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CONTENTS.

THE ECONOMIST.

The Consolidated Tariff Act	921	NEWS OF THE WEEK:—	
Close of the Session	921	Court and Aristocracy	930
Exports to Australia	922	Metropolis	930
Italian Wrongs and Italian Desperation	923	Provinces	931
France.—Savings Banks	924	Ireland	931
Timber Resources of Canada	925	Foreign and Colonial	931
House of Commons.—Public Bills	925	Commercial and Miscellaneous	932
AGRICULTURE:—			
Harvest	926	LITERATURE:—	
The Draining Plough	926	The Poetical Works of Alexander	
Spirit of the Trade Circulars	927	Pope	933
FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE:—			
Paris	929	Theory of Politics	934
Imperial Parliament	929	Popular Economic Botany	934
		Manual of Botany	934
		Louis XVII.	935
THE BANKERS' GAZETTE AND COMMERCIAL TIMES.			
Bank Returns and Money Market	935	LONDON MARKETS:—	
Bankers' Price Current	937	State of Corn Trade for the Week	940
Mails	938	Colonial & Foreign Produce Markets	941
Weekly Corn Returns	938	Postscript	942
Commercial Epitome	938	Additional Notices	942
Cotton	939	Gazette	943
Markets of Manufacturing Districts	940	Imports and Exports	944
Corn	940	Price Current	945
THE RAILWAY MONITOR.			
Railway and Mining Share Market	944	Share List and Traffic Returns	946

This short Act, together with the Consolidation Act of Customs Regulations, to which we shall refer more particularly in a future number, will be all that the merchant will now require for his guide in relation to our export and import trade.

CLOSE OF THE SESSION.

THE Session of Parliament, now virtually at an end, though the prorogation has not yet been formally pronounced, was marked by some important peculiarities; and the list we publish elsewhere of the number of public bills introduced, will show at a glance the immense number of measures and immense variety of business which have occupied the continued attention of Parliament. All those bills did not become laws, but the majority of them did, and most of those introduced by the Ministers went through all the forms and were placed on the statute book. "The results," says the *Times* in an excellent article, of which we shall use a great deal instead of writing much on the subject ourselves, "which have been obtained are far more solid than showy, and have been purchased by an amount of labour and physical and mental effort such as has never before been demanded from or endured by the members of the Imperial Parliament. The bills that have passed claim our attention, not so much for their number as for their immense weight and importance, and from the fact that they have not been the production of private members, but of the Government itself. That Government only succeeded to office one month before the meeting of Parliament, yet it has found time to devise and elaborate bills, carried into law with wonderfully little alteration, and dealing with the most difficult and complicated subjects, with machinery the most elaborate and provisions the most precise. So great has been the scale of legislation, that measures which seemed during the past session to be of secondary importance would in ordinary years have been considered alone sufficient to found a claim to national gratitude. It is wonderful to consider how few things have been proposed which have not been carried into effect. There has been no "massacre of the innocents;" the young family has been brought up to vigorous manhood. What has been promised has been attempted, and what has been attempted fully and fairly carried out."

Amongst the important measures passed we must place first the financial measures—the renewal of the income tax for seven years and its extension to Ireland, the tax on successions, the reform of the tariff, the consolidation of the Customs acts, the amendment of the assessed taxes, and a great reform in the stamp duties, the redemption of the land tax, and many connected measures, which belong to the department of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and make his labour in the session pre-eminently conspicuous. Of the Right Hon. Gentleman the *Times* eloquently says:—"In a speech unrivalled for clearness, comprehensiveness, and eloquence, Mr Gladstone undertook and overcame the gigantic difficulty of persuading the people of England to endure for seven years longer the inequalities of the income tax, of extending that tax to Ireland, of inducing the owners of real property to submit to a tax on successions, and of carrying out at once and without delay the Free-trade policy of Sir Robert Peel to its full complement and perfection. When he rose to speak these things seemed impossible,—when he sat down they were virtually already done. The most sceptical knew that his success was certain, and that which in the morning would have been treated as a dream became before midnight a sober reality. To this succeeded a still more difficult feat in legislation—the passing of the succession tax. This bill only contains some fifty clauses, but into those clauses was compressed an almost infinite number of details and provisions. This act is admitted both by friend and foe to be a masterpiece in the art of legislation. The subject was thoroughly analysed and digested before an attempt was made to put it into words, and by this patient process of investigation was reduced under a few heads and comprehended under a few general terms. All the infinite variety of human transactions with property, all the contin-

The Political Economist.

THE CONSOLIDATED TARIFF ACT.

In a supplement to our present number we publish the Act which consolidates into one tariff the whole of the Customs duties of the United Kingdom and the Isle of Man; including all the important remissions and reductions of duties in the present session. These are important, not only in relation to their number, but also to the character of the articles affected. They include no fewer than *one hundred and five* articles with respect to which the duties have this year been entirely repealed, and *one hundred and twenty-six* articles with regard to which very important reductions have been made; making together *two hundred and thirty-one* articles which have been dealt with in the present session of Parliament.

For the first time we have now in a single Act of Parliament the British Tariff brought together in one clear and distinct form, including every article in alphabetical order, whether *free* or *subject to duty*; and including any special provision attached to particular articles.

The articles upon which the additional *five per cent.* attached to our Customs duties in 1840 now applies are reduced to *seven* in number, and these have been retained only on account of the considerable amount of revenue which they yield. But they are no longer continued in a separate list, but are placed in their proper alphabetical order, with the words attached to them, "and five per cent. thereon." The seven articles are as follow, with the amount of revenue which such additional per centage yields, as shown by a Parliamentary return of the present session:—

	£
Tobacco	216,308
Wine	85,468
Timber of British Possessions...	4,287
Pepper	4,402
Gloves	1,864
Currants	13,585
Figs	1,253
Total	327,167

On every other article the additional per cent. is by this Act repealed.

"gencies, all the subterfuges which a new tax must contemplate and provide for, have thus been dealt with in a few pages in a manner which every one who reads them must admit to be clear, complete, and comprehensive. This act, we doubt not, will form an era in our legislation, and serve as a model upon which future measures will be framed."

The measure next in importance to the financial measures concerned the government of India—one of the most difficult subjects that ever came before Parliament;—difficult, because in fact it is beyond ordinary comprehension, and because almost every person believes that he knows all about it. We have had accordingly quite as many volunteer legislators for India as we usually have volunteer Chancellors of the Exchequer. Very wisely, in our judgment, the measure was made of a temporary character, and while it provides an immediate improvement in the government of India, it carried on its face the profession that more improvement will be needed hereafter. No bill was more opposed or more discussed; and whatever may be the public opinion of its merits, it will be at once admitted that it added very much to the labour of the session, and was enough of itself to make that session remarkable.

The measures, perhaps, next in importance, are those concerning the manning of the fleet, and the annual bills which originated with the Admiralty. No subject more deservedly interests the nation than its maritime defences and its maritime superiority; and if these are secured, while the sailors are treated more liberally and made to feel more attached to their country, a great good is achieved. If we may take the splendid display of Thursday week as the *herald* of the future grandeur of the navy, we know not whether posterity will not place on a higher pedestal the statesman who provided for that than the statesman who has adjusted our taxation. Sir James Graham has not now for the first time done well for the navy, and his administration as First Lord of the Admiralty will be as highly distinguished in our annals as any that was not accompanied by war and great naval triumphs. Should the former unfortunately become necessary, we may say that he has prepared for it as far as human prudence could, and provided for its successful and speedy termination.

After the Admiralty measures those of the Board of Trade must be mentioned. "The last vestige of Protection," says our contemporary, "the restraint on the employment of foreign seamen, has been taken away, and solid compensation offered for increased competition by relieving the merchant shipping of much of that load of taxation which had been unjustly laid upon it." The pilotage regulations have been improved, the light dues lessened and the mode of levying them simplified, and navigation cheapened at the very moment when, from the prodigious demand that has arisen for ships of all descriptions and of all countries, freights have been much enhanced. No longer complaining, the shipping interest has been relieved by the care of the Government, while it has been enriched by the rapid development of a great and new traffic.

The Home-office has not neglected measures for the improvement of our towns and the repression of crime. Another great experiment is to be made in penal jurisprudence, and though we are not sanguine in anticipating benefit from it after so many other well-devised projects have turned out failures, we cannot be insensible to the care and the zeal which have been displayed in the new measure for reforming offenders. Considering the many ages the subject has engaged the attention of the leaders of mankind, it must be admitted that the best means of repressing crime are yet amongst the most mysterious and least understood of all the social phenomena.

"The Colonial-office," says the *Times*, completely describing all that is necessary to be described concerning it, "has originated but one important bill, a bill keenly contested, and carried through under circumstances of some doubt and difficulty, before the brilliant success of the Budget had consolidated the power of the Ministry. Had Lord Derby's Government continued a few months longer, Canada would have been thrown into tumult and confusion by its refusal to pass the Clergy Reserves Bill. This question, the fruitful source of contention for half a century, has in this session been finally laid to rest,—a memorable triumph for the cause of colonial independence, a signal homage to the principle of local self-government, and something very like a formal renunciation on the part of Parliament of any intention to meddle with the colonial church for the future,—a resolve which seemed to have lost nothing of its strength, when the ill-advised measure for the suppression of colonial churches was brought forward."

We shall copy, too, what our contemporary says of "the Charitable Trusts Bill, which, though carried quietly through the House, owes its easy passage to a third reading rather than the excellence of its provisions than to any lack of interest in that most important subject. To rescue some fifty millions of property, devoted to the noblest and most beneficial uses, from waste, malversation, and neglect; to supply a cheap and domestic tribunal for the adjustment of disputed questions; to provide an indemnity for trustees acting conscientiously without appealing to the Court of Chancery; to save from absolute destruction charities too small to bear the expense of litigation;

"and to provide the means for getting rid of obsolete bequests and adapting them to the exigencies of modern society—these are the excellent provisions of a bill which it has required seven and-thirty years to mature, and which it was reserved for this session to pass into a law."

Much private business and many committees—election and others—have added much to the labours of Parliament, and have made this as arduous a session as ever met. Its most important result, however, is not engrafted into the statutes, though it may influence the formation of them for years. It will be remembered that the new Ministry opened the Parliament with a doubtful majority; before it closed almost all opposition had vanished. "This session has not only scattered to the winds" (we again borrow from the *Times*) "the incapabile and anti-national Government it found in office, and almost annihilated the very semblance and shadow of an opposition, but it has welded together in one solid mass, and consolidated into a power which for the present seems irresistible, all that is wise, and great, and respectable in the country." To that important result the character of the Ministers, and the confidence the public was disposed to place in them, powerfully contributed. But it would not have been sufficient had their measures not been distinguished by an earnest desire to do the duty expected of them in the best manner, and by great sagacity in finding the best means. Party has, by their mode of administering the Government, made way for principles; and at the close of the session the public think little of the men in office, but much of the measures they proposed. These, and their obvious sincerity and earnestness, made it evident that they were working less for themselves or a party—which, in fact, they scarcely had—than for the country, and rallied around them the reflecting and the wise of all parties. While they have studiously attended to their legislative duties in regard to our domestic concerns, they have not neglected our foreign interests or disparaged our honour. Their foreign policy has found no impugners in Parliament; and they could not have been so zealous in promoting great financial, trade, and administrative reforms, had they not provided for the peace as well as the security of the Empire.

EXPORTS TO AUSTRALIA.

IN our last week's number we referred to the increase of exports which has taken place to our Australian colonies in the present year, as exemplified by our own tables of exports. We have since been able to procure, and now publish, the following account of the quantities and declared value of the principal articles of British and Irish produce and manufactures, exported from the United Kingdom to the Australian colonies in the year ended Jan. 5, 1853:—

	West Australia		South Australia		New So. Wales	
	Quantity.	Declared value. £	Quantity.	Declared value. £	Quantity.	Declared value. £
Apparel, slops and haberdashery ... value	...	13,436...	...	61,240...	...	344,752
Beer and ale bris	1,057...	3,606...	9,138...	26,941...	25,107...	79,039
Butter and cheese cwt	97...	43...	236...	968...	2,882...	11,359
Cotton manufac. val.	...	2,803...	...	17,491...	...	181,083
Earthenware, all sorts	...	453...	...	4,612...	...	15,683
Glass manufactures ...	...	1,004...	...	5,158...	...	23,915
Hardware & cutlery	...	2,800...	...	14,367...	...	61,473
Iron and steel manufactures tons	1,127...	9,233...	1,385...	17,635...	4,607...	54,781
Leather manufactures, wrought and unwrought lbs	11,890...	2,066...	87,015...	16,689...	445,876...	96,141
Saddlery & harness val.	...	734...	...	3,616...	...	32,813
Linen manufactures...	...	632...	...	9,464...	...	73,445
Machinery & millwork	...	190...	...	3,546...	...	12,037
Plate, plated ware, jewellery & watches	...	173...	...	4,466...	...	33,792
Silk manufactures.....	...	571...	...	4,539...	...	55,777
Soap and candles... lbs	27,884...	607...	205,350...	3,643...	958,226...	16,638
Stationery value	...	898...	...	4,356...	...	33,632
Woolen manufactures	...	1,641...	...	2,699...	...	192,756
All other articles .....	...	14,376...	...	57,138...	...	298,592
Total declared value		55,647		276,845		1,632,137
	Victoria		V. Diemen's Land		New Zealand	
	Quantity.	Declared value. £	Quantity.	Declared value. £	Quantity.	Declared value. £
Apparel, slops, haberdashery ... value	...	866,493...	...	154,557...	...	39,169
Beer and ale bris	32,087...	102,941...	8,063...	23,959...	2,964...	9,171
Butter and cheese cwt	9,455...	31,432...	1,794...	6,280...	27...	84
Cotton manufac. val.	...	79,343...	...	38,475...	...	8,289
Earthenware, all sorts	...	17,456...	...	9,062...	...	2,454
Glass manufactures ...	...	37,827...	...	9,109...	...	2,998
Hardware & cutlery	...	76,293...	...	22,723...	...	10,787
Iron and steel manufactures tons	4,898...	73,112...	1,465...	19,002...	546...	8,831
Leather manufactures, wrought and unwrought lbs	514,137...	103,355...	80,616...	22,577...	31,982...	5,586
Saddlery & harness val.	...	37,881...	...	3,470...	...	4,198
Linen manufactures	...	42,946...	...	15,730...	...	2,392
Machinery & millwork	...	16,982...	...	2,667...	...	2,165
Plate, plated ware, jewellery & watches	...	29,895...	...	16,745...	...	287
Silk manufactures.....	...	40,921...	...	14,705...	...	610
Soap and candle lbs	1,153,484...	19,406...	310,510...	4,745...	34,383...	915
Stationery value	...	36,733...	...	8,370...	...	3,301
Woolen manufac. ...	...	128,127...	...	47,816...	...	17,949
All other articles .....	...	380,194...	...	92,741...	...	34,303
Total declared value		1,615,135		493,772		144,969

Aggregate Quantity or value of the principal Articles of British Produce and Manufactures exported to the Australian Colonies in the years 1850 and 1852.

	1852		1850	
	Quantity.	Declared value. £	Quantity.	Declared value. £
Apparel, slops, and haberdashery value	...	959,697	...	502,783
Beer and ale	78,434	245,657	47,078	144,447
Butter and cheese	14,341	50,583	785	2,780
Cotton manufactures .....	...	336,481	...	311,135
Earthenware of all sorts .....	...	50,220	...	33,110
Glass manufactures .....	...	80,011	...	3,654
Hardware and cutlery .....	...	182,443	...	119,332
Iron and steel manufactures	16,628	192,536	cwt 12,351	144,085
Leather manufactures, wrought and unwrought	1,174,376	246,394	242,800	59,720
Saddlery and harness .....	...	82,713	...	31,373
Linen manufactures .....	...	144,669	...	87,674
Machinery and millwork .....	...	37,494	...	20,292
Plate, plated ware, jewellery, & watches	...	85,353	...	13,174
Silk manufactures .....	...	117,113	...	56,476
Soap and candles	2,693,837	45,924	380,603	13,587
Stationery .....	...	81,290	...	76,435
Woolen manufactures .....	...	410,983	...	246,640
All other articles .....	...	878,748	...	436,719
Total declared value		4,212,305		2,602,253

We do not possess a similar return for each of the colonies in 1850, but we give the total declared value of the exports to all our Australian colonies in that year. Its amount was 2,602,253/ so that the exports of 1852 exceeded those of 1850 by 1,619,952/.

The article on which there was the smallest increase between 1850 and 1852 is the cotton manufactures, but it includes only those entered by the yard, and no doubt hosiery, lace, and small wares form a large part of the item with which the list concludes—"all other articles." With reference to the immense returns we are receiving from these colonies, not only in gold, but in wool and other things, we are more astonished at the small amount of our exports than at the great amount. The gold we received from Australia in 1852 was valued at 6,950,000/ and this year we have already imported 9,500,000/ and it is more likely to increase than decrease; so that, at least, the returns from Australia are ample as yet to pay for all our exports. Though some individuals may fail, it is clear, on the whole, great as the exports may be, that the trade must be eminently successful. What distinguishes it from other newly-opened trades into which speculation has run wildly and greatly to the national loss, is, that there is an immense mass of new wealth suddenly found, and made suddenly available for commerce, while in almost all other cases, as when an alteration has been made in the law, there was no great mass of new wealth or new commodities suddenly added to the stock of the world, but merely some improved distribution of the old stock, which led in the end to greatly enlarged production, though the increased competition at first might cause great losses and disorders.

Our returns last week show that in all the items there enumerated the increase in the exports to Australia is very great in 1853 above 1852. Thus—to state a few examples—the exports in the first six months of 1852 and 1853 were as follows:—

	Plain Calicoes.		Printed Calicoes.		Woollens.	
	1852	1853	1852	1853	1852	1853
New South Wales, which includes Victoria	1244219	5343375	1225090	5079225	54100	377633
South Australia	132869	591239	129745	739195	5352	26174
Van Diemen's Land	97838	928601	119487	728974	7761	48497

From this it appears that the exports of woollens in the past half-year to New South Wales, including Victoria, exceeds by 50,000/ the total exports of woollens to them in 1852, and is only 23,000/ less than the total exports of woollens to all the Australian colonies in that entire year. Only last year did the great extension of the trade to Australia begin. In a short period it almost doubled itself; and this year, judging by the incomplete returns we are yet able to collect, it seems likely to more than quadruple the trade of 1850; or, should it continue as it has begun, it may amount in 1853 to nearly 10,000,000/ sterling. Woollens increased sevenfold in the first six months of 1853 above the first six months of 1852, exemplifying the progress of the trade; but it must be remembered that the principal increase in the exports last year was in the last six months of the year; and the increase, either of woollens or anything else, is not likely, at the end of the year, to continue so much in excess of 1852 as in the first six months of the year.

Large, however, as the exports are, they are not too large. According to the statements just arrived from the colonies, there is no excessive supply of any one commodity. On the contrary, goods are said to be so scarce as to afford no opportunity to invest money in them: in other words, there were not goods enough for the consumers, and all that were imported were bought up immediately for use.

We commit these tables now to the reflection of our readers. Whatever may be in the end the amount of this trade—and it promises to grow to many millions—it has its origin and its growth in the new wealth of Australia, and is in no sense a mere change of property, but a vast increase in the total wealth of society, equivalent in value to having in England two full harvests of grain in the year instead of one.

We have been requested to state the amount of population in these colonies, but the increase from all quarters is so rapid, and the changes so numerous in the colonial population, that we decline to make any statement on the sub-

ject. In 1851, the whole population of New South Wales, not including Victoria, was something less than 190,000 souls, and at that period the whole population of all the settlements did not amount to 350,000. What it may now be, and how distributed, we will not undertake to say.

ITALIAN WRONGS AND ITALIAN DESPERATION.

Two publications have recently issued from the Press which have a curious but undesigned connection with each other, and possess a peculiar interest for all who watch, as we do, with great concern the hopes and progress of European freedom:—"Lorenzo Benoni," or passages from the life of an Italian Liberal,—and Mazzini's address to the Italians, on the failure of the Milanese insurrection and the future conduct of "the cause" in Italy.

The former is the veracious autobiography of the early years of a young Italian patriot, a native of Genoa, who was obliged to fly from his country in consequence of the part he had taken in organising a conspiracy against the existing Government in the year 1831. Many of his friends were imprisoned; many, like himself, became exiles self-banished for life; others were sentenced to punishments of various degrees of severity; and his brother perished in a dungeon—it is said, by his own hand. The writer is well known, and respected wherever known; he was an intimate friend and an early associate of Mazzini, who figures largely in his pages, and who in fact first initiated him into the dangerous fascinations of secret plots. Every portion of his book bears the impress of fidelity and simple truth; and, even if we were not assured of the fact from independent sources, it would be impossible to doubt that we are here dealing with an authentic and unembellished narrative of Italian life and Italian despotism as they existed twenty years ago.

The picture is melancholy enough. It is drawn with reference to the Sardinian States alone; but it is equally true of every other part of Italy except Tuscany, where at that period its features were to be traced in a very mitigated shape. The benumbing, deadening, narrowing, barren-ising influence of a timid and jealous despotism is depicted in every line. All education was in the hands of the Priests, and the Priests either were the Government, or were its willing and harmonious tools. Lorenzo Benoni belonged to the middle class: he was a gentleman, but not a nobleman. He was educated, like most of the youths of that day, in the public seminary, and afterwards at the University. He seems to have been distinguished by unusual diligence and talent. The teaching does not seem to have been bad of its kind, though narrow in its scope, and carefully watched in its effects. The young men were nourished, as ours are, upon Greek and Roman classics; were taught to admire Brutus and to hate Cæsar, to repeat republican sentiments and to imbibe heroic thoughts. But if it appeared, as they grew older and more reflective, that their characters had received any bias in favour of liberty from these exciting histories, or if they manifested any disposition to apply to modern days the lessons they had learned from ancient worthies, they instantly became marked men. Their studies were impeded by difficult and embarrassing formalities; they were excluded from the University on the most trivial pretexts; they were compelled to bring certificates from their priests of the due performance of religious duties before they were allowed to continue their lay or professional studies; and every measure was devised to crush and intimidate the young and aspiring spirit. They were the slaves not only of the priests, the professors, and the proctors, but of the lowest agents of the police.

But perhaps the saddest feature of the book is the indescribable impression it gives of the stagnation of life, society, and thought which prevailed at that time in Piedmont, and which has prevailed nearly ever since in every part of that fine but most miserable peninsula. There was little commerce, little litigation, little medicine. In no profession was there an opening for men of energy—a career for men of ambition. Those who entered the army had a maintenance—but nothing more. They had nothing to do, and wasted away life at ball-rooms, theatres, and cafés. Those who embraced the medical profession had nothing to do: that line was already overstocked, and no patients could be procured;—so they, too, wasted away life, smoking, reading, and talking. Those who became lawyers could get no business: lawyers were many; litigants were few, and, what was more fatal still, were poor. So the young advocates, too, killed time as they could, in small knots and coteries of friends, at the casino, in the streets, and with the never-failing resource of a cigar. For literature there was no encouragement and few rewards; for if it soared above the meanest mediocrity it became suspected and dangerous, and was far more likely to lead to a loathsome dungeon than to a laurel crown. A universal and compelled idleness seemed to be the law of the land; a life of uselessness and frivolity was enforced upon every one. The worthless fell easily into the dull routine, and dreamed or slumbered or trifled life away: the noble and high-minded rebelled against the wretched and objectless existence, and became secret or avowed conspirators. The young were unhappy and discontented, till years had made them hopeless and apathetic; then they accepted their fate, gave up all expectation and all effort, married and gave

birth to children destined to the same unworthy and unsatisfactory career.

Can we wonder that a Government insane enough thus, as it were, to drive the rising generation into conspiracy and rebellion by laboriously cutting off from them every other channel for their energies, should have been the object of perpetual plots? Can we wonder at the fierce and implacable hatred it created in the minds of men who felt that they were born for better things—that life under such conditions was scarcely worth having—and that a Government which thus killed, or crushed, or reduced to the inaction of despair whatever was good, and noble, and capable within their souls, was a public nuisance—an enemy of the human race? Can we avoid perceiving that it was precisely the best, the purest, the most aspiring who would be most sure, under such a rule, to be found in the ranks of the conspirators? And can we help entertaining a sentiment of deep respect for men, who, in such a climate, under such a sun, with a life of indolent and sensual pleasure within their reach, with the *dolce far niente* forced upon them—inculcated as a duty—compelled as a necessity—could yet turn away from the opera, the gaming-table, and the corso—from the convivial board and the midnight orgy—and say—“No! life was not given us to be so wasted, and we will not so waste it;—life has higher objects, more solemn obligations, more imperious calls;—life so stagnant, so drawing, so slavish, is a gift we do not care to keep; and if we cannot bring about a better state of things, we may at least as well perish in the attempt to do so.”

These considerations will go far to explain a peculiarity with which none who have had much to do with rebels and exiles can fail to have been struck—viz., the high tone of character which distinguishes the unfortunate Italian patriots from those of nearly every other country. We have seen and known many of every class and shade of opinion, and from every part of Italy, and little as our sympathies go with revolutionists in general, we can bear honourable testimony to the lofty *morale* and the fine intellect which is the usual characteristic of the men of whom we speak. They are for the most part earnest, elevated, and sincere—often unaffectedly religious—and with a mixture of stoicism and tenderness which is especially attractive. They are not noisy demagogues. They are not disappointed intriguers. They are not *mauvais sujets* who would dishonour any cause which they embraced. They are rarely even turbulent and vapid declaimers. On the contrary, they are often men of excellent education, of deep reading, of statesmanlike capacity, of most instructive and elevating conversation, and of singular beauty, fidelity, and strength in their domestic affections—the whole tinged with that pathetic and indescribable sadness inseparable from noble minds in a world and an age like this. Such was Pisa, whom we knew and who died in Greece. Such we believe is Manin, the ex-Dictator of Venice. Such are Poerio and Settembrini, two of the principal victims of the Neapolitan barbarian. Such is Ruffini, the author of the volume before us. And such, by the universal admission of both enemies and friends, is Mazzini, of whom, under the name of Fantasio, a very truthful likeness is here drawn. Of this remarkable man we have spoken more than once with the most unreserved freedom and severity, and we are about to do so again:—we are, therefore, glad of the opportunity of stating our conviction that—mistaken, fanatical, and mischievous as we consider him to have been—Europe holds few men of finer intellect, of more pure and spotless moral character, or of a richer, tenderer, and more genial nature. Of much that we see in him to blame and deplore, the autobiography of “Lorenzo Benoni” affords an explanation. We see the despicable, fatal, grinding nature of the despotism which irritated him and drove him forth; we see his most intimate friends exiled, imprisoned, or put to death by the Piedmontese Monarch,—and we cannot wonder that his distrust and detestation of that Royal House, changed and constitutional as it has since become, should be insurmountable; we see the nature of the man—stern, resolute, concentrated, and pertinacious—and we cease to be surprised that love of “the people” and hatred of the Austrians should have blinded him to the defects of the one and the strength of the other.

But we do not the less grieve over and condemn the language and sentiments of the address which Mazzini has just put forth. He writes like a man whose patience is exhausted, and who has been rendered desperate instead of cautious by repeated failure. He proclaims the dissolution of the National Committee for the promotion of Italian unity and liberation. He reproaches with some bitterness those of his fellow-patriots who hung back in February last, as not deeming the movement then wise or timely. He separates himself formally and finally from all those friends with whom he has hitherto acted, but who differ from him now as to the mode and the time of action. He abjures all hopes arising from the gradual education of the people, or the slow and problematical spread of Piedmontese institutions to other States. He calls upon his countrymen to form “a party of action,” to strike with whatever weapons may be in their hands, and no longer to wait for the chances of a European war or the hope of foreign aid. Altogether this address appears to us the least sensible and reputable document that has ever proceeded from Mazzini’s pen. It is, in effect, a refusal to join with any who will not take him as

their leader, adopt his creed, strike at his time. His past failures and defeats do not seem ever to have suggested to him the possibility that he may be wrong and others may be right. Neither experience nor reflection have taught him to suspect that those who look to gradual amelioration, or to happy accident, or to foreign aid, and not to republican insurrections, for the redemption of Italy, may be as staunch patriots and perhaps wiser statesmen than himself. And, what is still more remarkable and deplorable, he never seems to think that men who are engaged, along with him, in a project where life and liberty and all that makes either valuable are at stake, may well be allowed to exercise their own judgment as to the moment and the manner in which they will jeopardise these precious treasures. We do not readily bind ourselves to obey the dictates of others, where a mistake on their part may bring us to the scaffold.

But the point to which we would now call attention is this. It is singular that in perusing this autobiography of his friend, Mazzini should not have been forcibly struck with the contrast between Piedmont *then* and Piedmont *now*, and should not have asked himself the question, *whose course of policy has brought about this blessed change*—his own, or that of his rival patriots? Twenty years ago, Piedmont was such as we have described it, languishing under a stupid and a leaden despotism—the Press fettered, literature proscribed, liberty at the mercy of every *gendarme* and of every official, the very souls of men crushed out of them. *Now*, Piedmont has a Constitutional Monarch and Parliamentary Government; law is everywhere paramount; commerce is reviving; life is being infused into every grade of society; the Priesthood is shackled, and the Press is free; Mazzini’s own city of Genoa is, in nearly all points, in possession of as much individual liberty as Brussels or Geneva. If all Italy were like the Sardinian Kingdom, what more could Mazzini desire? And what has made the Sardinian Kingdom thus free, thus enviable, thus the reverse of what it was? Is it the work of the Republican Party—of the devotees of a National Italian Association? No! *it is the work of those very men with whom Mazzini has never yet cordially acted*; whom he has always mistrusted; from whom he has always stood superciliously aloof; whose action (we are bound to say, and we say it with grief) he has often crippled; and from whom he now ostentatiously and bitterly separates himself;—it is the work of the Moderate Constitutionalists of Italy. Azeglio, the chief and organ of one party, can point to the establishment and consolidation of one free and self-governing State in Italy as their achievement: Mazzini, the chief organ of the other party, can point only to the Milanese insurrection of 1848, to the defence of Rome, to the struggle of Venice—all glorious and gallant indeed, but all unsuccessful—and to the abortive disturbance of February last—which was neither glorious nor gallant. Once more; let him compare Genoa, as he remembers it in 1830, with Genoa as he knows it to be in 1853, and consider whether there may not—must not—be some elements of good and strength in principles and policy which can have wrought so magnificent and encouraging a contrast.

FRANCE.—SAVINGS BANKS.

For the last four years France has continually exported wheat and flour, the price of bread has been comparatively low, and the bulk of the people have been ready to acquiesce in any Government that has been established and was likely to preserve the public peace. That is one cause of Louis Napoleon’s success. Bread has been cheap, and the population of Paris have been well employed. A confirmation of this statement is to be found in the report presented on the 14th ult. to the general assembly of the Directors and Administrators of the Saving Bank of Paris (*Caisse d’Epargne et de Prévoyance*) by M. François Delessert, the president.

“The year 1852,” it begins, “was favourable to our bank. The total sum deposited has increased in a greater proportion than in 1851, and the increase in the number of depositors, particularly of depositors of the working classes, has been still greater.” “In 1852 there was in the Paris Savings Bank an increase of 12,000,000f due to depositors. Comparing 1852 to 1851, when the results were better than those of 1850, it appears that the deposits in 1851 amounted to 25,305,434f, and in 1852 they reached 33,703,578f, an increase above 1851 of 8,398,144f. The repayments in the two years were about equal,—19,048,957f in 1851, and 19,650,368f in 1852, an increase in the last year of 601,411f.”

After speaking of an alteration of the law which limits the amount of any depositor to 1,000f, the report observes that this limitation was felt most severely by the working classes, the members of which have opened the greatest number of new accounts for women and minors of both sexes. “In referring,” the report continues, “to the most prosperous years of the Bank—1841 to 1844—“there is no example of so many new accounts having been opened in a single year. In these four years the number of new accounts exceeded 35,000. In 1852 the number exceeded 40,000. It required twelve years, from 1832 to 1844, for the number to increase from 10,000 to 35,000; but three years, between 1849 and 1852, were sufficient to carry it again from 10,000 to 40,000,” from which it is to be inferred that the Re-

volution of 1848 reduced the annual number of depositors from 35,000 to 10,000.

The class of artisans and workmen constituted only one-half of the new depositors when the accounts were first kept—(the Bank was first opened in 1818)—and now they constitute three-fifths. Out of the new depositors in 1852—40,000—the number of workmen is 19,741. The average of their deposits is about 160*l*, the 19,741 having deposited 3,100,000*l* for their first payment. The average of the sum deposited by domestic servants was about equal to the average of the sum deposited by the working classes; but in point of number the domestic servants who are depositors are only about two-fifths of the working classes. The new depositors of domestic servants were 7,835, and their deposits amount to 1,300,000*l*.

In all France there are 368 savings banks, and 271 of them have communicated the state of their affairs to the Paris Bank. In 163 of them there is an increase in the deposits of the working classes; in 88 there is no change; and in 13 the number has decreased. Of agricultural labourers it is said that in 138 banks their deposits have increased; in 99 they are unchanged; and in only 20 is there a slight decrease. In a great number of places, says the report—bearing a most important testimony to the improvement of the numerous class connected with the land—the agriculturists have at length come to comprehend the benefits they may derive from savings banks. In place of buying land, as formerly, without having the means of paying for it, and becoming the prey of usurers, they now take the wiser course of amassing a little capital before they acquire land, and all their own savings yield them a profit instead of subjecting themselves to pay interest.

The reports from particular places correspond with the general result. From Saint Quentin it is said the working classes figure more largely amongst the new depositors than in former years. Rural labourers continue to come to the bank, and the number increases. The bank at Moulins is very prosperous, and order and tranquillity are described as the most powerful auxiliaries of economy. At Marseilles the working classes have increased 25 per cent. as depositors. At Nevers the new books opened belong in great part to the day labourers, the gardeners, and the vine-dressers of the neighbourhood. So throughout France savings banks are getting more customers, and the working classes are acquiring property and learning wisdom. Like other people, they will do well if their rulers will allow them.

TIMBER RESOURCES OF CANADA.

(From the DAILY LEADER, Toronto paper.)

THE valley of the Ottawa contains an area of about 80,000 square miles, nearly equal in extent to the island of Great Britain. The Ottawa commences its course in the highlands, separating the watershed of the Ottawa from that of the Hudson Bay. After a course of about 750 miles, it embouches into the St Lawrence at the foot of the island of Montreal. Its volume of water is immense, and during the spring months, probably far exceeds that of the St Lawrence at the Falls of Niagara. During its course it receives numerous tributaries, exceeding in size the largest rivers of Great Britain—one single branch, the Gatineau, drains an area of 12,000 miles, equal to one quarter the area of England and Wales. On the banks of the Ottawa are the largest pine forests in the world, accessible to the markets of Europe or the Northern and Eastern States. Nearly the whole of its courses is below the 47th parallel of latitude (that of Quebec), and it is estimated that in its valley, or in situations which are most readily accessible by this channel, there are more than thirty millions of acres capable of successful cultivation, still belonging to the province.

Our Western friends seem to be strongly impressed with the idea that wheat is the great article of Canadian manufacture. This opinion, however, is far from accurate. The trade returns of the last year show that of our aggregate exports lumber is by far the most important item; and, in fact, that compared with the other great classes into which our exports are subdivided, viz., products of the mines, the seas, agriculture, and manufactures, the products of the forest exceed all the rest by the large amount of 207,000*l*.

Total exports per trade returns of 1852.....	2,824,630
Of which, products of the forest.....	1,515,878
	1,308,752
Excess of products of the forest.....	207,000
	1,515,752
Among the productions of the forest, however, are classed furs and ashes, amounting to	216,361

Total export of lumber 1,299,391

Of these last articles, furs and ashes, the Ottawa produces at least a proportionate share. The shipments of lumber from Quebec, Montreal, and St John's, amount in round numbers to 1,100,000*l*; which, allowing a reasonable amount for the Ottawa share of the ashes, &c., may be assumed as entirely the produce of the Ottawa—clearly establishing the fact, that the exports from the Ottawa considerably exceed one-third of the total exports of the province.

Amongst the numerous incidental advantages which the province derives from the lumber trade, one may be named of no small importance—the enormous fleet of merchantmen which annually arrives at Quebec for the purpose of transporting it to Britain, requiring for its supply large quantities of Western produce, and materially reducing the rate of outward freight. The distance from Montreal to

Lake Huron, via the Ottawa and Nipissing, is little more than four hundred miles,—by the St Lawrence and Lake Erie, the same distance exceeds 880 miles. At an expense not much exceeding that of the St Lawrence Canals, the Ottawa route could be made navigable for large vessels. The North Western territories of the United States are rapidly filling up with an active and industrious population. This navigation would pass through the most extensive and valuable Crown lands now remaining in the province, and which are about to be opened out for settlers. It requires no very prophetic skill to foretell that, before any great lapse of time, this will become the highway of the vast trade of the great West—a route affording a saving of nearly five hundred miles, and a more secure navigation, will not always be neglected.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—PUBLIC BILLS.

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|--|---|
| 1 Bills of Exchange—Duke of Wellington's Funeral | 100 Parish Vestries. |
| 2 County Elections—Polls. | 101 Common Lodging Houses. |
| 3 Bank Notes. | 102 Spitalfields and Shoreditch Improvements. |
| 4 Courts of Common Law—Ireland. | 103 Government of India. |
| 5 Land Improvement—Ireland. | 104 Public Works Loan. |
| 6 Leasing Powers—Ireland. | 105 Savings Banks. |
| 7 Landlord and Tenant—Ireland. | 106 Savings Banks Annuities. |
| 8 Tenants' Improvement—Ireland. | 107 Burial Grounds. |
| 9 West India Colonies Loans Act Amendment. | 108 Parish Vestries (No. 2). |
| 10 Tenant Right—Ireland. | 109 Law of Evidence Amendment. |
| 11 Parliamentary Electors. | 110 Resident Magistrates—Ireland. |
| 12 Commons Inclosure. | 111 Malignant Injuries—Ireland. |
| 13 General Board of Health. | 112 Soap Duties. |
| 14 Land Tax Commissioners' Names. | 113 Simony Law Amendment. |
| 15 County Rates and Expenditure. | 114 Seaman's Saving Banks. |
| 16 Stamp Duties on Patents. | 115 Assessed Taxes. |
| 17 Designs Act Extension. | 116 Dublin Parliamentary Representation. |
| 18 Parish Constables. | 117 Public Libraries—Ireland. |
| 19 New Forest Deer Removal. | 118 Episcopal and Capitular Estates. |
| 20 Transfer of Aids. | 119 Newspaper Stamps. |
| 21 Union of Benefices. | 120 Edinburgh Annuity Tax. |
| 22 Examiner in Chancery. | 121 Fisheries—Ireland. |
| 23 Sale and Purchase of Land. | 122 Stamp Duties. |
| 24 Grand Jury Cess—Ireland. | 123 Assistant Judge—Middlesex Sessions. |
| 25 Valuation Act Amendment—Ireland. | 124 Customs Acts Consolidation. |
| 26 Elections. | 125 Land Revenue. |
| 27 Cruelty to Animals. | 126 General Board of Health (No. 2). |
| 28 Clergy Reserves—Canada. | 127 Improvement of Towns—Ireland. |
| 29 Oaths in Chancery. | 128 Charitable Trusts. |
| 30 Sheriff Courts—Scotland. | 129 General Board of Health (No. 3). |
| 31 Metropolis Improvements—Repayment out of Consolidated Fund. | 130 Factories. |
| 32 Slave Trade—New Granada. | 131 Probate and Administration. |
| 33 Ditto Arabia. | 132 Entry of Seamen. |
| 34 Public Houses—Scotland. | 133 Naval Coast Volunteers. |
| 35 Inland Revenue Office. | 134 Coinage Offences—Colonies. |
| 36 County Election Polls—Scotland. | 135 Dublin Carriages. |
| 37 New Trials—Criminal Cases. | 136 Incumbent Estates—Ireland. |
| 38 Commons Inclosure (No. 2). | 137 Ministers' Money—Ireland. |
| 39 Mutiny. | 138 Patronage Exchange. |
| 40 Marine Mutiny. | 139 Colonial Bishops Act Extension. |
| 41 Jewish Disabilities. | 140 Juvenile Offenders. |
| 42 Payment of Wages. | 141 Land Tax Redemption. |
| 43 Fisheries—Ireland. | 142 Betting Houses. |
| 44 Places of Religious Worship, Registration. | 143 Highway Rates. |
| 45 Judges' Exclusion. | 144 Turnpike Trusts Arrangements. |
| 46 Cathedral Appointments. | 145 Turnpike Acts Continuance. |
| 47 Burghs—Scotland. | 146 Metropolitan Sewers Act Continuance. |
| 48 Laws of Evidence—Scotland. | 147 Sheep, &c.—Contagious Diseases Prevention. |
| 49 Indemnity. | 148 Public Works Acts Amendment—Ireland. |
| 50 Pilotage. | 149 Consolidated Annuities. |
| 51 Probate of Wills, &c. | 150 Poor Relief Act Continuance. |
| 52 Consolidated Fund (London Approaches). | 151 Burials beyond Metropolis. |
| 53 Aggravated Assaults. | 152 Children in Factories Employment. |
| 54 Attornies' Certificates. | 153 Drainage of Lands—Ireland. |
| 55 Sheriff Courts—Scotland (No. 2). | 154 Juvenile Mendicancy (No. 2). |
| 56 Absconding Debtors—Ireland. | 155 Chancery Suitors further Relief. |
| 57 Combination of Workmen. | 156 Truck Act Amendment. |
| 58 Copyholds. | 157 Friendly Societies. |
| 59 Attornies' and Solicitors' Certificates (No. 2). | 158 Customs (Repeal). |
| 60 Universities—Scotland. | 159 Crime and Outrage—Ireland. |
| 61 Sheriff and Commissary Courts—Berkshire. | 160 Metropolis Building Act Amendment. |
| 62 Whichwood Forest. | 161 Transportation. |
| 63 Merchant Shipping. | 162 Horses Let in Hire—Duties. |
| 64 Education. | 163 Hackney Carriages—Duties. |
| 65 Brecon Collegiate Church. | 164 Public Libraries and Museums. |
| 66 South Sea Annuity and Commutation. | 165 Turnpike Acts Continuance—Ireland. |
| 67 London and Edinburgh Gazettes. | 166 Sheriff—Scotland. |
| 68 Taxing Office (Common Law)—Ireland. | 167 Smoke Nuisance. |
| 69 Hackney Carriages. | 168 Ecclesiastical Leasing. |
| 70 Entails—Scotland. | 169 Colonial Church Regulation. |
| 71 Whitbury Forest. | 170 Missionary Bishops. |
| 72 Sale of Lands—Ireland. | 171 Customs Duties Consolidation. |
| 73 Municipal Corporations Acts Amendment. | 172 Insurances on Lives. |
| 74 Sales of Bullion. | 173 South Sea Annuities, &c. |
| 75 Exchequer Bills. | 174 Crown Suits. |
| 76 Bankruptcy—Scotland. | 175 Linen Manufactures—Ireland. |
| 77 Vaccination Extension. | 176 Defacing the Coin. |
| 78 Excise Duties on Spirits. | 177 Multi Ballot Suspension. |
| 79 Expenses at Elections. | 178 Registrar of Meetings of Court of Bankruptcy. |
| 80 Convicted Prisoners—Removal and Confinement. | 179 Female Constables. |
| 81 Transfer of Land—Ireland. | 180 Loan Societies. |
| 82 Lunacy Regulations. | 181 Apprehension of Offenders. |
| 83 Lunatic Asylums. | 182 Marriages—Hulse Church. |
| 84 Lunatics—Care and Treatment. | 183 Stock in Trade Exemption. |
| 85 Burgh Harbours—Scotland. | 184 Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction. |
| 86 Recovery of Personal Liberty. | 185 Copyholds and Inclosure Commission—Appointment. |
| 87 Income Tax. | 186 Commons Enclosure (No. 2). |
| 88 Customs Duties. | 187 Corrupt Practices at Elections. |
| 89 Westminster Bridge. | 188 Petty Sessions—Ireland. |
| 90 Bail in Error. | 189 Summary Jurisdiction—Ireland. |
| 91 Registration of Assurances. | 190 Consolidated Fund (10,634,987 <i>l</i>) Appropriation. |
| 92 Thames Embankment. | 191 Militia Pay. |
| 93 Pimlico Improvement. | 192 Metropolis Sewers. |
| 94 Succession Duties. | 193 Registrar of Privy Council. |
| 95 Copies of Specification Repeal. | 194 Liberated Africans—Sierra Leone. |
| 96 Battersea Park. | 195 Passengers Act Amendment. |
| 97 Consolidated Fund (4,600,000 <i>l</i>). | 196 Borough Boundaries—Scotland. |
| 98 Glanders Prevention—Ireland. | 197 Land Tax Redemption (No. 2). |
| 99 Belfast Municipal Boundaries. | 198 Highways—Ireland. |
| | 199 Friendly Societies (No. 2). |
| | 200 Hackney Carriage Duties (No. 2). |

Agriculture.

HARVEST.

WE are now in the midst of harvest, for though there are some cold clay lands which were late sown whereon the wheat will not be ready for cutting for some eight or ten days, the greater part of the wheat in the South of England is now cut, or in the course of being cut. New wheat appeared at Mark lane on Monday and sold, the best lot of red wheat from Kent at 56s per qr, and white spring wheat from Essex at 60s to 63s per qr. On old wheat there was, however, a further fall of from 3s to 4s per qr. All August, with the exception of last Tuesday and Wednesday, has been fine, and another fortnight of fine weather would enable most of the farmers in the southern districts to complete their wheat harvest. On the light lands there is not much complaint, but elsewhere some blight and mildew are spoken of, and the sheaves are generally very light, promising but an indifferent yield. In France, where much wheat has been thrashed, the yield is reported to be shorter than was anticipated, and it cannot be doubted that much corn from other countries will be required to meet the French demand during the ensuing year. Other European countries, also, have but indifferent wheat crops; yet such is the confidence afforded in our markets by Free Trade, that the large reduction of price we have mentioned has taken place under circumstances which, under the Protective system, would probably have produced a sort of panic in the corn market.

From Essex we learn that

Up to the close of July great appearance of mildew prevailed, and which, to a slight extent, has affected most pieces—especially those that were lodged or upon which the plants were most defective. But the present fine weather has relieved us of those apprehensions, and we can now state decidedly that the mildewed portion will be far less than in last year; whilst in no instance that has come under our notice will it be attended with such injurious consequences. Upon the whole, we now think that upon two-thirds of the wheat land there will be an average crop; and upon the remainder—mostly that portion deficient in plant, which will certainly not be a moiety of a usual yield—the deficiency altogether will be greater than in any year since the commencement of the present century. The quality of the wheat will be far better than could have been anticipated; indeed, we have no hesitation in stating that it will be better than that of last year. The meal quality, however, may not be so good, on account of the preceding wet season; but the sample will be bold, as the grains are larger than ordinary, and, if fine weather prevails, a good sample may generally be calculated upon. This, it is true, will not meet the deficiency in quantity, but will to a certain extent give the English farmer a preference as regards the foreign producer. Upon the light and mixed soils the yield will probably be good; upon the chalk and chalk-clay soils it will be also less deficient; but upon the heavy clay and loamy soils it will be the worst; and as regards blight from other causes, especially red gum, no general application can be made. Some pieces are greatly affected, whilst others are almost free—this arising rather from the state of the weather at the exact time of the wheat coming into bloom than from any other cause, a day or two earlier or later making all the difference of four or five bushels per acre. Since we have commenced reaping we see no reason to alter our opinion. The wheat is thin on the land, and comes to sheaf scantily. Some pieces are fine, but the majority are greatly affected. On some pieces we have examined, fully one-third of the ear is deficient of grains; and, in such cases, the crop must consequently be exceedingly deficient. Barley is secondary in importance. The breadth is large, and on some of the best lands the produce will be good; but upon middling and inferior clay lands (by far the largest proportion) the crop will be light—the ears being unusually short. The quality will also be excessively various, and, as we think, but little of very fine quality will be grown—the heavy pieces being lodged and the straw mildewed; and, notwithstanding the increased number of acres under this crop, we believe that Essex will not produce so many quarters as last year, whilst the acreable quantity will be below an average. Oats are variable, some pieces unusually bad, other pieces equally good. The quantity grown we think less than usual, and decidedly upon the breadth an average will be barely reached.

In Northumberland it is said

All our grain crops will cut up light; and in the early wheat some defect will be found in the ear. Much of the spring-sown is only coming into bloom, and will be at the mercy of the elements for maturing. Harvest will be very protracted. Small patches of barley and wheat will be ready for reaping in a week or ten days; and a large breadth of the same species of grain cannot be ready before the last week in September. On all sides barley seems the prevailing crop, covering the largest acreage breadth, and wheat the smallest. On fine early soils barley will reap a fair average crop. We have, however, seen hundreds of acres that will reap a bad crop, and very late. Oats, which showed generally best, look thin since the blade has fallen; still, we think the oat crop the best of our cereals, and with a continuance of the present fine weather will reap a fair average.

In South Yorkshire the recent fine weather has worked favourable changes in the crops, though there "will be far short of an average in both wheat and oats. Upon many lands the winter and spring floods completely, or nearly so, destroyed the plant; and accordingly numbers of acres present a most cheerless aspect, the long-continued wet weather preventing the ordinary process of cleaning from being carried on. Upon the sand and limestone lands the crops are generally good, especially upon the latter; and it is surprising the very great improvement which has taken place in the growth of barley. Strong undrained clays and peat soils have suffered most. Potatoes, until within a few days, have presented every prospect of an excellent yield; but unfortu-

nately the blight has again shown itself, and we cannot say where its devastating progress will stop. Turnips, after much trouble in resowing of seed, promise well, and we anticipate generally an average crop. Stock of all descriptions is selling at remarkably high rates, but the wool trade has shown less firmness than was expected."

From Suffolk we learn that

The fine weather has much improved the appearance of the wheat, but it adds little to the yield, which, upon a moderate calculation, may be estimated considerably under an average; should it be well secured, we calculate on a fine quality, which will in some measure partly compensate for the defect. The barley crop has been greatly improved by the late rains, and, although twisted about, promises a fair quality and an abundant produce. The breadth sown is unusually large, from the inability of planting wheat in the autumn, arising from the continuous rains. Beans are the most prolific crop, and may be considered out of danger, with an extensive breadth planted. Peas, on making up, prove very defective. The potatoes are much more diseased than in 1846, and will be a great loss to our peasantry, as scarcely a garden escapes. Turnips and mangel wurzel are not promising. The hay crop is materially injured, and many hundred acres washed away.

Such are some of the most recent accounts, all recording deficiency, of this (to farmers) very untoward season. In Scotland, much the same accounts are given of the wheat crops, and turnips are said to be backward and far from promising.

Stock offers at this time the best hope of profit to our farmers, and, in consequence, fairs, stock markets, and local agricultural shows have been very animated. The Royal Northern Agricultural Show, at Aberdeen, was a very good one; and the after-dinner proceedings were enlivened by Mr Mechi, who at great length detailed his own operations, and urged his rural hearers to regard his example as a stimulus to activity and enterprise in husbandry. The show of Shorthorn cattle was noted as very good. The local report says that "Mr Cruickshank's first prize bull, 'Matadore,' aged two years and eleven months, has gained the following prizes:—Yorkshire Agricultural Society's first prize, in 1851; the first prize at the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society's meeting, the same year; and at Perth, the Highland Society's first prize, 1852; and we learn that Mr C. refused 500 guineas for him a week or two ago." That stock breeding, if well done, is now the best branch of farming seems to be generally admitted.

THE DRAINING PLOUGH.

FOR several days during last week Fowler's patent draining plough was at work in Mr Wilkinson's meadows, at New West End, near Hampstead. This was within ten minutes' walk of the Swiss tavern, at St John's Wood, and within a two shilling cab fare from any part of the West-end of London; yet, strange to say, that for some days visitors to inspect this truly useful implement only dropped in by ones and twos at considerable intervals throughout the day. Such is the apathy with which nine-tenths of the landed proprietors regard improvements which may affect materially the value of their property. At this time were there not hundreds of landowners—whose lands are sodden with redundant moisture, and whose incomes are in consequence precarious and often deficient—lounging at their clubs or dissipating *ennui* in streets or parks of the metropolis? Could not some of them have devoted an hour or two to the personal inspection of a piece of machinery calculated to save 50 per cent. in the cost of draining immense tracts of wet land? It may, however, be said, that many of our landed proprietors may have seen the draining plough in work at the Gloucester meeting, where it received the Society's silver medal, and that it is a bore to the idle, and an interruption to their metropolitan pursuits amongst the busy landlords to attend to such matters without the bustle and excitement of an agricultural gathering. Perhaps, too, it is not to be expected that such improvements should be adopted otherwise than vicariously. The agents and the leading farmers must be first convinced of the efficacy of new machinery. Still in this recent working many persons have become satisfied that the draining plough will be a most valuable agent in draining clay soils, and that it ought to be more widely known and adopted than it has been hitherto.

We carefully inspected the working of the plough and its completed work at New West End, and in this soil—a uniform clay with a regular and moderate incline—nothing could be better than its performance. There were drains laid at four feet deep, in which the tiles were placed with the most perfect accuracy; and, as the upper part of the field consisted of a mixture of gravel in which the water was confined by the surrounding clay—as is common on the London clay—every drain poured forth a full stream. At the same depth there were also drains made without tiles, simply by the pressure of the snout on the clay, and such drains when laid in pure clay, and at such a depth as 3 feet 6 inches or 4 feet, will undoubtedly last for a great many years. The inventor states that "a uniform clay subsoil when the surface presents a sufficient drainage fall, such as is found in the counties of Cheshire and Lancashire, Leicestershire, Bucks and Oxford, Essex, Kent and Surrey, Wilts and Somerset, Northamptonshire, Hertfordshire, and many other similar districts, is the land best adapted to the working of the machine; and drainage executed under these circumstances cannot be exceeded in quality and efficiency by the best hand labour." And this appears to be an accurate statement.

Nothing could be more perfect than the drains laid with tiles at New West End; and besides the great saving of expense, as compared with hand-labour draining, there is none of that disturbance of the surface, which causes so much inconvenience on pasture land when drained by hand. Four horses executed the work at four feet depth with apparent ease; the soil, however, was in a very favourable condition for the working of the implement, being moist beneath and firm upon the surface. With additional power any extra depth might be adopted. The inventor has a plan in contemplation for working the plough with steam-power, which will be a manifest advantage; for it is obvious that when the land is wet, the trampling of four or six horses must poach a good deal of the land, besides occasioning to the animals most severe labour. In fact, the severity of the work for their horses is the principal objection we have heard practical farmers make to the draining plough.

The proprietors on this point justly say—"The times of the year best adapted for working the draining plough are the spring, summer, and autumn, as the surface then is in the best condition, and no injury is done to the land or any short crop by its working; and we also find that when the land is in this condition the plough likewise acts the part of a gigantic subsoil plough, stirring and opening the earth for some distance in its course, and allowing the water ready access to the drains." As the pipes are drawn in on a wire rope, it is obvious that they must be truly made and well burnt: a faulty pipe might be partly broken and leave a flaw in the drain.

With horse-power the depth usually adopted is three feet six inches; this for pasture land is a reasonable depth, if the drains be laid 24 feet apart in tenacious clay, and about 33 feet apart in more mixed soils. The great fault, however, committed by many modern drainers consists in placing their drains too far from each other. And this is chiefly caused by the great cost of hand draining. In strong clay the proper width is 24 feet, and no increase of depth beyond four feet seems to render any extension of width safe and effective.

As yet the Inclosure Commissioners have not given their sanction to drainage works executed by the draining plough, which of course limits its application to the owners and occupiers who drain without the aid of public or private money drainage loans; but we think the time is now come when drainage by the plough in suitable situations ought to receive the Commissioners' approval. It is a question of fact for the drainage inspectors to determine whether the work is effectively executed, and on such soils as above indicated there can be no doubt that a tiled drain properly laid with the plough is, to say the least, as effective and as permanent as a hand-laid drain. This point should be pressed by the land owners, for it is the settled land of this country on which draining is so much wanted, and where the difficulties of providing for its cost are so many. We understand a joint stock company is in the course of formation, by a combination of gentlemen, improving land-owners and agriculturists and capitalists, for the purpose of purchasing the patent right in this plough and working it on a large scale. Indeed, large contracts are now being undertaken by the company, who furnish their own horses, thus removing the main objection farmers have made to plough-draining. The lower rate of cost, as compared with hand draining, at which the draining plough works, will afford ample room for profit to the adventurers, while we believe that nothing more is required to bring this implement into extensive use upon the vast areas of clay land to which it is so well adapted than a more general knowledge of its merits.

SPIRIT OF THE TRADE CIRCULARS.

(From Messrs Walton and Bushell's Circular.)

London, Aug. 17, 1853.

The arrival of the overland mail from Sydney, via Singapore, puts us in possession of most satisfactory advices from our friends to the 31st May. They are still receiving large accessions to their population from various quarters. The markets continued exceedingly brisk, notwithstanding the large arrivals which had taken place, and prices generally had remained exceedingly firm, leaving large profits to the shippers. Tallow is scarce, and increasing in value, beef realising 34^l to 35^l, mutton 40^l to 42^l per ton. The colony use nearly all the tallow brought to market for their own consumption. Wool—But moderate quantities coming into the market, which were bought up, after much competition, and the prices fully supported. Spirits and tobacco received in bond from 1st to 30th May—Rum, 10,560 gals; brandy, 9,199 gals; Geneva, 1,057 gals; British spirits, 47 gals; tobacco, 21,968 lbs; cigars, 4,270 lbs. Delivered for home consumption—Rum, 17,891 gals; brandy, 10,922 gals; Geneva, 6,191 gals; whiskey, 595 gals; British spirits, 181 gals; tobacco, 24,747 lbs; cigars, 3,021 lbs. Delivered for exportation—Rum, 10,449 gals; brandy, 12,511 gals; Geneva, 2,804 gals; whiskey, 806 gals; British spirits, 110 gals; tobacco, 10,442 lbs; cigars, 8,086 lbs. Stocks warehoused to 30th May—Rum, 98,479 gals; brandy, 30,271 gals; Geneva, 6,622 gals; whiskey, 3,620 gals; British spirits, 2,374 gals; tobacco, 181,109 lbs; cigars, 47,461 lbs. Freights to England—Wool, 3^d to 3^d per lb; oil, 60s to 65s per ton imp; tallow, 35s per 20 cwt; hides, 20s to 25s per 20 cwt; timber, 45s per 50 cubic feet; gold, 1 per cent. per sailing vessels, 3 per cent. per steamers. Prices current at Sydney:—Beer, ale, in bulk, Bass' No. 3, per hhd, 10^l 10s; ale in bottle, 9^l to 10^l; Marzetti's, per dozen, 17s to 18s; porter, in bulk, Taylor's, per hhd, 10^l; other brands, 9^l to 10^l; porter, in bottle, Marzetti's, per dozen, 17s to 18s; beef, per ton, 4^l 10s; brandy, dark first quality (scarce in bond), per gallon, 15s to 16s; inferior French and Spanish, 14s; cop-

per, sheathing (in demand), per lb, 11d to 1s; nails, 1s; yellow metal, 9d; flour, American, per barrel, 2^l 16s; Adelaide, per ton, 25^l; Geneva-red cases, 15 flasks, per case, 1^l 2s; HDK2, on key brand, 1^l 2s; gin, English, sweetened, per gallon, 5s to 6s; hams, York, per lb, 1s 6d; Westphalia, 11d; lead, sheet, per ton, 23^l; pipe, 26^l.

(From Messrs Tootal and Browne's Circular.)

London, Aug. 16, 1853.

MELBOURNE, June 7.—Our market for the last six weeks has undergone considerable fluctuations; not so much as any depression of prices, but the obtaining extreme rates for articles of which the market had become quite bare; and the supplies of which, on arrival, were eagerly snatched up at almost any price the importers asked. We have now had an immense arrival of vessels from all quarters of the globe, yet these have had no very serious effect, the goods being unable to come into the market all at once, owing to the extreme difficulty of landing. Brandy has fluctuated with the arrivals, but is not likely to decline in price. The present quotations will, we think, be fully maintained; much, however, will depend upon advices from home. Boots and shoes continue to be sold to good profit, especially heavy makes, fit for winter service. Prices vary, but all yield a good profit. Flour, owing to large arrivals, has again declined, and the best cannot be quoted at more than 30^l per ton.

ADELAIDE, May 27. Our market for some time past has fluctuated with arrivals, and the advices from Melbourne. Beer—By the late arrivals we have had large import of this article, consequently prices have given way. Taylor's, Trueman's, and Barclay's stout may now be had at 10^l to 11^l per hhd; Whitbread's, and other brewers, at 9^l 10s to 10^l per hhd, delivered in town; when taken for reshipment, the purchaser is entitled to an allowance of 23s to 25s per hhd, for duty, cartage, &c., off the above rates. Of Bass' and Allsopp's ale, the market is very bare; by the late arrivals we have only one or two small parcels; the same remark will apply to English ales in general. For bottled beer the demand is good at full rates. Byass and Dunbar's stout realised 18s 6d to 20s per dozen; ale, 18s 6d to 19s 6d per dozen. One or two new brands appeared in the market during the month; these have been offered at 16s to 17s per dozen, all delivered in town. Boots and Shoes—Notwithstanding the large import to hand, genuine invoices realise from 50 to 70 per cent advance, and in some instances more for seasonable goods. Flour, Bran, &c.—For home consumption a fair amount of business is going on, at 27^l to 28^l per ton, exclusive of bags. Spirits—In brandy, a fair amount of business has been done at 13s 6d to 14s 6d per gallon in bond; and for case brandy, 36s to 40s per case, in bond. Rum has been in demand for shipment, and several parcels have changed hands. Wines—The business doing is very limited; a few small sales of sherry and Marsala. Timber—In great demand, at exorbitant rates; at present all building operations are suspended for the want of materials.

SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES, May 30.—Importations, in the former part of the month, were very heavy. The principal portion, however, were of goods suitable to our immediate wants, consequently, invoices changed hands on very advantageous terms; and though there might be a decline in some few articles, all sales must have proved highly satisfactory. As yet, our stores are but barely stocked, our exports to the surrounding colonies large, and the requirements for our own and inland markets large and increasing. Business to a large amount is daily transacted, and prices of many articles have again an upward tendency. Ale and Beer—Importations have been unusually heavy this month. The great scarcity, however, previous to late arrivals, the immense consumption, and demand for surrounding markets, has greatly relieved our stocks; prices have been materially affected by recent arrivals. Present supplies and expected quantities may burthen the market for a little, but for a length of time sales will be very remunerating. Favourite brands firm at quotations. Boots and Shoes—Very profitable sales continue to be made; the heavier descriptions, suitable for the coming winter, are much inquired for; boys' and children's shoes are still very scarce, and realise well; shipments on their way will meet with ready and advantageous sale; importations will pay for a length of time; city manufactories at a perfect standstill for the want of labour. Metals—Of bar iron the market is cleared by speculators. Hoop is more in demand, large quantities of 3-inch to inch being used for binding hay. Nail rod very dull. For sheathing metal and nails there has been some inquiry at rather improved rates for assorted weights. Importations of tin plates have been large this month, but the best descriptions only are saleable. Sugars—For low or inferior descriptions little or no demand. Although our stocks are at present somewhat large, the better descriptions of clayed or crystallised find ready sale at quotations. A portion of a recently arrived cargo from the Mauritius realised well, say 40^l to 44^l for really fine, and 31^l to 35^l per ton for bright yellow. Refined is so scarce that difficulty exists in fulfilling city orders. Timber—Of all descriptions in very great demand. Importations, on arrival, immediately taken for the Melbourne market; orders for large quantities are now open which cannot be filled. We would recommend large shipments, as the consumption will be immense. Three-inch deals cut; joist pieces 3 by 2¹/₂, and 4 by 3, as well as flooring boards, much wanted. Wines—Although importations have, been large since the first instant, yet on account of the almost total want of low-priced port and sheries previous to late arrivals, prices have in a great measure been maintained, and we do not look for lower rates; the greater part being taken for immediate use. As the winter approaches these descriptions will be in greater request. Fine wines are scarce and in good demand.

(From Messrs Bradbury and Cook's Circular.)

London, Aug. 13, 1853.

The second series of public sales of colonial wool commenced on the 14th ult., and closed this day. The catalogues have contained the following quantities:—Sydney, 16,026 bales; Port Philip, 25,786 bales

Van Diemen's Land, 7,680 bales; Adelaide, 5,783 bales; Cape, 6,084 bales; New Zealand, 173 bales; total, 61,532 bales: East India, 4,688 bales; total colonial, 66,220 bales.—German, 250 bales; Spanish and Portugal, 350 bales; Russian, 562 bales; Egyptian, 368 bales; Buenos Ayres, 815 bales; Mogadore and Barbary, 291 bales; Turkey, 220 bales; Puget Sound, 48 bales; sundries, 770 bales; total foreign, 3,674 bales. The unsettled state of political affairs in the East, and the consequent depression of trade in the manufacturing districts, together with the prospects of a bad harvest, and the unprecedentedly large supply of wool to be offered at these sales, caused a general impression that there would be a very considerable fall in prices; but, though there was a comparatively small attendance of buyers at the commencement, prices opened about 1d per lb below the average of last sales on the middle and lower classes, whilst the better descriptions, including scoured wool, we consider quite as dear as in May. We have rarely observed prices so steadily maintained throughout, and with so little fluctuation as during the present series; towards the middle they gradually became firmer, and closed about 3d per lb higher than at the commencement. There has been a very limited demand for the Continent.

(From Messrs Southey and Son's Circular.)

London, Aug. 13, 1853.

The second series of sales of colonial wool of the season commenced on the 14th ult., and concluded on this day, comprising—16,346 Australian, 25,786 bales Port Phillip, 7,680 bales Van Diemen's Land, 5,633 bales South Australian, 6,084 bales Cape of Good Hope, 20 bales New Zealand, total 61,549 bales; and 4,688 bales East Indian. The comparatively high range of prices which have now prevailed for many months were firmly supported at the last sales, partly from the exhaustion of the stocks of English, colonial, and foreign wool; but after the English clip and large arrivals of colonial wool it became questionable whether ruling prices could be maintained. The woollen districts have been generally well employed since the May series, and received a fresh impulse from the recent favourable accounts from the Australian colonies, accompanied as they were with large orders at liberal prices: these came very opportunely, and contributed, no doubt, to encourage our manufacturers. The sales opened at a reduction of 3d to 1d on almost all sorts, and so continued till towards the close, when the average of last sales were again reached; finer qualities throughout were in full demand; wools in the grease went off heavily at the early sales at reduced prices, but towards the conclusion they rallied. A great deal of the Cape wool offered was irregular and of middling quality, and sold accordingly; good descriptions commanded their full share of attention. A very moderate quantity was taken for shipping. An undue impetus was given to East Indian wool in the spring, and in consequence of the great scarcity of English blanket wool; but the cause for this unexpected advance being removed, the large quantity of East Indian wool offered, as shown above, and the larger quantity accumulated at Liverpool, shortly to be declared for sale, caused our buyers to purchase very cautiously, and prices again resumed the level of many months previous, being a reduction of 1d to 1 1/2d upon May sales.

PRICES CURRENT.

AUSTRALIAN.	s	d	s	d	Inferior do.	s	d	s	d
Superior clothing.....	2	1	2	5	Locks, pieces, and broken	1	6	1	7
Fair and good do.....	1	7	2	0	In grease	0	10	1	3
Inferior do.....	1	4	1	6	Skin and slips	1	1	1	9 1/2
Scoured.....	1	11	2	5 1/2	SOUTH AUSTRALIAN.				
Handwashed.....	1	6	1	10	Fair and good combing				
Lambs.....	1	6	2	3 1/2	and clothing	1	6	1	10
Locks, pieces, and broken	1	0	2	8	Inferior flocks	1	3	1	5
In grease	0	9	1	3	Superior lambs	2	0	2	2 1/2
Skin	1	0	1	9	Fair and good do.	1	7	1	11
TASMANIAN.					Inferior do.	1	3	1	8
Scoured clothing.....	1	10	2	0 1/2	Scoured	1	7	1	11 1/2
Superior combing and					Locks, pieces, and broken	1	1	1	6 1/2
clothing	2	0	2	1 1/2	In grease	0	8	1	1
Fair and good combing					Skin	1	0	1	4 1/2
and clothing	1	7	1	11	SOUTHERN AFRICAN OR CAPE.				
Inferior do. do.	1	3	1	6	Good flocks	1	8	1	10
Superior lambs	2	0	2	7	Fair do.	1	4	1	7
Fair and good do.	1	8	1	11	Inferior do.	1	0	1	3
Inferior	1	5	1	7	Lambs	1	2	1	9 1/2
Locks, pieces, and broken	1	0	1	6 1/2	Handwashed	1	3	1	7 1/2
In grease	0	10	1	1	Ill-conditioned & kempy				
Skin	1	2	1	8	do.	0	10	1	2
PORT PHILLIP.					Locks and pieces	1	0	1	3 1/2
Superior combing and					In grease	0	7	1	0
clothing	2	0	2	5	EAST INDIAN.				
Fair and good do. do.	1	8	1	11	Good white	0	11	1	1
Ill-conditioned & inferior	1	5	1	7	Fair do.	0	9	0	10
Superior scoured	2	2	2	6	Good yellow	0	9 1/2	0	10
Fair and good do.	1	10	2	1	Fair do.	0	7	0	8
Scoured lambs	2	0	2	5 1/2	Coloured	0	2 1/2	0	6
Superior do.	2	0	2	4					
Fair and good do.	1	8	1	11					

(From Messrs Clark and Son's Circular.)

London, Aug. 12, 1853.

Since our last monthly advices of the 8th July, the wine market has attracted much attention, in consequence of the general unpromising appearance of the vines abroad. In all parts of France they have been more or less affected by bad weather and disease, and although recent accounts state that the weather latterly has been very favourable, fears are still entertained that the damage already done is too decided to be materially remedied. In the Douro the disease which appeared in June has steadily progressed, and this has caused a considerable action at Oporto, where large purchases of wines have been made at advanced prices; further accounts are anxiously looked for. Here, also, the trade have evinced a strong desire to possess themselves of low port wines at moderate rates, and the result is, that the stock of this description has been bought from importers, and is now held at higher rates. Low red wines from other parts are scarce; the demand for them at present has not been sufficient to command any material advance, but holders are firm, and the improved value of low

ports must ultimately affect them. From Spain we learn that at present the prospects of the sherry vintage are for a good and abundant crop; but in the south the disease has manifested itself extensively, and will materially affect the vintage of red wines. The red wine grape in Sicily is also said to be visited with the same calamity, while the white wines appear to have escaped. The total importation of wines during the first six months of this year has nearly doubled that of the first six months in 1852, but this increase (about 16,000 pipes) is principally in Portugal and French wines, which descriptions showed so material a falling off last year. The imports of all sorts this year up to the present time are not above an average. The deliveries have been considerable both for exportation and home consumption, and show a combined increase of 690,542 gallons—upwards of 6,000 pipes. Our spirit market during the past month has steadily advanced. The high prices of grain spirit, combined with the deficiency in the imports of rum, have caused a material advance in this article, especially in Jamaica, which are very scarce and in good demand. During the last week no first-hand sales have been made, the stock in importer's hands being much reduced. Our total London stock is 16,172 puncheons. Brandy has advanced about 2d to 3d per gallon during the month, and is now firmly held at our quotations. Within the last few days strong buyers of Hennessy's have appeared, and several parcels of 51's have been taken at 7s 6d and 7s 7d hhds. The transactions generally, however, have been limited to actual wants. The London stock on 1st August was 16,760 puncheons. In Cognac the market for brandies is said to be in a very excited state, holders being unwilling to part with their produce unless exorbitant prices are given. At present we believe there is no appearance of disease in that district, but under the most favourable circumstances the vintage must be very deficient and prices rule very high.

LONDON STOCKS OF RUM, August 6.

	1853	1852		
	puns.	puns.		puns.
Jamaica	4,727	8,750	decrease	4,023
Demerara and Berbice	4,122	6,031	decrease	1,909
Other British Islands	1,485	1,595	decrease	110
Total West India	10,334	16,376	decrease	6,042
East India	1,016	1,350	decrease	334
Foreign	856	1,078	decrease	222
Vatted	3,966	3,702	increase	264
Total of all sorts	16,172	22,516	decrease	6,344

(From Messrs Polthronier and Co's Circular.)

Alexandria, Aug. 6, 1853.

We have no new feature to notice in our market in place of the restless fluctuations by which it still continues to be agitated. The tendency of operations here is to anticipate rates in Europe, and to such an extent lately has the spirit of speculation availed of this feeling, and so much have prices in consequence been in the ascendant, that legitimate export operations have been quite impeded, and no room left but for local transactions. The want of encouragement in the news recently arrived, has caused less firmness to be evinced, and the present tendency of grain is toward a par with the European rates, the price of Government Saidi wheat being now 29s f.o.b. Arrivals of produce from the interior find their way to hand but slowly at present. In the course of the next fortnight, however, they will commence to come down in greater quantities. Our market for freights, owing to the preceding causes, has been extremely inactive. Current rates are 9s 10d to 10s for orders; 8s 6d to 8s 9d for direct ports; ballast, 7s 9d to 8s; cotton, 9-16d per lb; flax, dressed 3/ 10s, rough 4/; wool, 6/ 5s; gum, 2/ 5s to 2/ 10s per ton. The following charters and recharterers have taken place:—1 Austrian, 300 tons, 9-16d per lb cotton, and 8s 6d ballast, for Liverpool; 1 Prussian, 330 tons, 9-16d per lb cotton, and 8s 6d ballast, for Liverpool; 1 English, 440 tons, 9-16d per lb cotton, and 8s 3d ballast, for Liverpool; 1 Swedish, 147 lasts, 9-10d per lb cotton, for orders; 1 Swedish, 250 tons, 10s, for orders; 1 Swedish, 230 tons, 9s 9d, for orders; 1 Swedish, 140 tons, 10s, for orders (to arrive); 1 Swedish, 224 tons, 10s, for orders; 1 English, 236 tons, 9s 6d, for orders (wheat); 1 English, 298 tons, 950/, and 10/ gratuity; and 1 Austrian, 480 tons, on the berth for Liverpool. Exchange on London, 98 1/2 piasres per £ sterling.

Foreign Correspondence.

From our Paris Correspondent.

Paris, Aug. 18, 1853.

On Friday last the journal *La Patrie*, which is considered as a Ministerial organ, announced that the Sultan's answer to the note of Vienna had arrived. The Sultan accepted it, but he would not send his ambassador to St Petersburg so long as the Russian troops held possession of the Principalities. As this piece of news was considered as emanating from the Cabinet, it had the best influence; the public funds improved, as it was supposed that all the diplomatic difficulties were at an end.

But on the next evening the *Patrie* received a first warning for having published a piece of news which was false at the moment of its publication, though it is probable it will be confirmed by the event.

This official contradiction has rather affected the speculators, who had begun to sell stocks with a depreciation, when their confidence was again stirred up by some words which were addressed by the Emperor to the Ambassador of Great Britain. Louis Napoleon, on taking the hand of Lord Cowley, said to him—"I thank the diplomatic body for its congratulations. What could be most agreeable to me this day than to behold the peace of Europe consolidated—at least I considered it so—without the result having cost anything to the dignity and honour propre of any nation."

Indeed, the despatches from St Petersburg confirm the disposition of the Czar to accept the note of Vienna, provided nothing be changed to its terms. But that note says nothing of the evacuation of the Principalities, and some doubts are entertained that the Sultan will submit to the conditions imposed by the High Powers before that evacuation has taken place. Indeed, the Emperor of Russia is said to have sent an autographic letter to the Emperor of the French, announcing that he will hasten to recall his troops from the Danubian provinces after the signature of the note. But this difficulty may still protract the negotiations for some weeks, and delay the recall of the English and French fleets from Besika Bay. Those fleets must, however, leave that anchorage before the end of September, as the bay affords no security for our ships, as the French ship, *Le Friedland*, has already experienced.

There were on Sunday and Monday last public fetes and official rejoicings throughout the whole empire for the Saint Napoleon. The Emperor passed on Sunday a great review of the troops and the National Guards of the Seine. There were 120,000 men under arms. That ceremony passed off without any remarkable incident. The Emperor was pretty well received by the National Guards, and enthusiastically cheered by several battalions of the line. It is true that the authorities had carefully chosen the National Guards who were admitted to be present at the review. Besides, one-half of Paris has no National Guard. It has not been re-established in those quarters known for their demagogic or anti-Napoleonist opinions.

On Monday the rejoicings of the fete began everywhere, but those of the evening were indeed very curious. The illuminations had never been so splendid, and of a more fairy-like effect. The Champs Elysées and the Place de la Concorde were a vast field of lights. It has been reckoned that about 300,000 or 400,000 strangers, or inhabitants of the provinces, had come down to Paris to witness those fetes. The crowd was immense, but I have not heard of any accident. The Emperor and Empress went in the afternoon in the Champs Elysées, and their presence was considered as an act of useless imprudence, as they had no sufficient escort, so that the crowds surrounded their carriages, and they were exposed to the mad attempts of the desperate demagogues. They were, however, cheered by the crowds, and remained about an hour in the Champs Elysées.

The Emperor has granted a great quantity of decorations on account of his fetes. Many soldiers who had been condemned by martial courts have been pardoned, but no amnesty has been published till now in favour of political prisoners. It had been reported that the Generals Changarnier, Bedeau, and Lamoriciere would be allowed to return into France, but that report has not been confirmed.

The information about the crops is not satisfactory. Exact estimates have been made in the Beauce, the Brie, and several other districts, and it has been recognised that the wheat contains on an average 27 grains in the ear; the average is usually 36 grains in the ear for good years, and 40 grains for superior harvests.

The following are the variations of our securities from August 11th to 17th:—

	f s	d	f s	d	f c
The 3 per Cents. improved from...	80	10	to	81	0 and left off at 80 70
The 4 per Cents.	104	30	—	105	25 — 165 5
Bank Shares	2835	0	—	2850	0 — 2850 0
Northern Shares	592	50	—	592	0 — 900 0
Strasbourg	980	0	—	1020	0 — 1010 0
Lyon	960	25	—	980	0 — 970 0
Avignon	782	50	—	810	0 — 840 0
Orleans	1217	50	—	1260	0 — 1260 0
Rouen	1105	0	—	1120	0 — 1120 0
Havre	512	50	—	520	0 — 520 0

HALF-PAST FOUR.—There was some hesitation to-day among our speculators, but the prices have experienced a new decline at the end of business. The Three per Cents. varied for money from 80f 75c to 80f 45c; the Four-and-a-Half from 105f to 105f 15c; the Bank Shares were at 2,860f; the Northern Shares from 905f to 900f; Strasbourg from 1,017f 50c to 1,007f 50c; Lyons from 980f to 970f; Orleans from 1,260f to 1,250f; Rouen from 1,117f 50c to 1,110f; Havre from 520f to 522f 50c; Central from 558f 75c to 561f 25c.

Imperial Parliament.

PRINCIPAL BUSINESS OF THE WEEK.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Friday: Translation of Russian Diplomatic Circulars moved for by the Earl of Malmesbury. Monday: Royal assent to various bills. Tuesday: Universities (Scotland) Bill read a third time. Thursday: Passing of various bills.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Friday: Debate on Transportation Bill. Saturday: Passing of the Redemption Land Tax Bill.—Consideration of the Lords' Amendments in the Government of India Bill. Tuesday: Government explanation on the state of affairs in the East.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Friday, Aug. 12.

[CONTINUED FROM OUR LAST.]

In reply to the Earl of Malmesbury, who moved for a translation of the two circulars addressed by Count Nesselrode to the agents of the Russian Government, the Earl of Clarendon observed that he was not in a position to comply with the noble earl's request. Several noble lords joined in the discussion, but the motion was eventually withdrawn. The orders of the day having been disposed of, their lordships adjourned.

Monday, Aug. 15.

The Royal assent was given by commission to a large number of bills. The Pilotage Bill and the Scottish Universities Bill passed through committee. Adjourned.

Tuesday, Aug. 16.

The Universities (Scotland) Bill was read a third time. The Smoke Nuisance Abatement Bill passed through committee, and was reported. Several other bills were also forwarded a stage. Their lordships then adjourned.

Thursday, Aug. 18.

The Hackney Carriage Duties Bill was read a first time. The Lord Chancellor, in bringing up the report of the Commissioners for the Consolidation of the Statutes, gave an interesting sketch of the manner in which the commissioners had prosecuted their labour, the result of which, he was convinced, would be of most essential service to the public.

The Consolidated Fund Appropriation Bill and a great number of other measures were read a third time and passed.

Friday, Aug. 19.

The amendment of the Common Law Bill was read a first time. Lord Stanley presented a petition in favour of legalising marriage with a deceased wife's sister.

Lord Rodsdale gave notice that next session he would move that no bill be read a second time after a certain day (to be hereafter fixed) in the month of July.

In reply to Lord Brougham, the Earl of Clarendon observed that means were being taken by the Spanish Government for the suppression of the slave trade in Cuba. Several bills having been read a third time, their lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, Aug. 12.

[CONTINUED FROM OUR LAST.]

The Transportation Bill was read a third time and passed. Mr Walpole moved the second reading of the Corrupt Practices at Election Bill. He observed that it was not his intention to press forward the measure this session, his only object being that the provisions should be made known. He proposed to repeal the existing statutes altogether and to re-enact their provisions, laying down in definitive terms the exact meaning and nature of the offences which it was intended to put down. He then proceeded to define the several offences comprehended in the bill under various heads, to explain the securities he had provided, and to specify the penalties and disqualifications he proposed to affix to the commission of the offences by the several grades of offenders.

The bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed that day fortnight.

The house then went into committee on the Vaccination Extension Bill, the clauses of which were agreed to after discussion.

Other bills were read a second time, and the house adjourned at a quarter past nine o'clock.

Saturday, Aug. 13.

Several bills were forwarded a stage. In committee on the Passengers Act Amendment Bill.

Mr F. Peel stated that its object was to correct some anomalies in the existing system, and to facilitate the emigration of labourers from China to the West Indies, giving the Government a control over the transport of Chinese from other than British ports in China.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved for leave to bring in a bill to supply an omission in an act of this session respecting the redemption of the land tax, and to enact that the power of redemption should be limited to persons having an interest in the land, and that, when effected, the tax should merge absolutely, and cease to exist. Leave was given, and the bill passed through all its stages.

The house adjourned at half-past one o'clock.

Monday, Aug. 15.

The Lords amendments in the Government of India Bill were agreed to. When that by which the 44th clause, relating to the salt tax, was struck out of the bill, Sir J. Fitzgerald and Mr Gregson complained of the injustice of enhancing the price of salt.

Sir C. Wood said, he had never justified the maintenance of a high duty upon this article, and he was ready to concur in a reduction of the duty, which the Indian Government were prepared to make as soon as the state of the revenue warranted the sacrifice.

Mr Craufurd moved an address for the production of certain papers referred to in the minutes of evidence taken by the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the existence of corrupt practices in the city of Canterbury, but not printed with their report.

Mr Low opposed the motion.

Mr W. Williams supported the motion, which was opposed by Mr I. Butt.

Lord J. Russell said, the house would not be justified in supposing that the Commissioners had withheld information which it was proper for the house to know; it would not be wise, therefore, to require the production of these papers.

Mr Craufurd ultimately withdrew his motion.

Mr Sotherton obtained leave to bring in a bill to regulate Friendly Societies, which he proposed, he said, to circulate as widely as possible, with the view of legislating upon the subject permanently next session.

Mr Kinnaird called the attention of the house to the amended criminal code of Malta, which, he said, had given just offence to the Protestant inhabitants of that island, and the Crown advisers of Malta had proposed an amendment, which the Governor had refused to adopt. He moved a resolution condemnatory of the amended code, and an address to Her Majesty, praying that Her Majesty will take the facts into consideration, and withhold her sanction from the amended code until the subject should have received the mature consideration of Parliament.

Mr T. Chambers seconded the motion, contending that this amended code affected the Roman Catholic laity as well as Protestants, and altered designedly the religious status of every class in Malta.

Mr F. Peel thought the speech of Mr Kinnaird was in some respects injudicious. He thought the best mode would be to allow the code, which might be in some degree modified, to come into operation.

Lord John Russell having promised that the whole matter should be reconsidered, the motion was withdrawn. Adjourned shortly after six o'clock.

Tuesday, Aug. 16.

Mr Oliveira adverted to the Report of the Committee upon Decimal Currency, with regard to the question generally, and especially to the inconvenience of circulating florins and half-crowns at the same time.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer observed that the general question required mature consideration; and with regard to the particular point, stated that no half-crowns had been issued since 1850, and that none would be issued until the question was decided.

Lord J. Russell made his promised explanation respecting the state of the negotiations on the subject of the difference between Russia and Turkey. With respect to the production of papers, he had not found that it had been usual in such cases to lay papers on the table while the negotiations were still pending, nor until they were brought to some issue. He then proceeded to give an outline of the transactions as they had occurred, without referring to docu-

ments which were of the nature of secret papers, but glancing at incidents generally known to the house and the public. It was considered by both England and France that, looking at the interests at stake, it was desirable that the Turkish Government should forego its right to regard the occupation of the Principalities as a *casus belli*, and that it should not decline to enter into further negotiations. When the Russian Government had occupied the Principalities Austria changed her views upon this subject, and with reference to the treaty of 1841 deemed it necessary that there should be a conference of the Powers; and the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs having adopted a proposition of the French Government as the groundwork of a proposal to Russia, the note containing it was finally arranged and settled to the satisfaction of the four Powers on the 31st of July. To this note the Emperor of Russia had given his adhesion. Supposing the matter of this note to be fully arranged, there would still remain the evacuation of the Principalities; and it was quite evident that no settlement could be satisfactory that did not include their immediate evacuation, which, according to the declaration of Prince Gortschakoff, was to follow the satisfaction obtained from Turkey. He must ask the permission of the house to say nothing more upon this head, and request that the mode of obtaining the end in view might be left in the hands of the executive Government. He thought there was now a fair prospect that, without involving Europe in hostilities, the independence and integrity of Turkey—which he had always said was a main object of Her Majesty's Government—would be secured. That object was one which required the vigilant attention of Government, and it would only be secured by the union of England and France and a constant and friendly communication between them.

Mr Layard dwelt in much detail upon the indications of design and artifice on the part of Russia in her conduct towards Servia, Wallachia, and Moldavia. Mere assurances by Russia were not enough; she should have been called upon to disarm, and precautions should have been taken against her movements. Had she been told that if she entered the Turkish territories it would have been a *casus belli*, she would not have dared to cross the Pruth.

Sir J. Pakington regretted that Lord John Russell had not made a more satisfactory statement. Although he rejoiced that the Government had determined to regard the evacuation of the Principalities as a *sine qua non*, he lamented that that should still remain an unsettled point.

Lord D. Stuart, Mr Mills, Mr Muntz, and Mr Blackett having offered a few observations.

Mr Cobden said everybody seemed to agree that the conduct of Russia had been treacherous and violent, and to rejoice that the occurrence had brought about a sincere alliance between England and France. The opinions expressed by Lord J. Russell were those of the people of England, for he believed even Birmingham would rather support his pacific policy than precipitate the country into a war. Still there was a feeling of uneasiness in this country respecting Turkey; but there was at the same time a growing conviction in men's minds that the integrity and independence of the Turkish empire, as a maxim of policy, had become an empty phrase, and nothing more. He ridiculed the notion of going to war for tariffs, the fatality of which policy experience had proved, and he contended that the importance of the trade with Turkey had been overrated. He maintained that all our commerce in the Black Sea was owing to Russian encroachment there. What could a country like Turkey, without roads, contribute to the commerce of the world? The balance of power might be all very well, but he protested against it being argued that we were bound, in the interest of England, to maintain Turkey. The Government, he thought, had done wisely, for themselves as well as the country, in disregarding the taunts of thoughtless men and resisting the cry for war, and he did not blame them for adhering to the traditional policy of maintaining the integrity of Turkey.

Lord Palmerston could not allow the speech of Mr Cobden to pass without one or two observations. He had begun by talking of maintaining the independence of Turkey, and ended with endeavouring to show that Turkey was not worth defending. If he had stood there as an avowed advocate of Russia, he could not have dared to pursue a course more calculated to assist her views. Mr Cobden had forgotten the principles of free trade, of which he had been so staunch a defender. Did he not know that the commercial system of Russia was eminently restrictive and prohibitory, while that of Turkey was the most liberal of any country with which we had commercial relations? The resources of Turkey, which were constantly improving, tended to make her commerce every year more valuable to this country. Mr Cobden, again, was a great advocate for non-interference, and what was the matter which he specially recommended to the Government? "What shall we do with the Turkish empire?" Mr Cobden regarded it as a rotten fabric, and thought it was high time to consider what we should do with the country when we got rid of the Mahomedans. But he (Lord Palmerston) did not agree that the Turkish empire was in a state of decay; he held its maintenance to be not only desirable, but worth contending for. Turkey, so far from having gone back in the last thirty years, had made more improvements in social and moral concerns and in religious tolerance than any other country.

Mr Danby Seymour said a few words expressive of satisfaction at the speech of Lord Palmerston, and the motion was agreed to.

After some further business the house adjourned, at half-past seven o'clock, until Friday.

Friday, Aug. 19.

The Hon. Mr Lytton took the oaths and his seat for South Staffordshire. Numerous petitions on various subjects were presented.

In reply to Lord D. Stuart, Lord John Russell observed that he regretted to say that the negotiations between this country and the Government of Central America and the United States, with regard to the territory of Mosquito, were not terminated.

Lord John Russell, in reply to Mr A. Pellatt, intimated that that portion of the Education Bill which applied to places having town councils, the sum voted would not be expended; and as to the question of the hon. gentleman as to establishing new schools in towns where no town councils existed, he begged to state, that it was the decision of the Government that where cases of that kind occurred, and were brought before the committee of the Privy Council, grants ought to be made in conformity with the minute of the board.

Mr Kinnaird wished to ask Lord John Russell if any information had reached the Government with reference to a late decree said to have been passed by the Queen of Portugal, and sanctioned by the Cortes, by which any subject of that kingdom is condemned to fine and imprisonment, varying from one to three years, if he should do anything, by word or in writing, which, in the opinion of the Government, may be considered as an insult to any of the dogmas of the Roman Catholic religion, or attempt to propagate doctrines contrary to that religion, or celebrate public acts of worship differing therefrom, and by which any foreigner convicted of similar offences is to be banished from that kingdom.

Lord John Russell said that, at present, he saw no reason to remonstrate against the decree.

After a few remarks in reference to the case of Edward Murray, Lord Palmerston observed that the fine upon Phillips the cabman had been returned to him, with an additional 40s.

The Lords' amendments to several bills were agreed to.

Mr Cayley gave notice that early next session he should move for a select committee to inquire into the expediency of fixing a salary to the office of leader of the house.

The house adjourned until half-past one till this day.

PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS.

- 748 The Ship "Novello"—Report from the Committee.
912 Bills—Registrar of the Privy Council.
913 — Liberated Africans (Sierra Leone).
914 — Passengers' Act Amendment.

News of the Week.

COURT AND ARISTOCRACY.

On Saturday, the Queen and the Duchess of Kent drove out in the neighbourhood of Osborne.

On Sunday, the Queen and Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, and Princess Alice, attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, went to Whippingham parish church.

On Monday, the Queen and Prince, the Princess Helena, and the Duchess of Kent, attended by Lady Augusta Bruce, the Hon. Mary Seymour, and the Hon. Captain de Ros, drove out in the neighbourhood of Osborne.

On Tuesday, the Queen and the Royal children walked out at Osborne.

On Wednesday, the Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Duchess of Kent, Prince Arthur, and Count Alexander Mensdorf, embarked on board the Fairy, and honoured the Cowes Regatta with their presence. The Royal party afterwards proceeded to Spithead, and passed round the ships of war lying at anchor there.

On Friday, the Queen held a Privy Council at Osborne. It is understood that the Royal speech on closing the session of Parliament will be delivered by commission.

Wednesday being the birthday of the Duchess of Kent, the morning was ushered in at Kensington by the ringing of merry peals on the church bells, and the royal standard was hoisted.

The Queen and Royal Family will remain at Osborne house till the birthday of Prince Albert, the 26th instant, which of late years has been celebrated at the marine residence of the Prince and his Royal consort. Immediately after this auspicious celebration the Court will depart for Ireland, on the morning of Saturday, the 27th, but the Queen and Prince will not enter Dublin until Monday, the 29th inst. The Queen will remain at the Viceregal lodge till the end of the week, when she will proceed on her annual visit to the retirement of her Highland home.

The annual Whitebait Dinner took place on Saturday at the Trafalgar, Greenwich, previous to the prorogation of Parliament. The following Ministerial members of both Houses of Parliament were present:—Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, Lord Alfred Hervey, Right Hon. Sir James Graham, Mr James Wilson, Right Hon. E. Strutt, Lord Sydney, Lord Wodehouse, Hon. Robert Boyle, Duke of Newcastle, Mr Grenville Berkeley, Right Hon. Sir W. Molesworth, Mr William Keogh, the Lord Chancellor, Lord De Tabley, Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, Right Hon. W. G. Hayter, Viscount Drumlanrig, Sir A. J. E. Cockburn, Mr W. Monsell, Sir Richard Bethell, Mr Robert Lowe, Hon. W. Cowper, Earl of Mulgrave, Mr John Sadleir, Lord Ernest Bruce, Earl of Aberdeen, Mr Frederick Peel, Duke of Argyll, Right Hon. E. Cardwell, Viscount Palmerston, Viscount Canning, Mr Ralph Osborne, Earl Granville, Marquis of Breadalbane, and Lord Eloho.

A Cabinet Council was held on Wednesday afternoon at the Foreign-office, Downing street. The Council sat two hours and a half.

The Earl of Aberdeen gave a Cabinet dinner on Wednesday evening at his residence, Argyll house.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENT.—The Hon. Frederick Bruce, now Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General to the Oriental Republic of the Uruguay (Monte Video), is appointed Her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General in Egypt.

METROPOLIS.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.—The number of deaths registered was 984. In comparing the results of the last two weeks as regards fatal diseases, it will be seen that while tubercular diseases and diseases of the heart continue of the same amount, and diseases of the nervous system have declined from 119 to 89, those of the respiratory organs from 97 to 77, the epidemic class has risen from 279 to 320. Typhus, which rose in the two weeks from 42 to 60, has partly contributed to the increase of the last mentioned class; but the principal cause is diarrhoea, which continues to grow in activity. This complaint which numbered in four previous weeks, 54, 73, 81, 110 cases, rose last week to 139; and cholera, registered under various designations, "English," "infantile," and in one instance "Asiatic," exhibits a still more rapid augmentation; for in the preceding week the number was only 4, last week it was 19. Two or three of these 19 cases appear to have been of violent character and short duration; 16 occurred to children, nearly all very young, and 3 to persons of advanced years. Last week the births of 709 boys and 752 girls, in all 1,461 children, were registered in London. The average number in eight corresponding weeks of the years 1845-52 was 1,351. At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 30.072 in. The reading of the barometer decreased from 30.06 in. at the beginning of the week to 30.03 in. at 10 a.m. on the 7th; increased to 30.18 by 9h. a.m. on the 10th; and decreased to 29.97 in. by the end of the week. The variations of reading during the week have been unusually small. The mean temperature of the week was 61.2 deg., which is slightly below the average of the same week in thirty-eight years. The mean difference between the dew-point temperature and air temperature was 8.6 deg. The wind blew for the most part from the north-east.

THE NEW CITY MARKET IN COPENHAGEN-FIELDS.—500 workmen are employed on the ground in constructing sewers and raising the wall by which the market is to be surrounded.

THE WAGES MOVEMENT.—On Thursday the bricklayers in the employment of Mr Jay, the extensive builder, who have been on strike for an advance of wages from 5s to 5s 6d per day, were informed that their demands had been acceded to.

OCEAN CURRENTS.—On Thursday, Lieut. Maury, of the United States Navy and head of the Observatory at Washington, gave some very able explanations, at Lloyds', in reference to the various currents of the ocean, and the direction of the winds.

PROVINCES.

REPRESENTATION OF SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE.—Mr Shirley, the son of the late Mr J. E. Shirley, formerly member for the division, is a candidate in the Conservative interest for South Warwickshire, in the room of Lord Brooke, now Earl of Warwick.

THE SHIPPING OF THE NORTH-EAST PORTS.—There is a great scarcity of merchant vessels at Shields, and in consequence of the increased demand for coals in the South of England, and the number of vessels that have gone to the Baltic, so much as 10s per ton has been given to the masters of collier vessels to convey coals to London. 18l 10s per keel has also been given to vessels to take coals to St Petersburg, with a return cargo of 40s per ton home with tallow. Seamen are as scarce as ships; 24l 5s, and in some instances 4l per month, has been paid to seamen going in vessels in the Baltic trade. The same high rates of freight have been given in the neighbouring ports. Vessels of large tonnage have taken in cargoes at Hartlepool for St Thomas's at from 28s to 34s per ton, being from 60 to 100 per cent. more than was obtainable for the same voyage this time last year. A Dutch vessel has sailed from Hartlepool for Hongkong with steam coal, her freight being 66l per keel.

GREAT FIRE AT DOVER.—On Sunday last the premises of Messrs Walker and Co., oil merchants and seed crushers, were destroyed by fire. The firm was partially insured.

IRELAND.

EMIGRATION.—From May 1 to August 11, 2,390 emigrants sailed from Queenstown, of these 1,596 were for Quebec, 367 for New York, 253 for St John's, and 144 for Boston.

THE CORN TRADE.—A meeting of the corn merchants of Belfast was held in the Corn Exchange of that town on Friday, when the following resolution was adopted:—That it is the opinion of this meeting that the duty on all grain should be paid by weight, and they strongly recommend all parties concerned in the corn trade to take such steps as may be necessary to induce the Government to adopt this mode of charging duty.

INCOME TAX COMMISSIONERS.—Mr Edmond O'Flaherty has been appointed, conjointly with Mr Godley, Commissioner of Income Tax.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.—The Right Rev. William Lord Bishop of Limerick, the Right Hon. John Hatchell, and Mr Montfort Longfield, Q.C., have been officially gazetted to be Commissioners of National Education.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL.

FRANCE.

A grand review took place in the neighbourhood of Paris on Sunday. Upwards of 100,000 men were under arms.

The official account of the operations of the sinking-fund and of the *caisse des dépôts et consignations*, during the second quarter of 1853, has been published. Of late years the sinking-fund has ceased to be actively employed towards lessening the burden of the State debt, the financial situation of the country not permitting it to act. It is, however, worthy of note that the receipts of the second quarter of the present year, added to the surplus existing on the 31st of March last, amount to 40,093,054*l*. Henceforward the fact of the funds of the *caisse des retraites* for the aged being entrusted to the sinking-fund will give this latter greater animation, in consequence of a certain sum of perpetual rents being each year converted into life annuities. The rents belonging to the *caisse des retraites* now held by the sinking-fund amounts to 323,565*l*, representing a capital of 7,166,825*l* 9*s*. The *caisse des dépôts et consignations* has had, up to the end of the second quarter of the present year, a general receipt of 573,805,926*l* 10*c*. Its expenses, reimbursements, and outlay of all kinds within that period amounting to 55,781,955*l* 7*9s*, there remains in hand a sum of 518,023,970*l* 31*c*. The purchases of rents for the depositors in the savings-bank amount for this second quarter of the year to 147,437*l*, representing a capital of 3,507,259*l* 40*c*, of which sum 788,636*l* 30*c* were employed in purchases *ex officio*; previously, from August 1, 1845, to March 31, 1853, the amount of rents purchased reached the figure of 2,174,569*l* for a capital of 46,627,572*l* 5*c*.

PORTUGAL.

At Lisbon, on the 9th instant, bills were scarce. London, three months, was at 54½, with little money also; Paris, 5 28; Hamburg, 48½; Genoa, 5 27, with a good demand for bills. Portuguese stocks are now all quoted as Converted Three per Cents., the Government having been enabled to put on the screw and enforce the internal conversion, by making it a condition of receiving any dividend at all. The last prices were 41 to 42, and Bank of Portugal shares were nominal at 140 milreis, or nearly 30 per cent. discount, the market being again dull, in consequence of renewed doubts of any arrangement with the Government. These quotations are in Lisbon bank-notes, which were at 2½ per cent. discount; and the Oporto Bank shares maintained 4 to 5 per cent. premium in metal.

PRUSSIA.

The Zollverein Conference has held an interesting and important sitting, which, however, terminated, as all preceding sittings have terminated, by the defeat of those whose object it is to bring the Union States into a more enlarged system of commercial polity. Prussia brought forward her proposition for uniformly reducing the duties on unwrought iron from 10 to 5 silver groschen per cwt. This proposition was supported energetically and logically by the Prussian Commissioner; and by M. Albrecht and M. Liebe, plenipotentiaries for Hanover and Oldenburg. The two latter went further even than Prussia, as they demanded the re-establishment of the old system adopted in those States, whereby unwrought iron was admitted almost at a nominal duty, or *droit de balance*. Brunswick was equally disposed to support a reduction, but only to the extent of 2*l* groschen, so as to equalise all duties to a level with the differential favour accorded to Belgium. All these propositions were not only met by sturdy negatives from the Southern Protectionist phalanx, assisted by Nassau and Electoral Hesse, but these States demanded a general

augmentation. Consequently, after four or five hours' warm discussion, during which voluminous statistics were produced, the Liberal States were compelled to submit; and so there is an end to all idea of the duties on iron being reduced, at least until the next triennial general meeting of the Conference. The rejection of the proposition for reducing the duties on iron is meantime of the highest importance to Belgium. As the maximum duty of 10 silver groschen upon English produce is to be maintained, it is more than probable that the southern States will consent to allow the Belgian differential favour to remain at its present cipher of 7½.

AUSTRIA.

In the official *Wiener Zeitung* of to-day a statement is given of the ordinary revenues of the Austrian monarchy during the first six months of the present administrative year, amounting in the whole to 115,016,001*fl*; during the same period in 1852, to 111,349,552*fl*; and in 1851, to 99,728,806*fl*; consequently, when the revenues of the first half of 1853 are compared with the same period of 1852, the increase is 3,666,449 florins; and when compared with the same period of 1851, the increase is 15,287,195 florins.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

No additional news tending further to solve the differences between Russia and Turkey have come to hand. The Russian troops still hold possession of the Principalities, and the combined fleets are in the Bay of Besica. The latest accounts from the Danubian frontiers state that the Turkish army was in a high state of discipline.

UNITED STATES.

The Atlantic arrived at Liverpool, on Tuesday, with advices from New York to the 6th inst. A large business had been transacted in the leading fancy stocks, but generally at a decline. Erie railroad shares sold as low as 73½, with sales of 2,400 at 73½ to 74½; Morris Canal, 18½ to 19½; and Nicaragua Transit Company, 23½ to 25. Money in active demand "on call" and on business paper 8 to 9 per cent. Foreign exchange in fair demand at 108 to 109; Paris 5.12 to 5.15; Amsterdam, 41 to 41½; Hamburg, 36½ to 36½; Bremen, 79½ to 80. 800 tons of Scotch pig iron had been sold at 32 dol*s* cash; 200 tons refined English had also been sold at 66 dol*s* to 67½ dol*s*.

WEST INDIES.

By the Parana the usual files of papers have come to hand. A Jamaica the arrival of the new Governor, Mr Barkly, was anxiously looked for, and the public anticipated that an end would be put to existing difficulties when he arrived. At Trinidad the crop was entirely finished, and heavy rains had fallen. Barbadoes was generally very healthy. Ships were loading for England with the last of the crop.

From Honduras we learn that the reports of the failure of the cochineal crop are confirmed. No more than 1,200 or 1,500 serons will go to market this season in place of as many thousand as anticipated. In consequence of the heavy rains it was feared that the mahogany merchants will not get out more than one-third of their cutting this season. Business at Belize was quite at a standstill. The heat of the last two or three months had been excessive.

THE BRAZILS AND THE RIVER PLATE.

The Severn has brought our usual letters and files from Rio and the River Plate. From Buenos Ayres we learn that the blockading squadron had been bribed with 60,000 dol*s*, and had gone over to the Buenos Ayrean Government. The ports are again open, and the besieging party had sanguine hopes that General Urquiza must speedily retire.

At Rio Janeiro the monetary crisis had nearly subsided, and the discounts were easier, in consequence of the assistance given to the banks by the Government. In the money market the extremes noted were 29 and 29½ upon London, 325 upon France, and 625 and 610 upon Hamburg.

Prices of coffee were steady, and good sales were effected, viz.:—69,000 bags for the United States, 14,000 Mediterranean, 110,000 for Channel, North of Europe, &c. Some small samples of new coffee were sold at 4 dol*s* 400 and 4 dol*s* 500, but the quantities were unimportant.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

By the Harbinger we have advices from the Cape to the 7th of July. The Governor is still on the frontier, completing his arrangements for defence and the improvement of internal order and obedience to the laws. The constitution was legally promulgated on the 1st of July, and several clear directions have been issued by Government to the future constituencies on the subject of registration. The public and the Government are completely reconciled. The tribes beyond the colony appear at present to be peacefully disposed. Of the Caffres little is now heard, but that they are gradually settling down upon the territory assigned to them by General Cathcart.

INDIA AND CHINA.

The usual semi-monthly express from India, via Marseilles, has arrived, but it contains very little news in addition to the intelligence received by telegraph last week. The *Calcutta Star* observes:—"Owing to the intervention of the native holidays, the business of the past fortnight has been considerably curtailed, but the position of the market has undergone no material change. There has been a good demand for most articles of export, which, on the whole, may be

said to have maintained their former value. The remaining parcels of indigo are gradually disposed of, and the total quantity shipped up to the end of last month amounts to 98,400 maunds, and there is little doubt that 100,000 maunds will be completed."

CANTON, June 23.—The import market is seriously affected by the present state of matters. Money is scarce. Settlements of the new congous have taken place at from 21½ taels to 32 taels; the latter for the best kinds. These prices are considered 30 to 35 per cent. advance on last year's opening rates. The Don Ricardo was dispatched on the 13th inst. with some of the new teas. The Shanghai market is still closed for imports. Musters of the new silk and tea had been received, but no prices mentioned. The price of silk in the interior was higher. Money was very scarce, and exchange quoted 5s 10d. The total export of tea from China for the season 1852-53 is estimated at 6,500,000 lbs in excess of that for the season 1851-52.

AUSTRALIA.

The latest accounts from Australia, in reference to the produce of the mines, are very satisfactory. The following return gives the quantity of gold delivered from the Victoria fields at Melbourne, by the Government and private escorts, in the first four months of the present year:—January, 186,015; February, 172,329; March, 169,654; April, 161,431; total, 689,429 ounces. In the corresponding months of 1852 the produce of the same fields was as follows:—January, 64,834; February, 56,108; March, 51,865; April, 67,556; total, 240,363 ounces. The increase is 449,066 ounces above the produce of the same period last year, or 187 per cent. But it should be remembered the fields are now more extensive, and worked by a greater number of persons. There is no indication that the yield is falling off.

BIRTHS.

On the 12th inst., the Lady Frances Lloyd, of a son.
On the 11th inst., the wife of T. Campbell Foster, Esq., of the Northern Circuit, of a son.
On the 13th inst., the Lady Clarence Paget, of a son.
On the 15th inst., the Lady Burghley, of a daughter.
On the 18th June, at Victoria, Hong Kong, the wife of the Bishop of Victoria, of a son.
On the 18th inst., at No. 13 Lowndes square, the Lady Mary Egerton, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 10th inst., at St Andrew's church, Plymouth, Charles Arthur Aymer, Esq., to the Hon. Sophia Mackay, daughter of the Right Hon. Lord and Lady Reay.
On the 10th inst., the Lady Olivia Tylour, eldest daughter of the Marquis of Headfort, to the Rev. Frederic FitzPatrick.
On the 16th inst., at St James's church, Piccadilly, by the Rev. J. H. Thomas, Charles W. Bonham, Esq., Commander, R.N., youngest son of the late Henry Bonham, Esq., M.P., to Isabella Eliza, eldest daughter of the late Lieutenant-Colonel Hailes, K.H., and grand-daughter of Sir Robert Campbell, Bart.
On the 13th inst., at Baden, Max, Count Schmettow, to Justine, only daughter of Count and Countess Biucher de Wshlett.
On the 13th inst., at the parish church of Inch, by the Rev. John Lawless Pyne, Messrs John Brady, Esq., second son of the Right Hon. Maziera Brady, Lord High Chancellor of Ireland, to Elizabeth, youngest daughter of the late Rev. Robert Longfield, of Castle-Mary, Cloyne.

DEATHS.

On the 17th inst., Anne, relict of the late Sir Henry Joseph Tichborne, Bart., of Tichborne, Hants.
On the 15th inst., Lieutenant-General William Martin Burton, Colonel Commandant, Madras Artillery.
On the 13th inst., Lieutenant-Colonel Verner, in the 80th year of his age.
On the 14th inst., Reginald Dalrymple, the infant son of the Hon. Colonel and Lady Sarah Lindsay.
On the 14th inst., Sir Frederic Hamilton, Bart., of Sylverton hill, county of Lanark, N.E., aged 76.
On the 17th inst., Sir Frederick Adam.
On the 16th inst., Mr Bransby Cooper, F.R.S.
On the 6th ult., at the Cape, Lady Sale, the wife of the late Sir Robert Sale.

COMMERCIAL AND MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

The *Moniteur* publishes the following monthly debtor and creditor account of the Bank of France, made up to Thursday week:—

DEBTOR.		£	s	d
Capital of the Bank	91,250,000	0	0	0
Reserve of the Bank	12,960,750	14	0	0
Reserve of the Bank in landed property	4,000,000	0	0	0
Bank notes in circulation	807,688,800	0	0	0
Ditto of the Branch Banks	159,841,675	0	0	0
Bank notes to order	5,143,025	92	0	0
Receipts payable at sight	14,906,000	0	0	0
Treasury amount current, creditor	71,321,975	88	0	0
Sundry accounts current	151,086,739	52	0	0
Ditto of the Branch Banks	26,712,328	0	0	0
Dividends payable	1,085,720	28	0	0
Discounts and sundry interests	1,766,624	85	0	0
Commission on the care of title deeds	13,441	95	0	0
Redeemed during the last six months	567,492	0	0	0
Received on account of protested bills	209,109	56	0	0
Sundries	3,341,081	16	0	0
	1,051,854,813	0	0	0
CREDITOR.				
Cash in hand	374,248,771	56	0	0
Cash in the Branch Banks	105,296,735	0	0	0
Commercial bills on due	1,837,478	7	0	0
Commercial bills discounted but not yet due, of which 55,664,808 were received from the Branch Banks	131,929,317	51	0	0
Ditto in the Branch Banks	168,242,959	0	0	0
Advanced on a deposit of bullion	1,429,600	0	0	0
Ditto by the Branch Banks	946,543	0	0	0
Advanced on French public securities	35,113,336	10	0	0
Ditto by the Branch Banks	12,478,100	0	0	0
Advanced on railway securities	21,582,754	0	0	0
Advanced to the State on the treaty 1848	70,000,000	0	0	0
Government Stock reserved	10,000,000	0	0	0
Ditto disposable	55,451,514	37	0	0
Hotel and furniture of the Bank	4,000,000	0	0	0
Landed property of the Branch Banks	3,844,813	0	0	0
Interest in the National Discount offices	27,900	0	0	0
Expenses of the management of the Bank and Branch Banks	334,958	5	0	0
Sundries	141,338	23	0	0
	1,651,254,913	0	0	0

From these returns it appears that the metallic reserve has increased about a quarter of a million in Paris, and half a million in the departments. The discount accommodation has diminished in Paris 2½ millions, and increased in the branch banks 7½ millions. The advances on French Rente have diminished in Paris half a million, and increased in the provinces a quarter of a million. The advances on railway shares have fallen off in Paris half a million, and in the branch banks not quite a quarter of a million. On the side of the liabilities, the notes in circulation have increased 18½ millions in Paris, and diminished 5 millions in the departments. The account current of the Treasury has declined 1½ million. Ordinary accounts current have fallen off 7½ millions in Paris, and have increased 1½ million in the branch banks. The whole amount of the metallic reserve is at present 479½ millions to 654 millions of notes in circulation. It will be remarked that the Bank has added a new item on the side of its liabilities, namely, the levying of a small duty on the safe keeping of securities of all kinds which its clients may think fit to entrust to it. This plan has been already adopted with beneficial effects, with respect to their railway shares and bonds, by some of the principal French companies.

An account has reached us of a project for establishing a national bank in the city of Mexico. The main features of the proposals are, that the bank shall have a subscribed capital of 800,000, and that, on account of the revenues to be collected by it, a yearly credit of 1,800,000, shall be allowed to the Government for the wants of various departments, including 320,000 for the dividends of the foreign debt. It is also stipulated that any excess of revenue over the average of the past five years which may arise after the duty of its collection is assumed by the bank shall be equally divided between the bank and the Government. The bank is to issue 400,000 in notes, of denominations from 2 to 200, which may be extended, provided their account does not exceed a third of its available assets—such notes to be payable to bearer, but not a legal tender, except in payment of duties. Finally, the scheme appears to embrace a plan for raising a new 3 per cent. loan in London to the nominal amount of 1,600,000, for the purpose of paying off a like amount of the home debt.

From statements recently furnished to the Government of the operations of the Mint during the last six months, it appears that the coinage during that time has been 9,099,000 of gold and 416,000 of silver. The unprecedented nature of this amount may be estimated from the fact that in the corresponding period of each of the three preceding years the totals were as follows, viz., in 1850, gold, 66,000; silver, 129,000; in 1851, gold, 4,199,000; silver, 19,000; and, in 1852, gold, 4,452,000; silver, 32,000. The rate of coinage this year has, therefore, been more than twice as great as during 1852, when Australia was already yielding large results.

The report of the Bank of New South Wales, one of the Sydney institutions, for the half-year ending the 31st of March last, has been received, and presents a result which the directors state to be without a parallel in banking enterprise. It appears that on a capital of 300,000, the profits for the six months amounted to 141,640, the appropriation of which has just been effected by increasing the capital from 300,000 to 300,000—a step equivalent to a bonus of 6/13s 4d on each 20/ share besides declaring a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, adding 14,280 to the reserve fund, which now amounts to 40,000, and carrying 4,960 to a new account for future distribution.

At the half-yearly meeting of the Southampton Dock Company, held on Tuesday, it was resolved that out of the surplus profits, to the 30th June last, a dividend be declared for the half-year at the rate of 10s (or 2 per cent. per annum) per share on 7,093 shares, forming the ordinary capital of the company. The revenue returns for the half-year showed an increase of 5,177 over the corresponding period of 1852, and the trade of the docks show considerable progress.

The report of the Select Committee on Decimal Coinage, appointed on the motion of Mr William Brown, of Liverpool, has just been printed, and is a clear and concise document. It appears, as might have been expected, that all the witnesses examined were unanimous respecting the advantages that would attend the introduction of the decimal system, and that the only open question among them was with regard to the relative ease and superiority of the various methods suggested for its accomplishment. In the United States the old system of pounds, shillings, and pence was superseded by the decimal system of dollars and cents without any inconvenience having been caused, and in Ireland when the 13 pence, which at one time constituted an English shilling, were replaced by 12 English pence, although a prejudice was originally felt among the poor from their receiving only 12 coins of the same name as those of which they had previously got 13, they soon found that the injury was imaginary. With regard to the various contracts and prices which would have to be rearranged, the extent of the alterations rendered necessary would depend on the exact system adopted. The plan recommended by the committee is that the pound should be the unit, and that the relation of the several coins should be as follows:—

	Mils.		Mils.
Sovereign	1000	New silver coins	20
Half-sovereign	500		10
Crown	250		5
Florin	100	New copper coins	2
Shilling	50		1
Sixpence	25		

Under this plan the existing threepenny and fourpenny pieces would be put out of circulation, and, in place of the penny, a new copper coin would be introduced equal in value to the tenth instead of the twelfth part of a shilling. The payments that would be affected by the alteration are all the minor ones at present made in pennies, halfpennies, and farthings, and although no inconvenience would arise in the sale

of goods, since the size of a penny loaf or any other article would be altered by the dealer to correspond with the altered value of the coin he receives for it, there are cases, such as tolls on railways, bridges, ferries, roads, &c., in which private interests are concerned, that would have to be the subject of adjustment, since if, instead of charging one penny or four farthings, as at present, the nearest equivalent toll under the decimal system—namely, one of four mils were substituted, the change would involve a loss to the receiver of the toll of 4 per cent.; while, on the other hand, raising the toll to 5 mils would involve a loss to the payer of 20 per cent. The case of the penny postage, also, is an important element in this part of the matter, as well as the new penny receipt stamp. While considerable discontent would, in the opinion of Mr Rowland Hill, be excited by raising the postage charge to 5 mils, and thus making an addition to it of 20 per cent., the adoption of 4 mils, involving a reduction of 4 per cent., would cause a loss to the revenue of 100,000*l*. All these things, however, merely relate to the way in which the great principle should be carried out, and have nothing to do with the question as to whether it should be carried out or not. On that point the conclusion of the committee is unequivocal and emphatic, and they consequently urge the necessity of decisive action.

The accounts from the Lyons silk market state that goods continued to be bought up with the greatest eagerness owing to the activity of manufactures. The quantities "conditioned" on the 9th and 10th inst. amounted to the almost unprecedented total of 161 bales each day. The aggregate quantities during the month of July had been 2,831 bales, weighing 494,172 lbs, against 1,768 bales, weighing 272,745 lbs in the same month last year.

A plan for the renewal of discovery in Australia is in contemplation. The proposal is, to start from the mouth of the Victoria River, to trace that river to its sources, and thence to proceed eastward as the nature of the country and the facilities for travelling may permit, until the party strike the upper waters of a stream flowing into the gulf of Carpentaria. Subsequently the party would probably strike across the continent, and re-enter the civilised world by some of the older settlements.

Telegraphic communication will be continuous by the 1st of October between London and Cork, Dublin, Belfast, and Killarney, the land lines being completed in Ireland, and the submarine link between Portpatrick and Donaghadee being at work.

The river Nile is rising very rapidly, and, to the satisfaction of all, is covering the whole of the valley of Egypt with its fertilising water and alluvial deposit.

Considerable purchases of wheat have been made for exportation from Santander to England. A letter from Talavera de la Reina says that the harvest in that part of the country is very middling, especially that of wheat, barley, and rye.

A letter from Alexandria of the 5th inst. states that a coal mine has been discovered on Mount Sinai.

The duties on solid bitumen, in France, have been abolished.

Letters from Zante to the 6th inst. state that the harvest of currants has begun. The produce is estimated at 4,000,000 lbs, of which 1,000,000 lbs will be good, 2,000,000 lbs of medium quality, and 1,000,000 lbs of bad quality, or probably quite unsaleable.

A letter from Venice, dated the 6th inst., states that "corn and breadstuffs actually in the Venetian territory are to be free without regard to the country they come from, and free trade is to continue in all articles sent from foreign parts."

In consequence of the passing of the New Stamp Act, which comes into operation on the 10th of October next, the various banking establishments throughout the country have mutually agreed to a modification of the system under which they have of late years issued letters of credit. When these documents first came into use, they were simply intended to enable the party in whose favour they were granted to receive the amount personally at the place named, and were consequently not transferable. Subsequently, however, it has become the habit to cash them to bearer on the assumed endorsement of the payee, and several of the leading provincial banks have even prepared them so as to admit the amount or any portions of it to be drawn for by regular checks signed by the payee. They have thus, although not legally negotiable, entered into extensive circulation, the saving of the stamp duty payable on bills of exchange being an inducement to their rapid increase in the face of the risk of forged endorsements as well as of the literal state of the law upon the subject. Under the new act, however, draughts or checks payable to order on demand may be issued on a penny stamp, and it is proposed therefore from the 10th of October to adopt that form, while for credits available only at a specified term after date the usual stamp applicable to bills of exchange will be required. By this means, as regards the notes payable on demand, the various banks will save themselves from risk with respect to forged endorsements, inasmuch as the 19th clause of the new act exonerates them in these special cases from all liability on that account.

It is stated that the Board of Trade have agreed to grant charters to the Chartered Bank of Asia and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China.

Literature.

THE POETICAL WORKS OF ALEXANDER POPE. Edited by ROBERT CARRUTHERS. Illustrated. Four Vols. Vol. I. *Memoir of Pope, with Extracts from his Correspondence.* Ingram, Cooke, and Co., Strand.

POPE is undoubtedly the most philosophical of our poets. Whether he borrowed his ideas from Bolingbroke, or only refined and matured them in communication with him, he had formed a large and compre-

hensive theory of nature, which he expounded and illustrated in a vigorous and graphic manner. Independent in pecuniary matters by his own exertions, a naturally fearless man, and excluded by his religion from the current prejudices of the day, not fancying that it was necessary for him to support a Church to which he did not belong, and give much honour to a State which proscribed his peculiar faith, he was enabled to think freely, and to express his philosophical thought in a terse and vigorous style, unequalled before and unsurpassed since. He was neither terrified nor bribed into an advocacy of the untrue. His style was at once polished and musical—his words fixed themselves in the memory, while they diffused abroad new and important truths. Both critic and philosopher, he taught, by precept and example, how to write as well as how to think. Neglected or unread he has never been; but other generations, with other thoughts, other pursuits, and other knowledge than those of his day, have naturally paid more attention to the poets and writers of their own time than to Pope; and they in turn will make room for successors—perhaps less, perhaps more, vigorous and poetical than themselves. The bulk of men and women read for amusement, and they want novelty and variety, as well as philosophy, truth, and wit. Pope has accordingly not been so much read, and certainly not so much talked about, by the literary world latterly as he was a century ago. He is now becoming a venerable classic of other days, and requires to be again brought before a new generation. His works will be novelties for many readers. Disputes have latterly taken place as to his merits, in which the world takes an interest. A new and popular edition of his works is very much wanted, and that the present editor and publishers have very properly undertaken to supply. As yet we have only the *Memoir*; but, from the minute and careful manner in which that is composed and edited—displaying an intimate acquaintance with Pope's writings and his life, and with the men and women and manners of the period—we may infer that the works themselves will be very carefully and completely given to the world. The *Memoir*, for a popular edition of Pope, we consider rather too minute. Something of the literary history of the period must be given, but Mr Carruthers has looked at his subject with the loving eye of an antiquary and a critic, considering more what is interesting to himself than what the public desire. The world at large has not time at present to be stow on the quarrels of the small and large wits of the last century. They never were worth much—they are worth less now than they were when they happened, and their value diminishes day by day. They are not the best parts of the poet's life, though they were most interesting to his contemporaries. There are happily now no such quarrels; and if there were, the world would not attend to them. No art could now make the Flecknoes, the Dennises, the Cibbers, the Theobalds, and the crowd of authors who live in London of importance. The public has outgrown its reverence for such persons, and has come to estimate their pursuits by a juster standard. What we reject as worthless in the living, we are not likely to honour in the dead. So much of the biographies and scandal of the times as is necessary to make the personal allusions with which Pope's writings abound understood, every editor of his works must provide. Originally known to only a few persons, their meaning is now utterly forgotten, except as it is preserved by his editors, and no new editor can wholly cast aside such explanations. But more than that is not required in an edition of Pope's Works intended for the people. Many of his productions were essentially local and temporary, and we know no stronger proof of the genius that some persons have denied him, than the fact that he has adorned many of the most trivial subjects of the hour with gems of thought—great truths and moral sentiments—that are everlastingly quoted. Shakespeare alone excepted, no writer has contributed so many "household words" to our native eloquence as Pope. The squabbles in which he was engaged derived their importance from the attention bestowed on them in an age when no great object made men earnest. The great religious contests which we know as the Reformation had ended in paltry penal statutes, and the great political contests which we justly call revolution had not begun. There was then time and thought for the puerile personalities that the public now treats with the utmost contempt. Pope justly says:—

Abstract what others feel, what others think,
All pleasures sicken and all glories sink.

And because the "others" of the present day have better occupations—wiser pursuits—than had the courtiers of the beginning of the 18th century and the public which they influenced, they cannot be interested by the personal disputes of authors. If they now occur, the world hears very little of them, and heeds them less. "Living asses," according to the proverb, are of more consequence than "dead lions;" and if the world is too busy to notice the gambols and freaks of the former, it will hardly condescend to waste much time over what were the roamings of the latter. The history of Pope's squabbles, then, is not worth reviving; they are of little interest, except to a few literary men. Such things are the common features of every man's life, and we must express our regret that more than is necessary should be said about them in a popular edition of his works. The *memoir* is copious, and supplies abundant materials for forming correct opinions of Pope's merits as a man and as an author. We learn from it more particulars than we knew before of his intimacy with Martha and Teresa Blount, and are made better acquainted with his domestic history. There is much in the book of Pope's friendship with Swift and Bolingbroke that we desire to know. Copious extracts from his interesting, but too artfully prepared, correspondence, and numerous anecdotes of the man, will make Pope better known, if not more respected. Notwithstanding the objection to the *memoir* which we have stated, it is a very useful addition to our literature; and this edition of Pope's Works, which will be read as long as there is any taste left for vigorous thought expressed in nervous language, will be welcomed and read and studied by a large mass of readers in both hemispheres.

THEORY OF POLITICS. *An Inquiry into the Foundation of Governments, and the Causes and Progress of Political Revolutions.* By RICHARD HILDRETH, Author of the "History of the United States of America." Clarke, Beeton, and Co., Fleet street. New York: Harper and Brothers.

THE numerous books continually published on the general principles of politics, or on what is here called the Foundations of Governments, inform us that the subject is now of great interest, and convince us that it is very little understood. The late revolutions, and the revolutions still in progress, force the subject on the notice of clever men, just as our own Great Revolution made the subject a favourite one with Harrington, Sydney, Locke, and others, towards the close of the 17th century. But neither the discussions formerly nor the discussions now have done much to settle opinions on the subject. The historical origin of governments indeed, is easily comprehended—it is written in many deeds of blood

Force first made conquest, and then conquest law;
Then Superstition taught the tyrant awe;
Then shared the tyranny, then lent its aid,
And gods of conquerors, slaves of subjects made.

The history of government is far better ascertained than the principles on which it rests. Were the latter settled, its acts could be guided by science to meet the public requirements and ensure the public approbation. "Everywhere," as Mr Hildreth begins by saying, "we find men—a few savage tribes excepted—living together under distinctly organised forms of government." The universal existence of governments proves that they are congenial to man's nature, founded on his wants, suitable to his desires, ordained in this sense by his Creator—a necessary part of his own existence therefore; but all these facts are quite compatible with the other fact, that men still remain ignorant of the reasons or causes which now make and have made governments necessary. The modern theory is, that they are established to promote the public welfare; the fact is, that they were all established by conquest, were maintained from motives of ambition or power, and do not, in the sense here implied, promote the public welfare. They are necessary to bind men into masses—a kind of external force to compress them into sociality; but that effected, individual interest—the desires, struggles, and conflicts to get wealth, and rear families, and attain power—impel forward society, preserve order, and gradually weaken the compressing force. Government itself, continually altered and modified by the life-spring of society in individuals, is obliged to conform to their changing wants, wishes, and opinions, till it seems losing its force. Its purpose of compressing men into society having been answered, and individual interests now connecting widely separated and distinct nations together, not only without the help of governments, but very generally in opposition to their endeavours, the old system of government by conquest and coercion is passing away, and having found a new theory for it, namely, that of promoting the public good, we require new principles and new rules to guide it. Hitherto, for example, the great object of government throughout Europe—the plain consequence, too, of its origin—has been to keep by force the lower or labouring classes, formerly everywhere in a condition of servitude, obedient to the laws. To make good laws—laws that would or could promote the welfare of society—has been a very secondary object, even where some inkling was obtained of the means of accomplishing it. The first object always was to enforce obedience to the laws, whether they were as radically unjust as impressment, or as just as the law which requires parents to maintain their own offspring. But now the condition of the long-compressed multitude has everywhere become a kind of plague-spot—dangerous to peace, property, security, and welfare; and throughout Europe the attention of politicians has for some time been directed, far less towards keeping the multitude obedient than to provide for their welfare and make them contented and prosperous. In fact, a total but quiet and gradual change has ensued and is now becoming obvious in the very objects aimed at, and to be aimed at, by all government. Till the first establishment of English colonies in America—where, the association being voluntary, the principle of the government was the public good—only force as the principle of government was known; and in the slave States of America—as in the other States which were plantations into which criminals were sent,—to keep slaves in obedience by force, is the first principle of all the laws. The government, therefore, of force—of conquest—(suitable at one time to the condition of mankind—always the result more of their instincts or blind desires than reason)—seems no longer suitable to their condition. Men obey it still instinctively, but they examine it; and the fact of their stating many different states for its existence shows that they are yet not well informed on the subject. Mr Hildreth's is an historical examination of it and he refers the "political equilibrium called government" to a variety of causes. In fact, as it is one general result of human passions and instincts, they may all combine to produce it. The elements of power are various—strength, skill, sagacity, strong desires, knowledge, eloquence, wealth, traditionary respect, property, religion, combination, &c.—and they all come in for a share in establishing government as it exists, and for a share in all the changes and revolutions continually made in government. Though Mr Hildreth's inquiry is conducted on the exhausting principle, we cannot trace in it, or in its results, any great principle or great truth likely to be a guide to men. The inquiry is bold and searching, not checked by any prejudices nor limited by factitious respect to existing authorities, and likely, we believe, to be the parent of further inquiries. The subject is, in fact, too vast and too universally interesting not to provoke a great deal of discussion and give birth to many books. Not to enter into any controverted parts, we may quote a passage which happily describes the condition of modern as contrasted with ancient society, and refers us to the pivot on which the great change turned:—

THE MUNICIPALITIES OF THE MIDDLE AGES.

In one striking and most important particular, the municipalities of the Middle Ages appear to have differed from those ancient municipalities upon the

sites of which many of them were erected—a particular which seems to have produced all the difference, so very great, and it may be said, radical, between the civilisation of ancient and of modern times.

In the municipalities of the Middle Ages, for the first time in civilised communities, within the period of authentic history, chattel slavery was unknown. Even serfdom was not recognised; and both slaves and serfs, flying from the tyranny of brutal masters, found convenient refuge and protection within the walls of the towns, of which they helped to augment the population, and to increase the strength and wealth. Laborious industry, as well that of the mechanic arts as of agriculture in the verge of territory attached to the towns, was now, for the first time, carried on by free citizens. Freedom and industry thus reconciled, the arts, under their impulse, soon made a progress which first equalled and finally surpassed anything known among the ancients. Combining trade with manufactures, to which those towns favourably situated for it, like Venice, Naples, Genoa, and Pisa, added navigation, these municipalities rapidly accumulated wealth, which, as we have seen, is a most important element of political power; while the compactness, as well as the superior intelligence, of their population, by facilitating combined action, gave to them a still further advantage.

With reference to the present prime object of all sound politics, that of providing for the welfare of the multitude, Mr Hildreth has some very sound observations. We shall quote them, reminding our readers that by them he justifies the instinctive exertions that the bulk of every society is now making to increase its wealth, and enforcing on attention the great fact which he points out, that it is far more important to produce more wealth by which all may be satisfied, than to redistribute that which exists, by which only some will be robbed or injured to enrich or benefit others. We have already said in another place, and we repeat here after Mr Hildreth, that the great necessity now is to increase production, or the productiveness of human labour, as individuals are happily very generally engaged in doing.

HOW THE MULTITUDE CAN BE IMPROVED.

If the mass of the people are ever to be raised above the servile position in which they have been so long and so generally held, there would seem to be only one way in which it can be permanently and effectually done, viz., by imparting to them a vastly greater portion than they have ever yet possessed of those primary elements of power, sagacity, force of will, and knowledge, to be backed by the secondary elements of wealth and combination. Nor does the prospect of thus elevating them appear by any means altogether so hopeless an one.

Whatever objections may be made to the existing distribution of riches, and to the artificial processes by which it is regulated—subjects which will form important topics of the *Theory of Wealth*—this at least must be conceded: that no mere redistribution of the existing mass of wealth could effectually answer the proposed purpose of elevating the people. Any such redistribution, even if means could be found—and they could not—to prevent this equalised wealth from running back again, more or less, into masses, would still leave everybody poor, at the same time that it cut up by the roots a great mass of industrial occupations. What is vastly more important than the distribution of the actually accumulated wealth is the distribution of the annual returns of human industry. But no redistribution even of that—though it might sweep away the existing comfortable class—would suffice, very materially, to elevate the condition of the great body of the people. Above and beyond any of these schemes of redistribution, either of accumulated wealth or of annual products, in order to redeem the mass of the people from poverty and its incidents, a great increase in the amount of both is absolutely necessary.

Here, indeed, we discover one great reason of the state of social depression in which the mass of the people have been and still are so generally held. The good things which the combined efforts of any given community can as yet produce are not enough to give hardly a taste to everybody; and the masses have of necessity been kept at hard labour, on bread and water, while luxuries and even comforts have been limited to a few. Labour—the sole resource of the mass of the people—has been of little value, because labour has been able to produce but little; and the proceeds of the labour of production being so small, hence the greater stimulus to substitute in place of it fraud and violence as means of acquisition. The same man who will remorselessly cut your throat in the struggle for the scanty waters of a rivulet in the desert not enough for the whole thirsty and gasping company, would readily share his cup with you did the stream only run a little fuller.

The first great necessity, then, of the human race, is the increase of the productiveness of human labour. Science has done much in that respect within the last century, and in those to come is destined to do vastly more. Vast new fields are opening on our American continent, on which labour can be profitably employed. So far from labour being the sole source of wealth, all-sufficient in itself, as certain political economists teach, nothing is more certain than that Europe has long suffered, and still suffers, from a plethora of labour—from being obliged to feed and clothe many for whom it has had nothing remunerative to do. The United States of America have now attained to such a development, that they are able easily to absorb from half a million to a million annually of immigrants from Europe. What is more, the labourers of Europe have found it out, and are rapidly emigrating. In so doing, not only do they change a barren field of labour for a fertile one, and at the same time relieve the pressure at home, but, by becoming themselves consumers, far more so than ever they were able to be at home, of the more artificial products of the countries from which they emigrate, they contribute doubly to raise the wages of those whom they have left behind.

The development of productive industry seems, then, to be at this moment one of the greatest and most crying necessities of the human race. But what is more essential to this development than peace and social order? It is not pusillanimity, then, on the part of the people of Europe, but an instinct, more or less conscious, of what they need most, that prompts them to submit for the present, without further struggle, to the rulers who have shown themselves to possess, for the time being, the power to govern—a power, let it be noted, quite too unstable, however, not to require, even in the view of those who possess it, great circumspection and moderation in its exercise. War and civil commotions, though sometimes necessary to the preservation of popular liberties, have very seldom indeed been the means of their acquisition; conspiracies hatched abroad, never. When the fruit is ripe, it will fall almost without shaking the tree. What prompts to anticipate that period is much oftener individual or class suffering, or ambition, than the true interest of the mass of the people.

POPULAR ECONOMIC BOTANY. By THOMAS CROXEN ARCHER.

Reeve and Co., Henrietta street, Covent garden.

MANUAL OF BOTANY. By W. MACGILLIVRAY, A.M., LL.D. Second Edition. Adam Salt, Charter House square.

THE last named of these two books, having reached a second edition—though we have no recollection of having before heard of the first—is already appreciated by the public, and only needs us to say that it is

a succinct and yet complete manual, well adapted to instruct people in the principles of botany. The explanations given are lucid, and the recapitulations at the end of the chapters well calculated to impress what has been read in detail on the memory. The first assertion in the second book, "that no popular work has yet appeared devoted exclusively to the commercial products of the vegetable kingdom," rather surprises us, for we thought there were several (and we recollect, amongst others, the work of Phillips on cultivated fruits and vegetables) which seem to us to be exactly books of this description, though being now of an old date, new editions or revised works of the kind are very acceptable. Notwithstanding the little mistake, we are disposed to welcome Mr Archer's book as very much wanted, and as well calculated, with its plates and statistical information—all the intelligence being brought down to the present time—to fill a place at present vacant. It is at once popular and erudite—tells us what is necessary to be known of plants, and what quantities of them are consumed and used. "Popular Economic Botany" will be a popular book.

LOUIS XVII. *His Life—His Suffering—His Death, &c.* By A. DE BEAUCHESNE. Translated and Edited by WM. HAZLITT, Esq. Two Volumes. Embellished. Vizetelly and Co., Fleet street.

M. DE BEAUCHESNE has quite set at rest by his researches the doubtful question, which has served as the foundation for numerous impostures, of the death of Louis XVII. in the Temple at a quarter past two p.m. of June 7, 1795, and he supplies an authentic and affecting history of his confinement and his death. That would not, however, suffice to fill two volumes; and the greater part of the book is devoted to the events of the Revolution, chiefly connected with the royal family and the execution of the King. Much new matter is brought together concerning that period, and the book is embellished with numerous plans of the Tuileries, of the towers of the Temple, the apartments of the King and Queen there, with fac-similes of numerous documents and persons' writing, making this, for sympathetic and sensitive minds, a very interesting work. It will supply materials for the history of the period; but, while it appears thoroughly honest and authentic, it is more personal and more minute than comports with the dignity of history. The translation is carefully executed; and, being a very pathetic and minute narration of events in which all take an interest, the book will be widely read. We transcribe an anecdote which we do not remember to have met with before:—

A DEVOTED ABBE.

As soon as he had heard of the King's condemnation, the Abbé Benoit le Duc, the former head of the abbey of Saint Martin de Paris, had hastened to the Prince de Conti, the only prince of the blood royal then at Paris, and had asked him whether he did not intend to demand the body of Louis XVI. "I should like to do so," replied the timid prince; "but they would not grant my request, and it would be only exposing myself to no purpose." "Will you allow me," returned the Abbé le Duc, "to take this step?" "I make no objection, and I wish you may succeed; but I do not think you will."

Early on the fatal morning, the Abbé le Duc (he related these details himself) put on an old brown coat, which was sufficiently like the costume of the Jacobins, and, with a double-barrelled pistol in his pocket, left his residence. He soon learned that, in order to have the right of appearing in the street, it would be necessary to join the ranks of the armed multitude; but he was without weapons, his concealed pistol not being a permitted one. Suddenly, making up his mind what to do, he sprang upon one of the citizens who were hastening to the scene, and snatched away his musket. The man from whom he had taken it was completely bewildered by the suddenness of the action; he knew not to what to attribute the movement—rapid as lightning—nor had he time to ask its meaning. He was fain to hide his shame and provide for his personal safety by flight, for the aggressor was already far away, and had slipped among the ranks of the armed population. By means of this stratagem, justified, in his opinion, by the plan he had so near his heart, the Abbé le Duc moved on with the crowd to the Convention. There he left the ranks, and attempted to force his way into the hall, but found all the approaches lined with cannon. At this moment a deputy passed by, and the Abbé le Duc joining him, told him he had a petition of the utmost importance to present to the Assembly. Struck with the truthful accent and decided tone of the man who thus adjured him, the deputy agreed to admit him into one of the vestibules, and took upon him to present the president with the petition, in which Le Duc demanded the body of Louis, under the law which grants this boon to the relations of the condemned. Unknown to the greater part of, if not to all, the representatives of the people, this claim of relationship with the condemned called forth much ironical laughter from the audience. However, as the demand was of a serious nature, the Assembly heard it to the end, and were thus informed that Benoit le Duc demanded the remains of Louis, in order to lay them in the cathedral church of Sens, beside those of his father, the great Dauphin. While two deputies were speaking against this petition, and causing it to be rejected, some others, attracted into the vestibule by the singularity of the petitioner's claims of relationship, were carrying on a conversation with him, which closed with a threat of putting him under arrest.

"Do not think of it," said the Abbé le Duc to the most violent of the deputies; "I have here a double-barrelled pistol. If you say one word, the first shot will be for you, and I shall rid the earth of a monster; the second for myself, and I shall thus escape the scaffold!" The confusion produced by this scene, and the universal agitation of the moment, gave the Abbé le Duc an opportunity to retire.

The Abbé le Duc retired to an estate near the Château Thierry, where he was arrested and put in prison for having demanded the body of Louis Capet. Being transferred to Soissons, he was carried thence by the commissary of the executive power and brought to the prisons of Paris, 25th December, 1793, where he remained until the death of Robespierre. His name was on the list of those who were to have perished on the 10th Thermidor.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The "Destructive Art of Healing." Routledge.
On the Composition of Foods, and Feeding of Animals. Taylor and Francis.
Fern Leaves from Fanny's Portfolio. Ingram, Cooke, and Co.
Yankee Humour and Uncle Sam's Fun. Ingram, Cooke, and Co.
Facts and Documents Relative to our National Defences. By Captain Warner. Piper
Journal of the Statistical Society. Parker.
On the Impolicy of Providing for a Family by Life Assurance, since the Recent Discoveries in California and Australia. Bumpus.

Shareholders' Key to the London and North Western-Railway Company. By a Member of the Stock Exchange. Richardson.
A Synopsis of Foreign Monies, Weights, and Measures. By D. Michelsen.
Handbook for Travellers in Southern Italy. By O. Blewitt. Murray.
Contributions to the Physical Geography of South-Eastern Asia and Australia. By G. W. Earl. Baillière.

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK RETURNS AND MONEY MARKET.

BANK OF ENGLAND.
(From the Gazette.)

AN ACCOUNT, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week end on Saturday the 13th day of August, 1853:—

ISSUE DEPARTMENT

Notes issued	30,963,240	Government debt.....	11,015,100
		Other Securities.....	2,984,900
		Gold coin and bullion	16,944,956
		Silver bullion.....	19,154
	30,963,240		30,963,240

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' capital	14,553,000	Government Securities, including Dead Weight Annuity ..	13,017,582
Reserve	2,344,226	Other Securities.....	13,611,791
Public Deposits (including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts)	3,315,392	Notes	7,862,225
Other Deposits	12,190,020	Gold and Silver Coin	346,334
Seven Day and other Bills	1,446,224		
	34,848,862		34,848,862

Dated the 18th August, 1853.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

THE OLD FORM.

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

Liabilities.	£.	Assets.	£.
Circulation inc. Bank post bills	24,546,239	Securities	26,086,303
Public Deposits.....	3,315,392	Bullion.....	17,309,574
Other or private Deposits	12,190,020		
	40,051,651		43,395,877

The balance of assets above liabilities being 3,344,226*l.*, as stated in the above account under the head RESERVE.

FRIDAY NIGHT.

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

An increase of Circulation of.....	£552,917
An increase of Public Deposits of	1,097,165
A decrease of Other Deposits of	285,508
An increase of Securities of	385,269
A decrease of Bullion of	124,986
An increase of Rest of.....	1,543
An increase of Reserve of.....	297,794

The present return shows an increase of circulation 552,917*l.*; an increase of public deposits, 1,097,165*l.*; a decrease of private deposits, 285,508*l.*; an increase of securities, 385,269*l.*, the increase being wholly of private securities; a decrease of bullion, 124,986*l.*; an increase of rest, 1,543*l.*; and an increase of reserve, 297,794*l.*

The increase of the public deposits, with the increase of private securities, or bills discounted by the Bank, and the decrease of private deposits, are the principal features of the return. The first shows an increase in the resources of the Bank, and the two others, though indicating a demand for money, are not of sufficient magnitude to lead to the inference that the demand is excessive. The facts serve to explain the determination of the Bank not to raise the rate of interest, which, looking to the returns of last week, some persons expected.

The money market is easier this week, though we quote no alteration in the terms. Money is taken on call at 3 per cent., and no bills are discounted at a lower rate than 3*¼*. There is simply a less pressure for money. Two or three causes combine to this effect. The opinion that the Bank would raise the rate led to a great demand on it, and that being satisfied, some of the gentlemen who have taken the money from the Bank find, as the rate is not raised, that they have some to spare. Then the late fine weather lessened the alarm for the harvest, which had a favourable influence; and, combined with purchases of corn in our market on foreign account, acted to a slight degree on the exchanges. Great bullion merchants, too, who have latterly been in the habit of sending all the gold in their possession to the Continent, are now offering it here—another sign that the demand of bullion for the Continent is less. But with a prodigious demand for capital existing and increasing, with prices rising and enterprise more active than ever, it cannot be expected that an easy money market should long continue. When returns come in from Australia for our late large shipments, and when propitious seasons or more extensive cultivation shall give us large supplies of food—when the great consumption of all kinds is again overtaken by production, we shall have capital cheaper and the money market permanently easier,—but not till then.

Consols have been firm this week, and have tended upwards till to-day. The Bank not having raised its rate of interest, as some persons expected, that exercised a favourable influence on the public funds, and they improved till yesterday and early to-day. Later in the day they went backwards from 98*½* to 98*¼*,

and closed at 98½. The only reason assigned for the retrograde move was, that a defaulter was declared on the Stock Exchange who held a large amount of Consols. His liabilities, as at present ascertained, are about 9,000*l*. On the Stock Exchange money is worth very little. There is no speculation. Consols for the account and for money are nearly on a par, and money is not in demand. We must mention that the call we referred to last week, as made by the Great Central Railway of France, was made some time ago, and last week, a heavy settlement having taken place, the arrangements of this large account had increased the demand for money temporarily. The following is our usual list of the highest and lowest price of Consols every day of the week, and the closing price last Friday and this day of the principal stocks:—

CONSOLS.				
	Money		Account	
	Lowest	Highest	Lowest	Highest
Saturday	98	98½	98	98½
Monday	97½	98½	97½	98½
Tuesday	97½	98	97½	97½
Wednesday	97½	97½	97½	98
Thursday	97½	99½	97½	98½
Friday	98½	98½	98½	98½

	Closing prices last Friday.	Closing prices This day.
3 percent consols, account	98½	98½
— money	98	98½
2½ per cents	101½	101½
2 per cent reduced do.	98½	98½
Exchange bills, large March	3s dis par	2s dis 1s pm
— June	3s dis par	2s dis 1s pm
Bank stock	228 9	228 9
East India stock	257 9	257 9
Spanish 3 per cents	47½ 8	47½ 8
— 3 per cents new def.	23½ 8	23½ 8
Portuguese 4 per cents	97½ 8	97½ 8
Mexican 3 per cents	26½ 7	26½ 7
Dutch 2½ per cents	64½ 5	64½ 5
— 4 per cents	97½ 8	97½ 8
Russian, 4½ stock	101 2	101 2
Sardinian stock	96 7	96 7
Peruvian 4½	83 4	83 4
— deferred	58 60	59 61
Venezuela	37 9	37 9
Spanish Certif.	6½ 4	6½ 4

There is nothing to notice in the railway market of importance. Prices are firmer, but the business doing is not extensive. The following is our usual list of the prices of the principal shares last Friday and this day:—

RAILWAYS.	
	Closing prices last Friday.
Bristol and Exeter	102 4
Caledonians	68½ 2
Eastern Counties	12½ 13
East Lancashire	74½ 5
Great Northern	85 6
Great Western	90½ 4
Lancashire and Yorkshire	77½ 4
London and Blackwall	82 9
London, Brighton, & S. Coast	102 4 x d
London & North Western	115½ 2
London and South Western	88½ 9
Midlands	72 4
North British	32½ 2
North Staffordshire	42½ 4 dis
Oxford, Worcester, & Wolver.	51½ 2
South Eastern	72 3
South Wales	38½ 6
York, Newcastle, & Berwick	69 7
York and North Midland	60 1

FRENCH SHARES.	
	Closing prices last Friday.
Northern of France	35½ 6
Do. 201 3 ct. Bds (formerly Boulogne & Amiens shares)	14 4
Paris and Rouen	44 6
Paris and Strasbourg	38½ 9
Rouen and Havre	20 1
Dutch Rhenish	2½ 1½ dis
Paris and Lyons	18 4 pm
Lyons and Mediterranean	—
East Indian	4½ 5
Dijon and Besancon	1½ 2½ pm
Madras	1½ 2½ pm
Paris, Caen, and Cherbourg	4 5 pm
Paris and Orleans	47 9
Western of France	16 4 pm
India Peninsular	1½ 2½ pm
Grand Junction of France	2½ 2 pm
Central of France	1½ 2 pm

The arrivals of specie in the week were as follows:—From Adelaide the Shakamaxon has brought 14,108 ounces, the Henry Tanner 16,864 ounces, and the Maid of Auckland 21,000 ounces. From Pernambuco the Bella has brought 80,000*l* Australian gold, saved from the Condor, recently burnt at sea. From Sidney the Washington Irving has brought 15,000 ounces of gold, valued at 60,000*l*. The Tamar has brought 10,952 ounces of gold, and the Harbinger has brought gold the estimated value of which is 450,000*l*. From New York 272,000*l* have arrived. From Oporto 1,218*l*, and from Africa 4,000*l* in gold dust. Constantinople has sent 10,000*l* in gold, and the West Indian packet has brought 767,576 dollars in silver.

Specie continues to be exported, but the quantities returned are far below the actual exports.

The silver recently arrived has been sold at an advance of ½, which is equivalent to ½ per cent. The demand for silver is very great for India and China, and hence the rise in price.

We have the following account of the Mint of the United States, from which it will be seen that the excess over the gold obtained from California last year continues:—

COINAGE at Philadelphia, for July, 1853.

Gold.	No. pieces	dols	c
Double Eagles	50,328	1,006,560	0
Eagles	20,860	208,600	0
Half Eagles	43,000	215,000	0
Quarter Eagles	82,216	304,040	0
Gold Dollars	60,276	60,276	0
Total	257,580	1,694,476	0
Fine Gold Bars	—	2,762,993	28
Total Gold	—	4,457,469	28
Silver.			
Half Dollars	552,000	276,000	0
Quarter Dollars	1,404,000	351,000	0
Dimes	540,000	54,000	3
Half Dimes	580,000	29,000	0
Total Silver	3,076,000	710,000	0
Copper.			
Cents	183,228	1,832	23
Total	3,516,808	5,171,322	56

GOLD BULLION DEPOSITED.

From California	3,459,000	0
From other sources	22,000	0
Total	3,481,000	0

SILVER BULLION DEPOSITED.

From various sources	611,000	0
Gold received in June	4,545,179	0
Gold received in July	3,491,000	0

Comparative Statement of the Gold Deposits for the first six months of 1851, 1852, and 1853.

	1851.	1852.	1853.
	dols	dols	dols
January	5,071,669	4,161,688	4,967,982
February	2,001,970	3,610,222	3,548,523
March	2,880,271	3,692,166	7,523,732
April	2,878,353	3,091,037	4,768,000
May	3,209,491	4,335,578	4,425,000
June	3,637,560	6,889,474	4,545,179
July	3,127,517	4,193,490	3,491,000
Total	23,869,831	29,374,035	33,272,416
Increase in 1853 over 1851	—	—	9,402,585
— 1853 over 1852	—	—	3,902,381

In conjunction, however, with this continued importation and coinage of gold, money is getting dearer in the United States, just as it is getting dearer here with a similar increased importation and coinage of gold. The *Shipping and Commercial List* of the 6th inst., has the following important remarks:—

The slight stringency noticed in our money market last week, has greatly increased since, and at the close of business to-day, the rates were fully 2 per cent higher than those of the preceding Friday. This flurry in Wall street is said to be the result, mainly, of the action of our city banks in calling in their demand loans, agreeable to the new arrangements. The supply of capital is undoubtedly as large, at the present time, as it has been during the past month or two, though it is not to be disguised that there is an evident disinclination on the part of capitalists to grant the same facilities, in the hope of obtaining still higher rates.

The most urgent demand for money for some days has come from the importers, who have had to pay, and are still paying, enormous amounts in the shape of duties on their foreign merchandise.

These imports, especially of dry goods and fancy articles, are coming to be immense. During the last two years, not only have they exceeded in amount those of any two of the ten years immediately preceding, but they were in each year greater by 24,000,000*l* than those of the year of ruinous extravagance, 1836. The total imports of 1852 amounted to 212,945,000*l*, and from present appearances, the close of the current year will greatly exceed this enormous aggregate.

The rates of money are as follows:—Call loans, 8 to 9 per cent.; prime 3 to 4 mo. paper, 8 to 10 per cent.; prime 4 to 6 mo. paper, 9 to 11 per cent.

We must also add from it a passage concerning the dry goods trade:—

The active demand and firmness in the dry goods market noticed last week still continues, and for some of the leading domestic fabrics a slight improvement in prices has been established. The stock of heavy cotton goods, such as brown and bleached sheetings and shirtings, remain light, and sell freely at very full prices. Printing cloths also continue scarce, and with an active demand prices have advanced ¼ of a cent, during the week. All kinds of woollen goods continue firm, in view of the high prices of the raw material and the light supplies. Low-priced cloths are very scarce, and anything below 1*l* 4*0c* is hard to be obtained. Cotton warp cloths are entirely closed out, and some mills are working on orders. The following statements, compiled from official sources, will show the movement in foreign dry goods for the week ending August 4:—

Entered for Consumption.		dols
Manufactures of Wool	—	653,835
— Cotton	—	204,222
— Silk	—	530,564
— Flax	—	93,617
Miscellaneous	—	139,812
Total	—	1,615,950
Withdrawn from Warehouse.		dols
Manufactures of Wool	—	76,003
— Cotton	—	16,466
— Silk	—	27,900
— Flax	—	4,566
Miscellaneous	—	3,610
Total	—	128,465
Entered for Warehousing.		dols
Manufactures of Wool	—	37,828
— Cotton	—	8,977
— Silk	—	17,728
— Flax	—	5,498
Miscellaneous	—	1,822
Total	—	71,853
Total thrown upon the market during the week	—	1,743,530

We may quote here, as a specimen of the trade of Australia at present, the following paragraph from the *South Australian Register*. It refers to South Australia:—"The importations in during

"the quarter ended March 25, 1853, amounted to no less a sum than 440,328l 6s 6d; subject to Customs duties, yielding 35,425l 3s 6d. The exports do not fall much short of a million sterling, being 954,760l 16s; which may be thus epitomised:—Exports, the produce of the colony, 278,759l 16s; re-exported imports, 12,554l; bullion and coin, 663,447; total, 954,760l 16s."

A letter from Havana of the 29th of July, which has reached us, states "that the Government of Cuba is entertaining a project for establishing a submarine wire to Key West, to form part of an electrical communication with Charleston, and in the end unite Cuba with Europe. Another project was entertained for importing 40,000 labourers from Galicia. The British Consul has claimed several persons from Yucatan brought to Cuba under contract by a British vessel that went from Belize to Ascension to sell goods in contraband, and took these people on board and sold them. They are thirty in number, and will be sent back to Yucatan."

We see, by the fifth report of the Bank of New South Wales, made to a meeting of the proprietors on April 27, 1853, the banking flourishes in Australia. The Bank is giving large bonuses to directors, paying large dividends, increasing the reserve fund, &c. The report states that "a total surplus of 204,045l 1s 10d has been accumulated since the 1st of October, 1850, on an original capital of 125,000l." But it states that the harvest of the gold discovery has now been reaped, and the profits of banking are rapidly returning to their former standard. At the same time a hope is expressed that the increase of population, and the development of trade, and the internal resources of the country, will open a great and permanent extension of the field for banking enterprise.

FOREIGN RATES OF EXCHANGE ON LONDON AT THE LATEST DATES.

Table with columns: Latest Date, Rate of Exchange on London, and various locations like Paris, Amsterdam, Hamburg, etc.

COMPARATIVE EXCHANGES

The quotation of gold at Paris is about par (according to the last tariff) which, at the English mint price of 3l 17s 10½d per ounce for standard gold, gives an exchange of 25.17; and the exchange at Paris on London at short being 25, it follows that gold is about 0.58 per cent. dearer in Paris than in London.

By advices from Hamburg the price of gold is 426½ per mark, which, at the English mint price of 3l 17s 10½d per ounce for standard gold, gives an exchange of 13.7; and the exchange at Hamburg on London at short being 13.3½, it follows that gold is 1.93 per cent. dearer in Hamburg than in London.

The course of exchange at New York on London for bills at 60 days' sight is 109½ per cent.; and the par of exchange between England and America being 109 25-40 per cent., it follows that the exchange is nominally 0.18 per cent. in favour of England; and, after making allowance for charges of transport, the present rate leaves a very small profit on the importation of gold from the United States.

INDIA EXCHANGES.

Table with columns: Commercial bills at 60 days' sight, E. I. Company's bills at 60 days' sight, and Amount of E. I. Company's bills drawn from July 8 to 23 and July 25 to Aug. 6.

Total for month, from July 8 to Aug. 6, 1853, 899,877 13 6
Total drafts from Jan. 7 to Aug. 6, 1853, 2,702,794 4 10
Total drafts from May 7 to Aug. 6, 1853, (East India Company's official year commencing from May 1) 2,346,098 5 3
Annual sum required by Court of Directors in England, from 1st May, 1853, to 30th April, 1854, 3,500,000l.
N.B.—Bills against indentments from India and shipments to India vary according to the articles drawn against.

THE BANKERS' PRICE CURRENT.

PRICES OF ENGLISH STOCKS

Table with columns: Stock Name, Sat, Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri. Includes Bank Stock, Consols, India Stock, etc.

COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

Table with columns: Location, Time, Tuesday Prices, Friday Prices. Includes Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Antwerp, etc.

FRENCH FUNDS.

Table with columns: Fund Name, Paris Aug. 16, London Aug. 17, Paris Aug. 17, London Aug. 18, Paris Aug. 18, London Aug. 19.

PRICES OF FOREIGN STOCKS.

Table with columns: Stock Name, Sat, Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri. Includes Austrian Bonds, Peruvian, Russian, etc.

LATEST PRICES OF AMERICAN STOCKS.

Table listing American stocks with columns for Payable, Amount in Dollars, Dividends, London Prices, and Amer. Prices. Includes entries for United States Bonds, Alabama, Illinois, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Virginia, United States Bank Shares, and New York City.

Exchange at New York 1894 10

INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Table listing insurance companies with columns for No. of shares, Dividend, Names, Shares, Paid, and Price per share. Includes companies like Albion, Alliance British and Foreign, Do. Marine, Atlas, Argus Life, British Commercial, Church of England, City of London, Clerical, Medical, and General Life, County, Crown, Eagle, Equity and Law, English and Scottish Law Life, European Life, Family Endowment, General, Globe, Guardian, Imperial Fire, Imperial Life, Indemnity Marine, Law Life, Legal and General Life, London, Marine, Medical, Invalid, and General Life, Minerva, Monarch, National Loan Fund, National Provincial, New Equitable, Palladium Life, Pelican, Phoenix, Professional Life, Provident Life, Rock Life, Royal Exchange, Sun Fire, Do. Life, United Kingdom, Universal Life, and Victoria Life.

JOINT STOCK BANKS.

Table listing joint stock banks with columns for No. of shares, Dividend per annum, Names, Shares, Paid, and Price per share. Includes banks like Australasia, British North American, Chartered Bank of Asia, Chrt Bank, India Austral. & China, Colonial, Commercial of London, Eng. Scot. & Austral. Chrt., London Chrt. Bank of Austral, London and County, Ditto, Scrip, London Joint Stock, London and Westminster, National Provincial of England, Ditto New, National of Ireland, Oriental Bank Corporation, Provincial of Ireland, Ditto New, Ionian, Royal Austral. Bk & Gold Imp. Com., South Australia, Union of Australia, Ditto, Union of London, and Union of Madrid.

DOCKS.

Table listing docks with columns for No. of shares, Dividend per annum, Names, Shares, Paid, and Price per share. Includes Commercial, East and West India, London, St Katharine, Southampton, and Victoria.

PRICES OF BULLION.

Table showing prices of bullion: Foreign gold in bars (standard) per ounce 3 17 9, Mexican dollars 0 4 1 1/2, Silver in bars (standard) 0 5 1/4.

The Commercial Times.

Mails Arrived.

LATEST DATES.

On 13th Aug., BRAZILIA RIVER PLATE, and FALKLAND ISLANDS, per Severn steamer, via Southampton—Buenos Ayres, July 2; Montevideo, 5; Rio de Janeiro, 14; Bahia, 18; Pernambuco, 21; Teneriffe, Aug. 3; Madeira, 5; Lisbon, 8; Falkland Islands, June 6. On 15th Aug., AMERICA, per Europa steamer, via Liverpool—St John's N.B., Aug. 1; Prince Edward's Island, 2; Montreal, 3; New York, 2; Boston, 3; Halifax, 5. On 15th Aug., INDIA, CHINA, and AUSTRALIA—Shanghai, June 9; Hong Kong, 23; Batavia, 24; Singapore, July 2; Penang, 8; Calcutta, 2; Bombay, 2; Madras, 8; Ceylon, 14; Aden, 26; Alexandria, Aug. 5; Malta, 9; Sydney N.S.W., May 30; Port Phillip, 21; New Zealand, April 14. On 15th Aug., PENINSULAR, per Iberia steamer, via Southampton—Gibraltar, Aug. 3; Cadiz, 5; Lisbon, 6; Oporto, 9; Vigo, 10. On 16th Aug., AFRICA, per Faith steamer, via Southampton—Lago, July 3; Cape Coast, 6; Sierra Leone, 37; Gores, 19; Madeira, Aug. 8. On 17th Aug., AMERICA, per Atlantic steamer, via Liverpool—New York, Aug. 6. On 17th Aug., HAVANA, July 23, via United States. On 18th Aug., WEST INDIES, MEXICO, and PACIFIC, per Parana steamer, via Southampton—Honduras July 16; Vera Cruz, 21; Grey Town, 2; Carthagena, June 24; Berbeice, July 23; Demarara, 25; Trinidad, 25; Jamaica, 26; Hayti, 29; Porto Rico, 27; Barbados, 27; Havana, 28; Antigua, 29; St Thomas, Aug. 1; Valparaiso, June 30; Callao, July 11. On 19th Aug., AUSTRALIA, CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, and MAURITIUS, per Harbinger steamer, via Southampton—Sydney, May 12; Melbourne, 22; Mauritius, June 21; Cape of Good Hope, July 7.

Mails will be Despatched FROM LONDON.

On 23rd August (evening), for UNITED STATES, BRITISH NORTH AMERICA, CALIFORNIA, and HAVANA, per Atlantic steamer, via Liverpool. On 23rd August (evening), for MADEIRA, TENERIFFE, SIERRA LEONE, and WEST COAST OF AFRICA, per Charity steamer, via Plymouth. On 24th August (evening), for the MEDITERRANEAN, EGYPT, INDIA, and CHINA, via Marseilles. On 26th August (evening), for UNITED STATES, BRITISH NORTH AMERICA, CALIFORNIA, and HAVANA, per Asia steamer, via Liverpool. On 27th August (morning), for VIGO, OPORTO, LISBON, CADIZ, and GIBRALTAR, per steamer, via Southampton. * If addressed 'Via United States.' The Brazilian steamer is appointed to sail from Liverpool on the 24th inst., for Lisbon, Pernambuco, Bahia, Rio de Janeiro, and Montevideo. Letters in time on the 23rd inst. The Bengal steamer is appointed to sail from Southampton on the 25th inst., direct for Ceylon, Madras, and Calcutta. Letters in time on the 24th inst.

Mails Due.

AUGUST 22.—America. AUGUST 26.—Mauritius and Cape of Good Hope. AUGUST 26.—Spain, Portugal, and Gibraltar. AUGUST 28.—West Coast of Africa. SEPTEMBER 1.—West Indies. SEPTEMBER 1.—Mexico and Havana. SEPTEMBER 1.—Western Coast of South America (Chili, Peru, &c.) SEPTEMBER 4.—Malta, Greece, Ionian Islands, Syria, Egypt, and India. SEPTEMBER 4.—China, Singapore, and Straits. SEPTEMBER 16.—Brazil and River Plate. SEPTEMBER 16.—West Indies. SEPTEMBER 16.—Western Coast of South America (Chili, Peru, &c.)

WEEKLY CORN RETURNS.

From the Gazette of last night.

Table showing weekly corn returns with columns for Sold, Wheat, Barley, Oats, Rye, Beans, and Peas. Includes weekly average for Aug 13, six weeks average, and quantities for last year and duties.

GRAIN IMPORTED.

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

In the week ending August 10, 1853.

Table showing grain imported with columns for Wheat and wheat flour, Barley and barley-meat, Oats and oatmeal, Rye and rye-meal, Peas and pea-meal, Beans & bean-meal, Indian corn and Indian-meal, Buck-wheat and buck-wheat meal. Includes foreign and colonial quantities and total imports for the week.

COMMERCIAL EPITOME.

FRIDAY EVENING

The wheat market, which was extremely dull on Monday, became animated on Tuesday by some speculative purchases. The market continued brisk on Wednesday, and to-day wheat is from 2s to 3s higher than on Monday. The prices from Paris come continually higher, and our market closed very firm to-day at the advanced price mentioned. At present the Gazette average price of wheat is 13s 8d higher than at this time last year. American flour, which a short time ago sold for 23s or

24s a barrel, now sells for 29s or 30s. The rise in prices this week is probably the consequence of a conviction which appears to be gaining ground that our crop will not thrash out well.

Our advices from Belgium and Holland in the week state, that notwithstanding the dull state of our market last week, that the markets there were extremely active, particularly for wheat, the demand for which for the Upper Rhine was great, and prices had risen. We have similar news from Cologne, though the intelligence from there is that the quality of the corn is good, but the quantity short. Evidently the foreign markets now influence our own, while for a long time past our own market has ruled the markets of almost all Europe.

The business, which has latterly been brisk in sugar, was slack to-day, and prices were barely maintained. There was more sellers than buyers.

For refined sugars the demand has abated, and prices are 6d lower than last week.

Coffee has experienced an improved demand, and considerable sales have been made at improved rates. An opinion begins to prevail that the coffee crop will be below the consumption. Some persons estimate the deficiency at 50,000,000 lbs. The deficiency is likely to be increased by the improved wealth and habits of the people. If the upper classes find it pleasant and healthful to consume large quantities of coffee, there can be little doubt that such a taste will spread as the multitude acquire the means of indulging it. It may be expected, therefore, that the consumption of coffee, which has already increased, should, as the circumstances the lower classes improve, increase still faster. It is less the deficiency in the quantity produced than the increase in consumption which causes the tendency to rising prices.

"The intelligence brought by the overland mail from China," says Messrs Corrie and Co., "has not produced any effect on the tea market. Importers do not press sales; but several parcels of common congou have been sold at 10½d per lb in second hands; the quotation is, however, 10½d to 11d, but rather nominal. Duty was paid during the week ending 11th inst. on 574,168 lbs, against 633,648 in same period last year."

A rather stiffer money market, combined with the anticipation of a rise in the Bank rate of discount, has had a rather depressing influence this week on the Liverpool cotton market, and the transactions amount to only 35,000 bales; of which speculators took 3,000, exporters 8,000, and spinners only 25,000 bales. As their stocks are now again much reduced, and the abovementioned causes are now partially removed, a better demand is expected, and already to-day's sales are telegraphed as larger at steady prices. The low qualities of American only are rather cheaper this week; clean and good stapled cotton, which is not abundant, is firm. The American accounts received this week represent their markets as firm, the season being nearly to a close, the surplus in the receipts which in March was 540,000 bales, being now reduced to 195,000 bales; many estimates of the crop were then 3,500,000 bales, whereas the total yield now proves about 3,200,000 bales. The reports about the new crop are contradictory. The plant is undoubtedly very backward, and the long drought has been lately succeeded by too heavy rains. Last year the fresh new cotton was received at New Orleans on the 3d of August; this season no sign of any had yet appeared. In this market the sales have reached 1,600 bales, at unchanged prices.

A letter from Mayaguez, Porto Rico, July 28th, says:—"The sugar crop in our district is nearly over; perhaps not more than 1,000 hhds of all descriptions remaining in the hands of planters and shippers. Thus we may call the year's season past. Last sales of sugars were closed at 3½dols to 3⅓dols; molasses, 14dols. Cotton commands 11½dols. Tobacco in leaves, 5dols. The prospects for the ensuing coffee crop are promising. Freights firm in St Thomas, and declining with us. We quote 3/ 5s to 3/ 10s for the Channel. Exchange on London, 495dols to 500dols per 100, and 6¼ per cent. Macoquino. Patriot doubleloon, 17dols."

We copy the following account of the receipts of grain and flour by the canals of New York, as important now:—

RECEIPTS FLOUR, GRAIN, &c., AT TIDE WATER.

The quantity of flour, wheat, corn, and barley left at tide water during the fourth week in July, in the years 1852 and 1853, is as follows:—

Table with 4 columns: Item, 1852, 1853, Dec. Total. Rows: Flour, Wheat, Corn, Barley.

The aggregate quantity of the same articles left at tide water from the commencement of navigation to the 31st of July, inclusive, during the years 1852 and 1853, is as follows:—

Table with 4 columns: Item, 1852, 1853, Dec. Total. Rows: Flour, Wheat, Corn, Barley.

The aggregate quantity of the same article left at tide water from the commencement of navigation to the 31st of July, inclusive, during the years 1851 and 1853, is as follows:—

Table with 4 columns: Item, 1851, 1853, Dec. Total, Inc. Dec. Total. Rows: Flour, Wheat, Corn, Barley.

By reducing the wheat to flour, the quantity of the latter left at tide water this year, compared with the corresponding of last year, shows a decrease of 348,298 bbls of flour.

INDIGO.

The business in this article, although not large, is fully to the same extent as usual between the quarterly sales, when purchases are limited to the immediate wants of the consumption; the highest rates of the July sales are being currently paid.

IMPORTS OF COLONIAL AND FOREIGN WOOL.

Colonial and Foreign Wool imported into London, Liverpool, and Hull from the 1st of January, to the 30th of July, 1852 and 1853, and the total imports including Bristol and Leith.

Large table with columns: Location (London, Liverpool, Hull), and years (1852, 1853). Rows: Colonial (New South Wales, etc.), Foreign (Germany, Spain, etc.), and Total.

COTTON.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, EXPORTS, AND STOCKS OF COTTON.

Table with columns: Location (New Orleans, Mobile, etc.), Date (July 23, etc.), and Stock/Receipts.

Table with columns: 1852-53, 1851-52, Increase, Decrease. Rows: On hand, Received, Exported, etc.

STOCK OF COTTON IN INTERIOR TOWNS

Table with columns: 1853, 1851. Rows: At latest corresponding dates, Cotton taken for consumption.

Table with columns: 1852-53, 1851-52. Rows: Stock on hand, Received, Total supply, Deduct shipments, Deduct stock left on hand, Leaves for American consumption.

VESSELS LOADING IN THE UNITED STATES.

Table with columns: Ports, For Gt. Britain, For France, For other Ports. Rows: At New Orleans, Mobile, Florida, etc.

Freight (Packet Rate) to Liverpool—Cotton, ¼d to 9-32d per lb. Exchange, 105½ to 103½.

We notice an improved feeling, with a better demand since our last, and a general advance of fully one-eighth of a cent per lb. The sales for the last three days are 6,000 bales, making a total for the week of 12,050 bales. We quote:—

The fresh arrivals of English grain at Mark Lane on Wednesday were limited; the imports of foreign were liberal. From the totally altered character of the weather, steady rain having set in at noon the previous day, and being rather unsettled this morning, with a low barometer and shift of wind to the west, trade has assumed more firmness, and there appears no stop to the London panic for English wheat, the Essex being all cleared off at 1s per qr advance, and several cargoes were sold for France, old English as well as foreign, at a similar improvement in price; whilst for oats there was a better demand at rather more money.

The Scotch markets have been steady during the week. At Edinburgh the supply of country wheat was short, and with a numerous attendance of buyers, notwithstanding the dull declining advices from the South, prices were fully maintained, with a good healthy demand: average, 53s 11d on 790 qrs. The imports at Leith were 4,794 qrs wheat, 620 qrs barley, 544 qrs rye, 570 qrs linseed, and 900 sacks flour. Trade was the turn in favour of the buyers, but the holders showed much firmness, and much wheat goes to granary for better markets. The imports at Glasgow were moderate both up the Clyde and at Grangemouth: wheat was about 1s per quarter cheaper, with a limited business in any description.

Birmingham market on Thursday was fairly supplied with wheat, which the millers took off readily at former rates: average, 52s 9d on 1,510 qrs.

At Bristol there was a steady demand for wheat, at 2s per qr lower rates: average, 49s on 550 qrs.

The delivery of wheat at Newbury was large, and there was a limited sale for it at 2s per qr reduction in price: average, 52s 8d on 546 qrs.

The farmers brought forward a good supply of wheat at Uxbridge, which was in slow request at 1s to 2s per qr on most sorts: average, 53s on 464 qrs.

The weekly averages were 53s 3d on 54,907 qrs wheat, 29s 10d on 1,625 qrs barley, 32s 3d on 9,326 qrs oats, 34s 9d on 187 qrs rye, 41s 5d on 2,900 qrs beans, and 36s 9d on 215 qrs peas.

The fresh supply of English grain at Mark Lane on Friday was moderate, but there was a liberal supply of foreign wheat and oats. The few samples of English wheat on sale were taken off readily at 1s to 2s per qr advance, and there was a good demand for foreign at an improvement of 2s per qr on all descriptions. French buyers are taking off some quantity from this market and on the coast, and the export has well commenced, not only of our own produce but of foreign qualities. There has been a good demand for American flour from the Greek merchants and from France, and full prices are again paid. Barley was quite as dear and in good request. Beans and peas were steady in value and demand. The oat trade has revived, and some sorts have advanced 6d per qr, particularly those from Archangel. There have been very limited arrivals from the Black Sea at Falmouth and Queenstown, and very few are now on passage; prices are held still higher, and that branch of the trade is in a healthy and buoyant state. Polish Odessa wheat, red, 46s to 48s; Sandomira, 51s to 52s; Taganrog, 50s; Marianopole, 50s to 51s; Berdianski, 51s; Galatz, 47s to 48s; Ibraila, 42s to 46s; Roumelia, soft, 41s to 45s; Egyptian, 34s to 37s. Maize—Galatz, 32s to 34s; French and Bayonne, 32s to 33s; Ibraila, 30s to 32s; Bulgarian, 30s to 32s. Barley—Danube, 23s to 24s. Beans—Egyptian, 31s 6d to 32s per qr, all cost freight, and insurance included.

The London averages announced this day were—

Table with 4 columns: Commodity, Qrs., s, d. Rows include Wheat, Barley, Oats, Rye, Beans, Peas.

Table with 6 columns: Commodity, Qrs., s, d. Rows include English, Irish, Foreign for Wheat, Barley, Oats, Flour.

PRICES CURRENT OF CORN, &c.

BRITISH AND IRISH.

Table with 4 columns: Commodity, s, d, Per quarter, s, d. Rows include Wheat, Barley, Rye, Beans, Oats, Flour, Tares.

FOREIGN.

Table with 4 columns: Commodity, s, d, s, d. Rows include Wheat, Maize, Barley, Beans, Oats, Flour, Tares.

SEEDS.

Table with 4 columns: Commodity, s, d, s, d. Rows include Linseed, Rapeseed, Hempseed, Canaryseed.

Table with 4 columns: Commodity, s, d, s, d. Rows include Mustardseed, Cloverseed, Trefoil, Linseed cake, Rape.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN PRODUCE MARKETS.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

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

MINING LANE, FRIDAY MORNING.

SUGAR.—At commencement of the week there was a good demand, but the market since become more quiet. Very large sales continue to be effected in foreign, both for this kingdom and the Continent, at full rates. About 1,550 hhds and brls British West India sold to yesterday (Thursday), including the usual sale of Barbadoes, viz., 261 hhds, which sold from 38s 6d to 39s 6d for low to fine yellow. By private treaty stiffer rates have been paid. The deliveries of sugar for consumption in the kingdom during the first eight months were 215,500 tons, against 208,600 tons last year. The stock on 1st inst. was estimated at 117,000 tons, against 153,300 tons last year. The week's deliveries at this port reached 4,462 tons, against 3,900 tons in 1852, and the stock shows a decrease of 26,900 tons.

Mauritius.—3,765 bags offered on Tuesday were chiefly sold at fully previous rates: yellow, low to fine, 35s 6d to 38s; low to good brown, 30s to 33s; grainy yellow, 40s to 40s 6d. The stock has further decreased, being 5,600 tons against 12,200 tons at same time last year.

Bengal.—On Tuesday 3,305 bags were disposed of at full prices: low to good white Benares, 36s to 35s 6d; yellow and soft brown, 31s 6d to 33s 6d. A moderate amount of business also done by private treaty.

Madras.—607 bags sold at 30s 6d to 32s 6d for soft brown to low soft yellow. Foreign.—A considerable amount of business has been done for consumption at full prices. The public sales have also comprised a larger quantity than usual. 757 hhds and 197 brls 179 bags Cuba muscovado partly realised 35s to 42s for low to very fine yellow. 2,597 boxes Havana chiefly realised 31s 6d to 34s for brown, with low to fine yellow 34s 6d to 35s. About 200 boxes, consisting of florettes, were bought in at 40s 6d to 42s. 225 hhds 78 brls Porto Rico partly sold from 37s 6d to 39s 6d for good to fine yellow. 2,500 bags white Macao were chiefly bought in at 38s 6d to 43s. 1,012 baskets Java only partly sold at 35s 6d to 40s for low yellow to good white. By private treaty two cargoes yellow Havans, No. 12 1/2 to 15, have sold at 23s 9d to 24s 6d; and one of 300 brown Bahia, white at 22s 9d, brown 18s 9d for this kingdom. Very large sales have been effected on the spot, say 9 to 10,000 boxes Havans, at 35s 6d to 37s.

Refined.—The market is quiet, and there has been a moderate business done at barely previous rates. Brown goods, 45s 6d to 46s; middling to good tilters, 46s 6d to 48s; crushed lumps, 41s to 43s 6d; pieces, 35s to 40s 6d. Treacle is unaltered. Bonded sugars are in good demand at full prices. English crushed of fine quality is held at 31s: 10lb loaves, 37s. The advanced rates asked for Dutch crushed continue to prevent any large transactions.

MOLASSES.—A good deal of business has been done in West India, at 14s 3d to 16s for Demerara to fine Barbadoes.

COFFEE.—Colour descriptions have been in good demand during the week at full prices to a slight advance. The public sales of plantation to yesterday consisted of 463 casks 13 brls 38 bags, which sold—a few lots fine, 70s 6d to 73s; low mid to good, 55s to 66s; fine ordinary, 52s 6d to 54s; peaberry, 44s to 68s 6d. Some parcels are also reported to have sold privately. Native has met with more inquiry at previous rates, at which there are few sellers. About 5,000 bags sold at 45s to 46s, part old import. 100 casks 145 brls and bage Jamaica brought 43s to 52s 6d for low and ragged to fine fine ordinary; fine mountain berry as high as 94s 6d. Mocha is still inactive. 3,206 bags Costa Rica brought full prices, and nearly all sold: good ordinary to middling, 48s 6d to 68s; one pile good bought in at 90s.

COCOA.—No public sales of West India having been held, prices are without any material alteration. Deliveries keep very large and the stock consists of 279 casks 14,600 brls and bags, against 285 casks 15,759 brls and bags last year.

TEA.—The letters by the overland mail were delivered on Saturday last, but there was no intelligence from China calculated to have any effect upon the market. New consigns had arrived and opened much higher than last year, notwithstanding the falling off in quality. The shipments from Canton and Shanghai were in excess of the former seasons' by about 7,000,000 lbs. Common congon, after selling at 10d, closes firmer with buyers. Few parcels can now be had under 11d: good to fine are more inquired for.

RICE.—Since last Friday a large business has been done in East India at full prices. 1,975 bags Bengal brought 12s; few lots, 12s 6d for good white. Privately about 8,000 bags have sold. Pinky Madras commands 10s 3d to 10s 6d. The stock of East India consists of 16,000 tons, against 15,000 tons at same date last year.

To-day extensive transactions were made known, and the telegraphic message announcing the admission of wheat duty free, into France strengthened the market.

SAGO.—852 boxes part sold: small grain, 22s to 23s; bold to medium, 18s to 21s 6d.

PIMENTO has met with more inquiry, and 6d paid by private contract, which is now the market price.

PEPPER.—There is a steady inquiry for black at full rates, and the market continues firm. No public sales were held to yesterday, consequently few transactions have taken place.

OTHER SPICES.—Mace has been more inquired for at stiffer rates. (See this day's public sales.) Cassia lignea remains without alteration. 60 brls Jamaica ginger sold from 45s to 72s per cwt. Cloves are firm at last week's rates.

SPIRITS.—A good demand exists for rum, particularly Demerara, at 2s to 3s 2d; proof Leewards have sold at 2s 2d, and Jamaicas are higher.

SALTPEATRE.—The market has been firm since our last. Yesterday 389 bags Bengal were sold at previous rates: refrac 11 1/2 to 11 3/4, 26s; one lot, 26s 6d. The sales by private contract are very limited. Deliveries have been 2,700 tons larger than in the former year. Present stock, 3,109 tons; in 1852, 3,316; and in 1851, 3,449 tons.

NITRATE SODA is quiet.

LAC DYE.—Yesterday 171 chests partly sold at low rates for the better qualities: good B Mirzapore, 1s 10d to 1s 10 1/2; Df, 2s to 2s 0 1/2; other marks, 1s 1d to 1s 9d; common to middling chiefly taken in at 6d to 9 1/2d per lb.

COCHINEAL.—Accounts of the Honduras crop are worse by each steamer, and the market is firmer, prices having advanced 1d to 2d. 210 bags chiefly sold: Honduras silvers, little pasty to good clean grain, 4s 2d to 4s 5d; pasty, 3s 6d to 4s 2d; low do, 2s 3d to 3s 6d; blacks, low small to fine bold, 4s 2d up to 5s 9d; Mexican blacks, low, 4s 2d to 4s 3d; silvers, 4s 1d to 4s 7d.

The deliveries are large, reaching 300 serons last week, leaving the stock on 13th inst. 6,300 serons, &c., against 10,500 serons, &c., at same time in preceding year.

OTHER GOODS.—There is little catch to be had even at the advanced price of 50s. Gambier has been more inquired for at 35s. Safflower is steady. 176 bales Bengal sold this week at the previous value: low wormy to good, 21 1/2s to 4 1/2s. Turmeric is firmer for good qualities.

DRUGS, &c.—Few sales have been made in any kind of produce since last week. Oil of aniseed has advanced to 5s 9d. Yesterday some parcels of China rhubarb in second hands were chiefly bought in at high rates as there was no demand: flat, 3s 3d to 3s 9d. A few lots of fine Sootrine aloes sold at 9 1/2s up to 12 1/2s. Shellac brought 52s to 53s 6d for good blood, bright: common button taken in at 37s; block, 33s. Gamboge went at 7 1/2 to 7 1/4s 6d for good clean pipe. A parcel Bombay animi sold at moderate prices.

DYEWOODS are firm, and all kinds of log have an upward tendency. IVORY.—Five tons Cape brought very full very rates.

TORTOISE.—15 cases Singapore in sorts were chiefly taken in at high rates.

COWRIES.—Live shells were bought in at 65s; dead went at 37s 6d to 38s.

HORNS.—Siam buffalo were taken in at 36s to 42s; Bombay, 30s 6d to 32s 6d.

HEMP.—There is no alteration in the value of clean, but a few sales have been made rather under the quoted price. Jute has further advanced and the demand is active. 375 bales by auction sold at 20 1/2s to 21 1/2s for low mid to middling quality. Ceylon coir yarn was sold at 18 1/2 to 20 1/2 for coarse.

OIL.—Sperm is rather more inquired for at previous rates. Other kinds of fish are steady and fine southern keeps very scarce. For linseed oil there has been a fair inquiry at 28s 9d on the spot and for delivery, and the market is very firm. Rape advanced to 40s for foreign refined, at which there are now few sellers. Palm is in moderate request at 37s 6d to 38s. Olive has further improved for the lower qualities.

TURPENTINE.—Spirits have rapidly advanced, and the distillers will not make further sales under 50s for British drawn.

LINSEED.—The market is steady. Several cargoes Black Sea have sold this week at 42s to 50s per qr. Cakes continue to meet with a good demand at 10 1/2 to 10s for fine New York.

METALS.—Much excitement has prevailed in the market for Scotch pig iron, large sales having been made at higher rates. 69s 6d paid at one time this week, but the quotation is now about 68s to 68s 6d. Railway and common bars are also bringing rather high prices. Tin is up 6d for East India, the result of the Dutch sale, which went off at 72 florins, being known by telegraph on Wednesday. Banca last sold at 119s to 120s; Straits, 117s to 118s. British is higher. Spelter closed firmer to-day at 21 1/2s. In Spanish lead a large business has been transacted at lower rates.

TALLOW.—A further reduction upon foreign was established in the early part of this week, but the market is now firmer, and this morning first sort Petersburg Y C was quoted 50s 9d to 51s on the spot; 51s to arrive in the last three months, with a more active inquiry. The stock on Monday showed a further slight reduction, as will be seen by annexed statement, and the deliveries are steady.

PARTICULARS OF TALLOW—Monday, Aug. 15.

Table with 3 columns: 1851, 1852, 1853. Rows include Stock this day, Delivered last week, Do. since 1st June, Arrived last week, Do. since 1st June, Price of YC on the spot, Do. Town last Friday.

POSTSCRIPT, FRIDAY EVENING.

SUGAR.—There was less animation in the market to-day. Only 287 chests West India were sold, making the week's business 1,821 casks. St Lucia in public sale brought 32s to 37s for brown to good yellow. Mauritius—6,843 bags were chiefly disposed of at Tuesday's rates for refining and other kinds; grainy yellow and grey realised 37s 6d to 40s 6d. Bengal—1,021 bags white Benares were nearly all bought in at the former value.

COFFEE.—93 casks 85 barrels and bags plantation Ceylon sold at extreme rates to-day, and 32 casks Jamaica brought the former value.

RICE.—110 casks Carolina of doubtful quality were bought in at 22s. Further large sales were reported in East India.

SPICES.—57 cases nutmegs found ready buyers at 2d advance for brown kinds, the extreme rates for low to fine being 2s 5d to 4s 3d. 15 cases mace sold rather dearer, from 2s 9d to 3s 2d for mid to good pale. 31 pkgs fair Penang cloves sold at 1s 1d to 1s 2d. 61 brls Jamaica ginger realised 45s 6d to 82s.

SALTPETRE.—843 bags Bengal sold at stiffer rates, from 26s 6d to 27s for 9 1/2 to 8 1/2 refraction.

SAFFLOWER.—10 bales Bengal of the new crop realised 5 1/2 to 6 1/2s for only mid quality to fair.

MYRABOLANES sold at 12s to 13s 6d for good.

TALLOW.—The public rates went off quietly but at the extreme rates of last Friday. 189 casks Australian all sold from 48s 3d to 51s 6d. 74 casks American only partly realised 52s for 11 casks.

ADDITIONAL NOTICES.

REFINED SUGAR.—The home market has declined for the middling and lower qualities 6d. 45s 6d has been accepted for brown lumps. Pieces continue in good demand. Treacle firm. In the bonded loaves continue in good demand, 38s for 6lb and 37s for 10lb loaves. Crushed steady. Dutch loaves, 35s 6d for 6lb and 34s 6d for 10lb. About 500 tons Dutch crushed sold f.o.b. in Holland at 26s 9d to 28s 6d. Nothing more to quote in Belgian loaves or crushed: the high prices asked prevent any transactions.

GREEN FRUIT.—A dull market for all kinds. Lemons are 1s to 2s per package lower. No inquiry for nuts—fruit of home growth taking the place of foreign. The remainder of the cargo of oranges from Terceira has been placed at 2s per box advance upon the first sales.

DRY FRUIT.—A sudden revival in fine old currants has come on within the last two days, in consequence of speculative purchases from 9s to 100s; about 500 tons have changed hands. New and ordinary old fruit are at present passed by. Telegraphic news of a bad character has caused this advance of 5s to 7s. Raisins unaltered. The accounts from Turkey still unfavourable, and very high prices will prevail in Spain.

SEEDS meet a steady demand at unaltered quotations. New caraways come to hand very dark, and crop generally inferior.

COLONIAL WOOL.—No change has taken place in the wool market since the close of the public sales on Saturday last: prices remain firm up to the prices then paid.

FLAX.—The sale of the Egyptian flax yesterday was but to a small extent effective at about the prices of recent sales.

HEMP.—The sales to a small extent; the trade are only partially stocked.

SILK.—No alteration since last week—a fair business continuing to be done, and prices of all descriptions, more especially Italian, well supported.

COTTON.—The market continues dull, and the transactions limited; prices are unchanged, with the exception of good Tinnivelly Madras, which are rather dearer. Sales of cotton wool from Aug. 12 to Aug. 18 inclusive:—550 bales Surat, at 3 1/2d to 4 1/4d for ordinary to good fair; 550 bales Madras, at 4d to 4 1/4d for middling fair to fine Tinnivelly; 200 bales Bengal, at 3 1/4d to 3 1/2d for middling fair to fair.

TUBACCO.—There was an improved demand for exportation, and sales were made of upwards of 200 hhds. For home trade very little done. Prices very firm.

LEATHER AND HIDES.—The activity of our leather market has by no means relaxed during the past week; all descriptions of goods have been in continued request at fully former prices. At Leadenhall on Tuesday the supply of leather was small, particularly of crop hides, light English and foreign butts, common dressing hides, shoulders and bellies, and calf skins; the tendency of prices of these goods was still upward, and in no article was there any reduction in value. There was not any public sale of foreign raw goods in the past week, and a few hundreds only of River Plate hides were sold by private contract at former prices. By the recent news from the River Plate of the termination of the blockade of Buenos Ayres we have information of 40,000 hides being shipped for England, some of which may be shortly expected.

METALS have all been in good demand. Copper is much inquired for and higher prices are looked for ere long. Tin—The very high price at which the Dutch sale has gone off, say equal to 122 1/2 per ton, has taken every one aback, and for the moment we cannot quote English tin. Banca has been done at 120 1/2 per ton since the sale, and Straits at 117 per ton. Spelter and lead very quiet. Manufactured iron is rather more in demand. There has been a large speculative business done in Scotch pig iron, and prices are firm.

TALLOW.—Official market letter issued this evening:—

Table with 2 columns: Town, Fat, Russian, Melted, Rough, Graves, Good. Rows include Town tallow, Fat ditto, Russian candle, Melted stuff, Rough ditto, Graves, Good drc.

PROVISIONS

The bacon market is a little easier, 70s to 71s landed for first rate. Hamburg &c. The large supplies of Irish and foreign butter last week has tended to flatten the market, buyers only supplying their immediate wants. Lard in good demand.

Comparative Statement of Stocks and Deliveries.

Table with 5 columns: Stock, Delivery, Stock, Delivery. Rows include 1851, 1852, 1853.

Arrivals for the Past Week.

Table with 2 columns: Irish butter, Foreign do, Bale Bacon. Rows include Irish butter, Foreign do, Bale Bacon.

SMITHFIELD CATTLE MARKET.

MONDAY, Aug. 15.—The imports of foreign stock into London last week were seasonably good, the total supply having amounted to 8,104 head. During the corresponding week in 1852 we received 8,695; in 1851, 6,066; in 1850, 7,289; in 1849, 5,152; in 1848, 4,342; and in 1847, 7,260 head.

The show of foreign stock in to-day's market was very extensive as to number, but extremely deficient in quality. The demand was tolerably firm, at full prices.

From our own grazing districts the arrival of beasts was by no means extensive, yet there was a slight improvement in their general condition. The attendance of both town and country buyers being large, the beef trade ruled steady, at prices fully equal to those obtained on Monday last. The general top figure for beef was 4s 4d, but a few very superior Scots realised 4s 6d per 8 lbs.

The supply from the northern grazing districts amounted to 1,800 shorthorns; from Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, 350 Scots and shorthorns; from other parts of England 500 of various breeds; and from Scotland, 140 horned and polled Scots.

There was a considerable increase in the supply of sheep. On the whole, the demand for most breeds was rather inactive; nevertheless, last week's currency was supported. The prime old Downs produced 5s per 8 lbs.

With lambs we were seasonably well supplied. The sale for them was dull, at a decline in prices of 2d per 8 lbs. The top figure was 5s 10d per 8 lbs.

Calves, the supply of which was good, moved off slowly, at barely last week's currency.

SUPPLIES.

Table with 4 columns: Aug. 18, 1851, Aug. 16, 1852, Aug. 15, 1853. Rows include Beasts, Sheep, Calves, Pigs.

FRIDAY, Aug. 19.—The supply of beasts in to-day's market was limited, and in very inferior condition. There was a decided improvement in the demand, and the prices of beef advanced 2d per 8 lbs. We were seasonably well supplied with sheep, at which a fair amount of business was doing at Monday's quotations. Lambs, the show of which was tolerably good, moved off heavily, at a decline of 2d per 8 lbs. There was a steady inquiry for calves, at extreme rates.

Per 8 lbs to sink the offas.

Table with 4 columns: s, d, s, d. Rows include Inferior beasts, Second quality do, Prime large oxen, Prime Scots, &c., Large coarse calves, Prime small do, Sucking Calves, Lamb, Total supply, Foreign supply.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL.

MONDAY, Aug. 15.—Since Monday last full average time-of-year supplies of each kind of meat have been on sale in these markets. To-day the general demand has ruled steady, and prices have been well supported.

FRIDAY, Aug. 19.—A fair average business was transacted to-day, as follows:—

Table with 4 columns: s, d, s, d. Rows include Inferior beef, Ditto middling, Prime large, Prime small, Veal, Mutton, Interior, Large pork, Small pork, Lamb.

The Railway Monitor.

CALLS FOR AUGUST.

Table with columns: Railways, Date when due, Amount per Share (Already paid, Called), Number of Shares, Total. Includes entries for Antwerp and Rotterdam, Cornwall, Great Southern and Western, Hereford, Ross, and Gloucester.

* The proportion called by foreign companies is 50.0. 64, but the holdings of English proprietors are not known.

EPITOME OF RAILWAY NEWS.

GREAT WESTERN.—The half-yearly meeting was held on Thursday, when the dividends already announced were agreed to.

THE GREAT WESTERN, LEADS NORTHERN, GREAT NORTHERN, and other companies have held their usual half-yearly meetings this week.

BIKENHEAD, LANCAIRE AND CHESHIRE JUNCTION.—The half-yearly meeting was held on Saturday at Birkenhead. The dividend declared was 6s 2d per 27/10s share, 6s 3d per 31/ share, and 4s 6d per 22/ share, being at the rate of 2 1/2 per cent.

EAST INDIA.—The bill for amalgamating this with the Upper India Railway Company, at a guaranteed interest of 4 1/2 per cent. from the East India Company, was passed unanimously at a meeting held on Tuesday.

ROYAL ASSENT.—On Monday the Royal assent was given to the following bills:—Worcester and Hereford, Bayswater, Paddington, and Holborn Bridge, West Cornwall, Crieff Junction, Tralee and Killarney, Chard, East Anglian, Monmouthshire, Severn and Wye, South Wales Mineral, Stamford and Essendine, Cork and Bandon.

BLACKWALL.—The half-yearly meeting was held on Wednesday. The traffic receipts for the half-year of 1853 showed an increase of 2,902l 19s 1d. over the same period of 1852. The report was adopted, the amount of dividend being 2s 6d per share.

MIDLAND.—The revenue account shows receipts during the half-year to the extent of 677,169l, and expenditure to the extent of 503,762l, leaving a disposable balance of 173,406l. The dividends proposed will thus dispose of the greater portion of it:—9,129,754l consolidated stock at 5/5s per cent., 148,359l; 386,225l, 5s shares at 4/10s per cent., 8,690l; 978,533l Birmingham and Derby stock, at 1/17s 6d per cent., 9,174l; 25,000l Midland preferential stock at 6l per cent., 750l; and 145,000l Erewash Valley at 6l per cent., 4,350l; total, 171,329l.

EASTERN COUNTIES.—The report of the directors, which has been issued to the shareholders previous to the half-yearly meeting to be held on the 28th inst. states that—"As compared with the corresponding period of last year, there is an increase in the gross earnings of 34,421l 6s 8d, and a decrease in the general working expenses of 969l 13s 3d, also a reduction in the interest upon the guaranteed stock of the company and loans of 1,807l 18s 3d. On the other hand, there is an increase in the rates and taxes of 3,161l 6s 4d, and government duty of 694l 5s 3d, with an additional payment to the Great Northern Company of 4,200l. Thus, with an increase of traffic upon the half-year of 34,421l 6s 8d, there is of net half-year's revenue divisible amongst the proprietors 29,143l 6s 2d more than in the corresponding half-year of 1852; or, in other words, that 15,038l 4s 2d was taken from the rest in 1852 to pay a 4s dividend, and 3,035l 9s 11d this half-year to pay the 5s dividend now proposed.

RAILWAY AND MINING SHARE MARKET. LONDON.

MONDAY, August 15.—The railway market was heavy all day, and, sales having been freely presented, a further decline took place in quotations. The operators continue to be influenced by the unfavourable character of the various half-yearly reports, while, in the course of the settlement to-day, there was a greater supply of stock than was generally anticipated. Great Western, London and North-Western, and the other leading descriptions more or less participated in the fall. The shares of the General Water Company of France were quoted par to 1/2 pm. In the shares of the Australian land and banking companies no great alteration occurred, but those connected with mining undertakings continue depressed. Metcalfe left off 3/2 to 3/4 pm; Jamaica, 2 to 2 1/2 pm; Port Royal, 1 1/2 to 1 3/4 pm; and Sue River, 2 to 2 1/2 pm.

TUESDAY, August 16.—The railway market was heavy to-day, and prices have not materially recovered from yesterday's depression. The settlement of the account, which was concluded during the afternoon, passed over in a satisfactory manner. The shares of the General Waterworks of France closed par to 1/2 pm. In the shares of the Australian land and banking companies no change of consequence occurred, and those connected with mines continue depressed. Metcalfe left off 3/2 to 3/4 pm; Port Royal, 1 1/2 to 2 1/4 pm; Sue River, 2 to 2 1/2 pm; and Jamaica, 2 to 2 1/4 pm.

WEDNESDAY, August 17.—The railway market opened with much heaviness, but prices showed a favourable reaction towards the close of business. French descriptions were particularly good, a further advance having taken place in some cases. No great change occurred in the shares of the Australian bank and land companies, and those connected with mines were generally depressed. The shares of the Great Waterworks of France left off par to 1/4 pm; Metcalfe Mining, 2 1/2 to 3 1/4 pm; Port Royal, 1 1/2 to 1 3/4 pm; Jamaica, 2 to 2 1/4 pm; and Sue River, 2 to 2 1/4 pm.

THURSDAY, August 18.—The tone of the railway market to-day indicated a general tendency to improvement, and prices closed with considerable firmness. In the Australian bank and land companies there was no alteration. The shares of the Great Waterworks of France left off at 1/4 to 1/2 pm. West India mining shares were better. Metcalfe, 3 1/2 to 4 pm; Port Royal, 2 to 2 1/4 pm; Jamaica, 2 to 2 1/4 pm; and Sue River, 2 to 2 1/4 pm.

FRIDAY, August 19.—The railway share market is up nearly 1/2 per cent. but the transactions in the English lines have not been of magnitude. Oxford and Wolverhampton have risen 1l. Caledonian have been better. A member of the Stock Exchange who was a large Bear of French shares, has failed, and Central of France have gone up considerably in consequence. Gold mines, banks, and land companies are higher.

STATEMENT OF comparative Imports, Exports, and Home Consumption of the following articles from Jan. 1 to Aug. 13, 1852-53, showing the Stock on hand on Aug. 13 in each year. FOR THE PORT OF LONDON

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

Table titled 'SUGAR.' with columns: Imported, Dutypaid, Stock. Sub-sections include British Plantation (West India, East India, Mauritius, Foreign), Foreign Sugar (Cheriton, Siam, & Manila, Havana, Porto Rico, Brazil).

PRICE OF SUGARS.—The average prices of Brown or Muscovado Sugar, exclusive of the duties;— From the British Possessions in America, Mauritius, East Indies.

Table titled 'MOLASSES.' with columns: Imported, Duty paid, Stock. West India.

Table titled 'RUM.' with columns: Imported, Exported, Home Consump., Stock. W. India, E. India, Foreign.

Table titled 'COCOA.—Cwts.' with columns: Br. Plant., Foreign.

Table titled 'COFFEE.—Cwts.' with columns: Br. Plant., Ceylon, Total BP., Mocha, Foreign EI., Malabar, St. Domingo, Hav. & P. Ric, Brazil, African, Total For., Grand tot.

Table titled 'ICE.' with columns: British EI., Foreign EI., Total.

Table titled 'PEPPER' with columns: White, Black.

Table titled 'NUTMEGS, CAS. LIG., CINNAMON, PIMENTO' with columns: Pkgs, bags.

Raw Materials, Dye Stuffs, &c.

Table with columns: COCHINEAL, LAC DYE, LOOWOOD, FUSTIC.

Table titled 'INDIGO.' with columns: East India, Spanish.

Table titled 'SALTPETRE.' with columns: Nitrate of Potash, Nitrate of Soda.

Table titled 'COTTON.' with columns: American, Brazil, East India, Liverpl., all kinds, Total.

COMMERCIAL TIMES

Weekly Price Current.

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

LONDON, FRIDAY EVENING.

Table listing various commodities such as Ashes, Cocoa, Coffee, Cotton, Dyes, Fruits, and Hops with their respective prices.

Table listing commodities from various regions including India, Java, and other international sources, with prices.

Table listing various types of seeds, oils, and other agricultural products with their prices.

Table listing various types of sugar, wool, and other textile-related commodities with their prices.

The Economist's Railway and Mining Share List.

The highest prices of the day are given.

Main table listing railway and mining shares with columns for Number of Shares, Amount of Shares, Name of Company, London (T. F.), and various financial details.

OFFICIAL RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

Table showing railway traffic returns with columns for Capital and Loan, Amount expended, Average cost per mile, Dividend per cent., Name of Railway, Week ending, Receipts (Passengers, Merchandise, Total), Same week 1852, Traffic per mile per week, and Miles open in 1853 and 1852.

