NOTES OF THE WEEK.

During the last session of parliament a Tory wit said that if the members of the cabinet were divided on every other question they were unanimous against Dodson.

The news from China is not re-assuring for the French, or indeed, for Europe. The Chinese are pouring troops into Tonquin in such numbers, that General Brière de l'Isle, in supreme command there, demands reinforcements of 10,000 men. His subordinates win all skirmishes, but he loses men.

The medical world has reason to be proud of one of its members who died this week, as the consequence of a really heroic act performed in the course of his professional duty. Dr. Samuel Rabbeth, a young man of only twenty-seven years, senior resident medical officer of the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's Inn-road, found, on Friday fortnight, that a child of four years of age, on whom tracheotomy had been performed to relieve the breathing, must die of diphtheria unless the suffocating membrane were he sucked away through the tube. And he risked and lost his own life through diphtheria in the attempt to save the child's, which he did not succeed in saving after all. The risk was not one which professional etiquette in any way required him to run, but he ran it in the enthusiasm of his love of service, and he ought to be remembered as one of the noblest of the martyrs of duty.

The Autumn Session was opened on Thursday with an unusually short message from the crown. Parliament is informed that it is brought together in order "to give further consideration to the great subject of the representation of the people;" that "the energy, courage, and resource displayed by General Gordon deserve her Majesty's warm recognition;" that the advance of troops to Dongola has for its "object the rescue and security of that gallant officer, and of those who have so faithfully co-operated with him;" that "financial support has been given to the Egyptian Government in the difficult financial position in which it has been left through the failure of the conference;" that the operations in the Soudan will require a further provision of money; that affairs in South Africa require "vigilant attention;" and that "means are being considered to secure the faithful observance of the 'convention of the present year." There is no allusion to foreign affairs or to Ireland, the intention evidently being to confine discussion to the Franchise, to Egypt, where money is required, and to South Africa, where we may be compelled to employ force. The obstructive in the House have not, however, unlearned their art; and we may be sure that they will succeed in raising debate on all omitted subjects.

No amendment on the address was moved in the Lords; but Lord Salisbury made a speech which Lord Granville said reminded him of Emile Ollivier when he went to war with such a light heart. He satirised the language of the message which spoke of "painful uncertainties" in the news from the Soudan, just as the Irishman included his debts among his assets, and which honoured the courage and energy of an officer of whose fate nothing was known. He laughed at the "backing" offered to the Egyptian Government, and believed South Africa would require much more than "vigilant attention." He ridiculed Lord Durham for having said that Lord Salisbury's voiceless followers were the lame and the blind and men in skull-caps, and hinted that if Mr. Chamberlain ruled England the caps might be found in the Upper House without heads in them. In truth, Lord Salisbury was acrimoniously sprightly: but the serious purpose of his speech was to say that his opinion on the Franchise Bill was expressed in the resolution of July last, and that he had nothing to alter. "*Jamais*," said M. Rouher in 1869, when asked if France would ever surrender Rome to Italy; but Rome is the capital of the kingdom all the same.

In the House of Commons, after two good speeches from Mr. S. Howard and Mr. Summers, the mover and seconder of the address, Sir Stafford Northcote, who complimented both, but condemned rather sharply the political tone of Mr. Summers, made a speech, most conciliatory in manner and most obdurate in substance. He gave not the slightest hope of concession. "We maintain," he said, "that this is so large and so vitally important a question, that the two parts must not be separated in our minds, but must be considered together; and that we must act with reference to the whole subject, and not merely to a part of it." As Mr. Gladstone said in his reply, that is a very mild mode of saying—"Adopt our views, pursue our methods of proceeding, recede from any declaration that you have made, turn topsy-turvy all that you have said about the practical absurdity of getting through the subject without separating the redistribution of seats from the franchise, and then, when you have gone through this process, and undertake to wear a white sheet, you may rely upon it, that we, the minority of this house, and the majority of the House of Lords, having completely conquered and completely discredited you in the face of those to whom you made contrary professions, shall be most happy to concur with you in carrying the bill through." We need not say that Mr. Gladstone altogether declined to let the majority in the House of Commons pass, as he called it, "under the Caudine forks;" and put it very strongly that here was a case in which the question was whether the majority in the lords should yield to the majority in the commons or the majority in the commons to the majority in the lords; and that on that question there could be no compromise. The debate on the address was ultimately adjourned.

Lord Salisbury made a speech at Dumfries on Tuesday which was regarded by many not, indeed, as giving any hope of concession, but as shutting the door less absolutely against it than he had done in previous speeches. He was very caustic with Lord Hartington for saying that the leverage of a passed Franchise Act was needful to get any Redistribution Bill past the obstructions which parliament would know how to throw in its ways; and compared it to the nurse's method of holding a refractory baby's nose, in order to make it open its mouth, and so provide the opportunity of getting the medicine down its throat. The House of Lords does not contend, he said, for the constitutional right of forcing a dissolution. It only contends for the constitutional right of refusing a measure which, apart from a special scheme of redistribution, it does not approve, until the country ratifies the piece-work plan of the government. "A dissolution will come soon enough." The House of Lords is quite willing to wait for it.

The Prime Minister has written a very interesting and wise letter to the diocesan conference of St. Asaph, of which he is a member, on the subject of "the duty of churchmen in regard to disestablishment," confining himself to the special point that their duty is to take care that dissensions from within shall not bring the establishment to an end. Mr. Gladstone remarks that since the reformation, the anglican church has been almost the only one which has deliberately set itself to include *both* the parties which struggled together in the Roman Catholic Church before the reformation. The Anglican church has deliberately set itself to include both parties, just as parliament includes both political parties; whereas most other churches have taken up the position of political clubs, all the members of which, profess to be agreed in the same political creed. Of course, the result has been, that there has been far more internal strife and discord in the Anglican church than either in the church of the counter-reformation (the Roman Catholic since the council of Trent), or in the Puritan churches which separated themselves from it, just as there is and must be more internal discord in parliament than there can be in a political club. But then the very reason why more discord has been natural and almost necessary is also a reason why it should not be pushed to extremity. The Anglican Church was meant to include elements of difference, just as other churches were meant to exclude them; and therefore the contending parties in it should jealously respect each others' rights and freedom, and not push their struggles to the internecine point. That was at once Mr. Gladstone's argument for comprehension, and excuse for the strenuousness of past and present internal strife. He held that both parties have done great service to the Church, and that neither should try to push the other out.

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REVIEWS.

POEMS.—T. G. Youngman (Kegan Paul, Trench, and Co.) In the late Mr. T. G. Youngman, of Stowmarket, but formerly of Bury St. Edmund's, Suffolk possessed a man of uncommon attainments, and of ability and character no less rare. It would be inaccurate to say that as a literary man and an educated thinker he was unappreciated, for that would exclude those who, knowing him, entertained towards him a deep personal respect passing that rendered to any one holding a similar position. Still, the inhabitants of Bury St. Edmund's, of West Suffolk, and Stowmarket as a whole did not and do not now understand his worth and a loftiness of capacity within him which fell short only of genius. No more eloquent tribute to the man as he really was, could be procured than the volume of poems now before us, poems written at leisure moments in a life not free from harassing troubles and anxious cares. The volume does not contain all the poems Mr. Youngman wrote, but includes a good many. The files of the *Bury Post* over a long series of years bear witness to Mr. Youngman's skill in the region of the most arbitrary and fitful of the muses, and one or two of the poems printed here have, unless we are mistaken, seen the light in our columns. The collection will be welcome however, both as a permanent monument to Mr. Youngman's ability, and, to his many friends, as a reminiscence of his happiest and best moments. As may well be imagined Mr. Youngman has several poems relating to Bury St. Edmund's. After the dedication to the "long—loved, faithful wife of mine," the volume commences with "The Legend of St. Edmund—a medley," a humorous description of the discovery of St. Edmund under the bridge of Hoxne, and of his betrayal to the Danes by "a couple of lovers," who

"Like a pair of young plovers
Were taking the air by a stream in this county."

The West Suffolk Rifles, The Choral Society, The Angel, and Mr. Guy, all come in for amusing allusion in this item, and, as one moral, all young men are warned never to seek Hymen's altar by this bridge. If they do "you will find ere your days grow old":—

"That your wife is a vixen, a shrew and a tartar,
And you're daily more shot at than Edmund the Martyr."

"A Matrimonial Legend of Bury St. Edmund's," entitled "Lady Monson," comes next, also in the jocular and satirical vein. The author first assures us that such squabbles are quite out of fashion in Bury now:—

"At once, pray let me declare,
"With the steadiest face, and honestest air,
"Of good temper they all have more than their share;
"In vestries or councils they never fall out,
"But always know what they are talking about;
"Through ev'ry topic the best feeling ranges—
"Drains, hospital, church-roofs, and new corn-exchanges;
"Here in Committee oft you may see 'em,
"Embracing each other to make a Museum,
"Or cooing like doves 'bout affairs Athenæum;
"Then at the Paving-board each man is a brother,
"Commissioners never throw stones at each other;"
... ...
"In short 'tis no fiction,
"Beyond contradiction,
"That from the Southgate to the uttermost Brackland,
"Though bare of the needful as famous John Lackland,
"If rolling in riches, or wanting in wealth,
"If groaning in sickness, or buoyant in health,
"Whether dining off sprats, or rich venison greasy,
"They are always good-tempered, and jolly, and easy,
"And live the results of their good sense to reap,
"Like the rats, cats, and monkeys, a man used to keep
"All huddled together as peaceful as sheep,
"And show in a cage at a penny a peep."

What fate overtook Lord Monson our readers must consult the volume to find out. No doubt he deserved all he got, when we learn that immediately upon getting into bed, he

"taking no thought of his sins without number,
Fell into a regular snoring slumber."

Many townsmen will find their names referred to here, the wine merchants, Worlledge and Cooper, Mr. Clay, Mr. Oliver, Mr. Armstrong, Mr. Gould, and others, coming in for mention. Some well and even beautifully written descriptive poems come next, the harebell, the forget-me-not, autumn, the sea, winter, the river-side, Hardwick Heath, Snowdon, the Pass of Llanberis, the shore of Rydal Water, midnight, being amongst the subjects chosen. All these display a remarkable aptitude for chaste expression, and a genuine poetic inspiration less frequently found in such happy union. "Farewell to Wales" is musical and strong in the current of its rhythm. This verse is as forcible as any:—

"Oh! wake once again, mighty harp of old story,
"And pour in high frenzy thy wild notes along;
"Arise once again, ye great bards, in your glory,
"And crown your loved land with the splendours of song."

"Riverside Musings" contains two complete pictures, deftly put:—

"Placid stream! In childhood's day,
"Dashing 'mid thy waves to play,
"Joyously I led the way,
"Foremost in the rank."

"Or to hunt the water-hen,
"Braved the black mire of thy fen;
"Grasp'd the prey, then home again,
"Shouting 'long thy bank,"

The beauties of Hardwick Heath one spring morning in May, 1859, are chanted, and again the author finds his muse inspired by the same subject in the autumn of the same year. The "avenue of noble trees" is still:—

"Along its solemn aisle no music floats."

In descriptive poetry proper Mr. Youngman was a proficient, and as he saw everything with the poet's eye, his verses are all pleasing and suggestive. He indited one poem to Bloomfield, and showed himself thus a true son of Suffolk. He sang of Bloomfield's "Genial heart and liberal hand;" he speaks of him as one to whom, "poor child of toil,"

"Was given
To choose in life the better part."

And our author possessed much of Bloomfield's delight in simple joys. He says

"My little garden plot of flowers,
My happy home, my own loved bowers,
Are fairy land to me."

Mr. Youngman came under the influence of Tennyson, and in one of the best poems of the volume acknowledges all he owed to that gifted master of "insuperable song." He writes

"Thou break'st the chains of custom from my soul,
"And she, poor prison-bird, swift takes her flight
"On eager wings, all reckless of control,
"Towards the topmost height."

"Thou teachest me by beauty and with power,
"All things are lovelier when I follow thee,
"And life more smoothly glides from hour to hour,
"Hymn'd by thy minstrelsy."
... ...
"I am a little lake, shut in and prest
"By rocks and trees that ring me near and far;
"But I can glass thee clearly in my breast,
"My 'bright particular star.'"

One who felt thus of Tennyson could do, and did even better work than the best descriptive poetry in this volume, and we find many instances where the spirit soared to nobler heights in attempts to reach "the law within the law." The glories of the midnight are not lost on one who sings thus:—

"Up, through the starry gulfs on high,
"Uncounted worlds bestrew the sky,
"And glorious forms with wings of light,
"From orb to orb, their shining flight
"In lustre speed; some bright and strong,
"On their lone errands glide along,
"Unchecked, resistless, and alone,
"High heralds from the Great White Throne;
"Some gather into gleaming bands,
"Countless as grains of glitt'ring sands,
"And weave, as intricate they fly,
"A fiery network in the sky."

It was his "eager fierce desire" to "wake the poet's lyre," and this he did in "Aspirations," in "Duty," in "A thought by the sea," in "Youth and Age," and in others. In age, the love of nature was strong as ever:—

"Our passions sway'd by gentler moods,
"Our pulses stirred by holier springs;
"Her children mother nature claims,
"And with herself our being rings."

"The Old Churchyard at Bury St. Edmund's," and "Thoughts in a New Cemetery," are local only in their inspiration; these precede verses written "in memoriam" to Sir Henry Edward Bunbury, to Henry Wilson, Esq., to Mrs. Oakes, the first wife of Mr. H. A. Oakes, and to her two infant children, subjects on which we will not touch. The volume will be welcome to all who desire to cherish the memory of a nature which has now found a wider field for aspirations this life could never fully satisfy.

Few such useful publications come into the market to which they are more particularly addressed than Sutton's Bulb Catalogue. Does anyone require full information as to what bulbs to plant, when to cultivate those they have, their best policy is to consult this catalogue, or to communicate with the firm at Reading. The work before us contains special articles upon the cultivation of the hyacinth, of the tulip, of the narcissus, of the crocus, begonia, the gloxinia, the amaryllis, lilies, cyclamen, gladiolus, anemone, &c., is attractively printed and illustrated, and will be most acceptable.

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OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

The sixth session of the tenth Parliament of Queen Victoria was opened on Thursday by Royal Commission. At half-past one the House of Commons met and awaited the arrival of the Black Rod, who, on entering the Chamber and advancing to the table, informed Mr. Speaker that the immediate attendance was desired of the Commons in the Upper House to hear the Commission read. The Speaker, preceded by the Serjeant-at-Arms (Captain Gossett) with the mace, thereupon proceeded by way of the Central Lobby to the Bar of the House of Lords, accompanied by several members of the Lower House. The Reading Clerk (Mr. Bethell) then recited the terms of the Commission, and the Lord Chancellor read her Majesty's Speech in the following terms:—

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

I have brought you together after a recess unusually short, in order that you may be enabled at once to give your further consideration to the great subject of the representation of the people in Parliament.

I continue to maintain relations of amity with all foreign Powers.

The information received from the Soudan includes painful uncertainties; but the energy, courage, and resource, conspicuously displayed by General Gordon in the successful defence of Khartoum, deserve my warm recognition.

The advance of my troops to Dongola has for its object the rescue and security of that gallant officer, and of those who have so faithfully co-operated with him.

In Egypt itself I am using my best endeavours to promote further improvement; and I have given my support to the Egyptian Government in the difficult financial position in which it has been left through the failure of the recent Conference.

I have to regret that circumstances have occurred on the south-western frontier of the Transvaal which demand my vigilant attention. In conjunction with the Government of the Cape Colony I am engaged in considering the means that may be required to secure the faithful observance of the Convention of the present year.

Papers on this subject will be presented to you at an early date.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

The operations in the Soudan will render it necessary to ask from you a further pecuniary provision.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

The Bill for the extension of the Parliamentary Franchise will at once be introduced.

In conclusion, I humbly and most anxiously trust that the blessing of Almighty God may attend upon your labours.

Immediately after the reading of the Speech, both Houses adjourned until the evening.

CHURCH DISESTABLISHMENT.

LETTER FROM MR. GLADSTONE.

A letter from Mr. Gladstone, with reference to the subject of the Disestablishment of the Church, was read at Wednesday's Diocesan Conference at St. Asaph. Abstaining from entering upon the wide field of argument raised by the question of Disestablishment, he simply suggests for consideration the question whether it would or ought to come, and whether it is near or remote. "All these," he continues, "are questions of interest which I could not touch with advantage, unless it be at a single point—whether disestablishment would be disastrous or not. I think it is clear that there is only one way in which it might come to be disastrous. That one way parts into two. No disestablishment would be disastrous if it were due to the neglect, indifference, or deadness of the Church. But this is a contingency happily so improbable that for present purposes it may be dismissed without discussion. It might also be disastrous were it to arrive as a consequence of dissension among the members of the Church. This, as it appears to me, would be an unworthy termination of a controversey which ought to be settled upon far higher grounds; and the particular duty of Churchmen with regard to disestablishment, which I shall try in a few words to set forth, is the duty of taking care that dissensions from within shall not bring establishment to its end. The last half-century has been the period of the most active religious life known to the Reformed Church of England. It has been a period of the sharpest internal discord. That discord has of late been materially allayed; not, I believe, through the use of mere narcotics, not because the pulse beats less vigorously in bad veins, but through the prevalence in various quarters of wise counsels; or, in other words, the application to our ecclesiastical affairs of that common sense by which we desire that our secular affairs should always be governed. What I wish now to urge is this—in the face that such discord has prevailed—nay, were it to rise again into exasperation, there ought not to be found cause for religious despondency or dismay. Divergence is to be expected, not only in all things human but in all things divine which wear things human for their habiliment, and there were particular reasons why it was to be anticipated, and to be patiently borne within the Church of England. We have still to look it in the face as an incident of our history, though it may bear less heavily upon us than in some former years as a present embarrassment. It is, under all circumstances, a cause of pain and a source of danger, but not always a demonstrative proof of weakness. On the contrary, when profoundly felt, and yet borne, so to speak, without breach of continuity, it may be a test and a proof of strength. In every living organism, in every institution or system, its health will depend upon the equilibrium of the elements, but the maintenance of this equilibrium is more easy where the system is uniform and simple, and its tendencies determinate and clear; more difficult when it is many sided and when it aims at binding together and at directing towards a common system, tendencies which are naturally divergent, and which more commonly find for themselves homes altogether severed." After giving an historical sketch of the internal dissension of the English and Continental Churches, Mr. Gladstone concludes: If there be any truth in this sketch, the conclusions to be drawn from it as regards my present purpose are clear and simple, for it at once appears that the great maxim 'in omnibus caritas,' which is so necessary to temper all religious controversy ought to apply with a twofold force to the conduct of the members of the Church of England in respect to differences among themselves. They ought, of course, in the first place, to remember that their right to differ is limited by the laws of the system to which they belong, but within that limit should they not also each of them recollect that his antagonist has something to say, that the Reformation and the counter reformation tendencies were in the order of providence placed here in a closer juxtaposition than anywhere else in the Christian world, that a course of destiny so peculiar appears to indicate on the part of the Supreme Orderer a peculiar purpose that not only no religious let, no considerate or prudent man should run the risk of interfering with such a purpose, that the great charity which is a bounden duty everywhere in these matters should here be accompanied by two ever-striving handmaidens—a great reverence and a great patience, that instead of the bitterness, I might almost say the savagery, which has too often characterised our inward contention, they ought on every ground of history and reason to be peculiarly marked by moderation, mildness, and reserve, by thinking no evil, by hoping all things, by kindly and favourable interpretations? And if the demand thus made upon the evangelical resources of human nature seem to be over large, is it not unwarranted, is it not eminently rational that at a time when, on the one hand the deepest and widest questions of belief in a Saviour, in a Deity, and in a moral law, are everywhere coming to issue on a scale hitherto without example, and when on the other hand this great organisation within which our lot has been cast, is from day to day exhibiting here and beyond the seas, not only a remarkable material extension, but a growing vigour of inward life, and an increasing abundance in every work of mercy, of benevolence, and of true civilisation.

SEARCHING THE "HOUSES."

On Thursday morning, according to custom, the vaults of the Houses of Parliament were searched by a dozen of the Yeomen of the Guard from the Tower, and the officials of both Houses. At half-past 10 o'clock the Beefeaters were received in the Prince's Chamber by Colonel Carington and others, where they laid down their armour, pikes, and swords, and were supplied with lanterns. They then formed in procession, Mr. Butler, Inspector of the House of Lords, and Mr. Prim, of the Board of Works, led them through the House of Lords, to the House of Commons, where they were met by Inspector Denning, and they passed on to the Speaker's chair, and the search in the vaults commenced, the party proceeding the entire length of the vaults, emerging under the tower. Mr. Bellamy afterwards entertained the yeomen, as he has done for the last 40 years, ever since ceasing to be caterer to Parliament.

RIOTOUS POLITICAL MEETINGS.

At Banbury, on Wednesday night, a meeting was held to protest against the foreign policy of the Government. The opponents of the organisers, however, were present in great force, and effectually prevented Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett from being heard. The disturbance increased as the meeting proceeded, and finally it broke up amid a most uproarious scene.

A meeting of the West Norfolk Liberals was held on the same evening at Watton. Mr. Gurdon, M.P., and the two Liberal candidates for the division were present. The proceedings were noisy from the outset, and, not content with yelling and shouting, some of the disturbers commenced throwing eggs and other missiles at the speakers on the platform. Several windows were smashed, and the confusion was so great that the speeches were suspended and all efforts directed to ejecting the rioters. This was accomplished after much difficulty.

Two men, named Macdonald and Thompson, were charged at the Middlesex Sessions on Wednesday with stealing a watch in the street. The offence was proved, and it was shewn that both men had been previously convicted. They were each sentenced to seven years' penal servitude. When the sentence was pronounced Macdonald endeavoured to strike a police-sergeant who had given evidence against him and the other prisoner also threatened the constable.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMEMT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

The autumn session of Parliament was opened on Thursday by Royal Commission.

After the reading of the Queen's Speech, given in another part of our impression, the Commons withdrew to their own chamber, and the sitting in each House was then suspended for a short time.

On the resumption of the sitting in the House of Lords the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne was moved by Lord Belper and seconded by Lord Lawrence, who expressed the hope that the assurances of the Government on the subject of Redistribution would be accepted and the Franchise Bill passed into law at an early date.

After touching on the omissions from the Royal Speech Lord Salisbury commented on the situation in Egypt and South Africa. As to the question of the representation of the people, he urged the Government to deal with it in no half-hearted manner, but to realise the importance of introducing the Franchise and Redistribution Bills together, and pressing them forward; and he promised the hearty co-operation of the Conservative party in such an endeavour.

Earl Granville declared that it was the intention of the Goverment to deal with the whole question of electoral reform in the manner which they considered was most likely to bring it to a successful issue. Both measures would have their most careful attention, aed would be identified with their existence as a Government. With regard to South Africa, he repudiated the idea that it was not the intention of the Government to maintain the convention with the Boers.

The Earl of Carnarvon attributed all the difficulties in South Africa to the unfortunate course taken by the Government after Majuba Hill, which had provoked in the Transvaal a feeling of contempt for his country.

The Earl of Derby denied that our influence had been weakened in South Africa, and intimated that her Majesty's Government would protect Bechuanaland and insist upon the maintenance of the Transvaal Convention.

After some further conversation the motion for the Address was agreed to, and their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

Mr. Gladstone intimated that he should, on the following day, move for leave to bring in the Representation of the People Bill.

Mr. Chaplin availed himself of the moving of the Sessional Orders to complain of the obstruction to members caused by the late Reform procession to Hyde Park. Sir W. Harcourt vindicated his action; but Sir S. Northcote expressed regret at the tone of his reply.

The Address having been moved by Mr. S. Howard and seconded by Mr. Summers, Sir S. Northcote welcomed the disposition shewn by Ministers to take a broader view in dealing with the reform question, and, whilst promising candid consideration for any such proposals Ministers might make, declared that the Conservatives could not abandon their position; that it was essential that Franchise and Redistribution should be considered as a whole. He was anxious to hear with what proposals the Government now met Parliament, and he earnestly trusted that they might take such a course as would enable the Opposition, consistently with the views which they had deliberately formed to co-operate with them in passing a great measure of reform. Adverting to other topics mentioned in the Speech from the Throne, the right hon. baronet asked for more definite information as to the position of General Gordon, the policy which the Government were pursuing with regard to Egypt and the Soudan, the course they proposed to take in South Africa, and their reported assent to the assembling of a conference on the subject of the Congo and Western Africa.

Mr. Gladstone explained that the Government had consented to an international conference on the Congo, which he thought opened out hopeful and not unpleasant prospects. As to South Africa, it would be their duty to see that the stipulations of the convention with the Transvaal were adhered to. After warmly eulogising the gallantry and resource displayed by General Gordon, the Prime Minister denied that there was any change of policy with respect to Khartoum. Lord Northbrook was on the eve of returning to England, and his recommendations would have the immediate consideration of the Government, and would be made the subject of the earliest practicable communication to Parliament. As to the franchise dispute, the right hon. gentleman observed that the real issue now was whether the majority in the House of Lords or the very large majority of the House of Commons was to prevail; the contention of the Government was that the majority in the representative House should prevail. They were anxious to meet the wishes of the minority as far as possible, but they declined to surrender at discretion and be guilty of a betrayal of their cause. They were willing to shew every consideration for the minority, but could not accede to terms which would be a forfeiture of their most solemn pledges, their deepest convictions, and their reiterated declarations. If the Franchise Bill were again put aside in the House of Lords, the question of the extension of the suffrage would not be the only question which would arise. He warned the Opposition to take care lest in their anxiety to combine Redistribution with the Franchise they also combined with them something more critical than either, and raise another question which, as Conservative statesmen, they ought to be the very last men to wish to raise.

After a desultory discussion, an amendment to the Address, relating to the Maamtrasna murders, was moved by Mr. Harrington, and the debate was then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

Replying to Sir F. Milner, who asked whether the language recently used by Mr. Chamberlain with reference to the riotous disturbances at Birmingham was not an insult to the working classes of that town, and a condonation of the disgraceful proceedings that had taken place there, Mr. Chamberlain observed, that the proceedings in question appeared to him to be a matter of discussion, and that according to the information furnished by some of his constituents who were eye-witnesses, those who were guilty of disgraceful conduct were the roughs hired as "chuckers-out" of the Tory party.

Lord R. Churchill having expressed a hope that before the debate on the Address closed the right hon. gentleman would take the opportunity, which he deliberately refused to take on the previous night when challenged by Sir H. Wolff, of going more fully into the matter, Mr. Chamberlain said nothing would give him greater pleasure than to answer any accusation brought against either himself or his constituents. He did not reply to Sir H. D. Wolff, as the hon. member appeared to him to be acting as the jackal of the noble lord. Lord R. Churchill, "in the interests of Parliamentary decency," asked whether such a term was in order, to which the Speaker replied that he had understood it to be used figuratively.

Sir S. Northcote hoped that, whether it was in order or not, an expression so insulting and so calculated to give offence would be withdrawn.

Mr. Chamberlain explained that he had used the expression in a figurative sense, his intention being precisely the same as that of the right hon. baronet, when a short time ago he described the noble lord the member for Woodstock as a "bonnet." If, however, the hon. member for Portsmouth felt hurt at the word, he would withdraw it. To this Sir H. D. Wolff retorted that nothing the right hon. gentleman could say could affect him in any degree; and Mr. Callan brought the incident to a close by asking "in the interests of peace and order" whether "jackal" or "bonnet" was the more offensive term.

The debate on Mr Harrington's amendment to the address directing attention to the administration of the Irish Crimes Act, and in favour of an inquiry into the case of the prisoners tried for the Maamtrasna murders was resumed by Mr. A. O'Connor. He was followed by the Solicitor-General for Ireland, who vindicated the action of the executive, and argued that there was no ground for inquiry. Lord R. Churchill, in favouring an inquiry, declared that the Irish policy of Ministers had been directed solely by Parliamentary exigencies. This was repudiated by Mr. Trevelyan, who opposed the inquiry. On the motion of Mr. Parnell, the debate was again adjourned.

Mr. Gladstone then briefly moved for leave to introduce the bill to amend the law relating to the representation of the people, and intimated that the second reading would not be moved until Thursday next.

Lord R. Churchill gave notice that on the second reading he should move that any measure purporting to provide for the better representation of the people of Parliament must be accompanied with provisions for the proper arrangement of electoral areas.

The motion for leave was agreed to, and the House adjourned.

ANOTHER REDISTRIBUTION SCHEME.

An action has been brought in the Marylebone county-court by Mr. William Barber to recover from Mr. Walter Wren, formerly M.P. for Wallingford, the sum of £21 for work done in the preparation of a scheme for the redistribution of parliamentary representation. The plaintiff in his evidence stated that in October, 1883, he sent to the defendant a manuscript, entitled "An Exposition of the Present State of the Representation of England; or the Land we Live in, and where to Look for our Masters." This manuscript the defendant printed at his own expense, read it, and then requested the plaintiff to work out how Parliamentary seats should be distributed, as it was of no use in its present form; and the plaintiff further stated that Mr. Wren agreed to pay him for so doing. Mr. Wren, on the other hand, stated that the plaintiff, who was previously unknown to him, represented to him that he was an ardent Liberal, and asked him to buy his pamphlet, which he declined to do. After reading the pamphlet, however, he told the plaintiff that if he would shew how the seats should be distributed and work out the figures, he (Mr. Wren) would write an introduction to the pamphlet, pay all the expenses of printing, and allow the plaintiff to have all the profits on its sale. The judge, after a prolonged hearing, gave a verdict for the defendant.

For assaults on little girls a man named Smith has, at the Central Criminal Court, been sentenced to penal servitude for life. Smith appeared to have been in the habit of meeting the children on some waste land in Putney, making them gifts of money and sweets, and then committing assaults upon them. In addition to four children named in the indictments there were 18 other cases of a similar nature against the prisoner.

Among some rubbish which had been removed from a dust heap in Alfred-mews, Tottenham-court-road, a human skull was found. The arm of an adult person which had been placed in lime having in the meantime been discovered in Bedford-square. Further search was made in the rubbish, and revealed a large piece of human flesh which had come off the thigh. The police are investigating the affair.

A PROTEST FROM BECHUANALAND.

Portions are published of a letter which Mankoroane, the Bechuana chief, addressed last month to Mr. Mackenzie, from Taungs. The chief states that smallpox had attacked his town, and that it was accompanied by famine; and he complains bitterly of the agents sent out by the present Cape Government in place of Mr. Mackenzie. He says: "Although they passed me (my town) they said nothing, whilst they were on their way to my enemies' camp to give to them my country and to make boundaries unknown to me—known only to them and to the Boers. After they had divided my country then they told me, saying the boundary line Pudum and Modimong. They talked to me merely whilst on their way, without stopping. . . . Therefore, I say, let Mr. Mackenzie come so that I may know whether it is indeed the Queen who sent these two, or rather many, men. Those who save and those who kill —I wish to know if they are sent all of them by one Queen."

RAID ON PARIS GAMBLING-HOUSES

The apologists for Monte Carlo are in danger of losing one of their favourite arguments—namely, the toleration of clandestine gambling-houses. The Paris police have been closing a number of so-called clubs, which were really "hells," and have been making raids on establishments assuming the title of "Cercle table d'hôte." The other night they demanded admission at one of these in the Rue des Martyrs, where a certain gambler's losses in one night are said to have amounted to 5,000f. There was some tardiness in opening the door, and the inmates were all at the bar, apparently busied in eating and drinking. Not a trace of cards could be seen. A small of burnt paper, however, drew the police to the kitchen, where, on the fire were the charred remains of numerous packs of cards. The officers took down the names of the inmates, and a prosecution will follow.

BREAD-AND-WATER FOR STARVING WORK PEOPLE.

An excellent philanthropic work has been started in Paris. It is called the "Mouthful of Bread" (Bouchée de Pain), and goes on in two poor arrondissements of the city. The object is to prevent people out of work from being brought to a state of desperation, or reduced to such a low physical condition as never again to be likely to recover. A lump of bread and a glass of water flavoured with vinegar are given at the refectory of La Bouchée de Pain to any one asking for relief. Why vinegar? Water drawn from the Seine is very foul, and the acid neutralises cholera, typhoid, and other microbes in a starving state. The liver also secretes but little bile. This outdoor relief is given in the hours when all the factories and workshops are in full activity, so that employed persons will not try to profit by it.

A PROTRACTED LAWSUIT.

The Court of Appeal at Rome is about to hear a case which has already lasted more than half a century, the plaintiffs being the heirs of Cardinal Consalvi, who are seeking to obtain possession of a sum of half a million sterling which he left to the Propaganda Fide. The family name of the Cardinal was Brunacci, and Consalvi was the name of his uncle, from whom he inherited the title of marquis and a very large fortune, which latter was increased by one or two subsequent legacies. A will by which all his property was bequeathed to the corporation known as the Propaganda Fide was produced by the representatives of that body, and letters of administration were granted. His relatives, however, protested against this and commenced a lawsuit, which has been decided against them in the Court of First Instance, and they base their hopes of getting this judgment reversed on appeal upon the fact that three sheets of the will, as produced by the defendants in court, are missing, and are said to have been lost. As Cardinal Consalvi died in 1824, the matter is, of course, enveloped in a great deal of mystery.

BREAKING INTO AN ACTRESS'S BEDROOM.

In the Queen's Bench Division an actress named Gray has claimed damages against a Mr. Hemmings for trespass, assault, and illegal distress. She said that in June last year she took unfurnished apartment, in Stamford-street, Blackfriars, and that the defendant, the landlord, came to her bedroom door one morning in October, while she was ill in bed, sent the brokers up a ladder to her bedroom window to force admission, on the ground of non-payment of rent, and on the broker failing to get in, himself broke the door open and struck her a violent blow in the chest, from the effects of which she was still suffering. The defendant traversed the allegations in the statement of claim generally, and said the distress was made for arrears of rent, which the plaintiff had refused to pay; that he warned her he would break open the door if she did not open it herself; and that she replied he might do so. This the plaintiff denied, saying she had pleaded for delay, and that she warned the defendant that if he broke open the door he did it at his peril. She stated that the assault was made before she had time to dress; that she had been in hospital since, and that her health still suffered from the consequences.—Acting on a suggestion from the learned judge, counsel conferred with their clients, and ultimately it was agreed that the action should be stayed, on the footing of the furniture seized being given up, and each side paying its own costs, neither party to have any further claim in the matter against the other.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Sir Thomas Farrer has published the report made by the Board of Trade on their proceedings and business under the Weights and Measures Act, 1878. The Act, it appears, continues to work on the whole satisfactory. The representations made to the Board have been in favour of greater accuracy in the verification of weights and measures rather than for increased stringency in the detection of fraud. With regard to the variation to be allowed by inspectors in the verification of the measures brought by licensed victuallers, the Standards Department have suggested that in no case should the variation exceed four fluid drachms on the pint, or three fluid drachms on the half-pint, but that no error should be allowed on the side of deficiency. The report notices the complaints of customers that they do not get just weight, but the remedy for this is in the purchaser's own hands; for every weight has its denomination marked upon it. In the case of coal, however, the poor purchaser is sometimes without a remedy; for, in districts outside the metropolis and outside the boroughs where the sale is regulated by statute, much fraud is carried on by small dealers, who sell sacks sometimes 4lb. to 16lb. deficient in the half-hundredweight. Inspectors have no power under the Act to test the weight of these sacks, and hence dishonest traders can successfully compete with those who sell with just weight. A curious custom is mentioned in the report. It appears that in the Manorial Court of the Manor of Titchfield, Hants, it is a custom for certain officers of the court called ale-tasters, to examine the weights and measures of all persons living within the manor, and for the court to punish all offences in the matter. The loca authority is vested in the lord of the manor, who is not liable to the obligations of the Act. There are 13 other boroughs in which the local authority is vested in the lord of the manor.

MR. BRIGHT ON SUNDAY POSTAGE.

The following interesting letter is a reply from Mr. Bright to an invitation to attend a conference on the subject of the Sunday postal delivery: "Dear Sir,—I cannot attend your promised conference, or support the object for which it is to be held. To close all our post-offices on Sundays would, in my view, be not only an intolerable inconvenience, but a great evil. To continue at least one delivery of letters in the day seems to me needful for the public service, and not unduly interfering with the labour and service of the letter carriers. The Post-office is our great means, not only of commercial, but of family communication, and it is with reference to the family that I am most strongly opposed to your views. There are scores of thousands of young men and women in this country who are away from their homes and parents engaged in cities and towns in the various occupations by which they live. To these Sunday is to a large extent a day of rest. It is a day on which their thoughts naturally turn to the homes they have left. It is the day on which the letter from the loving but absent father or mother is most frequently received, and it is the day on which the absent son or daughter has the greatest leisure to write to the home circle. If your plan were adopted, how many thousands of letters of wise and loving counsel from parents to absent children would be received in circumstances less favourable for good than if received and read and re-read during the quiet and leisure of the Sunday? In cases of sickness or death, the closing of the post would often be a grievous inconvenience and a cause of great and prolonged distress. I have known two instances of it in my own family, and what has happened in my case must have taken place in many others. I think the closing of the post in London on Sundays is a great inconvenience, and on the grounds to which I have referred, as to its effects on family correspondence, a great evil; but if the London system were extended to the whole kingdom it would cause an amount of confusion that would be intolerable. If I am not mistaken, the House of Commons did once pass a resolution in favour of your object, but was compelled to rescind it. I have no fear that you can succeed; if you obtain a momentary success, it must be followed by failure. The one round of the postman in the day is not a heavy burden, not heavier than that borne by great numbers in almost every class in life. It is a great public service, an honourable labour, and it must be compensated for as other services are. There is not a word in the New Testament leaning to your views so far as they are influenced by religious considerations. The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath."

For having obstructed the servants of the Midland Railway Company, and, to the annoyance of passengers, smoked in a non-smoking compartment, Samuel Torr, a vocalist, and a picture dealer named Stevens, have, at Derby, each been fined £6 3s. 6d.

Harper's Ferry is to be sold, together with the famous little engine-house where John Brown made his final struggle. George Washington is said to have selected this spot for a national armoury, and in 1794 the Government bought 640 acres there, added 310 acres more, and leased an additional 1,395 acres. The manufacture of arms began in 1796, and was continued until the Civil War, when the Confederates captured the place without a blow. The Union forces soon afterwards took it, but Stonewall Jackson recaptured it in 1862. The Federals, however, once more came in, and the war ended with the village a total wreck. The water power is said by some to be the finest in the world. It is just 25 years since Brown made his raid here.

It is reported from Zululand that Dinizulu has been deposed, another son of Cetewayo, six years old, having been nominated to reign in his stead. Dinizulu, it is added, it now with Oham.

On the hundredth anniversary of his birthday, the Queen sent Sir Moses Montefiore a telegram congratulating him on his loyal, worthy, and philanthropic life—a mark of honour which the venerable baronet was greatly pleased at receiving.

FOR THE HOME CIRCLE

THE TRAGEDY.

He sits alone, in a darkened room—
Alone, in the fading light.
Why is his brow so heavy with gloom,
And his cheeks so deadly white?

But though his heart is sick with care,
His courage never blenches,
His eyes are fixed in a glassy stare—
What is it his firm hand clenches?

"A little courage," he murmurs. "Yes!
A little, and all is won,"
A choking gurgle, more or less,
A gasp, and the deed is done.

Without a shudder, or eyelid wink—
Ah, it makes the heart recoil,
That he could so truly, calmly drink
A dose of castor oil!

Lend only what you can afford to lose.

Do not believe one-half that you hear, but make sure that you believe all you say.

Use as little vinegar as possible in talking of others.

A thrifty wife is better than a great income.

"By-and-by" is the high road to "Never."

Contentment makes much of little, greed makes little of much.

Don't trust a ricketty chair, nor a tricky man.

It is truly said that there is only one way not to get cheated in a horse trade, and that is not to buy the horse.

A million Englishmen eat with their knives, and there is another million who would be glad to eat with anything.

An ancient sage once said: "The goodness of gold is tried by fire, the goodness of women by gold, and the goodness of men by women."

Great opportunities will not come to many of us; but we will resolve to do the multitude of little duties which make up the sum and substance of our lives with more earnestness and conscientious faithfulness.

Going to the continent to get married is the latest. It is thought that if the love can stand the test of sea sickness it will last for ever.

Woman has to wait until she is asked before she can marry. She has no voice in the matter until after the ceremony. Then she knows how to make up for lost time.

An Irishman says he can see no earthly reason why woman should not be allowed to become medical men.

Gold.—"Ah, parson, I wish I could take my gold with me," said a dying man to his parson. "It might melt," was the consoling answer.

"Patrick, where's the whisky I gave you to clean the windows with?" "Och, master, I just drank it; and I thought if I breathed on the glass it would be all the same.

An honest Hibernian, in recommending a cow, said she would give milk year after year without having calves, "because," said he, "it runs in the brade, for she came of a cow that never had a calf."

A strong man.—A shoplifter.

A painstaking man.—The dentist.

Things that must be pushed.—Barrows.

The man who "let in a thief to steal away his brains" was mad as a hornet when the thief came out and said he couldn't find any.

The old lady who believes every calamity that happens to herself a trial, and every one that happens to her friends a judgment, is not yet dead.

As a court-martial, a young officer, when questioned whether he had not given the lie to a certain person, replied, "No; I only said that either he or the colonel had told a lie, and that I was sure that it wasn't the colonel."

"Yes," said the level-headed schoolboy, "I'm at the foot o' my class, and I calculate to stay there. Then I don't have to stand the wear and tear of anxiety and fear I'll lose my place."

That the world is progressing, is satisfactorily settled by the fact that Eve never knew the blessing of a big hoop-skirt, or a Gainsborough hat to wear to the opera, and Adam never wore tight pants, toothpick shoes, or a reversible ulster. Washington never rode on a railroad train, and Lincoln couldn't "hello" over a telephone wire. To be sure, "the world do move."

"Speaking of ages," said Ellis, with a smile, "I am reminded of what a queer little darkey said to me the other day. I had asked him how old he was. 'If you count by what my gram'ma says,' he replied, 'I's guine on ten; but if you count by de fun I's had, I reckon I's about a hundred.'"

Mr. W. Mattieu Williams once witnessed a display of drunkenness among 300 pigs, which had been given a barrel of spoiled elderberry wine all at once with their swill. "Their behaviour," he says, "was intensely human, exhibiting all the usual manifestations of jolly good fellowship, including that advanced stage where a group were rolling over each other and grunting affectionately in tones that were very distinctly impressive of swearing good fellowship all around. Their reeling and staggering, and the expression of their features, all indicated that alcohol had the same effect on pigs as on men; that under its influence both stood precisely on the same zoological level."

Mr. Edward Farrar, the editor of the *Sun*, and the ablest journalist in Canada, none excepted, has been very ill. He was carefully attended by Dr. Brown, under whose skilful care he is now convalescent. While attending him the doctor was anxious to learn a little about the general health of Ned's ancestors, and one day he tackled the subject, Ned being in bed at the time. Mr. Farrar," said the doctor, "have the members of your family been long lived? Did they die at a good old age?" Well, doctor, I'll just tell you how it is. Our family is a West of Ireland family, and the age of my ancestors depended entirely on the judge and jury who tried them."

In the north of Lanarkshire lived a well-known character of the name of Sandy B——, who lived in a turf house, the roof of which was badly in need of repair. This, however, Sandy was too lazy to do, and on a wet day the neighbours used to laugh at Sandy, who sat inside with an old umbrella over him to keep off the rain which came in by several holes in the roof. "Man, Sandy," said a neighbour to him one wet day, "you should mend the roof; you might as well have a big riddle for a roof as that." "Toots, man," said Sandy, "it's far ower wet to mend the roof the day, and on a dry day I have as good a house as onybody."

OVER THE SUNSHINE OF EXISTENCE HANGS A BLACK CLOUD.

With the uncertainty of life is mingled the dark mystery of death! While on the one hand, we catch the welcome sound of a new breath of life that tells of an addition to our species, on the other, we shudder as we hear the rushing wings of the Destroying Angel! The mighty voice of the great influence which rules the universe has pronounced our fate; the dread fiat has gone forth, and every mortal man is doomed to die! But, though we cannot prevent, can we postpone death? The question is momentous, even if it concern the prolongation of life but by a single hour, inasmuch as every instinct prompts us to fight the boldest battles we can for this glorious boon of existence. The promptings of instinct are but the spontaneous voices of nature, and it is our duty to obey. But there still remains the question, *can* death be postponed by a single hour? Yes, for the world works in obedience to certain laws; and a study of these proves that those who have the judgment and the will to buckle on the shield, which nature places ready to their grasp, may ward off the insidious attacks of the implacable enemy of life, until in a ripe old age, the vital faculties gradually decay, and the Angel of Peace glides softly into our presence, leading us, as it were, in a gentle slumber to the regions beyond the shadow of the tomb.

The Fell Destroyer makes his first approaches in many forms, but none are more favoured by him than that of a deadly foe now preying upon the very vitals of Modern Society. What is this foe? There are few among us who have not been, or are now to some extent its victims. Would the reader know if he, too, is under the ban of this frightful scourge? Let him ask himself whether he experiences any of the following symptoms:—

There are pains about the chest and sides, and sometimes in the back. The mouth has a bad taste, especially in the morning; and there are feelings of dulness and drowsiness. The appetite is poor, a sort of sticky slime collects about the teeth, there is a feeling as of a heavy load on the stomach, and sometimes a faint, all-gone sensation at the pit of the stomach, which food does not satisfy. The eyes are sunken, the hands and feet become cold and feel clammy. After a while a cough sets in, at first dry, but attended in the course of a few months with expectoration of a greenish colour. The sufferer feels constantly tired, and sleep seems to afford him no rest. Nervousness, irritability, and evil forebodings follow. When rising suddenly, there is a giddiness, a sort of whirling sensation in the head. The bowels become costive; the skin is dry and hot at times; the blood becomes thick and stagnant; the whites of the eyes are tinged with yellow; the urine is scanty and high coloured, depositing a sediment after standing. There is frequently a spitting up of the food—at times with a sour taste and at others with a sweetish taste. This is often attended with palpitation of the heart or impaired vision, with spots before the eyes, accompanied by great prostration and weakness. All of these symptoms are in turn present. It is thought that nearly one-third of our population has this disease in some of its varied forms. Medical men have mistaken the nature of the malady. Its true name is Dyspepsia or Indigestion; for which a certain remedy is to be found in Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup—a medicine which has won in both hemispheres a confidence founded only on its great virtues. The Syrup can be obtained from any chemist or medicine vendor, or from the proprietors, A. J. WHITE (Limited), 17, Farringdon-road, London, E.C.

Mr. W. Bouchier, Eastover, Bridgwater, sends the following:—

"West Quay, Bridgwater,
"December 21st, 1883.

"DEAR SIR,—It affords me great pleasure to add my testimony to the wonderful effects of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. For a period of eight years I suffered from a severe cough and indigestion, with frequent attacks of rheumatism; and for eleven months I was under medical treatment, without deriving the slightest benefit. The last four doctors I was under, assured me that mine was a hopeless case, and gave me up as incurable. About that time I heard of Seigel's Syrup, which I was induced to try, and through its use, I am thankful to say, I quickly got restored to health, and am now able to follow my usual occupation. I may say that whenever I feel the least symptom of my old complaints I at once take a few doses of the Syrup, which quickly sets me all right. I send you this in the hope that other sufferers may be induced to give the Syrup a trial.—Yours truly, (Signed) "WM. RENDALL."

COUNTRY MARKETS.

(For Monday's London Market's see 8th page.)

BURY ST. EDMUND'S, October 22.—A small attendance here to-day, and a fair show of wheat, trade ruling dull at late rates. A good supply of barley with a slow sale, prices remaining without alteration.

Prices.—White wheat, 36s. to 38s.; red ditto, 33s. to 36s.; barley, 32s. to 38s.

CATTLE.—There was a good number of store beasts at market to-day, and there was more life in the trade. Store sheep were also pretty good, selling at about last week's prices. Fat bullocks and sheep with a great drop to-day, fully 1s. per stone cheaper. Pig trade very slow at last week's prices.

NUMBER OF STOCK AT MARKET.

Fat neat stock, 107; store ditto, 1052; Sheep, 1430; Pigs, 717; Horses, 12.

IPSWICH, October 21.—The wheat trade was slow to day, and the little business done was at last week's prices Fine malting barley was readily sold, but anything below in quality met a slow sale.

Prices.—White wheat, 36s. to 38s.; red ditto, 33s. to 35s.; barley (malting), 32s. to 38s.; ditto (grinding), 26s. to 29s.; beans (new), 34s. to 37s.; peas, 37s. to 39s. pr. qr.

Averages.—Wheat, 665¼ qrs., 33s. 11½d.; barley, 5222⅝ qrs., 33s. 4½d. per qr.

IPSWICH, October 21.—Notwithstanding a short supply at market, trade ruled slow generally, and last week's prices were barely maintained.

HADLEIGH, October 13.—*Averages*:—Wheat, 64 qrs. 4 bush., 33s. 4½d.; barley, 26 qrs. 264 bush., 31s. 5½d. per qr.

BRAINTREE, October 22.—The wheat trade remains without alteration in price and quantity. Barley a good supply. Quality varied, and prices about as last week. Feeding stuffs are still a slow sale.

Prices.—White wheat, 36s. to 40s.; red ditto, 32s. to 34s.; malting barley, 36s. to 40s.; runs, 24s. to 34s. per qr.

STOWMARKET, October 23.—The show of wheat to-day was not large, and the trade continues slow at about late prices. Of barley there was a good supply, and for good qualities prices are well maintained; grinding sorts are a slow sale.

Averages.—Wheat, 607 qrs., 32s. 3¾d.; barley, 1278 qrs., 33s. 6½d.

LYNN, October 21st.—A good attendance at market, and wheat maintained last Tuesday's prices. Barley—fine malting in request, and fully as dear; common slow sale without change in value. Beans and oats, late prices maintained.

Prices.—Wheat, white, new, 62lb. 63lb. to 64lb., 36s., 38s. to 40s. Ditto red, new, 62lb., 63lb. to 64lb., 32s., 35s., to 36s. Barley, malting, extra, 56lb. to 58lb., 34s. 36s. to 40s.; ditto, 54lb. to 55lb., 29s., 30s., 32s., to 33s., Oats, 40lb. to 42lb., 18s. to 24s. Peas, grey, 65lb. to 66lb., 34s. to 35s.

Averages.—Wheat, 1475 qrs., 6 bus., 31s. 6½d.; barley, 4313 qrs. 4 bus., 33s. 4d.; oats, 160 qrs., 18s. 0½d.

CATTLE.—There was a very large supply of shorthorn cattle of superior quality; they sold freely at from £9 to £26. For several lots of Irish cattle there was little or no demand; those sold realized from £7 to £18. Fat beasts and sheep were in fair supply, and maintained last week's rates. Store sheep were a moderate supply, but quite equal to the demand. The trade for pigs was quiet, at from 6s. 9d. to 7s. 6d. per stone. The numbers were: Beasts, 1235; sheep, 2438; pigs, 460; horses, &c., 50.

ELY, October 23.—Full attendance, but little business doing at late rates for all kinds except inferior samples of wheat, which were 6d per qr. less.

CATTLE.—Store stock plentiful, but rather slow sale. Cows in demand, and found a ready sale. Short supply of sheep and an early clearance. Pigs an average supply and trade at a trifle advance on late rates.

CHELMSFORD, October, 24.—There was a quiet demand for wheat to-day at the prices of last week.

Prices.—White wheat, 34s. to 38s.; red ditto, 32s. to 36s.; rivets, 29s. to 32s.; grinding barley, 25s. to 28s.; malting ditto, 28s. to 40s.; oats, 18s. to 22s.; grey peas, 39s. to 40s.; dun ditto, 34s. to 36s.; white ditto, —s. to —s.; tick beans, 32s. to 36s.; mazagan, 30s. to 33s.

Averages.—Wheat, 1742 qrs., 32s. 9¾d.; barley, 2927 qrs. 2 bus., 33s. 4½d.; oats, 50 qrs., 17s. 2½d. per qr.

SUDBURY, October 23.—Wheat a short supply, prices hardly so good as last week. Malting barley well maintained at its value, all useful qualities the turn dearer. Grinding corn firm.

LIVERPOOL, October 25.—Wheat inactive and sales difficult. Indian corn steady, and about 1d. per cental dearer.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, October 25.—English and foreign wheat slow. Prices in buyers' favour. New Scotch oats held for more money. Fine old oats firm, inferior qualities almost unsaleable. Barley unchanged.

PETERBOROUGH, October 25.—Wheat trade without animation; rates as last quoted. Barley in small supply, and inquiry dull at late prices. Oats maintained their previous value and sold steadily.

NORTHAMPTON, October 25.—Good attendance and supply. Trade in wheat was dull at last week's prices. Prices for barley firm.

NORWICH, October 25.—Supply of wheat fair, and prices for fine qualities may be quoted the same as of late. There was a full supply of barley offered, and good malting qualities maintained late prices. Secondary sorts were in slow demand.

Prices.—White wheat, 37s. to 39s. red ditto, 32s. to 34s.; best malting barley, 36s. to 38s.; runs ditto, 32s. to 35s.; secondary ditto, 26s. to 30s. per qr.

Averages: Wheat, 3724 qrs., 31s. 4d; barley, 12,938 qrs., 34s. 4d. per qr.

YORK, October 25.—A moderate show of grain. Wheat dull without change in price. Fine white, 37s. to 41s.; red and mixed, 33s. to 37s. per qr. of 36 stone. Fine barley, 34s. to 36s.; good, 30s. to 34s.; ordinary, 26s. to 30s. per qr. of 32 stone. Oats firm at 9d. to 10d. per stone.

BEDFORD, October 25.—A considerable quantity of grain on offer. Trade very dull, with a moderate demand. Prices about the same. Red wheat, 31s. to 32s. Barley a stiff sale except the choicest malting qualities. Oats steady.

CORN AVERAGES.

For the week ending Oct. 25, 1884.

	Quantities sold.		Average price.
	qrs.	bus.	s. d.
Wheat	66,043	5	32 4
Barley	151,108	7	31 9
Oats	12,017	5	18 11

A Comparative Statement for the corresponding Week in each of the Years from 1880 to 1883.

Yrs.	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.		Wheat		Barley		Oats	
	qrs.	bus.	qrs.	bus.	qrs.	bus.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
1880	45,075	6	82,164	0	4,875	1	43	7	35	11	21	8
1881	55,369	2	62,929	3	7,185	6	47	0	35	4	20	2
1882	50,609	5	80,628	7	6,431	4	40	3	35	4	19	10
1883	73,319	1	134,132	0	12,981	0	40	6	35	0	19	9

(Quantities sold: Wheat, Barley, Oats. Average price: Wheat, Barley, Oats.)

R. GIFFEN.

Board of Trade, Oct. 25, 1884.

STRATFORD MARKET.—PRICE LIST,

Week ending October 23rd, 1884.

The supplies to this market during the past week have been good, and, with a good attendance of buyers, a fair trade was transacted at the following prices:—

Cabbages	4s. to 6s. 6d. per talley.
Potatoes (Champions) ...	50s. to 65s. per ton.
" (Magnums)	50s. to 75s. "
" (Reading)	60s. to 70s. "
" (Beauty of Hebron)	70s. to 80s. "
Hay (clover)	95s. to 110s. per load.
" (meadow)	70s. to 85s. "
Straw	30s. to 36s. "
Chaff	70s. to 100s. per ton.
Mangolds	20s. to 23s. "
Swedes	24s. to 25s. "
Turnips	40s. to 50s. "
Onions (English)	80s. to 120s. per ton.
" (Spanish)	8s. to 10s. per case.
" (Dutch)	3s. 6d. to 4s. per bag.
Parsnips	100s. per ton.
Carrots (Cattle Feeding) ...	30s. to 35s. per ton.
" (Household)	40s. to 60s. "

Maize, barley, bran, salt, &c., at market prices.

THINGOE UNION HOUSE.

RETURN OF PAUPERS for the Week ending Oct. 22.

Class.	Bury Incorporation.	Thingoe Union.	Total.
Able men	0	0	0
Aged and disabled men ...	37	34	71
Able women	2	3	5
Aged and disabled women ...	20	22	42
Boys	18	19	37
Girls	13	12	25
Infants		2	2
Total	90	92	182
Vagrants	43	—	43

WIDOW WELCH'S PILLS FOR FEMALE COMPLAINTS.

MRS. SMITHERS, Grand-daughter to the Widow Welch, continues to prepare this celebrated Medicine from the only original and genuine Family Recipe.

Its just celebrity for all Female Complaints has obtained for it a most extensive and increasing demand. Purchasers should, therefore, attend to the following CAUTION—To be careful that what they purchase is prepared by Mrs. Smithers, who is the only person in possession of the ORIGINAL RECIPE. The genuine are wrapped in *Blue Paper*, and signed on the *Outside* label by Mrs. Smithers, and the names of the Sole Wholesale Agents, "W. EDWARDS & SON, 157, Queen Victoria-street," formerly of 67, St. Paul's, London, are engraved on the Government Stamp. Sold in boxes at 2s. 9d. each, by most Chemists. [94

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