteads, and upholstery. The nobility and gentry and public in general, for whose accommodation these tenements were designed, lay, here and there, in baskets, staring straight up at the ceiling; but in denoting their degrees in society, and confining them to their respective stations (which experience shows to be lamentably difficult in real life), the makers of these Dolls had far improved on Nature, who is often froward and perverse; for they, not relying on such arbitrary marks as satin, cotton-print, and bits of rag, had superadded striking personal differences which allowed of no mistake. Thus, the Doll-lady of Distinction had wax limbs of perfect symmetry; but only she and her compeers; the next grade in the social scale being made of leather; and the next of coarse linen stuff. As to the common-people, they had just

so many matches out of tinder-boxes for their arms and legs, and there they were—established in their sphere at once, beyond the possibility of getting out of it.

"There were various other samples of his handicraft besides Dolls, in Caleb Plummer's room. There were Noah's Arks, in which the Birds and Beasts were an uncommonly tight fit, I assure you; though they could be crammed in, anyhow, at the roof, and rattled and shaken into the smallest compass. By a bold poetical license, most of these Noah's Arks had knockers on the doors; inconsistent appendages perhaps, as suggestive of morning callers and a Postman, yet a pleasant finish to the outside of the building. There were scores of melancholy little carts which, when the wheels went round, performed most doleful music. Many small fiddles, drums, and other instruments of torture; no end of cannon, shields, swords, spears, and guns. There were little tumblers in red breeches, incessantly swarming up high obstacles of red-tape, and coming down, head first, upon the other side; and there were innumerable old gentlemen of respectable, not to say venerable appearance, insanely flying over horizontal pegs, inserted, for the purpose, in their own street doors. There were beasts of all sorts; horses, in particular, of every breed; from the spotted barrel on four pegs, with a small tippet for a mane, to the thoroughbred rocker on his highest mettle. As it would have been hard to count the dozens upon dozens of grotesque figures that were ever ready to commit all sorts of absurdities, on the turning of a handle; so it would have been no easy task to mention any human folly, vice, or weakness, that had not its type, immediate or remote, in Caleb Plummer's room. And not in an exaggerated form; for very little handles will move men and women to as strange performances, as any Toy was ever made to undertake."

The reader perceives that Caleb is a journeyman toymaker. And having his conscience in his craft, he quite raises and dignifies it. There is something half-ludicrous, half-pathetic in his professional mode of eyeing a new face:

"I don't know, Sir," returned Caleb in a whisper. "Never see him before, in all my life. A beautiful figure for a nut-cracker; quite a new model. With a screw-jaw opening down into his waistcoat, he'd be lovely."

"Not ugly enough," said Tackleton.  
"Or for a firebox, either," observed Caleb, in deep contemplation, "what a model! Unscrew his head to put the matches in; turn him heel up'ards for the light; and what a firebox for a gentleman's mantel-shelf, just as he stands!"  
"Not half ugly enough," said Tackleton. "Nothing in him at all."

—And in his ardent feeling for the truth of what he takes in hand:

"You couldn't have the goodness to let me pinch Boxer's tail, Mum, for half a moment, could you?"

"Why Caleb! what a question!"  
"Oh never mind, Mum," said the little man. "He mightn't like it perhaps. There's a small order just come in, for barking dogs; and I should wish to go as close to Natur' as I could, for sixpence. That's all. Never mind Mum."

But from this latter truth-loving principle poor simple Caleb has departed in one vital instance. He has a blind daughter, and it has been the solitary comfort of his hard life to make her loss her gain. Seeing with his eyes only, she is kept ignorant of the squalor in the midst of which they live; she fancies her ragged struggling father a smart and comfortable little man; she thinks their grinding master a tender benefactor; Caleb strengthens his feeble step for her, and puts mirth into his failing voice;—but the time comes when the tax which all falsehood exacts, however good the intention, must be paid, and out of this arises a scene of great pathetic beauty. Bertha has fallen in love with one of the fictions of her father's kindly fancy, and it is necessary to undeceive her.

"Bertha, my dear!" said Caleb, "I have something on my mind I want to tell you, while we three are alone. Hear me kindly! I have a confession to make to you, my Darling."

"A confession, father?"  
"I have wandered from the Truth and lost myself, my child," said Caleb, with a pitiable expression in his bewildered face. "I have wandered from the Truth, intending to be kind to you; and have been cruel."

"She turned her wonder-stricken face towards him, and repeated 'Cruel!'"

"He accuses himself too strongly, Bertha," said Dot. "You'll say so, presently. You'll be the first to tell him so."

"He cruel to me!" cried Bertha, with a smile of incredulity.

"Not meaning it, my child," said Caleb. "But I have been; though I never suspected it, till yesterday. My dear Blind Daughter, hear me and forgive me! The world you live in, heart of mine, doesn't exist as I have represented it. The eyes you have trusted in, have been false to you."

"She turned her wonder-stricken face towards him still; but drew back and clung closer to her friend."

"Your road in life was rough, my poor one," said Caleb, "and I meant to smooth it for you. I have altered objects, changed the characters of people, invented many things that never have been, to make you happier. I have had concealments from you, put deceptions on you, God forgive me! and surrounded you with fancies."

"But living people are not fancies? she said hurriedly, and turning very pale, and still retiring from him. 'You can't change them.'"

"I have done so, Bertha," pleaded Caleb. "There is one person that you know, my Dove—"

"Oh father! why do you say, I know?" she answered, in a tone of keen reproach. "What and whom do I know! I who have no leader! I so miserably blind!"

"In the anguish of her heart, she stretched out her hands, as if she were groping her way; then spread them in a manner most forlorn and sad, upon her face."

"The marriage that takes place to-day," said Caleb, "is with a stern, surd, grinding man. A hard master to you and me, my dear, for many years. Ugly in his looks, and in his nature. Cold and callous always. Unlike what

I have painted him to you in everything, my child. In everything."

"Oh why," cried the Blind Girl, tortured, as it seemed, almost beyond endurance, "why did you ever do this! Why did you ever fill my heart so full, and then come in like Death, and tear away the objects of my love! Oh Heaven, how blind I am! How helpless and alone!"

"Her afflicted father hung his head, and offered no reply but in his penitence and sorrow."

"She had been but a short time in this passion of regret, when the Cricket on the Hearth, unheard by all but her, began to chirp. Not merrily, but in a low, faint, sorrowing way. It was so mournful, that her tears began to flow; and when the Presence which had been beside the Carrier all night, appeared behind her, pointing to her father, they fell down like rain."

"She heard the Cricket-voice more plainly soon; and was conscious, through her blindness, of the Presence hovering about her father."

"Mary," said the Blind Girl, "tell me what my Home is. What it truly is."

"It is a poor place, Bertha; very poor and bare indeed. The house will scarcely keep out wind and rain another winter. It is as roughly shielded from the weather, Bertha," Dot continued in a low, clear voice, "as your poor father in his sackcloth coat."

"The Blind Girl, greatly agitated, rose, and led the Carrier's little wife aside."

"Those presents that I took such care of; that came almost at my wish, and were so dearly welcome to me," she said trembling; "where did they come from? Did you send them?"

"No."

"Who then?"  
"Dot saw she knew, already; and was silent. The Blind Girl spread her hands before her face again. But in quite another manner now."

"Dear Mary, a moment. One moment. More this way. Speak softly to me. You are true, I know. You'd not deceive me now; would you?"

"No, Bertha, indeed!"

"No, I am sure you would not. You have too much pity for me. Mary, look across the room to where we were just now; to where my father is—my father, so compassionate and loving to me—and tell me what you see."

"I see," said Dot, who understood her well; "an old man sitting in a chair, and leaning sorrowfully on the back, with his face resting on his hand. As if his child should comfort him, Bertha."

"Yes, yes. She will. Go on."

"He is an old man, worn with care and work. He is a spare, dejected, thoughtful, grey-haired man. I see him now, despondent and bowed down, and striving against nothing. But Bertha, I have seen him many times before; and striving hard in many ways for one great sacred object. And I honor his grey head, and bless him!"

"The blind girl broke away from her; and throwing herself upon her knees before him, took the grey head to her breast."

"It is my sight restored. It is my sight!" she cried. "I have been blind, and now my eyes are open. I never knew him! To think I might have died, and never truly seen the father, who has been so loving to me!"

"There were no words for Caleb's emotion."

"There is not a gallant figure on this earth," exclaimed the Blind Girl, holding him in her embrace, "that I would love so dearly, and would cherish so devotedly, as this! The greyer, and more worn, the dearer, father! Never let them say I am blind again. There's not a furrow in his face, there's not a hair upon his head, that shall be forgotten in my prayers and thanks to Heaven!"

"Caleb managed to articulate 'My Bertha!'"

"And in my Blindness, I believed him," said the girl, caressing him with tears of exquisite affection, "to be so different! And having him beside me, day by day, so mindful of me always, never dreamed of this!"

"The fresh smart father in the blue coat, Bertha," said poor Caleb. "He's gone!"

"Nothing is gone," she answered. "Dearest father, no! everything is here—in you. The father that I loved so well; the father that I never loved enough, and never knew; the Benefactor whom I first began to reverence and love, because he had such sympathy for me; All are here in you. Nothing is dead to me. The Soul of all that was most dear to me is here—here, with the worn face, and the grey head. And I am NOT blind, father, any longer!"

Another scene that ranks with this in pathetic delicacy, and in sustained and generous beauty of thought is the masterpiece of the volume, is that of the fancies that visit the Carrier in his solitude when doubtful of his wife's fidelity.

The story is richly illustrated. There are several things of capital character by Mr Leech and Mr Doyle; a charming landscape by Stanfield; a vignette of Boxer by Edwin Landseer; and, by way of frontispiece, a marvellous outburst of 'fancies chaste and noble' by Maclise. The minute beauty of the drawing in this latter piece is inimitably rendered in the engraving.

*History of the Consulate and the Empire.* By M. A. Thiers. Translated by D. Forbes Campbell, Esq. Vol. 5. Colburn.

The incidents of this volume embrace little more than a year: but there were few unoccupied moments of a year with Napoleon.

The characteristics of the book continue in the main unaltered. It is lively and picturesque writing, but it is not history. Even the pretension to a grave historical function, is not skilfully or successfully assumed.

But there is sometimes a curious revelation from behind the scenes: materials for a future historian. Of such are the incidents preceding the Imperial Coronation. We are not aware that these circumstances have been mentioned before.

"The parts of the wife, the brothers, and the sisters of the Emperor, in this ceremony, had to be decided upon. First, it was to be settled whether Josephine should be crowned and anointed, like Napoleon himself. She ardently desired it, for it was a new tie to her husband—a new guarantee against a future divorce, which was the haunting anxiety of her life. Napoleon hesitated between his ten-

derness for her, and the secret presentiments of his policy, when a domestic scene almost produced the ruin of the unfortunate Josephine. All were eager and busy around the new monarch; brothers, sisters, and relations. All were anxious that in this ceremony, which seemed to consecrate them all, for a part consistent with their existing pretensions and future hopes. On witnessing this excitement, and the importunities of which Napoleon was the object, especially on the part of one of his sisters, Josephine, agitated, and devoured by jealousy, manifested frightfully injurious suspicions of that sister, and of Napoleon himself, suspicious in accordance with the atrocious calumnies of the emigrant party. Napoleon was suddenly transported with a violent anger, and, deriving from that anger the power of rising above his affection, he told Josephine that he would separate from her; that, moreover, it would at a future time be necessary to do so, and that it would be better to do so at once, previous to having formed still closer ties. He called for his two adoptive children, and communicated his resolution, and plunged them into the deepest grief by the intelligence. Hortense and Eugène Beauharnois declared, with a resolution at once calm and sad, that they would follow their mother into the retreat to which she was to be condemned. Josephine, prudently counselled, displayed a submissive and resigned grief. The contrast between her grief, and the satisfaction displayed by the rest of the family, rent the heart of Napoleon, and he could not resolve to see exiled and unfortunate that wife, the companion of his youth, and exiled and unfortunate with her, those children who had become the objects of his paternal tenderness. He caught Josephine in his arms, and told her, in a burst of tenderness, that he should never have the strength to part from her, even should his policy require him to do so; and then he promised her that she should be crowned with him, and should receive by his side, and from the hand of the Pope, the divine consecration. Josephine, with her characteristic mobility, passed from alarm to the most lively satisfaction; and gave herself up with a childish joy to the preparations for the coronation.

Here and there we think the political tone of the book somewhat abated. Take for example the remark on the aspects and prospects of the Revolution at Napoleon's assumption of the purple. The ideas are less "Napoleonic," and, we may venture to add therefore, more liberal, moderate, and wise.

"When it sought the abolition of the feudal system, equality in the eyes of the law, uniformity of justice, administration and taxation, and the regular intervention of the nation in the state-government, it did not deceive itself; on these points it had exhibited no inconsistency, no contradiction, and it had no errors to confess. When, on the contrary, it aimed at a barbarous and chimerical equality, the absence of all social hierarchy, the continual and tumultuous presence of the multitude in the government, the Republic in a monarchy of twelve centuries, and the abolition of all worship, it was at once senseless and guilty, and could not but have one day to confess its errors before the whole world! But of what consequence are some fleeting errors compared to the immortal truths which, at the expense of its blood, it bequeathed to the human race! Even those errors themselves contained useful and grave lessons given with an incomparable grandeur. If France, in her return to monarchy, obeyed the immutable laws of human society, perhaps her course was too rapid, as is the custom of revolutions. A dictatorship, under the title of protector, sufficed Cromwell. The dictatorship, under the form of a perpetual Consulate, with a power extensive as his genius, and durable as his life, should have sufficed general Bonaparte for the accomplishment of all the good that he meditated, to re-construct that annihilated ancient society, to transmit it, after having reorganised it, either to his heirs, if he were to have such, or to those who, more fortunate, were some day to enjoy the fruit of his toils. In sooth, it was decreed in the councils of Providence, that the Revolution, in retrograding, should go beyond the re-establishment of the monarchical form to the re-establishment of the ancient dynasty itself. To accomplish the noble task of general Bonaparte, the dictature, under the form of the Consulate for life, should, in our opinion, have sufficed, and in making him an hereditary monarch, that was attempted which was hurtful alike to his moral greatness and to the grandeur of France. Not that they were without full right who wished to convert a soldier into a king or an emperor: the nation incontestably, could transmit to whom it chose, and to a sublime soldier still more than to any one else, the sceptre of Charlemagne and of Louis XIV. But that soldier, in his natural and proper position of the first magistrate of the French Republic, had no earthly equal, even upon the loftiest thrones. In becoming an hereditary monarch, he was to be put in comparison with kings, little or great, and ranked as their inferior in one point—that of blood. Even though it were only to the eyes of prejudice, he was to be below them in something. Received among them and flattered, because feared by them, he would in secret be disdained by the puniest among them. But, what is graver still, when he should have become king or emperor, what would he not attempt in order to become king of kings, chief of a dynasty of monarchs, holding from his new throne! What stimulants for an ambition already too much excited, and which could perish only by its own excesses."

Mr Campbell's translation is very good; and is understood to be the only one which M. Thiers overlooks and authorizes.

*The Introduction to Dutch Jurisprudence of Hugo Grotius.* Now first rendered into English. By Charles Herbert, Esq. Van Voorst.

The history of this Treatise is thus given in the preface of the translator.

"It was composed by its author during his imprisonment in the castle of Louvestein, in the year 1620. The virtuous Barneveldt had fallen by the hands of the executioner, and his most able friends, Grotius and others, were sentenced to perpetual imprisonment—yet, amidst these sufferings, aggravated by the cruel proscription of his innocent family, deprived of the useful Conference on the 'Customs of Holland,' and of all communication with the learned, and assisted with few books to aid his labours, did the author produce a work, of which the most learned men have, even to the present day, expressed unqualified approbation. The former circumstances are mentioned in a letter addressed by Grotius to his children, in the preface to the original editions, and also in a letter, dated Paris, 10th December, 1643 (to be found in the printed Collection of his Letters),

addressed to Simon Groenewegen, who had then recently published an edition of this work, with Notes, '*bene Elaboratis et perutilibus*,' and the latter are to be found in the Prefaces to modern editions, as also in the Commentaries and Notes, by modern writers. The President of the Court of Flanders, Schorer, in his edition published in 1767, says, 'Auctor illam compilavit carcere inclusus et hoc non obstante totum fere Juris Hollandici Systema a carceribus ad metam digito saltem tetigit.'

"Van der Keessel, who, at the close of the last century, published his *Theses*, as a Supplement to Grotius, and in elucidation of the controverted points of law, says, that 'it contains, in the smallest space, the greatest quantity of matter, digested in a most accurate method, and most clear and explanatory; for, by referring, on every occasion, to the laws of nature, and to civil institutions, it exhibits the admirable harmony and analogy of laws, and presents a model deserving the attention and study of every professor of jurisprudence.'

Apart, then, from its special information, the work may be supposed to possess considerable general value. But as the great text book of the Dutch law—remembering that the ancient laws of Holland, as they existed previous to the conquest of that country by France, are still in force in the colonies ceded by the Dutch to our government—it is further recommended to the English student.

The translator's experience of the want of an English version, in the course of his practice as a crown lawyer in the Supreme Court of British Guiana, seems to have led to the publication. It is very clearly and carefully rendered, with many most admirable notes of elucidation; and, like every work issued by Mr Van Voorst, it is very beautifully presented to the reader.

### THE THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

The Christmas Harlequinades have had formidable rivals for this last week or two, but it is to be hoped the public will now quietly subside into the real thing. We are sorry that it is not a better thing; but it is at any rate a comfort to see earnest, hardworking, zealous people, in the characters of *Clown* and *Pantaloon*.

The *Cricket* is announced to chirp on the hearths of all the theatres. But the LYCEUM, by special license of Mr Dickens, has made music with it first, and to a very pretty and satisfactory tune. The story is adapted by Mr Albert Smith; and we do not remember to have seen this kind of work more modestly or effectively done. The parts are well distributed, too. We have Mrs Keeley in *Dot*, Mr Keeley in *Caleb*, Mr Emery (quiet and truthful) in the *Carrier*, Miss Mary Keeley (a debutante of nice promise) in *Bertha*, Mr Meadows in *Tackleton*, and a red-nosed young lady in *Tilly Slowboy* almost as marvellous as that great creature herself. The effect upon the audience is quite decisive. They are as pleased and breathless with the interest of it as little *Dot* herself. The Christmas burlesque which follows is from the *Arabian Nights' Entertainments*. Our old friends Prince Purviz and Prince Bahman, and the Enchanted Horse, have been laid under contribution for it; and it is played with the latter title. It is too long, too much drawn out; but there is great splendour, reasonably clever acting, and some good hits at passing things. The king Rahbah Schah is a railway king; we have Persian premiers in a perpetual crisis; and from the Elopement in High Life to the Flight of the Stags, the follies of the day are acted over.

The burlesque at the HAYMARKET is not so broadly done; and the subject was less capable of mirth, we think, than any of its predecessors by the same hand; but it has neat turns and lucky hits, at which the audience laugh abundantly. It is the story of the *Bee and the Orange Tree*, or *the Four Wishes*. How the lovers trifle with their four wishes; and how, the *Prince Amiable* becoming suddenly an Orange Tree, the Princess *Amy* will be a Bee to flutter round her love; all the readers of fairy history know. Mr Hudson and Miss Bennett were an undeniably cheerful, musical pair of lovers; but the gem of the piece is an Ogre, played by Mr Bland. He very much despises the march of intellect; opposes all kinds of progress; dines and sups off railway surveyors with peculiar zest; and justifies his cannibal tastes by dry scraps of Malthusian doctrine, which tell immensely. His library consists of one volume—*Every Ogre his own Cook*; he is always hungry; and the rolling of his eyes, and involuntary smacking of his lips, when he meets with a new face, is rather terrible to witness. Miss Horton in a locomotive *Princess Linda*, is a set-off on the agreeable side.

The rest of the Christmas pieces are downright pantomimes. There is *Harlequin Gulliver* at DRURY LANE; *Harlequin and the King of the Cannibal Islands* at the ADELPHI; *Harlequin and the Key of the Kingdom* at the PRINCESS; *Harlequin Fortunatus* at the OLYMPIC; and at SADLER'S WELLS *Harlequin Steam King*. We write so late that we cannot do more than mention the subjects. But the most successful are reported to be the *Drury Lane Gulliver* and the *Adelphi Cannibal Islands*.

### FOREIGN NEWS.

#### FRANCE.

THE EXPEDITION TO MADAGASCAR.—The departure of the Madagascar expedition had been postponed. The Maritime Prefect of Brest had been directed to have the vessels of which it is to be composed, ready to sail early in January; but the period of departure has since been fixed for the latter end of February, in order to afford the Chambers an opportunity of expressing an opinion on the project. The following are said to have been the arrangements:—Fifteen hundred men are to be furnished by each Government, independently of the crews and marines attached to the respective ships.

DEATH OF THE SHAH OF PERSIA.—The 'France' has published a letter communicating the news of the death of the Shah of Persia, Mohammed Mirza, who succeeded to the throne of his grandfather in 1834. He was the son of Abbas Mirza, who died in 1818. The 'France' adds that a civil war had broken out after the death of the late Sovereign, and that no fewer than five claimants for the throne had started up.

ABD-EL-KADER'S RETREAT.—The 'Débats' publishes a letter from Algiers of the 15th instant, which, in describing the difficulties of his present position, considerably leaves him several loopholes by which to escape from it. He has not only his own genius and courage to aid him, but a number of French "possibilities":—"The rumour is spreading that Abd-el-Kader, having divided his troops, has fallen back with his most faithful followers on the Fell. If the Emir has penetrated into the interior, as the Arab couriers declare, he must have passed by Ain-Teselemet, and finally penetrated to the Benibou-Seliman, where he has numerous partisans, and where the country is exceedingly uneven. If Abd-el-Kader executes the projects attributed to him, he will not succeed, we hope, either in escaping from us completely, or in raising in a serious manner the Arab tribes of the Chelif. In fact, the baggage and cavalry of Colonel St Arnaud had entered Orleansville on the 11th, and all his column ought to be there at the present moment. On the other hand, General Comman's column is still at the foot of Milianah, and these forces properly employed must prove sufficient to baffle the Emir's plan. If these provisions be verified, Abd-el-Kader will not be able to extricate himself from his position, except by one of the valleys of the Rieu of the Oued-Ardjem or of the Oued-Fodda, and then at their opening he might possibly meet the Marshal, if the latter be informed in time of the movements of the Emir, and he will without doubt be aware of it, for the news received from General Jusuf's column give consistency to the intentions attributed to Abd-el-Kader. This column was, on the morning of the 10th, between the Ouled-Bessam and the Ouled-Amer, in a spot called El-Arbaa of the Ouled-Bessam. Its spies had even stopped two of Abd-el-Kader's couriers through whom the place where the Emir was could be known."

#### SPAIN.

OPENING OF THE CORTES.—The Cortes were opened on the 15th inst. in the following speech from the throne:—"Gentlemen, Senators, and Deputies,—During the short space of time that has elapsed since the termination of the last session of the Cortes no remarkable alteration has taken place in the relations of my kingdom with the other Powers. The negotiations pending with the Holy See continue. During that interval the ratifications of the treaty concluded with the Emperor of Morocco have been exchanged, as well as those of the treaty of reconciliation, peace, and friendship with the Republic of Chili. An unexpected accident has prevented the conclusion of the same formality with respect to the treaty recently agreed upon with the Republic of Venezuela. The many bonds which unite Spain with those States cannot but contribute to the establishment of intimate relations between the two countries. I desire to protect by all means our navigation and commerce. By giving life and animation to agriculture and industry, a new stimulus will be given to the progress of our navy, which will insure recovery from the state of prostration into which it had fallen, and which will not confer less benefit and advantage upon our foreign provinces, so worthy of all our interest for the fidelity they have always displayed under all circumstances. At home, in the Peninsula, order and respect of the laws have been maintained, so that every attempt at treason has been defeated by the vigilance and the firmness of the authorities, as well as by the fidelity of the army, the subordination and discipline of which might serve as a model for the world; and, in fine, by the excellent spirit of the people—tired and worn out by revolt, and anxious to enjoy fully the benefit of peace, under the shade of the Throne, and under the protection of our national institutions. In order to consolidate the possession of advantages so precious, we have, by virtue of the authority which you gave to my Government, established organic laws. I have to congratulate you on the fact that these measures have fully justified our expectations. The nation now finds itself endowed with laws, the want of which had been felt during so many years, and the establishment of which has been effected without suggesting any difficulty; on the contrary, the establishment of those laws is beginning already to produce their fruits in the good order and government of the State. Independently of those reforms—so important and urgent—others of less magnitude have been effected, as well in the department of public instruction, as in the administration of justice, and in various other branches of Government. My Government has likewise devoted itself to the carrying into execution the plan of finance voted in the last Legislature, and to the removal of all the obstacles which impeded total reform in matters of taxation. I can assure you with satisfaction that that plan has been carried into effect in most of its provisions. In the estimates, which will be immediately submitted to you for examination, you will find all the ameliorations and improvements of which they were susceptible. Time and experience will lead us to discover defects which it is indispensable

to correct, which it would have been impossible in so short a space of time to have removed, and which ever accompany the establishment of a new system. Some of the evils and injuries arising out of the Law of *Aranceles*, passed in the year 1841, being obvious, the Government proposes at a convenient opportunity to submit to you measures for their remedy. My Government propose also to submit to you measures calculated to increase the public wealth and to strengthen the credit of the nation. My Government will also present to you a project of law with the important object of endowing, in a permanent and solid manner, public worship and the clergy. Such, gentlemen, senators, and deputies, are the principal matters to be submitted to your consideration, relying as I do upon your zeal and good-will, of which I have received so many and such unequivocal proofs. The greatest and most difficult portions of this work being accomplished, it now remains only to conclude and place it on a solid basis. During the last session you introduced into the Constitution the reforms indispensable for placing in harmony the prerogatives of the Crown and the rights of the nation. You authorized my Government to promulgate those organic laws, by means of which the political machine received freedom of action and movement. You decreed, in fine, a new plan of finance, calculated to put an end to the disorder which consumed the resources of the State. At present it devolves on you to examine the results of your former resolutions, and to introduce such further improvements and reforms as shall appear to you called for and necessary—a task which, though less brilliant, is not the less useful and glorious. Your zeal and perseverance will be necessary to aid my Government in the laudable task of regulating the finances and administration of the State, which necessarily felt the effects of previous great and fatal disorder. I feel convinced that this task, if undertaken, will not be found greater than your capacity. This I hope for at least, confiding in the protection of Divine Providence, and with an ardent desire to add this new service to the many which you have already conferred on the throne and the country.”

Accounts from Madrid of the 16th bring the intelligence of the election to the Presidency of the Chamber of Deputies of the Government candidate, Senor Castro y Orozco, who, in a house of 132 members, obtained 74 votes; Senor Pacheco had 51; and Senor Bravo Murillo 6. Of the four Vice-Presidents, only one, Senor Salamanca, belongs to the Opposition.

## ITALY.

**DISCOVERY OF A CONSPIRACY.**—The *Augsburg Gazette* states that a revolutionary plot has been discovered in the Grand Duchy of Tuscany, whose object was the seduction of a whole battalion of Tuscan troops, in order to invade the Roman States; twenty men of this battalion have fled.

## RUSSIA.

**SEVERE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST ROMAN CATHOLICS.**—The *Frankfort Post Gazette* contains the following, dated St Petersburg:—“The ukase which deprives the Roman Catholic and the united Greek clergymen of their prebends, because they refused to conform to the Greek church, is being executed with the utmost severity. The lands are sold, and the proceeds given to the apostate priests, or they are annexed to the Crown domains. A small number of clergymen, faithful to their creed, receive pensions; the others are obliged to live on the voluntary contribution of the faithful, or starve. The Catholics married in their churches are compelled to pay fifty Polish florins, without any distinction of rank or condition. When married in a Greek church nothing is required of them. The clergy are prohibited, under the penalty of exile to Siberia, to apprise the lower orders of Southern Russia of the schism existing between the united and Catholic churches, and the fusion of the first with the dissenting church. In order to save appearances the renegade priests continue to wear the costume of the Roman clergy, and to shave their beards; but they celebrate mass according to the Greek rites, and the people are not aware that they are assisting at a service performed by an heterodox clergyman.”

## TURKEY.

**THE LEBANON.**—Letters from Beyrout of the 6th inst. state that on the 25th ult. the Consuls of the Five Powers had addressed a joint remonstrance to Chekib Effendi, in which they denounced the conduct of the Turkish agent in the Lebanon as inconsistent with the proposals made at Constantinople for the pacification of that country. The inhabitants of Jut-em-Suri had ultimately submitted to the troops of the Sultan, and surrendered their arms.

## NORTH AMERICA.

**PROPOSED CESSION OF UPPER CALIFORNIA.**—Accounts from Vera Cruz to the 6th of November report that the Special Minister delegated by the Executive of the United States to negotiate the arrangement of the difficulties existing between the two countries had submitted the following propositions:—1. The Rio del Norte to be the boundary. 2. An indemnity of five millions of dollars. 3. Upper California to be ceded to the United States as far down as the head of the Gulf; the river Gila, which empties into the Colorado of the west, to be the boundary. These terms, it is stated, were under discussion in the Mexican Senate.

## THE RIVER PLATE.

**OPERATIONS OF GENERAL ORIBE.**—The latest accounts from Monte Video are to the 1st ult. General Oribe still invested that city, and skirmishing along the lines continually occurred between his troops and the forces of the Monte Videans. A great number of merchant vessels are there; but the principal trade is carried on by the Sardinians. Her Majesty's ships *Vernon*, *Endeavour*, and *Melampus*, and the steam-ship *Firebrand*, were at Monte Video, as well as two French frigates and an American corvette, a Sardinian corvette, a Brazilian corvette, and the Spanish frigate *Albatross*. The blockade by the English and French ships was continued at Buenos Ayres, held out in the expectation that the Governments

of those two countries would not sanction the proceedings of their Ministers. The barbarity of Rosas remains unabated; hired assassins are employed to cut the throats of the husbands and fathers of ladies, who are sitting at his table while these cruelties are perpetrated. The period for the departure of foreign ships from Buenos Ayres had been completed before the Resistance left Monte Video. It is supposed that all the merchantmen had departed within the time assigned.

## INDIA.

**PROSPECT OF WAR IN THE PUNJAB.**—The usual bi-monthly express from Marseilles brings accounts from Bombay to the 15th November. The Governor-General had left Agra, on his way to Bhurtpore and Delhi, which latter place it was expected he would reach on the 23rd or 24th inst. There is no alteration in the threatening attitude assumed by the British authorities towards the effervescent soldiery of Lahore, but the report now is, that the expected blow is to be delayed, and that hostilities will not be resorted to this year. We know not what degree of credit should be attached to this rumour, and are at a loss to reconcile its existence with the maintenance of so formidable a force on the north-west frontier—a force very much stronger, in every respect, than would seem to be required, if our proposed policy be merely a defensive one. Affairs in the Punjab wear a somewhat more tranquil aspect than usual. No chief having as yet dared to step into the shoes of Sirdar Juwahir Singh and his murdered predecessors, the state is at present without a minister, and the affairs of the administration are conducted by the Ranees or Queen Mother, and her favourite, and supposed paramour, Rajah Lall Singh. Rajah Goolab Singh and Sirdar Tej Singh (the ex-governor of Peshawur) have alike declined the perilous office, and though the troops have declared their intention of compelling the former to become Vizier, there seems every reason to believe that the post will remain vacant for a considerable period. The fate of Peshora Singh is still a matter of speculation.

**SCINDE.**—The intelligence from Scinde is extremely limited. The Governor, Sir C. Napier, was expected to leave Kurrachee about the 1st of December, on a tour in Cutch Bhoj. There was little sickness at Sukkur, Hyderabad, or the seat of Government, but the troops composing the outposts have, it is said, suffered severely.

**THE NIZAM'S TERRITORY.**—The Nizam's dominions continue in an unsettled state, and it is supposed that we may now look every day for intelligence of the active interference of the British authorities to restore the country to order, and give a character of stability to the Government. In other parts of India tranquillity appears to prevail.

## ENORMITIES OF ROSAS.

Extract from a letter written by an officer, dated H.M.S. Resistance, Monte Video, 24th Oct. 1845.

“The Firebrand steamer has been sent to Buenos Ayres, to bring away as many of the English as she could, but President Rosas will not allow a soul to leave the place. I should be very sorry to have any friends there, as from all I have heard of that personage, he must be as inhuman a monster as ever remained unhung. There is at Buenos Ayres a kind of club, composed of ruffians, friends of Rosas, who have sworn to do his behests, whatever they may be; and when any one offends him, he orders some of this gang to murder him: and, I am told, whole families have thus been murdered in one night. It is only his own countrymen, however, whom he treats in this manner. I met an Englishman on shore here a few days ago, a sort of merchant, who has been in this country a long time, and who was at Buenos Ayres not long since; and he tells me that anything like the cruelty and tyranny of this man could scarcely be imagined. Neither Monte Videans nor Buenos Ayreans ever thought of keeping prisoners of war; they were all butchered, till the English interfered. Both armies are afraid of each other, and have rarely, I believe, attempted anything during the war beyond firing at one another's sentries; and what few attacks have been made, have failed through mismanagement, with one single exception. The one that succeeded was conducted by an Englishman, known here by the elegant appellation of ‘Cockney Sam.’ A deserter, it seems, came into the town from the enemy, and gave information that every day there was a picket of cavalry of about fifty men, stationed at a house not far from the Monte Videan lines, and that fancying themselves secure, they kept a very bad look out. ‘Cockney Sam,’ accordingly, with some twenty-five or thirty men, came suddenly upon this picket one day about noon, found most of the men asleep, killed the greater number, and brought all the horses into the town. I am curious to see this countryman of mine, but he is not here now. All communication, I understand, is cut off between Rosas and his army, as we have a number of small vessels up the Uruguay, Paraguay, and Parana rivers, the same which composed the Buenos Ayrean fleet, and were taken by the English and French. Their crews were all dismissed, and they are now manned by English and French sailors; and being nearly all small schooners, answer admirably for blockading these rivers. The headquarters and left wing of the 45th Regiment disembarked on the 20th instant, and I believe the rest will land to-morrow. Whether there be anything for us to do here I cannot say; report says we are only to protect the town; but what on earth they can want with a stronger force in this place I cannot imagine. The army of Rosas has been before the town for three years, and I do not believe has ever made an attempt to force an entry. We could very easily drive them out of their present position, but when we had done so, we could not follow them up without cavalry; and the only cavalry regiment of which the Monte Videans could boast are reduced to their feet; having been so hard up for provisions that they were obliged to eat their horses. I fancy this must be a fine place for sporting; and I hear that horses sell for 2*l*. or 3*l*. But at present one cannot go more than a mile out of the town, unless with the chance of having a shot fired at one by these ruffians, who, they say, from constant practice at the Monte Videan sentries, have become rather good shots.”

**LITERARY DISCOVERY.**—There has just been discovered in the library of a schoolmaster near Stockholm, in making the inventory of his effects after his death, a collection of letters of D'Alembert, addressed to George Brandt, the great Swedish chemist, who discovered the properties of arsenic in 1733.

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

On Monday, the 1st inst., the first session of the twenty-ninth Congress commenced at Washington. The Hon. J. W. Davis, of Indiana, was appointed Speaker. On Tuesday, the 2nd, President Polk delivered the annual Message. It is the first which President Polk has had the lot to deliver; and, owing to the unsettled state of the Oregon question, has been looked forward to with much anxiety. Its extreme length prevents us from following it in all its details, and in describing the general character of the Message, we shall confine ourselves to its most important features. After congratulating Congress on the prosperity of the country, the first subject dwelt upon is the annexation of Texas. The President says:—“In pursuance of the joint resolution of Congress, ‘for annexing Texas to the United States,’ my predecessor, on the 3rd day of March, 1845, elected to submit the first and second sections of that resolution to the republic of Texas, as an overture, on the part of the United States, for her admission as a state into our Union. This election I approved; and accordingly the Charge d’Affaires of the United States in Texas, under instructions of the 10th of March, 1845, presented these sections of the resolution for the acceptance of that republic. The executive Government, the Congress, and the people of Texas in convention, have successively complied with all the terms and conditions of the joint resolution. A constitution for the Government of the state of Texas, formed by a convention of deputies, is herewith laid before Congress. It is well known, also, that the people of Texas, at the polls, have accepted the terms of annexation, and ratified the constitution.”—“The terms of annexation which were offered by the United States having been accepted by Texas, the public faith of both parties is solemnly pledged to the compact of their union. Nothing remains to consummate the event but the passage of an act by Congress to admit the state of Texas into the Union, upon an equal footing with the original states. Strong reasons exist why this should be done at an early period of the session. It will be observed that, by the constitution of Texas, the existing Government is only continued temporarily till Congress can act; and that the third Monday of the present month is the day appointed for holding the first general election. On that day a Governor, a Lieutenant-Governor, and both branches of the Legislature, will be chosen by the people. The President of Texas is required, immediately after the receipt of official information, that the new state has been admitted in our Union by Congress, to convene the Legislature; and, upon its meeting, the existing Government will be superseded, and the state Government organized. Questions deeply interesting to Texas, in common with the other states, the extension of our revenue laws and judicial system over her people and territory, as well as measures of a local character, will claim the early attention of Congress; and therefore, upon every principle of republican government, she ought to be represented in that body without unnecessary delay. I cannot too earnestly recommend prompt action on this important subject. As soon as the act to admit Texas as a state shall be passed, the union of the two republics will be consummated by their own voluntary consent.”

In speaking of the relations subsisting between the United States and Mexico, the President enters into a history of the recent rupture between the two countries, and the measures adopted by himself to preserve the inviolability of Texas, and concludes by stating, that in consequence of the representations made on the 9th of November, an official answer was received, that the Mexican Government consented to renew the diplomatic relations which had been suspended in March last, and for that purpose were willing to accredit a minister from the United States, who was accordingly dispatched on the following day, clothed with full powers to adjust, and definitely settle, all pending differences between the two countries, including those of boundary between Mexico and the State of Texas.

The following is the President's statement in regard to the Oregon question:—“My attention was early directed to the negotiation which, on the 4th of March last, I found pending at Washington, between the United States and Great Britain, on the subject of the Oregon territory. Three several attempts had been previously made to settle the questions in dispute between the two countries by negotiation, upon the principle of compromise; but each had proved unsuccessful. These negotiations took place at London, in the years 1818, 1824, and 1826; the two first under the administration of Mr Monroe, and the last under that of Mr Adams. The negotiation of 1818 having failed to accomplish its object, resulted in the convention of the 20th of October of that year. By the third article of that convention, it was ‘agreed that any country that may be claimed by either party on the north-west coast of America, westward of the Stony Mountains, shall, together with its harbours, bays, and creeks, and the navigation of all rivers within the same, be free and open for the term of ten years from the date of the signature of the present convention to the vessels, citizens, and subjects of the two Powers; it being well understood that this agreement is not to be construed to the prejudice of any claim which either of the two high contracting parties may have to any part of the said country, nor shall it be taken to affect the claims of any other power or state to any part of the said country; the only object of the high contracting parties in that respect being to prevent disputes and differences among themselves.’ The negotiation of 1824 was productive of no result, and the convention of 1818 was left unchanged. The negotiation of 1826 having also failed to effect an adjustment by compromise, resulted in the convention of August 6th, 1827, by which it was agreed to continue in force, for an indefinite period, the provisions of the third article of the convention of the 20th of October, 1818; and it was further provided, that ‘it shall be competent, however, to either of the contracting parties, in case either should think fit, at any time after the 20th of October, 1828, on giving due notice of twelve months to the other contracting party, to annul and abrogate this convention; and it shall in such case be accordingly entirely annulled and abrogated after the expiration of the said term of notice.’ In these attempts to adjust the controversy, the parallel of the 49th degree of north latitude had been offered by the United States to Great Britain, and in those of 1818 and 1826, with a further concession of the free navigation of the Columbia River, south

of that latitude. The parallel of the 49th degree, from the Rocky Mountains to its intersection with the north-easternmost branch of the Columbia, and thence down the channel of that river to the sea, had been offered by Great Britain, with an addition of a small detached territory north of the Columbia. Each of these propositions had been rejected by the parties respectively. In October, 1843, the Envoy-Extraordinary and Minister-Plenipotentiary of the United States in London was authorised to make a similar offer to those made in 1818 and 1826. Thus stood the question, when the negotiation was shortly afterwards transferred to Washington, and, on the 23rd of August, 1844, was formally opened, under the direction of my immediate predecessor. Like all the previous negotiations, it was based upon principles of 'compromise;' and the avowed purpose of the parties was, 'to treat of the respective claims of the two countries to the Oregon territory, with the view to establish a permanent boundary between them westward of the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean.' Accordingly, on the 26th of August, 1844, the British Plenipotentiary offered to divide the Oregon territory by the 49th parallel of north latitude from the Rocky Mountains to the point of its intersection with the north-easternmost branch of the Columbia River, and thence down that river to the sea, leaving the free navigation of the river to be enjoyed in common by both parties—the country south of this line to belong to the United States, and that north of it to Great Britain. At the same time he proposed, in addition, to yield to the United States a detached territory, north of the Columbia, extending along the Pacific and the Straits of Fuca, from Bulfinch's Harbour inclusive, to Hood's Canal, and to make free to the United States any port or ports south of latitude 49 degrees, which they might desire, either on the main land, or on Quadra and Vancouver's Island. With the exception of the free ports, this was the same offer which had been made by the British, and rejected by the American Government in the negotiation of 1826. This proposition was properly rejected by the American Plenipotentiary on the day it was submitted. This was the only proposition of compromise offered by the British Plenipotentiary. The proposition on the part of Great Britain having been rejected, the British Plenipotentiary requested that a proposal should be made by the United States for 'an equitable adjustment of the question.' When I came into office, I found this to be the state of the negotiation. Though entertaining the settled conviction that the British pretensions of title could not be maintained to any portion of the Oregon territory upon any principle of public law recognized by nations, yet, in deference to what had been done by my predecessors, and especially in consideration that propositions of compromise had been thrice made by two preceding administrations to adjust the question on the parallel of 49 degrees, and in two of them yielding to Great Britain the free navigation of the Columbia, and that the pending negotiation had been commenced on the basis of compromise, I deemed it to be my duty not abruptly to break it off. In consideration, too, that under the conventions of 1818 and 1827, the citizens and subjects of the two Powers held a joint occupancy of the country, I was induced to make another effort to settle this long-pending controversy in the spirit of moderation which had given birth to the renewed discussion. A proposition was accordingly made, which was rejected by the British Plenipotentiary, who, without submitting any other proposition, suffered the negotiation on his part to drop, expressing his trust that the United States would offer what he saw fit to call 'some further proposal for the settlement of the Oregon question more consistent with fairness and equity, and with the reasonable expectations of the British Government.' The proposition thus offered and rejected, repeated the offer of the parallel of 49 degrees of north latitude, which had been made by two preceding administrations, but without proposing to surrender to Great Britain, as they had done, the free navigation of the Columbia River. The right of any foreign power to the free navigation of any of our rivers, through the heart of our country, was one which I was unwilling to concede. It also embraced a provision to make free to Great Britain any port or ports on the Cape of Quadra and Vancouver's Island, south of this parallel. Had this been a new question, coming under discussion for the first time, this proposition would not have been made. The extraordinary and wholly inadmissible demands of the British Government, and the rejection of the proposition made in deference alone to what had been done by my predecessors, and the implied obligation which their acts seemed to impose, afford satisfactory evidence that no compromise which the United States ought to accept can be effected. With this conviction, the proposition of compromise which had been made and rejected, was, by my direction, subsequently withdrawn, and our title to the whole Oregon territory asserted, and, as is believed, maintained by irrefragable facts and arguments. All attempts at compromise having failed, it becomes the duty of Congress to consider what measures it may be proper to adopt, for the security and protection of our citizens now inhabiting, or who may hereafter inhabit Oregon, and for the maintenance of our just title to that territory. In adopting measures for this purpose, care should be taken that nothing be done to violate the stipulations of the convention of 1827, which is still in force. The faith of treaties, in their letter and spirit, has ever been, and I trust will ever be, scrupulously observed by the United States. Under that convention, a year's notice is required to be given by either party to the other, before the joint occupancy shall terminate, and before either can rightfully assert, or exercise exclusive jurisdiction over any portion of the territory. This notice it would, in my judgment, be proper to give; and I recommend that provision be made by law for giving it accordingly, and terminating in this manner the convention of the 6th of August, 1827."

Mr Polk then discusses local arrangements to be made for the extension of the laws over the citizens of the United States in Oregon. He then adds:—"It is submitted to the wisdom of Congress to determine whether, at their present session, and until after the expiration of the year's notice, any other measures may be adopted, consistently with the convention of 1827, for the security of our rights, and the government and protection of our citizens in Oregon." And finally:—"At the end of the year's notice, should Congress think it proper to make provision for giving that notice, we shall have reached a period when the national rights in Oregon must either be abandoned or firmly maintained. That they cannot be abandoned without a sacrifice of both national honour and interest, is too clear to admit of doubt."—After repudiating the idea of European interference, on the plea of the adjustment of the balance of power, and referring to certain questions pending between the Prussian, Spanish, and Portuguese Governments, with other matters of minor

interest, Mr Polk announces the present "indebtedness" of the United States to be 17,075,445 dols. 52 c., and then turns to the tariff, the subject next in importance to Oregon. On this question he says:—"The attention of Congress is invited to the importance of making suitable modifications and reductions of the rates of duty imposed by our present tariff laws. The object of imposing duties on imports should be to raise revenue to pay the necessary expenses of Government. Congress may, undoubtedly, in the exercise of a sound discretion, discriminate in arranging the rates of duty on different articles; but the discrimination should be within the revenue standard, and be made with the view to raise money for the support of Government. 'It becomes important to understand distinctly what is meant by a revenue standard, the maximum of which should not be exceeded in the rates of duty imposed. It is conceded, and experience proves that duties may be laid so high as to diminish, or prohibit altogether the importation of any given article, and thereby lessen or destroy the revenue which, at lower rates, would be derived from its importation. Such duties exceed the revenue rates, and are not imposed to raise money for the support of Government. If Congress levy a duty, for revenue, of 1 per cent. on a given article, it will produce a given amount of money to the treasury, and will incidentally and necessarily afford protection or advantage to the amount of 1 per cent. to the home manufacturer of a similar or like article over the importer. If the duty be raised to 10 per cent., it will produce a greater amount of money, and afford greater protection. If it be still raised to 20, or 25, or 30 per cent., and if, as it is raised, the revenue derived from it is found to be increased, the protection or advantage will also be increased; but if it be raised to 31 per cent., and it is found that the revenue produced at that rate is less than at 30 per cent., it ceases to be a revenue duty. The precise point in the ascending scale of duties, at which it is ascertained from experience that the revenue is greatest, is the maximum rate of duty which can be laid for the *bona fide* purpose of collecting money for the support of Government. To raise the duties higher than that point, and thereby diminish the amount collected, is to levy them for protection merely, and not for revenue. As long, then, as Congress may gradually increase the rate of duty on a given article, and the revenue is increased by such increase of duty, they are within the revenue standard. When they go beyond that point, and, as they increase the duties, the revenue is diminished or destroyed, the act ceases to have for its object the raising of money to support Government, but is for protection merely. It does not follow that Congress should levy the highest duty on all articles of import which they will bear within the revenue standard; for such rates would probably produce a much larger amount than the economical administration of the Government would require. Nor does it follow that the duties on all articles should be at the same, or a horizontal rate. Some articles will bear a much higher revenue duty than others. Below the maximum of the revenue standard Congress may and ought to discriminate in the rates imposed, taking care so to adjust them on different articles as to produce in the aggregate the amount which, when added to the proceeds of sales of public lands, may be needed to pay the economical expenses of the Government. In levying a tariff of duties, Congress exercises the taxing power, and for purposes of revenue may select the objects of taxation. They may exempt certain articles altogether, and permit their importation free of duty. On others they may impose low duties. In these classes should be embraced such articles of necessity as are in general use, and especially such as are consumed by the labourer and the poor, as well as by the wealthy citizen. Care should be taken that all the great interests of the country, including manufactures, agriculture, commerce, navigation, and the mechanic arts, should, as far as may be practicable, derive equal advantage from the incidental protection which a just system of revenue duties may afford. Taxation, direct or indirect, is a burden, and it should be so imposed as to operate, as equally as may be, on all classes, in the proportion of their ability to bear it. To make the taxing power an actual benefit to one class necessarily increases the burden of the others beyond their proportion, and would be manifestly unjust. The terms 'protection to domestic industry' are of popular import; but they should apply under a just system to all the various branches of industry in our country. The farmer or planter, who toils yearly in his fields, is engaged in 'domestic industry,' and is as much entitled to have his labour 'protected' as the manufacturer, the man of commerce, the navigator, or the mechanic, who are also engaged in 'domestic industry' in their different pursuits. The joint labours of all these classes constitute the aggregate of the 'domestic industry' of the nation, and they are equally entitled to the nation's 'protection.' No one of them can justly claim to be the exclusive recipients of 'protection,' which can only be afforded by increasing burdens on the 'domestic industry' of the others. If these views be correct, it remains to inquire how far the Tariff Act of 1842 is consistent with them. That many of the provisions of that act are in violation of the cardinal principles here laid down all must concede. The rates of duty imposed by it on some articles are prohibitory, and on others so high as greatly to diminish importations, and to produce a less amount of revenue than would be derived from lower rates. They operate as 'protection merely' to one branch of 'domestic industry,' by taxing other branches. By the introduction of minimums, or assumed and false values, and by the imposition of specific duties, the injustice and inequality of the act of 1842, in its practical operations on different classes and pursuits, are seen and felt. Many of the oppressive duties imposed by it under the operation of these principles range from 1 per cent. to more than 200 per cent. They are prohibitory on some articles, and partially so on others, and bear most heavily on articles of common necessity, and but lightly on articles of luxury. It is so framed that much the greatest burden which it imposes is thrown on labour and the poorer classes who are least able to bear it, while it protects capital and exempts the rich from paying their just proportion of the taxation required for the support of government. While it protects the capital of the wealthy manufacturer, and increases his profits, it does not benefit the operatives or labourers in his employment, whose wages have not been increased by it. Articles of prime necessity or of coarse quality and low price, used by the masses of the people, are, in many instances, subjected by it to heavy taxes, while articles of finer quality and higher price, or of luxury, which can be used only by the opulent, are lightly taxed. It imposes heavy and unjust burdens on the farmer, the planter, the commercial man, and those of all other pursuits except the capitalist who has made his investments in manufactures. All the great interests

of the country are not, as nearly as may be practicable, equally protected by it. The government in theory knows no distinction of persons or classes, and should not bestow upon some favours and privileges which all others may not enjoy. It was the purpose of its illustrious founders to base the institutions which they reared upon the great and unchanging principles of justice and equity, conscious that, if administered in the spirit in which they were conceived, they would be felt only by the benefits which they diffused, and would secure for themselves a defence in the hearts of the people, more powerful than standing armies and all the means and appliances invented to sustain governments founded in injustice and oppression. The well known fact that the Tariff Act of 1842 was passed by a majority of one vote in the Senate, and two in the House of Representatives, and that some of those who felt themselves constrained, under the peculiar circumstances existing at the time, to vote in its favour, proclaimed its defects, and expressed their determination to aid in its modification on the first opportunity, affords strong and conclusive evidence that it was not intended to be permanent, and of the expediency and necessity of its thorough revision. In recommending to Congress a reduction of the present rates of duty, and a revision and modification of the act of 1842, I am far from entertaining opinions unfriendly to the manufacturers. On the contrary, I desire to see them prosperous, as far as they can be so without imposing unequal burdens on other interests. The advantage under any system of indirect taxation, even within the revenue standard, must be in favour of the manufacturing interest; and of this no other interest will complain. I recommend to Congress the abolition of the minimum principle, or assumed, arbitrary, and false values, and of specific duties, and the substitution in their place of *ad valorem* duties, as the fairest and most equitable tax which can be imposed. By the *ad valorem* principle, all articles are taxed according to their cost or value; and those which are of inferior quality, or of small cost, bear only the just proportion of the tax with those which are of superior quality or greater cost. The articles consumed by all are taxed at the same rate. A system of *ad valorem* revenue duties, with proper discriminations and proper guards against frauds in collecting them, it is not doubted, will afford ample incidental advantages to the manufacturers, and enable them to derive as great profits as can be derived from any other regular business. It is believed that such a system, strictly within the revenue standard, will place the manufacturing interests on a staple footing, and insure to their permanent advantage; while it will, as nearly as may be practicable, extend to all the great interests of the country the incidental protection which can be afforded by our revenue laws. Such a system, when once firmly established, would be permanent, and not be subject to the constant complaints, agitations, and changes which must ever occur when duties are not laid for revenue, but for the "protection merely" of a favoured interest. In the deliberation of Congress on this subject, it is hoped that a spirit of mutual concession and compromise between conflicting interests may prevail, and that the result of their labours may be crowned with the happiest consequences."

The remainder of the message is devoted to matters of local interest;—the recommendation of a government bank; the land system; the navy, the army, and miscellaneous particulars; it winds up with an eulogy on the late General Jackson.

#### COURT AND ARISTOCRACY.

RETURN OF THE COURT TO LONDON.—Her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, accompanied by the Royal Family, will take their departure from Windsor Castle for Buckingham Palace, according to present arrangements, on Tuesday, the 20th of next month, two days before the meeting of Parliament, which will be opened by her Majesty in person. Instructions to this effect have been forwarded to Buckingham Palace, in order that the extensive alterations and embellishments at the Sovereign's town residence, which have been for some time in progress, may be completed by that period.

THE DUCHESS OF CAMBRIDGE.—Her Royal Highness, who, it was expected, would have returned to this country in the course of the month, has made arrangements to remain with their Serene Highnesses the Hereditary Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg Strelitz, at New Strelitz, until after New Year's day. We learn that her Royal Highness, accompanied by the Princess Mary, now intends to leave New Strelitz on the 10th of the ensuing month, and that the 16th is the day appointed for her Royal Highness to reach Cambridge house.

EXPECTED HEIR TO THE HOUSE OF SAXE-COBURG GOTHA.—The 'Cologne Gazette' of the 19th confirms the report of the pregnancy of the reigning Duchess of Gotha. His Royal Highness Prince Albert is the heir presumptive to the duchy.

CHRISTENING OF VISCOUNT ENCOMBE.—The King of Hanover, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and Mrs Farrar (mother of the Earl of Eldon), were sponsors for the Viscount Encombe, the infant son and heir of the Earl and Countess of Eldon, at the Viscount's baptism last week. His Excellency Count Kielmansegge (the Hanoverian Minister) was present to represent his Sovereign. The Earl of Eldon has, since the birth of his son, dispensed large bounties to the poor on his several extensive domains in the counties of Dorset, Durham, and Gloucester.

THE LATE SIR LAURENCE JONES, BART.—Letters from Smyrna confirm the melancholy death of this gentleman. The unfortunate deceased was the eldest of four sons of the late Major-General Sir John Thomas Jones, K.C.B., who, for his eminent services in the Royal Engineers throughout the several campaigns in the Peninsula, under the Duke of Wellington, was recommended by his Grace as an officer meriting a public mark of distinction, and in September, 1831, he was created a baronet of England. On his death, in 1843, he was succeeded by Sir Laurence, the subject of this brief notice. The deceased was born on the 10th of January, 1817, and was unmarried. His next brother, Willoughby, succeeds to the baronetcy, and inherits the family estates in Norfolk. He has just entered his twenty-sixth year.

THE LATE LORD WHARNCLIFFE.—We understand that on Sunday morning Dr Meryon, who attended Lord Wharncliffe during his illness, made a post-mortem examination of the deceased nobleman, to ascertain the

cause of his Lordship's somewhat sudden death: when it became apparent it was caused by an effusion of the brain, produced no doubt by mental excitement. Dr Bright and Dr Fergusson were called in by Dr Meryon during Lord Wharnclyffe's last attack on the night of Thursday week, but the autopsy was performed by Dr Meryon alone, and not, as stated in the daily papers, by Dr Merryman; neither was Sir Benjamin Brodie present.

**DRESS OF THE NAVY.**—Officers of the navy will be shortly ordered to wear scales on the undress coat, instead of epaulettes, as heretofore, similar to those worn in the army. The patterns are already sealed at the Admiralty.

### POLITICAL.

**RESIGNATION OF LORD STANLEY.**—The Queen held a Court and Privy Council on Tuesday, at Windsor Castle. There were present—his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Duke of Wellington, the Duke of Buccleuch, Sir R. Peel, the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord Stanley, Mr W. E. Gladstone, Sir J. Graham, Mr H. Goulburn, the Earl of Haddington, Lord Granville Somerset, the Earl of Lincoln, Mr Sidney Herbert, the Earl of Dalhousie, the Earl of Liverpool, and the Earl of Jersey. Lord Stanley had an audience of the Queen, and delivered to her Majesty his seals of office as one of her Majesty's principal Secretaries of State. The Queen having been pleased to appoint the Right Hon. William Ewart Gladstone to be one of her Majesty's principal Secretaries of State (for War and the Colonies), he was, by command of the Queen, sworn one of her Majesty's principal Secretaries of State.

**MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.**—A proclamation was issued on Wednesday, summoning Parliament to meet for the despatch of public business on the 22nd of January next.

**REPRESENTATION OF EAST SUSSEX.**—Mr Darby will vacate his seat as soon as Parliament meets. It is expected that Mr Frewen will offer himself for the vacancy. Mr F. is a staunch friend of the farmer, and a staunch Protestant also. Mr John Villiers Shelley is to be the free-trade candidate.

**THE REPRESENTATION OF BUCKINGHAM.**—The death of Sir John Chetwode places the representation of this pocket borough at the disposal of the Duke of Buckingham, who, it is reported, intends bringing forward his son, the Marquis of Chandos, as candidate.

**THE WEST YORKSHIRE ELECTION.**—The free traders in Leeds are setting to work in good earnest to bring Lord Morpeth forward as a candidate for the representation of this Riding. The Conservatives are not known to be at all stirring. The following is a copy of a large placard that has just been posted in this town, and we believe similar ones have been, or will be in a day or two distributed through the various polling districts into which the Riding is divided.—“**WEST RIDING ELECTION.**—A vacancy having occurred in the representation of the Riding, owing to the elevation of the Hon. John Stuart Wortley to the peerage, a requisition is in course of signature to the Right Hon. Lord Morpeth, inviting that nobleman to offer himself as a candidate for the Riding. Requisition sheets will lie for the signature of West Riding electors at the 'Leeds Mercury' office, 'Leeds Times' office, and at the Reform Registration office, 187 Wellington street, till Friday noon, 26th inst. at 12 o'clock.—**HAMER STANFELD**, Chairman of the Leeds Polling District.”

**THE REPRESENTATION OF HERTFORDSHIRE.**—We are informed that Mr Spencer Cowper, in the anticipation of a general election at an early period, declines to contest the county with Mr Halsey at the present vacancy, but has announced his intention of coming forward at the next opportunity.

**THE VACANCY IN THE WEST RIDING.**—By the death of Lord Wharnclyffe, the Hon. J. S. Wortley, one of the members for the West Riding, is called to the House of Peers; and a vacancy occurs in the representation of that most important constituency. Lord Morpeth, who at present has no seat in Parliament, will, doubtless, be the Liberal candidate. We trust that the electors of the West Riding will avail themselves of the opportunity so unexpectedly afforded them, of testifying the deep importance which they attach to the mighty struggle now going on for the abolition of those laws which press so heavily on the commerce of the country, and are not unfrequently the cause of vast suffering to thousands of our fellow countrymen. As the state of the constituency in the West Riding becomes at the present moment a matter of great interest, the want of little anxiety to those who think with us, we may just state, that at the last election, in 1841, the numbers polled were—Hon. J. S. Wortley, 13,165; Edmund B. Denison, 12,780; Lord Milton, 13,080; Lord Morpeth, 12,031. At that election, 30,998 electors were upon the register, of whom 25,273 voted. At the meeting of the League, on Wednesday week, the Chairman, Mr Geo. Wilson, when enumerating the free trade gains on the registration in various counties and divisions of counties, spoke thus of the West Riding:—“They next came to the West Riding of Yorkshire, nothing could show the improved tactics pursued by the League over former tacticians more than this statement. From 1841 to 1844 the total gain in the West Riding of Yorkshire was only 263; but the gain this year in claims had been 2,120, or 6½ per cent. on the whole register, and in objections 22; making a total gain in the two years of 2,405, or 7 per cent. Mr Wortley's majority in 1841 was 1,134; so that the present free-trade majority was 1,271.” The great gain, however, will be found in the change of opinion as to free trade which has taken place among the electors since 1841. The agricultural districts may give a result not materially different from that election; but the majorities for Lord Morpeth in the great manufacturing towns and districts will be perfectly decisive.—“*Manchester Guardian*.”

**LIEUTENANCY OF THE WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.**—We understand that the Earl of Harewood will succeed the late Lord Wharnclyffe as Lord Lieutenant of the

West Riding of Yorkshire. The late Earl of Harewood was the Lord Lieutenant of that Riding for very many years.

### IRELAND.

**MR O'CONNELL AND THE CONDITION OF HIS TENANTRY.**—The 'Times' Commissioner, in a letter from Killybegs of the 20th inst., has again raised the question of the condition of the peasantry on Mr O'Connell's estate, and in such a manner as completely to disprove the assertions made by Mr Maurice O'Connell in the long letter from him, which was published in the 'Times' on Monday. The charge made against Mr O'Connell by the 'Times' Commissioner, resolved itself, generally, into that of totally neglecting his tenants, whom he described as having “no agricultural schools, no encouragement, none to lead or to guide them,” and of being “left to subdivide their land and to multiply until their principal feature was distress.” This charge was not only denied in Mr O'Connell's peculiar manner by Mr O'Connell himself, but drew forth the letter from his son Maurice to which we have adverted, and a number of “testimonials” from friends of Mr O'Connell, all of whom concurred in denouncing the 'Times' Commissioner as “a liar.” That gentleman offered to refer the question of the truth of his statements to twelve arbitrators—six on his own side from different parts of Ireland, and six selected from the friends of Mr O'Connell. This proposal was refused, and an application was therefore made by him for another gentleman from the 'Times' office to accompany him back into Kerry, to take notes of what he saw in the presence of Mr O'Connell, or of his friends, if they chose to go with them. The 'Times' Commissioner and the reporter accordingly visited the estate, and passed three days in examining it. On the third day they were accompanied by Mr Maurice O'Connell himself, and with him inspected his father's estates “from Waterville to Derrynane Beg.” A part of what they saw is thus graphically told:—“We drove on to Derrynane Beg. We entered it by a bridle path for horses. Down this path a mountain stream was running ankle deep, and by this road we made our way, jumping from stone to stone, and sometimes compelled to wade, to the much-reputed Derrynane Beg. The cottages are built in clusters of two and three together—a dung-heap always beside each, over which we had generally to scramble to get into the door. We entered several of these cabins, some inhabited by tenants, and others by labourers. In their general description the cabins are thatched with potato tops, with flat stones and sods piled on the thatchers to mend them and keep them down; the doorways are narrow, and about four feet and a half high; the windows of such cottages as had them, are about eight inches by ten, without glass, and stopped up by boards; many are without any hole for a window at all; a cow or a pig was usually inside, and half a dozen children; the cottages inside were almost invariably quite dark, and filled with smoke, which found its way out of the doorways; and our inspection was carried on by means of lighted splints of bog timber, lighted at the turf fire on the mud floor, the dull red glare of which, through the thick smoke, on half-naked children, pigs, cows, filth, and mud, was such a picture as I cannot draw.” The 'Times' Commissioner afterwards sums up in these words:—“I have been all over England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland, and I declare to you solemnly, that in no part of the United Kingdom is such neglected wretchedness—such filth, such squalor, such misery of every kind—to be seen, as I saw that day on Mr O'Connell's estate, in the presence of Mr Maurice O'Connell.” We may add that the 'Times' reporter minutely confirms this statement. Here are instances:—“Next came J. Donoghue's cabin. It was scarcely clean enough for an English pigstye. He, his wife, and four children slept on a heap of straw. Mr Maurice O'Connell seemed surprised at the existence of himself for his cottage, and asked his wife where she came from. ‘From her own village, Ardcarra,’ she said. He then inquired how long she had been there? She replied for nine years. We asked her how she and her family lived. ‘Very, very badly,’ she said. ‘Her husband had a little score-ground (conacre), but they had not half enough of potatoes to eat, and nothing else. Mr O'Connell only took 1s. a-year from them.’ The only seat in the house was a heap of stones, and a chest sufficed for their table. The next tenant, named Donnelly, was, if possible, in a more deplorable condition, and seemed equally unknown to Mr O'Connell, though he had lived in his present but for four years. There was no window in it—no chair; some sticks in the corner, an iron pot, and a bed of straw, were all the furniture I could see. At first he could not say whether he paid any rent or not, but at last he remembered that he paid 1l. a-year for the grass of one cow. The doorway, which was surrounded by mud, was about three feet high by two feet broad. Close to this were two hovels, quite as miserable, which, with several others that we entered, were held by the same class of tenants. Further description would be tedious and useless; they were all alike.” As a contrast to the condition of Mr O'Connell's tenants, let us turn to the report given of that of the tenants of the Marquis of Lansdowne. “The aspect of the adjacent farm of Nurrigh, belonging to the Marquis of Lansdowne, was very different. Here, with few exceptions, well slated houses, shining with whitewash, met the eye—the fields looked well cultivated, the hedges and potato and cabbage gardens neat and trim, and the exceptions seemed in general rather attributable to the carelessness of the tenant than to the neglect of the landlord. We entered the house of Dan Sullivan; it was roomy, clean outside with whitewash, and tolerably neat within: well filled with the ordinary furniture of the Kerry peasant,—wooden seats and tables, a dresser, feather bed, &c. A large pot of potatoes was boiling over the fire, and the farmer's daughter had just removed another containing boiled cabbages for the cows; and yet this man had but two cows' grass, for which he paid 4l. 16s. a-year. This was a fair sample of his lordship's tenantry on this land, some being better, and some,

**THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS.**—After the ordinary proceedings of the weekly meeting of the Repeal Association in Dublin had terminated on Monday, Mr O'Connell having moved the adoption of the Report, said he was anxious to address a few words to the meeting on the subject of the crisis at which they had arrived. They were in a strange state of puzzle. Sir Robert Peel was Minister ten days ago—Lord John Russell had become Minister in the interval, and he believed he was correct in saying that there was no Minister at that moment. That was the state of England. He did not consider that the Tories would, in all probability, be able to form an administration. They could, assuredly, have no confidence in Sir Robert Peel—they had declared that fact loudly and bitterly—they could have no reliance on him. It should likewise be remembered that they (the Irish) could have no confidence in him. Last week he was a Leaguer, this week he may be a protectionist, next week he may be for something modified; and he was so much attached to a sliding-scale, that he might get on a sliding-scale himself, and slip through their fingers [laughter]. They were placed in a curious position. They had no government, and no person could precisely tell why. They could not tell why the Whigs did not form an administration—they could not tell why the Tories ceased to be a government [laughter]. All they knew was that both Whigs and Tories had quarrelled amongst themselves, and that they agreed upon nothing but to differ [laughter]. There was only one point on which they were perfectly unanimous, and that was to differ among themselves [laughter]. What was all that to Ireland? that was the real question to consider. The present crisis was most beneficial to Ireland—it raised their expectations—it gave them the certainty of success, if they were true to themselves and to their country [cheers]. What cared they for Whigs or Tories [cheers]? Their cause was the cause of Ireland—they were on a majestic march to nationality, and the changes and shiftings of administrations only exhibited the throes and struggles of that species of political tyranny that would debase them, dividing and separating them from each other. The present was the time to rally together—every man should be a repealer now [cheers]. On that day week he had expressed his concurrence in the sentiments expressed in the letter to Mr Smith O'Brien. That patriotic gentleman called emphatically for a “shout for repeal, and no compromise.” And he (Mr O'Connell) repeated his words, and added to them “repeal and no compromise” [cheers]. No matter who was Minister, nothing should ever be able to divert them from the pursuit of their object. Last week he had expressed his intention of supporting Lord John Russell on the subject of the corn-laws; he had promised to attend constantly during the debates on the corn question, and that he would use his influence with the Irish members to attend likewise—that he would vote, and that he would induce his friends to vote, in every division, with Mr Cobden and Mr Bright [cheers]. He had no great liking to Sir Robert Peel; he knew what kind of a trickster he was, but still he would be equally ready to support him if he would undertake to make food plentiful and give cheap bread to the people [cheers]. But, while he said, that he would not hesitate, to do ample justice to Lord John Russell. That noble lord had placed himself in a permanent station of the highest order [hear, and cheers]. Whatever his conduct as a Whig might have been, it was impossible to contemplate his conduct and mode of acting with regard to the corn-laws without feeling a veneration for his person and concurrence in his opinions [cheers]. Lord John Russell had behaved admirably on that occasion, and he would go with him so far as he behaved himself, and not one inch further. He (Lord J. Russell) had pledged himself to a fixed duty, and against a total repeal of the corn-laws; but he found that famine was approaching in England, that distress was increasing in the agricultural districts: he saw at once that the amount of wages paid in manufacturing districts would diminish; he beheld great want in England, and he perceived that in Ireland we were approaching to a famine, and, consequently, pestilence; he did not allow the fear of being taunted with inconsistency to retard him in his career—he abandoned, and manfully threw up his former opinions when he arrived at the conclusion that they were wrong, and adopted opinions favourable to the health and prosperity of the people of both countries [loud cheers]. A voice: More power to him [cheers]. Mr O'Connell; More power to him [loud cheers]. But he wished it to be understood that he was not justifying any other act of his. He was not justifying the conduct of the Whigs, or speaking in their praise as a party, but he spoke in honest commendation of their leader. He was vindicating the ancient fame of his family, which had given many martyrs to liberty, and produced many friends to the constitutional freedom of this country [loud cheers]. He therefore loudly and distinctly applauded the recent conduct of Lord John Russell, but he would not the less vote with Sir Robert Peel, if Sir Robert Peel declared in favour of the abolition of the corn-laws [hear, hear]. The hon. gentleman, having proceeded at considerable length to point out the means by which he considered the repeal cause might be advanced, then observed that his plan at present was to get rid of the corn-laws, and by that means put a stop to the famine and consequent destruction of the Irish people. He would give no preference to Whig over Tory, or Tory over Whig—if ever he had given a party vote he would never do so again, nor would he ever vote for any measure except that which he considered beneficial to his country. In conclusion, he gave notice that he would, on the next day of meeting, call upon the repeal members to assemble together and determine on what line of conduct they ought to pursue under existing circumstances. In his opinion there would be further changes before an administration would be formed.

**COUNTY OF ANTRIM ELECTION.**—Sir Horace Seymour, the Marquis of Hertford's nominee, was returned on Monday without opposition, though not without question.



EXTRAORDINARY MEETING AT  
MANCHESTER.

## THE £250,000 LEAGUE FUND.

On Tuesday, at eleven o'clock, there was a meeting at the town-hall, to commence the subscription recently decided upon by the League for raising a fund of a quarter of a million sterling. Such an assemblage of wealth and influence was never seen in Manchester before. The number of persons present could not have been less than from 1,500 to 2,000. Robert Hyde Greg, Esq., was called to the chair, and near him were most of the gentlemen whose names are familiar to the public as leaders and supporters of this great movement, including R. Cobden, Esq., M.P.; John Bright, Esq., M.P.; Jos. Brotherton, Esq., M.P.; James Heywood, Esq.; Henry and Edmund Ashworth, Esqrs.; George Wilson, Esq.; W. B. Watkins, Esq., mayor of Manchester; W. Rawson, Esq.; Alderman Neild; E. D. Davenport, Esq., of Capesthorpe; J. B. Smith, Esq.; Henry Rawson, Esq.; W. R. Callender, Esq.; Samuel Lees, Esq.; Alderman Shuttleworth; Alderman Herve; J. Grundy, Esq., of Park Hills; E. P. Thomson, Esq.; W. Bickham, Esq.; and Thomas Bazley, Esq., president of the Chamber of Commerce.

The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, said: "Gentlemen, if my feelings meet with any echo in your breasts, which I am convinced they do, you will think with me, that we are met here to-day in this most interesting, anxious, and unprecedented crisis of affairs, rather to back the resolutions of the League, which I will read to you, than to go through any formal course of proceedings, by making speeches or otherwise." The Chairman then read a copy of the resolutions referred to, in which it was agreed to commence a subscription of a quarter of a million sterling, to meet the present emergency in regard to the corn laws, and to make a call of 20 per cent. forthwith. He then continued: "I think you will agree with me that we are met here to-day, in this extraordinary crisis, rather for the purpose of backing the resolutions I have read by our deeds than for discussing them in words; and as we have on former occasions cashed the cheques which the League has drawn upon us, for 2,000*l.*, 10,000*l.*, 50,000*l.*, and two years ago, for 100,000*l.*; so, now that they have thought fit to draw upon us another cheque, for 250,000*l.*, relying upon us that we shall accept their draft, and that it will be paid when at maturity, we will not deny them that confidence we have shown on former occasions. When we think of the very great services the League has rendered by their unwearied struggle during seven years—with the prejudices against them of the greater part of the mercantile and manufacturing classes—with the opposition, even to open violence, of the operatives—when we recollect these things, we must be filled with admiration now we are about to see their efforts crowned with complete success. And if from the body of the League we turn our eyes to its leaders, we must say that their sacrifices of time and health, and every comfort in life—services which they have never alluded to themselves—are such as we cannot and which the country can never forget. If we reflect upon this, and upon the consummate skill, and upon the brilliant talents they have displayed from the beginning of this contest, we must be filled with the deepest gratitude. This is an important appeal, and I hope it will be met as it ought to be, and we shall then be secure of triumph. But until that time we must not be caught napping. We must not fly from the helm, as some other parties have done on a late occasion. It is clear that the termination of our struggle cannot be far distant: if any one doubts it, let him put the heartier hand to help it forward. The very uncertainty that prevails on this question, and the mischief that results from it, must make every one desire its end. If any one doubt the desirability of putting an end to this law, let him look at the result of that uncertainty; let him look at the state of the money market—at the panic in railway affairs; let him look at the circumstances of a famine actually existing in the sister kingdom, if not in this, and at the same time the price of bread rising, and the ports the more firmly closed the more the necessity becomes apparent for opening them. Let us, then, stick to our standard: and depend upon it, in a short time, the whole country—every interest and every class—will feel and join with you, and call, in one universal voice, for the immediate repeal of the corn and provision laws. (Loud cheers.) Gentlemen, I will not detain you longer, but call upon Mr Wilson, Chairman of the League, to give you an abstract of the treasurer's account, in connection with the 100,000*l.* fund." This account having been rendered and received,

Alderman Neild moved, "That we, the merchants, manufacturers, traders, and others, inhabitants of Manchester and its vicinity, do hereby repeat our solemn protest against the laws which prohibit the free importation of foreign grain and provisions, believing them to be most oppressive to the great mass of the people, and destructive alike of the true interests of agriculture and commerce; and relying upon the justice of our cause, and upon the intelligence and honesty of our countrymen, we declare most emphatically our determination not to relax in our exertions until those laws be entirely abolished."

Robert Ashton, Esq., Hyde, seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Henry Ashton, Esq., moved, "That this meeting hereby expresses its high sense of the invaluable services which the National Anti-Corn-Law League has rendered to the cause of free trade, and in order to enable the council to make renewed and increased exertions, a subscription in aid of the great fund of 250,000*l.* be now commenced, and that the following gentlemen be appointed a committee to canvass for subscriptions in Manchester and the surrounding districts."

Alderman Kershaw seconded the motion, and it was carried with loud cheers.

The Chairman said they had now come to the end of the resolutions, and he should now expect gentlemen to back their opinions by their deeds. Two years ago, when they met in a little room adjoining that hall, there were not one-sixth of the gentlemen present he now saw; and if they raised, few as they were then, 15,000*l.*, let them now try if they could not put down six times the amount. Perhaps he ought to begin by stating what he intended to do himself. He did not wish to deter any one from giving a larger sum; but his brothers and himself having put down their names on the last occasion for 500*l.*, they would now give 1000*l.* (tremendous cheering). The subscription, thus commenced, was carried on with scarcely a moment's breathing time for upwards of two

hours, and the scene was one of intense excitement and unflagging interest throughout.

The following subscriptions were then announced amidst loud cheers:—Mr Chadwick, of Eccles, 1000*l.*; Mr Thomasson, of Bolton, 1000*l.*; Alderman Kershaw, 1000*l.*; Thomas Boyle and Sons, 1000*l.*; Mr John Brookes, 1000*l.*; Robert Ashton, 1000*l.*; Wm. Bailey and Brothers, 1000*l.*; Robert Bluck, 1000*l.*; R. Lees and Sons, Dukinfield, 1000*l.*; John Whittaker and Sons, 1000*l.*; John Bright and Brothers, 1000*l.*; Saul Ashton, Polebank, 1000*l.*; Thomas Ashton and Sons, Hyde, 1000*l.*; James King and Sons, Rochdale, 1000*l.*; Messrs Booth, Rochdale, 1000*l.*; Peter Dixon and Co., Carlisle, 1000*l.*; Joseph Eccles, Millhill, near Blackburne, 1000*l.*; Eccles Shorrock, of Darwen, 1000*l.*; H. and G. Ashworth, Turton, near Bolton, 1000*l.*; Pilkington, Brothers, Blackburn, 1000*l.*; James Buckley, John Buckley, and Brothers, and Abel Buckley and Sons, 1500*l.*; Family of Mothers, 700*l.*; A. and S. Henry and Co. 1000*l.*; A. F. Reyner, 1000*l.*; J. B. Smith, 500*l.*; John Chetham, 500*l.*; Richard Matton, 500*l.*; Gardner and Bazley, 500*l.*; John Ashton, 500*l.*; Callender, Bickham, and Co., 500*l.*; James Heywood, 500*l.*; John Fenton, Rochdale, 500*l.*; M'Connell and Co., 500*l.*; J. and F. Potter, 500*l.*; H. Bannerman, 500*l.*; R. Cobden, 500*l.*; E. Armitage and Co., 500*l.*; F. Steiner and Co., 500*l.*; A Friend, 500*l.*; Samuel Fletcher and Son, 500*l.*; George Foster, Sabden, 500*l.*; William Ross, 500*l.*; Hyde, Sons, and Sowerby, 300*l.*; Thompson, Brothers, and Son, 400*l.*; Wells, Cook, and Potter, 250*l.*; William Morris, 250*l.*; William Rawson, 200*l.*; &c., &c. Various sums to the amount of 59,000*l.* having been announced,

Mr Cobden, who was received with the most deafening plaudits, which lasted several minutes, addressed the meeting as follows:—Two years ago, when we held a meeting in the small room adjoining, and when 14,000*l.* was subscribed to the great League fund, an influential London paper designated us, in its own graphic mode, "a great fact." Now, gentlemen, I believe to-day our subscription already amounts to upwards of 50,000*l.*, and that I suppose may be designated a still greater fact. Without the slightest exaggeration (we are apt in addressing public meetings sometimes to exaggerate a little), I believe I may say that this meeting, in the middle of the day, on a market day, in Manchester, is unprecedented in its numbers, and the influential character of the individuals who compose it. I take it, no one will dispute that the amount subscribed in this room to-day far surpasses any subscription ever entered into in one room for any public object whatever. I am glad to witness altogether the tone of this meeting. There has not been the slightest reference made to the changes that have been going on at Government headquarters, almost as rapidly as the entrances and exits of pantomime on the stage. We have not lost our time by speculating on what this or that Administration is going to do for us; we have resorted to a much safer mode of defending ourselves. This meeting will afford to any Administration the best possible support in carrying out our principles. If Sir Robert Peel has an intelligible and straightforward course to pursue—if he will promulgate plainly and candidly that he purposes fully to carry out the principles of free trade—if he will only avow his determination to practise what he preaches, he will see there is strength enough in the country to support him; and I am sure I should not be speaking the voice of this great meeting, did I not say, that if he will take that straightforward and honest course he will have the support of the League as fully and as cordially as any other Prime Minister her Majesty could appoint. This subscription has been entered into by all present without a full explanation of what mode we intend to adopt in collecting it, or how we intend to apply it; and I am glad the money has been put down without that explanation, inasmuch as it shows that you are determined, at all events, whatever comes, that funds shall not be wanting to fight the battle. But, as what passes here will be read by our friends throughout the country, and with interest throughout the world, it is quite right that we should explain the plan we have in view in calling for this large sum. We are not bankrupts, as you have heard, we have a sum of money in hand; but we who take a prominent part in the executive department of the League wished to have the assurance that, however much this battle may be prolonged, however obstinate the resistance that may be offered to our just demands, there is a determination in the country to back our exertions with adequate funds. (Cheers.) I knew, gentlemen, we should have your support, I never doubted it. I would not have given 1 per cent. to any one to guarantee me the full amount of the quarter of a million when we called for it. The plan that has been proposed is this:—To call for an instalment of 20 per cent. on this subscription at once, and the rest when necessary. You are as well able to judge as I am, whether it be likely that the contest will be prolonged beyond another session. For my own part, I think that our opponents, with any sense of prudence and policy,—(I mean with regard to their own interests) cannot carry it on beyond the next session. I don't believe they will find men of intellect sufficient to lead them, and undertake the departments of the Government to maintain this system. It is quite clear that the Queen has been wanting servants simply because none could be found worthy to serve her Majesty, and willing to do the work of the Duke of Richmond. We are governed in this country not by enlightened men like Lord John Russell, or Sir Robert Peel, or Sir James Graham, fit to take office, and serve the Queen and the country—we are governed by the ignorance of the country—we have an inert mass of landlord political power to deal with, impervious to reason, inaccessible to argument, and unconscious of defeat in argument, or they would not have resisted us so long as they have done. The monopolist landlords of this country recognise but one power—the power of force. They will yield to nothing but power, and that power you have armed us with, by the subscriptions of this day. I have said I think it would be wise in them to yield next session; but let us tell them what we are prepared to do, if they do not yield honestly. Allusion has been made to-day instinctively by all the speakers almost, to the necessity of increasing our exertions in the county registrations. The county qualification is the leverage by which we can wholly overturn the ignorant authority of these monopolist landlords (cheers), by which one can transfer the power from the Duke of Richmond, and the Duke of Norfolk, and their peers, to the intelligent, middle, and industrious classes of the towns of this country. I have no hesitation in telling them, and I think they will now believe what I say, when backed by such a demonstration as this, that if they resist the settlement of this question, if they

session does not bring this question to a just settlement, we will plant our registration agents in every county in the kingdom; and I pledge myself, from a long study of the subject, and a wide investigation of it, that in less than three years from this time, armed with the funds you have placed at our disposal, I can unseat 100 monopolist county members, and place in their stead men who will vote in accordance with the interests of the great body of the people, instead of the interests of an ignorant class. They know what I am telling them to be true; they have felt it already; and I have no hesitation in saying, that the speedy settlement of this question will be brought about more by the demonstration we have already made in the counties, and the success which has attended our efforts in four or five of the most important of them, than by anything else we have ever done or attempted to do. Gentlemen, as we are here speaking to our friends all over the country, I should wish just to add a remark upon the mode in which this subscription must be raised. Many of our friends elsewhere may probably expect that Mr Bright and I might be in a position to pay them a succession of visits, as we did two years ago, and hold public meetings throughout the country, and assist them in making their subscriptions; but that is, unfortunately, impossible. Mr Bright and myself can be nowhere so serviceable, for the next six months, as in the House of Commons; and as it is not in our power to visit our friends elsewhere, I hope, and feel confident, when they see how Manchester, at one meeting, has subscribed a quarter of the whole sum required, they will, in other places, by their own spontaneous exertions, make up the remainder. I may add, that I have not canvassed a single individual for one farthing of this subscription; therefore, so far as I am concerned, gentlemen have come forward in this noble manner without any personal trouble to myself. I mention this that others may mark the spirit which has prevailed here, and act themselves accordingly. There is another point to which, in all frankness, I must allude. It is the opinion of many sanguine minds that this question must now be settled within the next two or three months; I am not so sanguine, although I don't see how the monopolists can tide over another session; but we must be prepared for all accidents. These sanguine friends, however, may ask, "Shall we be liable to pay all this money we have put our names for, if the corn-laws are abolished in the meanwhile?" It is quite fair that the most explicit understanding should be had on that point. Our object in associating together was to procure the abolition of the corn and provision laws, and of this we believe there is but one fair and candid interpretation—we meant corn, we meant beef, butter, cheese,—in short, we meant the primary elements of human subsistence grown on our own soil. We said, "We don't want a league to put down the sugar or coffee monopoly," feeling assured that the landowners themselves, stimulated by a sense of their own interests, would do all that for us, when once we deprived them of their own monopoly. The total abrogation of the corn and provision laws would at once dissolve this League, and altogether exonerate every gentleman from every further claim to contribute to its funds. I think it may be useful to some of our most candid opponents that they should know that now. It has been reported that this is a body seeking anarchical objects; that we want to do away with primogeniture; that we want to root up the church; that we are opposed to all law and constituted authority in the country; but I defy our opponents to find in the House of Lords itself a body of men so interested in public order, so identified with the maintenance of our institutions, as the body of capitalists I see before me in this room. We have no such objects. Our object is bona fide: we are united for one object; we are a rope of sand on any other question. Mr Bright, Mr Wilson, and myself differing upon a dozen other questions, are united for this one only; and therefore I tell the monopolist landlords, who are afraid of what we are doing in the counties, if they think this may go on to more than corn,—if they think the qualifications we are now procuring may be good for other questions as well as corn, they may now stop and dissolve us by the abolition of the corn laws. But if they want to keep alive this association—if they want to give some of those gentlemen among us who have ulterior objects, and I don't know but there may be some who have—if they want to give them the power of keeping our bond of union intact, then they must keep up some wretched rag of their system of monopoly. If Sir R. Peel wants to root out his friends in the counties more than they are, let him come down to the House of Commons with some new "dodge" at the opening of the session. We say distinctly we will have no conditions. (Long continued cheering.) Let this matter be settled fairly and justly, without terms or compromise, and the League is abolished. Bear in mind if we talk of compromise or concession, we will admit that the corn-laws have been a benefit to those who have maintained them; that I altogether deny. I challenged their advocates twice in the House of Commons, but they dared not go into committee, for I could have proved from the mouths of the best agriculturists they have never been a benefit to either farmer or landlord. We do not proceed on the narrow basis that this question is one merely affecting our interests. We say that the land of this country maintains a value only in proportion to our wealth, and the prosperity of manufactures and commerce; and to admit that the corn-law had been beneficial to its upholders, to come to any terms of compromise, would be to give up our whole case. I cannot say how proudly I feel in being surrounded here by a body of men prepared to make such magnanimous sacrifices to the cause of free trade. You have been complimentary to us for the exertions we have made; but we should have been nothing without the magnificent support you have given us. I cannot help feeling gratification at this movement, which has taught the leading men in this country—the most useful and important in the kingdom—the power they possess; and I hope they will use it to elevate themselves in the social scale. You, gentlemen, are not promoting any narrow interest—you are promoting the cause of the whole kingdom, of the whole world; and in carrying out your principles, Manchester will hereafter be recognised as the birthplace, the cradle of free trade. As Jerusalem is identified with the origin of our faith, as Mecca is with that of the Mahomedan, so in history will Manchester be recognised as the birthplace and spring of that great movement, the greatest since the invention of printing, which will have the greatest effect in the world's history of any struggle that ever took place in the annals of civilization. (Loud

Mr Bright, Mr James Heywood, Mr Whiley, of the United States, and Mr Joseph Brotherton, M.P., subsequently addressed the meeting; and the Chairman then read the additional subscriptions, which made up the total amount 61,984.

The meeting broke up at ten minutes to three o'clock, having lasted nearly four hours.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

in our next.

#### POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday, Dec. 27, 1845.

The 'Gazette' of last night contains the official notification of the further prorogation of Parliament from the 30th to the 22nd of January, then to meet for the dispatch of business.

The same 'Gazette' announces the blockades established of the ports and coast of the province of Buenos Ayres.

The new writ for Buckingham, vacant by the death of Sir John Chetwode, will be issued on the 6th of January.

Mr Gladstone's acceptance of office having caused a vacancy in the representation of Newark, it is said that his re-election will be opposed by the Duke of Newcastle.

We learn from the 'Wakefield Journal' that Mr Ferrand met his constituents last Tuesday to give an account of his stewardship. From the nature of the speech made by the hon. gentleman he has probably taken advantage of the last opportunity that will be offered him to gratify those who sent him to Parliament.

No conformation has been received in town of the report of the death of the Earl of Carlisle, which was in circulation yesterday. At a late hour last night no intelligence to that effect had been received at either Stafford House or in Grosvenor place.

The public will be gratified to learn that her Majesty has given orders that no fees are in future to be taken for showing the State Apartments at Windsor Castle, but that from the 1st of January next, tickets to see them may be obtained gratis at the principal printsellers in town. The days of admission are Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.

The Dean and Chapter of Norwich have given directions for opening the Cathedral to the public, gratuitously, for two hours every weekday instead of one, as heretofore.

The 'Liverpool Mercury' contains the particulars of a most disastrous calamity in that city,—the bursting of the large tank of the Liverpool and Harrington water-works, which has been attended not only by the loss of a vast amount of property, but by a great sacrifice of human life. The tank was capable of containing nearly 250,000 gallons of water; and at the time it burst, was about two-thirds full.—All the country papers received to-day, as well as the accounts which have arrived from the provinces, speak in deplorable terms of the effects of the late gales. The loss of shipping, it is feared, will be very great. An English vessel, supposed to be the *Bellona*, for Jersey, has been wrecked on the Dutch coast near Norden;—no portion of the cargo was saved, and all the crew were lost. A steamer from the port of London, called the *Tom Bowline*, is reported to be missing, and strong fears are entertained that she was lost during the gale on her way to Bremen.

The adjourned inquest on the bodies of the sufferers in the late melancholy boiler explosion at Bolton, terminated on Wednesday; when the jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against Thomas Kitts, one of the partners in the concern, founded upon the unfitness of the boiler for work.

The Emperor of Russia, travelling under the name of General Romanoff, arrived at Rome on the 13th inst. and took up his residence at the Giustiniani Palace, the seat of the Russian embassy. On the following morning his Imperial Majesty had an interview with the Pope at the Vatican.

The 'Augsburg Gazette' says, that it is probable Halli Pacha will be the new Turkish Ambassador to this country.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

**RAILWAY SCALE OF MANNERS.**—We have often been struck with the difference of manner assumed by railway officials towards different people. Shut your eyes, and you can tell from the tone of their voices whom they are addressing. The following examples, will best illustrate our meaning. The railway potentate is calling upon the passengers to get their tickets ready. He calls:—To the Third Class (*fortissimè*): "Tickets, tickets; come, get your tickets ready."—To the Second Class (*fortè*): "Tickets, gents.; get your tickets ready, gents."—To the First Class (*piano*): "Get your tickets ready, gentlemen, if you please; tickets ready, if you please, gentlemen."—'Punch.'

**THE OFFICE OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.**—A rumour has been for some time in circulation, and has of late obtained a degree of credit altogether disproportioned to its probability, that an intention existed in the highest quarter of appointing the Royal Consort to the command of the army, whenever that most important post should become vacant by the resignation of the Duke of Wellington. We have unquestionable authority for stating that no such intention ever existed on the part of her Majesty, and that the illustrious person whose name has been so freely used has no such false ambition as to desire a post which requires for the due performance of its delicate and important duties very extensive experience in the working of our military system, and the occupation of which has been always hitherto associated in the public

mind with long service and brilliant achievements in the field.—'Times.'

**BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.**—The most important part of the proceedings of the evening of the 17th instant was furnished by Mr W. H. Brooke, of Hastings, on some ancient paintings, in fresco or distemper, recently discovered on the interior of the walls of Battle Church. The extent of these mural decorations may be imagined from the number of illustrative drawings which accompanied Mr Brooke's report. They amounted to thirteen, exclusive of architectural plans and sketches. The paintings are divided into several subjects, comprising the overthrow of Satan by the Archangel Michael, the trial and condemnation of our Saviour, figures of saints, abbots, &c., female saints decorated with a crown or nimbus, and holding missals, thuribles, palm branches, &c.; a group intended for a *memento mori*, with an epigraph from Lucan, "*Mors sceptrum ligonibus æquat*;" a representation of baptism or confirmation, and many which have been so defaced in former times by Puritans, and in modern days by beautifying churchwardens, as to be almost unintelligible. Many are in a superior style of art, exhibiting careful and correct drawing; some of the figures in particular are anatomically good, and the drapery is tasteful and classically graceful. All the personages represented are in the costume of the period of the execution of the paintings; thus Pilate is arrayed as an English prince, and the attendants as Norman soldiers. There is a remarkable similarity in the scourging post to which Christ is about to be lashed, to one carved on the font of the old church of St Clement, Hastings. Mr Brooke, upon comparison of these paintings with some discovered about fifteen years since in Preston church, near Brighton, is inclined to attribute them to the same artist, and to the latter part of the thirteenth century. Mr Croker read a paper, by Mr Cuming, on some pilgrims' signs and leaden tokens, or medalets, discovered in making excavations for new London bridge. Mr Charles Warne exhibited some Celtic or Belgic bronze weapons, discovered in a large barrow near Came, Dorset; and Mr Planché announced that fresh discoveries, made at Lewes, would be detailed at the next meeting. M. Guizot, M. Victor Hugo, le Baron Walkenaer, M. Lenormant, le Vicomte de Santarem, le Comte Auguste de Bastard, le Baron Taylor, M. Lassus, and M. Letronne, were elected members of the association.

**WILL OF THE LATE JAMES GODING, ESQ.**—His executors are his nephews, James, William, and Charles Goding, who have sworn to the personal property for probate duty under 120,000*l.*; this is entirely exclusive of the freehold, which is very considerable. He directs his executors to invest the sum of 35,000*l.*, and to apply the interest and dividends for the support of his niece, Elizabeth Goding, whom he had adopted, and who resided with him, and from her being afflicted with delusion of mind, she has been the object of his tenderest regard and solicitude. He has expressed himself most anxious that she should continue to dwell in the house in St George's place, Hanover square, and that nothing should be disturbed or removed therefrom whilst she is living; and he entreats his nephew William, in whom he reposes the greatest reliance, to fulfil his wishes, and that, together with his nieces, he will often visit her and see to her comfort, and that she is treated with tenderness and kindness; and at her death he desires that she should be buried in the vault with him, at the cemetery, Kensal green. To Doctor Fuller, of Piccadilly, he leaves a legacy of 200*l.*; to St George's Hospital, Knightsbridge, 200*l.* To his nephews, William, Henry, and Charles Goding, he leaves his licensed houses, as specified in his will, as well as other property, freehold and leasehold. To his nephews, James and Thomas Goding, 5,000*l.* each; liberal legacies to his other nephews and his nieces, and others of his family and friends; legacies also to his servants, and to two of them he has left the interest of 1,000*l.* each for life. The 35,000*l.*, on the death of his niece, to be divided into five parts of 7,000*l.* each, for his nieces, Margaret and Susannah, and his nephews, William, Henry, and Charles. His brother, Thomas Goding, whom he had appointed one of his executors, and had left to him several houses, died in the lifetime of the testator. The residuary legatees, both of his real and personal estate, are his nephews William and Charles Goding, Esqrs. The will, with a codicil, was made in 1841. The deceased died on the 20th ult., in his eighty-first year.

**THE CHINA MEDAL.**—At length we are enabled to give a satisfactory reply to the many anxious inquiries which have been addressed to us respecting the distribution of the promised decoration for the service performed by the British forces in China, and to explain the cause of its issue having been delayed for so long a period. It appears that due diligence was used in getting the medal struck, and that it was ready for delivery in proper time. But, in accordance with the policy of avoiding the possibility of creating any misinterpretation of the pacific intentions of the British Government, it was deemed prudent to alter the original device on the reverse of the medal, viz., "The British Lion trampling on the Dragon," and to substitute a trophy incapable of giving offence, by being less emblematical of conquest, and more appropriate to commemorate the expedition. The obverse of the medal, as it now appears, exhibits a faithful likeness of her Majesty, and on the reverse is the motto, "Peace in Asia restored by Victoria, 1842." It is to be worn suspended from the button hole by a red riband with yellow edges.—'United Service Gazette.'

**MACHINATIONS OF POKERY.**—The 'Frankfort Post Amts Zeitung' gives a letter from Berlin of the 10th, from which it appears that a suspicious Catholic association, called the "Order of Roses," has been discovered in that capital. This confederacy seems to be organized as a lodge of various degrees and sections; 15 persons form a garland of roses, 15 garlands a rose-bush, and 15 rose-bushes a rose-tree. This lodge is headed by a Popish priest, who presides over the whole confederacy,

as well as the individual meetings of the members. Papers were distributed amongst the members, decked with roses, and containing edifying verses for the purpose of being learnt by heart and sung. There seems no reason to doubt that the society was organized for the spread of Popery amongst the lower orders. The affair was disclosed by a Protestant servant-girl in the service of Professor Twer, one of the Consistorial Council.

**OLD FRIENDS.**—Marshal Bugeaud and Abd-el-Kader met again last week, on the most friendly terms. They played a game of chess, smoked the pipe of peace together, and parted the best of friends. It was agreed between the two commanders that there was to be no firing on either side for a month. News was despatched the same evening to Paris of a grand victory:—2,500 Arabs killed, and only one Frenchman.—'Punch.'

**REMARKABLE FEMALE SELF-DENIAL.**—The 'Echo de l'Oise' states, that a family consisting of three persons, husband, wife, and daughter, holding the mill of Fretoy, near Beauvais, never speak a word to each other. This tenacity not to use the faculty of speech is said to have been imposed on them by a village conjuror, who persuaded them that by keeping silence they would eventually find a treasure, and that their machinery would hold firm. This complete interdiction from speech, however, became so disagreeable to the mother and daughter, that the man of art permitted them, as a favour, to speak when outside the bounds of the department of the Oise. Gournay being the nearest place in the neighbouring department, they proceed there every Tuesday, the market day, and talk away to their heart's content.

**NAVY OF THE UNITED STATES.**—The total number of sailors in the United States' navy is 6,100, of whom about 960 are native-born Americans, the rest being principally English, with a few Swedes and Hanseatics. Their pay is fifteen dollars a month, and two dollars per month additional, if they don't draw any grog ration. This is fully equal to three pounds ten shillings per month. Without this high rate of wages it would be next to impossible for the Secretary of the Navy to man the ships. The navy of the United States is very respectable. Taking their navy list, it appears that they have of all classes of ships, old, rotten, or on the stocks, on their rivers and lakes, in China and the Pacific, a grand total of seventy-six, namely, ten line-of-battle ships, twelve frigates of the first-class, two of the second-class, twenty-three sloops of war, eight brigs, eight schooners, eight steamers, together with four store ships and brigs: but it may be safely reckoned that between forty and fifty of this list are really superior formidable vessels, and really available for any service of emergency. Five ships of the line, alongside which, they say, our Victory looks like a frigate, might be ready for sea in a month, and about six first-class frigates, rated as forty-fours, but really more resembling our razeed Warspite, which may be considered one of the best ships of her class. The Americans have only one razeed, the Independence, fifty-four, a description of ship that hitherto has not been seen in any of our navy yards, but which we shall soon have to exhibit in a few razees now constructing out of some old first-rates that have not seen much service.

**RUNNING A MUCK.**—The last accounts from Bombay give the particulars of a most shocking catastrophe in the native town—a Manilla sailor, under the influence of some horrible excitement, having "run a muck," crease in hand, and killed five, and wounded sixteen or seventeen individuals.

**DEATH OF SIGNOR GIUBILEI.**—We have to announce the death of Signor Giubilei, the basso, formerly of her Majesty's Theatres, Drury lane, and Covent Garden. He died at the house of his sister, at Naples, about a fortnight since of the dropsy. He has left a widow, Madame Proche Giubilei, the well-known danseuse.

#### LAW.

**THE GAME LAWS.**—At a petty sessions of the magistrates of Worcestershire, held last week at the Shite hall, Worcester, James Palmer, Cowman in the service of Mr Worrall, farmer, of Spetchley, near Worcester, was charged with trespassing, in pursuit of game, on Sunday, the 30th of November, between four and five o'clock in the evening, on lands of Mr R. Berkeley, of Spetchley, in the occupation of the above-named Mr Worrall. To prove this case (which was one of a rather extraordinary nature), one of Mr Berkeley's gamekeepers, named William Goodyear, deposed, that on the above-named day he saw the defendant in a field occupied by Mr Worrall, in company with a man named Prestridge (also a servant of Mr Worrall's). The defendant Palmer had a gun in his hand, which he was pointing towards the ground, and shortly afterwards fired. Immediately he had fired the gun, a covey of partridges rose from the ground, but none of them were killed; and the parties, having looked to see whether they had killed anything, and finding they had not, ran out of the field together. Witness, who was concealed behind the hedge, then discovered himself, and going up to Palmer, took the gun from him, and asked him what business he had to shoot at the partridges? Palmer and Prestridge both denied having shot at the partridges; and Pamer declared that he had shot at a lark, merely for the purpose of discharging the gun, he having taken it out to shoot the rooks which had been picking up his master's newly-sown wheat. The keeper demanded Palmer's name, which the latter at once gave. The keeper was the only witness brought to prove the case, and the defendant's attorney (Mr R. T. Rea) thereupon addressed the bench, contending that there was no proof of the defendant having been "trespassing in pursuit of game." He produced the man Prestridge, who had been seen in company with Palmer, and who stated that he had been sent by his master to shut a gate on the farm, and that on his return to the farm he met the defendant. Palmer had a gun, which belonged to his master, and which he fired at a lark, but did not kill it. There were no partridges on the ground at that time, and they moved away towards their master's house, when the keeper came up and charged them with being in pursuit of game, but which they both denied at the time. The bench fined Palmer 1*l.* and costs, 13*s.* 6*d.*, or a month's imprisonment to hard labour. Subsequently the bench mitigated the fine and imprisonment, as will be seen below. Palmer was also charged with

"using a gun in pursuit of game," at the same time and place; but this charge was withdrawn at the magistrates' recommendation, they considering that as the defendant could be surcharged with a double amount of duty, for a game certificate, he would be sufficiently punished. John Prestridge, the witness in the last case, was then charged with trespassing in pursuit of game on the same day and at the same time with Palmer. The evidence adduced on this charge was the same as that brought against Palmer, and the defence of Prestridge was, that he accidentally met Palmer, and had only been in his company three minutes, when the latter fired at a lark in the stubble. The bench, after consulting together, decided on convicting Prestridge; but considering that there was only one offence committed, they decided on amending the former conviction against Palmer, and imposed, instead, a fine of 10s. with 13s. 6d. expenses on him; and a like fine and expenses on Prestridge, with an alternative of fourteen days' imprisonment. Palmer paid the fine, but Prestridge, having a wife and three children to support on 9s. a week, begged for time to pay the fine, which was granted him. The result of these convictions will be that each defendant will (with the surcharge) have to pay about 10l.

### POLICE.

**EXTENSIVE SYSTEM OF SWINDLING.**—An unusual degree of interest was excited at the Marylebone Court on Monday, in consequence of it having been the day appointed for the re-examination of Frederick William Kelly, alias Captain Kelly, who on Tuesday last was brought up on the charge of having obtained fraudulently a sum of money from Mrs Oakeley, a dressmaker, residing at No. 76 Lisson grove north. The prisoner is, it is supposed, one of the most expert swindlers who for some time past have infested the metropolis and various parts of the country. He has several times figured at this and other police courts, and information has continually been forwarded to the several station-houses with regard to his nefarious practices. From what transpired on the first inquiry it appeared that in July last the prisoner occupied ready furnished apartments at Mrs Oakeley's house, and that he had not been there many days before he induced her to cash for him a bill for 13l. on the London and Westminster Bank; she gave him 12l., reserving the other 1l. for the accommodation. The said bill was signed "W. F. C. Kelly," and in order, as he stated, that she should be satisfied that she might consider herself perfectly free from loss, he gave into her hands also a bill purporting to be drawn by him upon Robert Glenister, Esq. Marine Villa, Marine parade, Brighton; the amount of it was 100l. The name "R. Glenister," was written across it, and it was made payable at Jones, Loyd, and Co.'s. The two bills, upon being presented, turned out to be entirely worthless, and as she had thus been swindled out of her money by the prisoner, who suddenly absconded from her house soon after the advance was made to him, she gave a description of his person to the police, by whom he was at length apprehended, on the morning of the 16th instant, at a house in Boyle street, Regent street, where he was living with a young female who there passed as his wife, as she did at her (Mrs Oakeley's) dwelling. Mrs Oakeley was with the officers when they captured him, and she accused him of having stolen a razor of hers, but he denied that he had done anything of the sort. The razor was found in the apartment, as also twenty-four duplicates relating to plate and other valuable articles of different descriptions. Mrs Curridge, 55 Brook street, Lambeth, stated that about three months ago the prisoner took a furnished room of her upon the first floor, and that after remaining a week he went away, saying that he was obliged to go off by the railroad to see an aunt who was very ill. He paid her for his lodgings, and directly after his departure she missed a silver caddy spoon. Feodore Shaw, a very genteel looking girl, seventeen years of age (the companion of Kelly while pursuing the system of victimizing), said that she was now living with her aunt and uncle at Kennington. She first became acquainted with the prisoner about six months ago, and they had since been together as man and wife. After leaving Brook street, they went to an hotel near the Great Western Railway, where they stayed two days; while there he (prisoner) gave her a silver spoon, which he desired her to pledge at Neate's, Duke street, Manchester square, and she did so. He told her that he had brought the spoon from his former lodging by mistake. The spoon was produced and identified by Mrs Curridge as having been stolen from her house: it had been pledged by the prisoner in the name of Anne King. Mr Cazotte, 10 Mount street, Grosvenor square, said, that about eight months ago the prisoner engaged of him a furnished first floor, at 100 guineas per annum, at the same time stating, when called upon for a reference, that application with respect to him might be made at Enstone park, Oxford, and that he had a great deal of property in that neighbourhood; he (Mr Cazotte) being unable to go down immediately, repaired thither as soon as he was able, and on his arrival he found that the representations made to him were false; on his return home he turned out the prisoner at the early hour of five in the morning. Another person here stepped up into the witness box, and said that about two months ago the prisoner, while living with his lady at Vine Cottage, Babbicombe, Devonshire, succeeded in obtaining from Mr Hodge, a draper in an extensive way of business at Torquay, silks, satins, table linen, &c. &c., to the amount of between 30l. and 40l. Mr Hodge subsequently received information from a solicitor that the prisoner was a well-known swindler, and acting upon that information, he (Mr Hodge) repaired to the prisoner's dwelling, when he brought away a portion of the articles which had been sent in. Mr Patterson, landlord of the Green Man and Still, Oxford street, stated that the prisoner had lodged at his house, and ran up a debt amounting to 3l. He offered to deposit with him some wine in payment thereof; but he refused to receive it, imagining that he (prisoner) was engaged in swindling transactions. He had since understood that the wine was obtained fraudulently from Messrs Fortnum and Mason, Piccadilly. The prisoner, who seemed completely astounded at finding so strong an array of evidence against him, and who merely repeated his denial of having authorised the girl Shaw to pawn the spoon, was remanded till Monday next. The prisoner is a man apparently sixty years of age, of sallow complexion, and about five feet eight inches high; he wears a brown great coat and black trowsers.

**BUYING A CHILD AND SELLING AN OLD GENTLEMAN.**—At the Clerkenwell police office, on Tuesday, Ann Lincoln, a young woman, with an infant in her arms, was charged with stealing a great coat, pocket-book, and other articles, the property of Mr Daniel Williams, under the following singular circumstances:—Mr Williams, an elderly gentleman, deposed that on the previous night he was returning home through Saffron hill, when he met the pri-

soner, who asked him if he would buy her child. Having no child of his own, he was anxious to make the purchase, and, as the night was cold, they went into a public-house to have some refreshment. The prisoner told him that the child was in bed at her lodgings, in Stanley's court, and thither both of them proceeded. The prisoner asked one shilling for her child. Witness went into the room in which the child slept with the prisoner, and, after examining the child, gave her the shilling. She then asked another; he gave it her. She demanded another—he gave that too, and then wrapt the babe up in his great coat, for the purpose of taking it home and adopting it. The mother asked him to give it her, that she might wrap it up properly; but had no sooner got it in her arms, than she ran out with the child, coat, and money, slamming the door in his face. He called in a policeman, and gave the prisoner into custody. The coat was found and given up to him. He did not wish to prosecute. Mr Combe advised Mr Williams to confine his dealings to the ordinary articles of commerce, and discharged the woman.

**THE ALLEGED MURDERS ON BOARD THE TORY.**—Tuesday being the day appointed for the final examination of George Johnstone, late master of the Tory, charged with no less than three murders on board that vessel, he was brought before Mr Broderip at the Thames police-office, for the purpose of additional evidence being afforded. This evidence was of a very essential character, but it differed only in degree from that which has already appeared in our columns. At the close of a long examination, Mr Broderip committed the prisoner to take his trial at the next session of the Central Criminal Court for the wilful murder of Thomas Reason, William Mars, and William Rambert. He was also committed on the charge of feloniously wounding Stephen Cone, Thomas Lee, David Johnson, Thomas Gare, Joseph Ruelau (Morris), William Burton, Robert Thompson, Andrew Nelson, William Beresford, and Peter Curtis.

### ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, & OCCURRENCES.

**EXTRAORDINARY CHARGE OF MURDER.**—During the last two weeks some excitement has prevailed in the neighbourhood of Dagenham, in Essex, in consequence of a rumour having been circulated that a respectable tradesman named Thomas Dunsdon, a potato salesman, residing at Chadwell Heath, had murdered his wife by cutting her throat. His wife died as long since as Oct. 20th, from the effects of a severe wound in her throat. A coroner's inquiry was gone into before the county coroner, and a verdict was returned that the deceased committed the act whilst labouring under temporary insanity. A few days after the inquest was held a report was spread by some of the witnesses who were examined before the coroner, that the act was not done by the deceased, but that the husband had cut her throat, and that they were prevented from giving such evidence before the coroner as would have fixed Dunsdon with the commission of the crime of murder. This report reaching the ears of the husband, he threatened to take legal proceedings against the originator of the scandal. On the 10th of the present month an information was made before Octavius Massiter, Esq., one of the county magistrates, on the oaths of George Banham and Rachael Simmons, that Thomas Dunsdon had murdered his wife. The magistrate at once issued a summons against Dunsdon for his attendance before him on the following day. After hearing the evidence of George Banham and other witnesses, the accused was remanded to the Ilford petty sessions, bail being taken for his appearance. On Saturday week the accused appeared before William Cotton, Esq., and a full bench of magistrates, at the Angel Inn, Ilford, when the whole of the case with regard to the prosecution was gone into, the bench acting in a most extraordinary manner, by refusing to hear the evidence offered on the part of the accused.—Rachael Simmons was the first witness called, and deposed as follows:—I am a single woman, residing at Chadwell Heath, and in October last I was in the service of Mr and Mrs Dunsdon. I did not sleep in the house, but usually came to my work about seven o'clock in the morning. I recollect Monday, the 20th of October, and saw Mr Dunsdon about one o'clock in the afternoon of that day. He asked me how Mrs Dunsdon was, and I told him that she was not quite so well. He said that he should have been happy to have heard that she was dead when he came home. I went into the yard to do my work, and as I was doing it I heard shrieks. I ran into the kitchen to see what was the matter, and as I was going in I saw Mr Dunsdon coming down stairs with a bloody razor in his hand. I passed him on the stairs, and went to the top to see what was the matter, and I saw Mrs Dunsdon bleeding. I came down again directly, and Mr Banham went upstairs and called for some towels, and I ran up with them. Several other neighbours came in, and I went down stairs, and did not go up again for awhile. Mr Dunsdon came in out of the yard and went half up stairs, and I heard him ask Mr Banham "Is it fatal?" I heard Mr Banham reply that she would be dead in ten minutes. Mr Dunsdon came down stairs, and went into the yard again. Mr Banham came down and asked me if I knew where the razor was. I told him that I did not know, but that I saw Mr Dunsdon with it. I left the house then and went into the yard, and saw Mr Dunsdon, and said to him, "What a bad job." He said to me, "I am in nowise sorry for it."—Other evidence was adduced.—Mr Cotton, the chairman, said that the case must be sent to a higher tribunal; and in the first instance committed the prisoner for trial, but ultimately the bench decided upon accepting two sureties in 500l. each, for the prisoner's appearance at the next assizes.

**RAILWAY GAMBLING.**—Last Saturday Mr Wakley held an inquest on the body of Mr George Graham, aged forty-nine, late of the firm of Graham and Adams, warehousemen, 11 Cheapside. The deceased speculated extravagantly in railway speculations, and was on the point of forming a matrimonial alliance with a highly accomplished young lady, when he committed a determined act of self-destruction.—Agnes Walters deposed that she was housekeeper to the deceased. For some time past he had been in a very desponding state of mind, in consequence, as she understood, of commercial embarrassments and unfortunate railway speculations. On the 23rd ult. she was sent to attend deceased, when she found him in bed with a dreadful wound in his throat. He was sensible, but could not speak, and expressed in writing his wishes and wants. When she entered his room he covered his face with his hands. He lingered until last Wednesday, when he expired.—Mr Brace, solicitor, who watched the proceedings for the creditors, stated that the firm appeared among the bankrupts in the 'Gazette' of the previous day.—Mrs Matthews, of 24 Great Percy street, stated that deceased and a friend of his dined with her on the 23rd ult. After dinner he took two glasses of wine. For months his manner was greatly altered, and he was so melancholy that she mentioned the

circumstance to his friends. On the day in question he was particularly low-spirited. About eight o'clock he asked permission to rest himself on the bed, which she allowed him to do, in the hope that it might soothe him. He had not, however, been many minutes in the bed-room when she heard a scream, and on entering it, saw him standing over the washstand, with blood flowing from his throat into a basin, while in his right hand he held a razor firmly grasped. She instantly called for assistance.—Mr Lewis Steuart, hearing the last witness cry for help, rushed into the room and saw the deceased in the position described. He attempted to wrest the razor from him, but had a hard struggle before he succeeded, when deceased instantly fell down. Surgical assistance was procured without delay.—Mr Fogarty, surgeon, was in attendance upon deceased, whose case was hopeless from the first. He was sensible, but could not speak, and stated his feelings in writing. His death was the result of the wound, after the infliction of which he was quite sane.—Mr Adams had been in partnership with deceased for five years and a half. Deceased latterly speculated largely and lost extensively in railway shares. It was difficult to ascertain the precise amount of his losses, which was very great. In one transaction alone he lost 2,000l. Although deceased was not what he would call a wealthy man, yet their trade was of a most promising character. Since he lost so heavily by railway speculations he became an altered man, and was exceedingly dejected in spirits. The manuscripts produced were written by deceased after he cut his throat. The following are the writings alluded to, and all bear the date of the 24th of November, 1845:—"1. Dear Friends,—My fate is unfortunate. Do throw a veil over my errors. God bless you and pardon me. Oh, my good friend Scott."—"2. Dear Jackson,—My fate is unfortunate. Throw a veil over my errors. Poor Scott. God bless him, and pardon me.—G. G."—"3. I leave all matters in your hands with other good advisers, Scott and Jackson."—"4. Agreeable to what is in my will in Wren's hands."—The jury, without hesitation, returned a verdict of "Temporary insanity."

**SINKING OF A RAILWAY.**—A portion of the Newcastle and Darlington Railway, to the extent of between fifty and sixty yards, on the part which runs over Morden Carr, about eight miles north of Darlington, gave way on Wednesday night last, about nine o'clock, and sank beneath the level to a very considerable depth in the marshy ground on which the foundation had been constructed. The accident was observed previous to the arrival of the last down mail-train, which was delayed in consequence, and did not reach Newcastle till nearly five hours after the time it was due, it having been found necessary to transfer the passengers and luggage across the obstruction to another train. The same arrangement was continued during the following day, and in the meantime upwards of 200 workmen were engaged in repairing the damage. The state of the weather was such, however, raining incessantly, that but little progress could be made, and, indeed, it was soon found that as ballast was laid upon the depressed part the additional weight only caused a further sinking, so that all attempts to elevate it to the proper level proved abortive. Under these circumstances it was determined to construct a temporary line, avoiding the swamp, and uniting the sound portions of the railway, which was so far completed by Friday morning that the carriages were passed over it without the necessity of transferring the passengers and luggage, only one carriage being pushed over at a time, and the engine remaining behind. This arrangement, however inconvenient, must continue till the main line is repaired, which will be a work of some difficulty.

**FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT.**—On Wednesday last, the Norwich train which leaves at half-past eleven o'clock for London, when within about two miles from Thetford, was run off the rail. The engine detaching itself from the train, rolled down upon the right of the embankment, killing the engine-driver instantaneously, and bruising the stoker so much, that he only survived a few hours. The carriages were thrown down on the left of the embankment, and although they must have rolled completely over, and the wheel-been left uppermost, none of the passengers were injured. The general opinion at the time was, that the great speed the train was going at caused the accident, as the preceding mile was done in 57 seconds. It occurred about a quarter to one o'clock; and although there were only a few carriages left on the line, and a few yards of rail torn up, such is the general want of energy upon this line, that the wreck was not cleared away in time for the Norwich up-train, which arrived at five p.m., four hours and a-half after the accident. The London down-train was detained three hours on their side of the obstruction. After two hours' delay, the passengers and luggage exchanged trains, and proceeded. Loud complaints are constantly made of the want of system upon the Norwich and Eastern Counties Railway. No one undertakes the management at the several stations, where more time is lost than upon any other railway; and in consequence the engine-drivers, who are compelled to keep time, must make it up by an increased speed, and thereby endanger the lives of the public. We are assured by several parties resident at Norwich, and at towns on the line, that such is the wretched mis-management of these lines, that goods are frequently two or three days, and sometimes weeks, before they reach their destination. The officers of both companies admit the delay, but blame each other for it.

**THE FREE HOSPITAL.**—On Tuesday the inquest on Susannah Stephens was resumed by Mr Wakley, at the Lion, Grays's-inn road. It will be recollected that about a month ago, two young girls, labouring under pulmonary disease, in the last stage, came up from Windsor, and applied for admission into the Royal Free Hospital, which was refused, as the beds were completely occupied. They then obtained shelter in the Lion, but the elder girl, named Erle, aged 22, died the following morning, and the other, the subject of this inquiry, who was only 18, died in the Holborn Union workhouse on Friday week. The inquest room was crowded, and amongst the gentlemen present were Mr Pritchard, high bailiff of Southwark; the Rev. Dr Worthington, the Rev. Mr Packman, &c.—Hannah Fisher, nurse in the Holborn workhouse, examined: Deceased was brought into the workhouse on the 20th ult., suffering from weakness and cough. She had wines, broths, and other stimulants. She was sensible the whole time, and was anxious to recover. She died last Friday week. She told witness that she came from Windsor, to be admitted into the Free Hospital, and that she and her deceased companion applied for admission the previous morning. They were kept in a cold room, in which there was a sink, and the floor of which was stone, for two hours before a doctor saw them, who told them there was no room for them. As it was raining they could not go out, and were almost pushed from the gate. They asked the porter for some food, and

he got them what he called broth and bread. The broth was nothing but salt and water. The porter informed them that it was against the rules to give them food. While they were standing in the porch at the hospital gate, two other women were brought in and received. They were desired to go to Bartholomew's Hospital: but were unable to do so. They had only 2s. 3d. when they left Windsor, of which they paid 2s. to the waggoner, and paid 3d. for coffee. After being refused admission to the hospital, they were afforded food and shelter by the landlady of the Lion, where the other died.—Dr Marsden said that three hundred men were daily relieved by the hospital, and that from Finsbury alone they had annually 20,000 patients who got relief.—Coroner: If that was proved to the satisfaction of the inhabitants of Finsbury, they would willingly subscribe 20,000l. annually towards the hospital.—Mr White, surgeon to the workhouse, proved the deceased died of a pulmonary disease, and condemned the conduct of the medical officers of the hospital towards deceased.—Mrs Tiffen, landlady of the Lion, reiterated the evidence given by her on the inquest on the girl Gill, and corroborated the evidence of the last witness; adding, that when they entered her house they had death in their eyes. Mrs Dymes, the landlady of the Calthorpe Arms, adjoining the hospital, stated, that after they had left the hospital they came to her house, and that from their appearance she was convinced they were dying. She gave them food, and 1s. 6d. to procure a bed.—Margaret Triguno, her housemaid, confirmed her testimony.—William Evans, assistant relieving officer to the City of London Union, and his son, deposed that three females from the Peckham workhouse, labouring under a certain disease, were admitted from the workhouse to the hospital on the day the two deceased persons were rejected; the latter were offered to be conveyed thence to Peckham house, of which they refused to avail themselves, stating that they had enough of workhouses, and that it was an hospital, not a workhouse, they wanted.—Mr Thwaites, relieving officer of the City of London Union, said, that during the year between 40,000 and 50,000 casual poor were relieved by it, and that many were sent to the Free Hospital during the year for medical and surgical assistance.—The porter of the hospital, Mr Cook, the assistant surgeon, and Alice Warner, the cook of the institution, gave evidence contradicting the statements of deceased.—The Rev. Dr Worthington, chaplain to the hospital, having been sworn, charged the coroner with unvaried hostility against the hospital, and designated him a "partial judge," when—The Coroner threatened him with committal if he repeated such language, at the same time ordering him to quit the room. With which order the chaplain complied.—The jury after a short deliberation, returned a verdict of "Natural death." Dr Marsden inquired if they censured the conduct of the officers of the hospital?—The foreman replied, that the majority of the jury found fault with them for refusing admission to the deceased to an hospital professedly established for the benefit of the destitute and houseless.—Another juror said that no blame was attributable to the officers.

**CONFESSION OF MARTHA BROWNING.**—It will be remembered that, at the recent session of the Central Criminal Court, Martha Browning was convicted of a murder of a very atrocious character. Since the conviction of the wretched girl, she has made a full confession, and detailed all the circumstances connected with the horrible crime. Very shortly after she had been placed in the condemned cell, she appeared desirous to unburden her mind, and in the presence of the Rev. Mr Davis the chaplain, and the governor of Newgate, Mr Cope, she made a full admission of her guilt. Having admitted the perfect justice of her sentence, and expressed that it was her opinion that she ought to die for it, she said that her only motive for the commission of the dreadful deed was a desire to possess herself of that which she believed to be a 5l. Bank of England note, but which, as it turned out, was only a "flash" note, as it is termed, or one of the "Bank of Elegance." It should be stated that the prisoner can read and write very well; but she says that she never had an opportunity of fully seeing the note until after the crime was committed; and she declared that there was only one note, and not two, as was represented at the trial. She said, that being determined to possess herself of the note, she considered the means, and at length resolved to take the old woman's life, as being, she considered, the surest means of attaining her object, and that she would effect this by strangling her with the cord that was in her box, and she prepared upon the Sunday night to carry her dreadful design into execution. Accordingly she said that in the middle of the night she got up and cut a portion of the rope off, and then, while the deceased was asleep, she twisted it twice round her neck and began to pull it violently. The old woman awoke, apparently from a sound sleep, in the agonies of suffocation; she struggled slightly, had just sufficient power to exclaim, "Murder, murder! what are you doing?" an expression which it will be recollected was spoken to by one of the witnesses, who occupied an adjoining room, and that almost immediately she expired. At this moment, she says, the witness, the person referred to, came to the door and inquired what was the matter. She was then standing over the dead body, and she states that it was with great difficulty she was enabled to answer that nothing was the matter, and thus induced the party to return to her room. She then remained upon the bed with the dead body until daylight, when she examined the box of the deceased and took out of the housewife of the poor old creature that which she believed to be the five-pound note, and, without attentively looking at it, she placed it in her pocket, and considered of the best mode to escape detection for her heinous crime, and at length the thought came over her to make it appear that the deceased had committed suicide. With a view to this she tied the cord in a knot and then lifted the body from the bed and placed it on the box by its side, in the position in which it was afterwards discovered. In the morning she gave an alarm, as appeared by the evidence, of the old woman being ill, and went out to inform her daughter of it, and to request that she would come and see her. She then stated that having resolved upon the course she intended to pursue, she made the statement she did before the coroner, with a view to show that the deceased had destroyed herself, and which had that effect, as the coroner's jury returned a verdict that the deceased destroyed herself while in a state of temporary delirium. She stated that by that time she had discovered that the note was of no value, and she said she should never have attempted to make any use of it if she had not been pressed by the old woman's daughter and her husband to lend them some money; and she said she only went to the public-house with the pretended purpose to change it, in order to pacify them, and on their then insisting to know

how she became possessed of it, she did not know what to do, and eventually told them the story about her having received it from some person in Bedford street, in the Strand. When, she said, she found that the witness Gaze determined upon accompanying her to Bedford street, she became quite beside herself, and felt that she could no longer support her position, and from that moment her mind almost forsook her, and she said she did not recollect the incoherent expressions imputed to her by the several witnesses, although she had no doubt she had made use of them, as she was resolved, she said, to admit her guilt. This was the substance of the statement of the unhappy criminal, and after it was made she appeared a good deal more composed, and ever since her firmness has appeared to increase, and she is evidently perfectly resigned to the fate that awaits her. The execution will take place on Monday, the 15th of January.

COMMERCE AND TRADE.

**WOOL.**—The imports of wool into London during the week ending Thursday have been 3,190 bales, of which 983 were from Russia, 269 from Leghorn, 796 from Sydney, 577 from Algoa Bay, 128 from Bombay, 11 from France, 97 from Germany, 36 from St Helena, 127 from Spain, and 162 from the Cape of Good Hope.

**COTTON.**—The market was decidedly steadier at Liverpool on Thursday than for some time past, but we cannot quote prices higher, although the buyers have great difficulty in getting on at the same rates. The sales for the week were—Friday, 3,000; Saturday, 3,000; Monday, 6,000; Tuesday, 4,000; and Thursday, 5,000.—At Manchester on Thursday there was more confidence among buyers of cloth than since the previous week, though no quotable change in value. Never were the dyers and printers so slack, nor the fustian cutters less employed. Spinners are enabled to effect sales on fully as good terms as on this day se'nnight; perhaps twist is the turn higher.

THE FUNDS.

Consols advanced on Monday nearly  $\frac{3}{4}$  per cent., touching 93 $\frac{3}{4}$  for the account; the last quotation was 93 $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$ . Bank Stock left off 202 to 202; Exchequer bills, 19s. to 21s. pm.; Three per Cents. Reduced, 93 $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$ ; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents., 95 $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$ ; and Long Annuities, 10 7-16.

On Tuesday Consols for the Account were first done at 94 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; but buyers appearing, prices were soon forced up to 94 $\frac{3}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Bank Stock was done at 203 to 204; Three per Cents. Reduced, 94 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 95 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents., 96 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 97; Long Annuities, 10 7-16 to 9-16; Exchequer bills, 23s. to 21s.

On Wednesday Consols closed 94 $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$ . Exchequer bills, 23s. to 25s. pm.; Bank Stock, 202 to 204; Three per Cents. Reduced, 94 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 95; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents., 96 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Long Annuities, 10 9-16; and India bonds, 30s. to 35s. pm.

The funds opened very firm on Friday, and the business transacted caused Consols to advance to 95 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; but the full extent of this improvement was not sustained up to the close of the market, for then they were marked 94 $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$ . Bank Stock was steady at 204; Exchequer bills, 23s. to 25s. pm.; Three per Cents. Reduced, 95 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents., 96 $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$ ; Long Annuities, 10 9-16; and India Bonds, 37s. pm.

SATURDAY, ELEVEN O'CLOCK.

(From the List of Messrs Slous and Co. late Wolfe, Brothers, Stock-brokers, Change alley.)

BRITISH.	Price.	FOREIGN.	Price.
Consols	Shut	Belgian	95
Do. Account	94 $\frac{3}{4}$	Brazil	81
3 per Cent. Reduced	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	Colombian—Venezue.	41 $\frac{1}{2}$
3 $\frac{1}{2}$ New	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	Do. Ex Do.	17
Long Annuities	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	Danish	87
Bank Stock	204	Dutch 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent.	61 $\frac{1}{2}$
India Stock	Shut	French 3 per Cent.	82 $\frac{1}{2}$
Exchequer Bills	24s	Mexican 5 per Ct. New	31 $\frac{1}{2}$
India Bonds	35s	Portuguese Converted	60
		Russian	113 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Spanish 5 per Cent.	28 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Ditto 3 per Cent.	39
		Ditto Deferred	17
		Ditto Passive	6 $\frac{1}{2}$

SHARE LIST.

	Price.	Shares.	Paid.
Birmingham and Gloucester	128	100	—
Blackwall	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	25	—
Brighton	65 $\frac{1}{2}$	50	—
Bristol and Exeter	85	100	70
Chester and Holyhead	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	50	15
Croydon	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	20	—
Eastern Counties	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	25	25
Edinburgh and Glasgow	73	50	—
Edinburgh Union	—	50	20
Grand Junction	240	100	—
Great North of England	212 $\frac{1}{2}$	100	—
Great Western	163	100	80
Greenwich	10	20	—
Hull and Selby	103	50	—
Lancaster and Carlisle	49	50	25
Liverpool and Manchester	—	100	—
London and Birmingham	223	100	—
Manchester and Birmingham	118	40	—
Manchester and Leeds	133	100	78
Midland (Stock)	156	—	—
Ditto Derby (Stock)	125	—	—
Newcastle & Darlington Junction	50	20	24
North British	25 $\frac{1}{2}$	25	15
Northern and Eastern	65	50	45
Norwich and Brandon	23	20	10
Paris and Orleans	47 $\frac{1}{2}$	20	—
Paris and Rouen	38	20	—
Rouen and Havre	29 $\frac{1}{2}$	20	14
Sheffield and Rotherham	—	—	—
South Devon	27	50	20
South Eastern	37 $\frac{1}{2}$	50	—
South Western	76	50	—
Stockton and Darlington	—	—	—
Yarmouth and Norwich	27	20	—
York and North Midland	108	50	—
Australasia Bank	28	40	40
London Joint Stock Do.	14	50	10
London and Westminster Do.	26	100	20
Union of Australia Do.	24	25	25
East London Water Works	210	100	100
Grand Junction Do. (Div. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Ct.)	90	50	50
West Middlesex Do.	130	100	100
East and West India Docks	135	Stock	—
London Do.	113 $\frac{1}{2}$	Stock	—
St Katherine's Do.	108	Stock	—
Grand Junction Canal	90	100	100
Imperial Gas	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	50	50
Phoenix Do.	40 $\frac{1}{2}$	50	39
United General Do.	26	50	49
Westminster Chartered Do.	68 $\frac{1}{2}$	50	50
Alliance Insurance	20	100	11
Globe Do.	138	100	100
Guardian Do.	50	100	36

CORN MARKETS.

(From Messrs Gillies and Horne's Circular.)  
CORN EXCHANGE, MONDAY, DEC. 22.—English wheat is quick sale at former rates. Barley is firm. Oats have improved a little. No change in Beans. Peas are very dull. Country flour is 1s. to 2s. cheaper.

	Per qr.		Per qr.
Wheat, Essex, Kent, and Suffolk, red	50s 70s	Oats, Irish Feed	20s 25s
— Ditto, white	50s 64s	— Ditto, Black	20s 25s
— Lincoln, Cambridge, & Norfolk, red	42s 68s	— Ditto, Potato	20s 25s
— Ditto, white	—s —s	Malt, Suffolk and Norfolk, pale	—s —s
— Dantzic (free)	—s —s	Beans, English Harrows	37s 40s
— fine	—s 78s	— Mazagan	34s 37s
Barley, English Malting and Chevalier	39s —s	— Foreign (free)	38s 50s
— Grinding, &c.	26s 33s	Peas, English White	50s —s
— Distillers	35s 38s	— Boilers	54s —s
Oats, English Feed	—s 30s	— Blue	44s 66s
— Polands	—s 29s —s	— Gray and Maple	38s 40s
— Scotch Feed	—s 22s 26s	Flour, per sack, Town-made Household	56s —s
— Potato, English and Scotch	—s 26s 30s	— Norfolk and Suffolk	42s —s

CORN EXCHANGE, FRIDAY, DEC. 26.—The arrivals are small of English, but good of other grain. Our market is usually dull at this season, with unchanged quotations.

IMPORTATIONS

Into London from December 31 to December 25, both inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Malt.	Flour.
English & Scotch	Qrs. 540	Qrs. 1830	Qrs. 1410	Qrs. 1790	2820 sacks.
Irish	—	900	24870	—	— sacks.
Foreign	5280	740	3550	—	— brls

  

Gazette Averages.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
Week ended Dec. 20	57s 11d	32s 7d	23s 4d	34s 5d	39s 6d	42s 5d
Six Weeks (Governor's Duty)	58s 6d	33s 5d	24s 10d	36s 1d	41s 11d	44s 4d
Duties payable in London till Dec. 31	14s 0d	5s 0d	4s 0d	6s 6d	1s 0d	1s 0d

SMITHFIELD MARKETS, FRIDAY.

Prices per Stone.	At Market.
Beef . . . 3s 2d to 4s 2d	Monday. . . . . 1279 . . . . . 350
Mutton . . . 4s 0d to 5s 0d	Beasts . . . . . 11500 . . . . . 1400
Veal . . . 4s 8d to 5s 8d	Sheep . . . . . 56 . . . . . 30
Pork . . . 4s 6d to 5s 6d	Calves . . . . . 275 . . . . . 260
Lamb . . . 0s 0d to 0s 0d	Pigs . . . . . 275 . . . . . 260

Prices of Hay and Straw, per load of 36 trusses.  
Hay . . . 3l 10s 0d to 4l 12s 0d | Clover . . 4l 4s 0d to 5l 15s 0d  
Straw . . . . . 1l 10s 0d to 1l 13s 0d

The average price of Brown or Muscovado Sugar, computed from the returns made in the week ending Dec. 23, is 35s. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per cwt.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTES.

Tuesday, December 23.

ORDNANCE OFFICE, DECEMBER 22.

Royal Regiment of Artillery—Second Capt. G. Innes, to be Adjutant, vice Sandham, who resigns the Adjutancy only; Second Capt. H. T. Fyers, to be Adjutant, vice Stone, promoted; Capt. A. Benn to be Adjutant, vice P. Benn, promoted. Second and Brevet Major W. E. Lock to be Lieut.-Col. vice Hanwell, retired on full pay; Second Capt. J. Hill to be Capt. vice Lock; First Lieut. J. H. Lefroy to be Second Capt. vice Hill; Second Lieut. R. Phelps to be First Lieut. vice Lefroy.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

J. Jones and W. Chalfont, White Hart place, Kennington lane, stationers—T. and T. S. de Vear, Lisle street, Leicester square, curriers—H. S. Easty and W. Williams, Southampton, stockbrokers—W. W. Brookes, J. Lee, and W. L. Brookes, Whitechurch, Shropshire, attorneys; so far as regards W. W. Brookes—C. Denton and J. Sergeant, Rotherhithe, stone merchants—T. W. and J. B. Woolfe, Lower Shadwell, boat builders—E. and S. Penton, Lupus street, Pimlico—G. P., J., and C. E. Kenworthy, Manchester, common carriers; so far as regards C. E. Kenworthy—H. Eastwood and J. Richardson, Woodlesford, Yorkshire, earthenware manufacturers—C. Herring, Burness, and Co. London, general agents—T. and W. Hallam, Northampton, leathersellers—T. H. Crowther and J. Ashe, jun. Stockport, cotton spinners—J. and E. Whitehouse, sen. Wolverhampton, garden-tool manufacturers—R. Biddle and R. Birkin, Nottingham, lace manufacturers—J. Lewis and J. Smith, Birmingham, locksmiths—J. and J. W. Hendy, Portsmouth, general builders—J. Bevan, N. Iron, and R. Bevan, Birchin lane, City, provision merchants—G. and T. Burford, Stratford, Essex, linen-drappers—H. Rawthorn and Betty Ellison, Haslingden, Lancashire, ironfounders—J. C. Gamble, J., S., & G., and J. Crossfield, St Helens, Lancashire, alkali manufacturers.

15 BANKRUPTS.

T. Winston, Cophall buildings, merchant. [Crowder and Maynard, Coleman street.  
Elizabeth and T. Rolph, Shepherd's court, Upper Brook street, Grosvenor square, builders. [Huson, Ironmonger lane.  
F. Herpent, Sherrard street, Golden square, warehouseman. [Raw, Furnival's inn, Holborn.  
J. H. Rand, Westminster bridge road, Lambeth, dealer in china and glass. [Buchanan, Basinghall street, City.  
J. Miller, Southampton, cordwainer. [Overton and Hughes, Old Jewry.  
T. Brown, Connaught terrace, Edgware road, boot and shoemaker. [Buchanan, Basinghall street.  
Sarah Caroline Fry, Princes street, Margate, Kent, stationer and fancy-wool dealer. [Fisher, Verulam buildings, Gray's inn.  
Esther Smith, Southwell, Nottingham, innkeeper. [Shilton and Son, Nottingham.  
C. Hyde, Loughborough, apothecary. [Inglesant, Loughborough.  
W. Brown, Atherstone, Warwickshire, ironmonger. [Chilton and Co. Chancery lane.  
J. Sier, Cheltenham, baker. [Oliver and Co. Moorgate street.  
G. Smith, Manchester, bill broker. [Fax, Finsbury circus.  
Joanna Chatterton, Pendleton, Lancashire, licensed victualler. [Johnson and Co. Temple.  
W. Wingfield, Masbrough, Yorkshire, common brewer. [Hudson, Bucklersbury.  
J. Collison, Allerton, worsted spinner. [Scargill, Hatton court, Threadneedle street.

DIVIDENDS.

January 15, R. B. Clarke, Gower street North, plumber—January 16, J. F. 16, C. Jarman, West Smithfield, woollendrapery—January 16, J. Wartaby, Armstrong, Blackheath, china merchant—January 16, J. Adam's court, Old Broad street, City, ship broker—January 16, J. W. Tunks, Kensington, cowkeeper—January 16, J. Tomlin and W. Burman, St Michael's alley, Corahill, merchant—January 15, C. F. Warman, Leigh, Haverhill, Suffolk, scrivener—January 15, W. Barnfield, Jun-Houndsditch, City, china dealer—January 15, H. R. Harraden, Mark lane, City, wine merchant—January 15, H. R. Harraden, book-Cambridge, printers—January 13, J. Robbins, Winchester, book-seller—January 15, J. Middleton, Aveley, Essex, hay salesman—January 15, G. M. von Danielszen, Mincing lane, City, merchant—January 13, T. Hodson, Harrow, Middlesex, butcher—January 16, T. J. Sutton, Scarborough, Yorkshire, master mariner—January 14, W. 14, J. Peake, Tolleshunt Knights, Essex, miller—January 14, W. H. Alexander and C. B. Richards, Upper Clifton street, Finsbury, hardwaremen—January 14, T. Smyth, Marchmont street, Brunswick square, perfumer—January 14, H. S. Knowles, Moolham, wick square, perfumer—January 14, Ann Akehurst, East Somersetshire, silk throwster—January 14, Ann Akehurst, wick square, perfumer—January 14, G. F. Blow, Great Dover street, Clerkenwell, printer—January 14, G. F. Blow, Great Dover street, Newington, carrier—January 15, G. Grove, Wick, and Abson, Gloucestershire, millers—January 15, I. W. Smith, Bristol, tanner

January 22, J. Lilly, Doddershall, Worcestershire, farmer—January 21, E. Rogers, Great Witley, Worcestershire, surgeon.

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

January 15, J. Tunks, George place, Newland's terrace, Kensington, cowkeeper—January 15, C. Draper, Bishopsgate street Without, City, victualler—January 15, H. Wood, Cheltenham, draper—January 16, T. Thompson, Northampton, bill broker—January 13, W. G. Flynn, Lower Thames street, City, merchant—January 15, J. P. Luxton, Munster street, Regent's park, linendraper—January 14, G. F. Blow, Great Dover street, Newington, Surrey, carrier—January 14, W. R. Parsons, Limehouse causeway, grocer—January 14, J. Phillips, Pinner's court, Old Broad street, City, tailor—January 13, H. Liprot, Wrexham, Denbighshire, bootmaker—January 13, E. Merdith, Liverpool, linendraper—January 21, J. Lilly, Dodderhill, Worcestershire, farmer.

CERTIFICATES to be granted by the Court of Review, unless cause be shown to the contrary on or before January 13.

T. Preston, Jun. Manchester, cotton spinner—J. Crabb, Hook mills, Dorsetshire, hemp manufacturer—P. Hansen, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, merchant—J. H. Limes, Richmond, Surrey, butcher—F. Ridd, Nether Stowey, Somersetshire, surgeon.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

P. Allan, Coldstream, agricultural implement maker—J. MacKenzie, Dingwall, coal merchant—D. P. Miller, Glasgow, theatrical-ornament manufacturer—J. Bendelow, Leith, innkeeper.

Friday, December 26.

OFFICE OF ORDINANCE, DECEMBER 26.

Royal Artillery—Gentlemen Cadets to be Second Lieutenants—W. E. M. Reilly, vice Robinson, promoted; W. B. Saunders, vice Biddulph, promoted; C. H. Smith, vice Vernon, promoted; H. T. Fitzhugh, vice Raynes, promoted; W. H. Moody, vice Milman, promoted; W. N. Hardy, vice Kennedy, promoted; J. L. Bolton, vice Lock, promoted; J. R. Lugg, vice Gilbert, deceased; G. H. J. A. Fraser, vice Baddeley, promoted; T. Lambert, vice Norie, promoted.

Royal Engineers—Gentlemen Cadets to be Second Lieutenants—C. B. P. N. H. Nugent, vice Ward, promoted; E. Beifield, vice Jesse, promoted; Hon. G. Wrottesley, vice Bouchier, promoted; St. A. St. John, vice Grain, promoted; E. C. A. Gordon, vice Grant, promoted; W. Porter, vice Browne, promoted; J. J. Wilson, vice Somerset, promoted; G. F. Dawson, vice Montagu, promoted; G. St. J. Crofton, vice Mairis, promoted; H. Phillips, vice King, promoted.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

H. Banks and W. Crosby, Warrington, stock brokers—W. Harris and J. Hogan, Northampton, chemists—J. L. Hine and E. Healey, Manchester, law stationers—M. and C. Dain, York terrace, Kent road, carpet hroom makers—T. d'Almaine and T. G. Mackinlay, Soho square, music sellers—T. and W. Warner, Long Sutton, upholsterers—A. Grant, Brothers, Mitre court, Milk street; as far as regards D. Grant—D. Little and P. Littlejohn, Liverpool, commission agents—J. Henderson and C. C. Stephenson, Leeds, stock brokers—Sarah, J. G., and E. Tallet, Kirkdale, builders—C. M. Callum and Co. Mark lane, ship brokers; as far as regards W. Musket—H. Smith and S. W. Cooper, Chiswell street, toy dealers—R. Davies and S. F. Turner, Dudley, fender makers.

9 BANKRUPTS.

C. W. Toulmin, South Island place, Clapham road, job master. [Buchanan, Basinghall street.] F. Dixon, Long lane, Bermondsey, currier. [Fry, Cheapside.] F. Robinson, Princes street, Chelsea, cowkeeper. [Wansey, Moor-gate street.] J. Lankhear, Seymour row, Little Chelsea, surgeon. [Thompson, Bucklersbury.] G. A. Absalom, Portsea, victualler. [Corner, Dean street, Tooley street.] C. Williamson, Great Portland street, wine merchant. [Bristow and Tarrant, Bond court, Walbrook.] E. Streeter, Bristol, builder. [Hopkins, Bristol.] W. Waites, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, grocer. [Bennett and Co. Scott's yard, Cannon street.] P. Phillips, Birmingham, steel pen maker. [Jabett, Birmingham.]

DIVIDENDS.

Jan. 23, J. Pegrum, Robert street, North Brixton, builder—Jan. 16, W. P. Mills, High Holborn, gun maker—Jan. 23, A. Hindes and J. Thompson, Leeds, stock brokers—Jan. 23, J. and J. Thompson, Leeds, stock brokers.

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

Jan. 16, J. Mortimer, Adelaide street, bookseller—Jan. 17, W. R. Lejeune, Southampton, corn merchant—Jan. 16, R. Hutchinson, Jewry street, Aldgate, leather seller—Jan. 17, G. Staigh, Skinner street, Snow hill, cutler—Jan. 16, J. Gibson, Motcomb street, Belgrave square, oilman—Jan. 23, J. H. Walter, Southampton street, Camberwell, ironmonger—Jan. 16, G. Couper, South Shields, cinder burner—Jan. 19, C. Brogden, Lincoln, bookseller—Jan. 21, Sophia and J. Burton, Kingdon-upon-Hull, chemists—Jan. 23, W. Bickerton, Kingdon-upon-Hull, timber merchant—Jan. 26, J. and D. Woodhead, Netherthong, Yorkshire, dyers—Jan. 16, H. Blunt, Woolton, Lancashire, licensed victualler—Jan. 20, R. Warr, Beaminster, auctioneer—Jan. 17, T. Arnold, Shrewsbury, veterinary surgeon—Jan. 17, J. O. Harvey, Newark, grocer—Jan. 21, J. Rawthorne, Manchester, drysalter—Jan. 19, A. Featherstonhaugh, Great Bolton, butcher—Jan. 19, J. Isherwood, Bolton, innkeeper.

CERTIFICATES to be granted by the Court of Review, unless cause be shown to the contrary on or before January 16.

H. and W. Kimber, Water lane, City, wine merchants—R. Reynolds, Manchester, upholsterer—T. Hall, Theford, ironmonger—H. Mallinson, Almondbury, cotton manufacturer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

W. Allan, Glasgow, oil merchant—S. Davidson, Bairdston, Lanarkshire, builder—D. McGilvray, Edinburgh, tailor—D. Morrison, Glasgow, merchant.

BIRTH.

On the 22nd inst., in Whitehall place, the Countess of Lincoln, of a son.

MARRIED.

On the 22nd inst., at St Peter's Church, Walworth, George Harris, Esq., of the London Stock Exchange, to Margaret, second daughter of Robert Liston, Esq., of Clifford street, Bond street.

DEATH.

Lady Harriet Galloway, relict of Lieut.-General Sir William Payne Galloway, Bart., and sister of Earl Dunraven, of Adare Manor, Limerick.

THE most splendid Musical Annual published is entitled "THE BOOK OF BEAUTY for the QUEEN'S BOUDOIR," Edited by CHARLES JEFFERYS. It contains 103 pages of New Vocal and Pianoforte Music, as Songs, Duets, Quadrilles, Waltzes, Polkas, Galops, Mazurkas, &c. by the most eminent living Composers; the Illustrations are by Brandard, and the price of the book, carriage free to all parts of the kingdom, is 18s. which may be sent by Post-office Order to Jefferys, 21 Soho square, London.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—The Lectures selected for this period of the year, by Dr Ryan and Professor Bachoffner, in CHEMISTRY and NATURAL PHILOSOPHY, will be illustrated by interesting and brilliant Experiments. A LECTURE on the PREVALENT DISEASE in POTATOES will be delivered by Dr Ryan, and also on the ATMOSPHERIC RAILWAY, by Professor Bachoffner, a Working Model of which, carrying several Persons, is exhibited daily. The additions to the OPAQUE MICROSCOPE, DISSOLVING VIEWS, and CHROMATROPE, are very effective. THE PHYSIOSCOPE, Submarine Experiments by Means of the DIVER and DIVING BELL. Among the various additions to the Working Models is COLEMAN'S NEW AMERICAN LOCOMOTIVE ENGINE, for ascending and descending Inclined Planes. A magnificent COLLECTION of TROPICAL FRUITS, MR DOWNE, the celebrated Flute-player, will take part in the Music, conducted by Dr Wallis. Open from Eleven to Half-past Five, and from Seven to Half-past Ten in the Evening.—Admission, One Shilling. Schools, Half-price.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.

Legitimate Drama.—Combination of Talent. ON Monday the Performances will commence with Shakespeare's Tragedy of ROMEO AND JULIET. Romeo, Miss Cushman; Juliet, Miss Susan Cushman (their first appearance at this Theatre). After which (third time) a New Grand Fairy Extravaganza, called THE BEE AND THE ORANGE TREE. Principal Characters by Mr Hudson, Mr Bland, Mr Caulfield, Mr Tibbury, Mr Clark, Miss P. Horton, Miss Julia Bennett, and Mrs Stanley. On Tuesday will be produced an entirely New Drama, called THE CHICKET OF THE HEARTH, a Fairy Tale of Home. Characters by Mr Farren, Mr Webster, Mr Luckstone, Mr Tibbury, Mr Hoil, Miss Fortesque, Mrs Sewear, Mrs Clifford, and Miss Felbin. After which RAILWAY BUBBLES. And THE BEE AND THE ORANGE TREE. On Wednesday, a Tragedy. And THE BEE AND THE ORANGE TREE. On Thursday, a Drama. THE MISERIES OF HUMAN LIFE. And THE BEE AND THE ORANGE TREE. On Friday, a Tragedy. And THE BEE AND THE ORANGE TREE. On Saturday, a Drama. THE BEE AND THE ORANGE TREE. And other Entertainments.

THEATRE ROYAL, ADELPHI.

Under the Management of Madame Celeste. ON Monday and during the Week will be performed an entirely New Drama, called THE CRICKET ON THE HEARTH, a Fairy Tale of Home. Principal Characters by Messrs O. Smith, Wright, Lambert, Selby, Cullenford, Miss Fitzwilliams, Miss Woolgar, and Mrs Laws. With THE LIONESS OF THE NORTH, or The Prisoner of Schlussburgh. Characters by Messrs Webster, Wright, Selby, Lambert, Miss Chaplin, and Madame Celeste. To conclude with a New Grand Comic Christmas Pantomime, called HARLEQUIN AND POONOOWINGKEWANGFLIBBEDEFFLO-BEEDDEBUSKEFBANG; or The King of the Cannibal Islands. With new scenery and appointments Harlequin, Mr Ireland. Clown, Mr C. J. Smith. Pantaloon, Mr Mitchinson. Columbine, Miss Fleming.

THEATRE ROYAL, LYCEUM.

Under the Management of Mrs Keeley. NEW CHRISTMAS BOOK BY MR DICKENS. THE CRICKET ON THE HEARTH was received on Tuesday evening with the most enthusiastic shouts of admiration and applause ever witnessed within the walls of the Theatre; it is therefore only necessary to state, that, after such Triumphant Success, it will be performed every Evening.

ON Monday the Performances will commence with (Sixth time) THE CRICKET ON THE HEARTH; a Fairy Tale of Home. Dramatised by Albert Smith, Esq. from early proofs of the Work, by the express permission of Charles Dickens, Esq. Principal Characters by Mr Keeley, Mr Emery, Mr F. Vining, Mr Meadows, Mrs Keeley, Miss Mary Keay (her sixth appearance on any stage), Mrs Woolfield, Miss Howard, Miss Forster, and Miss Turner. To conclude with (Third time) a New Grand Romantic Extravaganza, entitled THE ENCHANTED HORSE; or, Prince Firouz Schah of Persia and the Princess of Bengal. Principal Characters by Messrs Keeley, Wigam, F. Matthews, Collier, Turner; Mrs Keeley, Miss Villiers, Miss Hodson, Dawson, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN.

M. JULLIEN'S ANNUAL SERIES OF CONCERTS. PROLONGATION OF THE SERIES. RE-ENGAGEMENT OF SIGNOR SIVORI FOR TWELVE NIGHTS.

M. JULLIEN has the honor to announce that the arrangements for opening the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, at Christmas, for Dramatic Performances, not having been brought to a conclusion, the Proprietors have in the most handsome manner offered him the use of their establishment for a further limited period. M. JULLIEN therefore begs most respectfully to inform the Nobility and Gentry, as well as the public generally, that this Series of Concerts will be prolonged for a further period of ONE MONTH.

RE-ENGAGEMENT OF SIGNOR SIVORI. It is with great satisfaction that M. JULLIEN is enabled to announce that he has succeeded in persuading SIGNOR SIVORI to postpone for short period his continental tour, and that he will perform TWELVE NIGHTS more, viz., on each night during the present and ensuing week. During this engagement, SIGNOR SIVORI will nightly vary his performance, and introduce his most celebrated Pieces. Paganini's "Theme Burlesque, Le Carnaval de Venise," never failing to be honoured by the most enthusiastic plaudits, SIGNOR SIVORI will repeat that Solo on each occasion. He will consequently perform TWO SOLOS EVERY NIGHT: Arranged in the following manner: SIGNOR SIVORI'S TWELVE PERFORMANCES.

Table listing concert performances for Monday through Saturday, including titles like 'Grand Concerto in B. minor' and 'Le Carnaval de Venise'.

GRAND BAL MASQUE.

The unexpected Prolongation of this Series of Concerts, added to the universal admiration expressed by the brilliant assembly on Monday evening last, induces M. JULLIEN to announce another BAL MASQUE, which will take place on Monday, Feb. 2, 1846.

FINAL CLOSE of the CHINESE COLLECTION, Hyde Park Corner.—The public is respectfully informed, that the arrangements consequent upon the decease of the late proprietor, render it necessary that the Chinese Collection should shortly be removed from this country. Every effort will be made to render this museum increasingly attractive to visitors, during the short time it will remain in London.—Arrival of A-SHING and A-YOU. These interesting and intelligent Chinese have lately arrived from the "Flower Land," and will be at Home, to receive the visitors in the Grand Saloon of the Chinese Collection, every day from One till Four, and in the Evening from Seven till Ten.

There is no exhibition can compare with it in Oriental splendour and beautiful arrangement. To the youthful mind it especially opens a vast field of delightful information.—The Times.

REE'S COMPOUND ESSENCE OF CUBEBS, the most safe and certain remedy ever discovered for the cure of gonorrhoea, gleet, strictures, seminal weakness, white, pain of the urinary passages, frequently performing a perfect cure in the short space of three or four days. It is combined with the essential salt of sarsaparilla and other alteratives, which make it a most valuable remedy for rheumatism, scurvy, and those diseases of the blood for which the decoction of sarsaparilla has been so much recommended. In cases of debility it has been taken with the most decided benefit.—Prepared by J. W. Scirling, chemist, 85 High street, Whitechapel, from whom it can be sent to any part of the world upon enclosing the amount, in bottles at 4s. 6d., 10s., and 20s. each. Agent: Sanger, 150 Oxford street; and can be had of all the principal medicine vendors. The genuine has the name of J. W. Scirling on the stamp.

ENCAUSTIC, VENETIAN, and other PATENT TILES, and MOSAIC PAVEMENTS, may be purchased at MINTON and CO.'S Warehouse, No. 9 Abbot Place, Surrey side of Blackfriars bridge. WYATT, PARKER, and CO. Agents. The above Tiles have lately been considerably reduced in price. N.B. An assortment of plain and ornamental Door Furniture, Slabs, and Tiles, for Fireplaces, &c. &c.

THE MOST IMMEDIATE REMEDY for COUGHS and COLDS is HOLLOWAY'S PILLS. This celebrated and extraordinary Medicine is not only an effectual cure for coughs, colds, hoarseness, or even loss of voice, but is likewise a certain remedy in all cases of wheezing, shortness of breath, and asthma. Any persons who may be so bad as not to be able to lay down in bed lest they be choked with phlegm, may be radically cured by these pills when every other means have failed. This latter class of sufferers may depend upon getting great relief in the first three days, and in ten days they will sleep almost as well as ever they did in their lives. Sold by all Medicine Vendors, and at Professor Holloway's Establishment, 24 Strand, London.

FREEDOM from COUGH in TEN MINUTES AFTER USE is INSURED by DR LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS. Another Cure of Asthma, from Mr W. Barton, Apothecaries' Hall, Cambridge, Argyleshire. March 1, 1845. "Gentlemen,—Your wafers give great satisfaction; one case in particular. An old gentleman, who for years has been afflicted with asthma, and seldom had a quiet night's rest, had used very many proprietary medicines, as well as medical prescriptions, but all were of no use. Since he began to use Locock's wafers he feels himself quite well again. He sleeps well at night, and is quite refreshed in the morning, &c. (Signed) "WILLIAM BRTON." TO SINGERS and PUBLIC SPEAKERS they are invaluable for clearing and strengthening the voice; they have a most pleasant taste. Price 1s. 6d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. per box. Agents—DA SILVA and CO. 1 Bride lane, Fleet street, London. Sold by all medicine vendors.

HENRY'S CALCINED MAGNESIA continues to be prepared, with the most scrupulous care and attention, by Messrs. Thomas and William Henry, Manufacturing Chemists, Manchester. It is sold in bottles, price 2s. 9d. or with glass stoppers at 4s. 6d. stamp included, with full directions for its use, by its various agents in the metropolis, and throughout the United Kingdom; but it cannot be genuine unless their names are engraved on the government stamp, which is fixed over the cork or stopper of each bottle. Sold in London, wholesale, by Messrs Barclay and Sons, Farringdon street; Sutton and Co. Bow Churchyard; Newbery and Sons, E. Edwards, Thos. Butler, St Paul's Churchyard; Savory and Co. New Bond street; Sanger, Oxford street; and of most of the vendors of the Magnesia may be had, authenticated by a similar stamp, HENRY'S AROMATIC SPIRIT OF VINEGAR, the invention of Mr Henry, and the only genuine preparation of that article.

BILIOUS and LIVER COMPLAINTS.—As a mild and effectual Remedy for those disorders which originate in a morbid action of the Liver and Biliary Organs—namely, Indigestion, Loss of Appetite, Head-ache, Heartburn, Flatulencies, Spasms, Costiveness, Affections of the Liver, &c. &c. DIXON'S ANTIBILIOUS PILLS (which do not contain Mercury in any shape) have met with more general approval than any other Medicine whatsoever. They unite every recommendation of mild operation with successful effect; and require no restraint or confinement during their use. In the tropical climates, where the consequences of redundant and vitiated bile are so pernicious and alarming, they are an invaluable and efficient protection. They are likewise peculiarly calculated to correct disorders arising from excesses of the table, to restore the tone of the stomach, and to remove most complaints occasioned by irregularity of the bowels. Sold in boxes at 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., 11s. and 22s. (each box being sealed with the arms of the Proprietor, and none are genuine which have not "George Dixon" engraved on the Government stamp), by Messrs Barclay, Far-street; Butler, Chemist, Cheapside (corner of St Paul's), London, and Sackville street, Dublin; How churchyard; Newberry, 45, Edwards, 67 St Paul's churchyard; and the principal dealers in Patent Medicines.

THE PEOPLE'S MEDICINES. THESE Medicines are introduced to the Public by one who, while he laments the impostures of the day, believes that those impostures may be defeated (without the unconstitutional interference of the Legislature) by supplying the Public with a complete set of approved remedies, at the most moderate price, and under the sanction of high medical authority. Such are "THE PEOPLE'S MEDICINES," prepared from Prescriptions most carefully selected and arranged by an eminent Physician now living, whose name, if published, would carry great weight. They are also accompanied by his directions and advice. The object is twofold, viz.: first to counteract the dangerous use of advertised Medicines, called Universal, which profess to cure every disease with a single agent—an assertion at once unprincipled and absurd—and, secondly, to furnish the Public with the best remedies for each complaint, at about one-half the price usually charged for Patent Medicines, thus combining cheapness, efficacy, and safety. The latest discoveries, both Foreign and English, have been made available, and will continue to be so, as soon as they are established by a safe experience of their merits. The advance of Chemical Science renders secrets in Medicine impossible. A few Patent Medicines may be efficacious, but their ingredients and composition are no secrets to the regular Practitioner. The aim in "The People's Medicines" has been to retain whatever has proved useful, and improve it by the application of eminent talent and modern discovery; and to reject whatever is dangerous or injurious. "The People's Medicines" are compounded of the purest ingredients; and to prevent inferior imitations, the words "The People's Medicines" are engraved in the Government Stamp. Directions for use, with advice to the Patient, accompany each article, and will be found full and explicit. The general charge is 1s. 11d. but some few, containing very expensive ingredients, are necessarily charged higher. The Medicines are named and numbered as follow:

- 1 Bilious Pills, for constant use. 37 Preventive of Sea-Sickness
2 Bilious Pills, for occasional use. 38 Essence of Chamomile and Glan-ger
3 Dinner Pills, 2s. 9d. 39 Essence of Taraxacum (Dandelion), 2s. 9d.
4 Chamomile Pills 40 Essence of Sarsaparilla, 4s. 6d.
5 Digestive Stomachic Pills, 2s. 9d. 41 Scorbatic Wine, 11s.
6 Gout Pills 42 White Gravel Powders.
7 Rheumatic Pills 43 Red Gravel Powders
8 Cough Pills 44 Pile Powders
9 Anatomic Pills 45 Pile Ointment
10 Nervous Pills 46 Chap Ointment
11 Drops Pills 47 Chlribain Linalint
12 Scrofula Pills, 4s. 6d. 48 Itch Ointment
13 Syphilitic Pills, 2s. 9d. 49 Ointment for Burns, Scalds, and Painful Sores
14 Pills after Mercury 50 Eye Ointment
15 Diarrhoea Pills 51 Tooth-Ache Tincture
16 Aque Pills, 2s. 9d. 52 Embrocation for Sprains and Bruises
17 Spasmodic Pills, 2s. 9d. 53 Ringworm Ointment
18 Steel Pills 54 Nursery Aperient Syrup
19 Female Pills 55 Teething Syrup
20 Vegetable Tonic Pills 56 Hooping-Cough Syrup
21 Night Pills for rest 57 Fever Powders
22 Aperient Pills, for warm climates 58 Worm Powders
23 Rhubarb and Soda Pills 59 Worm Balm
24 Rhubarb and Ginger Pills 60 Gonorrhoeal Electuary
25 Quinine and Camphor Pills, 2s. 9d. 61 Tonic Lament, 2s. 9d.
26 Epileptic Pills 62 Nervous Lament, 2s. 9d.
27 Diuretic Pills 63 Scrofula Powders for Haching, &c. 2s. 9d.
28 Lettuce Pills 64 Cheltenham Chalybeate Spa Powders
29 Squill Pills 65 Harrogate Sulphur Spa Powders (New well)
30 Laxative Night Pill, with agreeable morning draught 66 Leamington Spa Powders
31 Sudoric Drops 67 Buxton Saline Spa Powders
32 Cough Mixture 68 Seltzer Spa Powders
33 Voice Candy 69 German Spa Powders (Pouhon)
34 Lozenges for sweetening the Breath 70
35 Antacid Lozenges
36 Pulmonic Plaster

The six Spa Powders contain all the virtues of the various Mineral Springs. Each packet (containing twenty-four Powders, with directions for immediately producing the Water represented) is charged 2s. 9d. These Medicines are prepared (under the immediate superintendence of a Member of the College of Surgeons) at the People's Medical Dispensary, London; and are supplied through the Wholesale Houses, Medicine Chests, containing all or any number of the remedies enumerated, adapted for Ships, Travellers, and those living at an inconvenient distance from medical aid, may be had at proportionate prices. All the Medicines may be had of any Chymist, either by number or name.

Just published, price 1s. the Fourth Edition (translated from the Nineteenth French Edition), CONSTIPATION DESTROYED; or, Exposition of Natural, Simple, Agreeable, and infallible means, not only of overcoming, but also of completely destroying habitual Constipation, without using either purgatives or any artificial means whatever (discovered recently made in France by M. Warren), followed by numerous certificates from eminent physicians and other persons of distinction. Free by post, 1s. 6d. Sold by James Houson and Co. tea dealers, 45 Ludgate hill, London, and by all booksellers in the United Kingdom.

THE following young Gentlemen have lately been appointed Naval Cadets to the under-mentioned ships, from Dr Burney's Royal Academy, Gosport.

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BRANDY AND CAPSULES.—MR BETTS (the late firm of J. T. BETTS & Co.), Patent Brandy Distiller, 7 Smithfield Bars, feels it due to himself and the public to state, that the manufacture of the PATENT BRANDY was not, nor ever has been, known to any person except to himself and one of his sons.

DRAWING-ROOM, LIBRARY, and DINING-ROOM ORNAMENTS in Italian, Alabaster, Marble, Bronze, and Derbyshire Spar; consisting of a great variety of Vases, Figures, Groups, Candelsticks, Inkstands, Inlaid Tables, Paperweights, &c., imported and manufactured by J. TENNANT (late Mawe), 149 Strand, London.

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HERNIA, DISTORTION, &c., CURED, OR Relieved, by Mechanical Means.—Mr J. WALTERS begs to inform his Medical Friends and the Public that he has made arrangements for being at home daily from Ten till Two o'clock, during which hours he may be consulted in all cases requiring mechanical contrivance with surgical knowledge.

THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION. NORTON'S CAMOMILE PILLS are confidently recommended as a simple, but certain remedy, to all who suffer from Indigestion, Sick Headache, Bilious and Liver complaints; they act as powerful tonic and gentle aperient, imparting strength to the stomach, and composing to the nervous system.

FRANKS'S SPECIFIC SOLUTION OF COPAIBA. The efficacy of this invaluable Medicine is attested by Testimonials from JOSEPH HENRY GREEN, Esq. F.R.S. one of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons; Surgeon to St Thomas's Hospital, and Professor of Surgery in King's College, London.

JONES'S DEMULCENT COUGH LOZENGES. The best remedy ever discovered.—Persons afflicted with Cough, Asthma, Difficulty of Breathing, Consumption, or other diseases of derangement of the respiratory organs, will experience immediate relief, and derive permanent benefit by the use of JONES'S DEMULCENT COUGH LOZENGES, which are so efficacious that they will cut short the most violent paroxysm of coughing, and are so agreeable to the palate that they may be eaten as a confection.

CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S GIFTS.—The present season is hallowed by one of the most delightful offices of friendship and affection; the interchange of gifts as remembrances of the donors, and tokens of their esteem for the receivers. The branches of the donors, and tokens of their esteem for the receivers; a most appropriate present becomes the first subject of consideration; a most appropriate present becomes the first subject of consideration; a most appropriate present becomes the first subject of consideration; a most appropriate present becomes the first subject of consideration.

DR CULVERWELL ON MARRIAGE. Price, 1s.; by post, 1s. 6d.

ON SINGLE and MARRIED LIFE. (An Original and Medical History.) By R. J. CULVERWELL, M.D. M.R.C.S. L.A.C. &c.

NOTHING COULD BE BETTER DEvised than Nicoll's Registered Patent to suit the ever-variable nature of our climate, forming as it now does, not only the sine qua non of the railway traveller, but is equally so for any gentleman taking out-door exercise.

CHRISTMAS TOASTS. An Anecdote. A company of friends, on Christmas-day, Were drinking toasts together, so they sang; Some toasted to companions of their glasses, And some proposed to health to all "good lasses;" Some drank to Queen Victoria on her throne, And nothing scarcely did they let alone.

THE AUSTRALASIAN COLONIAL AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE AND ANNUITY COMPANY, 126 Bishopsgate street, corner of Cornhill. Capital 200,000L in 2,000 Shares.

THE LITERARY GAZETTE. On the first Saturday in the year 1846, the LITERARY GAZETTE purposes to extend the sphere of its usefulness, and adapt itself for circulation among all classes of the community, in accordance with the economic spirit of the times.

DR SILVER ON FISTULA, &c. Fourth Edition, enlarged, just published, with cases and plates, in 8vo, cloth, price 6s.

ON PILES, FISTULA, PROLAPSUS, HEMORRHOIDAL TUMOURS, and STRICTURES, their Nature, Causes, and Cure, without Cutting or Confinement. With Observations on Liver and Bilious Diseases, and their Treatment. Illustrated with numerous Cases and Plates. By E. D. SILVER, M.D. Surgeon, &c. 30 Berners street, Oxford street.

FREEMASONS' and GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, 11 Waterloo place, Pallmall, London. Business transacted in all the branches and for all objects of Life Assurance, Endowments, and Annuities, and to secure contingent Reversions, &c. Information and Prospectuses furnished by JOSEPH BERRIDGE, Secretary.

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Table with columns: AGE, ANNUAL PREMIUM (ONE YEAR, SEVEN YRS, WHOLE LIFE). Rows for ages 20, 30, 40, 50, 60.

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Table with columns: WITH PROFITS, WITHOUT PROFITS. Sub-columns: Age, Annual Premium. Rows for ages 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55.

No extra Premium is charged for residence in the Australasian or North American Colonies, or at the Cape of Good Hope. Peculiar facilities are afforded for the assurance of the lives of persons proceeding to or residing in the East Indies.

Table with columns: Age, Male Lives, Female Lives. Rows for ages 35, 45, 55, 65, 75, 80.

**COLBURN'S NEW MONTHLY MAGAZINE.**  
 Edited by W. HARRISON AINSWORTH, Esq.  
 The January Number will contain:  
 Contributions by Captain Marryat, Horace Smith, Mr Sergeant Talford, Mr James, Mrs Trollope, Mr Maxwell, Mr Francis Ainsworth, Mr W. E. Surtees, Captain Levinge, Charles Hooton, Dudley Costello, Andrew Winter, John Oxenford, Edward Kenealy, the Author of 'Jolly Green,' and the Editor.  
 Embellished with a Portrait of Mr Ainsworth, engraved from a painting by D. Macleise, R.A.  
 Chapman and Hall, 186 Strand.

January 1, price 1s.  
**THE CHRISTIAN REFORMER; or, Unitarian Magazine and Review**—containing  
 Regium Donum.  
 Some Unrecorded Passages in the Life of John Milton.  
 Reading of Rom. vii, 25.  
 A Sunday at Berne.  
 Oliver Cromwell.  
 The Past Year, &c. &c.  
 Sherwood and Co. and Chapman, Brothers.

WITH AN ILLUSTRATION BY GEORGE CRUIKSHANK.  
**AINS WORTH'S MAGAZINE.**  
 The January Number will contain:  
 Contributions by W. Harrison Ainsworth, Esq., W. Francis Ainsworth, the Author of 'Hanley Cross,' Shirley Brooks, George Raymond, Thomas Miller, J. E. Carpenter, J. L. Forrest, John Oxenford, Edward Kenealy, &c. &c.  
 With an Illustration on Steel by George Cruikshank.  
 Chapman and Hall, 186 Strand.

**BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE.**  
 No. CCCLXIII. JANUARY, 1846.  
 CONTENTS:  
 I. Sir William Follett—II. Let never Cruelty dishonour Beauty—III. The Last Hours of a Reign. Conclusion—IV. A Campaign in Texas—V. The Mother and her Dead Child—VI. The Greek and Romantic Drama—VII. My College Friends. No. 3—VIII. The Student of Salamanca. Part 3—IX. Sicilian Sketches. Syracuse—X. Aesthetics of Dress. Military Costume—XI. From Goethe—XII. Christmas Carol. 1845—XIII. The Crisis.  
 William Blackwood and Sons, 45 George street, Edinburgh; and 37 Paternoster row, London.

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 for JANUARY (the commencement of a Volume), price One Shilling, will contain—  
 Visit to Mr O'Connell at Derrynane; by William Howitt—Children—Fairs and Railroads—Naples in 1845-4; by Madame Wolfensberger—Notes on Gillfilan's 'Gallery of Literary Portraits' by Thomas de Quincey; No. III. Shelley—Love, Jealousy, and Vengeance; a Highland Tale, by Sir Thomas Dick Lauder—Oliver Cromwell's Letters and Speeches—How is Parliament to get through its Railway Business?—Literary Register—Politics of the month.  
 W. Tait, Edinburgh; Simpkin, Marshall, and Co. London.

NEW MAGAZINE.  
 On January 1st will be published, price 2s. with an Illustration by PRIZ, and several Wood Engravings,  
**THE UNION MAGAZINE.**

Contents of No. I.  
 1. Thoughts on the Aesthetics of Milton's Comus.  
 2. Easy Chairs.  
 3. Letters from a Hindoo Gentleman travelling in England.  
 4. The Crusades.  
 5. Baron Puffendorf—A Satire.—A. D. 1900.  
 6. Pope Gregory XVI.  
 7. A Musician's Plea for his Art.  
 8. The Adventures of a Stick.  
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 10. The Scholar's Death Summons, and other Miscellaneous Poetry.  
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 12. General Rosas, Monte Video and Buenos Ayres.  
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 No. 89, for January, 1846, commencing the Eighth Volume, will contain:  
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 3. Picture-Dealing.  
 4. Art in Scotland, Ireland, and the English Provinces.  
 5. Pen and Ink Sketches, by Mrs S. C. Hall—No. I: The Soldier's Funeral.  
 6. Art in Continental States—Germany, Italy, France.  
 7. The Exposition of British Manufactures—now open in Manchester.  
 8. Letters on Landscape—Introductory; by J. B. Pyne.  
 9. English Artists on Wood.  
 10. Scraps collected in Paris; by F. W. Fairholt, F.S.A.  
 11. 'Topics of the Month,' concerning the Arts.  
 12. Reviews of Prints and Books.  
 13. Distribution of Medals by the Royal Academy.  
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 The Literary Department of the 'Daily News' will be under the direction of Mr Charles Dickens.  
 The Counting-house, and Office for Advertisements intended for insertion in the 'Daily News,' will be at No. 90 Fleet street, London; to which place any communications for the Editor should be addressed, until the Publishing Offices in Whitefriars shall be completed.

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 for JANUARY, will be published NEXT WEEK; and will contain an article on  
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