THE ENGLISH MAIL.

Interesting Summary of News.

SALE OF THE "EXAMINER."

Lord Rosebery has disposed of the *Examiner*. The new purchasers are Mr. Ashton Dilke, Lord Stratheden and Campbell, and one of the Goldsmids.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

At a School Board dinner held at Gloucester to celebrate the opening of Board schools, the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol expressed his conviction that the settlement of the religious difficulty by the Education Act had proved to be the best. He believed the voluntary and Board systems would continue to exist, Mr. Monk, one of the members for the city, concurred in the remarks of the Bishop, and said he believed the Education Acts were proving of incalculable benefit to the country.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.

Mr. Edison's application was deposited at the Patent Office on the 23rd inst., but a French inventor, named Arnaud, anticipated him by nine days with a scheme for the dividing and distributing of the electric light, which is understood, so far, to be the very essence of Mr. Edison's invention. Possibly the two processes may prove to be entirely different, but the matter is exciting some curiosity. Arnaud's has succeeded in placing a number of lights on one circuit, and he claims to be able to light a street with electric lamps on his principle with perfect equality of light throughout, and to raise or lower or extinguish them at pleasure.

The determination of the city corporation to light the Holborn Viaduct, and the front of the Mansion House with the electric light all through the winter months has led to a further heavy fall in gas shares.

LABOUR ON THE CLYDE.

At a meeting of Clyde shipbuilders held on the 25th inst., it was agreed to abide by their former resolution, that wages be reduced 7½ per cent. In the course of the evening the executive of the ironworkers agreed to withdraw the workmen belonging to their Society wherever the reduction was enforced. This resolution, which is equivalent to declaring a strike, has been adopted by a Society powerful both in funds and numbers, and there is thus the immediate prospect of another determined struggle between capital and labour on the Clyde.

THE PROPOSED COLONIAL MUSEUM.

Writing editorially on the proposed Colonial Museum, the *Daily News* says:—"The idea is an excellent one, and it may be hoped that the Colonial Office will offer every facility for carrying it into practical execution. It is of course a question for the Colonial Governments themselves. The Prince of Wales very justly said that the success of the scheme would depend on the readiness of the Colonial Governments to provide means to found and support the Museum. It would of course be a kind of permanent Exhibition, in the capital of the Empire, of Colonial products. Such an Exhibition, in order to be of any real and permanent use, must be well housed in a noble building, and be so appointed and supported as to rouse attention and interest. It should moreover be shared, as far as possible, by all the Colonies. It would then be an epitome of the outlying portions of the Empire, a permanent representation and embodiment of the characteristics of the various countries which have become the homes of the British people. Its interest and value would therefore depend in great degree on its completeness. There should in such an Exhibition be a somewhat wider representation of the Colonies than at Paris. There would of course be every motive for each Colony to participate. The zeal and enterprise with which the Australian Colonies and New Zealand entered into the Paris Exhibition, and did their part to make the representation of the Empire complete, give very striking evidence of their interest in and their care for the good opinion of Europe. A Colonial Museum in London would, however, be a more direct appeal to the people at home, and the desire to share in it would probably be universal."

PLAIN SPEAKING BY THE "TIMES."

The *Times* having referred to the various obstacles in the way of the peaceful settlement of the Eastern question, observes:—"Russia trusts that her opponents are busy with other matters, and that, willingly or unwillingly, they have too much to do to meddle with her. Employment has been found for all of them. Germany is engaged at home with her Socialist and Ultramontane troubles. Other Powers, more likely to interfere than Germany, have had their hands tied for them. Austria has enough to do in Bosnia; England is taken up with Afghanistan. Russia, accordingly, has, or imagines she has, the field to herself. If the settlement of affairs in European Turkey can be put off long enough, the Berlin Treaty may be nullified by the force of events, and the Treaty of San Stefano may be revived in its essential parts. It is to this result that the aims of Russia are directed with a pertinacity which is certainly troublesome, and which needs to be met by an equal pertinacity on the other side. It is no little proof of the peaceful disposition of the present age that matters should have gone as far as they have without leading to a downright rupture. Fifty years ago the Gordian knot of the Eastern question would have been cut by the sword. The desire of Europe now is that diplomacy should do the work of war. The method is a longer one, and needs to be employed with patience and firmness. But diplomatists, it must be remembered, are the representatives of armed nations. While they are busy, war is in the background all through. The resistance of Russia to the will of Europe will be overcome, we have no doubt, and we have almost as little doubt that it will be overcome peaceably. But it will be necessary for Europe to make its purpose understood. Russia cannot be suffered to take advantage of the pacific temper of the day, and to do what she would not dare to do if she thought it likely that she would be visited with prompt punishment. Her attitude at the present moment is embarrassing, but it is ridiculous too. She ventures to stand in the way, not because she is strong enough to maintain herself there, but because she trusts in the forbearance of others, who wish to pass and do not wish to thrust her aside by main force. A word spoken in earnest by England and Austria would bring her to her senses in a moment. It is by Russia that the deadlock in the East of Europe has been brought about. She has affected to deplore it, and has endeavoured to throw the blame for it on some other Power than herself. Turkey has been charged with delay in carrying out her part of the joint engagement entered into at Berlin. Turkey has now done all that can be fairly asked of her. She has withdrawn from the Danubian fortresses. She has given over Batoum in such a way as to allow a peaceful entrance by Russia. The only result has been that new demands have been made upon her, and that the end of these is to all appearances as far off as it ever was. That we shall have a war with Afghanistan may be looked upon as almost certain. When we shall enter upon it is another question. However this may be decided, it is certain that the decisive campaign will not take place before the spring. The six months or so which will intervene will be taken up with military preparations in India. Our attention meanwhile will be given in Europe to the carrying out of the Berlin Treaty. This, as Sir Stafford Northcote pointed out at Birmingham, has not yet been broken; but the time is not far off at which it will have to be accepted in a more positive fashion.

THE GLASGOW BANK.

With reference to the stoppage of the City of Glasgow Bank, some of the Scotch journals think it opportune to recall the fact that after the failure of the Royal British Bank in 1856 the seven directors were prosecuted by the Crown, convicted, and sentenced by Lord Chief Justice Campbell to various terms of imprisonment for the following offences, among others:—"Publishing a balance sheet for the year false in the amount of assets, in the provision for bad debts, and in the profit and loss account; paying a dividend when no profits were made; and buying the bank's shares with the bank's money to keep up the price." On another point—namely, the retirement of certain shareholders in the City Bank who had got a hint of what was coming—the Glasgow *Herald* makes some severe comments, and remarks that the purchase of these shares by the bank itself may be set aside as illegal, and any collusive arrangement frustrated.

The Crown authorities have ordered an official investigation into the affairs of the City of Glasgow Bank; and it is considered probable the scrutiny will extend to the operations of the bank since 1857. The liquidators are to commence their duties at once. They have decided to make a call of £500 per £100 stock, payable in two instalments, the first one on the 22nd of December and the second on the 24th of February next. It is intimated that every consideration will be shown to the shareholders in their efforts to meet this call, and they will need it. Two will have to pay about £100,000 each.

THE COLONIAL REPRESENTATIVES AT PARIS.

The London correspondent of the Birmingham *Gazette* writes:—"I understand that the announcement of the Prince of Wales that the Queen contemplates the bestowal of the Order of St. Michael and St. George upon the principal representatives of the British Colonies at the Paris Exhibition came upon these gentlemen as a surprise. It is quite certain that their zeal in the cause of the 'World's Show' was not inspired by any hope of reward. What mainly actuated her Majesty in coming to the decision was the knowledge that difficulties would stand in the way of their acceptance of French decorations, and that an Order direct from their Sovereign would be very highly appreciated by the Colonial representatives. The interest taken by the Prince of Wales in the Exhibition and his untiring exertion to bring success upon that portion of it in particular which is associated with the name of Great Britain is the subject of favourable comment in all quarters, both here and in Paris."

THE AFGHAN EXPEDITION.

The special correspondent the *Daily News* at Simla telegraphs that the force to operate against Afghanistan will consist in all of 34,000 men, of whom one-third are to be Europeans. The force is to be divided into three small armies, to operate from Peshawur, from Quettah, and by the Kooram Valley. The correspondent mentions the fact that the decision of the Home Government was expected by the Indian authorities on the 27th. The Home Government, or at least a certain number of the Cabinet, hold a Council on that day, when no doubt the affair was deliberated on and decided.

SPEECH BY SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE.

Sir Stafford Northcote on Saturday visited the Birmingham Reformatory Schools, on the occasion of the annual meeting, and moved the first resolution, expressing approval of the principles upon which the institution had carried on its operations during the past twenty-five years. In the evening the Chancellor of the Exchequer addressed a public meeting, at which it is computed that 6,000 persons were present, in the Town Hall, Birmingham, and, in a speech of great length and fulness, explained and defended the foreign and domestic policy of the Government. The principal part of his speech was devoted to a review of the financial position of the country now as contrasted with that which it occupied at the close of the Crimean war. He contended that, although the financial arrangements of the coming year were not likely to be satisfactory, yet, taking into account the great increase of population and the large remission of taxation, the taxpayer was paying less by twenty-five millions per year than he would have been paying under similar circumstances in 1856. He justified the acquisition of Cyprus, on the ground that it would enable us to teach the Turkish community what reforms in the shape of administration and good government they were expected from them; and he asserted that, setting aside military expenditure, the revenues of the island would pay the full charges of administration. He denied that, with the exception of Afghanistan, there was any cloud on the horizon in regard to foreign affairs. The right hon. baronet went on to express his regret at the steady advance of Russia in the south of Asia, which had rendered it necessary that her movements should be watched, and our demand to send an envoy to Cabul on the same terms as a Russian envoy was reasonable. Sir N. Chamberlain had, however, been refused admission, and there at the present moment the matter rested. As to what further might take place, he hoped the people of England would be content to trust the Government. They might rest assured that her Majesty's advisers were desirous and determined to preserve England from any affront that might be detrimental to her prestige, and at the same time to do nothing that would be calculated to interfere with the full and complete execution of the Treaty of Berlin.

TRIAL OF SIR CAPEL FITZGERALD.

At the Central Criminal Court, Sir Capel Fitzgerald, Bart., surrendered to take his trial on the charge of stealing a quantity of jewellery of the value of £400, the property of Susan Stevens. The prosecutrix, who is a married woman, living apart from her husband, went with the prisoner to the Paris Exhibition, and took with her a considerable quantity of jewellery. They remained in Paris for a few days, and on their return to London the prosecutrix discovered that her jewel case had been broken open and a considerable quantity of her jewellery had been stolen. It was not denied that he took the jewels and pledged them in Paris; but it was argued on his behalf that he did this merely to obtain the means for both of them to return to London. The jury, accepting the suggestion that the prisoner had no felonious intent, acquitted him.

THE BRAVO CASE.

Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., presiding over a meeting of nearly 3,000 members and friends of the West Gloucestershire District Good Templars, characterised the temperance movement as the great social movement of the day. Speaking of the increase of drunkenness amongst the higher classes, and amongst ladies, he thought no one who read the Bravo case could doubt that there was a close association between the habits of the wife and the death of the husband, with regard to whose death, no doubt, a different conclusion would have been arrived at if the facts recently brought to light had been obtained at the inquest. As to legislative action, he thought they would be wise if they considered what would be the minimum of legislation they would agree to, and then press that forward. Deprecating the intemperate language often used by the temperance advocates, he urged conciliation by moderation of their expressions, and, having suggested the substitution of money payments in lieu of beer given to domestic servants, he pointed to cocoa and coffee taverns as a means of greatly helping the temperance cause.

THE HOME RULE CONFEDERATION.

On the 22nd inst. the consultative meeting of "the delegates of the Home Rule Confederation of Great Britain and of Irish public men" was held in the Rotunda, Dublin. Mr. Parnell, M.P., President of the Confederation, presided; and he was supported by Mr. O'Connor Power, M.P.; Mr. O'Donnell, M.P.; Mr. Biggar, M.P.; Mr. O'Clery, M.P.; Mr. W. H. O'Sullivan, M.P.; Mr. Gray, M.P.; Mr. Ennis, M.P.; and Mr. Sheil, M.P. There were also present several priests and a number of representatives of tenants' defence associations throughout the country, the total number of persons at the meeting being about 100. The proceedings were conducted in private. A report "officially" supplied states that Mr. T. D. Sullivan, of the *Nation*, moved, and Mr. E. Dwyer Gray, M.P. (of the *Freeman's Journal*) seconded, a resolution to the following effect:—"That the Irish members of Parliament be called upon to give effect to the resolutions of the National Conference, and a determined and energetic resistance to all enemies of Irish interests in Parliament. That the inaction of the Council of the Irish Home Rule League is detrimental to the Home Rule movement. That it is the opinion of this meeting that the only way to obtain the end in view is by the constituencies only electing those members who will pledge themselves to sustained action in the House of Commons irrespective of either party." The resolution was discussed at great length, but it is stated that it met with no opposition.

A CUT-AWAY COAT FOR LADIES.

The Paris correspondent of the Liverpool *Courier* writes:—"A fashion that is springing up in Paris, and that is as yet rather 'fast,' is the wearing by ladies of a garment exactly resembling a man's cut-away coat. I saw many of these in shop windows, and one or two on persons who evidently did not mind being observed. A lady on the Boulevard des Italiens wore, for instance, a dark green cashmere short skirt duly plaited, and round her a scarf bordered with green silk; her bodice was a short cut-away coat, fastened by three buttons at the chest, and slanting away at the neck and at the waist, leaving visible a waistcoat of the palest shade of green satin, elaborately worked in darkest green silk. The effect was striking, and the style of dress is undoubtedly extremely sensible and pretty for street wear. Everybody has been railing at women for several years past because of the impracticability of their walking dresses, and those who have railed most should be the most pleased when something practical and sensible appears in the domain of fashion. These cut-away coats, worn over fanciful waistcoats, to which I have alluded, are destined to invade society. They are to be worn in colours over black skirts—for instance, an orange satin coat over a white waistcoat embroidered in orange silk—and a black silk or satin skirt *en traine* will be permissable, or a deep rose-pink coat over white embroidered waistcoat and pale-pink skirt, and so on."

DEATH OF A CELEBRATED CRICKETER.

Another of the grand old Kent Eleven of half a century back has left us, says the London *Globe*, and Mr. Walter Mynn's place knows him no more, after have passed the threescore years and ten by five years. He was elder brother to Mr. Alfred Mynn, the celebrated bowler, whose longstop he always was in Kent matches in the days when the ground behind the wickets was not kept like a lawn as it now is, and very hard work it must have been. The Mynns were a family of Kentish descendants of an old German family of ten hundred years' standing, all the sons being over six feet in height, and the daughters of very tall stature, and remarkable for their beauty. Mr. Walter Mynn's affection for his brother Alfred was extreme; and after his retirement from the game, whenever the younger brother played in a match in the home circuit the elder was always with him. Fuller Pilch used to say, "Mr. Alfred all round was the finest single-wicket player in the world, and one of the best men in a match; but Mr. Walter never was a pretty player, but cramped and awkward, but one of the best men I knew to put in when a notch or two were wanted, or we wanted to play out time, for he was afeard of nothing, and had the heart of a lion and the patience of Job." In proof of this, in the celebrated Gentlemen v. Players' match of 1846 he went in first with Mr. Haygarth to break the bowling, and was kept till last second innings, when he had to get one to tie and two to win, and made the winning hit and made a hit for two and won the match. He was a very handsome man to the last, a fine shot, a good billiard player, and a genial companion, a thorough "man of Kent" to the backbone, very proud of his county and the Old Eleven; and he had some cause for this, as five men of the Eleven—Pilch, Wenman, Dorrington, his brother, and himself—were all six feet high and upwards, and the Eleven were utterly ignorant of jealousy and petty rivalry, and were, as Pilch used to say, a band of brothers, who had one thing at heart only, and that was "the honour of Kent."

LABOUR NOTES.

The Glasgow Master Masons' Association have notified the operatives that the rate of wages is to be reduced to 7d. per hour on and after the 2nd November, from which date, also, the usual weekly warning is to be abolished.

The masons employed at the new docks at Leith, to the number of 120, have struck work against a reduction of 1d. per hour in wages. In consequence of this step, the contractors have given notice to the 300 labourers and 200 quarrymen in their employment to cease work.

A large body of agricultural labourers in Kent and East Sussex have received notice of a reduction of wages from 2s. 6d. to 2s. 3d. a day. It is said that they are resolved to resist, and that a lock-out is probable.

The North of England ironmasters have resolved to intimate to their workmen a reduction of wages after the 30th November. It will amount to 6d. per ton on puddling, and 5 per cent. on forge and mill work.

ITEMS.

The Surrey magistrates, sitting in Quarter Sessions, have confirmed the decision that glove fights are illegal.

Mr. Beilias, a director of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, is said to have given £1,000 to Governor Pope Hennessy for the erection of a statute to Earl Beaconsfield at Hong Kong.

The *British Medical Journal* understands that the Emperor of Russia has forwarded to Dr. William Playfair a valuable diamond ring in recognition of his recent attendance on the Duchess of Edinburgh.

The report of the betrothal of the Duke of Cumberland to the Princess Thyra continues to be the main topic of conversation among politicians in Berlin, many of whom regard it as a demonstration against Germany.

A telegram from Sir Garnet Wolseley, received at the War Office, states that the 42nd and 71st Regiments are both in capital spirits and in good health, and that the climate of Cyprus is now extremely pleasant.

The following are the average prices of British corn for the week ending October 19:—Wheat, 39s 3d; barley, 40s 4d; oats, 22s 2d per imperial quarter. Corresponding week last year:—Wheat, 52s 9d; barley, 42s 6d; oats, 23s 5d.

The late Mr. Penn, head of the great engineering firm at Greenwich, does not seem to have found engine-making an unprofitable trade. His will has just been proved in the Probate Court, and the personalty was sworn at one million sterling.

The Duke of Sutherland (says a Hanley correspondent) has presented each of the tradesmen on his Trentham estate—some 120 in number—with a milch cow and sufficient pasture land for feeding. This is in addition to the gardens and pasture land they already possess.

A Protectionist meeting was held on Wednesday in Paris by some French manufacturers. They resolved that, seeing the French manufacturing industry was in such a bad state, steps should at once be taken to have the general tariff amended, so as to suit the demands of the suffering industries.

It is stated by the *Whitehall* that the Russians have ordered their four cruisers at New York to remain in American waters until spring. Several vessels belonging to the Pacific squadron, under orders to proceed home, have also received instructions to remain at Vladivostock for the present.

Mr. Lewis Potter, lately a director of the City of Glasgow Bank, and also one of its debtors, took "an active interest in the moral and religious welfare of the community." His piety was excessive, and his Sabbatarianism such that he refused to take in or read Monday's newspapers, because they were printed on Sunday.

A correspondent of the *Times* writes in connection with the Glasgow Bank failure:—"Probably one of the reforms in the banking system of the day which will be soonest attempted will be a large reduction in the amount of fixed deposits received by any joint-stock bank, or at least a rule limiting it to some fair proportion of the reserve fund."

At a meeting of the members of the East Kent Farmers' Club, held at the Flecce Hotel, Canterbury, on Saturday, a resolution was unanimously passed to at once reduce the wages of agricultural labourers 1s. 6d. per week, the *minimum* rate to be 15s. per week. It is expected that a similar course will be adopted by the agriculturists in West Kent.

A horse belonging to Mr. Pitt, plumber and glazier, Sheffield, had to be destroyed. A few days ago the animal exhibited symptoms of uneasiness, and on being examined by Mr. Bryans, veterinary surgeon, he declared that it was suffering from rabies. It subsequently became exceedingly ferocious, and worried itself in a shocking manner. The horse was shot.

There is great mystery about the whereabouts of Mr. James Nichol Fleming, wanted by the police, and who is said to have made his escape to Spain by special steamer from Kintyre. It is reported that he came to London some little time ago, and has not been at his mansion at Campbelltown for ten days or a fortnight. He is still missing. He is said to owe the Glasgow City Bank £140,000.

Even volunteers must stick close to drill. Two were fined in the amount of the capitation grant at the Westminster police court, for failing to render themselves efficient during the past volunteer year. One pleaded the illness of his wife, but this only happened in the last drill week; the other said he had rheumatism, but could prove, as required, that he had been under medical supervision for six months.

It is stated that the Admiralty have decided to adopt the use of anchors, made of Bessemer steel, which can be had at less than one-half of the price paid for the costly "best" iron hitherto used; but it yet remains to be seen how far the quality will be the same. This extension of the area in which Bessemer steel is now used is likely to be of great value to the steelmakers, if the experiment prove successful, and to have important effects on the chain and anchor trades.

A very important legal point was raised at Bow street Police Court on Saturday, in connection with an adulteration case. The adulteration was admitted, but the defendant contended that as the Act required the adulteration to be to the prejudice of the purchaser, there was no case, inasmuch as the Food Inspector, buying the article merely for the purpose of analysis, was not thereby prejudiced. Sir James Ingham said he believed the Lord Chief Justice had upheld a decision of the Scotch Judges to that effect, and adjourned the case for further consideration.

In a case disposed of at Liverpool, publicans keeping billiard tables will find something worthy their attention. There was a billiard match at the house of George Rimmer between two men, named Stoney and Parkinson, and the spectators included a large number of book-makers, who made bets on the various strokes. A constable was present in plain clothes, and informations were laid against both Rimmer and his manager, the former for allowing gaming and the latter for aiding and abetting in the offence. Rimmer was fined £10 with endorsement of his licence, and the manager £5.

Mr. Gretton, the owner of Isonomy, the winner of the Cambridgeshire, has made a very large sum by his success. Mr. Gretton is well known in racing circles as an owner who has not only the courage of his opinions, but a belief in his trainer's honesty, and who consequently backs his own horses persistently. Change has not favoured him for some time past, but he has now nobly recouped himself for many years' disappointments. Mr. Gretton is a partner in the brewery firm of Messrs. Bass, of Burton-on-Trent, and the profits of the business have enabled him to meet his frequent long spells of bad fortune.

The London correspondent of the *Scotsman* writes:—The letter on our treatment of the Ameer, signed "A Scotchman," which was published in this morning's *Times*, has attracted much attention in political circles, the opinion being that it proceeds from an eminent source. Be this as it may, I have reason to believe that to a large extent it expresses the views of the leaders of the Opposition, especially with regard to the non-publication of the correspondence relative to Sir Lewis Pelly's mission. The Russian embassy to Cabul was a very modest, unobtrusive affair, and there is not the least reason to suppose that politically it has achieved any result which need give us a moment's uneasiness.

The English Registrar-General estimates the present population of certain great towns as follows:—First comes London, with its 3,577,304 people; Paris, 1,988,806; New York, 1,164,522; Brooklyn, 549,438; Berlin, 1,019,620; Philadelphia, 876,118; Vienna, 727,271; St. Petersburg, 669,741; Bombay, 644,405; Glasgow, 566,940; Liverpool, 532,681; Manchester, with Salford, 530,765; Naples, 457,407; Calcutta, 429,535; Madras, 397,552; Hamburg (the State), 406,104; Birmingham, 383,117; Baltimore, 355,000; Buda-Pesth, 319,530; Dublin, 314,666; Leeds, 304,948; Amsterdam, 302,266; Sheffield, 289,537; Rome, 282,214; Breslau, 267,000.

Major John Bellamy, of the 2nd Batt. of the 17th Regiment, has shot himself at the Shorncliffe camp. He had been in a very depressed state of mind for several weeks, and was about to go on sick leave. The deceased officer greatly interested himself in the Yelverton case, Mrs. Longworth Yelverton being a relation of his. It is stated that he spent the whole of his fortune in defending the case on her behalf, and that he was left almost, if not entirely, dependent upon his pay. His body was found lying on the floor of his quarters. Deceased was a favourite with the mon, and greatly respected by his brother officers. He had been over thirty years in the service.

A sad fatality two days after marriage is reported from Islington. Mr. John Schmidt, aged twenty-one, a German, and a furrier, of 94 Elmore road, had been married on Monday, and on Wednesday his wife left him in the front drawing-room sitting on the window-sill, with his legs inside, engaged in picking off the dead leaves from some flowers and shrubs which grew along the narrow balcony outside. Whilst thus engaged, he was seen by a man named Ford, who was on the opposite side of the road, to apparently lose his balance. Although he endeavoured to recover himself by his legs, he was unable to do so, and he was precipitated backward into the area beneath, falling on his head on the stones. He was picked up in an insensible state and only survived half an hour.

The Irish National weekly prints are divided in opinion as to the success of the Home Rule Confederation meeting. The *Irishman* considers that the demonstration has been reasonably successful, but that the audience was not in sympathy with the policy advocated by the speakers. The *Nation* hopes that the meeting will help to restore the suspended animation of the league; and the *Weekly News*, speaking of Mr. Parnell as leader, exhorts the other Irish members to act with him, and carry on the vigorous campaign of last session to the obstruction extreme, if necessary. The *Flag of Ireland* illustrates the philosophy of the situation in its cartoon. Mr. O'Donnell is hopelessly tinkering the dilapidated Home Rule kettle, expressing his fear that it will never get up steam again; whilst Mr. O'Connor Power, standing by, presents a capacious dish of soft sawder, which Mr. O'Donnell refuses as having already failed, adding, "There is nothing for it but tin; we have plenty of brass, but that, too, we have tried, and it did not answer."

LONDON LETTER.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, Oct. 24.

Before coming to England I had often heard, but in a general way only, of a curious journal, published regularly in London, which had become the medium of barter between ladies of a speculative or changeable turn of mind, who, tiring of their possessions desired, like the bride of Aladdin, to exchange "old lamps for new." It was a very singular enterprise, according to my way of thinking, and I had rather contemptuously imagined that the aforesaid journal supplied among women of the higher classes the place of the vendor of "old clo" among those of lower rank. I have now discovered my mistake. "The Bazaar Exchange and Mart" is patronized openly by all classes, and has a distinct place of its own in supplying the wants both of the social and mercantile world. A brief description of its uses and the rules by which it is governed will, I think, prove of interest to the majority of readers.

Let us suppose then, by way of illustration, that Mrs. B., owning a ring which, for some reason, she does not wish to wear, concludes to make it available either by exchanging it for some useful article or by selling it outright for cash. She has heard of the *Bazaar* and knows that through its columns she can carry her wish into action. Not understanding the *modus operandi*, she buys a copy of the paper, an attractive looking, neatly printed pamphlet, and, turning to the advertising directions, finds them to read as follows:—"A person wishing to effect an exchange or sale through our columns will send the advertisement, together with stamps, to the manager. If the advertiser wish his own name and address to be published, he can have it done; but supposing he should wish to keep them secret, he will intimate this to us and we will attach a number to his advertisement in place of them, and all letters answering his advertisement will therefore be addressed, under cover, to that number at our office." Mrs. B's. mind being now clear on that point, she proceeds to write her advertisement as follows:—"Beautiful heavy 18 carat gold gypsy ring, set with three pearls and four pink topazes. Hall marked. Cost £6 6s., price 60s., or exchange. Approval Deposit." The two latter words meaning that in accordance with the usual customs, she will send the rings to anyone contemplating its purchase should the specified price be deposited with the manager of the paper. To the advertisement she appends name and address, and, enclosing the number of stamps as payment, sends it for insertion in the columns of the *Bazaar*. It appears in the next issue, and two or three days later a large envelope, enclosing numerous answers thereto, is sent her from the newspaper office. Then the joys of barter begin. Opening the first letter, she finds that the writer has long wished for just such a ring as hers, and offers in exchange a gold watch of her own. Being already well supplied with ornaments of that kind, lays this first epistle aside as useless. Letter No. 2 contains a proposal to buy the advertised ring for two guineas—"As if I wanted to *give* it away!" thinks indignant Mrs. B.—and throws No. 2 aside also. From the third letter falls a sample of yellow brocaded silk. "I have," says the author of this epistle, "twenty yards of this truly sweet amber silk, which cost me five guineas. As I have no present use for the material, I will exchange it for your ring. If you will send me word of your intention to send me the ring on approval, I will deposit the value at the office of the *Bazaar*." Mrs. B. considers she needs a new evening dress; *this* she is sure would be becoming—and so, so considering, she opens letter No. 4, the last of the lot. "If your ring is of small size, suitable for a lady, I will pay, on approval, the amount desired, sixty shillings. The money has been deposited with manager of *Bazaar*. Please forward the ring immediately to Charles King, No. 42 Sutherland Terrace, Bayswater." "That is definite," thinks Mrs. B., "definite and to the point." She looks again at the amber silk which offer shall she take? Her eyes fall upon a copy of the *Bazaar*, which lies open before her. Musingly she reads, "Rich soft white woollen costume, beautifully made, embroidered with crewels; wild rose design; suitable for garden parties; waist, 23 inches; new; price, four guineas." "Just what I want," decisively reflects Mrs. B., "I'll sell my ring, add another pound to that money, and buy the white dress." So the ring is packed, registered, and sent by post to "Charles King." He sends in return notice of his commplete satisfaction together with the purchase money. Meanwhile, Mrs. B. has sent a request for the white dress, which has been sent on approval. Being all her fancy painted it, she ends by buying it, and the bargains are completed—let us hope satisfactorily to all the participants. Some man, speaking in derisive terms of this paper, which has proved productive of so much innocent amusement, scoffingly said, "Evidently the man who started it had a lively sense of the delight all women take in a good bargain." But, after a thorough examination of the columns of the *Bazaar*, I have become convinced that it must be patronized equally by both sexes. Else why should it contain advertisements like the following:—"splendid 54 in. bicycle, every latest improvement; red tyres, effective lever, brake, &c., &c. Will exchange for gold watch." Or this—"Very handsome liver and white pointer dog, been shot over two seasons, staunch and fast. Price, £10." Indeed it seems as if all wants, reasonable or unreasonable, might easily be supplied by referring themselves to this journal. Listen to the wide range of advertised articles. Aprons, aquatics, autographs; banjos, bantams, bloodhounds, blossoms, boots; cats, chemistry, chromos; digitoriums, donkeys, ducks; earrings, fine arts, furs, Guinea pigs, harps and lace; linen, music, orchids; perambulators, petticoats, pigs; seeds, silkworms, swords; trees, uniforms and whips;—everything in fact—and all in classified lists. A lively trade, exchange and barter is thus inaugurated and kept up through these columns, and everybody is pleased except the merchants, who are naturally unanimous in denouncing the enterprise.

Why does not some leader of society introduce in our country, the English fashion of "five o'clock tea?" It is certainly a most charming custom, the cup of afternoon tea being always acceptable, both when alone in one's house, or when surrounded by friends. The maid or footman brings in "the tea things," and places them upon the little ow table dedicated especially to their use; the hostess makes the tea; if there are any gentlemen present they utilize themselves by passing the cups, and sociability thus invited rarely refuses to favour the assembly with her presence. And then what a help toward entertaining the passing guest is the preparation and presentation of this simplest of refreshments, driving away the monotony from that most monotonous of inflictions, the stereotyped afternoon call. Sometimes, in England, a table is regularly set for a meal; then, of course, other edibles than the usual thin slices of bread and butter accompany the tea—crumpets, tea-cake, fancy cakes and fruits, *par example*, also claret and sherry wine. This profusion, however, is not considered "good style," except when friends have come from a distance and are to have a long, cold drive in returning. For instance, I was hospitably treated after that fashion not long ago, having been invited to spend the afternoon at a house in the country just outside London. The drive through the village streets was most entertaining to my unaccustomed eyes, carrying me past many fine old mansions, overgrown with ivy and enclosed by high brick walls, and over the same road which old Dr. Johnson used to travel when going to take his dozen cups of tea with Mrs. Thrale. Arrived at The Lodge, a charming old house, whose title deeds date back to Henry VIII., we were entertained in the manner above described. Over our tea we were informed that the cook had lived forty years in the family, an evidence of the perpetuity of English household affairs particularly striking to the American mind, accustomed to perpetual change.

Apropos of nothing, I was inquiring the other day of a friend, well versed in London society matters, "Is there a present Count Albany or is the race of Stuarts utterly extinct?" She replied by handing me a note, written on the finest of paper, headed by a coronet and monogram, "Dear Lady"—(it began)—"I am very sorry to find that I am engaged to dinner at eight o'clock on the twelfth, and to a soirée in the eve. I hope to be in Kensington in a day or two, * * * * and so on, the signature being, "very sincerely yours, Charles Edward d'Albanie." The "Charles Edward" at the end shows—does it not?—that royalty in a family, like many other habits, dies hard. The Count Albany of to-day is, I was told, a fine-looking, gallant old gentleman, very un-English in style through long residence in foreign lands. He has no children, so that with him will die the last hope of the Stuarts.

KATHLEEN.

GENERAL.

A woman of Versailles has been cast into gaol for two months for illegally wearing the red ribbon of the Legion of Honour.

The *Electrician* learns from St. Petersburg that preparations are in progress for illuminating the streets of the Russian capital by means of Jablochkoff's electric light.

A band of twenty bandits attacked a house in Orioli, Sardinia, recently and were put to flight by a resolute young woman, who fired upon them from a window with a revolver.

The sum of £7,727 has been awarded to Mr. Raynsford Jackson, of Blackburn, for the destruction of the contents of his house at the time of the strike riot. The town pays the bill.

Professor Max Muller shows his zeal for the higher education of girls by giving $1,500, to be invested so as to provide an exhibition for a scholarship at the high school for girls in Oxford.

Miss Lavinia Goodell, the Wisconsin lawyer, is mentioned as a slender woman whose hair is gray, but not with years, and whose toilet is without eccentricity, as her manner is without boldness.

"One minute in the penitentiary," was the punishment fixed by a Dallas (Texas) jury for the tramp who, having been discharged weak and hungry from the hospital, stole a citizen's breakfast.

An English gentleman recently received by mail a packet of peas which were taken from the folds of an Egyptian mummy, unrolled in the British Museum, 3,000 years old. He planted them, and they have sprouted, with good promise of growing vigorously.

The Right Hon. William E. Forster, speaking at Bradford a few days ago, maintained that a re-organization of the business of the House of Commons was necessary, as it was outgrowing the possibilities of dealing with it. The Irish Home Rulers find this a strong argument for repeal.

The Island of Giglio, between Leghorn and Civita Vecchia, was lately put up at auction for the total sum of 23,000 francs, being an average of 92 francs for each property. There were about 300 proprietors of the 130 vineyards, 34 houses and 62 fields. A vineyard was put up at 15 francs, and a house at 37 francs 20 centimes.

The driver of what the English call a "van" was lately surprised in London by a large ourang outang suddenly jumping into his vehicle. He attempted to take the fellow into custody, but it escaped, and afterwards attacked a costermonger in the street, upset his barrow, and smashed his crockery. The animal was captured after a severe struggle with several men.

The London *Standard* says that the greatest rival to gas in London is paraffine, which is hawked about all the back streets daily like milk. It thinks it is quite probable that gas will survive the electric light, just as horses have survived the introduction of railroads. It may develop more highly special utilities, as for cooking and lighting interiors, however practicable electricity may be for lighting streets.

The Rev. R. W. Rowson, vicar of Aylesby and curate of Riby, Lincolnshire, was brought up recently on a charge of stealing an overcoat from an eating-house. He said he had purchased the coat from a stranger in the street for five shillings, but it was proved that he pawned the coat, and a pair of gloves that had been in one of the pockets were found upon him. He was sentenced to three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

A parent, who claimed the right to educate his own children, sent the following communication to a school board in England recently:—"Gentlemen: I am at a loss to know why the school board officers so desirous to have my childer educated. It is my only wish to make them scholars. There is plenty of street Arabes to look after without annoying me so much. Yours, and so forth. The Jentleman Chool Bord."

There seems to be a possible claimant for the *rôle* of Mrs. Bravo. A raid was recently made on the house of a Mr. Blake, in the County Galway (who on this occasion may be styled *the* Mr. Blake of Galway), and it was completely looted and sacked. The alleged offence on Mr. Blake's part, or the supposed act of *lèse* popular opinion, was his having married an interesting young widow, whose first husband died under circumstances almost as peculiar as Mrs. Bravo's. A jury of her countrymen had, however, acquitted this young widow of the foul charge.

One of the latest additions to the arsenal of the toilette is now the rage in England. This is called the tea-gown. "Of course," says the *World*, "it in no way resembles the dressing-gown of utility; it is of elaborate design and infinite cost. It is worn for about an hour in the day; and yet, in a country-house visit of a week, the same must on no account be exhibited more than twice, if, indeed, so much may be allowed. It is absolutely useless and utterly ridiculous; but this is not the worst that may be said about it. It is, to all intents and purposes, a *déshabille*; and so great is the force of association, that the conversation is exceedingly apt, nay almost certain, to become *déshabille* as well."

The Bishop of Manchester, in preaching at Oswestry on behalf of Coltage Hospital, read a letter from a fashionable young lady giving him an account of her day, and asking him where there was any time in it for Christian work. She has no time for God between writing letters, notes of invitation, feeding the canaries, dressing for lunch, making calls, five o'clock tea, driving late in the park, dinner, the opera, "and then" writes the poor over-driven child of fashion, "when we get home I am so dreadfully tired that I don't know what to do." Apart from the moral dissipation of such a life it must be frightfully wearisome, and must superinduce the most unlevely of all expressions, that of ennui.

An extraordinary will was filed in St. Louis last week. It was that of a German Socialist named Lingeman, whose estate is worth over $12,000, and is bequeathed to the workingmen of Europe and America who belong to the Social Democratic societies, as follows:—To Switzerland, France, Italy and Spain, one-sixth; to Germany, three-sixths; to Austria, Hungary, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Poland and Russia, one-sixth; to the United States, one-sixth. The will contains a list of prominent Socialists in various portions of the world, and closes with the declaration "that the true friend of mankind is in earnest with the people, 'One for all, and all for one;' that his only religion is to do good; that all mankind is his family and the whole earth his fatherland. Farewell, ye men of labour; and ye women, ere long to be endowed with equal rights—may you all live happily, and sometimes think of your brother." The direct heirs at law have protested against the will on the ground of insanity, a plea which is a little rough on the Socialists.

The fortune of the ex-Empress Eugenie has been over-estimated. The will of Louis Napoleon, made in 1866, with codicils left with the notary, Mocquard, and opened Jan. 12, 1873, at Chiselhurst, three days after the death