THOS. WARFIELD (coloured)—I polled the first vote. Mr. Hughes asked me for my vote about a week before the election. He came to my house about eleven o'clock in the forenoon. Mr. Westley was with me. Mr. Follett came with Mr. Hughes. He said, "I want you to support me." I said, "I can't do it." He said he could help the town and help the poor, and that his wealth was great. He said I could vote for him and no one would know it. He saw me three times altogether. The last time he came with a coloured gentleman, a stranger to me, and I said I wouldn't vote for him, and he said if I would he would make me able to ride in a carriage the same as Mr. Plumb and Mr. Dickson.

Case not proved.

PETER FRIESMAN—I was asked for my vote before the election. Mr. Wm. Cudney came to my house on the Sabbath before the election and told me he was not paying any money, but his brother-in-law, Mr. John Warner, and a stranger would be up in a quarter of an hour. About that time Warner and a stranger with a red beard did come. The stranger said, "If you will go with us for Mr. Hughes you just name it and I will give it, I have got it here on the spot and will pay you." I said I would go to St. David's on election day, and they went away. Mr. Neil Black saw me at St. David's, and told me all I had to do was to name it and I would get it. Mr. Graham was with me. I saw Mr. Hughes the day of the election with Mr. Fred Stephens at the poll. Stephens asked me what I would take to go with them, and I said I wouldn't take less than $30. Stephens said I should have it. Mr. Hughes had hold of my hand, and said he would see it all right with me.

FREDERICK STEPHENS, called by Mr. Hodgins—I, with Mr. Hughes, saw Friesman in his waggon at the poll. Mr. Hughes said it was no use talking to him. Mr. Hughes told him he would pay him nothing, nor would he allow any one to pay him anything. I heard his (Friesman's) evidence as to meeting us, and it is not true as he states it.

FREDERICK B. STEPHENS—I was present at the whole conversation. Mr. Hughes said, "There is no use talking to Friesman." No such conversation as to money or an offer took place as Friesman mentions.

PATRICK HUGHES called by Mr. Hodgins, in answer to the personal charges:—I became candidate for Niagara about the end of August. I said publicly at the time of my accepting the nomination of the Reform convention that I would not spend a single sixpence to secure my election. I insisted on this being carried out by my friends all I could. I had only about sixteen active days in the constituency. I never went to the township without some one with me. I had Henry Woodruff and Neil Black in St. Davids, the two Mr. Browns and Robert Currie in Queenstown, and Mr. Currie, Mr. Cairns and two others in Virgil. Mr. Plumb said to me that he would shadow me all through the canvass. As a matter of conscience I have done nothing to be in any way an accessory to corrupt practices.

NIAGARA, Feb. 1.—The Court opened at ten o'clock.

Mr. HODGINS reviewed the evidence and argued the cases of personal bribery in a very able speech of nearly two hours' duration.

Mr. ROBINSON replied with a very telling *resume* of the evidence and the points raised thereon from his side of the case.

His LORDSHIP, in delivering judgment, reviewed briefly the evidence that had been given, and expressed his pleasure that none of the personal charges had been proven except in the Hostetter case, and on that he decided against the respondent, Mr. Hughes, thus disqualifying him.

The Court was then formally adjourned until Tuesday, the 11th March, at ten o'clock. As the case now stands Mr. Plumb is in a majority of two. On the reassembling of the Court in March Mr. Hodgins will attack Mr. Plumb's case.

EAST ELGIN.

ST. THOMAS, Jan. 30.—The Court opened at 9.30.

Counsel for the petitioner then addressed the Court on the three charges argued yesterday by the respondent's counsel, after which

His LORDSHIP gave judgment, dismissing the Walker and Marlatt charges, and reserving judgment in the Day cases, in order to see the judgment in the Laflamme case recently decided in the Supreme Court as to the construction to be put upon the 94th section of the Election Act of 1874. His Lordship also said he had very grave doubts whether the enormous treating indulged in by Day was illegal under the circumstances.

The last charges having been disposed of, the Court adjourned till Friday, the 6th of February next, at two o'clock, when judgment will be given in the Day case.

NORTH ONTARIO.

Trial of the petition against the return of Mr. George Wheeler for North Ontario commenced at Whitby on 30th inst. before Mr. Justice Armour. The case lasted three days, and the judge finally reserved his decision until 12th inst. on a charge of personal corruption, in which evidence was given to the effect that an illegal bargain was made between P. A. Hurd, a prominent man in the riding, and the respondent, whereby the latter was to receive Hurd's support for a *quid pro quo*.

SINGULAR BODY-SNATCHING.

A Body Taken from its Grave in Broad Daylight.

(From the Guelph Herald, Jan. 28.)

Some seventeen years ago a widow lady came to Guelph. Her deceased husband had been an Orangeman. She was a Protestant. She re-married—this time with a Roman Catholic. She brought with her, to Guelph, a female infant. The child grew, and was in the land of the living until a few days since. The girl died, and the remains were interred in St. George's cemetery. During yesterday, in broad daylight, the remains were disinterred, and—it is alleged—re-committed to the silent tomb in the Roman Catholic cemetery. And here is where the trouble comes in. The stepfather is not held responsible by those who take an active interest in the matter. Canon Dixon has written to Father Hamel, to know why the body of one of his (the Canon's) Sunday school children has been removed from the place in which it was first buried. Up to the time of the present writing, the reverend father has not replied. It is more than probable that he does not know anything about it. But there is somebody to blame. It would naturally strike an outsider that the disposal of the remains could not possibly concern the person who might naturally be most suspected of being interested. But there exist people—and very many of them of all varieties of religions—who think very differently. And this matter (unless it turns out to be one of those things which can be easily and satisfactorily explained) will undoubtedly cause considerable trouble in our quiet community.

Benjamin Burke, aged 80, of Upper Keswick, N.B., took arsenic for salts, and died.

A SERVANT-GIRL'S REQUEST.—A servant girl in Germany has sent a naive letter to the Kaiser. "Majesty," she writes, "do send a couple of lines to my Robert. Tell him that he must marry me, and that if he marries me he shall have work at the railway station as long as he lives, but that if he does not marry me he shall not be allowed any work. But do, I pray, send your most high commands to him at the latest by Saturday, so that he may come again to visit me next Sunday." She goes on to say that if the Kaiser will not write to "her Robert" she does not believe that any power on earth can move him, and that she will be obliged to throw herself into the Oder.

THE ENGLISH MAIL.

Interesting Summary of News.

DISTRESS AND CHEAP PROVISIONS.

The Liverpool *Courier* says:—Starvation in the midst of plenty would appear to be the present position of a large proportion of our industrial population; that is, if we are to judge from the rates at which the chief necessaries of life can now be obtained. For the last three months, indeed during the whole of the past year, and down to the present time, the wholesale prices of provisions—speaking of that great and indispensable source of the national food, the American supply—have been almost unprecedentedly low; and if the consumers have not had the full benefit of these cheap rates it is evident that there is something wrong in the intervening system through which the commodities reach the general public. This great and apparently exhaustless feeder of our people is a remarkable phenomenon as well as an all-important factor in out existence as a nation. Within the last quarter of a century the American provision trade has grown until now it has become without exception the chief of our imports in its bearing on the national life. United States cotton was at one time thought to be indispensable to the life of Lancashire industry, but though still largely dependent on that part of the world for the material of our cotton manufacture, other sources of supply have been discovered. But for the vast and increasing freights of food that we are constantly drawing from the United States and Canada, and whereon our daily subsistence depends, no substitute is anywhere available; nor could they by any means or in any degree be dispensed with, even were we to tax the utmost capacity of every inch of cultivable land in these kingdoms.

A comparison of prices for a series of years will be of some interest at the present moment. Leaving out grain, which, as is well known, was remarkably low in price during the whole of last year, and imported fresh meat, which has had some considerable influence in reducing the cost of the home supply, and confining ourselves to what is termed in Liverpool commerce American provisions, we shall find that these have been cheaper in the last twelve months than at any time during the past fifteen years. Taking bacon, for instance, the round prices in 1863, when the American war was still raging, were 31s to 33s per cwt. In that year the imports amounted to 307,570 boxes. In 1875 the imports had fallen to 99,461 boxes, and the prices rose to 65s and 66s; in 1870 about the same quantity was imported, and slightly higher prices prevailed. But in 1872 the imports rose to 358,946 boxes, and prices came down to 42s and 43s. The next year the price was about the same, and 495,568 boxes were imported. In 1876, when the imports were 525,456 boxes, the prices averaged from 45s to 46s; in 1877 they came down to 39s under a continuation of the previous year's supply; and last year, with a grand total of 673,473 boxes imported, prices fell to the unexampled rates of 28s and 29s per cwt.; and further, in the quarter from October 1st to December 31st, when the imports far exceeded those of any corresponding quarter during the last ten years, 23s to 24s per cwt. was the prevailing price.

Then, with regard to cheese, in 1863 the price was 50s. for fine and 42s. for ordinary; in 1868 it was 68s. and 50s.; and at the end of 1878 it was 48s. for extra fine, 38s for medium, and 25s. for ordinary. In butter, prices have not fallen so greatly, but they are now 25s. and 30s. per cwt. below what they were in 1869; and in the last twelve months medium qualities of butter have fallen 15s. per cwt. A similar declension took place as regards cheese; and bacon has gradually fallen 10s. per cwt. from the beginning to the close of 1878.

Within the last few weeks, in the absence of speculation and in the face of enormous stocks, the prices of all these classes of provisions have gone still lower, until now they stand at a rate altogether surprising, and unprecedented in the history of the provision trade; and happily for consumers there is not much prospect of a sudden or serious rise.

CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLE.

It has been decided to place the following inscriptions on the pedestal of Cleopatra's Needle:—On the eastern face, "This obelisk, quarried at Syene, was erected at On (Heliopolis) by the Pharaoh, Thotmes III., about 1500 B.C. Lateral inscriptions were added nearly two centuries later by Rameses the Great. Removed during the Greek dynasty to Alexandria, the royal city of Cleopatra. It was there erected in the eighth year of Augustus Cæsar, B.C. 23." Western face, "This obelisk, prostrate for centuries on the sands of Alexandria, was presented to the English nation A.D. 1819 by Mahommed Ali, Viceroy of Egypt; a worthy memorial of our distinguished countrymen, Nelson and Abercromby." Embankment face, "This obelisk, through the patriotic zeal of Erasmus Wilson, F.R.S., was brought from Alexandria encased in an iron cylinder; was abandoned in a storm in the Bay of Biscay, recovered and erected on this spot by John Dixon, C.E., in the forty-second year of the reign of Queen Victoria, 1878." To face the river, "William Asken, James Gardiner, Joseph Benbow, Michael Burns, William Donald, William Fattan, perished in a bold attempt to succour the crew of the obelisk ship Cleopatra during the storm of October 14, 1877." The names of the men who lost their lives in the attempted rescue in the Bay of Biscay were inscribed at the personal suggestion of her Majesty.

GADSHILL.

The London correspondent of the Glasgow *Herald* says he is not able to confirm or deny the rumour that Mr. Otway, M.P., has become the purchaser of Gadshill, the favourite residence of Charles Dickens during his latter years. There is a counter rumour, according to which the house and grounds were purchased by Lady Burdett Coutts on behalf of the present Charles Dickens, who is, he believes, her godson, with the stipulation that he should not reside there. In this way Mr. Otway may possibly have obtained a long lease, and the story got about that he was absolute owner of the place.

EMIGRATION OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.

The arrangements for the departure of a party of locked-out agricultural labourers for New Zealand are nearly completed. The Agent-General for New Zealand has engaged a fast steamer, and the party will embark during the latter part of the present month. It is finally settled that Mr. Alfred Simmons, the general secretary of the Union, will accompany the party, the proposal having been warmly approved by the executive committee of the Union. The official report from the Union offices states that there are still 900 labourers "locket-out," and that large numbers of these men have offered to go back to work, but the farmers keep their farms shut against them, telling the men that they must leave the Union before they will be taken on to work, which they refuse to do. Placards have been freely circulated at Canterbury and elsewhere, giving a very dark picture of life in New Zealand; but the Union rely on letters which were received some time ago from labourers who emigrated from Kent to that colony to refute those statements, and upon the fact that there are already some 8,000 Kentish labouring people there, and, it is stated, doing well. It was hoped that after the recent County Court proceedings an amicable arrangement would be arrived at by the farmers withdrawing their veto against the men belonging to the Union, and by the labourers, on the other hand, working for the reduced wages; but a settlement of the dispute seems as far off as ever.

THE QUESTION OF RECIPROCITY.

A large number of signatures have been affixed to a memorial urging the Lord Mayor of London to convene a public meeting in the Guildhall to demand a parliamentary inquiry with the object of modifying, if such should be found advisable, the existing system of free trade. The signitaries include many of the largest firms in the city.

At Newbury, Mr. J. Walter, M.P., addressing the Chamber of Agriculture upon the causes of the depression among farmers, expressed his satisfaction that in their difficulties there had been an agitation in favour of a return to protection.

Viscount Galway, M.P., speaking at the annual dinner of the Worksop Tradesmen's Association, said he saw with very great regret in the papers a speech of Prince Bismarck urging still more protective duties being placed on the leather trade in Germany. If it were determined by foreign countries to put high protective tariffs on all foreign goods, then it became a matter of very serious consideration to all Great Britain whether something of the sort would not have to be resorted to in self-defence. (Loud cheers.) It was impossible, he thought, to overestimate what that might lead to, and it would only have to be done after very great consideration. Everything must be fairly discussed. If that were done, and they adopted what had been called "reciprocity," trade and agriculture would have to be equally considered. In foreign countries the duties were being put on additionaily heavy where there was a similarity of trade to our own. He granted it might perhaps be an unpleasant game to play; it might result in a game of beggar my neighbour, but even at that game some one won at last. There was too much danger if England stood out and allowed everything to be done without interfering, they might beggar themselves without having any part in it. (Cheers.)

REJECTION FROM PUBLIC MEETINGS.

At a town's meeting held in Birmingham on the 3rd ult., to consider the Afghan war question, some persons alleged to have interrupted the proceedings were ejected by order of the Mayor, who presided at the meeting. On the 9th inst., the Mayor (Ald. Collings), Councillor Deykin (Chairman of the Watch Committee), Mr. J. S. Wright (President of the Liberal Association), and Major Bond (Chief Constable), appeared before the Stipendiary Magistrate, in response to summonses charging them with assaults in connection with these ejections. On behalf of the prosecution it was denied that there was any organized opposition to the object of the meeting by the Birmingham Conservative Association. The prosecution, which raises the question to what length a burgess may go in expressing dissent at a town's meeting, is exciting the greatest interest in Birmingham. It is expected that the hearing will last a few days.

CHRISTMAS BEER IN WORKHOUSES.

At a meeting of Guardians of the Poor at Coventry, a letter was read from the Committee of the Coventry Temperance Society, protesting against the excessive quantity of beer which was supplied to the inmates of the workhouse on Christmas day—amounting to three pints of strong ale for each man, and two pints for each female. The workhouse master was appealed to by the Board, and while stating that the quantity mentioned had been supplied according to orders, he said it had been productive of much disorder, the inmates fighting among themselves. In cases where an inmate did not want the beer it was bartered away, so that some of the paupers got as much as half a gallon each. The Guardians concurred that the quantity supplied was excessive, and the question is to come under consideration when the next grant for a similar purpose is proposed.

FAT CATTLE SHOWS.

"An Exhibitor" writes to the *Times*:—"American cattle—live and dead—are about to bring about a thorough revolution in the prices of home-produced beef, and farmers and graziers must bestir themselves at once to meet the difficulty. The only way that this difficulty can be met is by commencing to feed our cattle from calfhood and bringing them early to maturity. Instead of keeping cattle, I may say for pride's sake alone, until they are four-year-olds, we must have them fat for the markets as 18 months to 24 months. In Scotland cattle were seldom turned out until over four years old; it is now no uncommon practice to 'feed off' the same class of cattle at 24 months.

"The profitableness and usefulness of fat shows have often been called in question, and rightly so, for I can, without fear of contradiction, say that nineteen-twentieths of the show cattle are kept at a dead loss to the feeder. A fat show animal when in training cannot be fed under £30 a year. Until three years the growth and weight will probably be remunerative to the feeder; but after three years old, more especially if the animal has been in training for the two previous years, his 'outcome' will be much less in proportion—in fact, the exhibitor can then look for remuneration only by obtaining a first-class prize, as then the 'outcome' for a year will seldom exceed 4 cwt. live weight, which represents £12 to £15. It is to be hoped that the Councils of fat cattle shows will consider the advisability of withdrawing classes for cattle over three years and six months, and of establishing classes for younger animals. The feeder would then be paid for their extra 'keep,' the butchers would always give the top market price, as the meat would be tasteful and salable, and consumers would have the advantage of getting real good Christmas prize beef.

"As an exhibitor, I may mention that I have, in common with others, kept cattle from one Christmas show to another solely for the purpose of gaining prizes, sometimes with success, but as often otherwise. The butcher would have given as much the year previous for the same animal, and, what is more, the meat would have been far more useful."

THE GLASGOW BANK LOTTERY SCHEME.

The lottery scheme for relieving the unhappy shareholders of the City of Glasgow Bank has been fairly launched at a meeting held at the Religious Institution Rooms, Glasgow. Sir Robert M. Napier, Bart., presided; and amongst those who took part in the proceedings were Sir James Watson, Sir W. Cuninghame, Bart., M.P., and Sir Peter Coats. It is proposed to carry out the scheme by raising £6,000,000 in £1 "shares," and of this sum £3,000,000 is to be applied to paying the debts of the bank, and the rest is to be divided into "bonuses," *i. e.* prizes, ranging from £5 to £25,000.

The Lord Advocate having had his attention drawn to the bank liquidation aid scheme, a letter has been sent by the Crown agent to the promoters of the scheme, calling attention to the provisions of the Lottery Acts. Sir R. Milliken Napier, in reply, has sent a copy of the prospectus authorised by the committee, and asks whether the scheme is really an infringement of the Lottery Acts. Pending the decision of the Lord Advocate, the committee will refrain from publishing the prospectus, which was to have appeared on January 16. The leading London dailies strongly oppose the scheme. At a private meeting of the Glasgow United Presbytery an animated discussion took place. So closely divided do the members seem to have been that they separated without passing any resolution on the subject. Individuals are left to take their own course in the matter.

The lottery scheme on behalf of the shareholders of the West of England Bank finds so much favour in Exeter that a provisional committee has been appointed for carrying it out. It is proposed to raise a million sterling, of which one-half will be balloted for in prizes and the remaining half devoted to the meeting of the liabilites of the bank shareholders.

DEATH OF GENERAL TOM THUMB.

The Liverpool *Post* states that General Tom Thumb died on Thursday last, at his native place, Bergum, in the Province of West Friesland, in Holland, whither he had only recently retired, after realizing a handsome fortune from exhibiting himself in the chief countries of Europe and America. The cause of his death was dropsy. The real name of the general was Hanenman.

ITEMS.

January 10th was the thirty-ninth anniversary of the establishment of the penny post in England.

The Queen has been pleased to confer the vacant Ribbon of the Order of St. Patrick upon the Earl of Portarlington.

An old soldier, who had received the Crimean and Turkish medals and four good conduct badges, has died in Manchester of starvation.

Mr. Spurgeon has published the first of a twenty-fifth volume of sermons, having issued a sermon week by week for twenty-four years—1,450 in all.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the City of Glasgow Bank Relief Fund it was reported that the amount subscribed now amounts to £358,000.

A society journal hints that Prince Leopold is going to reside in Ireland, and that the Princess Louise will shortly return to England.

The London Court of Common Council have rejected, almost unanimously, a proposal that 500 guineas should be contributed to the City of Glasgow Bank Relief Fund.

The Marquis of Salisbury, who is a large owner of property in Liverpool and the suburbs, has sent the Mayor of Liverpool a cheque for £500 for the relief of the distressed.

While the Roscommon stag hounds were hunting in the neighbourhood of Boyle, the stag took to the ice on Cairtown Lake. The ice gave way, and 16 of the splendid hounds were drowned.

From Rome it is announced that it is the intention of the Vatican to establish several new Bishoprics in the United States; and, at the same time, to institute a Catholic Hierarchy there on a new basis.

Arrangements are about to be made for the modelling of the police at Cyprus on the English system, and it is believed the chief of the department will be a relative of one now holding high authority in Scotland-yard.

The Exeter magistrates have decided that a licensed victualler calling in a policeman to eject a man who is subsequently taken into custody and sent to prison for being drunk and disorderly, must pay the costs of the conviction.

Lord Beaconsfield has been advised to try the air of Clapham, near London, and if he acts upon the suggestion made to him by an eminent medical authority, he may perhaps be induced to take a cottage residence on Clapham Common.

It was announced at a town's meeting in Birmingham lately that £5,400 had already been subscribed towards the £10,000 required to restore the library, and before the meeting separated sums were promised bringing the amount up to £6,000.

The Mayor of Sheffield states that, judging from the weekly accounts received from the district, he finds the distress instead of abating to be seriously on the increase. The relief fund now amounts to £10,000, of which £4,000 has been expended.

A serious outbreak of typhoid fever has occurred among swine on several farms in the Newbury district of Berkshire, and the local justices have signed orders for the slaughter of a large number of infected animals, in accordance with a recent order of the Privy Council.

In consequence of the friendly letters recently sent him by bishops belonging both to the Church of England and to the Church in Scotland, Père Hyacinthe contemplates another visit to Great Britain, and arrangements are being made for the delivery by him of a series of addresses in London, Edinburgh, Oxford, and elsewhere.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, on the 10th inst., appeared as a reader in his Devonshire parish at an entertainment for a local object. Sir Stafford read a scene from Shakespeare's *King John*, and a passage from "The Vicar of Wakefield," and recited a poem. Miss Northcote performed on the piano.

The Spurgeon testimonial bazaar netted $32,500. Mr. Spurgeon, who was unable, from sickness, to be present for a moment at the bazaar, yielding to the earnest solicitations of the majority of his flock, has consented to take a much-needed repose of three months' duration, during which he intends residing at Mentone, France.

In accordance with arrangements made by the executive of the Home Rule Confederation, Mr. Parnell, M.P., commenced an organizing tour among the Irish populations of Great Britain at Sunderland, on the 13th inst. Public demonstrations are to be held in each of the places visited, which include Newcastle, Wolverhampton, Birmingham, Manchester, &c.

It is interesting to hear that Lord Beaconsfield, according to the laws of hereditary longevity, has still many years of life to look forward to. His father lived to be eighty-two, and his grandfather, Benjamin Disraeli, to be eighty-six. His mother was only seventy-one when she died, but his father's grandmother, Mrs. Seybroot, lived to the age of ninety.

The advocates of cremation as a method of disposing of the human body after death are, says the *Times*, no longer confining themselves to arguments. The time has come for an advance from words to deeds; and a small building is, accordingly, in course of erection at Woking, at which the intention is that cremation shall actually be carried out. The whole question, the *Times* thinks, is a mere matter of sentiment.

At Stratford-on-Avon on the 3rd inst., the magistrates imposed a fine of £10 and costs on John Poulser, who, a few weeks ago, having been engaged to drive the mails between Stratford and Warwick, reported that he had been attacked by highwaymen. The cart was found overturned, the mails being intact. Inquiry proved that prisoner was drunk, and was driving recklessly along the road. Among the letters was one containing a cheque for £4,000.

The Home Office having had under consideration the proposed lottery in Devonshire on behalf of the West of England Bank shareholders, have replied that there is no reason why the existing law against lotteries should not apply to this project, either for money prizes or in the form of an Art Union drawing. Any newspapers advertising the scheme will be liable to prosecution at the instance of the Crown.

It has been determined that the subscription to the Duke of Connaught testimonial fund shall close on the 15th of February. The committee appointed to select a memorial have added to their body the Duke of Leinster, the Marquis of Drogheda, the Marquis of Headfort, the Earl of Clonmell, the Lord Mayor of Dublin, the High Sheriff of Dublin, Major General Fraser, V.C.C.B., the Hon. C. F. Bourke, and Mr. R. W. Penrose Fitzgerald.

The tinkers suffered severely during the late storm in the north of Scotland. A melancholy case is reported from Forgue, Aberdeenshire. A band of these wanderers, consisting of father, mother and six children, sought shelter in a cattle shed on a farm. Disease broke out amongst them, and five of the children died within a few days of each other from inflammation of the lungs, accelerated by privation. Only a girl, the eldest of the family, survived.

As one manifest instance of the present depression of commercial affairs, the *City Press* mentions that in the main thoroughfare from the city boundary at Holborn to the other boundary at Aldgate, and in the streets abutting upon it, there are nearly 2,000 warehouses, shops, and offices unlet. In many if not most cases this represents enormous rentals lying unproductive, as when trade is in its usual condition it is difficult to obtain holdings in this part of London.

At Portsmouth Quarter Sessions William Henry Churchill Spencer Courtney Young, of 41 Mildmay Chambers, Old Broad street, London, stated to be a baronet, was sentenced to twelve months hard labour for obtaining £100 by false pretences by alleging to a chemist that he had completed the purchase of a house, and the money in question was required as a deposit. A warrant for a similar offence in Canterbury was produced, the prisoner being described as Sir William Henry Young. He is believed to be a solicitor struck off the rolls in 1863.

A writer says that on a recent occasion he observed 20 or 30 clergymen in the Lyceum Theatre. This, says a Birmingham paper, is as it should be. When English clergymen always form a section of first-night audiences there will be no "Pink Dominoes" produced. The drama in England can and ought to be so pure that the office of licenser of plays should be a sinecure; but that will be accomplished not by diatribes from Cardinal Manning, but by the support of the educated classes—a support such as is now given to the magnificent performance of "Hamlet" at the Lyceum Theatre.

CRISIS IN FRANCE.

Resignation of President MacMahon.

ELECTION OF HIS SUCCESSOR.

LONDON, Jan. 30.—The *Times'* Paris correspondent says:—MacMahon's fall has become a necessity. It will produce no ill effect at home or abroad, and will be a positive relief. At Saturday's Cabinet meeting M. Say submitted a list of changes of treasurers. The General-Marshal said nothing; but asked M. Dufaure to remain after the adjournment of the Cabinet. When they were alone the Marshal said:—"I will not sign those decrees. Say is a Minister who gets into a passion. These executions must not be made. There must must be no going into a passion." M. Dufaure replied:—"But Say is not a Minister who goes into a passion. He is a Minister who arrives first at this object. We all took a formal pledge at last Monday's sitting and resolved on acting up to it." "But surely," rejoined the Marshal, "you are not going to bring me heaps of dismissals to sign." "I hope we are all going," said Dufaure, "to keep our words. We will not make hecatombs, but will give every satisfaction to which public opinion is entitled. We have each our list ready. I have mine and the Minister of War has his. We are each going to submit it to you and I hope you will sign it, for by not signing, so far from screening functionaries, you would, perhaps, expose them, seeing that what we do not do others will do still more energetically, and if you prefer, as you tell us, to retire, not only will you not save those you wish to protect, but you will jeopardize those we are now really protecting." Next day the Marshal signed the financial changes. Dufaure, believing him won over, on Tuesday submitted a decree affecting six public prosecutors. The Marshal examined it, and turning to Dufaure said, "I am going to sign this, but I leave the responsibility to you," and signed it. Gren Gresley, Minister of War, then submitted his list. The law provides for eighteen high military commands intrusted to generals who may be relieved every three years. Of the eighteen thus appointed nine will have held their posts six years next September. MacMahon's idea is that not having been removed after the three years, they ought to finish another term. MacMahon declared, "I cannot sign this decree suspending brave generals, my own friends and companions. I blush at the thought. It will have to be another who does it. Political categories must not be created in the army. I would prefer to resign. My children would not forgive me for such an act." MacMahon's face blushed and he spoke hurriedly. The Ministers said nothing and adjourned. In the afternoon the Cabinet met again and after much hesitation the Ministers came to the conclusion that if they were to give in on this point they would be exposing the country to a possible danger. Dufaure was charged to inform MacMahon, whom they had asked to a Cabinet Council on Thursday at Versailles, that the Ministers, meeting to deliberate on this reply, resolved unanimously to abide by the resolutions.

The voting in the congress for President was secret. The only incidents were the applauding of Victor Hugo and others by the Left as they advanced to the tribunal and the hooting at Baragnon, Broglie, Buffet and other unpopular members of the Right. Simon and Rouher were comparatively unnoticed. There was a perfect frenzy of enthusiasm when the figures were announced, the members of the Left and the public in the galleries rising on their feet and repeatedly shouting "Vive la République."

VERSAILLES, Jan. 30.—MacMahon's letter of resignation says that being in disagreement with the Ministry, being hopeless of forming another Cabinet, and unwilling to assent to measures which he regards as contrary to good army organization he withdraws from power.

The proceedings in congress of the two Chambers were opened by M. Martel, who again read MacMahon's letter of resignation and the articles of the constitution.

De Gavardie, a Senator, amid shouts of disapprobation, asked whether the congress accepted the resignation. The congress set this enquiry aside by voting the previous question by a large majority. The congress, after appointing tellers, proceeded to vote for President of the Republic. 713 Senators and Deputies were present, of whom 670 voted. The absolute majority required was 336. Jules Grevy obtained 536 votes, and General Dechanz 99. Grevy was declared elected, and proclaimed President for seven years. Forty-three blank voting papers were deposited. Dufaure was loudly cheered when he cast his vote.

The concourse of the general public at Versailles is not very great. The excitement does not compare with that which was manifested at the time of Thiers's resignation. No disturbance has occurred anywhere.

The Marquis d'Harcourt, French Ambassador at London, who is a relative of MacMahon, has resigned.

Ministers congratulated President Grevy this evening on his election, and collectively tendered their resignations. Grevy expressed a hope that they would continue in office, at least provisionally. The Cabinet will meet to-morrow to consider the situation.

MacMahon visited and congratulated Grevy. The interview was most courteous. The ex-President announced his intention of going to Grasse to-morrow, where he will remain some time.

VERSAILLES, Jan. 31.—Gambetta has been elected President of the Chamber of Deputies by 314 out of a total of 405 votes.

BERLIN, Jan. 31.—The German press generally approves of Grevy's election to the Presidency of the French Republic.

The *Post* says:—"Recent events have introduced a party conflict into the French army, and on this rock either the army or the Republic must founder."

LONDON, Feb. 2.—A Paris correspondent says M. Waddington has been selected Premier as a proof that the recent foreign policy will be continued. It is affirmed that only three Ministers will retire, and they will be replaced by members of the pure Left.

BEET-ROOT SUGAR AND A NATIONAL CURRENCY.

A Double-Barrelled Meeting in Grantham—A Rider to the St. Catharines Leaguo Meeting and the Hamilton Beet-Sugar Movement.

ST. CATHARINES, Jan. 29.—A meeting of the Agriculturists of this section was held in Junkins' meeting house, about two miles from this city, this evening, to discuss the establishment of a beet-root sugar manufactory, and a national currency for Canada. Mr. John Secord was chosen chairman.

Mr. F. S. Miller, Civil Engineer, who has had long experience in the manufacture of beet root sugar in Germany, lucidly explained the process of manufacture, the cost of production and the benefits to be derived from the establishment of such a factory here, as the soil was peculiarly adapted to it.

An expression of the audience was taken, which was unanimously in favour of the speaker's remarks.

Captain R. Wynne followed on the financial question, holding that a national currency was the only remedy available for the present condition of depression.

A call for an expression on this question brought the audience to their feet, as being entirely in sympathy with the movement.

Committees will be formed to carry out the views put before them as far as possible. Steps were at once taken to organize a national currency league in th township to supplement the one instituted in St. Catharines.

THE PLAGUE IN EUROPE.

Stringent Measures Adopted by Russia.

PRECAUTIONARY STEPS TAKEN IN ITALY

BUCHAREST, Feb. 2.—The Chamber of Deputies has voted a credit of 500,000 francs for the establishment of quarantine and a military cordon to prevent a spread of the plague.

All remedies have proved unavailing. The local Sanitary Commission, of Moscow, has decided on the most stringent precautions. Russia has asked England to send medical men to report on the epidemic.

Six more persons have been attacked with the plague at Selitreno. The Czar has ordered General Loris Melikoff to start immediately for Astrachan with full powers. He is appointed Governor-General of the plague-stricken districts.

VIENNA, Feb. 1.—An Imperial ordinance has been issued identical with that of Germany, prohibiting the importation of a large number of articles from Russia, and ordering the disinfection of all arrivals therefrom. The Galician authorities have memorialised the Government for the immediate establishment of a cordon against Russia.

ROME, Feb. 1.—The Sanitary Council has convoked to take precautionary measures against the plague.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 2.—The Minister of the Interior will be empowered to burn villages where necessary. The inhabitants are to be removed, and the troops are to enforce quarantine. A delegate will be despatched to Astrachan and the neighbouring Governments with power to adopt extraordinary measures. He will be accompanied by a medical commission to investigate the epidemic.

THE GLASGOW BANK FRAUDS.

Conviction of Five Directors and the Manager.

GLASGOW, Jan. 31.—The trial of the manager and directors of the City of Glasgow Bank, which began on the 18th inst., ended to-day by the conviction of Lewis Potter, one of the directors, and R. S. Stronach, manager, on the charge, as laid in the indictment, which was that they had committed fraud by falsely and fraudulently altering the books of the City of Glasgow Bank between the years 1873 and 1878, representing large sums of money as assets of the bank which were not really due, understating the liabilities of the bank, preparing false balance sheets, and concealing from the shareholders the real state of the institution. The trial excited universal interest in Scotland, and the daily reports of it have been voluminous. One of the principal witnesses against the prisoners was the Secretary of the bank, Charles Samuel Lereschе, who was admitted by the Crown as Queen's evidence.

Stronach, the convicted manager, is 52 years old. He had long been in the service of the bank, and succeeded his brother as a director and manager in 1876.

Lewis Potter, the other convicted director, is 72 years of age. He was introduced to the bank as director in 1857, and was the head of the well-known firm of Potter, Wilson & Co., Australian merchants, and of the firm of Lewis Potter & Co., who owned a large fleet of steamers plying between Glasgow, Liverpool and Dublin. He was a prominent and influential member of the Free Church, and in 1873 gave a very large sum of money—which, as is now believed, was stolen from the bank—for the erection of a church in the village of Burnbank. He obtained from the bank, upon what have now been proved to be worthless papers, something near one million dollars.

The other persons who were convicted, not on charge as laid down in the indictment, but of uttering false abstracts and balance sheets, were:—

William Taylor, aged 66 years, grain merchant, a member of the firm of Henry Taylor & Sons, a representative elder and president of the Young Men's Christian Association, and a very prominent man in charitable and ecclesiastical affairs.

John Innis Wright, aged 62 years, a member of the once famous East India house of John Innis Wright & Co.

Wm. Scott, banker in the house of Wm. Scott & Co., of Rangoon.

Robert Salmond, 74 years old, former manager of the bank and owner of a beautiful estate in Ayrshire.

Henry Inglis, lawyer, and head of the well-known firm of H. & W. Inglis, of Edinburgh. He was a magistrate, deputy lieutenant of his Shire, an excellent public speaker, and a poet of some celebrity.

The punishment of Potter and Stronach will be, it is believed, penal servitude for fourteen years, although it is not supposed that either of them will live out their period of imprisonment. The punishment of the other prisoners will be less severe, although of an exemplary character. Their sentences were deferred until to-morrow. The verdict regarding Potter and Stronach was unanimous, and the others were convicted by a majority of the jury.

EDINBURGH, Feb. 1.—The directors of the Glasgow Bank, Stronach and Potter, convicted of fraud, theft and embezzlement, have been sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment. The five other directors convicted of uttering false abstracts and balance sheets have been sentenced to eight months' imprisonment. The sentence created considerable surprise on account of their leniency. The presiding judge said they considered the circumstances that the prisoners had not falsified the accounts for their personal benefit, but in a mistaken idea that it was for the public good.

FATAL FIRE IN AN ALMSHOUSE.

Four of the Inmates Killed—Miraculous Escape of the Rest.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Jan. 31.—The Louisville almshouse was burned to-day. There were 340 inmates, who nearly all escaped. James Ridley, an imbecile, was burned fatally; Fred Meyer broke his neck; Henry Kehler perished in the flames; Thomas Dixon was killed by a fall; Nathaniel Coldwell was seriously hurt, and Mrs. Johnson probably fatally burned. The scene was horrible in the extreme. The marvellous feature is the small loss of life attending it. Nearly all the inmates were invalids, imbeciles, and cripples. Loss $175,000.

A Berlin despatch says Bismarck's protectionist tariff will include a duty on English coal of 10 per cent. *ad valorem*.

A Vienna despatch says that the Sultan is suffering from nervousness and suspicions more severely than ever. He distrusts even his soldiers.

Mr. Gladstone has written to the Liberals of Midlothian, accepting the invitation to stand for Parliament, and renewing his charges against the Government.

Prince William, eldest son of the Crown Prince of Germany, while fencing on Friday, received rather a bad wound, although it is not considered serious.

The British Admiralty has directed the dockyard authorities to charge the United States only the bare cost of the labour and materials employed on the repairs of the ship Constitution.

The winner of the five thousand pound prize in the Paris Exposition lottery is a journeyman currier; the winner of the second prize, £4,000, is a tobacco vendor, and the winner of the fourth prize, £2,000, is a clerk.

A despatch from Bucharest says a collision between Russian and Roumanian troops is apprehended. It seems that the Russians refused to surrender Arabtabia, a frontier fort, and the Roumanians entered and forcibly drove out the Russian garrison. The Russian commander has peremptorily ordered the Roumanians to evacuate the fort, which they refused.

THE CANADIAN MILITIA.

Its Administration by the Late Government.

THE EXPENDITURES INVESTIGATED.

At the time of Confederation the Canadian Government, in consideration of the surrender of certain Imperial properties in Canada, pledged themselves to expend not less than a million of dollars per annum in the support of a militia. During the past two years the Government have barely expended half that amount, salving their consciences by charging against the militia vote the North-West Mounted Police—a body which, from its name, is not a military organization, is not subject to military control or supervision, and the cost of which (for 300 men) was equal to the entire militia expenditure, leaving out the staff and the military schools and college. Even with this unfair evasion of their compact, the sum expended fell short of the million by some $70,000.

The sums expended by the Public Accounts of 1877 for the named