Amusements.

THEATRE - ROYAL, BRISTOL.
LESSEE AND MANAGER ... JAMES HENRY CHUTE
QUEEN-SQUARE, BRISTOL, AND ALFRED-STREET, BATH.
PRICES OF ADMISSION.
Lower Boxes .. .. .. Two and Sixpence
Upper Boxes .. .. .. One and Sixpence
Pit .. .. One Shilling
Gallery .. .. .. Sixpence.
Private Boxes, Ten and Sixpence and One Guinea.
THE BOX - OFFICE IS AT Mr. HOLESGROVE'S, BOOKSELLER, DRAWBRIDGE.

LAST WEEK OF THE SEASON!
ENGAGEMENT OF THE CELEBRATED MISS CUSHMAN,
Most positively for Three Nights only!
On MONDAY, February 26th, will be Performed the Play of THE OLD CHATEAU.
To be followed by A MUSICAL MELANGE.
To Conclude with PRESENTED AT COURT.
On TUESDAY, Feb. 27th, *FOR THE BENEFIT OF MR. DOLMAN,* Will be presented Shakspere's Play of HENRY THE EIGHTH.
To Conclude, positively for the last time, with NED CANTOR.
On WEDNESDAY, February 28th, MISS CUSHMAN will PERFORM, in the Play of GUY MANNERING, Her celebrated Character of Meg Merrilies.
On THURSDAY, March 1st, Will be presented Shakspere's Play of ROMEO AND JULIET.
Romeo .. .. .. Miss Cushman.
On FRIDAY, March 2nd, *FOR THE BENEFIT OF MISS CUSHMAN,* And positively her last Appearance, will be Presented SIMPSON AND CO.
Mrs. Simpson .. .. .. Miss Cushman.
Doors open at Half-past Six; Performance to commence at Seven o'clock precisely.—Children in Arms not admitted.

BROADMEAD - ROOMS.
TUESDAY, 27th February.
SOCIAL PARTY AND CONCERT.
Tea from Six to Seven o'clock.
VOCALISTS:
Mrs. SNARY, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. SNARY, and Mr. J. SMITH.
Assisted by the BRISTOL AMATEUR GLEE SOCIETY.
The Band: Under the direction of Mr. Richardson.
Piano-forte: Mr. Denning.
Tickets 1s. 3d., and a few at Half-price for Admission at Seven o'clock, may be had of Mr. HAYTON, Union-street.

BRISTOL LICENSED VICTUALLERS' ASSOCIATION.
THE ANNUAL BALL,
In aid of the Benevolent Fund, is fixed to take place At the MONTAGUE, KINGSDOWN, On TUESDAY, 27th Instant.
Master of the Ceremonies—Mr. J. Rice.
The Band will be under the direction of Mr. Strong.
Gentleman's Ticket, 5s.; Lady's Ticket, 4s.; Double Ticket, to admit a Lady and Gentleman, 7s. 6d. (including Tea and Coffee), may be obtained of the Committee.
Dancing to commence at Nine o'clock.

ANNUAL BALL.
Mr. TAYLOR has the honour of announcing that his ANNUAL BALL will take place at 25, TRINITY-STREET, College-green, on THURSDAY, March 1st. An early application for Tickets will oblige, as the number is limited.
Schools attended, and Private Lessons given, in all the Fashionable Dances, Calisthenic Exercises, &c. [212

A SELECT BALL (under the management of a Committee of Gentlemen) will be given at the MONTAGUE, KINGSDOWN, on TUESDAY, the 27th March, 1855. Dancing to commence at Nine o'clock.
Tickets, including Tea, Coffee, &c.—Gentlemen, 3s. 6d.; Ladies, 2s.; to be had of Mr. ACKLAND, Dolphin-street, and Messrs. EVANS and ARROWSMITH, Clare-street.
FREDERIC A. KING, Hon. Sec., 4, Granby-hill, Clifton.

BRISTOL, CLIFTON, AND WEST OF ENGLAND ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.
TWO GRAND HORTICULTURAL FETES will be given at the GARDENS of this Society during the coming Season.
Terms of Subscription, Half a Guinea for Six Tickets; Three for each Fete.
Subscriptions received at Messrs. Giles and Son, Royal York Crescent, Clifton; Mardon's Library, Clifton; Mr. Cooper's, 1, Mall, Clifton; Lancaster's Library, Clifton; and at all the Bristol Banks. [254

MR. WEST respectfully informs the Public that the PICTURES Painted by him for the London Exhibition will be placed for their inspection at the ACADEMY'S ROOMS, opposite the DRAWBRIDGE, from MONDAY Next, the 26th inst., until SATURDAY, March 3.
Admission Free, on application to the Doorkeeper.

CLIFTON DEBATING SOCIETY.
The Committee of the above Society, in consideration of the great anxiety felt by all classes on the subject of "The Present War, and its Political Relations," herewith invite all who may desire to attend their discussions on that subject. Their Meetings take place every ALTERNATE FRIDAY, at the MUSIC-HALL, PARK-STREET, at Eight o'clock. Next Debate, FRIDAY, March 2nd.

IN UNION WITH THE SOCIETY OF ARTS, LONDON. (No. 384.)
BRISTOL CITY LECTURES. } BROADMEAD-ROOMS. { BRISTOL CITY LECTURES.
MONDAY NEXT, FEBRUARY 26TH, HENRY PHILLIPS, Esq., Of London, THE SONGS OF CHARLES DIBDIN.
Admission, 3d.; Reserved Seats, 6d.
Doors open at Quarter before Eight, commence Quarter past.

Addresses.

FIRE IN CLARE - STREET.
Mr. WILLIAM TURNER, TAILOR, 10, Clare-street, returns his sincere thanks to his Neighbours and Friends, as well as to the Police and Firemen, for their prompt assistance at the Fire adjoining his premises on Thursday Evening last by which his stock was preserved from any serious injury. [f2

BEST WELSH AND FOREST COALS, AT DUDLEY AND GIBSON'S CLIFTON COAL WHARF, FLOATING - DOCK, HOTWELLS.
☞ Office, Opposite Trinity-Church. [253

EDWARD SNAPE SHEPHERD,
17, TEMPLE - STREET,
AGENT TO THE TIMES LIFE, FIRE, PROPERTY, & GUARANTEE ASSURANCE COMPANIES.
Chief - Office—32, LUDGATE - HILL, LONDON.
PLATE - GLASS INSURED. [248

GWYNNE AND SIMS,
DEALERS IN BRITISH AND PATENT PLATE, CROWN, SHEET, AND ORNAMENTAL GLASS, GLASS SHADES, GLAZIERS' DIAMONDS, &c.
8, *PHIPPEN - STREET, BRISTOL.*
N.B.—Glaziers' Diamolds Reset. [228

BRISTOL MARCH FAIR.
Parties purchasing Horses at the above Fair may be supplied with CART and GIG HARNESS and SADDLERY GOODS of every description at T. W. TOZER's, 11, OLD MARKET-STREET; Manufacturer of the improved LEATHER BANDS, for Driving all kinds of Machinery.

GERMAN AND FRENCH CONVERSATION AND LITERATURE.
A CLASS for Young Ladies is formed Twice a Week at the house of a Lady residing at Clifton, for the purpose of enabling them to converse fluently in the above languages. An eminent master attends, and the terms are very moderate.—Apply to Mrs. D. HUNT, 10, Upper Victoria-place, Clifton.

NEW AND SECOND - HAND PIANO-FORTES.
PIANO - FORTE AND GENERAL MUSIC WAREHOUSE,
28, CLARE-STREET, BRISTOL.—Established 1799.
FRANCIS HODGES begs respectfully to state that, besides a large and excellent Stock of New Instruments by Broadwood, Collard, and Erard, and others, he has also on Sale several Second-hand ones, at from £10 upwards, and are particularly worth attention.

SHORTLY will be Ready, a First-class STEEL ENGRAVING, of the late Dr. BEAUMONT. Orders to be forwarded to J. ACKLAND, Printer and Stationer, 2, Dolphin-street, Bristol, and of whom may be had Portraits of the late Drs. Bunting and Newton. [f

GEORGE TAYLOR,
WINE AND SPIRIT, ALE AND PORTER MERCHANT,
23, *REDCLIFF - STREET, BRISTOL.*
Sole Agent for Betts's Patent Brandy.
N.B. An assortment of the Best BRITISH WINES.
Orders taken at Queen's road, Clifton.

LIST OF PRICES.	Per Doz.	Pints.	Quarts.
Guinness's & Co. Extra STOUT	.. 48s. 4d.	6s. 6d.	
Dublin and London STOUT	.. 38s. 6d.	5s. 6d.	
Bass's and Allsopp's Pale ALE	.. 48s. 9d.	7s. 0d.	
Strong Scotch ALE	.. 58s. 0d.	8s. 0d.	
Stogumber Medicinal ALE	.. 38s. 9d.	5s. 6d.	
India Pale ALE	.. 48s. 2d.	6s. 0d.	
Scotch Dinner ALE	.. 28s. 0d.		
CIDER			6s. 0d.

FURNISHED APARTMENTS and ATTENDANCE required by a Gentleman, who is engaged in business during the day. The situation must be healthy and respectable. Terms not to exceed £30 a year.—Apply, stating particulars, to F R O, Bristol Mercury Office. [f 2

TO BE LET, one of the best HOUSES in BERKELEY-SQUARE, facing the Bishop's College, with Coach-house and Stable. The Furniture, which is of the best description, may be taken at a valuation. The House is in thorough repair.—Apply to W. HUGHES and CO., Estate and House Agents, 37, College-green, Bristol.

TO BE LET, PART of SNEED-PARK-FARM, Two Miles from Bristol, and One from Clifton; containing about 172 Acres, 37 of which are Arable, and the remainder rich Pasture, with convenient Farm-buildings. Also, a fine old Elizabethan MANSION, adjoining the above Farm, with its beautiful Park, Grounds, and Terraces, together with about 25 Acres, most beautifully and picturesquely situated, commanding extensive views of the surrounding country. The whole of the above property will be let together, or separately, if required.—For further particulars apply at Sneed-Park-Villa, Durdham-down; or to Messrs. ABBOT and LUCAS, Solicitors, Albion-chambers, Bristol.

GENTLEMEN'S SERVANTS & OTHERS.
Mr. J. SMITH has to DISPOSE OF several PUBLIC-HOUSES and BEER-HOUSES; some with compact Breweries attached. Also, in the Grocery and General Line. Going-in from £15 to £500.—For particulars and to treat for either apply to the Auction-Mart, Old Market-street, Bristol. [206

COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON EDUCATION.

Such Managers of Elementary Schools in England and Wales, for Children of the Labouring Classes, as are desirous that the Teachers should be examined in the current year, for Registration, pursuant to the minute of 20th August, 1853, are requested to communicate immediately *(if they have not already done so)* with the Secretary, Committee of Council on Education, Council Office, Whitehall.

HOPS.—To FARMERS and DEALERS.
During the present high price of HOPS, it may be an advantage for parties in the country and at a distance to know that FINE HOPS, of the present year's growth, may be had at Mrs. HEWITT's Hop and Corn Stores, North-street, Bristol, at 2s. 10d. and 3s. 3d. per lb. in small quantities.
Also, a few Pockets of OLD HOPS on SALE, useful for mixing, at 1s. 3d. per lb.

NOTICE is hereby given, that all Persons having any Claim on the late THOMAS SMITH, Esq., of Belvidere House, Weston-super-Mare, in the county of Somerset, deceased; are requested to forward such Claim to Mr. WILLIAM SMITH, Belvidere House, Weston-super-Mare, aforesaid, on or before the 14th day of March next. And all Persons indebted to the above Estate, are requested to liquidate the same at the place and time aforesaid.
Dated Weston-super-Mare, February 24th, 1855.

Bristol.

SATURDAY, February 24, 1855.

☞ *For a variety of interesting Foreign and Domestic News, see the Supplement.*

Bristol Sugar-Market, *Feb.* 23.—We have but very little business to report here this week, the stocks being almost exhausted. Refined dull, and rather lower. In rum there is nothing doing.

The Weather.—The severe frost noticed last week continued with much rigour up to yesterday morning, and our city and the country around have exhibited all the characteristics of what, as if by universal consent, has been everywhere designated an "old-fashioned winter," such an one, in fact, as the immortal poet depicts—

"When Marion's nose looks red and raw,
And Dick, the shepherd, blows his nail,
And Tom brings logs into the hall,
And milk comes frozen home in pail."

Every exposed surface of water, even to the floating harbour, has been frozen over to an enduring consistency, so that there has been no lack of opportunity for the skaters, who, to do them justice, have been nowise backward in taking advantage of it. The lake in the Zoological Gardens has been crowded, day and evening, by fashionables, as well ladies as gentlemen, and for whose accommodation after nightfall the committee have fitted up a number of gas-lights. The crack skaters have been quite lions in their way, their "featherings" and flourishes being applauded by the bystanders with no niggard hand. The lake in the Stapleton-park has been also much resorted to, while the floating-harbour has borne its thousands of all classes, till the space from the butts to the Hotwells has worn the appearance of a winter fair. One poor little fellow was unhappily drowned on Monday, at the back of Bridge-street, under the circumstances detailed in our inquest reports, but this is the only fatal consequence we have heard of. A few have met with cracked pates, and one or two with broken bones, and some sixteen or seventeen on Wednesday afternoon got a ducking to the waist by venturing on some rotten ice near Mr. Patterson's ship-yard, but beyond these mishaps all has gone smoothly. On Thursday night there was a heavy fall of snow, and yesterday the wind veering to the south and then to the west, a thaw came on, which we hope may be continued, for however pleasurable a hard frost may be to those who can wrap up in thick coats and fur mufflers, and after defiant exercise on the ice sit down to a well-stored table and enjoy a genial fireside, it must be evident that the season to the humbler classes is one of severe trial and sharp punishment, closing up the avenues of labour when it produces an increased necessity for substantial food and ample clothing. We are happy to state that there has been no lack of benevolent consideration for the poor. Besides the ordinary channels of relief, official and otherwise, a subscription has been raised, the Sailors' Home cooking apparatus set to work, and good soup and other comforts distributed daily to some hundreds of families.

We beg to direct attention to the urgent claims of the Kingswood Benevolent Society.—*See advertisement.*

Soup - House, River - street.—The following additional sums have been contributed to this institution:—Joseph Reynolds, £4; Thomas Sealy, 10s.; William Batt, 10s.; H. Walker, per J. Harrill, 10s.

Brent Mills, South Brent.—It will be seen by advertisement that the large and valuable stock of English and foreign grain, &c., together with the mill and farming implements, horses, wagons, &c., of the above establishment, are to be brought to the hammer on Tuesday and Wednesday next, by Messrs. Barnard, Thomas, and Co.

Fire at Thrissell-street Chapel.—In consequence of the destruction of the above place of worship, the deacons and congregation assembling in Castle-green chapel have kindly invited the minister and people of Thrissell-street to unite with them till their own school-room can be put into a state of repair.

The Royal North Gloucester Militia.—This body, now serving at Cirencester, has sent to different regiments of the line, the Marines, and Artillery, upwards of 160 men since their embodiment on the 26th of December. Ensign Boddington, of that regiment, has been appointed to an ensigncy in the 41st Foot, now in the Crimea, on the recommendation of the commanding officer, Colonel Kingscote. This is the second commission that has been given to officers of the North Gloucester Regiment during the short period they have been embodied.

Bristol Institution.—It was announced at the close of Mr. Mackworth's lecture on Monday evening last (a notice of which appears in our 6th page), that Mr. Etheridge would lecture the following Monday evening, Feb. 26th, on "Zoophytes and the Vivarium." The subject will be illustrated by living specimens of this interesting and novel branch of zoology from the fine vivarium of the Zoological-gardens at Clifton.

Coals for the Poor.—Mr. Martin, chemist, Park-street, honorary secretary to the committee, begs to acknowledge a donation of £1 from John Budgett, Esq., Henleaze.

We invite attention to Dr. Armstrong's two meetings at the Victoria-Rooms, on Monday next.—*See advt.*

Mr. West's Pictures.—Our talented fellow-citizen, Mr. W. West, has favoured the public, at the Fine Arts' Gallery, Drawbridge, with a view of a series of pictures from his pencil, which he is about to forward to the London Exhibition, and to the approaching world's fair at Paris. Mr. West, as we have often had occasion to observe, delights in painting nature in her wildest and grandest moods, and in the present collection comprises views and compositions of the bold and picturesque scenery of our own North Devonshire coast and delineations of some of the most romantic spots in Norway. The view of the Fiord on the high road from Christiana to Bergen, in Norway, is an exceedingly romantic and beautiful landscape, and is treated with refined tai-te, and with the most painstaking manipulation. The view of the Sogne Field, with the peculiar effect of a Norway evening, is a powerful picture, and so is also the composition of rocky scenery, near Hiracombe. The exhibition will be found altogether worthy of a visit, not only as regards the works of Mr. West, senior, but also as containing some vigorous and highly-promising water-colour drawings from the easel of his son.

Trotting Match against Time.—On Friday the 16th inst., a trotting match, which attracted considerable interest, came off on the road between Glastonbury and Wells. W. P. L. Buckle, Esq., of Clevedon, having backed his chestnut horse Hue and Cry to go two miles in seven minutes, start and stop. The horse, which is only four years old, was trained and ridden by Samuel Pennington, of Polsham, near Wells, who is owner of Old Phenomenon, sire of Hue and Cry. Although heavy bets were laid against the performance of the feat, the match was cleverly won. The horse started at 4 minutes to 1, and stopped at 2½ minutes past 1, thus doing the distance in 6½ minutes, and winning by 30 seconds. He did not turn a hair, or break through the whole distance. The owner, we understand, refused an offer of 100 sovereigns for the animal immediately after the race. Mr. Buckle had previously won two cups by running cart mares.

Local Charges on Shipping.—On Monday our member, Mr. W. H. Gore Langton, inquired whether it was the intention of the government to introduce any bill in accordance with the report of the commissioners appointed to inquire into local charges upon shipping; to which Mr. Cadwell replied that the English report had been presented in 1854. The reports from Scotland and Ireland would probably be laid on the table shortly, and he apprehended that it would then be time enough for the government to consider the matter.

Fires.—Destruction of Thrissell-street Chapel.—On Sunday evening, a little past 5 o'clock, a person passing observed smoke issuing from the windows of Thrissell-street chapel. An alarm was given, and in about half-an-hour the police fire-engine arrived on the spot, followed by those of the West of England, Norwich, Imperial, and Sun fire offices. However, by the time the first-mentioned engine was able to procure a supply of water, which, in consequence of the frozen state of the pipes, there was some difficulty in doing, the fire had made considerable way, which rendered every effort made to stay its progress ineffectual. Hundreds of people were attracted to the spot by the sight of the vast body of flame arising from the burning edifice, and which being forced across the street by the wind, occasioned no little consternation among the inhabitants of the houses opposite, some of whom were so much alarmed as to throw portions of their furniture out of window. About six the roof of the chapel fell in. The firemen found it totally impossible to save the main building from destruction, and were, therefore, compelled to confine their exertions to the preservation of the adjoining school-room, in which they fortunately succeeded. The conflagration was sufficiently subdued by about half-past eight o'clock to warrant the engines in quitting it, one only, that of the West of England, remaining. Of the chapel itself nothing is left standing but the four bare walls—gallery, organ, pulpit, seats, &c., being entirely consumed; a few forms were the only articles preserved from the fire. The school adjacent was, as we mentioned above, fortunately saved from destruction. The fire, which broke out in the singing gallery of the chapel, is supposed to have been occasioned by a leakage of gas.—On the previous Saturday evening, about eight o'clock, a fire broke out on the premises of Messrs. Pearce and Co., surgical instrument makers, Bridge-street. The Norwich Union fire-engine was quickly on the spot, speedily followed by the West of England, Imperial, Sun, and Police engines. By their exertions the fire was confined to the cellar in which it commenced, and was extinguished by ten o'clock. A considerable quantity, however, of the stock of the cellar, which is, we believe, the work-shop of the establishment, was destroyed. Both properties (that of Mr. Pearce and the chapel) were insured in the General (late Protestant Dissenters') Insurance Office. The chapel had been uninsured for a number of years till about eight months ago, when some prudent person advised that a policy should be effected, and it was then insured in the General for £1000. It is feared, however, that the loss will somewhat exceed that amount. From circumstances which have since transpired, it is thought that the fire in Bridge-street was the work of an incendiary, and with the object of concealing a robbery which had been committed on the premises. A woman has been heard to state that immediately before the fire broke out she saw a man leap from a back window of the house, and on an examination being made, it has been found that a desk had been forced open and a fastening broken away from one of the back windows, evidently for the purpose of obtaining ingress to the premises, upon which no one resides.—At about half-past eight on Thursday night, a fire was discovered in the cellar of Mr. May, cutler, Clare-street, but owing to its early discovery and the prompt arrival of the Police and other engines, it was extinguished without doing much damage.

The Bristol and Clifton Trades' Association.—The fifth annual meeting of this association was held on Wednesday last, when the report of the last year's proceedings was read, and the officers for the ensuing year appointed. By the report it appeared that the number of members was then upwards of 160 (exclusive of the honorary ones), and that they were increasing as the advantages of the association became more known. Reference was made to the Registration of Bills of Sale act passed last session, through the instrumentality and at the expense of the societies throughout England, and that weekly lists of these securities were now being supplied by the association to members subscribing to them, and the utility of these lists and of those of warrants of attorney, and judges' orders, to the mercantile community, was duly insisted on. It further appeared that during the past year 440 accounts had been sent into the secretary for collection, amounting to £4719, of which upwards of £2460 had been paid or settled. Mr. Charles Ring was elected president, and Mr. E. S. Robinson, vice-president, of the association for the next twelve months, which with other appointments on the committee, and of Mr. John Miller, as secretary, completed the business of the meeting, which, after a vote of thanks to the late president, Mr. T. F. Shew, then broke up.

Novel Suit.—Owing to the squeeze at M. Jullien's last concert several families who had taken reserve seats were unable to possess themselves of their allotted places. We hear that one of these, Mr. W. O. Bigg, has sued Il Maestro for the return of his money, and that the case will be heard in our small debts court on Monday week.

Christ Church.—The funeral of the Rev. John Strickland, for many years rector of Christ church with St. Ewen in this city, took place on Monday, when most of the inhabitants showed their respect by partially closing their houses. The Rev. Mr. Curzon, of Manchester, who, it is said, purchased the living sometime since, will be his successor.

The Tremear.—On Monday a new drama was produced, called "The Life of Ned Cantor," founded on some incidents in the popular tale of "Woman and her Master." We had not an opportunity of seeing it, but hear that it is a very powerful piece of its class, abounding in "situations" and thrilling effects, and that it is well got up and cleverly acted. Last night, Miss Fanny Young and Mrs. Woolidge took their benefit, when their appeal was responded to by a numerous and most respectable audience. On Tuesday next Mr. Dolman takes his benefit, and announces an attractive bill of fare, and on Wednesday the celebrated tragedian, Miss Cushman, commences a limited engagement for three nights, during which she will appear in some of her most powerful characters. It is some years since Miss Cushman has paid us a visit, and her presence will doubtless prove attractive to the play-going public.

Antigone.—On Wednesday evening Mr. G. Melville read in the lecture-hall of the Bristol Athenæum Sophocles' tragedy of "Antigone," his reading being accompanied by a performance of Mendelssohn's beautiful and appropriate music. Mr. Melville's was a gentlemanly and scholar-like reading of the text, and the music was performed by a talented though small orchestra, led by Mr. Waite, and by a well-disciplined chorus of about sixteen or eighteen voices. There was a numerous and fashionable audience, by whom the performances were but coldly received, a circumstance in some degree, no doubt, attributable to the rigours of the night, which, owing to some accident to the warm-air apparatus, could not be modified in the room by the introduction of any artificial heat beyond that produced by the gas. The choruses and instrumental accompaniments, under the able conduct of Mr. Bianchi Taylor, were given with much precision, but the "reading," accompanied though it was, was by no means so interesting as the performance of the same tragedy from Bartholomew's translation, and with Mendelssohn's music, which took place at our theatre some years ago, and which—such is the perversity of public taste—scarcely anybody went to see.

Social Party and Concert.—It will be seen by our advertising columns that another of these parties is to take place at the Broadmead-Rooms, on Tuesday next. The programme offers a combination of attractions, as the talented vocalists engaged are to be assisted by the Amateur Glee Society. We understand that nearly three-fourths of the tickets issued have been disposed of.

St. John's and St. Nicholas.—The Rev. Canon Barrow, who for many years has been the respected incumbent of these parishes, preached on Sunday last his farewell sermon, which contained some useful advice, and it cannot be doubted that if his true and sensible observations at St. John's be borne in mind, great good will be done by preventing the anticipated differences on the part of some, and ensuring mutual proper feeling between minister and people, even though the daily services, &c., be discontinued by the future incumbent.

Lodge-street Chapel.—We understand that the Rev. Spencer Pearsall has accepted a unanimous invitation from the church and congregation assembling in Eccleston chapel, London, and that he is expected to take his farewell of his present charge on the first Sabbath in March. On next Sabbath evening, as will be seen from advertisement, Mr. Pearsall preaches to young people.

Fishponds.—The churchwardens of this place have paid the persons that came to their help when the church took fire, for their exertions on the occasion.

Horfield Barracks.—It has been determined that Horfield shall be a permanent Artillery depôt, as the locality is remarkably healthy, and its proximity to the downs is a great convenience.

In our list of officers promoted by the recent *Gazette*, given last week, we should have included the name of Major William Stewart, of Redland, to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.—*Clifton Chronicle.*

The Rev. George Campbell, late curate of Redcliff, and incumbent of the new church of Swindon, having obtained leave of absence for a twelvemonth, on placing another clergyman in the charge of Swindon, has gone out to the Crimea, in the capacity of a chaplain to the British army there.

City Lectures.—On Monday next, it will be seen, the well-known vocalist, Mr. H. Phillips, is to give an entertainment at the Broadmead-Rooms, on "the Songs of Charles Dibdin." The spirited effusions of that popular bard appeal to the mind with peculiar force at a time like the present.

Friend in Need Society.—We direct the attention of the benevolent to an appeal on behalf of this useful society for extended assistance, to recruit its exhausted funds and enable it to relieve, in some degree, the numerous cases of urgent distress which are claiming the attention of the committee at this inclement season.

Bristol Licensed Victuallers' Association—The annual ball of this society, in aid of the benevolent fund, is announced to take place at the Montague, on Tuesday next the 27th instant.—*See ads.*

Mail for Australia.—The next mail for the Australian colonies will be made up at the Post-office on the 3rd March next, to be despatched by the *Blue Jacket* from Liverpool.

The Labourers on the Quays and Docks.—The long run of severe weather having occasioned a suspension of business on our quays and docks, a number of labourers have been thrown out of employ, and are, with their families, reduced to a condition of the greatest distress. To relieve their sufferings, a fund, the contributors to which are given in our advertising columns, is being raised, and a large quantity of coals, bread, and soup has already been distributed, and will continue to be dealt out so long as funds for the purpose are forthcoming. The object is one that does not require the advocacy of many words; and we trust no lack of resources will be experienced towards helping those who, at such a juncture, cannot help themselves.

On Thursday, the 22nd instant, the Rev. Henry Moseley, M.A., was instituted by the Lord Bishop of this diocese to the vicarage of Olveston, in the county of Gloucester, vacant by the death of the Rev. Henry Harvey, on the presentation of the Dean and Chapter of Bristol.—On the same day, the Rev. Edward Girdlestone, M.A., was instituted by his lordship to the vicarage of St. Nicholas with St. Leonard, in this city, vacant by the cession of the Rev. George Neale Barrow—also on the presentation of the Dean and Chapter of Bristol:—On the same day, the Rev. Robert Jarratt, M.A., was instituted by his lordship to the rectory of Bourton-on-the-Hill with Moreton-in-Marsh, in the county of Gloucester, vacant by the death of Dr. Wasneford, on the presentation of the Rev. John Jarratt, and Avison Terry, Esq., the patrons for this turn.

Lieut. Henry Miller (son of Mr. Edward Maht Miller, of Laudsdown-place), who was recently among the officers of the Royal South Gloucester Militia, has had the honour of receiving from her Majesty a lieutenant's commission, and is now attached to the land transport service. The gallant lieut., we understand, has embarked for Constantinople, in the discharge of the duties of the new office to which he has been appointed.

Shipwreck.—The *Victory*, belonging to Messrs. King of this port, was wrecked on the night of the 8th, in the Bristol Channel, near Minehead. No lives were lost. The *Victory* was bound for Africa, and went ashore in a snow storm. 1200 kegs of gunpowder, several much damaged, have been landed from the ship; also a quantity of rum, tobacco, chests of guns, cutlery, &c., and placed in a boat-house, given up for the purpose by S. Halliday, Esq., of Glentorne-house, whose exertions for the comfort of the officers and crew of the ship have been most praiseworthy. The wreck has since been floated and taken in tow to Bristol, after having the masts cut away.

Poultry Stealing.—On Tuesday the fowl-house of George Gibbs, Esq., of Belmont, was robbed of a dozen valuable birds. A reward has been offered for the detection of the thieves.

Crimean Heroes.—Last night about twenty wounded and invalided soldiers from Scutari, belonging to different regiments, arrived in this city, and were billeted for four days. At the expiration of that time they will be sent to their regimental depôts in Ireland, where furloughs will be granted them. Among them are men who were at Inkerman and Alma, and, we believe, at Balaklava also.

The British Empire.—This fine ship, formerly the *Demerara*, went down the river on Sunday morning last, but a thickish fog prevented the sightseers on the Downs from getting a good view of her. Having remained in Kingroad till Wednesday, she weighed anchor, and is said to have sailed direct for Callao.

Lead Stealing.—There have been several cases of lead stealing this week from warehouses and dwelling houses in our neighbourhood. In one case the thieves had the impudence to steal a pipe with brass tap belonging to the gaol, from a field adjoining that establishment.

Impudent Theft.—On Sunday some thief entered the premises of Mr. Harris, in Fox-lane, and drove off from his stye a fine young black and white hog pig, weighing 7 score.

The Late Mr. Exley.—We regret having to record the death of this venerable and much respected gentleman, well-known to the scientific world for his abilities as a mathematician. Mr. Exley had contracted a slight cold some time back, and venturing out too soon, the severity of the weather, to the influence of which so many aged persons have succumbed, proved too much for him, inflammation of the lungs ensuing, which terminated fatally after an illness of three weeks. The deceased gentleman had reached the age of 80 years, and leaves behind him, we have heard, a brother two years older than himself. Mr. Exley, who was to the last a staunch Wesleyan of the conference school, married, we believe, a daughter of the celebrated Adam Clarke, whom, however, he long survived. The tall, attenuated form of the aged mathematician must have been familiar to many of our fellow-citizens, and the white flowing locks which swept around his thoughtful yet benevolent countenance gave him a striking appearance, which once seen could scarcely be forgotten.

Housebreaking.—On Tuesday night some thieves broke into the premises of Mr. Hill, timber-dealer, and Mr. Smith, horsehair-manufacturer, Merchant-street. They took a great deal of trouble, but we are happy to say obtained but a very small booty. Having clambered over a high wall in Alden's court, Broadmead, they picked the lock of Mr. Hill's counting-house door, where they ransacked some drawers but obtained nothing. They then clambered, by means of a plank, into a loft connected with Mr. Smith's premises, where they broke open the counting-house-door, apparently with a chisel, and forced two drawers with a bayonet, which was upon the premises. They only succeeded in possessing themselves of an old coat, and 4s. 9d. worth of postage stamps.

Casualties received at the Bristol Infirmary.—On Thursday William Linghorn, aged 16, living at the Hotwells, and Thomas Ball, aged 14, living on Granby-hill, were stabbed by another boy, named Farthing, with a penknife. The former received a wound in the abdomen, and the latter, one in the left arm. Both are going on well. On the same day Samuel Tucker, aged 14, living at Long Ashton, whilst lighting a fire, received a severe burn on his face and body by his clothes accidentally igniting. His father, James Tucker, in attempting to quench the flames, received a severe burn on his hands. The father is going on favourably, but the son lies in a very precarious state. On the same day Mary Sullivan, aged 17, living in Harford-street, whilst in a fit, fell into the fire and was severely burnt over the back. She is going on well. On the same day Thomas Hobart, aged 15, living at Stoke Gifford, whilst driving a horse and cart, had his left arm caught between the wheel and a wall, which caused a severe compound fracture of the limb. He is going on well.

Stolen.—From the sloop *Burton*, on the Welsh-back, a blue plush waistcoat; from St. Mary's chapel, St. Augustine's back, three hair-seat cushions; from the person of a lady in High-street-market, a silk purse containing about £2 in gold and some silver; from Walcroft-house, Durdham-down, four silver tea spoons, marked R.P.; from the sloop *Fly*, in Cumberland-basin, about 18 fathoms of 2½ inch rope; from the Jolly Skinners public-house, Wade-street, about 5 feet of lead pipe; from the person of Griffin Morris, while at the fire in Bridge-street, a double-case silver lever-watch; from the shop of Mr. Wintle, Baldwin-street, 9 hares, 2 widgeons, and a teal; from the residence of Mr. Simmons, Burnett-villa, Richmond-hill, a malacca walking-stick, silver mounted, and R.B.S. engraved on the top; from a cart, near Currant-lane, Prince's street, a caddy of tea weighing about 20lbs.; from the Old Porter House, Narrow Wine-street, a set of fire irons; from the house of Daniel Sutton, Brick-street, St. Philip's, about 25lbs. of old brass and copper and about ½ cwt. of currier's grease; from a void house, No. 11, Berkeley-square, about 8 feet of sheet lead; from the shop of Mr. Spurle, Langton-street, a large cheese; from a cart, while near Currant-lane, Prince's street, a package containing 20lbs. of tea; from the parlour of the Old Porter-house, Narrow Wine-street, a set of fire-irons; from the Greyhound, Quay-street, a brass tripod; from the barn of Mr. Henry, Hanham, 2 or 3 sacks of horsebeans; from the house of Mr. Green, Cotham-road, a leg of mutton, piece of beef, and a hare; from Springfield-villa, Spring-hill, a Malacca cane; from the warehouse of Messrs. Smith, Gardiner, and Co., Narrow-quay, a pair of spring-trucks; from the house of Mr. W. Reed, Merchants' parade, Hotwells, a silver watch, maker's name Harrison, Chepstow, No. 26113.

DARING AND EXPERT BURGLARY, AND EXTENSIVE ROBBERY OF GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES, JEWELLERY, &c.

One of the most daring, expert, and extensive robberies which we have ever had occasion to chronicle, was committed during Wednesday night, at the premises of Mr. W. Langford, watchmaker, on the Broad-quay. Mr. Langford and his family retired to rest at about midnight, their fastenings being secured in the usual way. Nothing to excite alarm was heard by them during the night, but on the servant-girl going down stairs at about 7 o'clock on Thursday morning, she was surprised to find that a door leading to the shop, which was always kept fastened, was open. Suspecting that something was amiss, she returned up stairs, and alarmed her young master, Mr. Edward Langford, who, on coming down and inspecting the premises, was horrified to find that they had been entered by thieves, who had succeeded in possessing themselves of gold and silver watches, gold chains, gold and silver coins, diamond and signet rings, cash, and other property, to the extent of at least £3000. Immediate information was given to the police, and a close examination of the premises was made—the latter showing that the robbery had been effected by two or more expert thieves, evidently skilled hands, and in the following manner. At the Northern end of Mr. Langford's shop is a passage communicating with a public-house, and the entrance to which, owing to the projection of the shop-window, is, after the shutters are up, always shrouded in darkness. Watching their opportunity, the burglars must have climbed from this passage up the side of the show-window, raising themselves by means of a shutter-bar and some iron-work connected with a large overhanging blind. Having thus clambered on to a projecting ledge above the shop-windows, they there (judging from the marks) laid themselves down for a time behind a large sign-board, which ranges along the front. They then began to prepare for making an entrance by means of the window at the South end of the house, but afterwards abandoned that intention (it is supposed on account of the light of a street-lamp falling upon them), and proceeded to the east end, which is more shaded. They then applied a square of cloth, covered with a starchy matter, to a pane of glass so as to prevent any sound from the breaking or the falling of the glass, and then with instruments removed the pane. One of them then inserted an arm, and with the help of a turnscrew or "jemmy" (it was too high to be reached by a hand), undid the fastenings. The sash was then raised, and they entered the drawing-room, where they first forced open a door, leading by means of a pantry to the rear of the house. There was a quantity of Australian gold dust in this pantry, which they overlooked. They then forced open a second door communicating with the staircase. These operations must have been performed very noiselessly, as Mr. and Mrs. Langford, who slept in a room immediately above the drawing-room, heard nothing to disturb them. Having descended the staircase, the villains unfastened another door by means of skeleton keys, and then forced their way into the sale-shop, from which they obtained a rich booty. From the till and cash-box they took two £5 Bank of England notes, one with the letters A.C.—W.L. on the back, and about £16 in gold and silver, and from the stock in the window, &c., they carried off about 125 gold watches, about 110 silver watches, 100 gold chains of all sorts, Brazilian, Cresley, Swiss, and other patterns, 12 diamond and about 50 signet rings, a lot of gold and silver coins, &c. The majority of the watches were marked "Langford, Bristol," but there were several marked "F. Quick, Bristol," and some of Geneva make, by "J. F. Jacot, Baume," &c. The thieves left behind them a number of job-watches, and some other things, probably as such articles are most liable to identification, or it might be because they did not wish to too much encumber themselves, as they made their escape by the drawing-room window by which they had entered. At an ordinary time, it is hardly likely that they would have succeeded in their attempt upon a shop situated where Mr. Langford's is, as, besides the regular police, there is, to say nothing of the watchmen on shipboard, a Custom's patrol, constantly keeping guard on the Quay. Unfortunately, however, the frozen state of the harbour has put an end for a time to maritime commerce, and the Quays have been, comparatively speaking, deserted. Mr. Langford has offered £100 reward for the detection of the burglars, but up to the present time the police have been unable to obtain any clue to them. It is thought that the robbery was not committed till towards morning.

Horticultural Fetes.—It has been frequently an object of surprise that while horticultural exhibitions of more or less merit have grown up in many of the minor places around Bristol,

"Advertisements & Notices." Bristol Mercury, 24 Feb. 1855. British Library Newspapers, https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/Y3206688363/BNCN?u=bayreuth&sid=BNCN&xid=f2f07cb8. Accessed 20 Oct. 2020.