SECOND EDITION.

South Wales Daily News Office, 4.30 a.m.

LATEST HOME TELEGRAMS.

A fire occurred at Gowan's Farm, Glenbervie, on Friday night, destroying a farmhouse and burning two male servants to death.

The purser of the Anchor Line steamer Furnessia, Charles G. Brown, while showing a friend over that vessel on Saturday fell into the hold and was instantaneously killed.

The coroner's jury at Bootle on Saturday returned a verdict of "Wilful Murder" against [illegible] Cassidy for killing his wife, Mary Cassidy, by knocking her down with a mallet, and cutting her skull open with a cleaver.

Three persons, James McGarvie, Peter Daily, and Helen McGarvie, were arrested in Glasgow on Thursday morning charged with causing the death of a man unknown by throwing him out of a three-storey window.

The reserve squadron, which is at present on a cruise in the North Sea with the men of the coastguard service, arrived at Kirkwall, Orkney, on Saturday afternoon from Heligoland. The squadron had a fine passage from Heligoland, and they will remain a few days in Kirkwall Bay.

The Prince and Princess of Wales left London on Saturday afternoon for Mentmore, the seat of Lord Rosebery, near Leighton Buzzard. Their Royal Highnesses were met at Cheddington by his lordship, and were driven through the park to the mansion, where a distinguished party had assembled. Their Royal Highnesses attended divine service at the parish church on Sunday morning.

On Saturday Richard Halliday, 27, a jeweller, was remanded for attempting to commit suicide at Birmingham. Prisoner, who had been drinking heavily, went to his sister's house, and, seizing a knife, stabbed himself 23 times, when the instrument was snatched from him. The wounds were all slight, the man being too intoxicated to strike sufficiently heavy to cause a fatal wound.

The Maori King and his suite, with their interpreter, were present at a garden party at Chislehurst on Saturday, given by Mr C. M. Palmer, M.P. A large number of members of Parliament were present, and were introduced to the king, who appeared greatly to enjoy the scenery in the vicinity. Both King Tawhaio and Major Tawheoro now enjoy excellent health, and are in good spirits.

THE FRANCHISE BILL.

On Saturday a manifesto was issued by the Reform Demonstration Committee, of which Mr George Howell is the secretary, and by the London Trades' Council, of which Mr George Shipton is the secretary, with reference to the Reform Demonstration which is to take place in Hyde Park in favour of the Franchise Bill. Amongst the other political clubs pledged to the support of the demonstration are the City Liberal, Ashford Liberal, Derby Liberal, Cobden, Westminster, and other clubs. Over eight Liberal associations, it was stated on Saturday, had appointed delegates to organise their members for the demonstration, and in addition to these there were about ninety trade societies. Special meetings of all trades will be held in the ensuing week to promote the success of the demonstration.

CREMATING THE BODY OF A CHILD.

The case of the Queen v. Ann and Elizabeth Stephenson was heard on Saturday, before Mr Justice Grove, Mr Justice Hawkins, Mr Justice Stephen, Mr Justice Watkin Williams, and Mr Justice Mathew, sitting as a Divisional Court for Crown Cases Reserved. The facts were these:—Ann Stephenson, the mother of Elizabeth Stephenson, and the latter were jointly indicted for having burnt the dead body of an illegitimate child of the prisoner Elizabeth, in order to avoid an inquest. They were indicted for misdemeanour before Mr Justice Hawkins at the Leeds Assizes and were found guilty, when it was contended by Mr Stuart Wortley, as counsel for the prisoners, that the coroner had no jurisdiction to hold the inquest as the body of the deceased child was not forthcoming for the inspection of the jury who were bound to view the body. The coroner, however, held the inquest, and at the trial subsequently before Mr Justice Hawkins his lordship held that he was justified in this act, but reserved the question whether this attempt to obstruct the Court of Justice amounted to a criminal offence. Their lordships, without hearing Mr Mesk, who appeared in support of the case against the prisoners, affirmed the conviction.

LADIES IN THE LONDON UNIVERSITY.

For the first time in this country a lady has just attained the degree of Master of Arts. The lady in question, Miss Clara Mary Dawes, passed the matriculation examination in January, 1879, gaining the forty-seventh place in the Honours Division. Last year, at the B.A. examination, having obtained a place in the First Division at the Pass Examination, she gained also honours in classics, with the first place in the second class. At the examination just concluded she is placed fourth in the list of the Masters of Arts of the year, who have taken the degree in the first branch of examination—that is, in classics with ancient and modern history. The two other branches are mathematics with natural philosophy, and mental and moral philosophy with political economy. In the second and third branches there are only three successful candidates, who are all men. For the information of those who are not conversant with the usages of the university, it is requisite to say that the places at the M.A. examination have no definite and absolute value, but have reference only to the relative proficiency of the candidate as compared with others who have chanced to present themselves at the same time. The candidate who is fourth one year might be first at another time, or vice versa, there being no class-list to mark absolute proficiency. This latter fact is somewhat remarkable, as the M.A. examination in both classics and mathematics is the highest in the university. Although the ladies have as yet only one M.A., fifty of them have obtained the degree of bachelor of arts, three that of bachelor of medicine, and eight the degree of bachelor of science. No lady has yet attained to the doctorate. The ladies who have passed the matriculation examination amount already to several hundreds. At the examination for matriculation just held, and of which the result will not be known for several days, the total number of candidates rose to nearly a thousand. The number of ladies was pretty nearly the same as last year, 129. The male candidates showed an increase of some thirty or forty. But on the whole the contingent of ladies in the university seems likely, if things go on as at present, to become before long one of very considerable importance in the numbers added to the list of members.

THE QUEEN'S CORONATION.

Saturday was the forty-sixth anniversary of the Queen's coronation, which took place at Westminster Abbey on the 28th of June, 1838, just a year and eight days after her accession to the throne. At Windsor, where the Queen is now residing, the day was celebrated in the customary manner, the bells of St. George's Chapel and St. John's Church ringing merrily at intervals, and salutes being fired in the Long Walk and at Virginia Water. In London the bells of most of the parish churches were rung. The Queen's colour was carried from Wellington Barracks to the guard-house at St. James's Palace, in place of the regimental colour of the Grenadiers usually taken; while the band of the regiment played a selection of music in the courtyard of the palace during the ceremony of mounting and changing the guard. The officers of the Coldstream Guards, who were relieved from duty afterwards, conveyed the "State colour" to Chelsea Barracks, and all the officers on duty for the day wore their gold sashes. The Admiralty flag was hoisted at the Admiralty offices, and the royal standard floated on the Royal United Service Institution in Whitehall-yard, while flags were hoisted on many other public and private buildings, as well as at the various steamboat piers on the river. A large number of persons assembled at the Horse Guards expecting to see the "trooping the colours," but the ceremony did not take place. The usual salutes were, however, fired. At Woolwich, Portsmouth, Plymouth, and all garrison towns the day was kept in the customary manner. At Aldershot a grand review of all the available troops in the command, numbering 7,256 of all arms, with 1,319 horses and 22 guns, was held in the Long Valley. The artillery fired a salute of 21 guns, which was followed by a *feu de joie* by the infantry; and, after a royal salute, three cheers were given for the Queen.

DUBLIN, Saturday Night.—The review in honour of the anniversary of the Queen's birthday, which was postponed in consequence of the death of the Duke of Albany, was held in the Phœnix Park to-day, in the presence of the Lord-Lieutenant. The whole of the troops in garrison paraded in review order at half-past eleven o'clock, on the Fifteen Acres, and were deployed in line under Major-General Lord Clarina, commanding the Dublin district.

His Excellency on reaching the ground at 11.50 a.m., was received by a royal salute. He then inspected the troops, passing down the line from right to left, and then returned to the saluting point, accompanied by the commander of the forces and the head-quarters' staff. At noon the *feu de joie* was fired, followed by a royal salute and three cheers.

A sham fight took place under the direction of Major-General Lord Clarina, and the troops returned to quarters before two o'clock. There was an immense concourse of spectators. The Countess Spencer, accompanied by Lady Muriel Boyle, drove on the ground in an open carriage drawn by four horses with outriders, and followed in the wake of the Lord-Lieutenant, who rode on horseback. A faint attempt at a cheer was made when his Excellency came opposite the flagstaff. The weather was excessively warm. Several public buildings in the city, as well as the more important business establishments, displayed flags in honour of the day. All the ships in Kingstown harbour, the several clubs and coastguard stations along the coast, were gaily decorated. The Assistance, troopship, which was in Kingstown harbour, was also decorated from stem to stern.

PEMBROKE DOCK.

Saturday last was to a certain extent observed as a general holiday in the town, and large numbers left by train for Birmingham, Swansea, &c., as well as places within the immediate neighbourhood. The Oddfellows, accompanied by the bands of the Milford Rifle Volunteers, Pembroke Dock Artillery Volunteers, and the Castle Martin Yeomanry Cavalry, marched through the principal streets of the town, thence to the Dockyard Church, where divine service was conducted. Afterwards they proceeded to the Temperance Hall, where luncheon was served. At noon a royal salute was fired from the Hill Fort.

THE TAFF VALE TRIMMERS.

The committee of the Taff Vale Trimmers met at the Washington Hotel on Sunday afternoon, to consider the reply of the directors to the memorial asking for less hours. The men generally feel very dissatisfied at the smallness of the concession, coupled as it is with the reservation of premiums. It has been said that the feeling among some of the leading men in the movement is to accept the concession as it stands. This the committee deny; as also do many of the men who have been spoken to on the subject, and they intend to leave the matter of its acceptance entirely in the hands of the general body of men. The following resolution was passed:—"That the latter be laid before a general meeting of the men for them to decide as to its being accepted or otherwise."

FOREIGN NEWS.

NEWS FROM THE SOUDAN.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

SUAKIM, Saturday.—Mason Bey, Governor of Massowah, has arrived here. The road between Kassala and Massowah appears to be open, numerous trains of camels having arrived safely at the latter place.

CAIRO, Saturday.—The 46th Regiment has been ordered to Keneh, and will encamp in the neighbourhood of that place.

The scare at Korosko, occasioned by the report that the rebels were advancing upon the place, has almost entirely subsided.

Major Kitchener has started in the direction of Sheleteb, on the Egyptian coast of the Red Sea, for the purpose of making a reconnaissance.

BRITISH TROOPS FOR UPPER EGYPT.

[CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAM.]

CAIRO, Saturday Morning.—The second battalion of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry has been ordered to proceed to Keneh.

FRANCE AND CHINA. RENEWAL OF HOSTILITIES.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAM.]

PARIS, Saturday.—Admiral Peyron submitted to the Cabinet Council this morning some dispatches which go to show that the order to occupy Langson was given before it had been ascertained whether the Chinese had evacuated the place. It appears, nevertheless, that the Government has determined upon pursuing a vigorous course of action in view of the new position of affairs created by the attack upon the French troops. The Minister of Marine has given orders for two transports to be fitted out afresh at Toulon so as to be available in case of emergency; and M. Ferry has, according to the *Temps*, sent instructions to M. Patenotre to order Admiral Corbet's squadron to adopt sharp retaliatory measures if the Chinese Government does not immediately offer redress for the Langson affair.

A despatch from Haiphong, dated June 27th, published by the *Temps*, states that hostilities against Langson have already been resumed with vigour. A river transport has been despatched to Suong Thong, to bring back the 95 wounded men to Hanoi and Haiphong. General Negrier has assumed the direction of the operations against Langson. The troops have to march through a difficult mountainous country intersected by numerous swollen torrents.

[EXCHANGE COMPANY'S TELEGRAM.]

HANOI, Saturday.—The following dispatch has been received at the London offices of the *New York Herald* from its special correspondent in China:—"Four hundred French soldiers were proceeding to Langson, when they were attacked on the 23rd and 24th inst. by 10,000 Chinese regulars. Eighteen French were killed and 75 wounded. A part reached here this morning. The convoy is under General Negrier, who left there on the 25th inst., and a junction was affected. It is rumoured that the fleet has been instructed to bombard one port in China.

THE CHOLERA OUTBREAK.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

TOULON, Saturday.—Six deaths from cholera have occurred here since noon yesterday.

MARSEILLES, Saturday.—Among the deaths registered here this morning were three from choleric diarrhœa. Sanitary measures are being energetically applied in the city, and the bureau for the registration of deaths will now remain open day and night in order to facilitate the rapid interment of persons suspected to have died of cholera.

PARIS, Saturday.—A strong feeling prevails here, to which many members of the Chamber of Deputies have given expression, that the National Fête of July 14th should be postponed in order to avert the risk of the spread of the cholera by the influx into Paris of visitors from all parts of France.

BERLIN, Saturday.—In the Reichstag to-day Herr Minnigerode brought forward an interpellation inquiring what measures of precaution, if any, the Imperial Government intended to adopt in view of the present danger from cholera. No reply was given until the afternoon sitting, when Secretary of State von Boetticher made a statement on the subject. No positive or certain information had, he said, as yet come to hand regarding the nature of the disease which had broken out at Toulon. It was reported, however, to be sporadic cholera, without specially infectious qualities. Inquiries were, nevertheless, being pursued with the greatest care. In Berlin a cholera commission, comprising Doctors Pettenkofer and Koch, had that very day begun working. It was hoped that the danger would be averted by a system of inspection, without recourse being had to the closing of the frontier.

Professor Virchow, who spoke after the Minister, expressed doubts whether the disease was not really Asiatic cholera, and blamed the defective measures of protection adopted by the French authorities. He also drew attention to the bad sanitary condition of the Suez Canal. Herr von Boetticher replied that the French Government, according to the report of the German Ambassador, had adopted all hygienic measures of precaution. As regarded the Suez Canal, the German Government would propose the adoption of international measures of protection.

The Cholera Commission, to which Herr Von Boetticher alluded, met at the Imperial Home Office. Besides Doctors Koch and Pettenkofer there were several specialists present at the deliberations.

MADRID, June 28.—In consequence of the establishment of a sanitary cordon along the Pyrenean frontier all persons entering Spain from France are now required to perform seven days' quarantine. Strict quarantine regulations are also enforced at the Spanish ports on all arrivals from France. Vessels arriving therefrom with clean bills of health will perform ten days', and those with foul bills fifteen days' quarantine. The British authorities at Gibraltar having taken precautions against the introduction of cholera, the sanitary cordon established by the Spanish officials around the town has been raised.

ALGIERS, June 28.—An order has been issued by the Governor of Algeria, drawn up in conformity with the advice of the Sanitary Council, which was hastily convened this afternoon, imposing five day's quarantine upon all arrivals from French ports in the Mediterranean. Instructions to this effect have been telegraphed to the Prefects of the Departments of Oran and Constantine.

[CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAM.]

PARIS, Saturday Afternoon.—Official intelligence from Toulon states that up till noon five deaths had occurred there from cholera to-day. In view of re-assuring the terror-stricken populace the military bands have been ordered to play in public daily as usual.

RUSSIAN NEWS.

[CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAM.]

ST. PETERSBURG, Friday Night.—The cattle plague in the provinces of Simbirsk and Samara is spreading with great rapidity.

Anti-Semitic demonstrations are still being carried on at Nijni Novgorod. Another outbreak is feared. A large force of military is present.

ST. PETERSBURG, Friday (via INSTERBURG), Saturday.—The *Moscow Gazette* states that the recent anti-Jewish troubles and riots have been fomented by agitators belonging to the Revolutionary organisation.

I have ascertained from a reliable source that the police have discovered at Moscow, Wilna, Warsaw, and in the capital itself, an organised band of incendiaries, whose object is to burn down houses, etc., with the view of obtaining the large sums of money for which they had previously insured the buildings. The police are at present naturally somewhat reticent in the matter, but it is understood that several mysterious fires which have recently occurred have been traced to the gang.

[CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAM.]

ST. PETERSBURG, Saturday.—The negotiations initiated, it is said, by the British Government for the revision of the extradition treaty between Russia and England are progressing satisfactorily. The chief point under consideration is the question of asylum afforded to political criminals, and it is understood that the Russian Government is disposed to accept the proposals of the British Foreign Minister in regard thereto. In that event certain crimes hitherto considered purely political will in future be placed within the category of ordinary crime, and render their authors liable to extradition.

[CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAM.]

PARIS, Saturday.—With the view of obtaining early reparation from China for the recent breach of treaty, Admiral Courbet has been instructed to institute most vigorous reprisals. Orders have also been issued for the recommissioning of two transports now at Toulon. One of these vessels will sail to-morrow for Saigon with 600 men.

THE RECENT REBELLION IN SPAIN.

TWO OFFICERS SHOT.

[CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAMS.]

MADRID, Saturday Afternoon.—Despite the most strenuous and influential efforts to obtain a commutation of the sentences, the two officers convicted of treason were duly shot at eight o'clock this morning at Gerona. The authorities, having grave reasons to fear a popular outbreak and probably attempts at rescue, took extensive precautions for preserving order, a large force of military and police being massed in the town and neighbourhood. The populace, however, were very quiet, and beyond frequent expressions of sympathy for the ill-fated prisoners, nothing of a menacing character occurred. Both condemned men showed great courage. The lieutenant fell first, but his companion, a major, did not meet his death until the second volley.

MADRID, Saturday Evening.—It has only just transpired that somewhat serious disturbances occurred at Barcelona last night in connection, it is supposed, with the refusal to pardon the two officers at Gerona. Several revolver shots were fired, but it is not known whether there were any casualties. The police have ascertained that a declared agent of Senor Ruiz Zorilla, the Republican leader, was recently in Gerona inciting the people to rescue the two officers. He promised them immediate help, and a general insurrection to follow, initiated by Zorilla himself, who would, he said, arrive at Barcelona in command of an insurgent naval squadron. Fortunately otherwise the consequences would have been deplorable. The Republican newspapers are published in mourning to-day in honour of the "Martyrs of Gerona." Some of them have been seized by the police.

MADRID, Saturday Night.—Further slight disturbances at Barcelona took place this evening. In consequence many of the shops and warehouses are closed. It is not, however, thought probable here that the affair will assume a serious aspect, as the authorities had taken elaborate precautionary measures beforehand.

COMPLIMENTARY DINNER TO THE SPEAKER.

On Saturday evening the Speaker of the House of Commons was entertained by the Master and Fellows of Balliol College, Oxford, of which society he is a member, at a dinner, in the hall. Nearly 200 of the past and present members of the college assembled to meet him. Among those present were Sir Stafford Northcote, M.P., Lord Justice Bowen, the Earl of Jersey, the Earl of Camperdown, the Earl of Morley, M.P., the Hon. Sclater Booth, M.P., Mr Justice Chitty, Mr Justices Lopes, Sir Robert Morier, Sir Ralph Lingen, Sir T. H. Farrer, Sir F. R. Sandford, Sir R. Harbert, Sir Arthur Hobhouse, Sir Eardley Wilmot, Mr Robert Browning, Mr Matthew Arnold, the Provost of Eton, the Warden of Merton, the Warden of All Souls, the Provost of Queen's, the Provost of Oriel, the Marquis of Tavistock, M.P., Lord Elcho, M.P., Mr Theodore Waldrond, Mr Godfrey Lushington, Mr Patrick Cuming, the Hon. E. L. Stanley, M.P., Hon. T. F. Fremantle, M.P., Mr C. S. Rowndell, M.P., Sir M. Ridley, M.P., Mr A. Craig-Sellar, M.P., Professor Shairp, Professor Nichol, Professor Sellar, Professor Sir H. Acland, Professor Lewis Campbell, Professor Dicey, the Senior and Junior Proctors, the Archdeacon of Montgomery, Canon Scott Holland, and others.

After the toast of the Queen and the *Domus Dedalfoto*,

The MASTER proposed the health of "The Speaker." He alluded to the great statesman whose son was now called on to preside over the assembly which was the scene of his father's fame, and he spoke of the proof of strength and dignity of character which were manifest in the Speaker as early as his undergraduate days at Balliol.

The SPEAKER, in reply, paid a tribute to his predecessors in the chair, the fruits of whose labours he inherited, and expressed his warm satisfaction in revisiting his old college. His reminiscences included his place in the boat which, under the guidance of Mr Justice Chitty and the Provost of Eton, took Balliol to the head of the river.

The toast of the "Houses of Parliament" was then proposed by the Warden of All Souls.

Lord CAMPERDOWN, in reply, alluded to the House of Lords as the House of Speakers when they rest from their labours.

Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE and Mr OSBORNE MORGAN responded for the House of Commons. Sir Stafford Northcote remarked on the close connection between Balliol College and the House of Commons. The two institutions had each lasted about 620 years, and were all but contemporaries, just like himself and the master. He reminded the company that he, too, had belonged to a crew which in earlier days had won the first place, saying that when the Balliol boat rowed by the Speaker came to the head of the river he recollected that she had been there before.

The name of the Rev. W. W. Rogers was associated with the "Church," by Sir M. RIDLEY; and those of the Lord Chief Justice and Mr Justice Chitty with "The Law," on the proposal of Sir R. MORIER.

Dr. MARKLEY then proposed the "Civil Service," asking leave to include in it the Civil Service of India.

In reply, Sir R. LINGEN and Sir T. FARRER spoke of the advantages of the union of the permanent Civil Service with its parliamentary chief, Sir T. Farrer remarking that the Minister acted as whipping-boy to the office, and took his punishment gallantly.

After the toast of "Literature," which was proposed by Professor NETTLESHIP and responded to by Mr MATTHEW ARNOLD, there were calls for Mr Robert Browning, who, however, could not be induced to make a speech.

Lord Justice BOWEN then rose and asked leave to propose a toast which was not included in the programme. He said that though the college was greater than its greatest man, and destined to a permanence far beyond any individual life, yet that all its members, coming back by various careers, and with every divergence of opinion—all felt that the fame of Balliol during the last 40 years had been inseparably connected with the name of Jowett. Besides this general and catholic feeling, many present had more special personal obligations to him as his pupils. From him they had learned not so much what to think as how to think. The college recognised the life-long devotion of its master.

The VICE-CHANCELLOR, in a brief reply, said that the pleasantest thing in his life was the affection of his pupils.

THE AMERICAN PRESIDENCY.

THE FAVOURITE CANDIDATES.

James Gillespie Blaine, the nominee of the Republican party for president of the United States, was born January 21, 1830, in Union Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania. He comes from the noted Scotch-Irish stock, his ancestors having been among the pioneers who a century and a half ago ascended the great limestone valley in which Carlisle is situated, and founded the village.

James entered Washington College in 1843, being then 13 years of age, and became at once prominent as a scholar among 200 or 300 other lads from all parts of the country, and because of his splendid physique he was also a leader in manly athletic sports. He was not a bookworm, or a burner of midnight oil, but he was a close student, and possessed the happy faculty of assimilating knowledge from books and tutors far more easily and quickly than most of his fellows. In debating societies he held his own well, and was conspicuous by his ability to control and direct others.

After a few years' work as a teacher Mr Blaine returned to Pennsylvania, and began studying law. He read law carefully, and obtained a thorough knowledge of its principles, but never presented himself as a candidate for admission to the bar.

Miss Stanwood was a native of Maine, and after her marriage to Mr Blaine was anxious for him to make that State his home. This he determined to do, and in 1853 the young couple removed to Augusta, where they have ever since made their home. In the following year Mr Blaine entered into partnership with Joseph Baker, a prominent lawyer of that town, and the two purchased the *Kennebec Journal*, of which Mr Blaine at once became editor. The *Journal* was a weekly paper, one of the organs of the Whig party, and exercised considerable political influence. In 1857 Mr Blaine disposed of his interest in this paper, and became editor of the *Portland Daily Advertiser*. In the campaign of 1860 he returned temporarily to his old post on the *Kennebec Journal* on account of the illness of its editor. His career in journalism lasted only six years, but was marked throughout by ability and success, and it served to give him a good introduction to the world of politics and statesmanship.

In 1862 Mr Blaine was nominated for Congress in the Kennebec District, and was elected by a majority of 3,000 votes. To this position he was successively elected, in each succeeding Congress, until his promotion to the United States Senate.

His first reputation in the Lower House of Congress was that of an exceedingly industrious committee man. He was a member of the Post-office and Military Committees, and of the Committee on Appropriations and Rules. He paid close attention to the business of the committees, and took an active part in the debates of the House, manifesting practical ability and genius for details. At the opening of the first session of the XLIst Congress the Republican caucus nominated Mr Blaine for Speaker by acclamation, and he was elected by a vote of 136 to 57 for Mr Kerr. He was re-elected without opposition in his own party, Speaker of the XLIId and XLIIId congresses. In that position his quickness of perception, decision of manner, thorough knowledge of parliamentary law and usages, and impartial and judicial mind, added to his clear voice and impressive presence, made him a truly great presiding officer.

Mr Blaine was appointed by the Governor of Maine, July 10, 1876, to be United States Senator to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Senator Morrill, who then became Secretary of the Treasury. He was subsequently elected for the unexpired term, and for the ensuing term expiring in 1883.

Mr Blaine was a candidate for the Presidential nomination in 1876, and came within 27 votes of being successful. His vote increased from 291 on the first ballot to 351 on the seventh, but he was beaten by a combination against him of the delegates supporting Morton, Conkling, Hartranft, Bristow, and Hayes, who united upon Hayes and made him the nominee.

POLITICAL ITEMS.

[FROM THE "OBSERVER."]

Should the Lords throw out the Franchise Bill on the second reading the Government will not immediately wind up the session. There are several measures of a useful and uncontentious character which they will carry through and add to the Statute Book before adjourning for an autumn session.

If it be true, as stated in some quarters, that the Duke of Richmond will move the rejection of the Franchise Bill on the second reading, the fate of the measure is no longer doubtful. The duke's opposition to the course favoured by Lord Salisbury is well known, and has been firmly expressed. If he has yielded to the arguments of the Leader of the Opposition there is no one left to direct the action of the section of the Conservative party in the Lords who are known to favour a more moderate course.

It has been usual, when conflicts have arisen between the House of Lords and the House of Commons, for the peers to embody their objection in the shape of an amendment in committee. This provides an opportunity to arrive at a compromise through the medium of a conference. Should the Franchise Bill be thrown out on the second reading, no such opportunity would exist.

As soon as the debate on the vote of censure has been disposed of in the Commons, the Prime Minister will make a statement with respect to the course of public business. He will then announce the withdrawal of the Government of London Bill—a Cabinet decision made known in the *Observer* of last Sunday.

A PARISIAN MYSTERY.

In May last the upper half of a dead body was found in the Seine near Passy, and shortly after the corresponding lower half was discovered in another part of the river. It was at first suggested that a rudder of a steamer might have separated the trunk from the legs, but the cut was so clean that this supposition appeared impossible. A little dog was remarked at the end of April howling on the Pont Marie, and though beaten and driven away, constantly returned. Ultimately it was taken to the home for lost dogs, and there after a while it was recognised as having belonged to a poulterer named Lebon, who had disappeared from his lodgings on April 28th. The police subsequently found out that this Lebon had on that day breakfasted with a waiter named Miel, to whose apartments in the Rue de Lyon he went in the evening. The concierge, hearing cries of "Help," "Murder," knocked at the door, but was told by Miel that his friend, unhappy about a love affair, had tried to throw himself out of the window, but he had prevented him. The concierge accepted this explanation. Next day a porter carried successfully two boxes to an hotel near the Seine, where Miel had hired a room, and it is not doubted that each box contained a half of Lebon's body. Miel has disappeared. A search at Lebon's shows that some money he was known to have had been taken from his drawers, of which it is presumed Miel took the keys from him. A warrant is out for Miel's arrest.

MOURNING RINGS made and engraved to order. Mourning and half-mourning jewellery of the newest make, &c. Hair worked into ornamental designs for brooches, lockets, &c., or plaited into chains and bracelets, at Tainsh Bros., 5, High-street, Cardiff. 6601

MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE.

The first meeting of the representatives of the six great powers of Europe, to confer upon the Egyptian finances, took place on Saturday at three o'clock, in the conference chamber at the Foreign office. Earl Granville, who had some weeks ago issued invitations to the powers to send delegates to confer upon the present financial condition of Egypt, attended early at the Foreign Office, and was engaged for some time previous to the hour arranged for the meeting of the plenipotentiaries with Sir Evelyn Baring and other officials of the Foreign Office. At half-past two o'clock a number of persons interested had assembled at the grand entrance to the Foreign Office, which is within the grand quadrangle of Downing-street, to see the ambassadors and others assemble. At that hour Mr Childers, Chancellor of the Exchequer, walked over from the Treasury buildings to Earl Granville's room, where, some time later, the foreign diplomatists were received. The first representatives of the foreign powers to arrive were Musurus Pasha, representing Turkey. His Excellency only received his final instructions to attend the congress on Friday, when he visited Earl Granville, and acquainted his lordship with the fact. The Turkish Ambassador in his fez was generally recognised by the crowd that had assembled. He was not accompanied by a financial expert, no time being allowed since his excellency's instructions arrived for one arriving. Quickly following the Porte's Ambassador came the newly-appointed Russian Ambassador, M. de Staal. He likewise was unaccompanied by a financial adviser. M. Waddington, the French Ambassador, together with M. de Bligniéres, the financial expert, the latter having come in the morning from Paris, arrived from the French Embassy, whence he had been preceded by Count D'Aubigny at ten minutes to three. The German Plenipotentiary, Count Münster, arrived shortly after, having walked over from the Embassy in Carlton-terrace, accompanied by Herr von Delbrenthal, the financial expert. Count Nigra, representatives of Italy, arrived next, the last to join the diplomatic circle, with Lord Granville, being the Austrian Ambassador, Count Carolyi, and his financial expert, Baron Vetsera. Earl Granville received each of the ambassadors and their assistants as they arrived in his private room at the top of the grand staircase. Introductions first of all took place between the financial experts and the different officials, the ambassadors, with the exception of M. de Staal, being well acquainted with each other. After the assembled members had indulged in a short conversation, the subject of the selection of a president was broached, when, according to precedent, the Minister in whose country the meeting was held, Earl Granville, assumed the position with the consent of the powers. The next business of the meeting was the election of protocolists, who act in the capacity of secretaries. Mr Philip Currie, C.B., who accompanied the Earl of Beaconsfield and the Marquis of Salisbury to Berlin, and was present during the great Berlin Congress, was unanimously appointed by the powers the first protocolist; Count D'Aubigny, the Counsellor of the French Embassy, being appointed, without dissent, Joint Protocolist. Sir Evelyn Baring was appointed an expert at the conference, as were Blum Pasha and Tigrane Pasha, the representatives of the Khedive. The Hon. F. Villiers was appointed assistant-secretary to the congress. Twenty minutes were taken up in carrying out these matters of routine. At 3.25 Earl Granville, with Musurus Pasha on his right hand, in virtue of his being the senior ambassador at the Court of St. James, lead the way to the congress chamber through the long gallery and reception room, followed by the other Ministers of foreign countries and the attending assistants. On arrival at the conference chamber each member took a seat at a very large round table, Mr Childers, as second plenipotentiary for England, the only power allowed this privilege, being seated close to Earl Granville, who took the presidential chair. There were in all fourteen chairs, but as the Turkish, Italian, and Russian financial experts had not arrived, three of them remained vacant. Earl Granville, after the members were seated, it is understood, opened the proceedings by making a short statement as to the proposals that were to form the subjects of the meeting, and the financial proposals of Great Britain for the assistance of the Khedivial exchequer were then placed before the congress. As these proposals had not previously been the subject of argument between the representatives of the great powers, the conference was adjourned twenty-five minutes after meeting, until the financial experts could have an opportunity of examining the different points of the plan. No date for the next meeting was fixed, but it is believed that the Ambassadors will be in a position to further consider the arrangements towards the latter end of this week. After the conference rose, Sir Evelyn Baring, Blum Pasha, Tigrane Pasha, Mr Philip Currie, and Count d'Aubigny, who had all occupied seats contiguous to the grand central table in the conference room, adjourned to one of the large reception rooms, and were there engaged for over an hour in comparing notes of the proceedings. Earl Granville and Mr Childers were also engaged for that time in the former's private room.

THE GOVERNMENT SCHEME.

The *Observer* says:—The scheme by which the Government proposes to regulate the financial position of Egypt was finally delivered yesterday to the members of the conference. We have reason to believe that the following are the main features of the scheme in question:—

1. The interest on the Unified Debt is to be reduced from 4 per cent. to 3½ per cent.
2. The interest on the Preference Debt is to be reduced from 5 per cent. to 4½ per cent.
3. The interest on the Daira Debt is not to be reduced at all, supposing the revenues hypothecated to this debt suffice to pay the stipulated interest. But in the contrary event, the Egyptian Exchequer is only to be called upon to make up the amount less ½ per cent.
4. The Domains Loan is to be left untouched, in consideration of the facts that it was advanced to pay off the Floating Debt under conditions which would never have been granted unless the security had been regarded as absolute; that Egypt derived great benefit from this loan; and that, therefore, it stands in a completely different category from all the other loans.
5. The sinking funds on both the Preference and the United Debts are to be suspended for the present.
6. The interest paid by Egypt in respect of the Suez Canal shares held by England is to be reduced either by ½ or ¾ per cent, as circumstances may render advisable.
7. The British Government is either to advance itself, or to guarantee the advance of, a sum of £8,000,000 to the Egyptian Government for the payment of the indemnities and other expenses. This loan is to take precedence of all existing loans.
8. The taxes levied in Egypt are to be reduced by a sum varying from £3,500,000 to £4,000,000.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAM.]

ROME, Saturday.—Signor Sant'Onofrio gave notice to-day in the Chamber of Deputies of an interpellation on the subject of the Egyptian Conference. Signor Mancini, the Foreign Minister, stated that he would reply to it on Monday.

[CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAM.]

PARIS, Sunday Evening.—The Anglo-French arrangement has met with so much opposition, both in Parliament and in the press, that the Government are compelled to consider the possibility of modifying it in some manner. It is probable that M. Ferry will ask England for valuable concessions in other directions, so as to balance what public feeling in France considers the undue advantages gained by Great Britain.

The Central News says:—The conference, which in accordance with arrangements previously made, assembled at the Foreign Office shortly after three o'clock on Saturday afternoon, was presided over by Lord Granville, and all the powers, including Turkey, were represented. The proceedings were almost entirely of a formal character. Lord Granville, in a short speech, welcomed the representatives of the powers, and briefly reminded them of the nature of the work before them, concluding by formally placing before them the financial proposals of the British Government in regard to Egypt, with a printed copy of which each delegate was furnished. The conference then adjourned indefinitely in order to allow the delegates to communicate with their respective Governments, it being understood that the next meeting would be convened in due course by Lord Granville. It is thought to be improbable that the conference will re-assemble until the expiration of at least a week or ten days. It should be mentioned that Mr Childers attended the conference, not, as has been erroneously stated, as financial adviser to Lord Granville, but as joint plenipotentiary. In matters purely financial the British representatives will be advised by Sir E. Baring, Tigrane Pasha, and Blum Pasha.

The Press Association says:—The conference of European Powers on the financial affairs of Egypt assembled at three o'clock on Saturday afternoon, in the Conference Chamber of the Foreign Office, under the presidency of Earl Granville. There were fourteen places prepared at the conference-table, these being occupied by representatives of the great European Powers and of Egypt, with their financial advisers, as follows:

England—Earl Granville, Mr Childers, and Sir Evelyn Baring.
France—M. Waddington and M. de Bligniéres.
Germany—Count Münster and Herr von Delrenthal.
Russia—M. de Staal.
Italy—Count Nigra.
Austria—Count Karolyi and Baron Vetsera.
Egypt—Blum Pasha and Tigrane Pasha.
Turkey—Musurus Pasha.

The financial experts who will assist the representatives of Russia, Italy, and Turkey had not arrived when the conference met. The ambassadors and their assistants were received by Earl Granville in his private room, where each ambassador and financial expert was introduced to the other representatives of different powers. Earl Granville was elected president of the conference, and Mr Philip Currie, C.B., who attended the Berlin Congress, was appointed first protocolist, and the Hon. F. Villiers was appointed assistant-secretary to the conference. The members of the congress then proceeded to the conference-room, where Earl Granville made a short statement of the proposals which would be laid before the meeting, including those of Great Britain, for the relief of the Egyptian finances. These proceedings occupied about 25 minutes, after which the conference was adjourned until the financial experts have had an opportunity of examining the various points of the proposals. No date for the next meeting was arranged, but it is believed that the conference will again meet towards the latter end of the week. Sir Evelyn Baring, Blum Pasha, Tigrane Pasha, Mr Philip Currie, and Count d'Aubigny were engaged in the private room for some time, subsequently comparing notes of the meeting.

OPINIONS ON CURRENT TOPICS.

There seems fortunately, says the *Saturday Review*, to be some hope that the outbreak of cholera in Toulon will not prove very severe. It is early as yet to form an opinion as to the character or violence of the epidemic, and the evidence is certainly very conflicting; but there are some points on which the various reports agree in the main. The very fact that a conflict of evidence does exist is hopeful. The final outcome of the stories comes to this—that there is a choleraic epidemic of some sort in Toulon which has already done some harm, and may do more both to the town and its neighbourhood. If this has come as a surprise to anybody, he or she must be singularly ill acquainted with the condition of Mediterranean coast towns. The wonder is that some such outbreak does not occur every summer. As Toulon is a great naval arsenal and an important garrison town, it might be supposed that it would be in a rather better condition than most of the others. As a matter of fact, it is worse off; for the intelligent military and naval authorities have found nothing better to do with some of the docks than to allow them to become open cesspools. They also, it seems, persist in using floating hospitals, in spite of the universal experience of their dangers. If half the stories about the sanitary condition of Toulon have any foundation, it may be taken as proved that the local and naval authorities have been guilty of every possible form of carelessness and stupidity.

As to the Premier's plea of the "impossibility" of passing a perfect measure, that, urges the *Saturday Review*, is essentially matter of opinion, and not of fact; and even Mr Gladstone himself can hardly imagine that an indignant people would rise and sweep away the House of Lords for not being convinced by reasoning with which he has contrived to convince himself. Apart from the severity of the punishment, it would, for well-known reasons, be an extremely dangerous one to inflict upon such grounds. For the contingency of Mr Gladstone's converting himself from his convictions has always to be taken into account; and a House of Lords once abolished for dissenting from his opinions could hardly be restored on his recantation. There is, in short, no warrant either of fact or argument for the tone which he has thought fit to assume towards the House of Lords. That House, we trust, will do its duty on the Franchise Bill; and it is, we suppose, a stroke of the Prime Minister's much-vaunted tactics to have supplied those peers who may have been hesitating about their votes with an additional motive for vindicating their constitutional independence.

The Franchise Bill is gone to the Lords, having been read a third time on Thursday without a division; and now, declares the *Spectator*, the great question for the country is what the Lords will do with it. We all know what Lord Salisbury wishes and intends the Lords to do with it; and nothing strikes us as less creditable to the Conservatives in the House of Commons than that they should try to lash themselves into a frenzy because the Prime Minister, having received fair notice from Lord Salisbury himself, and from those members of the House of Commons who most deeply sympathise with Lord Salisbury, as to the fate intended for the Franchise Bill, took grave notice of the ostentatious publication of that intention in his last speech on the bill in the House of Commons. As a statesman desirous to do his duty, Mr Gladstone had no choice in the matter. If Mr Gladstone had permitted the bill to go up to the House of Lords without a single comment on the ostentatiously declared intentions of the Tory leader in that House, holding the opinion which Mr Gladstone does hold of the serious significance of the intention announced, he would have failed in his most obvious duty to the State and the Constitution.

The judgment of the Queen's Bench Division in the "Park Club" case is, in the opinion of the *Spectator*, in some points satisfactory. For one thing, it shows that the law is not impotent, as it must have been had it forbidden gambling-houses, and yet allowed the Park Club to go on. For another, it showed that, in this matter of gambling, there is not one law for the rich and another for the poor. Not, be it observed, that there would have been any inconsistency in forbidding gambling in one class, and allowing it in another. On the contrary, such a distinction would be quite in harmony with the principle of paternal government. The unsatisfactory thing about this judgment is, that it does not give, and in the present state of the law could not have given, a perfect workable rule by which to determine what is an unlawful game. The excuse for this defect on the part of the law is the acknowledged difficulty of making such a rule. Probably, if gambling becomes more and more common, as seems not improbable, and if, in consequence, a need for further legislation presents itself, we shall find some rough-and-ready way out of the dilemma; but it will hardly lie within the four corners of the judgment of the Queen's Bench Division about the Park Club.

The *Economist* points out the necessity for some radical change in the Egyptian law of liquidation. The law not only violates the first principle of national finance, which is, that the legitimate administrative expenditure of a country must constitute the first charge upon its revenues, but also that it is opposed to the spirit of the instructions upon which the Liquidation Commissioners were instructed to act. These were informed that in determining the amount of revenue to be placed at the disposal of the Egyptian creditors they were, in the first place, to "keep in view the necessity of reserving to the Government the free disposal of the amount indispensable for securing the regular working of the public services." With this instruction, the commissioners endeavoured to the utmost of their ability to comply. But they had to act upon imperfect information; and that the scheme they ultimately elaborated has failed to carry out the principle in accordance with which the debt settlement was intended to be framed, not even the most strenuous supporters of the claims of the bondholders can now deny. Another matter in which it is to be hoped our Government will act differently from what seems to be expected is the allocation of the expenses which must obviously be incurred in the settlement of Egypt. It is now clear that something effectual must be done towards the pacification of the Soudan. Until in some way or other the Mahdi and his forces are disposed of, Egypt must remain in a state of ferment, and at present there is little hope of accomplishing this pacification otherwise than by a costly military expedition. For such an expedition, however, Egypt herself cannot be expected to furnish the means. By whom, then, are they to be provided?

COCK FIGHTING ON BOARD A STEAMER.

The *Irish Times* publishes an account of a cock fight which took place on board a steamer in Dublin Bay, on Friday. It had been arranged that a match, North of Ireland v. Liverpool, for £200, should be fought out in Dublin, but the principals, after considering the possibility of interruption from the police, decided on a novel proceeding to achieve their object. On Thursday night word was quickly sent round to all parties interested to assemble at an hotel at the North Wall early on Friday morning, and after meeting there they at once got on board a well-appointed steamer chartered for the day. The skipper and his crew were ignorant of the object in view until the birds were on board, the Liverpool fowl being in a large basket. The boat steamed out into Dublin Bay, and anchors were then dropped. The after-deck was carpeted, and formed the pit. The audience numbered 50 or 60 persons, including several from Liverpool. The proceedings were conducted with great decorum. A referee was appointed, the weights on each side were tested, and hostilities were commenced. The terms were that one battle should be fought for £50 aside, and then a main of five battles for a like sum. The betting was extensive, and the contests proceeded with but few differences of opinion. The first brace of birds commenced to fight at eleven o'clock, and the business of the day was not concluded till nearly three. The steamer then returned to Dublin. On the first single, Ulster sent in a copper-breasted brown red to contend against a Liverpool rooster, Liverpool conceding 3oz., the weights being—Ulster 5lb 4oz., Liverpool 5lb 1oz. From the first it was evident the Ulster bird was superior and the Liverpool bird was punished in thorough style. On the main of four battles which succeeded the North of Ireland won three against one by Liverpool. The stakes were immediately handed over. Luncheon was partaken of, and some byes afterwards took place. The cockfight was thus brought to an issue in a manner that completely destroyed all chance of detection or even its slightest interference.

A BISHOP'S REBUKE.

Bishop Wilkinson of Truro has been preaching for two days in St. Paul's Cathedral on behalf of the Truro Cathedral fund. He preached again at the one o'clock service on Saturday. But he seems to have chosen the wrong place. He had a number of West End ladies, many of them members of his old congregation at St. Peter's, Eaton-square; but the commercial men from the city do not seem to have known of the sermons. That is a pity, because the Bishop preached well, pleading with great earnestness for the £15,000 which he requires before August 10. He contended vigorously that the Church was one and indivisible, and it was a duty for rich London to aid the fair land of the West. While Dr Wilkinson was asking whether, as a messenger of God, he should appeal in vain, some young men in the congregation laughed. Quickly he turned upon them, rebuked them in scathing terms, told them to go on their knees and pray for pardon. Then, recollecting himself, he exclaimed, "No, God will judge," and spoke some words in a kinder strain. Then, asking what good a cathedral was, he cried, "Look round, and let St. Paul's answer the question." Altogether the sermon was striking and forcible, and certainly the irreverent young men would not call it dull.

MR GLADSTONE AND THE CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ACT.

A memorial has been presented to Mr Gladstone expressing the widespread desire for the immediate and total repeal of the Contagious Diseases Act. It is signed by a number of leading Liberals and by representatives of various classes, by clergy of all sections (including five bishops), and 14 present or late head masters of public schools, by the official heads of all the principal Nonconformist bodies in the United Kingdom, by medical men, and by naval and military officers and chaplains resident in the districts where the acts apply. The following is Mr Gladstone's reply:—

10, Downing-street, Whitehall, June 30.

Dear Mrs Butler,—I am directed by the Prime Minister to acknowledge the receipt of the memorial forwarded to him by you praying for the total repeal of the Contagious Diseases Act. We need hardly assure you that the Government are sensible of its weight, and that, having advisedly adopted a resolution on the subject, they intend to act to the best of their ability in the spirit of it.—I remain, dear Mrs Butler, yours faithfully,

HERBERT J. GLADSTONE.

"GENERAL" BOOTH AND MADAME PATTI.

The writer of the "Gossip" in the *Municipal Review* says:—"General" Booth, it is said, is in treaty for Madame Patti's estate in South Wales for his own private residence. If this should come to pass I suppose the "General" will retire on his laurels, and the old haunts of Whitechapel and the City-road will know him no more. What a paying business the Salvation Army must be if its general can afford an estate the price of which has kept most buyers in abeyance!

THE GLAMORGANSHIRE BANK.

BANKRUPTCY OF THE EX-MANAGING DIRECTOR.

Quite a sensation was caused at Swansea on Saturday evening by a rumour that Mr S. S. H. Horman-Fisher, barrister-at-law and justice of the peace for the county of Glamorgan, had filed a petition in bankruptcy. Our Swansea representative at once instituted inquiries, and discovered that the petition in bankruptcy has actually been filed, and that it will be gazetted on Tuesday next. Many of our readers will remember that Mr Horman-Fisher was till recently a director of the Glamorganshire Banking Company, and also the managing director of the concern. Through losing his position, Mr Horman-Fisher also lost an annual income of about £1,500, and since it was known he was not rich, a great many rumours have been prevalent as to his affairs. These culminated on Friday by the filing of a petition in bankruptcy. The public examination of the bankrupt is looked forward to with the greatest interest.

SUNDAY DRINKING IN SOUTH WALES.

PROTEST AGAINST "BOGUS" CLUBS.

Under the auspices of the Blue Ribbon organisation in Cardiff, a temperance meeting of unusual proportions was held on Saturday night in Wood-street Chapel, the building being filled throughout. Mr Councillor W. Sanders presided, and with him on the platform were Mr J. Green (London), the Revs. J. Vaughan, J. Watts, W. Watkins, D. Young, J. C. Pearce, Thomas Rae, Dr. Schofield, and Mr E. Beaven (secretary).

The CHAIRMAN, in a short speech, contended that the Sunday-closing Act for Wales had been a success, and advocated the appointment of teetotal policemen.

Dr. SCHOLFIELD moved the following resolution:—

That this meeting rejoices in the success of the Welsh Sunday-closing Act as shown by the parliamentary return just issued and other facts and figures to hand. It deplores, however, the existence of "bogus" clubs and the abuse of the bona-fide traveller's clause, and urgently calls upon the Government to speedily bring in a bill dealing with this, and thus ensure the complete success of the act. It, moreover, earnestly hopes that a Sunday-closing Bill for England will shortly become law, and that copies of the above resolution be sent to the Prime Minister, the Home Secretary, and the borough and county members.

(Applause.) From the very commencement of the Sunday-closing Act, a paper, which he would not name, had taken advantage of every occasion, and of occasions that were not special, to throw as much mud at it as was possible. But he was there for the purpose of proving from its own columns, from its own leading articles, that the Welsh Sunday-closing Act had been a grand success. (Loud applause.) They did not expect every one to abstain from drink on the Sunday because they got the act. But the resolution spoke of the parliamentary returns just issued. Let them see how they stood in relation to those returns side by side with the Sunday-closing Act. According to these returns, in 1881 the cases of Sunday drunkenness were 156, let them mark, in the county; but in 1883, during the time the act was in operation, the number of cases was 119—a decrease of 37. (Applause.) Now, he asked that organ, which claimed to be the mouthpiece of certain sections, if that was a failure. But, again, they came to their own town. He was not going to ignore Cardiff, though he was not going to say much about it. Still it did not follow that there was more drinking or drunkenness where, it might be, there was an increase of Sunday drunkenness. But need he remind them whence those cases came? They knew the geographical position, how near they were to the border line, and the facts which were so familiar. Yet he had no desire to ignore those facts. According to the returns made in 1881, they had in Cardiff 38 cases, and in 1883 they had 62, an increase of 24, that was, on the whole year. That increase had again and again been explained and accounted for in consequence of the border line, and because they had no Sunday-closing Act for Monmouthshire, as the Home Secretary put it some time ago in the House of Commons. But they would leave Cardiff and take another town in Glamorgan. They would take Swansea. In the year 1881 the number of cases of Sunday drunkenness was 28; in 1883 it was 11; a decrease of 17. He wondered if the *Western Mail* would call that a failure! They would go again to another border, and, indeed, to all Flintshire. In 1881, in Flintshire, there were 15 cases; in 1883, 13; a decrease of two. What, then, about the 100 per cent. increase in that county as had been represented from time to time? Then they came to the borough of Brecon, and there again they found in 1881, 4 cases; in 1883, 2 cases—a decrease of 2. Next they came to Denbighshire. In the year 1881 there were 18 cases; in 1883, 11—a decrease of 7. That was how the matter stood generally. But suppose they looked at it from another standpoint. If they took the whole of the principality—boroughs and counties, good, bad, and indifferent—they found that the Sunday cases for the whole of Wales in 1881 was 309; in 1883, 237—a decrease of 22; in other words, something like a decrease of drunkenness of 8 per cent. Perhaps 8 per cent. did not look large; but if they had a few hundreds or thousands of pounds to invest they would think the difference a material one. Consider how precious the results when they reflected what these really were. He did not, at the same time, want them to consider these figures as infallible. Nothing was so misleading as statistics. But the amount of odium and disparagement that had been cast upon that most philanthropic and beneficent measure, the Sunday-closing Act—a measure which had for its purpose and aim the elevation of the principality, morally, socially, and religiously—was no credit to any newspaper in the light of the results—the beneficent results—which were being manifested. (Hear, hear, and applause.) Yet those figures might not represent the true state of things; but they took the figures as they were, and they had no higher authority to appeal to, certainly not to the oracle which said the act had been a failure. They had heard a great deal about the 50, the 60, and even the 70 and 80 per cent. increase of drunkenness since the Sunday-closing Act came into operation. He took the credit of the 8 per cent on the side of the act as against the debit of the 80 per cent. against the act. It was right temperance men should expose these fallacies. Something had been said about a celebrated pamphlet, and there were attempts to make capital out of the smallest things possible. Only lately a gentleman, who was a staunch temperance reformer, who came to the town, had been made a convenience of for misrepresentation. It was time the public were put upon their guard. Total abstinence men were not responsible for the bogus clubs, or for the act not being carried out. Those matters belonged to the authorities—to the judicial bench, and it should be insisted upon that the authorities carried out the law, enforcing its spirit, and when an offence was brought before the bench, not entitling it an offence against the Licensing Act, and inflicting a small fine, but smashing the clubs and taking the law as it was. He had much pleasure in moving the resolution. (Prolonged applause.)

The Rev. J. VAUGHAN seconded the resolution. He entered into an explanation of the Forbes-Mackenzie Act, and adduced statistics to show that drunkenness in Scotland had greatly decreased from the passage of that measure in May, 1854.

Mr GEO. GREEN, in supporting the resolution, addressed himself chiefly to moderate drinkers, but he prefaced his address with reference to the great slowness which London exhibited in falling in with the popular movements of the times. Insomuch so was it that a man, to be fairly abreast of the popular thought and will, would need to go into the country. It might not be known generally, what Mr Forster had stated, that in the original draft of the Education Act the metropolis was left out, though it most needed lower-class education; and it was even said that one of the measures being drafted for a Sunday-closing Bill for England, London had also been omitted in one instance. The speaker then strongly deprecated the existence of bogus clubs, and said he was with the resolution in the necessity for parliamentary action. But he was broadly of opinion that the time for speaking had passed, and the time for political action had come. They had sown enough; they should now take their sickles and go into the field, and reap the great and abundant harvest that awaited them. They must try to concentrate public opinion not only on a Sunday-closing Bill, but to close those dens of infamy altogether. (Applause.) But the greatest stumbling blocks in the way of reform were moderate drinkers. They gave all the colour of respectability to the trade. The speaker illustrated his contention by reference to the American civil war. If all slaveowners, he said, had been Simon Legrees, slavery would have been a thing of the past a century ago. The outburst of popular indignation that would have risen and swelled against their cruel task masters would have swept them away by consent of all that was wisest and best in the nation. But there were such men as Augustine St Clair—men who treated their slaves kindly and humanely—so that you could not touch Simon Legree without also touching Augustine St. Clair. It was because the abomination of slavery was protected, as it were, by the halo of good men, who on this one point were fundamentally and morally wrong, that one of the bloodiest wars of all times was brought to a nation. Then the example of moderate drinkers was the greatest danger to young sons and daughters that they could be exposed to. It was not the drunkard—who scattered all his money on the Saturday night—that gave the handle to the member for Bridport to bellow out to the House of Commons, "Mr Speaker, sorr! would ye rob a poor man of his beer?" Did the moderate drinkers of the poorer classes—the men who were the backbone of England—wish to have themselves appealed to, as speaking in their name, for that which was a curse to so many thousands of their brethren? Let the moderate drinkers come over to total abstinence, and they would make such an example of the liquor traffic in twelve months as all history would not be able to equal. The speaker contended, in the last instance, that moderate drinkers were the materials from which drunkards were made, and he alluded to the 80,000 prostitutes in London as proof, among others, that came within the observation of almost everyone.

The resolution was then put and carried with acclamation.

It is due to remark that the intervals between the speeches were filled by solo and choir singing of an uncommonly excellent quality, and was deservedly appreciated by the audience.

THE ESCAPED FRENCH CONVICTS AT SWANSEA.

Our SWANSEA reporter writes:—Up to Sunday evening the Swansea police had not succeeded in arresting the French convicts, who were landed a few days ago from a vessel in which they had escaped from New Caledonia. It is believed that the men could not possibly have freed themselves from the irons in which they were placed on board the steamer Lavrion without the assistance of some of their compatriots, and it is now supposed that they are either in hiding at one of the boarding-houses, or have been taken away by some French vessel. The question has been raised as to whether the stipendiary magistrate was right in ruling that the convicts could not be detained as such by the English police, inasmuch as there is an extradition treaty in force between France and England, and it is generally considered that the police authorities might have at least taken the precaution of having the men watched while they were detained on board the Lavrion. Men sentenced under the lenient laws of France to 14 years' transportation must certainly be desperate characters, and it is surely to the interest of any country that they should not be allowed to be at large.

TRIMNELL'S MILD AND BITTER NON-INTOXICATING PURE HERB BEER for Summer and Winter.—This compound is highly recommended by a great number of the Blue Ribbon and Good Templars' staff on account of its superior quality above all others for purifying and strengthening the system ever brought before the public. By the same thousands have been rescued from drunkenness. Sold by most Chemists and Grocers. 8d per Packet, by Post Eight Stamps. It recommends itself. Prepared by W. TRIMNELL, Medical Botanist, Moira-terrace, Cardiff. N.B.—Grocers and Chemists who have not got it will do well to apply for a Sample Parcel, with Show Cards, as they will find a most ready sale for it than any other preparation in the market. 11720 65720

CARDIFF BICYCLE AND TRICYCLE CLUB.

THE AMATEUR BICYCLE CHAMPIONSHIP.

The annual spring race meeting, under the auspices of the Cardiff Bicycle and Tricycle Club, was held in the Sophia Gardens Field, on Saturday afternoon. The weather was lovely (though the competitors might have preferred a less tropical sunshine), and there was a good muster of spectators in the enclosure, where the varied colours of the ladies' dresses made the scene quite a brilliant one. The field generally, however, was not largely attended, and perhaps, on a future occasion, the committee would do well to reconsider the price of admission. The great event of the day was the five-mile amateur bicycle championship of the United Kingdom, promoted by the National Cyclists' Union; but the contest proved to be a disappointing one, owing to the absence of well-known riders who had entered their names. The following were the officers of the course:—Judge, Mr G. Lacy Hillier, N.C.U., bicycle and tricycle champion (1881), London; timekeeper, Mr G. Pembroke Coleman, London, official timekeeper, N.C.U.; starter, John Keen, ex-champion, London; umpires, H. Etherington (editor of "Wheeling,") London; A. R. Shipton, London; and H. Sturmey (editor of "Cyclist,") Coventry; lapstakers, E. R. Shipton C.T.C., London, and C. W. Coe, London; clerks of the course, Alderson Prout, London; and S. W. Roberts, London, honorary secretary to N.C.U. championship meetings; and W. H. Hutchings and E. Nicholls, Cardiff. The excellent band of the Penarth batteries of the 1st Glamorgan Artillery Volunteers was in attendance, and played the following choice selection of music in admirable style under the conductorship of Mr Paul Draper:—Overture, "Zampa," Herold; valse, "Federa," Bucalossi; Russian dance, "Pas des Patineurs," Glinka; selection, "Attila," Verdi; valse, "Sympathie Tone," Gungl; selection, "Princess Ida," Sullivan; Piccolo solo, "Le Roitilet," Damaire; ballet music from "William Tell," Rossini; polka, "Holly Bush," Godfrey.

The following is a list of the events and the results:—

Three laps club bicycle handicap. The first event on the programme was a three laps race, confined to the members of the club—a lap measuring 555 yards.—1st prize, cup, value £5, presented by Mr S. Brukewich; 2nd, value £2; 3rd, £1. Out of the 17 competitors who had entered six put in an appearance at the post. They got away to a good start. After the first lap Harries had the race pretty well in his own hands, and came in a winner by about 50 yards, H. W. Jones being second, and C. C. Thorne third. Time, 4 min. 58 secs.

Four laps open tricycle handicap, run in two heats.—Five competed in this heat, viz.:—Sidney Lee, Sutton B.C., scratch; T. T. Harrison, Bristol C.C., 190 yards; V. E. Brukewich, Cardiff B. and T.C., 300 yards; W. J. Francis, Bristol Jockey B.C., 310 yards; F. Brand, Cardiff, 350 yards. The men kept well together for the first two laps, when Brukewich put on a spurt, and maintained his lead until the third lap. Then Lee, who had been gradually drawing up, overtook him, and came in an easy winner, Brukewich being second, and Harrison third. Time, 7 min. 23 secs.

Two laps open bicycle handicap, run in three heats. In the first heat J. B. Jones, Bristol C.C., 35 yards; F. E. Rickard, Newport B.C., 90 yards; Thomas Francis, Pontypridd B.C., 90 yards; E. H. Marrick, Bristol C.C., 110 yards; John Lewis, Cardiff B.C., 120 yards; and W. Tucker, Pontypridd, 80 yards, ran. The competitors maintained the same positions for the first lap, when the pace was increased, and a good race ensued. Lewis won easily, Jones being second, and Merrick a good third; time 3m. 1 4-5 secs.

Five miles amateur bicycle championship of the National Cyclists' Union. It was anticipated that this competition would be an exciting one, for some of the best cyclists of the day had entered, but only one put in an appearance—viz., R. Chambers, Speedwell B.C., and the race had to be made up with local cracks—viz., Messrs Brock (Cardiff) and Merrick (Bristol). After the first lap Brock retired. The race then lay between Chambers and Merrick; but after going three or four laps, Merrick practically gave up, and Chambers did the running himself, completing the distance in 15 minutes 35 4-5th seconds. The standard time is 15 mins. 10 seconds, which was made by Cortis in 1880.

Second heat open bicycle handicap. Eight competitors started, amongst whom was a little lad named Shell. The youth managed to keep the lead until the last lap, when he was overtaken by Harris, followed by Parker (of Hereford) and Meager (of Pontypridd). Between these three competitors there was a good race home. Harris won by a short distance, Parker was second and Meager third. Time, 3 mins. 7 4-5th secs.

Third heat two laps open bicycle handicap. Five competed. This was a well contested race, Smith, of Bristol, and Johnson, of Newport, making the running. These two competitors passed each other again and again, Smith ultimately winning. Johnson was second, and George a good third.

The second heat open tricycle handicap. This proved a very exciting contest. Five competed. After the first lap, Neil, Bristol C.C., and Iles, Bristol T.C., went to the front, while H. Sturmey, Coventry C.C., gradually closed up. Sturmey put on another spurt, followed by Iles. When the bell rang for the last lap, Iles was leading, but on turning the corner for home, Neil put on a spurt and got the lead, and won a most exciting race by a few yards, Sturmey being a good second, and Morgan third. Time, 9 min 32 3-5 secs.

Final heat two laps open bicycle handicap. This was next run, and was splendidly contested. The first and second in the three heats rode, and on account of a misunderstanding about the first heat, Parker, of Hereford, was also allowed to enter in the final. The pace was very fast from the start. Lewis (Cardiff B.C.) maintained his lead for some distance, but Johnson (Newport B.C.), putting on a magnificent spurt, followed by Jones (Bristol B.C.) and Smith (Bristol B.C.), soon overtook him. The four competitors then kept well together, and after an exciting race home Johnson proved the winner; Lewis second, and Smith third. Time, 3 mins. 2·5 secs., or about 2·48 for the mile.

Five laps open bicycle handicap, in two heats. Eight rode in the first heat, viz.—F. J. Smith, Bristol C.C., 120 yards; Thomas George, Cheltenham A.S., 180 yards; A. G. Harries, Cardiff B.C., 240 yards; E. H. J. Merrick, Bristol, 270 yards; A. A. Rickard, Newport Eclipse B.C., 270 yards; J. J. Sproule, Cyclists' T.C., 300 yards; A. T. Shellard, Horfield B.C., 300 yards; and W. Tucker, Pontypridd, 310 yards. The competitors kept pretty well in the same positions until the third lap, when the pace became faster. In the fourth lap Harries spurted, followed by Smith, George, and Rickard. When the bell rang Smith again spurted, and got into second place. He, however, failed to overtake Harries, who won a good race by about 30 yards, Smith being second, and Rickard a good third. Time 8 mins. 18 2·5 secs.

In the second heat of this competition seven started, viz., J. B. Jones, Bristol, 90 yards; John Johnson, Newport, 170 yards; S. E. Mazey, Cardiff, 180 yards; E. E. Rickard, Newport, 250 yards; Thomas Francis, Pontypridd, 250 yards; Arthur Webb, Cardiff, 260 yards; and John Lewis, Cardiff, 300 yards. This heat was not run so fast as the previous one. In the third lap Johnson spurted, followed by Jones, and got into third place, but Lewis and Francis still kept the lead, and came in the the following order:—Lewis, 1st; Francis, 2nd; Johnson, 3rd. Time, 8 mins. 21 1·5secs.

The final heat four laps open tricycle handicap was next run, and proved one of the best and most exciting contests of the day. Six competitors started—Sidney Lee, Sutton B.C., scratch; H. Sturmey, Coventry C.C., 150 yards; T. T. Harrison, Bristol, 190 yards; V. E. Brukewick, Cardiff, 300 yards; J. J. Neale, Bristol, 270 yards, and T. H. Meagor, Pontypridd, 280 yards. The six competitors went off at a good pace, Brukewick maintaining his lead. Lee, who was in good form, gradually gained on him, however, and in the third lap succeeded in becoming third. Sturmey stuck to Lee and got into second place, Brukewich being first. The pace now became very fast, and Lee, spurting, passed Brukewich, and was soon leading, Sturmey being second. When the ball rang the pace became faster still. Sturmey made every effort to pass Lee, but when about two or three hundred yards from home Lee again spurted, and won a well-deserved victory by about 10 yards, Sturmey being again second, and Harrison third. Time, 7 min. 17 4-5 secs.

The final heat of the five laps open bicycle handicap was the last event on the programme. This was again a well-contested race. Six ran. Lewis, Cardiff, maintained his lead for the first couple of laps. In the fourth lap Johnson and Smith spurted and got well up to Lewis. In the last lap Lewis was overtaken, and a good race home was witnessed. About 200 yards from the winning post, however, Smith, by some unaccountable means, fell from his machine and lost his chance of winning, and Johnson proved victor, Lewis being second, and Harris third. This concluded a very successful race meeting. Mr Neale, the president of the club, distributed the prizes, and in doing so thanked the concourse for their attendance. Mr Hillier, of the N.C.U., then spoke, referring particularly to the five miles amateur bicycle championship, and said that although only one competitor had put in an appearance, he was quite satisfied with the running of Mr Chambers, and had no doubt if the other intending competitors had been present Mr Chambers would have taken the laurels. In the evening the members of the club and a number of other cyclists met at the Royal Hotel and partook of a cold collation.

THE COBDEN CLUB DINNER.

The annual dinner of the members of the Cobden Club took place on Saturday night at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich, Lord Carlingford presiding. In proposing the "Members of the Cobden and Prosperity of the Club," the Chairman pointed out the great struggle which Cobden made in the cause of freedom, and the efforts which he used in the cause of peace among the nations. They did not know what, in the present time, Mr Cobden's views might have been on the situation, but at all events he would not have been disposed to leave matters in the hands of a so-called Tory democracy. Free trade was really a science, and science was an exalted common sense; and had Cobden lived at the present time he would have been first and foremost in supporting the extension of the franchise, and any effort the Government might make which should place Egypt under the pacific guardianship of all the powers. Mr H. H. Fowler, M.P., responding, said free trade was commercially sound and politically safe, and that was the view the Government had, and they endeavoured to carry it out in the spirit of Cobden.

The Bristol and West of England Bank will open branches at Cinderford and Newnham tomorrow.

The steam tug Scotia was sunk off Scarborough on Sunday whilst towing another tug, through a defect in the pump. No lives were lost.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—On Friday, at the Deep Duffryn Colliery, Mr John Jones, a well-known and highly-respected vocalist, met with a very serious accident, from the effects of which he died on Saturday. A heavy fall came upon him when at his work, and injured the spinal cord. He leaves a wife and children.

A WOMAN sat careworn and weary and sad,
Disappointed and troubled was she,
For the stockings she knitted one short week since
Were now useless, she plainly could see!!
The secret was this: She had bought the yarn cheap
So bad knitted her stockings with both,
And found that her labour had been all in vain,
For they shrunk and lost colour first wash.
Unscrupulous makers oft put in their yarns
Trashy stuff quite unfit for the body,
Of wool you will find the percentage but ten,
The balance of Ninety is Shoddy.
So saddened, yet wiser, she rose from her seat,
And donned her best bonnet and frock,
Then went to a store where she purchased a Hank
With the Brand of famed Parry and Rocke.
Then setting to work with her fingers so deft,
Of good stockings she knitted a pair,
And found, after washing, the colour undimmed,
And the hose Everlasting for Wear.
'Tis now the pet theme of her everyday talk
That Pure Wool from the Fleeciest Wethers 11675
Is made into Hanks by famed Parry and Rocke,
And their Trade Mark the Welsh Plume of Feathers

Nothing wears like PARRY AND ROCKE'S Swansea Welsh Knitting Yarn—all Pure Wool. Note.—Each hank has their name and trade mark attached. 69110

If you cannot obtain these yarns in your district write to the Manufacturers, Parry and Rocke, Swansea.

DISTRICT INTELLIGENCE.

CARDIFF.

ACCIDENT.—On Saturday night a man named R. Stanley, of no abode, was stepping from the pavement at Lower Station-terrace, when he slipped and hurt his leg. He was taken to the infirmary and detained.

FOUND DROWNED.—On Saturday the deputy borough coroner (Mr Grover) held an inquest at the Town-hall on the body of Thomas Welsh, aged 26, third engineer of the Atrato, who was reported missing on the 20th inst., and whose remains were discovered floating in the Roath Basin on Saturday. A verdict was returned of "Found drowned."

CARDIFF URBAN SANITARY REPORT.—Week ending June 28th, 1884.—Births, 79—rate per 1,000 inhabitants, 43·8; deaths, 37—rate, 20·5; deaths from the seven chief zymotic diseases, 7—rate, 3·8; small pox, 1; scarlatina, 2; diphtheria, 1; whooping cough, 1; diarrhœa, 2. Thermometer—mean degrees, 62·2. Estimated population, 93,759.—H. J. PAINE, Medical Officer of Health.

RE-OPENING OF CHARLES-STREET BATHS.—At a cost approaching £3,000, the Cardiff Electro Chemical Bath Company have carried out both a considerable extension and entire re-building of their premises pertaining strictly to the baths. These have allowed the introduction of many scientific and structural improvements, so that the baths now are probably as complete as any in the kingdom so far as specific requirements go. There is noticeable, among other things, an excellent plunge bath, and the spiral needle and upper and lower douche is added. Then the heating rooms allow of four gradations, beginning at 110 and ending at 220 degrees by the thermometer. The ventilation is on the most approved principle. The rooms are high, and all the provision that is required is made for the comfort and convenience of bathers, of whom, supposing all the separate compartments and departments to be occupied at one time, 50 could be accommodated. In short, there is here every requisite for first-class bathing, and no doubt the success which, under Mr A. W. Jarvis, M.G. (medical galvanist), has hitherto attended the institution, justifying its enlargement, will be likely equally to justify the expectation raised of a proportionate success in the future.

SUDDEN DEATH OF AN OLD INHABITANT.—Many of the inhabitants of St John's parish were surprised on Saturday to learn of the sudden death of Mrs Joseph, who since the opening of St Andrew's Church for divine service had filled the position usually occupied by vergers. She was rarely absent from church, and among the congregation she was known to every one, and much respected. She was formerly a domestic servant at Cardiff Castle, but had been a widow for many years, occupying, alone, a small tenement in Drane's-court. She attended the service at St Andrew's Church on Friday apparently in her usual health. On Saturday morning her neighbours not seeing her, entered the house by the bedroom windows, and found her dead on the floor. She was then quite cold, and had evidently been dead several hours. Dr. Taylor's assistant attended, and, in his opinion, death had resulted from disease of the heart. An inquest was held on Saturday evening, before the deputy-coroner, at the Town-hall, when a verdict of "Death from natural causes" was returned.—On Sunday morning, the Rev. Mr Plater, prior to the commencement of his sermon, at St. Andrew's Church, referred to the sudden death of Mrs Joseph, and spoke of her as one who in humble life had discharged faithfully the duties of a Christian woman under circumstances which few had to contend with, and death to her was a release from loneliness, toil, and suffering.

MR BRIGGER'S SWISS CHOIR.—The opening services of this talented company were given on Sunday evening in the Circus. Among other pieces exquisitely sung was the German hymn, "Lobe der Herren," and the solo, "Forgive them." Mr Collett sang in his usual expressive style the touching little piece, "Tired." A dialogue, "Tell me," by two little girls, was much appreciated, as, indeed, was the programme altogether. The circus was crowded to excess, and hundreds were unable to gain admission. Before the close, Mr Brogden announced that entertainments would be given, varying in the programme, during the entire week. If the one on Sunday night be anything of a criterion, they will prove immensely successful.

CORPORATION OFFICIALS' ANNUAL PICNIC.—On Saturday nearly the whole of the employés of the Cardiff Corporation, accompanied by a few friends, had their annual outing. Starting shortly after eight a.m. in two three-horse breaks, the party were conveyed, via Cowbridge, to the ancient town of Llantwit Major. At Cowbridge a short halt was made for refreshments, Llantwit being reached about noon. A visit to the ancient church, which dates from the fifth century, was made, an inspection of the monuments, many of which, bearing Latin inscriptions, are old, proving very interesting. The Cross Keys Inn had been selected as the rendezvous of the party, and soon after one o'clock dinner was served in excellent style by Mrs Jones, the hostess, 41 sitting down to table. After dinner, the loyal toasts having been given and responded to, the "Health of the Mayor and Corporation of Cardiff" was duly honoured, a special vote of thanks being accorded to the mayor for his kindness in granting the holiday. The toasts of the "Visitors," the "Hostess," and the "Secretary" of the day (Mr Holden), whose excellent arrangement met with unanimous approval, were also given, and heartily responded to. Mr R. T. Casson read a short paper on "The Antiquities of Llantwit-Major," dealing especially with the history of the college at Llantwit, founded in the 2nd century, and was accorded a special vote of thanks. The party afterwards strolled to the beach through the picturesque vale of Cole-Hugh, and amused themselves by bathing, &c. A sumptuous tea having been partaken of, the start home was effected at 7.30. As the breaks were leaving Cowbridge the storm commenced, the rain falling heavily for the rest of the journey home, this being the only drawback to a day's thorough enjoyment.

MR H. W. DAW.—Local theatre-goers will peruse with interest the following paragraph from the London *Echo*:—"After an association of three years and a half with the Compton Comedy Company, Mr J. H. Savile on Saturday terminated his engagement, being about to embark upon the management of the Theatre Royal, Sheffield—a three years' lease of which has been acquired by his friend, Mr H. W. Daw, of Cardiff."

MR J. CORY AND THE SALVATION ARMY.—A "Salvation Army Building Association, Limited," has been formed, according to Saturday's *Investors' Guardian*, for the purpose of acquiring land and house property, halls, theatres, &c., for the use of the organisation which owes obedience to "General" Booth. The company was registered on the 23rd inst., with a capital of £50,000 in £5 shares, and amongst the first subscribers we notice the name of Mr J. Cory, of Vaindre Hall, near Cardiff, who takes 20 shares.

SMUGGLING.—At the police-court, on Saturday—before Mr J. Cory, Mr Lewis Williams, and Dr. Edwards—Froppe Prouger, a German seaman, belonging to the Johan Theodor, from Amsterdam, was ordered to pay 30s, the single value and duty of a quantity of cigars illegally concealed by him.

WOUNDING BY SAILORS.—Alfred Emil Bain, a Scotch seaman, was charged with violently assaulting and wounding a German seaman named Wilhelm Kounke, on Friday evening, and Wilhelm Kounke was charged with stabbing and wounding Alfred Emil Bain. Wilhelm Kounke said that both lodged at a boarding-house kept by a man named Johnson. They had some words, and in the evening went to fight in the yard. After some time, he was knocked down, and the prisoner Bain then took up a bucket, and struck him several blows on the face with the iron hoops of the bucket. The Scotchman also kicked him very severely. The boarding master separated them once, and they began to fight again. On the second occasion he had a knife in his hand, but it was shut, and no one saw him use it, but the prisoner, when they were separated, complained that he had been stabbed on the left side. He was carried into the house, and a policeman sent for.—Mr O'Donnell, surgeon, said that the German was very seriously bruised about the face. He had also bruises about the body. The prisoner had also a stab on the left side, the wound being about half-an-inch deep.—Prisoner, for his defence, said that he used the bucket as a means of defence after the complainant had drawn his knife and threatened to run him through.—The bench, after consulting together for some time, considered one person as bad as the other, and dismissed the case.

VEHICLE CASUALTIES.—On Saturday evening a girl named Mary Ann Stanford, aged 9, daughter of persons residing at 1, Planet-street, was run over by a hansom, in Roath. She sustained a fracture of the jaw. No blame is attached to the driver.—On the same evening a boy named Frederick Wellacott was in a trap, near Lawson's Farm, on the Penarth-road, when the horse ran away, throwing him out of the trap, and injuring his left eye and cheek. Both children were taken to the infirmary and detained.

ASSAULTING AND WOUNDING.—Hannah Hitchens, a woman residing at No. 2, Hannah-street, was sent to prison for 14 days for assaulting and wounding Mary Ann Murphy by striking her on the head with a stick on Friday evening.

MR FREKE has all the modern appliances suitable for out-door photography, and work entrusted to him will be executed promptly, artistically, and cheap. —A. Freke, 13 Duke-street. 60800

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LLANDAFF.

FOR Wedding and Keeper Rings, go to George Best, Watchmaker and Jeweller, 15, St. Mary-street, and 24, Royal Arcade, Cardiff. 65699

PENARTH.

FOR Wedding and Keeper Rings, go to George Best, Watchmaker and Jeweller, 15, St. Mary-street and 24, Royal Arcade, Cardiff. 65699

NEWPORT.

NEWPORT PIGEON HOMING CLUB.—The second match of the season took place a day or two ago. Eighteen birds competed; the flight was from London to Newport. The sweepstakes were divided into four prizes. Mr H. Triller's Jumbo was first, and covered the distance in 4 hours 20 minutes. The fourth bird was eight minutes behind the above time.

BOY DROWNED.—As a boy named Alfred Hill, whose parents reside in Bolt-street, was bathing in the river on Saturday evening, with two companions, the tide, which was flowing up at a rapid rate, overpowered him, and he was drowned. The occurrence took place in the locality of Spittle's Foundry, and was witnessed by several persons, who were unable to render aid. The body was recovered later in the evening, and conveyed to the parents' house, awaiting an inquest.

CHRISTCHURCH SCHOOL BOARD.—At the fortnightly meeting of the members of this board, held on Friday evening, Mr J. Bladon presiding, it was decided to issue a precept on the overseers for £300, payable on the 1st September. Tenders were opened for repairs to Liswerry and Maindee school premises, and that of Mr F. W. Taylor, for £64 12s 3d, was accepted. The credit balance in the bankers' hands was stated to be £70 11s 7d. The quarterly accounts, amounting to £239 5s 1½d, were ordered to be paid.

SHIPOWNERS' ASSOCIATION.—At a special meeting of the members of this association, held on Saturday, Mr T. Pugsley, the chairman, presiding, Mr Mawson moved a resolution to rescind the motion passed at the last meeting in reference to the amended Merchant Shipping Bill now before Parliament. Mr R. Wilkinson seconded the motion, but it was negatived by 42 votes (including proxies) to 16 votes.

BOARD OF GUARDIANS.—The weekly meeting of the members of this board was held at the workhouse on Saturday, Col. Lyne presiding, but there was no business beyond that comprehended under the name of relief business, and the signing of cheques for tradesmen's accounts.

COUNTY POLICE-COURT.—At this court on Saturday, John Dewar appeared on remand to answer a charge of embezzlement preferred against him by his late employer, Raphael Houghton, travelling draper, Clifton House, Maindee. The defendant had been in complainant's employ for some time, and in March last, when he gave notice to leave, several items of his accounts were found to be deficient. Complainant said the general deficiency was £50, but that an agreement had been drawn up in which it was described as a debt. This, however, had not been signed, as defendant refused to agree not to travel over the same ground for the future. The bench considered that the charge had not been made out and dismissed the case.—Mr Wilson prosecuted, and Mr Parker defended.—Five Cardiff boys, named Daniel Lewis, Frederick Hensington, Albert Warman, Frank George and Richard Owen, charged with stealing a quantity of strawberries, growing in the garden of Frederick Case, at Rumney, on Sunday afternoon, the 22nd, were fined 2s 6d each.

NEWPORT AND COUNTY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—Tenth annual exhibition will be held in Friars' Park, Cardiff-road, on 17th July, 1884. Two splendid bands will play from 1 to 8 p.m. Admission—1 p.m., 2s 6d; 2.30, 1s; 5 p.m., 6d.

CROSS KEYS.

FIRING OF A WOOD.—At the Newport county police-court, on Saturday, Joseph Gray, a lad 16 years of age, was charged with unlawfully setting fire to a wood near Cross Keys, belonging to Lord Tredegar. The prisoner, in company with several other lads, on Wednesday went to the wood to procure sticks. Finding an ants' nest, one of the lads suggested that they should fire it, and this prisoner admitted to a boy named Matthews that he subsequently did. The fire spread, owing to the drought, and four acres of underwood were destroyed. Mr Wilson, who appeared for the defence, pointed out that the act was not intentional, although the prisoner had no right to interfere with the nest; and, as the case was not pressed, the bench dismissed prisoner with a caution.

A DEPLORABLE LOSS.—Loss of Health Sufferers from Dyspepsia, Biliousness, Indigestion, Head-ache, are soon cured by "Hughes's Blood Pills." Sold everywhere at 1s 1½d, 2s 9d, and 4s 6d. 67557

PONTYPOOL.

FURNITURE.—Largest Stock in Monmouthshire or South Wales.—Bevan, Pontypool & Blaenavon

MONMOUTH.

BOROUGH POLICE.—On Saturday, before the Mayor (Mr Champney Powell), Elizabeth Pritchard, a girl of illfame, was charged with frequenting the railway-station at Troy that morning with intent to commit a felony. Committed to prison for 14 days with hard labour.

GROSS IMMORALITY.—Lucy Watkins, aged 14 years, and Anne Price, 15, both of Monmouth, were charged with indecent behaviour that day. P.C. Cole deposed that about two o'clock he was on duty by the side of the Monnow, when he saw the two girls and two men commit the offence for which they were charged. The girl Price seemed to be a most hardened young wretch, and kept up a continual volley of abuse. Price was committed to prison for 14 days with hard labour, and Watkins for seven days with hard labour.

CRICKHOWELL.

DEATH OF THE RECTOR OF LLANGATTOCK.—We have to announce the death, on Saturday evening, at nine o'clock, after a prolonged illness, of the Rev. George Howell, B.D., Rector of Llangattock, and rural dean. The deceased was educated at Lampeter College, and came to Llangattock as curate about the year 1835, and succeeded to the rectorship on the death of Lord William Somerset. The living, which also includes the parish of Llangenny, is worth £1,100 per annum, and is in the gift of his grace the Duke of Beaufort.

FOREST OF DEAN.

FATAL COLLIERY ACCIDENT.—A fatal accident occurred at the Lightmoor Colliery, on Friday night, by which a miner named Joseph Benfield, about 50 years of age, lost his life. Deceased was engaged, between eight and nine o'clock, cutting coal in the Soundwell vein, when a mass of clod and coal fell upon him, completely burying him. Efforts were at once made to extricate him, but he was only heard to utter a groan once, and life was extinct before the body could be conveyed above ground.

MERTHYR.

BOARD OF GUARDIANS.—At the usual weekly meeting, on Saturday—Mr R. H. Rhys (chairman) presiding—the out-relief granted during the past week was reported to have been as follows:—Aberdare, £56 19s 5d; Gelligaer, £22 2s 7d; Merthyr Upper, £62 3s 4d; Merthyr Lower, £47 0s 1d; non-settled, £1 14s; total, £189 18s 5d.—There were 118 children in the Aberdare school at the end of last week, and 207 inmates in the workhouse.

VOLUNTEER SHOOTING COMPETITION.—The annual shooting competition between the men of the Cefn Detachment of the Breconshire Volunteers and the men of the I Company of the Merthyr Detachment of the 2nd Glamorgan was brought to a conclusion on Saturday. The ranges were 200 and 500 yards, seven shots at each. The competition commenced at the Cefn ranges on Thursday, when the visitors were defeated by nearly 140 points, and it was continued and decided on Saturday at the Merthyr ranges, the Cefn contingent being again successful in beating their opponents by 31 points. As a result of their defeat, the Merthyr men will have to entertain the visitors at dinner. Several officers were present during the progress of the competition, and they watched it with the keenest interest.

BREACHES OF THE SUNDAY-CLOSING ACT.—At the police-court on Saturday—before Mr J. Bishop, stipendiary—David Davies, landlord of the Cambrian Inn, Bethesda-street, Merthyr, was summoned for keeping open his house for the sale of beer on Sunday, the 22nd inst.—Mr W. Beddoe defended. P.C. Humphries stated that at about three o'clock in the afternoon of Sunday last he saw a woman near the defendant's house with something bulky about her. He heard someone say, "There's a policeman coming," and immediately upon this the woman ran and turned into a house next door to Mr John's foundry. He followed her, and caught her in the act of putting a tin jack behind the door. The jack contained about a gallon of beer. He took her to the Cambrian, and asked the landlord why he had sold the beer on Sunday, and he replied, "I know nothing at all about it." Afterwards the woman said that the beer had been given to her by Davies's daughter. Two previous convictions for illegal Sunday trading—one since the Sunday-closing Act had been in operation—having been proved, he ordered defendant to pay a fine of £5 and costs, and also directed an endorsement of the license.—Lewis Parry, landlord of the Heathcock Inn, near the iron bridge, Merthyr, was likewise summoned for keeping open his house for the sale of beer on the 22nd inst. P.C. Thomas (211) visited the defendant's house about twelve o'clock at noon, and whilst in the house he saw a woman leave by the front door. He took her back to the house, and in her pocket he found a ginger-beer bottle full of rum. The defendant was fined £1 and costs, the licence to be endorsed.

THEFT OF A SHAWL.—Frances Maund, Merthyr, was charged on remand with stealing a shawl, the property of Patrick Buckley. She was committed to prison for 10 days, with hard labour.

LICENSED VICTUALLERS' ANNUAL SPORTS.—Bank Holiday, August 4th.—Wrestling competitions, Galloway race, 120 yards handicap, 440 yards handicap, one mile handicap, &c., &c. For programmes apply to Mr Ll. Williams, Cowbridge Arms, Merthyr. 69730

PORTRAITS sketched in and painted from life without any photograph. Harris, Merthyr. 53867

NEURALGIA, TOOTH-ACHE, FACE-ACHE, &c.—Remarkable Testimonials daily to the efficacy of Bevan's Specific. Proprietor: W George, M.P.S., Swansea. 48922

PONTYPRIDD.

PORTRAITS taken by Thomas Forrest, Cambrian Studio, Pontypridd, are pronounced equal to those taken elsewhere at much higher prices. Prompt personal attention to outdoor Photography. 69265

FOR Wedding and Keeper Rings, go to George Best, Watchmaker and Jeweller, 15, St. Mary-street and 24, Royal Arcade, Cardiff. 65699

SWANSEA.

MUSIC IN THE PARKS ON SUNDAYS.—Owing to the uncertainty of the weather, fewer people than usual attended at Cwmdonkin Park on Sunday afternoon, to hear the band play. Still, about 2,000 people were present, and everything passed off very successfully.

CHARGES OF BREAKING THE SUNDAY-CLOSING ACT.—Three men named David Morgan, Daniel Davies, and Cornelius Macartin were separately charged with a breach of the Sunday-closing Act on the 1st inst.—A police-constable said he visited the George Inn, Llanrhidian, and in the passage saw Morgan, who said he had gone there to inquire how much fish had been caught by a particular boat. No beer was drunk, but there were some empty gingerbeer bottles on the table. The cases were adjourned.

STEALING A WAISTCOAT.—Two boys named John Francis Davies and John Pugsley, who for the past week have been wandering from their homes, were charged with stealing a waistcoat from Thomas Thomas on the previous day. The bench seemed unwilling to send the boys to prison, and as they believed their present position was due to neglect on the part of their parents, they fined them each 10s.

TOLLS ON THE SWANSEA BRIDGES.—In response to a numerously-signed memorial, the mayor has consented to call a town's meeting for the purpose of considering the advisability of discontinuing to levy these tolls.

THE FAME of MR CHAPMAN'S Photographs is not confined to Wales. Visitors to Swansea will not regret paying the High-street Studio a visit. 49701

THE PEOPLE'S PHOTOGRAPHER, J. Harrison Goldie, Temple-street Studio. See windows for specimens. Instantaneous process for children. 69705

THE LIDSTONE PATENT BRACES are now taking the lead. Sold everywhere. Patentee, Lidstone, 40, Castle-street. 50604

NEATH.

DROWNING.—On Friday a little boy named John Steel, 17 months old, fell into the canal on the Green, and was drowned before any help could be rendered. The body was picked up by a ship carpenter, who saw it floating on the water.

SMALL-POX AT BLAENCORRWG.—This disease has broken out in the village of Blaencorrwg. There are seven or eight cases at present reported under medical treatment. One death only has occurred. At Troedyrhiw, not far distant from Blaencorrwg, it is stated typhoid fever has been discovered. The sufferers are children.

ABERYSTWITH.

NEW POPULAR SONGS, by D. Jenkins, Mus. Bac. (Cantab). "Hiraeth" (Hebed o Hiliod, "Y Galon Friw" ("The Bruised Heart"); 6d each. "Peidiwch Gofyn I Mi Ganu" ("Ask me not to join you singing"); 1s each. For full complete catalogue send to the Author. 669

HAVERFORDWEST.

TOWN COUNCIL.—An adjourned meeting of the council was held at the Council Chamber on Friday night, the Mayor (Mr Samuel Thomas) presiding.—It was stated that Mr C. E. G. Philipps had expressed his willingness to sell half an acre, or more if desired, at Crowhill, for the new water scheme, at a fair price.—Correspondence with the Local Government Board was read touching the application of the council for an extended term of 50 years, in lieu of 30 years, for the repayment of the £5,000 to be raised for sewage purposes, and a letter was read from Mr W. Davies, M.P., stating that he, with Lord Kensington, M.P., had waited on the Local Government Board with the view to induce the board to grant the request of the council, but they had failed to do so.—The Clerk stated that the formal consent of the Local Government Board had been received for the loan of the £2,000 required for gas and other purposes. —The Mayor stated that Mr Szlumper had visited the Crowhill waterworks, and so far regarded the scheme favourably.

IMPORTANT REPORT FROM CHILI, S.A., that "Hughes's Blood Pills" are most popular in that country for the Blood, Stomach, Skin, and Nerves. Wonderful cures reported. Sold everywhere at 1s 1½d, 2s 9d, and 4s 6d. 67557

BRIDGEND.

BOARD OF GUARDIANS.—At the weekly meeting, held on Saturday, a letter was read from Mr A. Verity, stating that he hoped shortly to resume his duties as medical officer, as he was recovering from his illness.

HIGHWAY BOARD.—At the monthly meeting, held on Saturday, the surveyor's estimate, amounting to £236, was read.—A letter was read from Mr E. S. Thomas, of the Rhyl, Bridgend, agreeing to pay £600 towards the construction of a road and bridge at Pontycymer; a further sum of £500 to be contributed by the parish, and the remainder in equal amounts between the subscribing parties.

PETTY-SESSIONS.—On Saturday, at the police-court, William Jones, of Pontycymer, sinker, for resisting P.C. James James, at Maesteg, while in the execution of his duty, was fined £3 and costs.

GREAT SENSATION IN CARDIGANSHIRE.—When Hannah Jones, Aberayron Gate, was cured by taking "Hughes's Dropsy Pills." Invalided with dropsy, asthma, great swellings, inaction of kidneys, &c., for 15 years. Sold everywhere at 1s 1½d, 2s 9d, 4s 6d. 67557

ABERAVON.

A GRAND BAZAAR will be held at the Public Hall, Aberavon, July 10th, 11th, and 12th, 1884. Proceeds to be devoted towards liquidating the debt of the Tabernacle Congregational Chapel.

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