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The Political Economist.

THE TWO REASONS FOR THE BANK ACT OF 1844 EXAMINED.

FEW will now be found to deny that legislative interferences with a view to control commercial action, can only be justified upon some special and clear ground, which makes the particular case an exception to a general rule; and it is the duty of those who contend for Parliamentary restrictions to make good the special grounds upon which they are required. The Act of 1819, for the resumption of cash payments, was no interference with the fullest freedom of action with regard to the circulation of the country; on the contrary, it was the repeal of an Act of restriction, and the restoration of that state of things under which an obligation was a reality and not a fiction. What is a Bank note? It is a promise to pay on demand a specified sum of money, containing a given quantity of gold of a given fineness. When, therefore, the Bank Suspension Act was passed in 1796, the effect was simply to convert this promise into a fiction:—when the Act of 1819 was passed, it was to restore it to a reality—it was to render it imperative that the issuers of notes should fulfil the distinct obligation upon which they were accepted by the public. From the moment that Act became law, the Bank note and the coin which it represented were identical in value; and during the *quarter of a century* which elapsed prior to the passing of the Act of 1844, that strict identity of value was never questioned. There never was a moment when a *five-pound* Bank note would not exchange for *five sovereigns* in coin, as freely as *five sovereigns* would exchange for a five-pound note. So far, then, as every practical object was concerned, the note and the coin were strictly identical, and convertibility at pleasure was perfectly secured.

What, then, were the objects of the Bank Act of 1844? Notwithstanding the notorious fact to the contrary, it was contended that convertibility was not perfectly secured without further restrictions than were implied by the condition of payment on demand. The Act of 1819 was called a "delusion," because commercial panics happened in 1825 and 1837, which it was contended had been caused by "*excessive issues*" of Bank paper. To this reason Sir Robert Peel added a second. In his speech of the 6th of May, 1844, Sir Robert Peel endeavours to

establish the principle that a paper circulation should follow the same rule in regard to the foreign exchanges, as would be observed in the case of a purely metallic circulation. In that doctrine we entirely concur. In point of fact, so long as a paper circulation is convertible at the will of the holder into coin, it is impossible that a mixed circulation of paper and coin can follow any other rule than that which applies to a purely metallic circulation. But Sir Robert Peel most erroneously leapt to the conclusion that in the event of an adverse exchange and a drain of bullion, a purely metallic circulation would become contracted just in proportion as the drain proceeded, until by its own force it caused a general reduction in prices, and, finally, a reaction in the exchanges. Sir Robert Peel seems to have imagined that the gold exported during a drain was furnished from the coin in general circulation, whereas it is furnished only from the reserves in the Bank. And so far is it from being true that at the commencement of a drain any contraction of the circulation takes place, it is universally known and admitted by all who have practically watched these matters, that at such moments a considerable expansion of the circulation of coin takes place, in order to strengthen the reserves of country banks when a pressure upon them is expected. As well since as before the Act of 1844, we have never had a drain of gold from the Bank for shipment abroad, that has not at first been accompanied by a simultaneous demand for coin for internal purposes. And the same action precisely, equally since as before the Act of 1844, as we shall hereafter show, has taken place in relation to the circulation of Bank notes. But Sir Robert Peel, under the impression that the coin in circulation diminished at such times, naturally enough contended that Bank notes should also diminish. And when practical bankers in their evidence in 1840, contended that they had no such power over their circulation as to produce contraction at the moment when Sir Robert Peel deemed it needful in support of his theory, and when they moreover admitted that it often happened that their circulation increased at the beginning of a drain, he considered that he had established a conclusive case against the existing state of the law and in favour of the restrictions imposed by the Act of 1844. Sir Robert Peel quoted in his speech the evidence given by several bankers, but the following quotation from that of Mr Hobhouse, with which he concluded, he seems to have thought brought his argument to a climax. The question was:—"Do you mean that when a drain of gold was beginning that was the time when frequently the circulation of the country Banks was increased?" The answer was:—"Yes, there is an increase at the beginning of a drain of gold, and the circulation is not governed by it."

Thus, then, we have fairly before us the two specific grounds upon which the interference of the Legislature was demanded in 1844. They may be thus fairly stated:—

First.—That the convulsions of 1825 and of 1837 had proved that the Act of 1819, imposing the condition of convertibility, had been no sufficient security against "*excessive issues of paper money*" which preceded and mainly caused those convulsions."

Second.—That under the regulations of the Act of 1819 alone, the circulation of Bank notes was not contracted, but rather extended at the commencement of a drain of bullion, and that in this respect it varied from the course which a purely metallic currency would take.

With a view to correct these two supposed evils, the restrictions of the Bank Act of 1844 were imposed. The first of the two was a question of fact, which might at the time have been submitted to the test of experience; but that does not seem to have been done. Was it a fact that the convulsions of 1825 and of 1837 were caused by "*excessive issues*" of Bank notes? That question never seems to have been asked. If it had, the error into which Sir Robert Peel fell would have been exploded. The second of the two reasons was rather at that time matter for speculative argument; but, with regard to which, the experience since 1844 shows conclusions that no longer admit of any doubt. We will deal with these two reasons, upon which the Act of 1844 was based, separately.

With regard to the first, we have said it was a matter of fact whether the "convulsions of 1825 and 1837" had been caused by "excessive issues" or not. In our last number, we dwelt at so much length upon this point, that we should not now think it needful again to advert to it, but for an accidental omission which rendered the illustration, rather than the argument, incomplete. In that article we showed that the whole of this argument had proceeded upon an entire confusion of ideas, by mistaking excessive credits and advances by loans and discounts, for excessive issues of notes. We showed that bankers have no power whatever to increase their issues of notes to excess, so long as they are convertible, because they will always be thrown back upon the issuing Bank for payment, if not absolutely required for circulation; and we showed that bankers have no power to contract the circulation, so long as they hold large quantities of deposits which the public can draw upon at pleasure. With regard to credits, loans, and discounts, no doubt bankers can and do exercise a complete option in extending or in contracting them. Over them they have complete control, however difficult it may be to exert it. We showed, therefore, that all the convulsions in trade which preceded the Act of 1844 were caused by excessive credits, loans, and discounts, on which that Act does not even pretend to furnish a check, and not by "excessive issues of notes," with which imaginary and impossible evil, so long as convertibility remains, the Bank Act of 1844 professes alone to deal. These excessive credits, loans, and discounts are shown by the extent of securities held by the Bank at particular moments. We have said, therefore, that the true cause of those convulsions is a matter of fact to be shown by a reference to the Bank returns. At the risk of repeating some of the illustrations which we furnished last week, and in order to make them more complete, we will place in juxtaposition a comparison of the circulation of the Bank at the periods preceding the great convulsions which have occurred, and the advances upon securities by the Bank at the same periods. Let us first take the convulsion of 1825. From August, 1821, to August, 1825, the comparison stands thus:—

	Circulation.	Private Securities.
	£	£
1821 August.....	20,295,000	2,722,000
1822 February.....	12,665,000	3,494,000
— August.....	17,661,000	3,622,000
1823 February.....	18,392,000	4,660,000
— August.....	19,251,000	5,624,000
1824 February.....	19,736,000	4,530,000
— August.....	20,132,000	6,255,000
1825 February.....	20,753,000	5,503,000
— August.....	19,398,000	7,691,000

Let us next subject to a similar test of comparison the circulation and securities from 1833 to the height of the convulsion in 1837. The comparison is thus:—

	Circulation.	Private Securities.
	£	£
1833 February.....	19,370,000	5,450,000
— August.....	19,625,000	5,999,000
1834 February.....	19,252,000	8,524,000
— August.....	18,839,000	9,688,000
1835 February.....	18,380,000	7,870,000
— August.....	17,892,000	11,068,000
1836 February.....	18,107,000	11,225,000
— August.....	18,158,000	13,197,000
1837 February.....	18,232,000	15,056,000

Looking at these facts, can there be any question whether it was "excessive issues" of notes, or excessive loans of capital, that encouraged the speculations which led to the convulsions of 1825 and 1837? In neither case did any increase take place in the circulation. In the former case the advances upon private securities rose from 2,722,000*l* to 7,691,000*l*, and in the latter case from 5,450,000*l* to 15,056,000*l*!! Now, can it be said that the Act of 1844 has in any way whatever operated so as to prevent such excess of credits? The occurrences of 1847 are the best reply to that question. From February, 1844, to August, 1847, the circulation and the securities of the Bank compare as follows:—

	Circulation.	Private Securities.
	£	£
1844 February.....	21,142,000	5,837,000
— August.....	21,445,000	7,870,000
1845 February.....	21,201,000	11,809,000
— August.....	22,100,000	11,712,000
1846 February.....	20,968,000	25,242,000
— August.....	21,800,000	42,755,000
1847 February.....	20,131,000	15,819,000
— August.....	18,828,000	16,923,000

Here, again, there is scarcely an appreciable difference in the circulation, while the private securities show an increase from 5,837,000*l* to 16,923,000*l*. It is impossible, then, to say that the Act of 1844 in any way restrained the excessive credits, which are alone proved to have been the cause of the convulsions in 1825 and in 1837.

But to proceed to Sir Robert Peel's second reason for the restrictions of the Act of 1844. Has it been shown by experience that since then, the circulation of notes has contracted at the commencement of a drain of bullion, or has increased, as practical men contended it must? That which was matter of argument in 1844, is now matter of fact to be brought to the test of experience. We have had two, and only two severe drains since 1844—that of 1847, and that during the last autumn. Well, let us examine what effect was produced upon the circulation by those drains. Parliamentary return 953 (1852) shows the aver-

age monthly circulation and bullion in 1847 to have been as follows:—

Month ending.	Circulation.	Bullion.
	£	£
1847.		
Jan. 2	20,633,000	15,083,000
Jan. 30	21,613,000	13,650,000
Feb. 27	20,418,000	12,712,000
March 27	20,087,000	11,320,000
April 24	21,014,000	9,664,000
May 22	20,146,000	9,686,000
June 19	19,078,000	10,319,000
July 17	19,460,000	10,237,000
Aug. 14	19,607,000	9,410,000
Sept. 11	18,918,000	9,063,000
Oct. 9	19,182,000	8,550,000
Nov. 6	21,152,000	8,478,000
Dec. 4	20,161,000	10,210,000

Here, then, under the Bank Act of 1844 the circulation in the month ending the 2nd of January was 20,633,000*l*, and the bullion 15,083,000*l*. A sudden drain set in. In one month the bullion fell to 13,650,000*l*. Did the circulation fall? On the contrary it rose to 21,613,000*l*, being nearly a million in excess. In the month of April the bullion had fallen to 9,664,000*l*; but the circulation stood at 21,014,000*l*, being an excess still over the 2nd of January. In the month of November the bullion fell to the lowest amount, being 8,478,000*l*, when the circulation stood at 21,152,000*l*, still in excess over the month of January when the bullion was 15,083,000*l*. What, then, is to be said of the principle of the Act of 1844 which was to provide for a contraction of paper concurrent with a drain of bullion? Was Sir Robert Peel or the practical bankers right in 1844?

Again, turning to the drain of the last autumn. The following are the returns of the bullion and the circulation of notes in the hands of the public in each week from the 23rd of June, when the bullion was 18,169,000*l*, to the 13th of Oct., when it had fallen to 11,752,000*l*.

Month ending.	Bullion.	Notes in Circulation in the hands of the Public.
	£	£
1855.		
June 23	18,169,000	19,542,125
— 30	18,090,000	20,195,545
July 7	17,584,000	20,482,750
— 14	17,329,000	20,978,870
— 21	16,644,000	20,772,865
— 28	16,385,000	20,964,845
Aug. 4	16,232,000	20,709,290
— 11	16,275,000	20,493,430
— 18	16,117,000	20,277,140
— 25	15,546,000	20,042,215
Sept. 1	14,539,000	20,104,630
— 8	14,217,000	20,142,105
— 15	13,698,000	19,713,470
— 22	13,269,000	19,408,435
— 29	12,939,000	20,172,685
Oct. 6	12,279,000	20,291,551
— 13	11,752,000	20,648,365

The bullion in the Bank stood on the 23rd of June at 18,169,000*l*: it gradually but quickly fell to 11,752,000*l*. What was the fate of the circulation? Did it contract according to the theory of Sir Robert Peel, and which the Bank Act of 1844 was to accomplish;—or did it expand, as the practical bankers said it must? With the bullion at 18,169,000*l*, the circulation was 19,542,000*l*. With the bullion reduced to 11,752,000*l*, the circulation had risen to 20,648,000*l*.

The two grounds, then, upon which the Bank Act was defended have proved, not alone by argument, but by the test of experience, to have been equally fallacious;—and there remain none of the arguments upon which it was founded, as a necessary "complement" of the Act of 1819, to be answered. That it is calculated at particular times to be of serious mischief and inconvenience, no one will deny;—and if it be proved that the only advantages expected from it prove to have been based upon error, it will not be difficult hereafter to show that such an Act should not be left upon the statute book in its present shape.

TRADE OF ELEVEN MONTHS.

THE monthly tables now published show us the condition of our foreign trade to the end of the eleventh month, and are not otherwise than satisfactory. As compared to the corresponding month of last year, in which our readers will remember foreign trade declined considerably, many of our imports show an increase. Of animals only sheep have increased, and in the others there is a decline. In ashes, bark, brimstone, cocoa, wheat, oats, flour, raw cotton, flax, currants, pigs, palm, cocoa-nut, and olive oils, rice, clover-seed, tares, cassia lignea, gloves, butter, cheese, geneva, sugar, tobacco, wine, &c., there is an increase; in coffee, cotton yarn and manufactures, in most dyes, in raisins, hemp, jute, hides, manufactures of leather (except gloves), most metals, train oil, other provisions than butter and cheese, flax and rape seed, other spices than cassia lignea, rum, brandy, tallow, tea, timber (but not foreign timber), wool, &c., there has been a decrease. It may be inferred, however, both from these lists and the returns of navigation—the entries inwards for the month exceeding those of the corresponding month of last year by 43,720 tons—that the increase of imports is greater than the decline. In the bulky article of cotton alone, the increase is 215,434 cwts, or nearly 11,000 tons more were imported in the month of 1855 than in the month of 1854. The total imports for the eleven months do not show so favourably as the imports of the month,

as the following specimen of articles in which, though the imports of the month have been in excess, the imports in eleven months have declined, will elucidate:—

	1854	1855
Sheep.....No.	156,072	139,375
Wheat.....qrs	2,353,918	2,462,000
Flour.....cwt	3,582,431	1,661,076
Cotton.....	7,502,196	6,946,337
Flax dressed.....	29,432	13,614
— undressed.....	1,645,367	989,269
— tow.....	181,550	133,399
Sugar, unrefined.....	8,272,064	6,206,683
Wine.....gal.	9,641,026	7,180,309

There are some few articles, such as coffee, hemp, tallow, &c., of which the imports in the eleven months of 1855 are in excess, though in the month they have fallen off. Neither in the month nor in the eleven months is there any striking proof that the articles usually imported from Russia are very deficient.

The exports in the month, as compared to the corresponding month of 1854, when we began to feel seriously the decline in the trade to America and Australia, show a great excess. The declared value was of the

	1854	1855
Enumerated articles...	£ 5,771,772	£ 7,674,718
Unenumerated	536,726	1,085,131
	6,308,498	8,759,849

Thus the value of exports in the month of 1855 exceeded the value in the month of 1854 by 2,151,351*l*. The increase extends over almost every article, the only exceptions being earthenware, glass, hardware, saddlery, unwrought steel, brass, tin, linseed oil, silk twist and yarn, refined sugar, sheep's wool, and woollen yarn. In 1853, the value of the unenumerated articles was not stated, but the value of the enumerated articles in the eleventh month of 1855 exceeded the value in the eleventh month of 1853. The figures are:—

	Month ended 5th Dec. 1853.	Month ended 30th Nov. 1855.
Enumerated articles...	£ 7,628,760	£ 7,674,718

If in the eleventh month of 1854 trade was dull, it was extremely animated in the eleventh month of 1853; and it is a striking proof of the activity in November, 1855, that the exports surpass those of November, 1853.

The comparison of the shipping in the eleventh month of the three years is as follows:—

	Entered Inwards.		Cleared Outwards.		
	Ships	Tonnage	Ships	Tonnage	
1853.....	3,051	713,283	1853.....	2,673	606,023
1854.....	2,411	605,365	1854.....	2,587	567,017
1855.....	2,772	648,986	1855.....	2,832	681,106
Increase of 1855					
above 1854.....	361	43,720	Inc. above 1854	445	114,089
Decr. below 1853	309	64,298	Inc. above 1853	129	75,082

Taking the increase in the shipping entered outwards with the increase of our exports in relation to 1853, we are at once convinced that in the month of November, 1855, the trade was remarkably active. This is in part the consequence of the revived trade to America, in conjunction with the continual increase of our trade to the East by the Mediterranean, of which our Manchester correspondent and the accounts which were published on the 1st instant, of the development of our trade to the seat of war, afford the proofs. The causes of the increase, and the period at which it occurs, tend to assure us that it will continue, and the present year therefore closes with prospects of a large trade in the year now about to begin.

NEW REFORMATORIES FOR CRIMINALS.

THE reformation of criminals is a congenial occupation at this period of the year, and we are rather pleased than surprised to find in the journals another long account of the Reformatory Establishment at Mettray, and notices of more than one county reformatory, with numerous letters and leading articles on the subject. At all times, too, as well as at Christmas, the prevention of crime excites the deepest interest and occasions much intense discussion. It is now within a few years of a century since Beccaria successfully attracted the attention of Europe to the injuries which severe punishments inflict on society, and ever since the whole subject of criminal jurisprudence, though not before entirely overlooked, has continually engaged the attention of writers on political philosophy. In the period, social improvement, the extension of discussion, the deeper interest we have all learnt to take in matters of general welfare, and the increase of population giving a corresponding magnitude to the increase of crime, have all combined to excite continually the sympathy of the philanthropist and the activity of the practical politician. No year of the present century—scarcely a month in the long period—has elapsed without some painful event having occurred to fix the public mind for a season on the annoyance we all suffer from crimes and on the means of preventing them. But hitherto these investigations, though not wholly fruitless, have not led to any certain and definite conclusions. The Legislature has sometimes repealed severe laws, and sometimes again had recourse to the principle of such laws; and the public mind is now in a condition of greater doubt and anarchy on the subject of penal laws than before it was disturbed by a suspicion that the unsparing use of

the gallows or the sword might not be the best means of securing the virtue and happiness of society. The *Times*, to which we are most indebted for the present notice of the subject, giving us reason to suppose that it has a temporary attraction, says:—

Truth to say, there is a sort of mechanical rudeness in our way of dealing with offenders. Driven from one plan to another by successive disappointments, we yet persist in the fundamental error of expecting some one principle that is to do the business at once. It is either transportation, or hard work, or a sickening monotony of occupation, or the perpetual repetition of some useless process, or silence, or solitude, or, as we have lately tried in a happy mood, industrial occupation; but generally it is only one thing at once. The history of our prisons and penitentiaries during the present century might have been borrowed from the Tartarus of the ancients or the Purgatory of later days. What was the treadmill but the wheel of Ixion? In every goal of the kingdom the tub of the Danaids has been repeated with the addition of costly hydraulics. The stone alternately rolled up the hill and bounding down on the other side to be rolled up again has been done with the improvement of wheelbarrows. When it was discovered, at length, that labour and pain were not the only nor yet sufficient means of reformation we tried various other expedients, and even attempted to be kind; but still there was the original error of imagining some one secret for the management of offenders. What is unfortunately true of public charity is still more flagrant of our penal institutions. It is still "the one commandment of the law" that we are hunting after. We still ask, "What shall we do to be saved?" That is, what preceptor will at once correct all our social maladies and impart perpetual health to the community? That has been the English process of thought. The most opposite that can be imagined is that which has dictated the establishment at Mettray. After what we have said of the failure of all attempts to simplify the art of moral reformation, we shall not reduce the system of Mettray to one or two principles. M. de Metz and his enlightened coadjutors evidently do not proceed on the idea of carrying out a general principle. They have entered into a paternal relation with their families of young unfortunates, and have adapted their treatment to characters and emergencies.

We see, however, an important general principle in the establishment at Mettray; and, singularly enough, it is, according to Lord Leigh, the author of the notice, the principle of the family—a principle already naturally acted on throughout society, and which the most enlightened philanthropists adopt because they cannot find a better. To this principle the whole plan is subservient. But in the natural order of society, each family has to provide for itself, or its head is bound to provide for it. The welfare of the State in fact is nothing distinct from the welfare of families, and we know nothing which in private life is considered more completely improper than one family undertaking to provide for another, or interfering with it. To the principle of family, therefore, and to providing as far as possible for the well-being, moral and physical, of the heads of families, must politicians look, according to M. Metz, for the future improvement of society.

The benevolent originator, too, will not allow religious service to be performed in the church, though it is always open, except on Sundays, because in every-day life the workmen could not attend on other days, and being compelled "to drop a duty" which in his reformatory had been inculcated on him, it would have an injurious effect on his mind. M. Metz, contrasting the rigorous observances at La Trappe with real life, is afraid that, were he to establish something like them, the dissimilarity would be so great between his reformatory and actual life, that when the reformed criminal was restored to society, because he could not possibly do all that had been enforced on him as his duty, he would become wholly reckless and do none, or only such of the matters taught him as duties as pleased him. This is the recognition of the important principle, that all teaching ought to conform precisely to the duties which men have to perform in society, and that to teach them anything else but these duties—to teach them something as a duty which is either more or less than the duty they have actually to do—tends to make them generally reckless in the performance of all duties, and weakens, if it do not overthrow, the very foundations of duty. From this principle—taught by M. Metz, reported by Lord Leigh, and praised by the *Times*—it must be inferred, that for men to do the duties required of them by the constitution of society, especially the constitution of the family, is above all things important, and that all teaching other than to do the duty thus made necessary is injurious.

This principle seems hostile to every such institution, and especially hostile to the institution at Mettray. The regularity observed; the watchfulness of the hired "chief" of the family, of the honoured elder brother; the careful discipline for all; the punctual attendance required at work and school and church; the daily avocations; the *provided* lodgings and *subsistence*; in short, the whole system of monastic discipline and of caretaking there established, are not found in society. Society cannot be thus regulated. But all reformatories are and must be regulated on principles different from those which actually guide families and society, and we may infer, therefore, that they never can obtain the success expected from them.

Persons like M. Metz and all other philanthropists, with all the governors, regulators, and police of society, exist only as such in consequence of the many families of which society is composed, or of their chiefs producing day by day the revenue enjoyed by M. Metz or appropriated by the Government. Reformatories could never exist of themselves, nor, were they

established, could they be maintained, if there were not outside of them and encompassing them, producing for them the means of subsistence, that society which M. Metz describes as imposing duties on individuals to which all other duties and all teaching ought to conform. It hardly seems necessary, yet for some it may be, to state that there is no wealth in the world, no means of subsistence and of enjoyment, but what is the produce of labour; that the spontaneous produce of the earth must very generally be removed to make place for the dwellings of man and tillage of the soil; and that, consequently, the revenue of Governments and all the property of individuals which they spend day by day is the produce of labour. Now, we have learnt from much experience that labour is only skilful and very productive when it is free, that all attempts to make it increasingly productive by regulations or restrictions—the far-famed protective systems—have been egregious failures. Consequently, no such system of reformatories as that at Mettray could exist were they were not supported by the labour of the general society; and we are taught by M. Metz himself that the discipline of such societies is and must be at variance with the duties men have to perform in the actual world. He does, therefore, lay down a principle, and, like most other criminal reformers, his principle is opposed to his practice.

To this merely logical deduction from the principle taught at Mettray, we must add, as of some importance, for the consideration of the many estimable men who are now exerting themselves to establish reformatories, hoping by their means to effect the moral improvement of criminals, that the success at Mettray obviously depends on the individual character of M. Metz. Unless similar disinterestedness, similar enthusiasm, similar devotedness to the cause can be found—which never yet were found continuously in hired and paid agents—no such institution can succeed. The success cannot be ensured by regulations. It can only be ensured by having a succession of benevolent men; and those who hold meetings, pass resolutions, and subscribe their money, expecting by such means to reform criminals, will, like their predecessors in a similar career, be disappointed. They depend on voluntary subscriptions; these may soon fail in favour of some more tempting scheme, as we see that the metropolitan criminal reformers are already complaining that they are losing support by the establishment of reformatories in the country. Society cannot be helped by contrivances which require continual sacrifices by a few, and require in individuals angelic virtue rarely found. Only the average and ordinary qualities of the human nature to be improved can be relied on; and schemes of reform by restraint, which presuppose in governors and conductors, *employes* and hired servants, virtues not predominant in society, will turn out to be quite as utopian as many much more glorious dreams.

The *Times* says we are still hunting after the "one commandment"—we still ask "what shall we do to be saved?" meaning, we are afraid, rather to sneer at those who think some good and just principle of criminal jurisprudence yet may be discovered, than to state the obvious fact that we have now for many years discussed the subject, acted on our "mechanical rudeness," and been "driven from one plan to another," only to find disappointment from all. Dr Johnson said it might "be suspected" that political arrogance had sometimes found its way into legislative assemblies, and mingled with deliberations on property "and life"; and it is surely only necessary to remember in outline the history of penal legislation from Draco downwards to have suspicion converted into certainty. On this point, as on all others, men necessarily began to act before they had acquired, or could acquire, any knowledge of the consequences of their actions. In all the States of antiquity and the middle ages, slavery prevailed in Europe, and the principles of our penal legislation were adopted in, and adapted to, such a condition of society. Originally they were naturally and necessarily the expressions of the arrogant will of masters. Hence, in some ancient laws, the lives of slaves might be taken away, or the pleasure of murder might be indulged in at the expense of a small fine; but no torments were too great for the slave who imbrued his hands in his master's blood. Our old law of treason, far less founded on any regard to the good of society—though, in modern times, it has been so interpreted—than on this older law, was directed against the slave or the subject who was opposed to the authority of masters. We have inherited the laws of our ancestors, and continue to act on the principles they acted on, though our circumstances are different and our knowledge much enlarged. Very few years, indeed, have elapsed since the very same principle of putting men to death for offences against property prevailed very generally in our law, it having been adopted for the protection of the property of the then ruling classes. Formerly the slaves and their descendants were never called on to give their opinions as to the laws. For them the laws were always arrogantly and cruelly made. Practically, we continue to act on the old principles, and ought not to be surprised that our penal laws do not lessen the general criminality. Our Legislature always acts as its predecessors acted, merely adapting its conduct to some petty modifications dictated by circumstances. It never departs, therefore, from principles formerly adopted; and hence the arrogance, suspected by Dr Johnson, and made

obvious to every inquirer, has always influenced legislation from the beginning of penal laws to the present time. It is now largely mingled with our most benevolent schemes, and will prevent them from being successful.

THE FOREIGN POLICY OF GREAT BRITAIN. No. VII.

THE SIMPLIFICATION AND THE COMPLICATION OF OUR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.

Two material changes have been brought over the European world by the events and the progress of the last half-century. One of these has tended greatly to simplify, and the other greatly to complicate, our international relations. The first is the alteration which economic science has at length wrought in our system of commercial policy; the second is the spread of the democratic spirit—as Tories would express themselves, or the awakening of peoples to a perception of their duties and their rights—as patriots would prefer to term it.

Formerly half our quarrels with other nations had their origin in the grasping ambition and the narrow views of the commercial interest in England. Half our wars were undertaken to secure a monopoly of trade. We *fought* for markets; and *impressed* our customers pretty much as we impressed our sailors. Our diplomats were constantly engaged in treating for exclusive privileges for our goods, or in placing our merchants on the footing of "the most favoured nation"; and our admirals were nearly as perpetually engrossed with watching over and enforcing the advantages which our negotiators had extorted. We founded colonies of our own, and we conquered and retained the colonies of others, with a view of confining to ourselves the sale of all their produce and compelling them to supply their wants at our emporiums alone. "Ships, Colonies, and Commerce," was our common battle-cry; and we made war habitually in the name of the great arts and securities of peace.

Now all this is changed. We have adopted a system at once wiser, cheaper, and more Christian. We have embraced unlimited freedom of trade; and what we have decided on for ourselves we allow to our dependencies. We no longer seek to exclude the productions of other countries from any market. We sell wherever we can sell dearest and buy wherever we can buy cheapest, and we permit our colonies to do the same. We have opened our own arena to all competitors. We have repealed our stringent navigation laws, and we allow any goods to be imported in any bottoms. American ships can charter for Jamaica or discharge in Liverpool as freely as our own, sharing equal privileges, paying equal duties. Brazil and Cuba send us their sugar as freely as Trinidad or the Mauritius. Barbadoes may purchase her flour and staves from New York instead of New Brunswick or Canada, if she prefers it. Colonies, too, we have come to consider in a new light. We are no longer very desirous either to extend our own or to possess those of other nations. We have resigned all the imaginary advantages arising out of their exclusive commerce, and we have discovered that they are costly to keep and troublesome to govern. Some among us, indeed—the politicians of the ledger—have begun to talk not only of emancipating them if they wish, but of cutting them adrift whether they wish or not. It is true that we still endeavour through our diplomatists to persuade other Governments to imitate our liberal commercial policy, but we do so as scientific professors, not as military bullies;—we exert them in the name of their own interest; we no longer seek to compel them to a low tariff, or menace retaliation upon a high one. And, as far as our commerce is concerned, the occupation of our mighty navy is confined to protecting it from pirates in peace, from privateers in war, and from the occasional injustice or ill-treatment of capricious and half-civilised States. One most fertile source of hostile collision is thus cast off; and so far our position is far safer and our foreign policy far simpler than it used to be.

But this new facility is more than counterbalanced by the new perplexity to which we have adverted. Previously to the great French Revolution our diplomacy knew nothing of *peoples*: it dealt only with *courts*. Nations, in fact, as apart from their rulers, had no recognised existence. They were the private estates, as it were, of the sovereigns who reigned over them. This appears in the diplomatic language and forms which have survived till now, though shorn of much of their genuineness. We do not treat with the Dutch, the Russians, the Turks, the Spaniards, the French; but with "the Court of Versailles," the "Cabinet of Madrid," "the Porte," "the Hague," "the Court of St James," or of "St Petersburg," and so on. So long as in our negotiations and dealings we studied and penetrated the obvious interests, the traditional policy, the family alliances of these courts, we did all that was necessary. That the people might not back their rulers; that the popular party might paralyse the action of the sovereign; that the nation might be our enemy though the Government was our friend,—never entered or was required to enter into our calculations. States were individual potentates, having like ourselves personal ambitions, and sometimes personal hatreds and affections: States whose objects and interests clashed, or were supposed to clash with ours, were our "natural enemies"; States, again, whose objects and interests came, or could be made to

come, into collision with those of our "natural enemies," became thereby our "natural allies."

With the great convulsion of 1789, however, a disturbing element was introduced into these simple international relations—an element which has ever since been gaining strength, and which has manifested itself from time to time in a manner which enforces recognition. Internal struggles have to a great extent taken the place of foreign wars, and contests for civil rights and personal freedom have superseded in frequency and importance questions as to national independence and aggrandisement. Since the exciting examples set by America and France, the people of nearly every nation of Western Europe have been in a state of chronic fermentation on the question of free institutions and parliamentary government; they have endeavoured to become citizens as well as subjects; some have succeeded partially; some have succeeded temporarily; some have abused their liberty, and brought it into disrepute; some have abused their liberty, and lost it. But the conflict still goes on—sometimes silently—sometimes noisily; the people are striving to extend their rights and liberalise their institutions; the sovereigns are striving to recover their old authority or to maintain what they possess. In 1813 the instincts of freedom were summoned forth to combat one mighty despot: in 1816 and subsequently, the danger being past, smaller despots endeavoured once more to lull these instincts into torpor. In 1821 they broke out afresh; again in 1830 and 1831; again in 1848. In 1832 England, the great Constitutional Government of Europe, completed, extended, and consolidated the fabric of her liberties. In 1850, France, Spain, Portugal, Holland, Belgium, Sweden, Switzerland, and Piedmont, had parliamentary governments and popular liberties more or less extensive and established. Lombardy and Germany had tried for them and failed; Hungary had lost them by a sad complication of treachery and violence. While subjects were thus striving with their rulers, and endeavouring to extort rights and institutions to which they deemed themselves entitled, but with which these rulers deemed them unfit to be intrusted, it was natural that they should look to England for sympathy, if not for aid, and that England should look with favour, if not with ostensible encouragement upon their efforts. It was equally natural that the rulers in these cases should look for countenance and comfort from their fellow princes. Hence the people and the constitutional party in continental countries looked to England, and sometimes to France, and the despots and the despotic party looked to Austria and Russia, as their "natural allies." Patriots, bent on conquering civil rights, found their own sovereigns to be their "natural enemies," and those countries once called such, to be their real friends. In this way a new influence ran across the web of international policy, so simple and clearly defined of old; and hostilities and alliances began to be modified or decided by sympathies of political opinion more than by consideration of national interests. Every country in which a parliamentary government prevailed, we felt to be a sort of "natural ally"; every country in which despotism had suppressed liberty could scarcely be otherwise than a suspected neutral or an understood foe. Hence arose a strong interest in the internal struggles of neighbouring States, and an earnest desire for the victory of that party whose advent to power might convert an enemy into a friend. It is true that all these cross sympathies are constantly modified by a variety of circumstances, and are not yet systematised or fully avowed; timidity or selfishness in our national councils often compel them to lie dormant; a Tory Ministry finds excuses for the tenacity of arbitrary power; a Liberal Ministry deprecates the excesses and dreads the too signal victory of freedom, from freedom assumes or menaces to assume the republican form;—but generally and as a whole, it is felt by our people and is beginning to be acknowledged by our rulers, that our "natural enemies" are the Autocratic Sovereigns, and our "natural allies" the free Governments of Europe. It is also felt and admitted, though less conclusively and universally, that in those countries where the popular and the despotic elements are striving for the mastery, our real friendship belongs to the people, though our formal alliance may go with the sovereign.

Another element still is beginning to make itself heard, and to add its might to the complexity around us. We have the spirit of NATIONALITY as well as the spirit of democracy to deal with. To have sprung from the same race, to speak the same language, to belong to the same tribe, is daily more and more felt to be a yet stronger tie of political consanguinity than even the *idem velle et idem nolle de republicâ*. The desire for close union with brethren of the same people, is in many a mightier passion than even the love of liberty. The hatred of foreign domination is more vehement even than the detestation of tyrannic rule. It is, too, a feeling with which Britons can sympathise just as warmly. It is, we believe, yet more inextinguishable. And whatever we may think of Poland—however we may be disposed to accept the extinction of that nationality as a *fait accompli*,—it is abundantly certain that so long as Lombards and Magyars groan under the wretched yoke of Austria, although the "Court of St James" may be in close and formal alliance with the "Court of Vienna," the heart of the people of England will go with the people who are burning to relieve themselves from the abhorred "Tedesco." And, sooner or later, now that foreign questions have been fairly taken

up by classes who a while ago felt no interest regarding them, the feelings of the nation must find their expression and embodiment in the policy of the Government. As soon as Great Britain has arrived at a clear, strong, persistent opinion on international matters, the language and conduct of the Foreign Secretary must be in harmony with that opinion.

We have thus discussed the question whether to a State like ours, isolation is possible or seemly. We have seen that we are bound by every principle of interest and duty as well as by sheer necessity to concern ourselves deeply with the movements of the outlying world. We have glanced at the changes and complications which have come over the old scheme of international relations; and we have confessed that at present we have no well-defined or consistent foreign policy at all. We are now, therefore, in a position to consider what principles and maxims we should adopt as the guide and pole-star of our future course. It is for the nation deliberately to determine what port is to be steered for: it is for the statesmen who from time to time are summoned to the helm, to decide in each varying contingency what tack to go on, and what sail to shift—when to veer, when to furl canvas and when to set it.

TOBACCO.

AN account of the quantity of TOBACCO imported, entered for consumption, and of the net revenue obtained therefrom, in Great Britain and Ireland, in the following years. The rate of duty throughout the period was, on unmanufactured tobacco (including unstemmed) 3s per lb; on manufactured, or cigars, 9s per lb; on snuff, 6s per lb with 5 per cent. additional on each description:—

Years.	Quantity Imported.	Retained for Home Consumption.	Duty net.
	lbs.	lbs.	£
1850 Manufactured	1,557,518	196,446	—
Unmanufactured	33,166,358	27,387,969	3,685,202
1851 Manufactured	2,531,862	203,337	—
Unmanufactured	31,049,654	27,795,987	4,466,469
1852 Manufactured	2,948,515	199,711	—
Unmanufactured	33,185,085	28,218,857	4,542,571
1853 Manufactured	4,312,937	216,127	—
Unmanufactured	40,670,942	29,318,568	4,728,642
1854 Manufactured	2,700,964	205,919	—
Unmanufactured	32,491,851	30,198,975	4,773,555

Mem.—The accounts till the year 1854 were all equally made up, both for the quantities and the revenue, to the 5th of January in the year following. Thus, the accounts for 1850-53 are made up to the 5th of January, 1851-54. The accounts of the quantities in 1854 are made up to the same period; but the revenue accounts for 1854 are made up to March 31, 1855, from April 5, 1854, and, consequently, of the last year the statement of the quantities and the revenue, though both are for a year, are not for the same twelve months, the quantities being for the year between Jan. 5, 1854, and Jan. 5, 1855, and the revenue being for the year between April 5, 1854, and March 31, 1855. The year is, for revenue, short five days.

REVIEW OF THE MANCHESTER TRADE FOR 1855.

(From our Correspondent.)

THE year which is about to close has not been a prosperous one for the cotton industry of this country. Although, with few exceptions, the whole of the producing power has been fully employed, and although we find ourselves without heavy stocks to be carried over into 1856, we are afraid that, generally speaking, the profits have not been satisfactory. In the course of the year the fault of our unremunerative trade has been chiefly attributed to the war in which we are engaged, but, in taking a brief retrospect, we find that, whatever may have been its indirect effect, our actual commerce, our exports to the scenes of the conflict, have been largely stimulated thereby. As early as January we had to report an extensive business in extra hard-twisted cotton yarns to the Principalities, and in the coarse fabrics chiefly exported to the Levant. This trade became further developed as the year advanced, and general surprise was created when it was found in the month of March that our exports to Constantinople alone amounted to 18 per cent. of the total shipments of cotton yarns and goods. This extensive commerce, which has continued throughout the year with only occasional interruptions, and which is still going on, has been a welcome relief to many of our mill-owners. There are at this moment a number of firms, in various parts of the country, who used to work exclusively for Germany or other older markets, entirely engaged in producing yarns or cloths for those of the Mediterranean or the Euxine, and we are inclined to think that this branch of trade has been lucrative to all engaged in it.

With this exception, however, the year opened very quietly in our markets, though prices generally had a look of firmness. But this was not the consequence of a healthy demand; it was caused by the steadiness of the price of the raw material. Supplies of cotton were long kept back by easterly winds, and at the same time the American rivers being low, the "receipts" in the ports there were 200,000 bales below the previous year. Then it was that the crop estimates, which had generally been very high, were first and gradually reduced. Thus consumers were placed in an unfortunate position with respect to what, to them, may be called the staff of life—the raw material, and as they have been unable to put themselves on a better footing in this respect during the greater part of the twelvemonth, it will be readily understood why we cannot call 1855 a prosperous year to the manufacturing districts. It has created surprise and has been the cause of much comment, that under such circumstances a general abbreviation of consumption did not take place. We are, however, unable to explain this, except by the somewhat threadbare reply that mill-owners prefer to work for nothing, or even at a moderate loss, rather than stop their machinery. For an argument upon the subject, this, of course, is not the place.

By the middle of February the extensive exports to India, chiefly of the finer fabrics produced in the northern districts, began to attract much attention, and it appeared that manufacturers were obliged to seek relief from stocks by consignments on their own account. It was at this period that the policy of "short-time" was much discussed, and actually adopted by the "fine spinners" of Manchester. But, in spite of the urgings of commission agents and the local press, it did not extend—partly, perhaps, on account of the severity of the winter and the dearth of provisions, which would have pressed heavily upon the operative class.

At this time of the year much agitation was also caused by the absurd factory regulations with respect to the "boxing off" of certain machinery, and the vexatious manner in which the inspectors tried to enforce them. This resulted in the establishment of the "National Association of Factory Occupiers."

Meanwhile prices of yarns and cloths were further depressed, and reached a very low level; Fair 2nd 20's water were sold at 7½d per lb; 30's at 8½d; common 40's India mule at 7½d; and 40-inch shirtings at 6s3d per piece. Longcloth was at 6s 6d per 9 lbs piece. This was the lowest point our markets have seen this year. The breaking up of the frost, the larger arrivals of cotton in Liverpool, but above all the death of the Emperor Nicholas, gave some impulse to business, though especially in yarns. Cloths were too heavy in stock to recover with equal elasticity, and it was not until the end of March or beginning of April that this branch was materially relieved by purchases for India, &c. By the middle of April prices had recovered ½d to ¾d per lb for yarns, and 4½d per piece for some descriptions of cloth. This improvement was, however, followed by a reaction at the close of the month, while, at the same time, cotton began to move seriously upward. The crop aspects became so changed and the stock in Liverpool was so low in comparison, that it led to an extensive speculation, and by the end of May cotton was about 1d per lb higher than in February. Spinners and manufacturers were thus compelled to raise their prices in the face of a sluggish demand, and buyers at first resisted. By and by they followed a step or two, and ultimately took the alarm. The nominal quotations in the beginning of June were thus:—20's water, 9d; 30's, 10d; common 40's mule, 9½d; 40-inch shirtings, 7s 10½d; 9 lbs longcloth, 7s 3d. Middling Orleans cotton touched 7d per lb, and that was for the time the climax. A smart reaction was the consequence, and by the end of the month prices of cotton ruled ½d to ¾d per lb lower. The reduction of the rate of discount by the Bank of England from 4 to 3½ per cent. on the 15th of June, which was not looked upon with favourable eyes on our exchange, was unable to stop the decline, and not until prices of yarns and goods had approached nearer to those of March than to the late quotations, was business partially renewed. Still trade remained exceeding sluggish during the whole of the month of July; so much so, that the Preston and Blackburn millowners resolved upon and carried out a temporary diminution of production. The tone of the markets was a very languid one. The weather had been unfavourable for the harvest; some failures—though not of great amount—had taken place among manufacturers and caused distrust, so that every appearance of a rally vanished as quickly as it came. At last, however, towards the middle of August, several circumstances combined to create an improvement. More demand for India and for the Continent, as well as for the home trade, was displayed; cotton attracted renewed notice from speculators, and American buyers appeared in our markets. Many contracts were made, and prices underwent a decided improvement.

With the month of September came those repeated rises in the rate of discount at the Bank of England from 3½ per cent. to 4, 5, 6, and 7 per cent., which, from the rapidity with which they followed each other and the cause assigned for them, viz., the enormous efflux of gold to France, staggered the commercial community not a little, and all mercantile men adopted caution for their policy. But for the long engagements which spinners and manufacturers had luckily on hand, a serious fall in prices would doubtless have been the consequence; but, as it was, the decline was spread over a number of weeks, while the demand for the Mediterranean and the United States continued as a partial relief. Still the market was gradually drooping, and the now very promising accounts of the new cotton crop acted as another lever to depress prices. Thus we crept on during the month of October, and it was not until the beginning of November that business revived. The low level of prices to which we had then again returned was considered safe even under the existing unfavourable circumstances, and as producers seemed inclined to "knock off" those stocks which had here and there accumulated, business was recommenced. A very extensive demand for China cleared off most of the surplus, and the Continent being very bare of supply, sent increased orders to be executed before winter. Thus there was once more plenty of work for our mills, and it is remarkable how well they have been kept employed—with few exceptions—to the close of the year at steady and even improving rates. But for the adverse state of the cotton market, much might have been fetched up with such a demand! The exceptions we spoke of are the mills producing pincock wett for exportation, in which a remarkable, and not yet sufficiently explained, stagnation has prevailed all the year round. This is also one of the causes which led to the proposal of a reduction of wages in Manchester and the subsequent "turn-out" of the operatives. We regret not to be able to report a settlement of this matter at the close of the year; on the contrary, a good deal of angry controversy is still going on.

In conclusion, we may state that the commerce of this neighbourhood, though not as profitable as could have been wished, has been conducted on extremely sound principles throughout the year. Even with dear money, embarrassments have been a rarity, and, but for a recent suspension, we might almost say there had been none. The position of mill-owners is, further, more promising, for while they are remarkably free from accumulations of stocks, of either yarns or cloths, the arrivals of cotton within the last few days hold out the prospect of a cheaper supply of this material if cautiously operated in. But we will not indulge in any dangerous speculations as to the future.

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF SPECIE.
TOTAL quantity of bullion shipped from England for the year 1855, commencing 4th January and ending 20th December:—

1855.	Grand Total for each Month.	
	Gold.	Silver.
January.....	99,143	312,469
February.....	42,833	167,591
March.....	£2,311	226,151
April.....	39,194	237,649
May.....	107,317	397,129
June.....	56,819	775,170
July.....	95,985	703,743
August.....	71,430	656,316
September.....	146,464	932,842
October.....	111,309	713,478
November.....	77,091	434,244
December.....	48,396	857,113
Total.....	948,272	5,403,889

Total amount of specie from Great Britain to the East, for five years:—

	Gold.	Silver.
1851.....	£102,280	£1,716,100
1852.....	921,739	2,630,238
1853.....	880,702	4,710,665
1854.....	1,174,299	3,131,003
1855.....	948,272	6,409,889
Total for five years.....	4,026,792	18,598,895

Total from the Mediterranean ports to the East, for three years:—

	Gold.	Silver.
1855.....	£91,528	£848,262
1854.....	48,456	1,451,014
1855.....	247,239	1,524,240
Total.....	385,223	3,823,516

—Furnished by Mr James Low, 5 Austin friars.

EAST INDIA COMPANY'S BILLS.

STATEMENT of bills drawn by the East India Company on the three Presidencies from the commencement of the last charter (year 1834-35), and the rates of exchange during each year, from 1st May and ending 30th April (official year):—

Amount drawn in each year.	On Bengal.			Madras.			Bombay.		
	pr Rs. 100.	pr Rs. 100.	pr Rs. 100.	pr Rs. 100.	pr Rs. 100.	pr Rs. 100.	pr Rs. 100.	pr Rs. 100.	
1834-35... 732,803 8 2	2 0 2 1	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	
1835-36... 2,015,253 14 8	2 0 6 0	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	
1836-37... 2,042,232 1 10	2 0 and	1 11 and	1 11 and	1 11 and	1 11 and	1 11 and	1 11 and	1 11 and	
1837-38... 1,706,284 13 2	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	
1838-39... 2,346,591 16 1	2 0 2 1	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	
1839-40... 1,439,824 16 2	2 1 1 11	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	
1840-41... 1,175,7 0 2 10	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	
1841-42... 2,885,283 14 4	1 10 2 0	1 10 2 0	1 10 2 0	1 10 2 0	1 10 2 0	1 10 2 0	1 10 2 0	1 10 2 0	
1842-43... 1,197,433 10 5	2 0 2 1	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	
1843-44... 2,801,731 0 10	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	1 11 0 0	
1844-45... 2,316,951 0 6	1 11 1 9	1 11 1 9	1 11 1 9	1 11 1 9	1 11 1 9	1 11 1 9	1 11 1 9	1 11 1 9	
1845-46... 3,065,709 1 6	1 10 1 11	1 10 1 11	1 10 1 11	1 10 1 11	1 10 1 11	1 10 1 11	1 10 1 11	1 10 1 11	
1846-47... 3,097,041 7 0	1 11 1 10	1 11 1 10	1 11 1 10	1 11 1 10	1 11 1 10	1 11 1 10	1 11 1 10	1 11 1 10	
1847-48... 1,541,803 16 0	1 10 1 9½	1 10 1 9½	1 10 1 9½	1 10 1 9½	1 10 1 9½	1 10 1 9½	1 10 1 9½	1 10 1 9½	
1848-49... 1,891,194 11 5	1 9 1 10	1 9 1 10	1 9 1 10	1 9 1 10	1 9 1 10	1 9 1 10	1 9 1 10	1 9 1 10	
1849-50... 2,935,618 5 4	1 10 0 0	1 10 0 0	1 10 0 0	1 10 0 0	1 10 0 0	1 10 0 0	1 10 0 0	1 10 0 0	
1850-51... 3,246,457 13 3	2 1 2 0	2 0 2 1	2 0 2 1	2 0 2 1	2 0 2 1	2 0 2 1	2 0 2 1	2 0 2 1	
1851-52... 2,775,522 16 6	2 1 2 0	2 1 2 0	2 1 2 0	2 1 2 0	2 1 2 0	2 1 2 0	2 1 2 0	2 1 2 0	
1852-53... 3,217,121 13 7	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	1 11 2 0	
1853-54... 3,850,564 11 3	2 1 2 0	2 1 2 0	2 1 2 0	2 1 2 0	2 1 2 0	2 1 2 0	2 1 2 0	2 1 2 0	
1854-55... 3,969,577 16 8	1 11 2 1	1 11 2 1	1 11 2 1	1 11 2 1	1 11 2 1	1 11 2 1	1 11 2 1	1 11 2 1	

THE NEW FRENCH TARIFF.

THE following is a complete statement of the recent modifications made in the French Tariff:—

Almonds, in French vessels 1f, in foreign vessels 3f; antimony, sulphurated, French 1f, foreign 3f. German silver, unwrought, French 1f, foreign 2f; bitumen fluid and tar derived from the distillation of coal, French 5c, foreign 1f, per 100 kilos. Timber of all kinds from French colonies and from Senegal, free in both vessels. Wood in splits, French 10c; hoop sticks, French 10c, foreign 1f 50c; staves, French 10c, foreign 1f 50c, per 1,000 in number. Fir, pine, elm, and other common timber: unwhewn, squared with the axe, or sawn of more than 80 millimetres in thickness, French 5c, foreign 10c, per cubic metre; sawn to 80 millimetres or less in thickness, except boards and planks of walnut, specially denominated, French 5c, foreign 1f, per 100 metres in length. Twigs for brooms prepared, French 50c, foreign 5f; saffron flowers, from countries beyond Europe, French 1f, foreign 10f; saffron flowers, from the entrepots, French 6f, foreign 10f; slack lime and limestone, calcined or broken, French 1c, foreign 1f; wax (not purified) brown or yellow, French 1f, per 100 kilos. Citrate of lime, French 1c, foreign 5c, per kilo. Horns of animals (raw), French 10c, foreign 1f, per 100 kilos. Spars, free in both vessels. Seeds for sowing—garden and flower seeds, madder and woad seed, thistle and cotton seed, French 10c, foreign 1f; plumbago or black lead, French 1f, foreign 3f; canes and reeds, French 10f, foreign 20f, per 100 kilos. Lemon juice—natural or concentrated to the strength of 33 deg. and lower, French 1c, foreign 5c, per kilo. Cork (rough), French 50c, foreign 5f, per 100 kilos. Boathook poles, of from 6 to 11 centimetres in thickness, inclusive, and pitchfork handles, and handles for tar brushes, free in both vessels. Chestnut and chestnut flour, French 1f, foreign 3f, per 100 kilos. Poles and masts, free in both vessels. Mercury, native or quicksilver, French 1f, foreign 5f, per 100 kilos; grindstones, French 10c, foreign 30c, each. Honey, French 1f, foreign 6f; lamp black and Spanish black, French 1f, foreign 3f, per 100 kilos. Walnuts, nuts and filberts, French 1f, foreign 3f; orillons, French 10c, foreign 1f; bones and hoofs of cattle, French, 10c, foreign 1f. Raw hides of large size, dried, by sea, from countries out of Europe, French 10c, foreign 10f; ditto, ditto, dried, by sea, from the entrepots, French 5f, foreign 10f; ditto

dried, by land, of European origin, French, 10f; ditto, not dried, by sea, from countries out of Europe, French 10c; ditto, not dried, by sea, from contiguous countries, French 10c; sea dog skins, raw, fresh, or dried (without wool), French 10c, foreign, 1f; goat skins, raw, fresh, or dried and other raw skins of small size not otherwise named, French 10c, foreign 1f, per 100 kilos. Pigouilles, of from 11 to less than 15 centimetres of diameter inclusively, free in both vessels. Quills (raw) for pens, French 10c, foreign 10f; ditto, raw, French, 10c, foreign 1f; ditto, combed in or assorted bundles, French, 10f, foreign, 11f, per 100 kilos. Leeches, free in both vessels. Sarcocolla, kino, and dried vegetable extracts, same duties as all exotic resins not specially named. Bran, French, 5c; Spanish broom, raw or beaten, French, 5c per 100 kilos.

Agriculture.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS. SCOTCH AND ENGLISH VIEWS.

THE returns of the Highland and Agricultural Society of the Statistics of Scotch Agriculture have just been published, and, as before, appear to be complete and general. Only a few farmers have declined to send in their returns; and Mr Hall Maxwell says, "The slender minority in opposition does not entirely consist of their (farmers) class; I regret to say that it comprises the names of landlords whose influence might have been looked for in an opposite direction, but whose example, fortunately, has been disregarded by their tenants." The report, which appeared in our columns on the 15th inst., will have shown our readers the changes which have been made this year in some minor details, as well as the valuable information derived from such statistical data. In Scotland, therefore, the system is fairly established. That any one, be he landlord or tenant, should object to furnish such information for England, would seem almost incredible to those who have not a somewhat intimate acquaintance with the interior of our rural economy. Yet it is the fact that, unless returns by occupiers of farms shall be made compulsory, there will be great difficulty in obtaining for England such complete statistical returns of our agricultural produce as have been received for Scotland. The reason is to be sought in the lamentable state of the relations of landlords and tenants in England. The tenants have no security for the continued possession of their farms, save a sort of *vis inertia* which prevents the landlord from attempting any change so long as there is no great alteration in the proceedings of the tenant. But let a yearly tenant improve his farm as for his own profit he ought to do, and in nine cases out of ten he would sooner or later, on some pretext or another, be compelled to pay over again for his own improvements in the shape of an advanced rent. The instances in which this has not occurred, and such may undoubtedly be pointed out, are so special and peculiar as not in any way to alter the rule. And it is because English tenants fear that the statistical information they may afford to the public will be used against them by their landlords, that they are reluctant to afford it. This was pointedly referred to at the Wicral Agricultural Society, which recently discussed the subject of Agricultural Statistics. A series of resolutions were agreed to, of which we select the following as illustrating the views we have expressed:—

3.—That the only valid objections which have been or are offered by the producers to all or any of the schemes for collecting agricultural statistics, resolve themselves into an unwillingness on the part of individuals needlessly to expose their affairs to other persons.

4.—That this unwillingness, when duly inquired into, will, in most cases, be found to be justified by an unsatisfactory state of the relation of landlord and tenant; and occasionally, though less frequently, by other circumstances.

5.—That whether this unwillingness to furnish the required information be or be not justifiable, there can be no doubt that it exists to an extent likely, if it be not duly cared for, to vitiate, more or less, the results of the inquiry.

6.—That no compulsory enactment will be sufficient to overcome the effect of this unwillingness, so long as it takes the form referred to in the third resolution.

7.—That it is not essential to a complete collection, classification, and publication of the required statistics, that any such disclosure of the affairs of individuals as is objected to should take place; and hence, that those who candidly entertain such objection are justified in resisting the operation of any scheme which shall not at least render such disclosure improbable.

10.—That it is not the end, but the method of attaining it, that is objected to; and that this method will continue to be objectionable to the producer so long as he shall be required, in rendering the information called for, to submit it, against his will, to the scrutiny of any person whatever in his own locality.

11.—That the interference of local officers should therefore, and especially in the present state of things, be limited to the distribution of the necessary forms, the instruction of those who may need instruction in filling them up, and any assistance the authorities in London may need, after the returns have been sent in to the head office, in ascertaining (1) that each person required to make a return has made one; and (2) whether, where suspicion of error or fraud exists, the suspicion is well or ill-founded.

12.—That it is not denied, or even doubted, that a local inspection of details would tend to check fraud or error as sources of inaccuracy. And were the position of the tenant-farmer, in general, in a more satisfactory state, the application of this check would not be objected to. But this society is strongly of opinion that, as things are, all who are interested in the formation of a sound system of agricultural statistics—and none can be more interested than the tenant-farmer himself—and shall, in a candid spirit, take the trouble to acquaint themselves with the facts, will not only see that this check is at present inapplicable, but will also recognise in its non-application, and the probable consequences, an additional reason, on behalf of the public interest, for every effort that may be made to place the tenant-farmer in a position better adapted to the increased wealth and intelligence of the class, and more in accordance with the spirit of the age.

The above resolutions state in a fair and temperate spirit the objections entertained by English farmers to afford the information necessary for a complete collection of agricultural statistics. They feel they are in a position to be taken advantage of by their landlords, and they have no wish to afford them statistical information. We believe this opinion to be erroneous, and that the fullest informa-

tion would show that, so far from farmers having advantageous bargains, they do not in general get a fair return for their labour and capital. There is no doubt that most landlords act upon the principle lately avowed with a somewhat audacious simplicity by Sir Montague Cholmeley when he said, "If I knew a tenant of mine was doing pretty well, I should raise his rent."

Literature.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA. Substance of a Discourse delivered to the Members of the Worsley Literary Institution. By the EARL OF ELLESMERE. Murray.

A VERY interesting review of the chief features of the present struggle, from its commencement to the fall of Sebastopol, is contributed by the Earl of Ellesmere, in the form of a lecture, delivered before a small local audience, and, as we assured, not intended for publication. The shape thus assumed gives ease and simplicity to the style, and is favourable to the clear and straightforward arrangement of the ideas enunciated. The tone is calm, thoughtful, and impartial; the views suggested moderate and, we think, sound. Even the rebukes administered to the most mistaken and the most reckless critics of the proceedings of the army and the Government, are dignified and temperate. We heartily wish that this little volume had appeared in a cheaper and outwardly less attractive form, so as to secure itself a wide circulation among those classes to whom it would be most useful—those who have the least means of forming an independent and impartial opinion upon the real facts of the case, and who are most apt to be misled by specious or violent exaggeration and misrepresentation.

Of the length of time for which the statesmen of Europe have been more or less aware of the designs and the encroaching disposition of Russia, we find the following notice:—

Neither do English statesmen awaken now for the first time, within my own recollection, to the necessity of offering a check to Russian designs. Twice since the peace of 1814 have we been upon the verge of an armed combination for that purpose. The first of these occasions was when Russia, at the Congress of Vienna, carried things with so high a hand, that England, Austria, and France, represented by Lord Castlereagh, Prince Metternich, and Talleyrand, entered into a secret treaty against her. I believe it originated with Prince Metternich; but Lord Castlereagh was so sensible of the urgency of the case, that, without instructions from his Government—there were no telegraphs in those days—he, at an hour's notice, drew and signed that treaty. It was considered one of the most audacious assumptions of responsibility on record; (it took away Lord Liverpool's breath when he heard of it;) but Lord Castlereagh was a man of daring courage, physical and moral. The return of Napoleon from Elba prevented the explosion which would have ensued; but the Emperor Alexander long remembered and resented the transaction, of which Napoleon, who found the draft of the treaty at the Foreign Office on his arrival in Paris, took good care to inform him.

In 1828, again, Austria, the Power most directly interested in checking the designs of Russia upon Turkey, felt her way towards a combination with France and England for that purpose, but France refused her co-operation, and the Russian General Diebitsch was allowed to reach Adrianople and dictate terms of peace to the Sultan.

Those who hoped for a short and decisive war were mistaken in their estimate of the defensive resources of Russia. True, that her force on paper differed widely from her effective force; true, that she had the utmost difficulty in bringing an adequate proportion of her power to bear upon any one point; true, that her commissariat was very defective, and the quality of her troops greatly inferior to that of their opponents. But she was well prepared for war. All along her frontier, stores had been collected and arrangements made to strengthen her vast natural power of resistance. And for the present crisis, though it probably came somewhat unexpectedly, she had long been making diligent preparation. Her troops fought with courage and resolution, and her officers were not deficient either in spirit or ability. Perhaps it was a disadvantage to them, in actual warfare, that they were governed too much by fixed rules and direct orders, emanating from St Petersburg. To this may be attributed their adherence to a mode of attack of which, it would seem, they must soon have learned the inconvenience, fatally proved at Inkerman:—

In the Russian service, the formation and movement of troops in action are much governed by regulation, from which a general in the field could only depart at the risk of Siberia. The order prescribed by the late Emperor for the advance of an independent division, 17,000 strong, limits, as I informed, its front to 840 paces. A simple calculation in arithmetic will show you that this gives it a depth of twenty men for every pace. Napoleon is said to have fought his principal battles with a depth of six or seven. It is not safe to condemn hastily any practice which men of experience think suitable to the character of the troops they have to command; but I cannot help thinking it a misfortune for the troops, that in order to give them confidence, or for any other reason, it should be necessary to expose them in such vulnerable masses to the effect of an enemy's fire. It is obvious that the effect, whether of grape, round shot, or the Minié ball, must be terrible against them,—that even the rearmost ranks must suffer without being able to reply, and without knowing what is going on in front; a condition which always tends to demoralise. Russian accounts attribute their defeat at Inkerman in great measure to the fact, that in the darkness of

the misty morning two of these heavy bodies, instead of diverging, took the same direction, and got mixed in irreparable confusion. There can be little doubt that this confusion was greatly increased by the tactical defects of such a system.

The objections to the proceedings of the Allies, after the battle of the Alma, as tardy and timid in not at once following up their victory by an assault upon Sebastopol, are answered by a remark which we understand to mean, that though the fortifications were not at first of any great strength (at least in comparison with what they afterwards became), yet unless the army of Prince Menschikoff had been utterly demoralised, they must have been fully able to maintain the place, and repel us with very heavy loss. The garrison themselves were more afraid of an attack from the sea; probably on account of their exaggerated terror of the unknown Lancaster gun. That even if the mouth of the harbour had been left open, however, the ships could have effected nothing more than they did, seems sufficiently probable. The question of ships *versus* masonry is treated at some length, and the conclusions are decidedly in favour of the latter. The increased weight and range of the guns tell heavily against the ships. "Against stone or earth defences properly constructed, it is well known that distance makes all the difference." Not so with ships. Again, if one shell strikes a ship, it may suffice to blow it up: land fortifications are seldom in any such peril. When examples of the heroic courage and consummate skill of our former admirals are alleged in invidious contrast, it is well to have such a reply as the following:—

The answer in Nelson's case might be best derived from what he did or did not. Why, half the lives of Nelson and his noble colleague and successor, Collingwood, was passed in weary watches off ports they could not enter, counting the pennants which flew there in safety, and exhausting device and stratagem to induce them to come out. On one occasion they did come out. Lord Nelson's ship passed within hail of Sir Richard Strahan's. "What do you say to it?" said Nelson. "All ready, my lord," was the reply. Lord Nelson counted the enemy's force and avoided the action. The amount of disparity of force which deterred him from battle was probably considerable, but it did deter him. Did Nelson ever go in and smash the French fleet in Toulon? Did Collingwood go into Cadiz to finish off the remains of Trafalgar which had taken refuge there? No; for though they were the greatest admirals that ever lived, they were neither madmen nor desperadoes.

The delay of the Allies at Varna, during the siege of Silistria, excited great displeasure in England. We remember to have heard it said, at the time, that the armies were detained by orders from home, in order that the Russians might be permitted to take that fortress, and so to withdraw with honour from the contest! The real reason appears to have been the want of adequate means of land transport, equally felt by both armies, who were disgusted at being thus detained in their camp, in forced inaction. But a march into the Principalities was not a thing to be lightly undertaken by troops as yet totally untrained to the hardships of war; the French *reconnaissance* into the Dobrudzha cost the lives of almost all concerned in it; and before the armies of France and England were ready to move, Russia had evacuated, and Austria occupied, the Principalities. The necessity of crossing the Danube was now at end; the policy of the attempt more than questionable; and the destruction of the Russian power in the Black Sea, to which Sinope had called the attention of Europe, became a paramount object. The wisdom of the Crimean expedition need not now be vindicated. But, in one point, justice has not even yet been fully rendered to the first commanders of the allied forces. The difficulties of such a command are multiplied indefinitely by its division. The ability and discretion of Marshal St Arnaud and Lord Raglan must have been tasked to the utmost by the necessities and anxieties of their position, but they were not found wanting. The arrangements of the war rendered united action necessary. Undoubtedly much would have been gained by employing the armies of the Allies in separate fields; but circumstances did not allow of this, and the judicious choice of commanders obviated the complications and embarrassments which might have been feared from the plan adopted.

The attachment of the noble author to Lord Raglan has induced him to give one or two interesting particulars respecting that gallant and much-maligned soldier. His serene temper, his judgment and forbearance, and above all the *loyalty* of character to which his first colleague in command bore ample testimony in the letters published since his decease, admirably fitted him for the place he held:—

One peculiarity of Lord Raglan's character I fain would mention, because I think he acquired it under his great master; his repugnance to anything like ostentation or display. When the last shot had been fired at Alma, and the troops were taking up their bivouac for the night, he was recognised as he rode along the line of camp fires. The men, tired as they were, turned out to cheer him as he passed. His remark to his staff was, "I foresaw this." He treated it as an inevitable inconvenience attending success. I am assured that in the camp of Balaklava he was often present, where not recognised, under the simple and un-military attire which he affected with the purpose of avoiding the troublesome honours, turning out of guards, drumming, &c., which etiquette requires upon the appearance of a general in uniform.

Respecting the conduct of the press during the last winter, we find the following strictures:—

Our misfortunes were commented upon by the English press in a manner which I think would have alienated any other army from its officers, and have shaken its discipline and organisation. Do not understand me as uttering any unqualified condemnation of the action of the press. Many of its exposures of remediable defects were timely and valuable. The choice of the *Times* of an agent for a humane object, Mr McDonald, was, I believe, as felicitous as the object was good. What I think is, that the *Times* employed the capital acquired by such services in a manner frequently so mischievous, that if that journal had been in the pay of Russia, it could hardly have done better service to that Power; that many of its powerful articles have been fraught with injustice to individuals; that inevitable incidents of war have been treated in a manner calculated to prevent recruiting at home, unjustly to depreciate the English army in the eyes of Europe, to abet the willing malice of its philo-Russian maligners, to paralyse Lord Clarendon's diplomacy, and to alienate from us every neutral and vacillating Power.

The little volume concludes with the following reply to those who will be satisfied with no terms of peace that shall not involve the humiliation of Russia:—

What I deprecate is, that English blood and English treasure should be lavished, not in obtaining due and valid security for the future peace of Europe, but to gratify a spirit of blind and insolent bluster, of which I have seen, to my regret, many samples of late in the English language, and which marks some of the communications lately addressed to myself. As things stand, in a military point of view, Mackenzie's farm is not yet the Caudine Forks. If it were, Prince Gortschakoff's army is not the Russian Empire. The alternative of the old Samnite is not at your disposal, but wisdom and truth are eternal, and the spirit of his advice is applicable, *mutatis mutandis*, to things of our day. Do not insult nor endeavour to degrade and humiliate an enemy you cannot destroy. To act in this spirit is to make peace itself a hollow truce. To refrain from so acting does not imply the foregoing the fair and full advantage of battle fairly won. If there be prospect of that advantage, settle in your own mind how you will use it, and act accordingly when the time comes, but do not talk about it till it is yours. Those who talk loudly now of trampling on Russia are not the men, and I should guess not the fathers and brothers of the men who are doing the work, men of the trench the bivouac, and the front of the sap. These will tell you that trampling on Russia is not child's play. The bluster, the taunt, the abuse, and the call for blood, smell to me of comfort, luxury, strong potations, four-post beds, and three meals a day. Those who will not be satisfied, though Turkey be safe and Europe appeased, till Russia be trampled on, would do well to shoulder a Minie, and go and do it.

A NEW HISTORY OF ENGLAND, CIVIL, POLITICAL, AND ECCLESIASTICAL. By G. S. POULTON. Freeman.

It, as predicated in the advertisements, an impartial history of England has been hitherto a desideratum, we fear that, so far as Mr Poulton is concerned, there is but little chance of the want being supplied. This work is, and should have been entitled, "A Dissenter's History of England." This being fairly understood, we think the work will be acceptable in some quarters, and in many respects useful. Proportion, however, is badly observed. The ecclesiastical history obtains a decided prominence, and one of the chief uses of the work, in our opinion, will be in pointing out the contemporary stages of civil and ecclesiastical progress. We do not quite agree with the arrangement which assigns to the twenty-four years of Charles the First a larger space than to the half-century of the reign of George the Third. On the whole, however, we think the work, as a political history, superior to the average of "school histories," while it has a tolerably full history of Church polity in addition, the whole comprised in less than 800 octavo pages.

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF NATIONAL EDUCATION, IRELAND. From the Twenty-first Report of the Commissioners. Dublin: Printed by Alexander Thom and Sons. We need not say more than call the attention of all who are interested in the subject, practically or otherwise, to the necessity of studying the above publication.

IRELAND: A Thread of Life. By ALICE SOMERTON. Ward and Lock. We have sought in vain for subjects of commendation in this volume, and as we cannot praise it in justice to our readers, we will merely mention its prevailing characteristics:—a childishness of style, and an improbability in many minor incidents of the story, which render it necessary for the authoress to assure us that its main features are real.

IRISH IMPROVED DIARY AND ALMANACK FOR 1856. Charles Penny and Sons.

A NEAT and convenient little volume, well compiled, and printed in legible type.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

- The Confidential Correspondence of Napoleon Bonaparte with his Brother Joseph. Two Vols. Murray.
 The Paths to Parliament. Madden.
 The Heroes; or, Greek Fairy Tales. Cambridge: M'Millan.
 Roe's Diary and Almanack for 1856. Penny and Sons.
 Die Neue Gestaltung der Geld- und Credit-Verhältnisse in Oesterreich. Williams and Norgate.
 The Trans-Caucasian Provinces the Proper Field of Operation for a Christian Army. By Laurence Oliphant. Blackwood and Sons.
 The Chairman's Answer to the Report of the Committee of Investigation of the Eastern Counties Railway. Johnson.
 The Bank Charter Act of 1844. By Thomas Tooke, F.R.S. Longman.
 Palmerston's Last Joke; or The New Pension Warrants Considered. Stanford.
 The Almanack of Science and Art. Chapman and Hall.
 The Literary and Scientific Register and Almanack for 1856. Bogue.

News of the Week.

COURT AND ARISTOCRACY.

The usual Christmas festivities have been observed at Windsor this week. Lord Panmure and Sir Harry Jones have visited the Queen.

The Queen has been pleased to approve Mr Friedrich Wilhelm Jansen as Consul at Melbourne for the free Hanseatic city of Bremen.

METROPOLIS.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.—In the week that ended last Saturday, though the rigour of the weather was not mitigated, but augmented, the number of deaths registered was not quite equal to that of the preceding week, the numbers in the two periods having been 1,271 and 1,257. The return includes the deaths of 634 males and 623 females. Last week the births of 759 boys and 763 girls, in all 1,522 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1845-54 the average number was 1,434. There was a full moon on Saturday. At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the highest reading of the barometer was 30.19 in. on the morning of Wednesday. The mean reading of the week was 29.939 in. The mean temperature of the week was 28.2 deg., which is 10.8 deg. below the average of the same week in 38 years. The mean of the previous week was 32.7 deg. The air was coldest on Friday and Saturday, the mean temperature on those days having been respectively 18.5 deg. and 17 deg. below the average. On Saturday, the thermometer fell to 16.9 deg., the lowest point in the week. The highest temperature was 42 deg., and occurred on Sunday (the 16th). The mean daily temperature was below the average throughout the week; and on every day after Tuesday the extent of depression was more than 13 deg. The mean dew-point temperature was 19.2 deg., and the difference between this and the mean air temperature was 9 deg. The mean temperature of the water of the Thames was 35.3 deg. The wind which had been generally in the east, changed on Saturday to north-east, and in the evening to south-west. On several days the air is described by the observer as "remarkably dry." On Saturday night snow fell; the character of the weather suddenly changed, and at midnight the temperature was 6 deg. higher than it had been three hours before.

COVENT GARDEN.—*La Belle Alliance; or, Harlequin Good Humour and the Field of the Cloth of Gold*, is the name of the pantomime produced by the *Great Wizard of the North*. It is a decided "hit," and will, no doubt, have a long run.

DRURY LANE THEATRE.—The title of the pantomime produced at this theatre is *Hey Diddle Diddle; or, Harlequin King Nonsense and the Seven Ages of Man*. The holiday folks have had a rich treat this week in visiting its performance, and it promises to rank with one of the best pantomimes of the day. The house has been crowded nightly.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL.
FRANCE.

The retail trade of Paris has recovered some activity, in consequence of the approaching new year. The *magazines de nouveautés* in particular are visited by numerous purchasers. The manufacturers have also received important orders from abroad, which will enable them to give occupation to their workmen for the winter. The accounts from the provincial industrial districts, however, are not so satisfactory. At Rouen, Mulhouse, Roubaix, and Amiens manufacturers complain of the high price of raw materials and of being under the necessity of disposing of their goods on unprofitable terms. Those of Roubaix and Amiens employ a large quantity of wool imported from the English colonies and South America in foreign vessels, and for which they pay 15 or 20 per cent. higher than if they received the article directly from those countries in French bottoms. The sale of grain is becoming daily more difficult, since it is evident that the purchases made in the United States, Spain, and other countries, amply supply the supposed deficiency in the last crop. Speculators who had laid in a considerable stock are now anxious to sell off, but find with difficulty buyers at the present rates. There were a few transactions in flour of superior quality at 107f 50c and 108f, and the inferior description was held at between 102f and 103f. The stock in the Halle exceeded 22,000 metrical quintals, and the quantity now lying in the entrepôts is three times more considerable than at the same period last year. Wheat has experienced a slight decline, and in the departments the fall is general. The accounts from the principal cattle markets and fairs of the interior mention a diminution in prices. In Limousin, for instance, fat oxen and pigs sell at 10c lower per kilogramme than last December. The wine trade at Bercy is pretty active, Paris and its environs having of late purchased largely. Prices, however, remain firm. There is no foundation whatever in the report, published by some foreign journals, that the French Government intend to increase the duty on tobacco, salt, and other articles. The lowest price of wheats during the second week of December was 30f 12c at Hennebon, and the highest 40f 65c at Bergues.

UNITED STATES.

The mercantile advices report less activity and firmness in the market for both breadstuffs and cotton. The usual weekly returns relating to the import and export trade of New York are as follows:—The annexed statement exhibits the quantity and value of certain articles exported during the week ending and including Friday, December, 7, 1855:—Commerce of the port of New York—Value of merchandise exported during the week, 2,008,020 dols; total importation, 1,670,402 dols; excess of exports over imports, 337,618 dols. Commerce of the port of New York—Value of general merchandise put on the market during the week, 894,496 dols; ditto dry goods ditto, 775,906 dols; total importations, 1,670,402 dols. Three or four articles of universal consumption form the bulk of the aggregate:—Coffee, amounting to 129,369 dols; cigars, 51,639 dols; sugar, 76,406 dols; tea, 164,297 dols, were im-

ported. The balance is made up of the usual variety. The *New York Herald* observes:—"The great feature of our export trade last week in the quantity of breadstuffs shipped to ports in Europe. Nearly three-fourths of the total exportation was in flour, wheat, and corn. To Havre alone, flour and wheat, to the value of about 280,000 dols were sent during the week. To nearly every European port to which shipments of any kind were made we find either provisions or breadstuffs. The balance of our exportations was made up of the usual variety. In the face of these extensive shipments we find a limited importation. At this season we generally commence imports for the spring trade, and they are usually large; but this year, thus far, the amount has been small. The returns of the City banks, when compared with those for the previous week, show the following variations:—Increase in loans and discounts, 662,882 dols; increase in specie, 617,491 dols; increase in circulation, 20,087 dols; decrease in deposits, 987,873 dols.

SARDINIA.

The following are the details of the estimates recently presented to the Chamber of the expenditure of the Eastern expedition:—

FOR THE ARMY.		Francs
Intendenza militare	.....	900,000
Sus-sistenza militare	.....	727,000
Pay to troops	.....	5,370,000
Medical service	.....	1,990,000
Stores, various	.....	6,704,000
Transports and freight	.....	7,035,000
Remount of horses and mules	.....	3,556,275
Bread and provisions	.....	20,067,442
Wood, &c. for hutting and camping	.....	869,400
Service of artillery	.....	2,364,368
— engineers	.....	2,323,035
— staff	.....	17,991
Sundries	.....	370,000
Extraordinary expenditure	.....	488,000
Forage	.....	6,000,000
Total	.....	62,864,111
FOR THE NAVY.		Francs c
General commissariat	.....	44,500 0
Pay and allowances	.....	1,644,545 25
Various expenses on board	.....	2,644,481 40
Freight and transport	.....	370,000 0
Bread and provisions	.....	2,132,000 0
Material	.....	3,607,501 0
Purchase of vessels	.....	1,532,375 0
Total	.....	11,376,461 68

SOUTH AMERICA.

We have advices from Rio to the 20th ult:—The quotations for freights and coffee were unaltered, but large arrivals of coffee were expected from the interior, and it was supposed holders would have to lower their pretensions, although they did not seem disposed to go low enough to permit the execution of orders, which had generally been received at very reduced limits. About 260,000^l of bills had been negotiated on London, principally at 27½ to 27¼. On France and Hamburg there was no alteration in the exchange at Rio. At Bahia cholera had all but disappeared, but still continued bad in the interior and near ports. Although the weather was fine, sugars came in slowly, and 2,400 for browns, and 2,800 to 3,000 for whites had been paid, principally for the south. Coffee rather flat at 4,000. For cotton, buyers offered 5,200, free on board, and sellers demanded 5,600. Exchange 27½ for 60 days' sight. Last freights paid for Liverpool—45s for sugar, and 8d for cotton; and for the Channel, 57s 6d. Pernambuco continued entirely to escape the infection of cholera. More activity prevailed in the import trade, in consequence of the increased arrival of goods. Sugars were accumulating in the hands of storekeepers, but prices of browns kept up, and 2,250 to 2,460 were paid for low to good quality. Whites had declined, and 3,700 was the last rate paid on "Change for shipment to Valparaiso. Cotton, regular quality 4,800 up to 5,400 for very picked lots. In freights, the quotations continued nominal, at 55s for the Channel and a port in the United Kingdom, and at 60s for Havre, Hamburg, and intermediate ports; for Liverpool, 37s 6d sugar; cotton, 8d. In exchanges about 20,000^l had been done on London at 27½, ¼, and ½.

AUSTRALIA.

Sydney papers to the 15th September have come to hand. The following commercial intelligence we extract from the *Sydney Morning Herald*:—"The Government gold escort arrived this morning from the Western fields, and delivered at the Colonial Treasury the following quantities of gold dust:—From Sofala, 598 ozs 9 dwts 6 grs; Tambora, 188 ozs 6 dwts; Avisford, 451 ozs 10 dwts. The total amount received was 1,238 ozs 5 dwts 6 grs. There have been rumours circulated in town to-day of the discovery of rich diggings at Oakey Creek on the Turon. The amount of gold dust imported into the Sydney branch of the Royal Mint during the week ending to-day has been 2,005 ounces. The issue of sovereigns to-day was 8,000. The acts for granting duties of Customs, and to alter the duty on colonial spirits, were assented to by the Legislative Council yesterday. The act to alter the duty on colonial spirits, enacts that, in lieu of the duties now payable upon spirits, when made or distilled from sugar which shall have paid Customs' duties, for every gallon 6s 5d. Upon such spirits, when made or distilled wholly, or in any proportion exceeding 10 per cent. of the whole, from materials which are not subject to any duty of Customs, for every gallon 7s. In our wool market we have to note far more briskness than we have been enabled to report during the last fortnight. On Thursday, Messrs Mort and Co. offered 186 bales, and the prices obtained were satisfactory. Scoured, 1s 6d to 2s 1d, the latter high quotation being for a very fine sample of New Zealand wool secured by Mr Hays, of the Waterloo Mills; superior clips are quoted at from 1s 4d to 1s 6½d; fair to good, 1s 2d to 1s 4½d; low to middling, 1s to 1s 2d; handwashed, 1½d to 1s 4½d. In tallow but few transactions have occurred during the week. Mutton is quoted at 38½ to 39½; beef, at 36½ to 38½. In hides there has been inquiry for heavy and sound-conditioned samples; a parcel from the Clarence River was sold at 13s 9d.

BIRTHS.

On the 22d inst., at Exton hall, Lancashire, the Lady Emma Anderton, of a son and heir.
 On the 16th inst. at Maretimo, Black Rock, the Marchioness of Kildare, of a daughter.
 On the 23d inst., at Dodington, the Lady Georgiana Codrington, of a son.
 On Christmas-day, at 81 Eaton square, the Countess de Morella, of a son.
 On the 18th inst., at Ringrose, Devonshire, Lady Kingsale, of a daughter.
 On the 27th inst., at 37 Carzon street, the Hon. Mrs Fredk Byron, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 24th inst., at Meggetland house, Edinburgh, Professor C. Piazzzi Smyth, Astronomer Royal of Scotland, second son of Rear-Admiral W. H. Smyth, K.S.F., to Jessie, third daughter of the late Thomas Duncan, Esq., Advocate, Aberdeen.
 On the 20th inst., Evan H. Baillie, Esq., of Gloucester Place, Portman square, to Emma, widow of the late Lieut-Col. Baillie, of the Bombay Army.
 On the 20th inst., at St Vincent de Paul's, John Francis Alphonse Lavanchy, Esq., only son of Mr John Robert Lavanchy, New Burlington street, to Marie Celine Guerin, only daughter of Mons. Jean Joseph Guerin, merchant, of Paris.
 On the 20th ult., at Montreal, Canada, Angus Cameron Hooper, Esq., of the Bank of British North America, to Catherine, fourth daughter of the late Dr Robertson.

DEATHS.

On the 15th inst., at Fillongley, in the 83d year of his age, the Rev. John Thickins, for 50 years Vicar of Exhall, and for 30 years Vicar of Fillongley, both in the county of Warwick.
 On Sunday morning, the 23d inst., at 28 St Paul's terrace, Islington, Mr James Lloyd, aged 63, formerly and for 20 years in the service of the Bank of England.
 At Upper Hyde park street, the Lady Catherine Bell, in her 76th year.
 On the 19th inst., at Myton house, near Warwick, aged 82, Mrs Anne Parker, sister of Admiral Sir William Parker, Bart, G.C.B.
 On the 19th inst., at Hill, near Southampton, Rear-Admiral Thomas, son of the late Sir John Thomas, Bart.
 On the 22d inst., at 38 Alfred street, Bedford square, James Cates, Esq., for 45 years of the British Museum, in his 78th year.
 On Monday, the 24th inst., at 17 Rutland square, Edinburgh, the Earl of Cathness.
 On Sunday, the 23d inst., Major Sir William Wynn, Governor of Sandown Fort, Isle of Wight, aged 85.
 On December 25th, at Ryde, Isle of Wight, Eleanor Dowager Lady Leeds.

COMMERCIAL AND MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

The following return shows the state of the note circulation of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ending on the 24th ult, compared with the previous month:—

	Oct. 27, 1855	Nov. 24, 1855	Increase	Decrease
	£	£	£	£
Bank of England	20,436,591	19,583,269	...	853,322
Private banks	4,773,977	3,981,970	...	792,007
Joint stock banks	2,159,538	3,120,508	...	39,035
Total in England	27,370,106	26,685,747	...	684,359
Scotland	4,302,335	4,547,597	245,262	...
Ireland	6,788,615	6,964,375	175,760	...
United Kingdom	38,761,056	38,198,054	...	563,002

Showing a decrease of 984,664l in the circulation of notes in England and a decrease of 563,242l in the circulation of the United Kingdom when compared with the month ending the 27th of October. And as compared with the month ending the 25th of November, 1854, the above returns show a decrease of 513,101l in the circulation of notes in England; and a decrease of 110,949l in the circulation of the United Kingdom. The average stock of bullion held by the Bank of England in both departments during the month ending the 24th of November was 11,234,308l, being a decrease of 407,011l as compared with the previous month; and a decrease of 2,343,042l when compared with the same period last year. The stock of specie held by the Scotch and Irish banks during the month ending the 24th of November was 4,215,704l, being an increase of 385,887l as compared with the previous return; and an increase of 422,089l when compared with the corresponding period last year.

The export of specie from the port of Boston, for the month ending Nov. 30, was as follows:—

	dols	c
To Liverpool, per Africa—		
American Gold Coin	100,000	0
American Gold Bars	775,071	13
Truxillo and Omoa	2,000	0
Jeremie	200	0
Cape Haytien	50	0
Aux Cayes	800	0
Total for November	878,771	13
October	1,178,217	95
September	1,045,811	96
August	1,524,726	99
July	1,738,634	59
June	1,741,815	27
May	1,865,541	24
April	1,574,737	55
March	1,929,282	26
February	613,791	47
January	294,735	0
Total this year	14,534,935	32
Same time 1854	7,217,601	3
Same time 1853	4,509,934	20
Same time 1852	3,097,287	42

A letter from Copenhagen says:—"The much talked-of Sound Dues Congress has proved a decided failure. Sweden is the only State that has sent a commissioner, in the person of M. Gyldenstolpe, the director of the Custom-house department. Most of the German States have declined having anything to do with it, especially Hanover and Oldenburg, whilst Mecklenburg has declared it has no objection to the continuation of the Sound dues to be levied as hitherto. With regard to Russia, Count Nesselrode has told the Danish envoy at St Petersburg that Russia cannot consent to the proposal for capitalising the Sound dues.

The Government of the Sultan has permitted the export of timber and salt from Moldavia, by way of the Danube, subject to certain regulations.

Advices from the Cape to the 27th October state that the copper mining interest of the colony was in a very flourishing state. Large shipments of copper were being made to England.

Vessels clearing out of Cuba fully laden with mineral coal or molasses, are now exempted from the payment of port dues.

Advices from Naples to the 20th inst. state that the permission to export biscuit and macaroni, of which large quantities have been sent to the Black Sea during the last six months, is to cease on the 31st of December.

Advices from Naples state that the Government continue their dishonest practices with regard to the currency, and have declared a further reduction of 1½ per cent. in the mint price of silver, so as to raise their profit in coining to 1½ per cent.

The navigation of the White Sea is closed. Nearly 30 vessels, which arrived after the allied cruisers had left, remain frozen in.

The Gazette of last night contains an Order in Council prohibiting the export of saltpetre, nitrate of soda, and muriate of potash, to North America, the West Indies, and all foreign countries; but shipments are to be permitted to India.

Statement of business at the United States Assay Office at New York, for the month ending Nov. 30, 1855:—

	dols	c	dols	c
Deposits of Gold—				
Foreign Coins	4,000	0		
Foreign Bullion	17,009	0		
United States Bullion of which 164,000 dols was California mint bars	2,331,000	0		
			2,350,000	0
Deposits of Silver—				
Foreign Coins	6,500	0		
Foreign Bullion	18,000	0		
United States Bullion (contained in Gold)	16,500	0		
			41,000	0
Payable in Bars	221,000	0		
Payable in Coins	2,169,000	0		
			2,390,000	0
Gold Bars Stamped			2,483,743	90

The following are the records of the export trade of the North-Eastern Ports for the month of November, as evidenced by *Brown's Export List*:—

	1854		1855	
	Coals tons	Coke tons	Coals tons	Coke tons
Newcastle	98,082	7,504	97,708	7,713
Shields	6,552	739	5,266	...
Blyth	6,137	...	5,751	...
Ambie	375	...	1,293	...
Sunderland	34,993	3,018	37,694	1,961
Seaham	2,162	...	2,344	168
Hartlepool and West Hartlepool	23,090	1,659	29,045	1,125
Stockton	152	...	233	...
Middlesborough	2,635	1,871	2,937	1,411
SHIPPED COASTWISE.				
Newcastle	203,141	...	188,561	401
Shields	3,581	...	3,576	...
Blyth	8,489	...	9,053	...
Ambie	4,014	...	2,480	...
Sunderland	123,349	33	130,606	61
Seaham	51,944	...	39,533	...
Hartlepool and West Hartlepool	113,749	152	107,788	36
Stockton	860	...	631	11
Middlesborough	14,229	21	14,522	...

The declared value of goods (other than coal and coke) sent overseas during the month of November in each year, are as follows:—

	MERCHANDISE.	
	1854	1855
Newcastle	102,531	74,564
Shields	...	339
Sunderland	8,438	12,501
Stockton	...	310
West Hartlepool and Hartlepool	50,379	90,258
Middlesborough	10,609	14,333

The total yield of wheat in California, this year, is 2,474,040 bushels, yielding 494,808 barrels of flour.

To Readers and Correspondents.

Communication must be authenticated by the name of the writer.

NEMO shall receive the information he asks next week.

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK RETURNS AND MONEY MARKET.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From the Gazette.)

AN ACCOUNT, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Saturday, the 22nd day of December, 1855:—

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

	£.	£.
Notes issued	24,844,595	
Government Debt		11,015,100
Other Securities		3,459,900
Gold coin and bullion		10,369,595
Silver bullion		...
	24,844,595	24,844,595

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

	£.	£.
Proprietors' capital	14,553,000	
Reserve	3,219,877	
Public Deposits (including Exchange, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts)	5,344,753	
Other Deposits	12,241,457	
Seven Day and other bills	251,088	
	26,210,175	
Government Securities, including Dead Weight Annuity		9,929,197
Other Securities		19,204,133
Notes		6,447,705
Gold and Silver Coin		612,150
		36,210,175

Dated the 27th Dec., 1855.

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	19,336,978	Securities	29,055,320
Public Deposits	3,344,753	Bullion	10,981,745
Other or private Deposits	12,341,457		
	35,023,188		40,037,065

The balance of assets above liabilities being 3,219,877 as stated in the above account under the head RESERVE.

FRIDAY NIGHT.

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

A decrease of Circulation of	£191,113
An increase of Public Deposits of	916,313
A decrease of Other Deposits of	81,005
An increase of Securities of	983,183
A decrease of Bullion of	324,593
An increase of Rest of	14,395
A decrease of Reserve of	123,123

The present returns show a decrease of circulation, 191,113l; an increase of public deposits, 916,313l; a decrease of private deposits, 81,005l; an increase of securities, 983,183l, of which 139,821l are public securities and 843,362l private securities; a decrease of bullion, 324,593l; an increase of rest, 14,395l; and a decrease of reserve, 123,123l. The large increase of public deposits, as a preparation for paying the public dividends, is the most favourable feature in the returns. At the same time the public deposits, now amounting to 5,344,653l, are upwards of 1,000,000l less than at this period last year, when they were 6,560,414l. At that period the securities were only 25,637,895l, now they are 29,055,320l; then the bullion was 14,137,104l, now it is 10,981,745l; and then the reserve was 9,011,659l, now it is 7,076,855l, showing much less strength in the Bank now than in December, 1854.

The money market continues as stringent as it can well be, and no bills can be discounted under the Bank rates. High terms and short dates is the rule; paper at long dates cannot be discounted on any terms. The great extent of our trade, as indicated by the returns for November, confirms the suspicion awakened by the continued demand for money, that trade has received no serious check from the advance in the rate of discount, and is still more extensive than prudence warrants or in the end will be justified.

The exchanges on Paris are a shade more favourable; otherwise they are not altered. Gold continues to be exported.

The arrivals of specie in the week have been from New York, 500,000 dols, or 100,000l; from the Peninsula, 2,387l; and from Sydney 4,524 ounces of gold and 4,745 sovereigns, together valued at 19,841l—making a total of 122,228l.

To-day the funds were flat. Consols opened at 88½ for the account, being the closing price of yesterday, and closed after a dull day at 88½. The business done was trifling, but some sales were made by brokers who usually transact Government business. Money is much in demand on the Stock Exchange, consequent on the settlement of the account, but as the Bank makes advances on stock for short periods at 6 per cent., the rate of loans on English securities does not exceed that sum. French funds came slightly worse to-day. The belief in the prospects of peace, too, is becoming weaker. The market was extremely inactive. We subjoin our usual list:—

CONSOLS		Account		Exch. Bills.	
Lowest	Highest	Lowest	Highest	Lowest	Highest
Saturday	Shut	88½	88½	7s dis	3s dis
Monday	—	88½	88½	7s dis	3s dis
Tuesday	—	88½	88½	Christmas	day
Wednesday	—	88½	88½	7s dis	—
Thursday	—	88½	88½	7s dis	4s dis
Friday	—	88½	88½	8s dis	4s dis

	Clos. n. prices last Friday.	Closing prices this day.
3 percent consols, account	88½	88½
— money	shut	shut
New 3 percents	88½	88½
3 percent reduced do.	88½	88½
Exchequer bills, March	8s dis 4s dis	8s dis 4s dis
— June	8s dis 4s dis	8s dis 4s dis
Bank stock	205 7	205 6
East India stock	shut	shut
Spanish 3 percents	40 1	40 1
— 3 percents a w def.	21 2	21 2
Portuguese 4 percents	48 50	48 50
Mexican 3 percents	19 20	19 20
Dutch 2½ percents	63 4	64 5
— 4 percents	94 5	94 5
Russian, 4½ stock	88 90	88 90
Russian, 5 per cent.	95 7	95 7
Sardinian stock	83 5	83 5
Peruvian 4½	74 6	74 6
— 3 per cent	52 3	52 3
Venezuela	25 7	25 7
Spanish Certif.	4 5	4 5
Turkish Loan, 6 per cent.	83 4	83 4
New Ditto	3 3 dis	3 3 dis
French Loan	—	—

The railway market is even worse or more dull than the stock market. At this season of the year the business is never great, but several causes combine—such as the war, the disrepute into which railways, as a property, have fallen—to make business this year at this season almost nil. We insert our usual list:—

RAILWAYS.		Closing prices	
	Closing prices last Friday.		this day.
Bristol and Exeter	79 81	79 81	79 81
Caledonian	55 ½	54 ½	54 ½
Eastern Counties	8 ½	8 ½	8 ½
East Lancashire	69 70	69 70	69 70
Great Northern	88 9	87 ½	87 ½
Great Western	52 ½	52 ½	52 ½
Lancashire and Yorkshire	77 ½	76 ½	76 ½
London and Blackwall	6 ½	6 ½	6 ½
London, Brighton, & S Coast	94 5	93 5	93 5
London & North Western	93 ½	94 ½	94 ½

	Closing prices last Friday.	Closing prices this day.
London and South Western	85 6	84 ½
Midlands	63 ½	63 ½
North British	28 ½	28 ½
North Staffordshire	8 ½ dis	8 ½ dis
Oxford, Worcester, & Wolver.	22 4	22 4
South Eastern	57 8	56 ½
South Wales	31 2	31 ½
North Eastern, Berwick Stock	67 8	67 8
North Eastern, York Stock	44 ½	44 ½

FOREIGN SHARES.		
Northern of France	35 ½	25 ½
Do. 20 per cent. bds (formerly Boulogne & Amiens shares)	—	—
Eastern of France	34 ½	34 ½
Rouen and Havre	—	—
Dutch Rhénish	1 ½ dis	1 ½ dis
Paris and Lyons	45 ½	45 ½
East Indian	21 ½	21 ½
Madras	18 ½	18 ½
Paris and Orleans	43 45	41 6
Western & Nth Wm of France	29 ½	29 ½
Great India Peninsular	5 ½	5 ½
Central of France	3 2 ½ pm	3 ½ pm
Grt Western of Canada shares	24 ½	24 ½
Hamilton and Toronto shares, issued by Gt Wm of Canada	23 4	23 4

Our attention has been called to the case *Wieler and Schilizzi*, tried before the Chief Justice of the Common Pleas on the 14th inst. The action was brought to recover damages for a breach of contract. The plaintiff, a seed merchant in London, contracted to buy from the defendant a certain number of tons of Calcutta linseed at 66s per quarter, the cost free on board, and the freight, insurance, and packages to London included, *take quale*, &c. Upon the arrival of the seed it was found to consist of a mixture of Calcutta linseed, mustard, rape, and lentil seed, with some dust; of eight parts the proportion being 6 ½ Calcutta linseed, 1 ½ of other seed, and ½ of dust, or as some of the witnesses said, with from 15 to 20 per cent. of foreign matter in it. The defence was, that though deteriorated, the article was Calcutta linseed, and the contract was to purchase, *take quale*, for better or worse. But the jury, according to the direction of the learned Judge, found for the plaintiff on the ground that the deteriorative mixture was such as to change the character of the article. In summing up, the Chief Justice observed "that, although some of his learned brethren on the bench differed from him, he could never see why the substitution of one thing for another in a contract, as, for instance, a Glasgow shawl for an India one, or a pinchbeck chain for a gold one, was not obtaining money under false pretences." And we refer especially to the case, because this kind of deterioration or mixture, when there is a great demand for a commodity, as at present for linseed and for corn, and when business is done in a hurry and in a state of excitement, is very likely to be frequently practised. The temptations to this kind of adulteration are very great; the parties to it may find screens at a distance, the form of contract almost secures the sellers against an action, and the unwary are very likely to be taken in. Every merchant does not like to engage in a law suit, and if such practices be not checked or put down by the proper feelings of the dealers themselves, they will never be put down by the law. Making all such cases public, and exposing parties who deserve it to public reprobation, and so making persons ashamed to be connected with such proceedings, is the only way of stopping them.

The Syndical Chamber of the Paris Stockbrokers has decided that the new Russian loan shall not be allowed to be quoted on the Paris Bourse; consequently, stockbrokers are prohibited from dealing in any manner whatever in that stock.

The Directors of the Bank of France have declared a dividend of 100f for the second half of 1855, payable on the 2nd of January next.

According to the news from New York of the 12th, there were symptoms of a recurring stringency in the money market, though capital was still easy of access on undoubted securities at 10 to 12 per cent. per annum, where the maturity does not extend beyond two or three months. The rise in exchange was said to be the immediate cause of the growing "tightness," but there are, doubtless, other agencies operating to produce somewhat of an uneasy feeling in financial circles. Prominent among these are the apprehensions that foreign capital, temporarily invested here, is to be largely withdrawn. The Bank statement of the week was considered favourable. The specie reached nearly twelve million dollars, being nearly a million and a half more than at the corresponding period last year. The deposits were apparently nearly a million lower. Taking the average exchanges of the two weeks off, the net result showed an actual movement in this department nearly corresponding with the other lines.

	Dec. 1.	Dec. 8.	Inc.	Dec.
	dols.	dols.	dols.	dols.
Discounts	9,522,921	93,187,803	62,842	—
Specie	11,227,134	11,844,655	617,491	—
Circulation	7,861,654	7,861,741	20,97	—
Deposits	79,047,982	78,066,111	—	987,872

INDIA EXCHANGES.

Bills	Commercial bills at 60 days' sight		E. I. Company's bills at 60 days' sight		Amount of E.I.Co.'s bills drawn from Dec. 9 to 24.	
	₹ Co.'s rupees.	s d	₹ Co.'s rupees.	s d	£	s d
Bengal	2 0 ½	2 0 ½	2 0 ½	0 0	15,803	14 8
Madras	2 0 ½	0 0	2 0 ½	0 0	6,866	13 1
Bombay	2 0 ½	0 0	2 1 0 0	0 0	312	10 0
Bi-monthly					22,982	17 9

Total drafts from Jan. 7 to Dec. 21, 1855, 1,213,814 15 8
Total drafts from May 7, 1855 to Dec. 24, 1855, (East India Company's official year commencing from May 1) 159,332 10 0
Annual sum required by Court of Directors in England, from 1st May, 1855, to 30th April, 1856, 2,600,000l.

PRICES OF BULLION.

	£	s	d
Foreign gold in bars (standard)	—	—	—
Mexican dollars	—	—	—
Silver in bars (standard)	—	—	—

THE BANKERS' PRICE CURRENT. PRICES OF ENGLISH STOCKS

Table of English stock prices with columns for days of the week (Sat, Mon, Tues, Wed, Thur, Fri) and various stock types like Bank Stock, Consols, and various Anns.

COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

Table showing exchange rates for various cities including Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Antwerp, Brussels, Hamburg, Paris, and others, with columns for Monday and Friday prices.

FRENCH FUNDS.

Table of French fund prices with columns for Paris and London prices for different dates (Dec. 24, 25, 26, 27) and various fund types.

PRICES OF FOREIGN STOCKS.

Table of foreign stock prices with columns for days of the week (Sat, Mon, Tues, Wed, Thur, Fri) and various international stock types like Austrian Bonds, Brazilian, and others.

AMERICAN STOCKS.

Table of American stock prices with columns for Redeemable and Dec. 29 prices, listing various US stocks and bonds.

Table of Canadian Securities with columns for Paid and Price, listing Canada Government and Company bonds.

INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Table of insurance companies with columns for No. of shares, Dividend, Names, Shares, Paid, and Price per share, listing various insurance firms.

JOINT STOCK BANKS.

Table of joint stock banks with columns for No. of shares, Dividends per annum, Names, Shares, Paid, and Price per share, listing various banks.

DOCKS.

Table of dock prices with columns for No. of shares, Dividend per annum, Names, Shares, Paid, and Price per share, listing various dock companies.

FOREIGN RATES OF EXCHANGE ON LONDON.

Place	Latest Date	Rate of Exchange on London.	Term
Paris	Dec. 27	£25 25	3 days' sight
—	—	£24 80	3 months' date
Antwerp	— 25	25 25 to 25 27½	3 days' sight
Amsterdam	— 25	11 77½	3 —
—	— 25	11 65	2 month's date
Hamburg	—	—	3 day's sight
—	—	—	3 month's date
St. Petersburg	—	—	3 —
Lisbon	— 19	54½	3 —
Gibraltar	—	—	3 —
New York	— 12	109½	60 day's sight
Jamaica	Nov. 27	2 per cent. pm	30 —
—	— 27	1½ per cent. pm	60 —
—	— 27	1 per cent. pm	90 —
Havana	Nov. 12	10½ to 10¾ per ct. pm	90 —
Rio de Janeiro	— 20	27½d to 27¾d.	60 —
Bahia	— 26	27¾d	60 —
Pernambuco	— 28	27¾d	60 —
Buenos Ayres	— 2	67	60 —
Singapore	Oct. 20	4s 8½d	6 months' sight
Ceylon	Nov. 15	5½ to 8 per cent pm	6 —
Bombay	— 15	2s 1 9-16d	6 —
Calcutta	— 8	2s 2½d 2s 3d	6 —
California	—	—	60 days' sight
Hong Kong	Oct. 15	6s 5½d	6 months' sight
Mauritius	— 1	1½ per cent pm	90 days' sight
—	— 1	1 per cent. pm	60 —
Sydney	—	—	30 —
Melbourne	—	—	30 —

COMPARATIVE EXCHANGES.

The quotation of gold at Paris is about 4 per mille premium (according to the last tariff), which, at the English mint price of 3l 17s 10½d per ounce for standard gold, gives an exchange of 25.27; and the exchange at Paris on London at short being 25.22½, it follows that gold is about 0.18 per cent. dearer in Paris than in London.

By advices from Hamburg the price of gold is 425 per mark, which, at the English mint price of 3l 17s 10½d per ounce for standard gold, gives an exchange of 13.4½; and the exchange at Hamburg on London at short being 13.4½, it follows that gold is 0.18 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 23-40 per cent., it follows that the exchange is nominally 1.08 per cent. against England; but, after making allowance for charges of transport and difference of interest, the present rate leaves no profit on the transmission of gold either way between the two countries.

The Commercial Times.

MAILS TO SWEDEN.—The mail packet, recently running between London and Gothenburgh, having ceased running for the winter, no more mails for Sweden can be forwarded direct until next spring.

MAILS FOR AUSTRALIA.—Subject to a notice of discontinuance on the re-establishment of regular steam communication, arrangements have been made for the conveyance of mails to Australia, twice in every month during the ensuing year, by clipper ships from Liverpool, the owners of which have entered into a contract with the Postmaster-General for the performance of this service in a stated number of days. Unless a further notice be issued, the mails for Australia will be made up in London on the evening of the undermentioned days, viz.:—January 7th and 21st, February 6th and 21st, March 6th and 22nd, April 5th and 21st, May 5th and 19th, June 4th and 19th, July 5th and 21st, August 4th and 19th, September 4th and 20th, October 4th and 20th, November 4th and 19th, December 4th and 20th. The packets will, in each case, leave Liverpool on the following day. All letters and newspapers for New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Van Diemen's Land, will be forwarded by these packets, unless directed to be sent by some other ship.

FOREIGN MAILS.

Destinations.	Mails despatched from London.	When expected.
SOUTHAMPTON STATION.		
(By day mail).		
Lisbon, Spain, and Gibraltar	7th, 17th, and 27th of every month	Jan. 6
United States and British North America	Every alternate Wednesday	Jan. 4
Gibraltar, Malta, Egypt, Ceylon, and India	4th & 20th of every month	Jan. 4
Penang, Singapore, and China	4th of every month	Jan. 4
British Colonies in the West Indies (except Honduras), foreign Colonies, &c., in the West Indies (except Havana), California, Venezuela, N. Granada, Chili and Peru, Grey Town (St. Juan de Nicaragua).		
Mexico and Havana	2nd and 17th of every month	Jan. 1
Honduras and Bahamas	2nd of every month only	Jan. 1
Lisbon, Madeira, Brazil, B. Ayres, and Falkland Isles	17th of every month	Jan. 16
Lisbon, Madeira, Brazil, B. Ayres, and Falkland Isles	9th of every month	Jan. 16
PLYMOUTH STATION.		
Madaira, Teneriffe, and West Coast of Africa	Evening of the 23rd of every month	Jan. 6
LIVERPOOL STATION.		
British North America and United States	Evening of every alternate Friday until further notice	Jan. 2
Australia	Evening of the 4th and 19th of every month	Dec. —

VIGO, OPORTO, LISBON, CADIZ, AND GIBRALTAR.—The Madrid, sailed the 27th inst., with all letters for the Peninsula, &c., which arrived or were posted in London up to the morning of that day inclusive.

MEDITERRANEAN, EGYPT, INDIA, AND CHINA.—The next mails for Gibraltar, Malta, Egypt, India, China, &c., via Southampton, will be despatched on the morning of the 4th prox. The next mails for the Mediterranean, Egypt, India, China, &c., via Marseilles, will be despatched on the morning of the 10th prox. The Fern, for the mails of the morning of the 4th prox.

WEST INDIES, &c.—The Magdalena, for the mails of the morning of the 2d prox. MADEIRA, BRAZIL, BUENOS AYRES, &c.—The Tamar, for the mails of the morning of the 9th prox.

AUSTRALIA.—The next mail will be despatched from London on the evening of the 7th prox.

WEST COAST OF AFRICA, &c.—The Gambia, sailed 27th inst., with all letters, &c., for the West Coast of Africa, &c., which arrived or were posted in Plymouth up to the afternoon of that day inclusive.

AMERICA.—The America, for the mails of the evening of the 4th prox., to be conveyed to Boston.—The Atlantic, to sail from Liverpool, for the mails of this evening. The Washington, to sail from Southampton, for the mails of the morning of the 2nd prox.

Mails Arrived.

LATEST DATES.

On Dec. 23, UNITED STATES, per steamer Atlantic, via Liverpool—New York, Dec. 12. On Dec. 25, PENINSULAR, per steamer, Tagus via Southampton—Gibraltar, Dec. 15; Cadiz, 16; Lisbon, 19; Oporto, 20. Vigo, 22. By the arrival of the Donna Maria II. there are dates as follows:—Rio, Nov. 22; Bahia, 25; Pernambuco, 28; Vigo, Dec. 9; Madeira, 12.

On Dec. 23, AUSTRALIA, per Donald McKay.

WEEKLY CORN RETURNS.

From the Gazette of last night.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
Sold last week	108,115	136,121	26,578	191	5,313	2,767
Corresponding week in 1854	118,793	115,744	21,251	347	5,727	2,945
— 1853	71,764	107,148	20,885	233	4,700	1,589
— 1852	114,022	106,331	25,095	158	5,854	2,935
— 1851	115,728	103,641	25,896	291	6,457	3,153
Weekly average, Dec. 22...						
	78 9	40 4	27 10	54 6	50 8	48 11
	15...	79 11	41 3	27 10	55 4	51 8
	8...	81 6	42 5	28 6	53 9	52 3
	1...	83 1	42 3	28 10	53 0	53 3
	Nov. 24...	82 1	40 11	28 1	52 9	51 10
	17...	80 10	36 11	28 0	52 10	50 4
Six weeks' average...						
	81 0	41 2	28 1	53 8	51 11	50 8
Same time last year						
	73 1	34 11	28 6	45 1	49 3	48 10
Duties						
	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0

GRAIN IMPORTED.

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

In the week ending December 19, 1855.

	Wheat and wheat	Barley and barley-meal	Oats and oatmeal	Rye and rye-meal	Peas and peas-meal	Beans & bean-meal	Indian corn and Indian-meal	Sues and wheat-meal
Foreign	60,803	3,369	28,787	...	1,205	1,737	10,177	101
Colonial	1,608	...	...	...	1,219	..	7	...
Total	62,416	3,369	28,787	...	2,424	1,777	10,184	101

Imports of week 101,520 qrs.

COMMERCIAL EPITOME.

FRIDAY EVENING.

The wheat market was dull to-day at Monday's prices, when to force sales a small decline was submitted to. The arrivals in the week were large—1,870 qrs of home-grown wheat and 8,120 qrs of foreign, with 480 sacks of home-made flour and 7,390 sacks and 14,200 brls of foreign flour. Large arrivals off the coast, both from the United States and the Mediterranean, had an effect on the market. Prices came generally lower from France, and a decline will probably ensue in Mark lane on Monday. Every branch of the corn trade has been dull through the week.

"The change of wind," say Mr Rainford in his circular, "has brought in the unusually large number of 97 vessels (grain laden) since the 19th instant, consisting of 58 cargoes of wheat, 3 of wheat and flour, 27 of maize, 8 of beans, and 1 of peas, viz.:—Of wheat, 5 cargoes from New York, 1 Mazagan, 2 Salonica, 3 Seville, 2 Trieste, 32 Alexandria, 1 Jaffa, 1 Caiffa, 1 Tripoli, 3 Athens, 2 Syra, 2 Swedia, 1 Gijon, 1 Galatz, 1 Cadiz; of wheat and flour, 3 cargoes from New York; of maize, 2 cargoes from Trieste, 1 Venice, 10 Syra, 1 Tarsus, 5 Athens or Piræus, 2 Mazagan, 3 Marseilles, 1 Galatz, 1 St Michael, 1 Constantinople; of beans, 8 cargoes from Alexandria; of peas, 1 from Mazagan."

From the neighbouring Continent generally we have received more favourable reports. The markets are represented as calm, and the calmness is ascribed to the statement that peace is probable, and to the fact that the late severe weather had frozen the rivers and canals, and stopped all communication by water. Only at Stettin it is said that wheat was more in demand, and fetched a higher price.

From Galatz of the 14th we learn that the market was inactive. Wheat in Ibraila was cheaper. From Sulina it is stated that 250 vessels had sailed, and that much injury had been inflicted on them by a heavy storm. In the Danube 100 vessels were lying outward-bound. In Galatz and Ibraila there were still a few vessels.

The markets of Mincing lane have been closed this week, and the transactions by private bargain have been very few. There is, in truth, nothing to report this holiday week, except that merchants say they were more never inactive than during the last few days.

Referring to the imports of foreign sugar in the year, Messrs Carey and Brown say in their valuable price current, dated the 24th inst., giving a condensed view of the colonial markets for the year:—"The very great disparity in the imports of foreign sugar to this country, and which has been the main cause of the extraordinary rise lately witnessed, has arisen not so much, if at all, from any failure in production in Cuba, Porto Rico, or other places, whence our supplies are usually drawn, as from the larger quantities received by Spain, Portugal, and France, and still more by the extra demand from the United

States to supply wants occasioned by the short crop in Louisiana; the large importations of the previous year, consequent on the equalisation in duties, having yielded a less satisfactory result than anticipated, also caused other markets to be looked to."

The business of the week in the Liverpool cotton market has been limited to four days, during which the sales have amounted to 24,000 bales, a moderate business only. The quotations, however, are maintained, though in some few instances a decline of 1-16d per lb has been submitted to. Spinners have taken 19,500 bales, speculators 4,000, and exporters 500 bales. The accounts from America regarding the crop continue very favourable, and the general estimates tend to a result of 3,300,000 bales, which, though large, would, with the present large consumption and reduced stocks, only leave at the end of the following year a stock equal to the present reduced one. The London market remains without animation. The sales have reached 1,500 bales at former prices.

Several markets being closed this week, we have no reports from them. In all our manufacturing districts great activity prevails, our importers and exporters are not idle, our navigation is increasing, but nevertheless the year does not close satisfactorily. Much is doing, but the profit on what is done is not large, or it has to be shared by so many persons—the money owners getting a large proportion by discount, the Government necessarily taking a more than usual share by taxes to carry on the war—that the position of trade is not so satisfactory as we might expect it to be from its vast extent.

SPIRIT OF THE TRADE CIRCULARS.

(From Messrs Weber and Co.'s Circular, forwarded by Mr Kinen, Liverpool.) Savannah, Dec. 7, 1855.

The advices per "Canada," caused an advance in our cotton market of ¼c to ½c, which was fully maintained during the week ending the 30th ult.; subsequently the accounts from Liverpool to the 16th November, reporting a dull market, caused prices to decline ¼c, and when those per "Africa," to the 23d November, came to hand, bringing the news of a decline of ¼d to ½d on fair and ¼d on middling grades, prices further gave way about ¾c, and in some instances 1c. Our market closes to-day unsettled, at the following quotations:—Strict middling, 8½c; good middling, 9c; middling fair, 9½c; or, strict middling, 5 8-100d; good middling, 5 21-100d; middling fair, 5 33 100d, free on board, freight ½d, all charges included, exchange 8 per cent. The sales of the fortnight foot up about 11,000 bales. Sea Islands—There still continues a dull and inactive market for this description of cotton, and but small sales have been made at prices ranging from 15c to 23c. Rice—The middling qualities having declined ¼c, but prime is unchanged, and worth 4½c to 4¾c. Wheat—We quote prime red at 2 dol 5c, but there is hardly any stock here. Timber is a little easier, but we cannot quote any change in price; prime steam sawed cargoes are worth 18 dol to 20 dol. Exchange on London improving, 8 per cent. Paris 5.30. New York at sight, 4 per cent. dis.; 5 days' sight, ½ per cent. dis.; 30 days, ¾ to 1 per cent. discount. Freights—To Liverpool, ½d; Havre, 1c; New York, ¾c.

COTTON.

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

NEW ORLEANS, OR	Dec. 1	CHARLESTON	Dec. 7
MOBILE	1	NORTH CAROLINA	8
FLORIDA	1	VIRGINIA	1
TEXAS	Nov 24	NEW YORK	1
SAVANNAH	Dec. 7	OTHER PORTS	8

	1855	1854	Increase	Decrease
On hand in the ports on Sept. 1.	141,629	127,285	14,344	---
Received at the ports since do.	954,157	618,773	335,384	---
Exported to GREAT BRITAIN since do.	327,312	223,050	104,262	---
Exported to France since do.	113,693	68,497	45,196	---
Exported to the North of Europe since do.	35,981	11,798	24,183	---
Exported to other foreign ports since do.	40,000	21,685	18,315	---
TOTAL EXPORTED TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES since do.	516,983	325,010	191,973	---
Stock on hand at above dates, and on shipboard at these ports.	431,536	329,271	102,265	---

STOCK OF COTTON IN INTERIOR TOWNS.

at latest corresponding dates.	90,303	123,245
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COTTON TAKEN FOR CONSUMPTION IN THE UNITED STATES from Sept. 1 to the above dates.

	1855	1854
Stock on hand Sept. 1.	141,629	127,285
Received since	954,157	618,773
Totals supply	1,105,786	746,058
Deduct shipments	516,983	325,010
Deduct stock left on hand	431,536	329,271
Leaves for American consumption	157,267	91,777

Freight to Liverpool, ¼d to 9-32d per lb. Exchange, 109½.

VESSELS LOADING IN THE UNITED STATES.

Ports.	For Gt. Britain	For France.	For other Ports
At New Orleans Dec. 1	39	21	16
Mobile	8	6	9
Florida	1	0	0
Savannah	1	0	0
Charleston	7	1	1
Charleston	7	5	9
New York	11	13	76
Galveston Nov. 24	1	0	0
Total	83	45	111

The tenor of the America's letters being more favourable than the published accounts, the market rallied immediately subsequent to the date of our last, and an advance of ¼ to ½ of a cent. upon the prices current on Friday, has been established, notwithstanding the rise in freights to Great Britain. The stock is light, and the market closed firm, with a moderate demand. The sales for the three days are estimated at 3,000 bales, and for the week 12,000 bales, including parcels in transitu from Southern ports to Europe. We quote:—

NEW YORK CLASSIFICATION.

	Upland	Florida	Mobile	New Orleans & Texas.
Ordinary	8½	8½	8½	8½
Middling	9½	9½	9½	9½
Middling fair	9½	9½	10	10
Fair	10	10	10½	11½

The arrivals have been, from New Orleans, 624 bales; Mobile, 388 bales; Florida, 2,939 bales; Georgia, 1,740 bales; South Carolina, 1,241 bales; total, 6,932 bales. Total import since 1st inst, 18,441 bales. Export from 1st to 7th December, 2,255 bales, against 5,653 bales in same time last year.

LIVERPOOL MARKET, Dec. 28. PRICES CURRENT

	Ord.	Mid.	Fair.	Good Fair.	Good.	Fine.	1854 - Same period		
							Ord.	Fair.	Fine.
Upland	per lb	per lb	per lb	per lb	per lb	per lb	per lb	per lb	per lb
New Orleans	5 5-16	5 11-16	6 6	6 6	7	8	4 ½d	5 ½d	6 ½d
Fernambuco	5 ½	6 ½	6 ½	6 ½	7	7 ½	6 ½	6 ½	8 ½
Egyptian	5 ½	5 ½	6 ½	6 ½	8	9 ½	5 ½	6 ½	10 ½
Surat and Madras	3 ½	3 ½	4 ½	4 5-16	4 ½	5	2 ½	2 ½	4 ½

IMPORTS, CONSUMPTION, EXPORTS, &c.

Whole Import, Jan. 1 to Dec. 28.		Consumption, Jan. 1 to Dec. 28.		Exports, Jan. 1 to Dec. 28.		Computed Stock, Dec. 28.	
1855	1854	1855	1854	1855	1854	1855	1854
bales	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales
2,124,250	2,065,750	2,054,980	1,876,410	235,310	235,680	287,340	551,340

The past week has included several vacant days, and the sales of cotton reported are consequently small. There has been little activity in the market, almost all classes of buyers apparently waiting the result of the annual computation of the stock in port. If there be any change in the prices of American, it is in the better qualities, which are slightly depressed by the presence of the late free arrivals. We can, however, make little change in our quotations. Brazil have been irregular in price, some concession having been yielded in places. Egyptian are freely offered and at easy rates. East India are difficult to sell at last week's prices. The sales to-day are 6,000 bales. The market closes very tamely. The reported export amounts to 540 bales, consisting of 460 American and 80 Surat. Vessels arrived and not reported—1 American. The stock of cotton will be declared at noon on the 31st inst. No business will be transacted in the cotton market on New Year's Day.

MARKETS OF THE MANUFACTURING DISTRICTS.

MANCHESTER, THURSDAY EVENING, DEC. 27, 1855.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE COTTON TRADE.

	Price Dec. 27, 1855.	Price Dec. 1854.	Price Dec. 1852.	Price Dec. 1851.	Price Dec. 1850.
RAW COTTON:—					
Upland fair	0 5 ½	0 7 ½	0 6 ½	0 5 ½	0 5 ½
Ditto good fair	0 6	0 6	0 6 ½	0 6	0 5 ½
Fernambuco fair	0 6 ½	0 6 ½	0 7 ½	0 6 ½	0 5 ½
Ditto good fair	0 6 ½	0 7	0 7 ½	0 6 ½	0 5 ½
No. 40 MULE YARN, fair, 2nd qual.	0 9 ½	0 8 ½	0 9 ½	0 9 ½	0 9 ½
No. 30 WATER do do	0 9	0 8 ½	0 9 ½	0 9 ½	0 11 ½
26-in., 66 reed, Printer, 29yds, 4lbs 2oz	4 4 ½	4 1 ½	4 9	5 0	4 4 ½
27-in., 72 reed, do, do, 5lbs 2oz	5 6	5 1 ½	5 9	6 0	5 10 ½
29-in., 60 reed, Gold End Shirtings, 37 ½ yds, 8lbs 4oz	7 4 ½	7 0	8 1 ½	8 6	7 7 ½
40-in., 66 reed, do, do, do, 8lbs 19oz	8 4 ½	8 3	9 3	9 6	8 9 10 6
40-in., 72 reed, do, do, do, 9lbs 4oz	9 4 ½	9 3	10 3	10 9	9 9 11 4
36 yds., 48 reed, Red End Long Cloth	7 0	7 0	7 7 ½	7 7 ½	7 6 8 9

Our market has been much interfered with by the holidays, and extremely little business has been transacted by any one. India is, perhaps, the only quarter for which there is some activity. At the same time, prices maintain the previous degree of firmness, and not much yarn or cloth is on the market. Cotton is coming in freely, the arrivals being 70,000 to 80,000 bales this week, and the only fear entertained is that spinners may make a rush to supply themselves (being undoubtedly very bare) and spoil their own prospects.

BRADFORD, Dec. 27.—Wool—The week thus far has been observed almost as a holiday, and the transactions are small, and without change in prices. Nojls and brokes are unaltered. The spirit to buy is on the increase, and prices are firm. Pieces—There is no change; all is spiritless, as is usual at the close of the year.

LEEDS, Dec. 26.—Yesterday, being Christmas-day, the woollen cloth markets have been held to-day (Wednesday). There has been, under the circumstances, a fair attendance of buyers in the halls, and their purchases have, in the aggregate, amounted to about the average of the last few Tuesdays' markets. Prices continue steady, and there is now a little more work doing by the manufacturers than there was a month ago.

NOTTINGHAM, Dec. 26.—In lace we have nothing to report this week, owing to the intervention of the holidays. In hosiery a number of buyers made their appearance in our warehouses this morning immediately on their reopening after the holidays. The extent and continuance of the transactions remain to be seen.—Notts Guardian.

Huddersfield, Dec. 24.—We have had very little of a market to-day, and, although it is probable that the change of the market from Tuesday to Monday may have made some little difference, still the indisposition of all parties to make any stir in the way of business at this season

is quite sufficient to account for the little that has been doing. Prices much the same.

ROCHDALE, Dec. 24.—The amount of business done has not been great. Flannels—The trade for home-made goods still continues healthy, and holders who are not forced to sell for cash can get better prices. The trade in Yorkshire goods has been very flat.

LEICESTER, Dec. 24.—The demand for goods continues to be equal to what it is at this season generally; but the fancy trade is more active than the regular hosiery branch. In the yarn market there has been an advance of $\frac{3}{4}$ d per lb on worsted, and spinners are not willing to take extensive orders for future delivery, even at that advance. There is also a decided advance on wools; skin comb wools are selling 20s per pack higher than they were a month since, and the stocks of wool are light out of the growers' hands. Farmers' lots in the midland counties are selling freely at from 31s to 32s per tod.

HALIFAX, Dec. 22.—Business remains the same as reported by us last Saturday. Wools of all descriptions are held quite firm at late rates, with a very fair amount of business doing; and skin wools for carding purposes may be reported as being a shade higher in value.

CORN.

AMERICAN CORN AND FLOUR MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—**FLOUR AND MEAL.**—With large receipts, a material advance in the rates of freight to Great Britain, and a moderate demand, both for home use and export, the market for State and Western flour declined 25 cents. The canal was closed on the 10th inst., and a falling off in the receipts may, therefore, be expected after the supplies at tide-water destined for this market shall have been received. The stock here is quite as large, if not larger, than at the corresponding period of last year, notwithstanding the increased exports to Great Britain and the Continent; a considerable portion of the supply in store, it is understood, is held on speculation. Sales, 34,000 bales, the market closing steady, including 2,000 superfine State for January delivery, part at 9 dols and the remainder on private terms. Canada flour is also 25 cents lower, with a limited demand: sales, 1,000 brls, closing at 8.87½ dols to 10 dols for common to prime. We quote:—State, common brands, 8.56½ dols; State, straight brands, 8.62½ dols; State, extra brands, 8.68½ dols to 8.75 dols; Western, mixed, 8.50½ dols to 8.62½ dols; Michigan and Indiana, straight brands, 8.62½ dols to 8.75 dols; Michigan, fancy brands, 8.87½ dols to 9 dols; Ohio, common brands, 8.50 dols to 8.75 dols; Ohio, fancy brands, 8.75 dols to 9 dols; Ohio, extra brands, 9 dols to 10.25 dols; Michigan and Indiana, extra brands, 9 dols to 10 dols; Genesee, fancy brands, 9 dols to 9.12½ dols; Genesee, extra brands, 10 dols to 11.50 dols; Canada, '87½ dols to 10 dols per brl. Southern flour has declined 12½ to 25 cents, with only a moderate demand: sales, 2,800 brls, closing at 9.12½ dols to 9.50 dols for mixed to straight brands, 9.62½ dols for favourite, and 9.68½ dols to 10.75 for fancy and extra; including Haxall and Gallego at 13 dols, and Greenshaw 12 dols. Export of wheat flour from Dec. 1 to Dec. 7, 1855, 51,333 brls, against 18,180 brls in same time in 1854.

GRAIN.—The demand for wheat, both for export and home use, is restricted by the exorbitant prices ruling. Buyers would operate freely at a concession of from 5 to 10 cents, but holders do not seem disposed to yield to the demand, hence we have had a very quiet market. The receipts continue large, but a material abatement in the arrivals must soon take place, owing to the closing of the canal: the sales are 5,700 bushels good white Canada, 2.20 dols; 4,200 prime white Southern, 2.20 dols; 2,100 inferior red Tennessee, 1.95 dol; and 7,500 red and white Southern on shipboard, destined for Liverpool, on private terms. The market for rye opened firmer, but closed rather easier: sales, 52,000 bushels, at 1.30 dol to 1.35 dol, the latter now 2 to 3 cents above the market. The corn market is about one cent lower, with a moderate demand for export and distilling: sales, 124,000 bushels, closing at 98 to 100 cents for Western mixed, 103 cents for old white Southern, and 100 to 102 cents for round white. Beans and peas are in good demand at full prices, with sales of 1,000 bushels State beans at 2.75 dols; 1,500 do. Canada peas, 1.35 dol to 1.37½ dol; and 200 to 300 bags black-eye peas, 2.50 dols, cash. Export of wheat from Dec. 1 to Dec. 7, 1855, 245,652 bushels, against 14,976 bushels in 1854; of corn, 76,254 bushels, against 255,696 bushels in same time in 1854.

EXPORT OF BREADSTUFFS from the United States to Great Britain and Ireland since September 1, 1855.

From—	Flour.	Meal.	Wheat.	Corn.
	bbls	bbls	bu h	bush
New York Dec. 11	213,812	105	1,959,435	736,172
New Orleans	31,817	..	35,180	63,897
Philadelphia	64,103	1,900	194,900	37,77
Baltimore	78,202	..	93,466	14,731
Boston	5,144	11	..	1.3.7
Other ports	634	..	25,912	8,012
Total	391,734	1,916	2,321,933	861,384
Last year	31,848	13	87,931	2,125,684
Increase	359,886	1,903	2,234,002	..
Decrease	..	..	..	1,263,293
Total export in 1853	683,775	9,881	3,653,852	615,124
— 1852	326,325	2	2,216,330	52,455
— 1851	3,915,9	1,640	8,96,647	260,817

TO THE CONTINENT.				
	Flour.	Wheat.	Corn.	Rye.
	bbls	bush	bush	bu-h
From New York to Dec. 11	347,217	1,189,615	25,318	895,890
From other Ports to latest dates	80,754	236,470	35,190	17,725
Total	427,971	1,426,085	61,538	913,615
Same time last year	2,096	..	101,109	..
Same time in 1854	408,764	1,101,868	26,476	13,601

LONDON MARKETS. STATE OF THE CORN TRADE FOR THE WEEK.

MARK LANE, FRIDAY MORNING.

Although the arrivals of English wheat up to our market this week, coastwise and by land carriage, have been on a very moderate scale, the business doing in all kinds has been extremely limited, and prices have been with difficulty supported. Most of the samples from Essex and Kent have been comparatively light and thin. As dealers appear to be well stocked for the present, the barley trade has assumed considerable heaviness, and the quotations, with the exception of malting qualities, have had a downward tendency. All other spring corn has ruled heavy, and beans have fallen 2s per quarter.

Close attention is still directed to those quarters from whence we are likely to derive supplies of grain. The Eastern markets—owing to scarcity—are still very high, and several profitable shipments of flour have lately been made from New York to Constantinople. From an entirely new trade it may become one of importance, because apparently the produce of Turkey is not equal to the wants of the population. The supplies from Moldavia and Wallachia now afloat may be estimated at about 70,000 quarters, and which will arrive here within the next four or five weeks; but we must now look to a total cessation of arrivals from the Baltic ports, including Sweden, as the shipping season is now over. Our American advices are very satisfactory. From a return in another column, it will be seen that the outflow of wheat, flour, maize, and rye, both to England and the Continent, continue at the rate of 50,000 quarters weekly; and yet prices, in the face of these heavy shipments, have declined—a proof that large stocks remain in the hands of the farmers and others, and that consumption is easily met by the usual sources of supply. The value of the food shipped from the 1st September to the 11th December was valued at two millions sterling, and yet we find that the exchange on England has advanced to 109½. Here is strong proof that a large trade must be doing in British manufactured goods, especially when we bear in mind that over 340,000 bales more cotton have been shipped than in the previous year. From Canada, we have information to the effect that fully 800,000 quarters of wheat of the new crop will be available for shipment, and that large supplies have already found their way to the United States by railway. These features in the trade have naturally induced great caution on the part of millers in adding to their stocks; and so long as we have similar advices to those to which we have just alluded, so long shall we have heaviness in the trade.

Large supplies of potatoes, in excellent condition, continue to arrive up to the various markets; but the Scotch arrivals turn out badly, many of the cargoes coming to hand in very poor condition.

In Ireland and Scotland the corn trade has been exceedingly inactive, and prices almost generally have ruled in favour of buyers, although the supplies on offer have been but moderate.

On Wednesday our market was very scantily supplied with English wheat. There was, however, no desire shown to purchase, and prices were nominal. There was a slight improvement in the demand on Friday, and the whole of the supply changed hands at fully Monday's currency.

Foreign wheat has continued very dull of sale, but we have no change to notice in the quotations.

Barley, oats, beans, peas, and flour have been exceedingly heavy, and rather drooping. Rather a large supply of the latter article has arrived from Spain and America.

The London averages announced this day were as follows:—

	Wheat.	Barley.	Maiz.	Oats.	Flour.
	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	480 sac. 9
English	1,870	920	710	150	480 sac. 9
Irish	..	..	..	2,200	7,390
Foreign	5,120	..	..	1,530	14,200 brls

PRICES CURRENT OF CORN, &c.

BRITISH AND IRISH.			FOREIGN.		
Per quarter.			Per quarter.		
Wheat	Essex, Kent, and Suffolk, red	64 84	White	83 93	
	Norfolk and Lincolnshire, do.	63 82	Do	..	
Rye	Old	55 55	Brank	40 44	
Barley	Grinding	38 40	Distilling	36 41	Malting 43 44
Malt	Brown	64 68	Paleship	72 82	Ware 82 84
Beans	New large tucks	40 44	Harrow	40 44	Pigeon 87 80
	Old	45 47	Do	48 50	Do 82 84
Peas	Grey	44 46	Maple	44 47	Bine 85 70
	White, old	46 50	Soilers	30 34	New 52 56
Oats	Lincoln & Yorks. feed	24 28	Short small	28 30	Poland 52 50
	Scotch, Angus and Ross feed	29 30	Do	..	Potatoes 33 35
	Hant, Peterhead, and Aberdeenshire feed	32 34	Do	..	Hoptown 33 34
	Irish, Cork, Waterford, and Youghal, black	..	Do	..	Do 26 27
	Do, Galway	..	Dublin & Wexford feed	26 27	Potatoes 29 23
	Do, Limerick, Sligo, and Westport	27 29	Fine	..	Do 20 31
	Do, Newry, Dundaik, and Londonderry	28 29	Do	..	Do 31 32
Four	Irish, per sack—s, Norfolk, &c.	56 60	Town	..	Do 73 76
Tares	Spring	..	Winter	..	Do 68 71

FOREIGN.		
Wheat	Danzig, Königsberg, high mixed and white	86 97
	do mixed and red	84 93
	Pomeranian, Mecklenburg, marks, red	80 89
	Silesian, red 76s 79s, white	78 84
	Danish, Holstein and Friesland, do	72 78
	do do, red	73 78
	Polish Odessa	74 76
	Russian, hard	..
	French, red	..
	Swedish, red	76 80
	Canadian, red	..
	Italian and Tuscan	..
	Egyptian	52 56

Maize...Yellow	40 43	White	42 44
Barley Grinding	36 41	Maiting	39 44
Beans...Ticks	41 45	Small	46 49
Peas...White 50s 52s, fine boilers	50 54	Maple	40 46
Oats...Dutch brew and thick	27 31		
Russian feed	26 28		
Danish, Mecklenburg, and Friesland feed	25 28		
Flour...American	42 48		
SEEDS.			
Linseed...per qr crushing, Baltic —s—s, Odessa	90 92	Sowing	78s 84s
Rapeseed...per qr do foreign 88s 89s, English	56 58	Fine new	92 94
Hempseed...per qr large	42 44	Small	56
Canaryseed...per qr new 63s 68s Carraway per cwt	12 20	Trefoil 1/2 ct	40 44
Mustardseed...per bushel, brown	8 11	White	8 11
Cloverseed...per cwt English white, new	60 68	Red	80 80
— Foreign do. do.	34 40	Do	68 84
Trefoil	41 43	Choice	41 43
Linseed cake, foreign...per ton 13/ 10s to 15/ 0s	14/ 0s to 14/ 10s		
Rapeseed do do	7/ 10s to 8/ 0s		

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN PRODUCE MARKETS.
TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

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

MINING LANE, FRIDAY EVENING.

As usual during Christmas week the attendance of buyers in the various markets has been small, and, generally speaking, transactions are quite devoid of importance. Business will be resumed on Tuesday next, the 2nd instant.

SUGAR.—There appears to have been more inquiry at the reduction quoted last week, and sales to a moderate extent have taken place, the particulars of which had not transpired this afternoon. 200 hhds Barbadoes is the only parcel at present advertised for Tuesday next. Arrivals have been rather large since the 30th inst. The week's delivery did not exceed 914 tons, and the stock at this port was 37,765 tons on the 22nd inst., against 75,481 tons last year. The stock in the United Kingdom may be computed at 72,000 tons.

ESTIMATE OF THE IMPORTS AND DELIVERIES OF SUGAR INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM FOR THE PRESENT AND THREE PRECEDING YEARS WITH STOCKS ON HAND AT THE CLOSE.

	IMPORTS.		
	1855 tons.	1854 tons.	1853 tons.
Colonial	247,000	294,095	266,128
Foreign	99,000	161,077	98,872
Refined	15,000	19,933	15,989
Total	361,000	475,105	380,989
CONSUMPTION.			
Colonial	271,800	274,500	289,183
Foreign	115,000	113,000	76,757
Refined	13,200	14,500	13,239
Total	400,000	402,000	376,159
EXPORTED.			
Colonial	2,700	2,700	600
Foreign	11,800	19,000	23,000
Refined	2,800	4,300	3,400
Total	17,300	26,000	27,000
STOCKS.			
Colonial	44,000	59,000	53,000
Foreign	22,500	61,000	39,500
Refined	5,500	7,000	6,000
Total	72,000	127,000	98,500

COFFEE.—The market has been steady, but nothing of interest transpired during the week. Good ordinary native Ceylon is quoted 52s to 52s 6d.

Imports into the United Kingdom for the year show a decrease of about 2,000 tons. The deliveries for consumption are about 250 tons larger, for export 1,700 tons less. The stock may be computed at 12,000 tons, against 12,800 tons same date last year.

TEA continues without alteration, and the business has been to a moderate extent. Common cougou cannot be readily obtained under 94d per lb.

RICE.—Few sales have been effected since the 22nd, and the market is now inactive.

SPICES.—Scarcely any business has been done this week. Black pepper is very firm at the improvement last quoted.

Stocks and Prices of Spices at close of the past four years.

	Pimento.		Pepper.	
	Stocks tons	Price d d	Stocks tons	Price d d
1855	6,406	4 1/2 to 4 1/2	1,201	5 to 5 1/2
1854	3,565	5 5/8	1,859	4 1/2 5
1853	4,011	6 6 1/2	1,598	4 1/2 4 1/2
1852	5,071	5 5 1/2	2,214	3 1/2 4 1/2

RUM.—The market has been closed, and very little business is reported from second hands.

Total Stocks of East and West India Rum, with Prices of Proof Leewards at the close of the last four years.

	1855	1854	1853	1852
hhd	23,820	4,749	3 0 to 3 1	3 1
hhd	20,833	5,306	3 3	3 4
hhd	8,981	1,345	2 8	2 8 1/2
hhd	16,445	1,718	1 11	1 11 1/2

SALTPETRE.—There has been a limited business done at the decline last noticed. Refraction 6 per cent. sold at 38s; 10 per cent., 32s 6d. Low and middling descriptions are dull, and prices unsettled.

Imports and Deliveries of Saltpetre into London, with Stock on 22nd December.

	1855	1854	1853	1852
Imported	7,852	18,720	10,212	10,695
Delivered	15,079	10,908	1,376	20,155
Stock	4,155	10,619	2,517	3,563

NITRATE OF SODA is firm at 19s 3d to 19s 6d per cwt.

COCHINEAL.—The market is decidedly firmer, but nothing of consequence has been done.

DRYSALTERY GOODS.—Gambier has been extremely dull, and 17s is the nominal value. Cutch is inactive, and does not maintain the recent advance.

DRUGS.—No transactions have taken place.

METALS.—There has been a further advance established upon English tin, viz., 4s, and for refined, 6s. Common blocks now stand at 129s; refined, 135s. East India is very firm, and fully maintains the high rates of last week. Banca is quoted 132s to 134s; Straits, 130s, the latter being

very scarce. Spelter has continued without change, 23/ 15s being the nearest value. Scotch pig iron is dull at 75s per ton for mixed numbers. Other descriptions of iron do not present any change to remark.

Prices of Tin at the close of the last four years.

	Banca.		English blocks.	
	per cwt	per cwt	per cwt	per cwt
1855	132 0 to 134	117	117	117
1854	113 0	114	114	117
1853	127 6	93	93	98
1852	95 0	93	93	98

Prices of Spelter and Scotch Pig Iron at the close of the last four years.

	Spelter.		Pig Iron.	
	per ton	per ton	per ton	per ton
1855	23 15	75 0	75 0	75 0
1854	25 0	65 0	65 0	65 0
1853	24 5	79 6	79 6	79 6
1852	19 10	65 0	65 0	65 0

OIL.—In fish oils no change has occurred this week. Pale seal is steady at 57 1/2 per ton. Cocoa-nut has rather given way in value, viz., Ceylon, 45s to 46s; Cochin, 1s more, and the market is now quiet. Palm quoted 47s to 49s per cwt for good to fine quality. Linseed has been firmer, with a steady demand, and closes 6d above the lowest point of the market last week, viz., 42s 3d to 42s 6d per cwt on the spot. Rape is quiet: refined, 61s to 61s 6d; brown, 58s to 58s 6d per cwt.

LINSEED.—The market has been firmer, but quotations do not exhibit any change this week. Bombay commands 70s to 80s for fine; Calcutta about 77s per quarter. Cakes are without change: best English, 13/ 10s to 13/ 15s; fine barrel American, 14/ to 14/ 5s per ton.

TURPENTINE.—Rough is quiet at 10s 6d to 11s. To-day a large business was done in foreign spirits, but no particulars transpired. English quoted 33s per cwt, and quiet.

TALLOW.—There has not been much activity in the market, but yesterday it was firmer, and first sort St Petersburg yellow candle on the spot closes at 68s; to arrive in the next three months, 68s 3d to 68s 6d. Imports have been light this week.

Particulars of Tallow.—Monday, Dec. 24.

	1852	1853	1854	1855
Stock this day	48,312	44,302	32,707	19,679
Delivered last week	1,569	2,287	1,647	1,507
Ditto since 1st June	60,810	61,625	47,179	76,246
Arrived last week	313	461	1,415	2,045
Ditto since 1st June	68,504	82,513	43,884	48,210
Price of Y C on the spot	45/0 4/3	58/7 5/8	61s 6d	68s 0d
Ditto town	47s 3d	59s 6d	65s 6d	67s 0d

ADDITIONAL NOTICES.

REFINED SUGAR.—No alteration to note, being holiday.
GREEN FRUIT.—The change of wind has brought considerable arrival of oranges, but the trade being out of stock, prices are well supported.

DRY FRUIT.—This market is closed for the holidays. Clearances have lately been small, but it is understood that the public consumption not having been on a smaller scale than on previous years, the dealers, wholesale and retail, have worked down their stocks to a very low point.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN WOOL.—As usual at this season there is little business in the wool market, but not anything has occurred to alter the firm tone the market has assumed. Sales at Liverpool of East India and low wool are advertised for 15th January and following days.

FLAX.—Not any sales making: this article for the moment is quite neglected.

HEMP remains in a quiet state.

COTTON.—On Friday last about 1,000 bales Surat were sold at rather easier rates. Since then the transactions have been extremely limited, and the market closes heavily, prices being in favour of buyers. Sales of cotton wool from Friday, Dec. 21 to 27:—1,300 bales Surat, at 3 1/2d to 4 1/2d for middling to fair; 200 bales at 4 1/2d to 4 1/2d for good fair to good Tinnivelly.

SILK.—There is no alteration in the silk market; there is still a fair business doing for export, and no alteration in prices.

TOBACCO.—Operations in tobacco have been very limited, as usual at this season. Prices are steady.

TIMBER.—No change in prices of wood. Business almost suspended during the holidays.

LEATHER AND HIDES.—We have no alteration to report in the leather trade. A good demand is maintained for the season of the year. Supplies of most articles are short, and prices are fully supported. In Christmas week not any market is held at Leadenhall.

METALS.—The metal market is firm and steady. Copper remains as for some time past, firm in price and in fair request. There continues, a good demand for manufactured iron, but operations in pig iron are not numerous. Tin advanced at the beginning of the week 4/ per ton, and continues to be inquired for. Tin plates have advanced also without checking sales.

PROVISIONS.

The business doing this week is of very small amount. The bacon curers are asking more money, but do not find buyers; the top price landed, 62s.

Friesland, 112s, quality very middling. Of Hollands and Bosch a good arrival; prices about 4s lower.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET.

MONDAY, Dec. 24.—Owing to the severity of the weather, last week's imports of foreign stock into London were only 4,326 head. In the corresponding week in 1854 we received 2,828; in 1854, 5,165; in 1852, 2,711; in 1851, 3,094; and in 1850, 1,325 head.

There was a very limited supply of foreign stock in to-day's market, and its general quality was inferior.

The arrivals from Ireland last week, direct by sea, were 40 beasts and 120 pigs. The show of Irish stock this morning was confined to 20 beasts and 120 sheep, via Liverpool.

Nearly the whole of the supply of beasts in to-day's market was the refuse of last week, fresh arrivals being only 70 from Scotland, and 400 from the

northern and eastern districts. As there were scarcely any butchers in attendance, the beef trade was excessively heavy, and prices were nominally 4d per 8 lbs lower than on Monday last.

We were very scantily supplied with sheep, which met a very dull sale at about last week's currency. In some breeds not a single transaction took place.

The few calves in the market commanded no alteration, and prices were nominal. There was no demand for pigs.

Table with columns: SUPPLIES, Dec. 26, 1855, Dec. 25, 1854, Dec. 24, 1855. Rows: Beasts, Sheep, Calves, Pigs.

FRIDAY, Dec. 28.—We had a very limited supply of beasts in to-day's market, yet the demand for all breeds was heavy, and the quotations were almost nominal. Very few sheep were on sale, but there was literally no trade for them. The veal trade ruled heavy, at uncertain currencies.

Per 8 lbs to sink the offals.

Table with columns: s, d, s, d. Rows: Inferior beasts, Second quality do, Prime large oxen, Prime Scots, &c., Large coarse calves, Prime small do, Sucking Calves, Lamb, Total supply—Beasts, 520; sheep, 1,950; calves, 90; pigs, 300. Foreign supply—Beasts, 70; sheep, 200; calves, 0.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL.

MONDAY, Dec. 24.—Immense supplies of country-killed meat—over 50,000 carcases—have been received up to these markets since Monday last. The whole, including a large supply slaughtered in the metropolis, has sold at high rates. To-day the supplies were very limited, and so little business was transacted that the quotations were almost nominal.

FRIDAY, Dec. 28.—The trade ruled very dull, as follows:—

Per 8 lbs by the carcase.

Table with columns: s, d, s, d. Rows: Inferior beef, Do. middling, Prime large, Prime small, Veal, Mutton, inferior, middling, prime, Large pork, Small pork.

HAY MARKETS.—THURSDAY.

PORTMAN.—Old meadow hay, 110s to 120s; inferior ditto, 90s to 100s; old clover, 120s to 126s; inferior ditto, 110s to 115s; wheat straw, 28s to 30s per load of 36 trusses.

SMITHFIELD.—Fine upland meadow and rye grass hay, 118s to 120s; inferior ditto, 86s to 95s; superior clover, 130s to 135s; inferior ditto, 95s to 100s; straw, 24s to 28 per load of 36 trusses.

WHITECHAPEL.—There was a full average supply of hay and straw at this market to-day, with a fair demand at the subjoined quotations:—Good hay from 110s to 123s; inferior ditto, 80s to 100s; good clover, 130s to 138s; inferior ditto, 84s to 120s; straw, 25s to 28s per load.

POTATO MARKETS.

SOUTHWARK WATERSIDE, Monday, Dec. 24.—During the past week the arrivals have been small; still the trade is extremely dull, and last week's prices barely maintained. The following are this day's quotations:—York Regents, 90s to 110s; Kent and Essex do., 75s to 95s; East Lothian do., 85s to 95s; ditto, reds, 80s to 90s; Perth, Forfar, and Fifeshire do., 50s to 55s; ditto reds, 65s to 70s.

THURSDAY, Dec. 27.—The arrivals of home produce are rather extensive at this market to-day, but the greater portion have suffered very much from the late severe frost. Trade very dull at the following quotations:—York Regents, from 100s to 110s; Kent and Essex ditto, 90s to 100s; Scotch ditto, 80s to 90s; ditto Cups, 80s to 90s; Middlings, 55s to 65s; Blues, 80s to 90s; Lincolns, 80s to 90s per ton.

HOP MARKETS.

BOROUGH, Monday, Dec. 24.—Our market continues tolerably active for this period of the year, and there is a fair demand for all hops of good quality. Fine and choice samples being scarce, bring rather more money, and the general currency of last week is fully maintained.

FRIDAY, Dec. 28.—Good and fine hops are in fair request, at full prices. Otherwise the trade is heavy, at late rates. Mid and East Kent pockets, 3l 5s to 6l per cwt; Weald of Kent, 3l to 4l 15s; Sussex, 2l 16s to 4l 10s.

COAL MARKETS.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 26.—Bates's West Hartley 18s—Byass's Bebside Hartley 18s 6d—Holywell 18—Walker Primrose 19s. Wall's-End—Braddyl's 21s 6d—Hetton 22s 6d—Richmond 21s 6d—Carr's Merthyr 23s—Wayne's Merthyr 23s—Small coal in craft 12s 6d. Ships at market 27; sold 19.

LIVERPOOL MARKET.

WOOL FRIDAY NIGHT.

(From our own Correspondent.)

There is not much doing in foreign this week, as usual the last week in the year, but the market is very firm with a tendency to advance.

METALS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

There is no change to report in either Welsh or Staffordshire manufactured iron, the demand for which continues to a moderate extent. The transactions in Scotch pig iron during the past week have been but limited, and at prices in favour of buyers. Copper is firm and in good request, also tin plates, which sell readily at full quotations. In other metals no change.

The Gazette.

Tuesday, Dec. 25.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Holcroft and Hoyle, Manchester, consulting engineers—Alford and Fell, Luton, tea dealers—Schwabe and Co, Liverpool and Shanghai—Williams and Son, Ludgate hill, umbrella manufacturer—Loveland and Tweed, Lincoln's inn fields—T. and J. Lang, Limerick, Somersetshire, coal merchants—J. and

F. J. Davies, Shiffal, Shropshire, schoolmistress—J. and T. Kerlake, Bath, or elsewhere, milliners—Bradbury and Keatley, Oldham, joiners—T. and C. H. Jelley, Yarwell and Oundle, Northamptonshire, machinists—Braecordie and Co, Northwich, timber merchants—J. Clegg, sen., and J. Clegg, jun., Castleton factory, near Rochdale, cardmakers—T. and J. Garrett, Douglas, Isle of Man, brewers—Jones and Co., Hulme, Lancashire, cotton wadding manufacturers—Goff and Belcher, Liverpool, butchers—F. and A. B. Penny, Commercial road, licensed victuallers—Spencer, Browning, and Co., Minorics and Portsmouth, nautical instrument makers.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.

W. Holbrook, Nottingham, Joiner—first div of 1s 2d, on Monday next, and following Monday, at Harris's, Nottingham.

J. Walley, Derby, boiler maker—first div of 8s, on Monday next, and following Monday, at Harris's, Nottingham.

T. Freer, Leicester, wine merchant—first div of 5s, on Monday next, and following Monday, at Harris's, Nottingham.

G. Hoyle and J. Tattersall, Whitwell Bottom, Lancashire, cotton manufacturers—first div of 7s 4d, on Wednesday, Jan. 2, or any subsequent Tuesday at Pott's, Manchester.

D. Goodman, Manchester, tobacconist—first div of 5d, on Wednesday, Jan. 2, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Pott's, Manchester.

R. Mason, Manchester, stationer—first div of 7d towards the former div of 4s 5d, on Wednesday, Jan. 2, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Pott's, Manchester.

W. Jones, late of Manchester, glass merchant—first div of 6d, on Wednesday, Jan. 2, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Pott's, Manchester.

T. Kenyon, Newton Heath, near Manchester, manufacturing chemist—first div of 1s 3d, on Wednesday, Jan. 2, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Pott's, Manchester.

T. Macbeth, Preston, tailor—first div of 3s 7d, on Wednesday, Jan. 2, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Pott's, Manchester.

A. Peat, Manchester, boot manufacturer—first div of 5s 10d, on Wednesday, Jan. 2, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Pott's, Manchester.

C. Condron, Macclesfield, silk manufacturer—first div of 5d, on Wednesday, Jan. 2, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Pott's, Manchester.

M. Brown and R. Ingham, Rawtenstall, Lancashire, power loom cloth manufacturers—first div of 7s 2d, and final div of 9s 1d on the separate estate of Mr Brown, on Tuesday, Jan. 8, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Fraser's, Manchester.

C. Edmonstone, Over Darwen, Lancashire, paper manufacturer—further div of 9d, and on proofs subsequent to Feb. 16, 1850, fourth div of 1s 4d, on Tuesday, Jan. 15, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Fraser's, Manchester.

J. Raitton and J. Pavey, Manchester, and Colne, manufacturers of mousseline-de-laines—further div of 9d on Tuesday, Jan. 15, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Fraser's Manchester.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

J. Danks, Great Bridge, Staffordshire, timber merchant.

BANKRUPT.

- G. Hasse, Railway place, Fenchurch street, merchant.
J. Woodroffe, Leather lane, licensed victualler.
J. T. Murray, Lower James street, Golden square, pianoforte maker.
J. H. Wettone, Oxford street, bookseller.
C. Sharp, Albion road east, Stoke Newington, wholesale ironmonger.
T. and J. Heywood, Wood street, Cheapside, and Melbourne, New South Wales, lace warehousemen.
T. H. Ryland, Birmingham, wood turner.
T. Spray, Lenton, Nottinghamshire, lace manufacturer.
P. Farrell, Salford, contractor.
J. Newcome, Dewsbury, woollen manufacturer.
J. W. Gregory, Halifax, grocer.
J. Pattinson, Bishop Wearmouth, builder.
J. Richardson, jun., Cockermonth, brewer.

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

- Jan. 16. S. Jonas, Houndsditch, draper—Jan. 16. B. Parker, late of Albany road, Camberwell, builder—Jan. 16. W. Rich and R. Hannah, Parklane, tailors—Jan. 17. H. G. and J. James, Leadenhall street, engineers—Jan. 17. G. Tennant, Market street, Westminster, licensed victualler—Jan. 17. A. D. Toovey, Aldermanbury, wholesale stationer—Jan. 17. C. Becket, Manchester, brewer—Jan. 24. C. Clayton, Wolverhampton, ironfounder—Jan. 24. T. Baker, Kidderminster, butcher—Jan. 24. J. Brownhill, Tipton, bootmaker.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

- H. Reid, Ayr, accountant.
W. Caldwell, Coldstream, draper.
D. MacLennan, Inverness, solicitor.
M. H. Hunt, Glasgow, wholesale woollen warehouseman.

Gazette of last Night.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Wood and Todhunter, Dunkirk, bankers—Hartley and Rawnsley, Bradford, wool dealers—Hepworth and Brittain, Bishop Auckland, drapers—Nock and McCallum, Birmingham, papier mache manufacturers—Jbbotson and Taylor, Ashton-under-Lyne, brick makers—Paris and Kirk, embossers—Holgate, Wright, and Co, New York; and Wright, Holgate, and Co., Manchester, England—Dixon and Merryweather, Cumberland, smelters—Millar and Millar, Enfield, surgeons—Eyre and Eyre, Manchester, silk manufacturers—Hewetson, Hewetson, and Hewetson, London, furnisiers—Badoock, Badoock, and Badoock, Tottenham court road, drapers—Mourilyan and Casey, Crane court, Fleet street, lithographers—Laurie, Bedford, and Rand, Oxford street, saddlers—Myers, Bland, Myers, and Bland, Liverpool, merchants—Hampson and Robinson, Manchester, packers—Clifford and Leyton, Kingston-upon-Hull, brokers—Willans and Fozard, Batley Carr, rag dealers.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.

Jackson, Littleworth—div of 1d, at Wilton's.
Coole, Churchdown, innkeeper—div of 9d, at Wilton's.
Taylor, Lower Holborn, oilman—final div of 1s 4d, at Pennell's.
Penty, Bristol, grocer—div of 2s, together with the first div of 5s on new proofs, at Miller's.

BANKRUPTS.

- J. Farman, builder, Portobello terrace, Notting hill.
G. F. Cragg, wholesale fancy stationer, Cobourg row, Old Kent road.
W. Edmunds, hosier, Kidderminster.
J. G. Perkins, stockbroker, Throgmorton street, City.
M. Davids, milliner and bonnet salesman, Middle row, Holborn.
G. Taylor, silk manufacturer, Derby.
T. Johns, grocer, Dowllais, Merthyr Tydvil.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.

R. Fairgrieve, merchant, Galashiels

COMMERCIAL TIMES

Weekly Price Current.

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

LONDON, FRIDAY EVENING.

Add 5 per cent. in duties on currans, figs, pepper, tobacco, wines, and timber, deals, wood, &c., from British Possessions.

Table listing various commodities such as Ashes, Cocoa, Coffee, Cotton, Drugs, Fruit, and Flax, with their respective prices and units.

Table listing various commodities including Hides, Leather, Metals, Oils, Provisions, and Rice, with their respective prices and units.

Table listing various commodities including Seeds, Spices, and SUGAR, with their respective prices and units.

Table listing various commodities including SUGAR, Tea, and Timber, with their respective prices and units.

STATEMENT.

of comparative Imports, Exports, and Home Consumption of the following articles from Jan. 1 to Dec. 27, 1854-55, showing the Stock on hand on Dec. 22 in each year.

FOR THE PORT OF LONDON.

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

East and West Indian Produce, &c.

SUGAR.

British Plantation.	Imported		Duty paid		Stock	
	1854 tons	1855 tons	1854 tons	1855 tons	1854 tons	1855 tons
West India	92,560	83,753	80,318	92,271	21,945	13,342
East India	31,631	33,139	37,482	33,766	8,945	6,177
Mauritius	43,451	38,542	37,329	38,532	8,195	6,870
Foreign	...	...	52,339	57,243	...	...
Foreign Sugar.						
	167,642	155,434	207,364	221,812	39,095	26,349
Exported						
Cherbon, Siam, and Manilla.	14,386	12,337	2,976	5,499	8,772	2,600
Havans	45,249	23,371	6,354	5,761	20,516	5,701
Porto Rico	11,535	9,084	109	185	3,693	2,883
Brazil	9,670	7,580	5,010	982	5,781	1,351
	81,340	48,272	14,449	12,428	38,762	12,435

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

From the British Possessions in America	31 0	per cwt.
Mauritius	...	...
East Indies	37 4	...
The average price of the two is	36 8	...

MOLASSES.	Imported	Duty paid	Stock
West India	9,896 | 7,653	5,459 | 7,460	3,104 | 1,420

RUM.

	Imported		Exported		Home Consump.		Stock.	
	1854 gal	1855 gal	1854 gal	1855 gal	1854 gal	1855 gal	1854 gal	1855 gal
W. Ind.	3,969,615	4,207,095	2,078,105	2,544,210	1,263,195	1,618,020	1,354,596	1,919,526
E. Ind.	432,675	435,710	248,445	455,760	41,625	25,720	231,930	143,325
Foreign	586,035	317,070	372,915	364,655	46,170	9,045	223,725	123,975
	4,985,325	5,013,885	2,849,465	3,304,035	1,350,990	1,649,085	1,810,245	2,186,820

COCOA.—Cwts.

	1854	1855	1854	1855	1854	1855	1854	1855
Br. Plant	19,418	34,484	1,121	4,042	27,545	54,342	10,525	7,117
Foreign	6,640	7,603	7,335	5,996	3,201	940	1,553	693
	26,058	42,087	8,456	10,038	30,746	55,282	12,078	7,810

COFFEE.—Cwts.

	1854	1855	1854	1855	1854	1855	1854	1855
Br. Plant	12,658	17,752	4,416	4,762	13,088	14,828	8,280	3,380
Ceylon	287,903	27,427	133,781	86,948	216,231	202,043	121,538	117,870
Total BP.	300,561	250,179	138,197	91,310	229,319	216,911	129,818	121,250
Mocha	17,277	10,567	2,970	2,523	20,055	13,375	17,781	7,932
Forgu E.I.	11,016	14,070	5,144	2,599	9,340	11,944	14,295	6,429
Malabar	76	829	...	...	169	1,087	1,201	1,009
St. Domingo	3,812	989	1,221	185	199	392	7,173	876
Hav. & P.R.	11,985	6,592	4,776	1,121	7,842	6,264	11,293	2,250
Brazil	73,138	89,783	35,914	36,798	45,618	48,125	24,674	34,294
African	11	50	55	...	12	53	177	14
Total For.	117,315	122,885	50,110	43,236	83,265	87,240	76,594	52,514
Grand t.	424,279	413,111	188,309	134,546	312,584	304,151	206,532	173,764

RICE	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
White	35,751	39,670	19,704	17,769	26,314	21,761	3,556	11,115
Black	2,749	1,494	1,070	879	1,520	1,219	1,859	1,262

NUTMEGS	Pkgs	Pkgs	Pkgs	Pkgs	Pkgs	Pkgs	Pkgs	Pkgs
Do. Wild.	271	2,021	942	893	1,406	1,579	1,710	1,247
CAS. LIG.	294	323	...	23	170	244	675	717
CINNAMON	4,557	7,494	1,943	3,921	2,583	1,472	1,025	3,620
	8,482	8,335	7,343	6,965	1,362	1,751	2,914	2,462

PIMENTO	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags
	17,523	26,530	13,715	17,276	4,254	5,639	3,565	6,406

Raw Materials, Dye Stuffs, &c.

COCHINEAL	Serons	Serons	Serons	Serons	Serons	Serons	Serons	Serons
	10,552	18,700	...	...	13,690	13,680	5,082	10,518
LAC DYE	cheats	cheats	cheats	cheats	cheats	cheats	cheats	cheats
	7,574	3,195	...	...	4,488	5,148	15,702	13,835
Logwood	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons
	5,472	6,281	...	...	5,240	5,811	479	936
VUSTIC	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1,418	1,821	...	...	1,270	1,244	511	1,087

INDIGO.

East India	cheats	cheats	cheats	cheats	cheats	cheats	cheats	cheats
	27,156	22,380	...	...	26,807	30,030	23,632	15,731
Spanish	serons	serons	serons	serons	serons	serons	serons	serons
	1,934	2,215	...	...	1,999	2,687	1,830	1,277

SALTPETRE.

Nitrate of Potash	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons
	18,720	7,852	...	...	10,908	15,079	10,619
Nitrate of Soda	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons
	5,013	1,905	...	...	4,735	4,181	3,261

COTTON.

American	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags
	589	473	...	...	290	371	324
Brazil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	152	206	...	...	90	66	66
East India	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	48,962	93,781	...	...	83,319	95,638	51,840
Liverpl. a1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	2,016,856	2,016,550	226,380	215,760	1,812,570	2,038,280	575,590
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	2,066,559	2,111,010	226,380	215,760	1,996,269	2,131,355	627,820

The Railway Monitor.

RAILWAY CALLS FOR DECEMBER.

The railway calls for the month of December are extraordinarily heavy, but accrue chiefly upon the shares in French lines, of which comparatively only a limited amount is held on this side. Considerable sums have to be met, however, upon Indian railway shares. Subjoined are the particulars:—

Railways.	Date due.	Amount per Share.		Number of Shares.	Total.
		Already paid.	Call.		
East Indian additional Exer.	10	deposit	5 0 0	35,000	175,000
Capital	10	deposit	5 0 0	75,000	375,000
Do. New Extension	10	deposit	5 0 0	250,000	1,250,000
Eastern of France, New	1 to 20	10 0 0	3 0 0	250,000	750,000
Great Central of France	1 to 20	10 0 0	4 0 0	100,000	700,000
Great Indian Peninsula, 3rd paid.	27	3 0 0	2 0 0	100,000	200,000
Do 5th paid.	27	4 0 0	1 0 0	100,000	100,000
Thames Haven	1	21 15 0	0 5 6	21,600	5,400
West End and Crystal Palace, undivided, 1st	31	8 0 0	2 0 0	36,000	72,000
Do. E. M.	31	3 0 0	2 0 0	36,000	72,000
					2,397,400

The total calls in December, 1854, were only 267,940*l.*, and in December, 1853, 964,496*l.* The total calls for 1855 are thus raised to 15,558,987*l.*, against 13,171,642*l.* in 1854, and 11,288,273*l.* in 1853.

EPITOME OF RAILWAY NEWS.

DUNDEE AND ABBROATH.—The report of the directors of this company states that they have resolved to recommend a dividend, at the rate of 2½ per cent, per annum, for the half-year ending Oct. 31 last, on the 25*l.* shares, which will amount to 3,500*l.*, and leave a balance of 1,382*l.* for the next half-year. The traffic for the past half year showed an increase of 1,226*l.* over that of the corresponding period of 1854, while the increase of the working expenses amounted to only 23*l.*

DUTCH RHENISH.—It appears that the extension of this company's line to the Cologne and Minden Railway at Emmerich will soon be opened for traffic.

THAMES ESPLANADE AND RAILWAY.—A company has just been registered under the title of the "River Thames Esplanade, Railway, and Sewage Company." The promoter, Mr Wieland, of Glasgow, proposes to construct river walls on both banks of the Thames, extending from London bridge to Westminster bridge, with the view of improving the channel and navigation, while increased wharfage accommodation would be given by means of quays and archways extending inwards to the depth of 120 feet. On the north side of the river the quay is to be 40 feet wide, and 80 feet in depth from the key is to be covered by a double row of groined arches, 35 feet span, and about 25 feet in height.

NORTH-WESTERN OF IRELAND.—It is proposed that the line should commence at Strokestown by a junction with an intended extension line from the Midland Great Western Railway at Longford, and pass near Elphin, French Park, Swinford, and Castlebar, to Westport, Ballina, and Sligo, with short branches from Strokestown to Roscommon, and from Castlebar to other places. But at present it is intended to apply for powers to construct only that portion of the scheme between Strokestown and Castlebar, with a branch to Roscommon. The counties of Mayo and Roscommon are to guarantee 4 per cent. per annum for 25 years on the estimated outlay of 6,000*l.* per mile. The length of the line to Castlebar is 54 miles, and of the branch to Roscommon 10 miles. It is stated that the line can be easily constructed within the estimate, as there to be no tunnels or expensive works on the proposed line.

RAILWAY AND MINING SHARE MARKET.

LONDON.

MONDAY, Dec. 24.—Although there was little animation in the railway market, prices were generally firm, and in some cases advanced towards the close. The shares of the Australian land and banking companies exhibited scarcely any alteration, but quotations were fairly supported. Operations took place in Canada Land at 138½, 140, 138, and 139½. Mining securities were neglected. Crystal Palace left off 2 to 2½.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 26.—The railway market opened with firmness, but prices subsequently experienced a slight decline, and there was no recovery to the close. In the shares of the Australian land and banking companies there was little alteration. Canada Land were negotiated at 139½ and 140, and the final quotation was 138 to 142. Scarcely a bargain was concluded in mining securities. Crystal Palace left off 2 to 2½.

THURSDAY, Dec. 27.—The railway market was heavy throughout the day, and the arrangement of the account checked ordinary business. The shares of the Australian land and banking companies were supported with steadiness, but the transactions generally were unimportant. Canada Land were nominally quoted 138 to 142, and Crystal Palace left off 2 to 2½. With the exception of a purchase of Santiago de Cuba at 4½ there were no operations officially recorded in mining shares. The quotation for the shares of the London and Paris Bank, which were alloted this morning, was 1 to 1 pm.

FRIDAY, Dec. 28.—In the railway share market the amount of dealing reported continues very limited, and without particular variation in prices. Foreign railway scrip is not in request, and there are no quotations for the Great Western of Canada. Mining, banking, and miscellaneous shares are not much in demand. The few shares which have changed hands show no feature worth remarking upon.

The preliminary meeting of the ironmasters of South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire, held at Dudley on Thursday, was unusually well attended. Mr Philip Williams occupied the chair, and inquired whether any alteration of quotations was proposed by any member of the trade present. Mr Ralph, of the British Iron Company, at once proposed that these nominal quotations should be abided by, and this resolution was passed unanimously.

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 No. of Share, Amount of share, Name of Company, London (M. F.), and various financial details.

OFFICIAL RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

Table showing railway traffic returns with columns for Capital and Loan, Amount expended or last receipt, Average cost per mile, Dividend per cent. per annum, Name of Railways, Week ending, Receipts (Passengers, Merchandise, Total), Traffic per mile per week, and Miles open in 1855 and 1854.

ACCOUNTS RELATING TO TRADE AND NAVIGATION.

For the Eleven Months, in part, ended 30th November, 1855.

I. IMPORTS INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM.

An Account of the Imports of the Principal Articles of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise, and of the Consumption of such Articles, in the Eleven Months, in part, ended 30th November, 1855, compared with the Imports and Consumption in the Eleven Months ended 5th December, 1854.

Articles.	Imports.		Articles.		Entered for Home Consump.		Entered for Home Consump.	
	1854	1855	1854	1855	1854	1855	1854	1855
Animals, living:—Oxen and Bulls	54,870	57,563						
Cows	22,529	8,537						
Calves	24,571	21,907						
Sheep	156,072	139,376						
Lambs	7,060	5,803						
Swine and Hogs	10,786	11,777						
Ashes, Pearl and Pot	78,533	52,645						
Barilla and Alkali.....	1,129	398						
Bark for tanners' or dyers' use	393,539	360,517						
Bones of Animals, &c., whether burnt or not, or as Animal Charcoal.....	50,089	59,481						
Brimstone	1,471,224	748,632						
Caoutchouc	22,793	37,972						
Clocks	22,766	189,971	206,684	181,607				
Cocoa	5,217,960	6,216,291	4,225,032	4,261,901				
Coffee:—Imported from British Possessions out of Europe.....	39,852,369	40,042,569	28,410,725	27,638,191				
Imported from other Parts	15,234,207	15,686,590	6,008,650	5,926,416				
Total of Coffee	55,086,576	55,729,159	34,419,375	33,564,607				
Corn.—Wheat.....	3,353,918	2,462,060	3,354,059	2,462,060				
Barley	545,526	323,931	553,372	328,931				
Oats	938,029	995,315	988,029	995,315				
Rye.....	4,821	2,378	4,821	2,378				
Peas	98,315	100,299	98,315	100,299				
Beans	352,763	312,308	352,764	312,308				
Indian Corn, or Maize.....	1,204,923	1,115,100	1,201,923	1,115,100				
Buckwheat	284	340	284	340				
Beer or Bigg	607	2,244	607	2,244				
Total of Grain	6,549,186	5,319,166	6,557,174	5,319,166				
Wheatmeal or Flour	3,582,431	1,661,075	3,582,431	1,661,075				
Barley Meal	66	19	66	19				
Oatmeal.....	437	725	437	725				
Rye Meal	2,827	947	2,827	947				
Pea Meal	5	1	5	1				
Bean Meal.....	1	169	1	169				
Indian Corn Meal	55,196	11,138	55,945	11,138				
Buckwheat Meal	60	3,220	60	3,220				
Total of Flour and Meal	3,641,023	1,677,294	3,641,772	1,677,294				
Grain total Grain, Flour and Meal as Grain, qrs	7,467,476	5,738,489	7,467,618	5,738,489				
Cotton, Raw, from U. S. of America	5,894,448	5,341,785						
Brazil	158,149	196,124						
Egypt	191,352	254,615						
British India	938,571	1,099,751						
Other parts	19,076	72,058						
Total of Cotton, Raw	7,202,196	6,964,333						
Cotton Yarn.....	1,178,075	846,267						
Do	112,665	82,001						
Cotton Manufactures, not made up:—East India Piece Goods	320,490	205,544						
East India Piece Goods.....	143,906	83,508						
Other Articles.....	431,698	287,020						
Cotton Manufac. wholly or in part made up:—Fringe	49,121	32,814						
Gloves	342,012	102,679						
Stockings and Socks	519,520	246,499						
Other articles	28,918	13,152						
Cubic Nitre	392,372	301,737						
Dyes and Dyeing Stuffs:—Cochineal	14,973	25,231						
Indigo	67,798	53,879						
Lac-dye	15,761	7,760						
Logwood	22,158	27,399						
Madder	92,039	78,731						
Madder Root.....	164,823	121,956						
Shumac	10,180	11,124						
Terra Japonica.....	3,315	3,618						
Cutch	1,442	2,291						
Valonia	19,446	9,129						
Embroidery and Needlework: By weight.....	114,519	72,253						
By Value	58,051	47,614						
Flax, Dressed	20,432	13,614						
Undressed	1,045,367	988,269						
Tow or Codilla of Flax.....	181,550	133,399						
Fruits: viz.—Currants.....	87,438	169,221						
Figs	21,875	24,841						
Lemons and Oranges.....	594,133	586,779						
Ditto.....	...	...				
Raisins	246,112	217,331						
Glass Manufactures:—Window Glass and Shades and Cylinders.....	29,634	22,838						
Plate Glass.....	641,727	604,591						
Ditto .....	...	...				
White Flint Glass Goods (except Bottles) not cut, engraved, or otherwise ornamented.....	313,105	339,637						

NOTE.—In pursuance of the Act 17 and 18 Vict., c. 94, all Accounts of Customs Revenue, Imports, Exports, and Shipping, are now made up to the last day of the calendar month, instead of the financial months as heretofore.

Articles.	Importations.		Entered for Home Consump.		Articles.	Importations.		Entered for Home Consump.	
	1854	1855	1854	1855		1854	1855	1854	1855
Glass Manufactures (continued):— All Flint Cut Glass, Flint Coloured Glass, and Fancy Ornamental Glass	9,327	8,726	8,542	8,261	Oil:—Train, Blubber, and Spermaceti ..tuns	15,055	14,578	Free	Free
Guano.....ton	201,623	247,734	Free	Free	Palm	639,140	663,984	—	—
Hemp, dressed	12,603	24,228	—	—	Cocoa-nut	178,141	206,417	—	—
Undressed	580,582	630,961	—	—	Olive	11,813	20,019	—	—
Tow, or Codilla of Hemp.....	19,011	7,688	—	—	Rapeseed	9,775	4,711	—	—
ute	402,605	469,199	—	—	Oil Seed Cakes	69,598	66,278	—	—
Other Vegetable Substances of the nature of Undressed Hemp	13,246	7,716	—	—	Opium	68,477	77,853	58,282	48,572
Hides, untanned:—Dry	147,320	143,219	—	—	Potatoes.....lbs	114,521	57,459	Free	Free
Wet	370,859	373,592	—	—	Provisions: viz.—Bacon.....cwt	404,523	228,657	—	—
Hides, tanned, tawed, curried or dressed (ex- cept Russia Hides).....lbs	3,606,371	3,675,818	—	—	Hams	12,147	7,250	—	—
Lace, and articles thereof:—By weight.....lbs	4,282	4,321	—	—	Beef, salted, not corned	160,057	223,651	—	—
By value	1,520	3,022	—	—	Fresh, or slightly salted	105	25	—	—
Leather Manufactures:—Boots, Shoes, and Calashes: viz.—Women's Boots and Ca- lashes.....pairs	28,893	24,205	21,350	21,916	Pork, salted	134,123	196,120	—	—
Women's Shoes with Cork or Double Soles, Quilted Shoes and Clogs.....pairs	4,387	2,990	4,016	2,605	Fresh	18	...	—	—
Women's Shoes of Silk, Satin, Stuff, or Leather	102,449	66,357	97,754	63,237	Poultry, alive or dead.....value £	27,743	27,944	—	—
Men's Boots and Shoes	56,795	29,581	26,794	22,982	Butter.....cwt	445,479	416,740	444,711	420,773
Children's Boots and Shoes	2,803	1,598	1,598	716	Cheese	357,749	358,308	361,802	357,897
Boot Fronts	540,771	501,442	533,319	500,488	Eggs	116,367,601	93,845,800	116,543,956	93,861,000
Gloves	3,654,048	3,419,644	3,297,893	3,236,010	Lard	262,438	106,043	Free	Free
Other Manufactures of Leather:—Boot Backs.....pairs	2,906	3,667	2,786	3,661	Quicksilver	2,138,607	2,714,813	—	—
Cut into shapes.....cwt	26	109	26	109	Rice.....cwt	1,197,595	1,897,569	792,443	890,754
Unenumerated.....value £	3,486	3,144	1,947	1,976	In the husk	18,956	18,548	20,755	11,735
Linen Manufactures:—Lawns, not French val. £	373	480	Free	Free	Saltpetre and Cubic Nitre	404,005	161,923	Free	Free
Cambrics and French Lawns.....sq. yds	189,597	149,035	—	—	Seeds: viz.—Clover.....cwt	122,830	111,319	—	—
Damasks and Damask Diaper	17,605	7,785	—	—	Flaxseed and Linseed.....qrs	698,660	649,769	—	—
Plain Linen and Diaper, and Manufactures unenumerated, not made up	27,738	16,054	—	—	Rape	89,254	113,782	—	—
Sails	1,835	2,229	—	—	Tares	15,608	38,900	—	—
Articles wholly or in part made up:—Cambric Handkerchiefs	48,849	43,587	48,849	43,503	Silk: viz.—Raw	6,869,488	5,554,034	—	—
Stays (entered previous to Aug. 8, 1854) pairs	8,350	...	8,381	...	Waste, Knubs, and Husks	15,587	10,467	—	—
Unenumerated.....value £	6,914	6,886	6,460	5,805	Thrown.....lbs	881,003	775,635	—	—
Mahogany	50,353	34,009	Free	Free	Silk Manufactures of Europe: viz.—Silk or Satin, broad stuffs	215,463	219,046	207,886	214,903
Metals: viz.—Copper Ore and Regulus.....tons	51,003	54,627	—	—	Ribbons	217,583	187,851	203,779	185,664
Copper, unwrought and part wrought ..cwt	37,738	28,782	—	—	Gauze or Crape, broad stuffs	6,404	9,597	6,125	9,107
Iron, in bars, unwrought..... tons	1,332	777	—	—	Ribbons	26,006	19,065	26,605	19,973
Steel, unwrought	11,031	6,073	—	—	Gauze mixed with silk, satin, or any other materials, in less proportion than one-half of the fabric: viz.—Broad stuffs.....	48	48	48	48
Lead, pig and sheet	17,185	15,832	—	—	Ribbons	8,591	6,428	8,804	6,559
Spelter	35,550	25,609	—	—	Velvet broad stuffs, the foundation being of silk	20,130	26,691	19,076	24,423
Tin in blocks, ingots, bars, or slabs .....	...	...	—	—	Ditto, the foundation being of other mate- rials than silk	1,796	1,026	1,461	997
					Ribbons of velvet, or of silk embossed with vel- vet, the foundation being of silk: Entered previously to Aug. 8, 1854	54,693	50,441	50,441	...

Articles.	Importations.		Entered for Home Consump.	
	1854	1855	1854	1855
Silk Manufactures of Europe (continued):—				
Ribbons of velvet or silk embossed with velvet, the foundation being of other materials than silk: Entered previously to August 8, 1854	...	...	...	...
Ditto, of velvet or plush, entered from Aug. 8, 1854	67,052	125,962	68,261	124,671
Plush for making hats	128,252	129,669	133,258	129,522
Silk Manufactures of India: viz.—Bandannoes and other Silk Handkerchiefs, and Tus-sore cloths: Entered previously to August 8, 1854	361,529	...	103,721	...
Bandannoes, Corahs, Choppas, Tussores Cloths, Romals and Tuffates, entered from August 8, 1854	84,818	377,784	51,409	71,517
Spices: viz.—				
Cassia Lignea	335,958	621,668	115,046	104,058
Cinnamon	628,178	580,787	49,895	41,516
Cloves	1,023,765	586,797	169,382	208,854
Mace	102,720	53,775	23,182	24,891
Nutmegs	383,691	266,314	183,713	173,501
Pepper	6,934,209	5,148,203	3,430,414	3,387,931
Pimento	17,925	26,786	3,263	3,247
Spirits: viz.—				
Rum	7,579,406	7,661,789	2,843,331	2,875,518
Brandy	2,439,770	1,647,741	1,702,413	1,384,494
Geneva	156,362	201,690	23,331	22,824
Sugar, Unrefined: viz.—				
Of or from the British Possessions in America:—Equal to white clayed	3,511	4,840	3,310	3,699
Not equal to white clayed	3,132,319	1,056,462	2,888,157	{ 1,103,259
Not equal to brown clayed	8,625	1,570,467	7,773	{ 1,738,713
Of or from Mauritius:—Equal to white clayed	1,502,498	480,598	1,414,885	{ 518,060
Not equal to white clayed	21,769	696,918	34,707	{ 784,042
Not equal to brown clayed	578,986	8,049	873,958	{ 9,472
Of or from Brit. Possess. in East Indies:—Equal to white clayed	86,314	412,921	63,517	{ 510,578
Not equal to white clayed	1,823,147	110,199	1,312,411	{ 225,505
Not equal to brown clayed	1,114,885	36,468	912,391	{ 17,389
Total of Sugar, unrefined	8,272,084	1,020,637	7,506,109	1,274,997
Sugar, Refined, and Candy, of British Possessions	5,400	11,195	8,737	9,922
Foreign	385,882	315,084	275,436	265,815
Molasses	995,784	829,604	842,178	886,192
Tallow	651,856	...	...	...
Tar	10,315	...	...	...
Tea	71,748,783	...	...	...
Timber and Wood:—				
Deals, Battens, Boards, or other Timber or Wood sawn or split:—Of British Possessions	665,426	450,420	450,420	450,628
Foreign	441,565	278,331	278,331	450,687
Staves	90,561	46,476	46,476	Free
Timber or Wood, not being articles sawn or split, or otherwise dressed, except hewn, and not otherwise charged with Duty:—Of British Possessions	605,563	360,991	360,991	358,065
Foreign	475,926	355,005	355,005	425,393
Tobacco: viz.—				
Stemmed	7,885,649	11,863,986	11,863,986	14,433,276
Unstemmed	9,345,724	16,189,282	16,189,282	13,253,475
Manufactured, and Snuff	1,975,976	2,253,822	2,253,822	203,759
Turpentine, common	298,327	259,914	259,914	Free
Watches:—				
Exceeding the value of 10 <i>l</i> each	318	244	244	211
Not exceeding the value of 10 <i>l</i> each	98,070	85,619	85,619	83,932
Whale Fins	5,793	3,810	3,810	Free
Wine: viz.—				
Red, of British Possessions	107,974	100,689	100,689	137,477
White, of British Possessions	4,454,175	3,038,485	3,038,485	2,882,855
Foreign	49,341	170,144	170,144	118,188
From various countries, mixed in bond—Red	4,930,562	3,871,591	3,871,591	3,269,552
White	...	...	...	164,012
Total of Wine	9,642,052	7,180,909	7,180,909	79,791
Wool, Sheep and Lambs: From British Possessions out of Europe	59,759,800	61,317,877	61,317,877	Free
Other parts	30,756,207	20,492,310	20,492,310	Free
Total of Sheep and Lambs' Wool	90,516,007	81,810,187	81,810,187	Free
Wool, Alpaca and the Llama tribe	995,302	1,206,032	1,206,032	Free
Woollen Manufactures:—				
Manufactures not made up	1,037,243	875,612	875,612	Free
Articles or Manufactures of Wool wholly or in part made up:—				
Carpets and Rugs	47,453	32,833	32,833	36,979
Shawls, Scarfs, and Handkerchiefs	56,531	28,134	28,134	26,468
Gloves	10,854	6,075	6,075	4,115
Other Articles	11,226	13,077	13,077	9,047

Since the passing of the Act 16 and 17 Vict., c. 106, the several growths of Wine have ceased to be specified in the entries at the Custom-house. The existing Tariff only requires the distinction "Red" and "White" Wine.

II. EXPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL MERCHANDISE FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.
An Account of the Exports of the Principal Articles of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise in the Eleven Months, in part, ended 30th November, 1855, compared with the Exports in the Eleven Months ended 5th December, 1854.

Articles.	Quantities Exported.		Articles.	Quantities Exported.	
	1854.	1855		1854	1855
Cheese.....cwt	5,361	4,996	Hides (con.) :- Unfanned, wet	13,606	36,267
Cocoa.....lbs	1,478,023	1,457,895	Tanned, Tawed, Curried, or Dressed, (except Russia hides)	128,019	291,698
Coffee: viz.—Imported from British Possessions out of Europe.....lbs	21,616,597	17,949,060	Leather Manufactures: viz.—Gloves.....pairs	373,655	297,468
Imported from other parts	9,081,068	9,106,093	Leather Manufactures: viz.—Plain Linen and Diaper	892	100
Total of Coffee	30,697,665	27,055,153	Metals: viz.—Copper, unwrought and part wrought	29,357	17,092
Corn: viz.—Wheat.....qrs	83,836	29,268	Iron, in bars, unwrought	3,940	2,728
Barley.....qrs	4,046	12,288	Steel, unwrought	1,270	1,095
Oats	7,107	21,759	Lead, pig and sheet	199	98
Wheatmeal or Flour.....cwt	60,068	102,731	Spelter	4,897	2,481
Cotton, Raw: viz.—Imported from the United States	461,509	471,898	Tin, in blocks, ingots, bars, or slabs	11,579	5,199
Brazil	11,888	6,524	Oil: viz.—Palm	91,344	153,977
Egypt	2,911	3,447	Cocoa-nut	105,034	148,114
British India	552,963	543,907	Olive	1,618	1,181
Other parts .....	...	...	Opium	65,014	47,126
Total of Cotton, Raw	1,029,301	1,025,836	Queksilver.....lbs	861,034	1,275,108
Cotton Yarn	500,170	395,295	Rice, not in the husk.....cwt	773,642	720,877
Do	61,220	44,133	Silk: viz.—Raw	1,000,443	1,879,460
Cotton Manufactures not made up: viz.—East India Piece Goods	204,101	148,757	Waste, knubs and husks	666	1,040
Do	73,266	55,935	Thrown	508,240	355,967
Other Articles	54,450	39,407	Silk Manufactures of Europe: viz.—Silk or Satin Broad Stuffs	9,082	5,216
Cotton Manufactures wholly or in part made up: viz.—Fringe	9,399	7,980	Ribbons	17,628	5,829
Gloves	59,353	8,581	Gauze or Crape Broad Stuffs	460	215
Stockings and Socks.....pairs	187,103	57,686	Ribbons	256	198
Other Articles	11,271	6,374	Gauze mixed with Silk, Satin, or any other materials, in less proportion than one-half of the fabric; viz.—Broad Stuffs.....	...	10
Dyes and Dyeing Stuffs: viz.—Cochineal cwt	13,431	13,103	Ribbons	78	...
Indigo.....cwt	48,162	60,913	Velvet Broad Stuffs, the foundation being of Silk	1,018	1,766
Lac-dye	4,291	5,763	Do., the foundation being of other materials than Silk	248	...
Logwood.....cwt	2,317	4,383	Ribbons of velvet or Silk embossed with velvet, the foundation being of Silk, entered previously to 8th August, 1854	1,403	...
Terra Japonica	565	884	Do., the foundation being of other materials than Silk, entered previously to 8th August, 1854 .....	...	...
Cutch	383	953	Do., of velvet or plush, entered from 8th August, 1854	685	3,402
Embroidery and Needlework: —By weight.....lbs	4,755	1,977	Plush for making hats	754	105
Do	8,855	9,104	Silk Manufactures of India: viz.—Bandannoes and other Silk Handkerchiefs, and Tussock Cloths, entered previously to 8th August, 1854	218,640	...
Glass Manufactures: viz.—Window Glass, and Shades and Cylinders.....cwt	2,638	1,054	Alpacca and the Llama Tribe.....	23,395,401	28,191,804
Plate Glass	14,175	19,807	Woolen Manufactures: viz.—Manufactures not made up	38,859	40,724
Do .....	...	...	Articles or Manufactures of wool, wholly or in part made up:—Carpets and Rugs sq. yds	50,294	10,400
White Flint Glass Goods (except bottles) not cut, engraved or otherwise ornamented, lbs	4,584	2,871	Shawls, Scarfs, and Handkerchiefs.....lbs	603	4,290
All Flint Cut Glass, Flint Coloured Glass, and Fancy Ornamental Glass.....cwt	781	571	Gloves	3,453	1,760
Guano.....cwt	48,733	43,215	Other Articles	157	2,564
Hides, untanned, dry.....cwt	87,326	113,993	Total of Unrefined Sugar.....	302,418	225,940
			Sugar, Foreign, Refined and Candy; viz.—Of or from British Possessions	2,477	2,752
			Of or from Mauritius	35,152	25,695
			Of or from British Possessions in East India Foreign	11,534	13,902
			Total of Refined Sugar	253,255	183,591
			Sugar, Foreign, Refined and Candy; viz.—Of or from British Possessions	5	1,804
			Foreign	83,816	42,486
			Molasses.....	53,028	41,501
			Tea.....	8,082,901	13,355,700
			Tobacco: viz.—Stemmed	96,284	282,788
			Unstemmed	10,293,224	7,792,980
			Foreign Manufactured, and Snuff.....	2,148,948	2,000,990
			Wine: viz.—Red, of British Possessions.....gals	646,747	2,476
			Foreign	731	1,178
			White, of British Possession.....	1,801,521	1,091,402
			Foreign	6,037	5,390
			Red and White—Mixed in Bond	1,955,587	1,765,100
			Total of Wine	16,145,237	17,000,451
			Wool, Sheep and Lambs': viz.—From British Possessions out of Europe	7,250,164	11,191,353
			From other parts	23,395,401	28,191,804
			Total Sheep and Lambs' Wool	38,859	40,724
			Alpacca and the Llama Tribe.....	50,294	10,400
			Woolen Manufactures: viz.—Manufactures not made up	603	4,290
			Articles or Manufactures of wool, wholly or in part made up:—Carpets and Rugs sq. yds	3,453	1,760
			Shawls, Scarfs, and Handkerchiefs.....lbs	157	2,564
			Gloves	4,506	4,038
			Other Articles .....	...	...

III. EXPORTS OF BRITISH AND IRISH PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURES FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.
An Account of the Exports of the Principal and Other Articles of British and Irish Produce and Manufactures in the Eleven Months, in part, ended 30th November, 1855,
compared with the Exports in the Eleven Months ended 5th December, 1854.

Articles.	Quantities.		Declared Value.	
	1854	1855	1854	1855
Alkali: viz.—Soda	1,034,607	962,492	£ 428,351	£ 363,252
Beer and Ale	358,359	342,940	1,175,112	1,254,320
Butter	83,727	107,849	382,758	509,244
Candles.....	3,545,062	4,916,133	160,145	236,102
Cheese	15,285	19,384	77,094	77,094
Coals and Cullm	4,098,072	4,721,286	2,006,431	2,307,555
Cordage and Cables	102,793	92,556	299,887	243,734
Cotton Manufactures:—Entered by the Yard (exclusive of Lace and Patent Net)	1,553,125,399	1,724,185,176	21,432,423	23,224,982
Lace and Patent Net	85,015,137	84,439,222	469,582	423,832
Thread for Sewing	4,313,865	4,434,795	475,771	504,329
Stockings	872,715	501,750	277,838	166,083
Of all other descriptions .....	...	...	221,433	213,651
Total Value Cotton Manufac. ....	...	...	22,877,050	24,532,877
Cotton Yarn.....	133,228,707	151,559,997	6,055,630	6,645,331
Earthenware	87,154,418	68,894,633	1,235,982	911,287
Fish: viz.—Herrings	273,750	370,380	28,5685	408,738
Of other sorts .....	...	...	83,545	81,963
Glass Manufactures:—Flint Glass.....	48,797	36,295	166,501	130,617
Window Glass	33,854	18,279	54,141	29,629
Bottles, Green or Common.....	437,868	467,644	251,650	254,220
Plate Glass .....	...	...	55,486	50,052
Total Value Glass Manufac. ....	...	...	527,781	464,548
Haberdashery and Millinery .....	...	...	3,456,250	2,409,843
Hardware and Cutlery .....	...	...	3,570,987	2,668,358
Leather, Unwrought	27,812	29,107	231,752	232,539
Wrought: viz.—Gloves.....	33,513	25,334	27,759	18,444
Of other sorts	4,338,009	3,105,833	809,677	571,517
Saddlery and Harness.....	...	...	306,873	211,622
Linen Manufactures:—Entered by the Yard (exclusive of Lace of Thread)	101,517,743	103,228,343	3,414,886	3,315,589
Lace of Thread.....	262,398	218,508	5,950	4,451
Thread for Sewing	3,047,118	2,735,405	297,826	265,769
Of all other descriptions .....	...	...	16,559	13,967
Total Value Linen Manufac. ....	...	...	3,735,221	3,599,776
Linen Yarn	16,017,759	16,895,113	852,763	863,040
Machinery and Mill Work: viz.—Steam Engines and parts of Steam Engines .....	...	...	525,702	833,161
Of all other sorts .....	...	...	1,271,503	1,238,339
Metals: viz.—Iron, Pig	278,190	283,035	1,184,685	1,037,196
Bar, bolt and rod	589,203	501,008	5,459,229	4,253,555
Wire	7,231	5,351	149,769	112,755

NOTE.—The Eleven Months, ended 30th November, 1855, being five working days shorter than the corresponding period in the previous year, 1,475,507 might be added to the Total of the Enumerated Articles, and 1,684,565 to the Total of all Articles, for the probable export of the five days not included in 1855. These additions would make the respective Totals 77,784,514 and 88,531,865, instead of 76,312,616 and 86,847,300, which appear in this Account.
Statistical Department, Board of Trade, Dec., 1855.

A. W. FOMILANQUE.

RATES OF POSTAGE.

The rate of postage by private ships is 8d not exceeding half an ounce. For newspapers 1d, or 2d if to a foreign country.

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Table with columns for destination (e.g., Aden and Arabia, Africa, Alexandria, Algeria, Antigua, Ascension, Australia, Austria, Azores, Baden, Baltic, Barbadoes, Bavaria, Belgium, Berberce, Bernuda, Borneo, Brazil, Bremen, Bucharest, Buenos Ayres, Cadix, California, Cape of Good Hope, Canada, Ceylon, Chill, China, Constantinople, Cuba, Curacao, Dardanelles, Demerara, Denmark, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Galatz, Gibraltar, Greece, Hamburg, Hanover, Havana, Heligoland, Holland, Honduras, Hong Kong, India, Ionian Islands, Jamaica, Java, Lagos, Lombardy, Lubek, Madeira, Luxemburg, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldavia) and rates (e.g., 10, 1, 0, 2, 4, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100).

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"We feel no hesitation in saying, that there is no member of society by whom the book will not be found useful; whether such person hold the relation of a parent, a preceptor, or a clergyman."—SUN, Evening Paper.

"Fortunate for a country would it be did its youth put into practice the philanthropic and scientific maxims here laid down. One cause of matrimonial misery might they be banished from our land, and the race of the enervate be succeeded by a renewal of the hardy, vigorous spirits of the olden time."—CHRONICLE.

Published by the author; sold also by Sherwood, Piper, and Co., 23 Paternoster row; Hannay, 63 Oxford street; Mann, 39 Cornhill, London; Heywood, Oldham street, and Armstrong, 23 Bond street, Manchester; Howell, 6 Church street, Liverpool; Campbell, 136 Argyle street, Glasgow; Robinson, 11 Greenisle street, Edinburgh; Berry and Co., 159 Great Britain street, Dublin; and by all booksellers and chemists in the United Kingdom.

FORD'S EUREKA SHIRTS.—The "Eureka" is the most unique, and the only perfect fitting shirt made.—OBSERVE.
Best quality, Six for 40s; Second quality, Six for 31s; if washed ready for use, 2s extra.
CAUTION.—Ford's Eureka Shirts are stamped, "38 Poultry, London," without which none are genuine.
* Catalogues with particulars post free.
RICHARD FORD, 38 Poultry, London.

F. DENT, 61 STRAND, AND 34 and 35 Royal Exchange, Chronometer, Watch, and Clock Maker, by appointment to the Queen and Prince Albert, sole successor to the late E. J. Dent in all his patent rights and business at the above shops, and the Clock and Compass Factory at Somerset wharf; maker of chronometers, watches, astronomical, turret, and other clocks, dipeidoscopes and patent ships' compasses, used on board Her Majesty's yacht. Ladies gold watches, 8 guineas; gentlemen's, 10 guineas; strong silver lever watches, £6 6s. Church clocks with compensation pendulum, £85.

DR DE JONGH'S LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL. Prescribed with complete confidence by the faculty for its purity, efficacy, and marked superiority over all other kinds.

It is entirely free from nauseous flavour, and being invariably and carefully submitted to chemical analysis—and ONLY SUPPLIED IN SEALED BOTTLES TO PRECLUDE SUBSEQUENT ADMIXTURE OR ADULTERATION—this oil possesses a guarantee of genuineness and purity offered by no other Cod Liver Oil.

Extract from the "LANCET," July 29, 1854.
"Dr de Jongh gives the preference to the light brown oil over the pale oil, which contains scarcely any volatile fatty acid, a smaller quantity of iodine, phosphoric acid, and the elements of bile, and upon which ingredients the efficacy of Cod Liver Oil no doubt partly depends. Some of the deficiencies of the pale oil are attributable to the method of its preparation, and especially to its filtration through charcoal. IN THE PREFERENCE OF THE LIGHT BROWN OVER THE PALE OIL WE FULLY CONCUR."

"We have carefully tested a specimen of the Light Brown Cod Liver Oil prepared for medical use under the direction of Dr de Jongh, and obtained from the wholesale agents, MESSRS ANSAR, HARFORD, and CO., 77 Strand. We find it to be genuine, and rich in iodine and the elements of bile."

Sold ONLY in bottles, capsuled and labelled with Dr de Jongh's signature, WITHOUT WHICH NONE ARE GENUINE, by ANSAR, HARFORD, and CO., 77 Strand, London, Dr de Jongh's sole consignees; and by most respectable chemists in town and country.

Half-pints (10 ounces), 2s 6d; Pints (20 ounces), 4s 9d; Quarts (40 ounces), 9s. IMPERIAL MEASURE.

TEETH.—BY HER MAJESTY'S Royal Letters Patent.—Newly-invented and patented application of chemically-prepared White and Gum-coloured India Rubber in the construction of Artificial Teeth, Gums, and Palates.—Mr EPHRAIM MOSELY, Surgeon-Dentist, 61 Grosvenor street, Grosvenor square, Sole Inventor and Patentee.—A new, original, and invaluable invention, consisting in the adaptation, with the most absolute perfection and success, of chemically-prepared India Rubber as a lining to the ordinary gold or bone frame. The extraordinary results of this application may be briefly noted in a few of their most prominent features, as the following:—All sharp edges are avoided; no springs, wires, or fastenings are required; a greatly increased freedom of suction is supplied; a natural elasticity hitherto wholly unattainable, and a fit, perfected with the most unerring accuracy, are secured; while from the softness and flexibility of the agent employed, the greatest support is given to the adjoining teeth when loose, or rendered tender by the absorption of the gums. The acids of the mouth exert no agency on the chemically-prepared White India Rubber, and, as it is a non-conductor, fluids of any temperature may with thorough comfort be imbibed and retained in the mouth, a unpleasantness of smell or taste being at the same time wholly provided against by the peculiar nature of its preparation. To be obtained only at 1 Lower Grosvenor street, London; 14 Gay street, Bath; and 10 Eldon square, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES.—The vast increase in the demand for these Cough Lozenges, and the numerous testimonials constantly received, fully justify the proprietor in asserting they are the best and safest yet offered to the public for the cure of the following complaints:—

Asthma, Winter Cough, Hoarseness, Shortness of Breath, and other Pulmonary Maladies.
They have deservedly obtained the high patronage of their Majesties the King of Prussia, and the King of Hanover; very many also of the Nobility and Clergy, and of the public generally, use them, under the recommendation of some of the most eminent of the faculty.

Prepared and sold in boxes, 1s 1/2, and tins, 2s 9d, 4s 6d, and 10s 6d each, by THOMAS KEATING, Chemist, &c., No. 79 St Paul's Churchyard, London. Sold retail by all druggists, &c.

RECENT TESTIMONIAL.
Copy of a letter from the late Colonel Hawker (the well-known Author on "Guns and Shooting")
Longparish house, near Whitechurch, Hants,
October 21, 1854.

Sir,—I cannot resist informing you of the extraordinary effect I have experienced by taking only a few of your Lozenges. I had a cough for several weeks that defied all that had been prescribed for me; and yet I got completely rid of it by taking about half a small box of your lozenges, which I find are the only ones that relieve the cough without deranging the stomach or digestive organs.—I am, Sir, your humble servant,
F. HAWKER.

To Mr Keating, 79 St Paul's Churchyard.

PALE NEWFOUNDLAND COD LIVER OIL. Of every the quality, made by Messrs Chas. Fox and Co., and recommended by Professor Taylor, of Guy's, and by Professor Thomson, of St Thomas's Hospitals. Half-pints, 1s 6d, pints, 2s 6d, quarts, 4s 6d. Five-pint bottles, 10s 6d, Imperial Measure.

* Orders from the country should expressly state **KEATING'S COD LIVER OIL.**

LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTER-SHIRE SAUCE is universally acknowledged to be the most valuable condiment, and experience has proved its efficacy in promoting digestion and preserving health. Sold by Barclay and Sons, Crosse and Blackwell, and the principal dealers everywhere.

HARVEY'S SAUCE.—THE admirers of this celebrated Fish Sauce are particularly requested to observe, that none is genuine but that which bears the name of WILLIAM HARVEY on the back of each bottle, in addition to the front label used so many years, and signed ELIZABETH HARVEY, 6 Edwards street, Portman square, London.

DINNEFORD'S PURE FLUID MAGNESIA has been for many years sanctioned by the most eminent of the Medical Profession, as an excellent remedy for acidities, heartburn, hæmorrhage, gout, and indigestion. As a mild aperient it is admirably adapted for delicate females, particularly during pregnancy; and it prevents the food of infants from turning sour during digestion. Combined with the Acidulated Lemon Syrup, it forms an effervescent aperient draught which is highly agreeable and efficacious.

Prepared by DINNEFORD and CO., Dispensing Chemists (and General Agents for the Improved Horse Hair Gloves and Belts), 172 New Bond street, London, and sold by all respectable Chemists throughout the empire.

RUPTURES.—BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT. WHITE'S MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSS is allowed by upwards of 200 Medical Gentlemen to be the most effective invention in the curative treatment of HERNIA. The use of the steel spring, so often hurtful in its effects, is here avoided—a soft bandage being worn round the body; while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the MOC-MAIN PAD and PATENT LEVER, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected, and may be worn during sleep. A descriptive circular may be had, and the Truss (which cannot fall to fit) forwarded by post, on the circumference of the body two inches below the hips being sent to the Manufacturer, Mr WHITE, 228 Piccadilly, London.

Price of a Single Truss, 16s, 21s, 26s 6d, and 31s 6d; Double ditto, 31s 6d, 42s, and 52s 6d. Post-office orders to be made payable to John White, Post-office, Piccadilly.

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE CAPS, &c., for VARICOSE VEINS, and all cases of WEAKNESS and SWELLING of the LEGS, SPRAINS, &c. They are porous, light of texture, and inexpensive, and are drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price from 7s 6d to 16s each; postage 6d.
MANUFACTORY—228 Piccadilly, London.

THE LEADING AND POPULAR ARTICLES OF DRESS manufactured by B. BENJAMIN, Merchant Tailor, 74 Regent street:—The Pelletier Overcoat, price 28s, invented and adapted for the season; the Reversible Waistcoats, price 14s, buttoning four different sides; the 47s Suits made to order from Scotch, Heather, and Cheviot Tweeds, all wool, and thoroughly shrunken; the Two Guinea Dress or Frock Coats, the Guinea Dress Trousers, and the Half-Guinea Waistcoats.

N.B.—A perfect fit guaranteed.

FOR GENTLEMEN. MESSRS NICOLL employ the best Talent and Materials to be met with in England, France, and Germany.
ALLIED SLEEVE CAPE, Waterproof, yet evaporable, One Guinea.
NICOLL'S well known PALETOT, Two Guineas.
NICOLL'S Guinea TROUSERS and Half-guinea VESTS.
Estimates given for Military Uniforms, Youth's Clothing, and Servants' Liveries.
114, 116, 118, 120 Regent street and 22 Cornhill.

GENTLEMEN CALLING ON OR sending their orders to Messrs NICOLL, of Regent street and Cornhill, will find each Article sold by them marked in Plain Figures, by the aid of which and the Ready Money System, many thousands have for several years past experienced the advantages of Excellence combined with true Economy.

For the Sale of the Patented and other Garments there are accredited Agents in the Chief Towns of Great Britain and the Colonies.
114, 116, 118, 120 Regent street and 22 Cornhill.

MACHINE-MADE CLOTHING. INTRODUCED by HYAM and CO., 86 OXFORD STREET.

The great success attending HYAM and Co.'s Introduction of machine-made clothing may be easily interpreted. So completely efficacious is this extraordinary appliance, that nothing is left to be desired. Every seam is smooth, fit, and regular, and every stitch is in its place. Though HYAM and CO. have expended much on this new discovery, in the shape of improved machinery and commercial workshops, they are enabled to supply the garments thus made at a considerable reduction in price, owing to the great economisation of time and labour effected. The garments are far neater, more durable, and much superior to those wrought by the ordinary process.

MACHINE OVERCOATS, Sleeve Capes, and Poncho Capes, 21s to 63s. The new sac Jacket, and Apsley Jacket, 21s to 35s.

MACHINE PALETOTS, OXONIANS, Dress and Sartout Coats.

MACHINE SELF-ADJUSTING TROUSERS, combined ease, exactness of fit, and retention of shape, 14s 6d to 21s.

MACHINE-MADE DRESS for the YOUNG of ALL AGES form a principal feature in HYAM and CO.'s arrangements. Such neat, becoming, and superior Suits, Dresses, Overcoats, Capes, &c., cannot fail to command universal approbation.

TRELOAR'S COCOA-NUT FIBRE MATTING AND DOOR MATS.—T. TRELOAR has much pleasure in stating that the Jurors of the Paris Universal Exhibition have awarded him the Prize Medal for Cocoa-Nut Fibre Manufactures. Catalogues, containing prices and every particular, free by post.—Warehouse, 42 Ludgate Hill, London.

GOOD WISHES AND THANKS.—

At this season, when the year is young, and old associations mingle with new acquaintances, almost everybody is invited to reciprocate civilities and join in festivities. Now all the world goes out visiting, and few people are at home, without having to deliberate on the weighty affairs of the next engagement. Rejoicing and exhilarating fare make the aged feel young, and the young as if they would never grow old. At such a time it is difficult to obtain attention, and long discussions are utterly unseasonable. But custom and principle—gratitude and resolution—have induced E. Mosses and Son, as briefly as possible, to pay their annual tribute to their friends, patrons, and the public.

Thanks are so common, and ordinarily cost so little, that almost every one indulges in the luxury; all grades and professions—all countries and languages—have their modes of expressing their obligations, and their manner of communicating their gratitude; but though words are cheap, and sentiments easily expressed, yet newspaper proprietors must live, and printers have wages; so Mosses and Son have no hesitation to pay for the publication of their thanks, and to communicate their good wishes through the channels of the "world's lever," the Press.

Possibly some thousands may say, they have already had those thanks when they purchased their garments, and have proved their good wishes by the service, style, and comfort of the articles they have procured. E. Mosses and Son are proud of the distinction which superior articles and moderate prices have gained in every department of their business; and by complaisance and fair dealing, they are resolved to exercise their commercial facilities to the fullest extent—securing to every one the best goods at the most reasonable charges.

The year 1855 has been marked by various struggles for European liberty, and thousands have fallen in honour of their country, and in defence of oppressed Turkey. The necessary consequences of war, however victorious, have been felt in crippled commerce and high-priced provisions; but E. Mosses and Son have had the satisfaction of offering elegances and excellences in dress, at prices which others could not possibly imitate. This system, which has so long given satisfaction, has this year met with extraordinary success; marks and expressions of approbation have been given on every hand. E. Mosses and Son highly appreciate the favour of the public, and are determined to return it, by the greatest exertions, the most magnificent preparations—by compassing every means which the mighty hand of commerce sketches out for business with all the world—and by furnishing their establishments, at every season, with the greatest novelties and the best articles, on the most economical conditions.

There is not a duty more congenial, than to thank the ladies for their patronage. It is true, that department which strictly belongs to them is managed with the greatest energy and industry—that it is furnished with the most elegant and the most useful articles, and consequently cannot fail to be attractive. It has been magnificently encouraged; and E. Mosses and Son assure the ladies, that their best endeavours are at their service, and they shall be most happy to preserve the confidence and approbation which has been hitherto conferred upon them.

E. Mosses and Son rejoice in the publicity their name has gained, and are glad to remember that their establishments are public institutions—the public are their patrons—and, for the encouragement given to their enterprise, they express their gratitude in the most frank, earnest, and public manner. They are the servants of all classes—they endeavour to gratify all requests—and to give satisfaction to all their friends and patrons. Thousands record their success, and avail themselves of their perseverance and unflinching industry; while they benefit the public by their plans of trade, they express their unbounded satisfaction with the returns they receive from all parts of the world.

Their establishment in the City is the centre point of business; but their West-end Branch, and their branches at Sheffield and Bradford, Yorkshire, are furnished with the same goods, and the same economical prices are invariably charged.

During the past year the branch establishments have been encouraged in the most liberal manner, and it is the undivided resolution of E. Mosses and Son to continue those plans of business, which are well worthy of universal support. Every reasonable article of dress will be seen there in the highest perfection; no labour, talent, expense, or assiduity will be regarded in the continuance of those plans of popular progress by which their business is marked; and as Merchant Tailors, Clothiers, Hosiery, Hatters, Shirts, and Boot and Shoe Manufacturers, and Outfitters for Ladies, Gentlemen, and Families, they are firmly resolved to keep that world-wide fame which has been awarded to them for so many years.

Thanking everybody everywhere for their support, and their ready and unsolicited acknowledgment of the superior position and plans of trade which E. Mosses and Son have carried out; wishing all persons in all stations every possible success in their engagements, and the greatest comfort in their attire; and that another year may prove to countless thousands that E. Mosses and Son participate largely in those pleasurable feelings inspired by the distribution of commercial benefits, through the length and breadth of the land—their constant content themselves with mere verbal expressions of their thanks, and a grateful recognition of public patronage, but at the same time most announce their purpose of acting for the public interest, with the energy and perseverance of former years; and, while they thus pursue an undeviating course of industry and enterprise, they most cordially take advantage of the season to wish their friends, patrons, and the public

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Aldgate and Minories—opposite to Aungate church.
West-end Branch—New Oxford street and Hart street.

Country Branches—Sheffield and Bradford, Yorkshire.
Colonial Wholesale Branch—Melbourne, Victoria.

BY COMMAND OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL. NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC, and Instructions to all Postmasters. Newspapers and other Printed Papers for France and Foreign Countries via France.

General Post Office, December, 1855. In accordance with the provisions of a new postal convention with France, the entire postage, British and French, chargeable upon newspapers and other printed papers posted in the United Kingdom addressed to France or Algeria, or, when they are conveyed by the French Mediterranean packets, to any of the places in Turkey, Syria, and Egypt at which France maintains post offices, must, on the 1st January next, and thenceforward, be paid in advance, and no further charge of any kind will be levied upon their delivery.

Under the new arrangements many kinds of books and other printed matter, which have hitherto been liable to the letter rate of postage, will be forwarded at a greatly reduced charge; and as the charges on newspapers and other periodical literature levied on delivery in France have, in most instances, been much greater than that now to be paid in advance, a considerable reduction of postage will be made in their case also.

The following table shows the charge which must be paid hereafter on the printed papers above referred to:— For a packet of British newspapers duly registered at the General Post Office for transmission abroad.

Table with 2 columns: Description of paper weight and quantity, and Price in pence and farthings. Includes rows for 'Not exceeding four ozs', 'Above four ozs and not exceeding half lb', etc.

For a packet of printed papers other than British newspapers duly registered at the General Post Office for transmission abroad.

Table with 2 columns: Description of paper weight and quantity, and Price in pence and farthings. Includes rows for 'Not exceeding four ozs', 'Above four ozs and not exceeding half lb', etc.

And so on, adding twopence or sixpence, as the case may be, for each additional half pound.

The same rates of postage must be paid in advance upon newspapers and other printed papers addressed to any of the following countries and places, the correspondence for which is forwarded, as a rule, through France; viz., Baden, Bavaria, Greece, Lucca, Malorca, Minorca, Modena, the Papal States, Parma, Placentia, Sardinia, Two Sicilies, Spain, Switzerland, Syria, Tripoli, Tunis, Tuscany, Venetian Lombardy, and Wurtemberg, or addressed to any other country, and specially directed to be forwarded "via France."

On this class of printed papers the rate paid in this country will cover the whole charge, either to the extreme frontier of France or to the port of disembarkation if they are conveyed from France by one of the French Mediterranean packets.

Upon newspapers addressed to the Ionian Islands, specially directed to be sent via France, and upon newspapers for Malta, specially directed to be sent "by French packet via Marseilles," the same rates of postage must also be paid in advance; but printed papers other than newspapers, addressed to the Ionian Islands and Malta, will not be sent at a reduced rate of postage by way of Southampton under the Colonial Book Post regulations.

The following is a list of the places in Turkey, Syria, and Egypt at which France maintains post offices; viz., Alexandria, Jaffe, Beyrout, Tripoli in Syria, Latakia, Alexandretta, Mersina, Rhodes, Smyrna, Mytelene, Dardanelles, Gallipoli, and Constantinople.

All newspapers, to be forwarded at the lower of the two rates mentioned above, must be posted within fifteen days from the date of publication; but newspapers of an older date may be forwarded at the rate set down for ordinary printed paper. If any printed paper, not a newspaper, be enclosed in the same packet with one or more newspapers, the whole will be chargeable at the higher of the two rates of postage.

Under the term "Printed Papers" are included periodical works, other than registered newspapers, stitched or bound books, pamphlets, sheets of music, catalogues, prospectuses, announcements and notices of every kind, whether printed, engraved, or lithographed.

The following regulations must be strictly observed:— 1. Every packet must be sent without a cover, or in a cover open at the end or side.

2. There must be no enclosure, except newspapers or other printed papers.

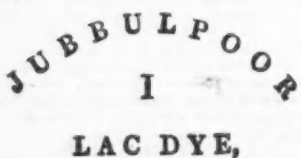
3. There must be no other writing or marks upon the newspapers or printed papers than the name and address of the person to whom they are sent, nor anything upon the cover but such name and address, the printed title of the papers, and the printed name and address of the publisher or vendor who sends them.

If any of the above regulations be disregarded, or if the whole postage be not paid in advance, the packets will either be detained, or forwarded charged as unpaid letters.

Newspapers addressed to the Mediterranean or the East Indies, and intended to be sent in the closed mails by way of Marseilles, will continue liable to the existing regulations, including the present rates of postage.

ROWLAND HILL, Secretary.

SCARLET DYERS, DRY-SALTERS and CARPET MANUFACTURERS.—Attention is called to the



Manufactured in the centre of the Lac Forests in India. It is equal in quality and brilliancy of colour to any sent to this country, and is sold 20 per cent. cheaper. For samples, apply to any of the London or Liverpool Dye Brokers.

THE ONLY STOVE WITHOUT A FLUE JOYCE'S PATENT.

Plain, from 12s to 42s; Ornamental, from 31s 6d to 10 guineas.

For Warming Halls, Passages, Greenhouses, Waterclosets, Shops, Storerooms, and all places requiring artificial warmth. To be seen in use at the sole Proprietor's, S. NASH, Ironmonger, &c., 253 Oxford street, and at the City Depot, 119 Newgate street, London. PATENT PREPARED FUEL for the Stoves, 2s 6d per bushel; only genuine with the Proprietor's name and seal on the sack, S. NASH, 253 OXFORD STREET, and 119 NEWGATE STREET.

JOYCE'S PORTABLE LAUNDRY STOVE,

A small but most efficient little Stove, most especially useful in summer, when small fires only are wanted for domestic purposes; will heat and keep hot for use six flat and Italian irons, with perfect cleanliness, for 12 hours, with one pennyworth of coke or cinders. A saucepan or kettle may be placed on the top for culinary or other purposes.—PRICE 12s. * * * Prospectuses, with Drawings and Report, forwarded free.

HUBBUCK'S PATENT WHITE ZINC PAINT, THE PERMANENT WHITE OF THE ANCIENT ARTIST. HEALTHFUL, DURABLE, ECONOMICAL.

HUBBUCK and SON, the original manufacturers of White Zinc Paint on a large scale in this country, are enabled, by a process which is patented, to supply their Pure White Zinc Paint at the price of White Lead. Those direful maladies, paralysis and painter's colic, which destroy health and entail suffering and misery, will be entirely avoided. Apartments may now be immediately occupied without danger. It is entirely free from any poisonous or pernicious property whatever. Neither noxious gases, exposure to heat, nor tropical climates set upon it. The Powdered White Zinc also may be had for grinding in Oil; for Japanners, for Plaster Decorations, and the other purposes where it is used with Size, Varnish, Spirit, &c.

To be had of the wholesale paint dealers in the original packages as sent out from the works. Each cask stamped—"HUBBUCK, LONDON, PATENT," and if the cask is not so marked, the quality is not guaranteed. A Circular, with full particulars, may be had of THOMAS HUBBUCK and SON, the Original Wholesale Manufacturers in this Country, Paint and Varnish works, Upper East Smithfield (opposite the London Docks), London.

"HUBBUCK'S PATENT WHITE ZINC PAINT.—Among other tests to which it has been subjected, has been that of painting the hold of a sugar vessel, which, after a voyage to St Kitt's and back, is found as white as the first day the paint was applied."—JOHN BULL, Sept. 14, 1850.

N.B.—OLD ZINC AND ZINC CUTTINGS BOUGHT TO ANY EXTENT.

White zinc does not require bond on exportation, not being contraband of war like white lead.

ROYAL ARTILLERY AND ROYAL ENGINEERS.

The Examinations for Appointments to Provisional Commissions in the Royal Artillery will commence on MONDAY, the 21st of January, at 9 a.m., at Burlington house, Piccadilly. The candidates for these appointments must be between the ages of 20 and 22 years; and those appointed will be placed under the Director of Artillery Studies at Woolwich.

At the same time there will be Examinations for Appointments to the Practical Class of the Royal Military Academy, at Woolwich, the candidates for which must be between the ages of 18 and 20 years.

The appointments in both these classes will be determined by the result of a competitive examination.

No candidate will be eligible for examination who does not exhibit a reasonable proficiency in drawing; namely—Elementary geometrical drawing, including the use of drawing instruments, and other machinery, architectural, engineering, or landscape drawing.

DAYS OF EXAMINATION.

Monday, 21st January.

THE SUBJECTS OF THE EXAMINATION WILL BE

Tuesday, 22nd. Pure Mathematics—Pure and Wednesday, 23d. Mixed mixed, to which will be allotted 3500

Of which one-third will be given to problems. Thursday, 24th—Language, Literature, Geography, and History of Ancient Rome... 1000

Friday, 25th—Language, Literature, Geography, and History of Ancient Greece... 750

Saturday, 26th—Language, Literature, Geography, and History of France... 1000

Monday, 28th—Language, Literature, Geography, and History of Germany... 750

The Examination in French and German will be both written and viva voce.

Tuesday, 29th—English Language and Literature, Composition, History, and Geography... 1250

Wednesday, 30th—Experimental Sciences: Chemistry, Heat, Electricity, including Magnetism... 1000

Thursday, 31st—Natural Sciences: Mineralogy and Geology... 500

Friday, Feb. 1st.—Moral and Political Sciences... 1000

The examination in mathematics will precede that in the other subjects, and the number of candidates will be reduced to two-thirds of the total numbers by the result of this examination.

Each candidate may select from the other subjects of examination, those in which he desires to be examined, but no candidate will be allowed to count the marks gained in any subject, unless those marks shall at least amount to one-sixth of the total number of marks allotted to that subject.

The examiners will be appointed by the Secretary of State for the War Department.

Every candidate must transmit to the War Department, Pall Mall, by 10th January,—

1st.—An extract from the register of his baptism; or, in default of that, a certificate of age verified by affidavit.

2nd.—A certificate of good moral character, signed by a clergyman of the parish or of the persuasion to which he belongs, and by the tutor or head of the school or college at which he has received his education, for at least two years; or such other proof of good moral character as will be satisfactory to the Secretary of State.

3rd.—A statement of the subjects of examination, as far as the above regulations leave a selection to the candidate, in which he may desire to be examined.

Each candidate will be inspected by military surgeons, in order to ascertain that he is free from any bodily defects or ailments, calculated to interfere with the performance of military duties.

Each candidate, previous to the examination, must lodge £5 at Messrs Cox and Co., army agents, Charing cross, towards the expense of the examination, whose receipt must be produced on the first day of examination.

CHARLES HAWKER,

War Department, Pall Mall, December 19, 1855.

GREAT LUXEMBOURG COMPANY.

INTEREST ON OBLIGATIONS.—Notice is hereby given, that the coupons for the half-year's interest, at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, on the Obligations of this Company, falling due on the 1st Jan., 1856, will be paid at the offices of the Company in London or Brussels, on or after Tuesday, the 15th Jan., 1856, and at the office of Mr H. C. Bolo, No. 18 Brunswick street, Liverpool.

The coupons must be left for examination fourteen days previous to payment, and lists for this purpose may be obtained on application, and holders are cautioned that any coupons from which the numbers or due date have been cut off or rendered illegible cannot be paid.—By Order of the Board,

THOMAS COXHEAD, Secretary.

Gresham house, Old Broad street, London, Dec. 18, 1855.

NOTE.—Holders of Obligations are informed that the first drawing for the Sinking Fund, in terms of the original issue, will take place in Brussels as soon as the necessary machinery can be provided, which it is expected will be in all the month of January.

GEELONG AND MELBOURNE RAILWAY COMPANY.

INCORPORATED BY AN ACT OF THE VICTORIA LEGISLATURE, 8th February, 1853. Capital, £350,000. In 17,500 shares of £20 each, bearing a minimum interest of 5 per cent. per annum, guaranteed by the Colonial Government for 21 years, and payable half-yearly, viz., on 20th April and 20th October, in the colony, and in London.

DIRECTORS. Elected by Shareholders.

Charles Nuttall Thorpe, Esq., J.P., President. William G. McKellar, Esq., J.P. Charles Ibbotson, Esq., J.P. J. B. Hutton, Esq.

Appointed by the Colonial Government. Charles Edward Stuart, Esq., J.P., Immigration Agent. George F. Belcher, Esq., Sub-Treasurer.

ENGINEER—Edward Snel, Esq. SECRETARY—Martin Snel, Esq. LONDON OFFICE.

MANAGER—S. J. Cooke, Esq., 35 Cannon street, late Treasurer to the Colonial Government, and a Director of the Company.

AGENTS—Messrs Larnach and Walker, 37 Cannon street. EXAMINING AND CONSULTING ENGINEERS—Daniel Gooch, Esq., C.E., Great Western Railway; Henry Stothert, Esq. (Stothert and Slaughter), Bristol.

SOLICITORS—Messrs Goodwin and Co., 3 Lancaster place Strand.

BANKERS—London Joint Stock Bank; and Bank of New South Wales.

By advices dated 12th September last, further intelligence has been received of the progress of the above undertaking, which is now rapidly approaching completion.

It is anticipated that 16 miles will be ready for traffic in January next, and that the communication between Geelong and Melbourne will be formally opened at the date of the Sixth Half-Yearly Meeting of shareholders in July of the ensuing year.

Applications continue to be received for the unallotted guaranteed shares of £20 each, at not less than par, which must be paid in full, interest taking effect from the date of payment, and so endorsed upon the share certificates.

Lithographed plans of the line, reports and traffic estimates may be procured, and all further information obtained, on application at the office of the Company.

S. J. COOKE, Manager. Geelong and Melbourne Railway office, 35 Cannon street, City, December 1, 1855.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES. To Messrs Larnach and Walker, 37 Cannon street, London.

Gentlemen,—I request that you will allot to me guaranteed shares of £20 each in the Geelong and Melbourne Railway Company, at _____, and I hereby undertake to accept the sealed certificates, and to pay for the same on receipt of the allotment letter.

Name..... Address..... Profession, or business..... Usual residence..... Date.....

