Extracts from late English Papers.

THE BOER WAR.

The Georgia of last night contains the following despatch from Sir H. G. Smith, dated the 30th of August. It supplies the details of a complete victory obtained over the Boers at a place called Bloem Plaats. Immediately after intelligence of this important event reached the Cape a Government notice was issued, setting forth more briefly than the subjoined despatch does the history of the conflict:—

Camp "Bethany," two marches from Bloem Fontein, Aug. 30.

My Lord,—In continuation of my despatch to your Lordship of the 23rd inst., reporting that, by means of that most perfect and marvellous the earthbound pontoon fleet, I had established myself on the right bank of the deep and rapid Orange River, 200 yards in width, with four companies of the Cape Mounted Rifles, three 6 pounders, two companies of the Rifle Brigade, and two companies of the 45th Regiment. I have now the honor to state, that the detachment of the 91st Regiment having arrived on the 25th inst., was immediately carried over, with the exception of 50 men. These, with 20 at the Cape Town, were posted on the left bank of the river in charge of a boat and a baker, which, for the purpose of securing my communication, I had succeeded in passing across the stream.

I marched on the morning of the 27th instant, provided with 30 days' commissariat supplies, to Philippolis; and on the following day took possession of a strong position near "Vieter's Hoek." Up to this period no positive information had reached me as to the spot at which the rebels proposed to make a stand, although run our represented that they would probably do so at a place called "Bloem Plaats," on the Kroom Elem Bak River. A celebrated position for the interruption of a march. Early yesterday morning I received intelligence, much to be relied on, that such was their positive intention; and on my march on this position, in order of battle, a shepherd informed me that he had seen many fires during the night, and that he believed the whole rebel force was there strongly mounted, numbering about 1,000 men. I was soon sufficiently near to reconnoitre their position, of which, from my previous journey over Through the country I had some knowledge; my troops were prepared for the attack, and scarcely had the advanced party of mounted men, accompanied by myself, arrived within shot, when the rebels rang up, like the men of Rodericks Dhu, from behind bushes and rocks, every bright man in an instant, and they opened a well directed and very destructive fire.

The position chosen was a succession of ridges of hills on either side of a stream, called the Kroom Elem Bak, strongly undulating, and covered with large stones and bush, most favorable for the defence. Its advance was formed by a lower range, the hills on the opposite bank of the river being much higher, and consequently *en poleace* and in support.

The Cape Rifles, in advance, being by no means calculated, from being mounted, to stem this torrent of musketry, were ordered back, and the three guns opened a rapid and well-directed fire upon the points where the rebels appeared to be the most numerous. The Rifle Brigade, supported by the two companies of the 45th Regiment, were directed to attack their left flank, on which position, and the detachment of the 91st Regiment was held in reserve in the rear of the guns. A more rapid, fierce, and well-directed fire than that kept up by the rebels I have never seen maintained, and for some time they manfully held their ground, when a rush of the Rifle Brigade upon their left flank, of the 45th upon their left centre, and of the 91st, who I now brought into action, upon their right centre, carried everything before it, and gallantly dislodged the rebels. Meanwhile a fierce and determined conflict was going on between the Cape Mounted Rifles and the right of the rebels, who descended the hills far in their direction for the double purpose of turning my left flank and of insulating our baggage and commissariat stores, which were collected on the plain below.

I have seldom seen a sharper skirmish. The battle was soon fought, and a complete victory left to the fire of one of the guns, by which they were checked, and the gallant Hottentots, nobly headed by their officers, then drove them back pell mell into the hills. During this time the victors on our right had rapidly progressed, the rebels in about three quarters of an hour having been driven from their position on our side of the river, the higher ground upon the opposite bank of which they most obstinately endeavored to hold. The gallant efforts of our infantry along their centre and on their left were, however, soon crowned with success; and at the same moment their right was driven by the Cape Corps across our front, by passing which they some time gain the road leading over the neck of a range of hills by which they must retire. They were thus exposed to the fire of two of our guns posted on the hill first carried by the Rifle Brigade and 45th Regiment, and from which they suffered greatly.

At this time Lieutenant Colonel Buller, of the Rifle Brigade, who, with much judgment, gallantry and ability, showed great knowledge of his profession in the commencement of the attack, was, by vigorously endeavoring to intercept the retreat of the rebels I deeply regret to say, very severely, though I hope not dangerously, wounded above the knee, the same shot killing his horse; and I was thus deprived of his services at a moment when they were much required.

The rebels, thus driven at every point from their position, endeavored to make a final stand at the neck in the high ridge of hills behind it previously alluded to, and which they successfully maintained against the Cape Mounted Rifles, and a body of about 250 Griquas, who this morning joined me under their faithful chiefs, Waterboer and Adam Kok.

The guns and infantry were, however, advancing as rapidly as the heat of the day would permit, and the neck, the last hold of the rebels, was wrested from them.

One of the most severe skirmishers ever, I believe, witnessed thus terminated in the complete success of Her Majesty's troops, aided by the best intentions on the part of the Griquas chiefs, whose conduct merits my perfect approbation.

A conflict of this nature, in a position so formidable, cannot be attended with complete success without considerable loss. The rebels left dead upon the field 49 men, 12 having been killed by one cannon shot; and their wounded is, of course, in proportion. A great number of arms were thrown away, and many horses taken. The Boer never fights without his horse, from which he usually dismounts to fire over the saddle; and consequently, when vigorously pressed, he has no time to remount. The loss on our side has I sincerely regret to say, been also considerable, viz., one officer mortally, and six severely wounded; and eight men killed, and 39 wounded.

The gallant conduct of every officer and soldier calls for my warmest encomium; and renders it my imperative duty to impress upon your Lordship the merits of the troops as deserving Her Majesty's gracious consideration. In doing so, I beg leave to point out to your Lordship the difficulties of the service in which I have been engaged, owing to the necessity of passing the Orange River, and the immense distance, in this wild country, of one point from another; and likewise to assure your Lordship that the nature of the rebel position was such as to call forth, not only judgment, but personal gallantry, on the part of the different officers, who I therefore venture to hope may be deemed to merit Her Majesty's gracious favor.

Lieutenant-Colonel Buller has very fully evinced his talent for his command, and his gallantry in the discharge of his duty. Two officers' experience, and that of Major Beckwith, in superintending and effecting the passage of the Orange River, were invaluable as instrumental in its important object. Major Sidney Beckwith, of the Rifle Brigade, a nephew of the late veteran of that name, [illegible] at once rifle regiment, greatly distinguished himself in the command of the Infantry, and has succeeded Colonel Buller in the command of the troops. To Captain Blackiston, commanding the detachment of the 91st Regiment; and to Lieutenant Dyneley, commanding the Royal Artillery, an officer of great promise, the service is warmly indebted; and of Captain Armstrong, in command of the Cape Mounted Rifles, I cannot speak in terms of too great praise. In fact, every officer and soldier performed the arduous and gallant duty demanded of him, in avenging the insult and indignity thrown upon Her Majesty's authority, as per early reported to your Lordship in detail. Major Warden, the British Resident, was with me; and by his exertions, was [illegible]

The only officers [illegible]

I have been obliged, however, to leave some of them at a farmhouse near the field of action. In other countries, where distances are moderate, communications are generally simple; here nothing can be accomplished under a ride of from 20 to 30 miles, through a country abandoned by its inhabitants; and the difficulty attending the preservation of war under such circumstances exceeds belief, requiring all the energy of experience.

As everything must be carried with the army, a train of 150 commissariat waggons has been necessary; and for the arrangements connected with this department the service and the troops are much indebted to Deputy-Assistant Commissary-General Green.

I must not omit to bring to your Lordship's notice Mr Richard Southey, my secretary, as Her Majesty's High Commissioner, in his direct position, is most unseemly; but his exertions in assisting the passage of the Orange River, and his endeavors to obtain information respecting the rebels, have been of the greatest utility. His courage was conspicuous also in the field.

No prisoners were taken, for none of the rebels would yield. Captain Armstrong was treacherously wounded by a man to whom he offered quarters, and this was not the only instance of its being refused.

I followed up the success obtained until dark, and again marched two hours before daylight this morning, with the efficient portion of my troops, in the hope of overtaking the rebels, and capturing their train of waggons, said to be 93 in number; after, however, a long march to the abandoned missionary station, destroyed and guarded by the rebels, I have seen nothing but herd and wounded have left upon the road, the spoor of track of the insurgents being visible in every direction as if they had fled in dismay. A few have just been brought in to my camp, who describe them as having hurried off in haste and threes, and that the cause is regarded as hopeless.

I shall reach Bloem Fontein on the 24 proximo, by which time I shall have been joined, if my anticipations be correct, by a great many loyal inhabitants; and when my proceedings shall take a legal and most determined turn.

I have, &c.,

H. G. SMITH.

The Right Hon. Earl Grey, Secretary of State.

A list of killed and wounded is enclosed.

N. B.—Since I closed this despatch, two rebels have been brought in, taken near the field of battle. If found to have taken a prominent part I shall try them by a general court-martial, on arrival at Bloem Fontein, and the sentence shall determine their fate.

The friendly Boers are gathering thickly around me in great delight at their future prospects. I am forming a police [illegible] to be published at Bloem Fontein, a copy of which shall be transmitted to your Lordship at my second.

H. G. SMITH.

Return of Killed and Wounded in Action with the Rebel Boers, at Bloem Plaats, 29th of August, 1848.

General Staff.—2 horses wounded.

45th Regiment (Reserved Battalion)—1 man killed, 19 men wounded.

91st Regiment (Reserved Battalion.)—1 officer, 2 men, wounded.

Rifle Brigade.—3 men, 2 horses, killed; 2 officers, 12 men, wounded.

Cape Mounted Rifles—1 man, 2 horses, killed; 4 officers, 6 men, 11 horses, wounded.

Total.—8 men, 11 horses, killed; 7 officers, 39 men, 13 horses, wounded.

OFFICERS WOUNDED.

Lieutenant-Col. Buller, Rifle Brigade, severely.

Captain Murray, Rifle Brigade, mortally (since dead.)

Captain Armstrong, Cape Mounted Rifles, severely.

Lieutenant Salis, Cape Mounted Rifles, dangerously.

Lieutenant Mill, Cape Mounted Rifles, severely.

Ensign Steele, Cape Mounted Rifles, dangerously.

Ensign Compton, 91st Regiment, dangerously.

Ensign Cameron, 91st Regiment, dangerously.

[illegible]

HOW TO EARN AN HONEST SHILLING.—One morning during the late racing meeting at Worcester a gentleman was riding up the course, when he was accosted by a groom—(a boy) "Please, Sir, your horse has got a stone in his tail. I'll pick it out if you'll throw me a shilling." Setting the action to the word, he caught up the animal's off hind leg, and after a minute or two spent in working about it, produced a tolerably sized pebble, observing, as he touched his leg by way of adding grace to his remark, "There it is, yer honor, 'ouff to have lamed for life an 'onder ginty 'unter." The "honor," completely imposed upon, pulling out a shilling, bestowed it on the fellow with thanks for his timely attention, and rode off. The whole transaction had taken place in the immediate present of half-a-dozen of the groom and other fraternity then looking at the race-horses taking their exercise, and it was quite clear that the ingenious extractor of the stone had commenced the operation by picking it up from the course, and only pretended to extract it from the horse's hoof, which was as free from stones as last year's snow. Amazed at this successful offenders of their brother, one of the fraternity ejaculated, "Well, I'm blest, if this here aint the nimmest game as ever I seed!" "Is it, sponey?" quoth York.—"I'll pose your cove's 'stonished, and so you may: it did be some time afore you idle rascals there id think o' such a thing as arnin' an honest shilling in that way."

Worcester Herald.

SUBMARINE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN ENGLAND AND IRELAND.—The more speedy transmission of intelligence across the Irish channel, and improved means of communication between the sister islands, will be secured by the determination of the Government to take advantage of the facilities afforded by the submarine electric telegraph.

The Lord Commissioners of the Admiralty have given permission to Charles Blunt, Esq., civil engineer, to effect a communication by laying down his submarine telegraph between Holyhead and Dublin.

CHOLERA IN GLASGOW.—The cases reported at the Police office note on Tuesday night, and on Wednesday, are [illegible] No cases of this malady were reported at the Central Police office on Thursday. Much dissatisfaction exists in Glasgow in reference to the unofficial manner in which the cases have been reported.—*Edinburgh Witness.*

"TYRANT RIGHT" INTERPRETED.—The following appeared in the *Cork Constitutionist*:—"Last week a tenant in this county, who owed a year and a half's rent, called upon his landlord, and expressing his anxiety to lay down two fields with wheat, requested to be lent a pair of horses to plough the ground. The request was granted, and after four days the horses were returned. The landlord being desirous to see how the work had been executed, visited the farm the day after the horses came home, and found that the fields were unploughed, upon which he went to his tenant's house, but he was not at home, and the house was occupied by an apparent pauper. On further inquiry, it appeared the horses were used to remove all the crops and furniture, which were sold, and the occupier refused to surrender possession unless he got £20, asserting that he gave £10 for the tenant-right!"

BANK OF ENGLAND.—Another specimen of ingenious fraud has been discovered at this establishment. A few days ago a note for £1,000 was presented for payment. The inspector examined it, found it genuine, looked in the numbers of the stopped notes, and seeing that the note presented was not among the [illegible] two £500 notes were given in exchange for which gold was procured almost immediately. On the following day it was discovered that the leading figure of the number had been dexterously changed, and that 94825 was altered to 04825. It required the sharp eye of a chemist to detect the change; and as no blame can be attached to the inspector, we presume the "test" will be reduced by the amount paid in error. The figure was so well inserted that on ordinary examination was equal to its discovery.—The note thus sent in formed one of a series of which a Bank clerk was defrauded a few years ago.

BRITISH WEST INDIES.—An arrival at New Orleans from Kingston, Jamaica, brings accounts down to the 14th of December.

The House of Assembly had come into strong collision with the Council, and had voted that they would not pass any bill raising a revenue beyond the 15th February next, until a measure of retrenchment, consonant with the impoverished condition of the island, be passed into law. In referring to this, the *Journal* says:—"In consequence of the [illegible] last night, it seems scarcely [illegible] can hold together for any length of time. The Governor, for the sake of the revenue, may possibly allow them to linger on, but that an appeal must soon be made to the great body of electors there seems now to be little doubt."

Pickings from Punch.

CATECHISMS FOR THE HUSTINGS.

We have serious thoughts of publishing a series of little manuals, under the above title, that should contain a summary of questions likely and unlikely to be asked of Candidates, with answers calculated not to satisfy the minds, but to stop the mouths of the questists, the latter being the great object in such cases. Of course, there should be separate manuals for different parties. The following may serve as a specimen:—

TORY MANUAL.

Q. How do you define our glorious Constitution in Church and State?

A. That state of things dictated by the wisdom of our ancestors, for the advantage of ourselves and the amazement of posterity.

Q. Are you prepared to stand upon the old paths?

A. I am, and to keep off all trespassers.

Q. What are the old paths?

A. Those which begin, like charity, at home, and lead, like officers of the army, to glory. The Nobility, Gentry, and Dignified Clergy are their trustees; they are paved with good intentions; their "pikes" must be paid, and therefore none but those with a money qualification can travel along them.

Q. Who pays for keeping up those paths?

A. The Public.

Q. Who has the administration of the road fund?

A. The Aristocracy.

Q. Will you maintain the Church?

A. I will—comfortably.

Q. Will you keep up the Exclusion of the Dissenters from the Universities?

A. I will. Churchmen don't ask for admission to Coward College, or Highbury—Why should Dissenters to Oxford or Cambridge.

Q. What do you understand by meum and tuum?

A. *Meum*, is all I can get. *Tuum*, is all others can prevent me from getting.

Q. What would you teach the poor?

A. Their duties.

Q. What would you teach the rich?

A. Their rights.

Q. What is your object in seeking for a seat in the House of Commons?

A. To advocate your interests and push my own.

Q. What is your opinion of the Ballot?

A. That is Un-English, as tending to withdraw the votes from the influence of his natural superiors?

Q. Will you oppose any extension of the Suffrage?

A. I will. If votes were given to all, they would cease to command any price in the market.

It will be obvious how this idea may be applied to other schools of politics. If carried out, it might save young gentlemen from that sort of painful exposure to which the Hon. Charles Fitzwilliam was lately so cruelly exposed to in the West Riding.

PLEDGES FOR SALE.

Louis Napoleon has been severely taunted because he has given no pledges he has drawn from his uncle must be obvious to everybody. For fear they should not be generally known, we subjoin a correct list of them:—

The Three Concorded Hats.—Formerly there was a great deal in this little hat, but it is greatly to be regretted that it should be now worn on one side.

2. *La Redingote Grise.*—This has been so mauled, so pulled about, and dragged in the mud, that it is scarcely recognisable, from the numerous stains that are upon it.

3. *The Cold Boots.*—Very much trodden under foot, and trampled out of all shape, from having been worn by a person whom they evidently did not fit.

4. *The Imperial Snuff-Box.*—Quite dry—not a pinch left in it, to throw into the eyes of a single person.

5. *Several proclamations, a telescope, a fur coat worn at Moscow, a sword used at the bridge of Lodi, a tin medal of the war crown of Lombardy, the copies found at the coronation at Notre Dame, two or three of the cocked hats of Marmont "les braves" on the memorable return from Elba, one of the flags embroidered at Fontainebleau, and other articles, far too numerous to mention.*

The only question is, whether France is likely to be redeemed by pledges of the above second-hand nature.

A SHORT DIALOGUE AT "MIVART'S"

SCENE.—The Baby-on bedchamber. Molly Maybree among a Scarlet Bed.

(Waiter without.)

Waiter. Molly! Molly Maybree!

Molly. What's that, then; what is it?

Waiter. You wouldn't see the Scarlet Bed.

Molly. And it's to myself you say that? Needn't air the bed?

Waiter. No.

Molly. Why, no?

Waiter. There's another message from the Electric Telegraph, and the Pope isn't coming.

"MY PROPHETIC SOUL! MY UNCLE!"—Of all men no one has been more indebted to his Uncle than Louis Napoleon; for it is very clear he never could have gained the smallest advance without him.

BAITING THE CANDIDATE.

This is a new game, very much played in Yorkshire, and it is considered very great fun for the baiters, if not for the baited.

In order to play it, you must first catch your candidate—if you can get two at once it is still better—and shut him up in a hustings, open in front, or in a large room with a balcony, or you may let him run loose on a platform. You then send in baiters upon him—one at a time, if you wish to give him fair play, though, we regret to say, several are often turned in on him at once. The baiters are then allowed to throw all sorts of questions at him, and to poke him up with interrogatories, while he wards them off as well as he can, or dodges them. He is not allowed any books of reference, and must encounter the baiters without any defensive armour of facts and figures. All questions are fair, and the more they defy a short answer the better. The candidate is not prevented from parrying with nonsense or humbug, and is expected to keep his temper. He may be baited as long as the electors like, or until his wind is completely gone. When two are baited at once, additional fun may be produced by encouraging them to worry each other.

WHAT IS THE SEA-SERPENT?

1. The Mrs. Harris of the ocean!
2. An offspring of the adder tribe!
3. A mare's nest found among Mother Cary's chickens!
4. A great seal, dropped from Davy Jones's midnight watch!
5. A tenant—in tail—of the deep!
6. An infinite deal of nothing!

MESSRS.—*The Great Sea Serpent.*—Had on, when last met with, a bunch of sea-weed round his neck, a seal-skin coat, with a very long tail; and in "continuations" of a most extensive character. He had been going lately to very great lengths; but his friends fear that he may have come to an untimely end, for when last seen, he appeared to be almost at his last extremities. He need not be afraid to make his appearance again, and unfold himself without scruple; but he must embrace the present opportunity, or he is for ever lost.

KITCHEN STUFF.

An advertisement in the *Globe* a few days ago informs us of the establishment, at Bristol, of a School for Domestic Servants, and the piano was mentioned as being taught at this novel establishment. We have no objection to a School for Servants—a class requiring to be schooled rather severely sometimes—but what they want with the piano somewhat puzzles us. Perhaps it may be useful to them to know how to play quadrilles when, the fiddle being out, there is a division of the policeman, the lamplighter, the groom-porter, and other friends of the culinary department; but for ordinary use, a knowledge of music seems to be somewhat de trop in an education intended to fit the pupil for a career of domestic service. Cooks, housemaids, and nurses are crotchetty enough already, without putting musical, as well as other crotchets into their heads; and unless the piano used for teaching are semi-grands and semi-quavers—forming a sort of half-and-half between harmony on the one hand and household duty on the other—we do not see how the new scheme of education can be at all satisfied. We presume the instruments will be applied with metallic plates; but if our pianos are carried out, earthenware plates may be added. There is perhaps after all some affinity between music and pots and pans, for the comparison of a piano to an old tin kettle is by no means unusual.

DOMESTIC BLISS.

Paterfamilias. "I cannot conceive, my love, what is the matter with my watch; I think it must want cleaning."

Pet Child. "Oh no! Papa dear. I don't thing it wants cleaning, because Bay and I had it washing in the basin for ever so long this morning!"

☞ A TRULY GERMAN NAME.—The President of that turbulent body of legislators, the Prussian Chamber—himself the defender of very extreme opinions—is name, by the journals, M. Unruh. There must be some mistake here. We believe that the proper name of this gentleman is Unruly.

ADVICE TO SPANISH BONDHOLDERS.

Spanish Bondholders, robbed by Spaniards—who are so proud that they scorn to pay—listen to the advice of *Punch*. Listen; be righted; be remunerated.

General Narvaez, President of the Council, has prigged, since 1843, a quarter an million of money.

Mon, the Minister of Finance (avers the *Times*) has prigged no less.

Sartorius, the Minister of the Interior, no less.

This, then, oh Spanish waste-paper holders, is the advice of *Punch*. Set up a crucible. Catch Narvaez, Mon, and Sartorius, and (after the manner of the Jesuits) pitch them into the aforesaid crucible. Blow the fire; and when the Ministers are dissolved, skim the dross, and pocket the gold that has run from them.

If we say nothing of Queen Isabella, it is from no squeamish gallantry; no desire to save her; but from the fact that she is beyond the test of the crucible, inasmuch as she was never known to melt.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.—SHAMEFUL EXPOSURE OF TRAFALGAR SQUARE.

"MR. PUNCH,

"I, with thousands, have to complain of the Electric Light. It is an attention impertinent and presumptuous. Neither than a clear attempt to destroy the vested interests of a revered institution of darkness, old as Nox—and an undisguised intention to abolish the stars in a twinkling, and take the entire shine out of the moon.

"And where is this Electric Light displayed as "a fast experiment out of doors?"—Why, Sir—(I take my authority from the newspapers)—in front of the National Gallery. Now, there is something heartless, cruel, in the choice of such a place. Why, as a sweet poet says, why drag its frailties from their dark abode, hunting as they are for some hours of the four-and-twenty in the obscurity of the sky? And yet, the light was so placed as to illume the whole of Trafalgar Square, the rays reaching as far as Northumberland House. The very lion at the top winked at the blaze. This is shameful. Are the fountains of the square to have their, as the writer declares, 'conspicuous as at noon-day?' Is this fair? Is it humane? Is it gentlemanly? It was some consolation to think that—at night, at least—the National Gallery was covered up in darkness, and so protected from the sneers and laughter of the hordes of foreigners who crowd our streets. But with the Electric Light, the gallery is spoilt for the stranger any hour of the four-and-twenty. And this evil is by no means properly balanced by a few of the advantages said to obtained by the lightweer gas; though, as a lover of justice, I will not suppress them, as, from the mouthes of certain people, they have strangely reached me.

"One gentleman (by the aid of the Electric Light) said—'He could read writing that had entirely escaped his naked eye. Standing in the Square and pulling out his washing-bill, he saw written at the bottom, the word *paid*. Thought very high of the Electric Light.'

"Another gentleman, who betes had the highest opinion of his cook, saw, afar as the Horse-Guards, the aforesaid Mary Jones handing up a pigeon-pie to the mounted gentleman. Could swear to the pie. Thought the Electric Light would be a great agent in public morality.

"Lord Nelson, by the aid of the Light, could see so inconceivably far into the future, that he saw his Pillar completed.

"All the pictures in the Vernon Pit saw themselves most infamously placed. Hitherto, they had been wholly in the dark upon the subject.

"George the Fourth (in bronze) saw himself as he is seen in history; and bought the Electric Light impertinent and disgusting.

"The Duke of York (on the top of his Column) saw all his unpaid bills, and conceived the Electric Light to be a shameless invasion on the sanctity of private dealings.

"Mrs. Stubbs saw Mr. Stubbs smoking a cigar in a shop at Charing Cross, at the very time when Stubbs declared he should be at a 'heavy consultation.' Believes the Electric Light will be a blessing to families.

"Mr. Benjamin Disraeli, standing opposite the Treasury, by the astonishing power of the Electric Light saw himself—in office.

"With this, *Mr. Punch*, I close my list; and I leave it to you to determine whether or not the evils of the Light do not cast its allegedly excellencies into utter darkness. Not that I have any interest in the subject, being merely one of the public, and

"A GAS CONTRACTOR."

THE SONG OF THE SOCIALIST SISTERS.

(As sung at the Ladies' Democratic Clubs in Paris, with great applause.)

Like Muffs the men to work have gone,
And Europe's sad to see,
With kings scattering on the throne,
And Empires all a-gee.
The world must be "g-ad up" again,
Its causes smoothed and eyes,
Upcome ye then, my merry women,
It is our mangling day.

Our husbands they may smoke more,
Or bake, or fry, or stew;
While we the mangle solid restore,
And make it good as new.
Lords of creation—fire men,
At last we have our way;
Upcome ye then, my merry women,
It is our mangling day.

No husband's mission own so now,
To bully or to bore;
"Obedience" of the marriage vow
Shall form a part no more.
Till now we've ruled by stout arm,
Henceforth we'll rule by smart;
Upcome ye then, my merry women,
For this is Lady day.

The Right of Labor we'll proclaim
In front of the mole;
Our new *coulour de rose* shall flame
The Red Republic pale.
Latchkeys or Clubs, who dare to name,
With life shall forfeit pay;
Upcome ye then, my merry women,
For this is Lady day.

POTTED DEFINITIONS.—The Gentlemen-at-Arms are the Royal Police.

Jullien's Concerts are the Crush-room of the Nobility.

The Bourbons are the Wandering Jews of Royalty.

The Barricade is only a brother, on the French side, of Jack Cade.

The Vernon Gallery is the Black Hole of British Artists.

The American Sea Serpent is the Chisholm Anstey of Wigs.

The Quadrant in Regent Street is said by the *Times* to be the most shameful retreat that ever disgraced the Brit[illegible]

The *Gypsies in Spain* have been highly extolled for their cleverness; but we should instance the Spanish Bonds as the most finished work of Borrow.

St. Paul's and Westminster Abbey are the greatest exhibitions of meanness ever shown by a country.

"*La Propriété c'est le vol,*" is certainly the only property that appertains to American literature.

Original Poetry.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC, AND INSTRUCTIONS TO POSTMASTERS.

I. A postal treaty has been entered into between Great Britain and the United States, placing the correspondence between the two countries, the mail packets of each government, and the postage charges upon an equal and reciprocal footing.

II. Letters posted or charged in the United States will be rated at a half ounce to the single letter, over a half and not exceeding an ounce and a half, as a treble letter, and so on each half ounce or fractional excess constituting a rate. In England the half ounce limits the single letter, the full ounces the double letter, but on letters exceeding the ounce and not exceeding two ounces, four rates are charged; also, three ounces, six rates are charged; that is, two rates are imposed for each excess over an ounce.

III. The single rate to be charged on each letter posted in the United States addressed to any place in Great Britain or Ireland is 24 cents., the double rate 43 cents, the triple rate 72 cents, and so on according to the United States scale of progression to weight. See No. 2.

IV. Like single, double, triple, &c., rates will be collected on each letter, according to its weight, which is posted in Great Britain or Ireland may be prepared, if the whole amount is tendered at the office in the United States, where mailed, at the option of the sender.

VI. Newspapers may be mailed at any office in the United States to any place in the United Kingdom on the pre-payment of 2 cents, and may on receipt from any place in Great Britain or Ireland, be delivered at any office in the United States on payment of 2 cents.—Note.—Each government is to be charged 2 cents on each newspaper. These are to be sent in bands or covers, open at the sides or ends, and to contain no manuscript whatever.

VII. On each pamphlet to be sent to any place in the United Kingdom and on each pamphlet received therefrom there is to be prepaid in the first place, and charged and collected in the second, one cent for each ounce in weight, or a fractional excess of an ounce. These are to be sent in bands or covers, open at the ends or sides so as readily to be examined, and to contain no manuscript whatever.

VIII. On letters addressed to any place in British North America, not to be conveyed by sea, there shall be charged a postage equal to the United States postage and the province postage combined; but, as this Department is not yet informed of the British province rates, the United States postage to the lines will be charged, and pre-payment thereof required, until the details are ascertained and settled, as required by the twenty-first article of the treaty. United States postage on newspapers to Canada and other British provinces is to be prepaid.

IX. On letters to be sent to any foreign country or British possession, and mailed for that purpose to any post office in the island of Great Britain, there must be prepaid, if sent by a British packet, five cents the single rate, and if by an American packet, twenty-one to weight.

X. On letters received from foreign countries or English possessions, through the London or any other post office in Great Britain, to be delivered in the United States, the foreign and British postage is to be prepaid: and what remains to be collected on delivery here in such cases is simply the United States postage—five cents, single, if brought by a British packet; twenty-one cents if brought by an American paket; forty cents if such letters are delivered at San Francisco, Astoria, or any other place in the territory of the United States, on the Pacific, when brought to an Atlantic port by a British steamship; and fifty-six cents if brought by an American steamship.

XI. On British or foreign letters received in the United States, to be forwarded to the West Indies by American packets, or any place on the Gulf of Mexico, to Chagres or Panama in the United States' mails, the single postage charge will be (as the British postage and the postage arising in its transit to Great Britain must be prepaid) twelve and a half cents if to Havana, twenty cents if to any other place in the West Indies or on the Gulf of Mexico, or to Chagres; thirty cents if to Panama, with sixteen cents added if brought to the United States from Great Britain in an American packet.

XII. Care is to be taken to see that all American postage on letters from Havana, from other places in the Gulf of Mexico, from our Pacific possessions, and from the British North American provinces, is paid in the United States before the same is despatched by mail to Gret Britain.

XII. newspapers for countries beyond Great Britain may be sent on the pre payment of two cents each—also pamphlets as stipulated under No. 7—and newspapers and pamphlets received from countries beyond Great Britain are to be delivered on payment of the two cents for each newspaper, and one cent per ounce in weight of each pamphlet.

XIV. Postmasters are cautioned to write on their post bills, opposite each entry of a foreign letter, newspaper or pamphlet, posted by them respectively, the word "foreign"—the better to enable the post-masters of New York and Boston and others that may be designated, to make a separate quarterly report of the amount of foreign postage.

XV. The post-masters of Boston and New York will be specially instructed as to the closed mails contemplated by the treaty, the mode of keeping their accounts of foreign postage, and of mailing and acknowledging receipt of foreign matter.

C. JOHNSON, P. M. General.

Post Office Department,
January 8, 1849.

THE CANADIAN RECIPROCITY BILL IN THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

By the Telegraph report given below it will be seen that the consideration of this bill has been postponed by the Senate the *Colonist* with its usual disregard to truth, states that the Bill has been lost.

CONGRESSIONAL SENATE.

WASHINGTON, January 8, 1848.

The bill for the extension of a reciprocal trade in certain articles of produce between Canada and the United States was taken up. Dix supported the motion and showed the advantages that would result to the United States by free interchange of commerce, of the produce of the respective countries; he considered the measure would augment commercial intercourse, and extend the facilities of trade. Pierce spoke in opposition, he thought the advantages would be all on side of Canada. Hunter opposed it as unequal, and said that it would prove very prejudicial to agricultural and very favourable to manufacturing interests.—Miles supported the bill. Phillips offered an amendment to include manufactures of cotton, leather, and wool. Wescott expressed his intention to vote in the affirmative. Downs said that the constitution enjoins the imposition of equal duties in all States. The practical operation of this would prove the reverse of this doctrine; under it, trade would be made free at the North, while the same trade would be taxed at the South; he would vote against the bill. Metcalfe said, the bill was partial, sectional, and local in its character; he was opposed to it and moved to lay the bill on the table. Dix wished an opportunity to answer objections. The bill was then informally passed over.

THE GOLD EXPERIMENT.—By advertisements which appear in several of the early papers it will be seen that the Gold mining fever reached Nova Scotia [illegible] times, says the Schooner Hope [illegible] gold so [illegible] as a sufficient number of adventurers will engage in a partnership. We have also heard, but do not vouch for the truth of the report, that two vessels are fitting out at Liverpool, N. S., for the same destination.

☞ EXTRA SESSION OF THE U. S. SENATE.—The President has issued notice to the members of the United States Senate calling them together in Executive Session on the 5th day of March next, in order that they may sit upon such nominations as may then be made by the President elect.

TWENTY-ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS STOLEN.—A GREAT BANK ROBBERY.—The *Augusta (Me.) Age*, of the 2nd inst., gives the following information of the robbery of the Augusta Bank. The loss is said to be upwards of $21,000, which has not yet been recovered, and no clue is had to the robbers. That paper says:—

"The Augusta Bank was broken open between Saturday night and Monday morning, and the following taken: 13 square boxes of silver $500 each; 6 bags of silver, 250 to $300 each; a package or bag of gold, $3,415; a package of sovereigns, $5,000; foreign bills, about $4,000; a package of foreign bills, amount unknown, directed to J. C. Brewer, Ticonic Bank. The President of the Bank has offered a reward of $1,000. The Augusta Bank is situated in the basement of the new hotel, which forms a part of the brick block recently erected on Water street. The hotel is unfinished and unoccupied. The vault of the bank adjoins one of the lower rooms of the hotel, and is only separated from it by a brick wall one foot thick. The mortar used in the construction of this wall is comparatively green. The burglar first entered the room adjoining the vault, and with a small crowbar knocked away the bricks sufficiently to afford an entrance to the vault. The plundered property was confined in a safe of most approve construction, secured by Hull's celebrated gunpowder lock. It was opened by a key which must have been prepared before the safe was put into the vault. When the plunder had been removed, the safe was cooly locked again. In the hurry in leaving the building, a box containing $500 in specie was dropped outside, besides some $50 in scattered pieces. A more definite statement than that given above, makes the loss of the bank $21,562 in specie, of which about $9,000 was silver besides foreign bills, amounting to about $1,000 belonging to the Augusta Bank, and a package (value unknown) belonging to the Ticonic Bank."

Sessional Subscribers.

ALL persons remitting TWO DOLLARS will be furnished with the DAILY BRITISH WHIG for FOUR MONTHS, including the ensuing Session of Parliament; and all persons remitting ONE DOLLAR will be furnished with the WEEKLY BRITISH WHIG for the same period.

*** Arrangements have been made with the Telegraph Company, so as to ensure the earliest and most correct Parliamentary Intelligence; as well as the News from Europe.

Kingston, Jan. 1 1849.

BRITISH WHIG.

"Opifer per Orbem Dicor."

FRIDAY EVENING, JAN'Y. 19, 1849.

ENLARGEMENT OF THE CITY.

The commencement of a new Session of Parliament is again the occasion of compelling respect to the long deferred justice of enabling the County of Frontenac of a host of electors, who possess no agricultural interest; and of enlarging the limits of the City of Kingston to a size more proportionate to its lofty sounding title. We allude to the enclosing of the large and populous suburb, built on Lot No. 24, within the city limits.

It is one of the reproaches which rest upon the memory of Lord Sydenham, that he was unscrupulous in the means of obtaining political influence. The injuries which he inflicted upon Quebec and Montreal, by contracting the electoral limits of those cities, have long since been redressed. When the Franco-Canadian party obtained power and influence, under Lord Sydenham's successor, Sir Charles Bagot, the first thing done was to enfranchise the suburbs of Montreal and Quebec. That a like justice was not done to Kingston, was owing to delicacy on the part of the French leaders. They were aware of the unanimosity of allowing a populous suburb to control a whole county, but they left the evil to be remedied by the Upper Canadian members. Unfortunately, the present state of things secured the return of two Conservatives to the House of Assembly; and as in Western Canada, the Conservatives were still in power, as a matter of course, nothing was done in the business. It has been left to the justice of Mr. Baldwin and his brother Reformers, to redress a great political grievance in a city and a suburb, exclusively the property of his political opponents.

It may naturally be asked, why do not the members for the city and county interfere and obtain the required justice from the Legislature? A word from these gentlemen would do the business at once. Alas! from them no aid can reasonably be expected:—they are much too interested in the preservation of things as they are, to stir one foot in the affair. What may be the Hon. J. A. McDonald's particular objection to benefit the city which sends him to Parliament, we know not:—we can however, give a shrewd guess. At election times, the Irish portion of his constituents give him so much trouble, and occasion him so much expense, that he can have no inclination to double the number, which would most assuredly be the case, were Lot No. 24 incorporated within the city limits. A kinder feeling, but still a selfish one, may prompt Mr. Henry Smith in his opposition and obstinacy. The inhabitants of Lot No. 24 were the first who raised him to parliamentary power:—they returned him for the County of Frontenac! Sitting for so many years he has made friends among the real electors of the county, and might, if he pleased set Lot No. 24 at defiance; but a principle of gratitude probably restrains him from deserting his early friends; and thus it is shewn, how little is to be expected from the co-operation of the members for the city and county.

Another question occurs:—why do not the County and City petition the Parliament for redress? This is much easier said than done. Some years ago the inhabitants of Frontenac did petition the Parliament; but the moment the petition was prepared and sent round for signatures, the inhabitants of Lot No. 24 got up a cry of "Radical Petition," and they not only unanimously signed a counter petition, but contrived also to get it numerously signed by their political friends in the county and city. Thus, when the petition came before the House, the member for the county was enabled to point to a more numerously signed counter petition, and the affair was dropped. And with respect to the City, be it known, that this said Lot No. 24 has grown so large, and become so populous and wealthy, that it not only controls the county, but actually overawes the city. Take the present constitution of the City Council as a proof of this assertion. Of the twenty members, eight are inhabitants of Lot No. 24. Messrs. Counter, Flanagan, Wiley, Breden,