several carefully elaborated sentences, assailed Mr. D'Israeli for making attacks in premeditated *extempore* upon others, and insisted that he who had been guilty of so many inconsistencies himself, had no right to administer severe rebukes for inconsistency in others. Mr. D'Israeli had commenced his political life in the department of tragedy as a Radical; but having failed in that character, had tried whether he could not be more successful in genteel comedy as a Tory. Having forgotten that he had failed at Marylebone, where he had professed to take Mr. Hume as his type, and had begged for the recommendation of Mr. O'Connell, he had next endeavoured to succeed by adopting the principles of Toryism, and showing his subserviency to its leaders; and having failed equally in that as in his former object, he now endeavoured to achieve that success which he had not yet attained by attaching himself to a new party, which assailed with envenomed bitterness the old party from which it had separated.

Mr. D'ISRAELI defended himself from some of the personal imputations of Mr. Roebuck, and quoted from the work of Mr Mill, in order to show that he was justified in adducing him as an advocate of reciprocal intercourse. The attack of Mr. Roebuck upon him was at once malicious and trifling.

Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT defended the measures of Government as essential to the welfare of commerce without being productive of injury to agriculture.

Lord GEORGE BENTINCK repeated his arguments against the removal of protection. He also commented on the political conduct of Lord Lincoln, who, in 1841, had termed the propositions of the then Whig Government, as tending to the formation of a "expiring faction." He contrasted his language at his last election for South Nottinghamshire with his recent language in that House and on the hustings at Falkirk. Who had turned the Noble Lord out of that county. The tenant-farmers of that district. All regard felt for his private character, all the money which he had spent in bribery or otherwise, had not saved him. His defeat in South Nottinghamshire, and of Lord Ashley in Dorsetshire, was a proof that Englishmen hated bergiversation, and did not like to be betrayed, and were opposed to the present alteration in the corn laws.

Lord LINCOLN, after an apology for his irregularity in addressing the House a second time, proceeded to reply to what he called the prepared and elaborate attack of Lord G. Bentinck. He had reserved his "very considerable strength" against him for the present occasion. In reference to the election of South Notts, he told Lord G. Bentinck to his teeth, that it was untrue that the Lord Lincoln had been guilty of either bribery or corruption. Considering the ordinary means which other candidates were compelled to incur in contesting counties, his late contest for Nottinghamshire had been a cheap contest, and he contrasted a comparison of the expenses which he had been compelled to incur, with those of any opposition which had been recently disputed. Whilst on that subject, he reminded Lord G. Bentinck that a member of his Lordship's family had subscribed largely to the expenses of his opponent, and that he could mention the very amount of that subscription, if he was anxious to hear it. Under such circumstances, it might have been more prudent, and perhaps more dignified, if Lord G. Bentinck had refrained from making this most unfounded and most unprovoked attack upon him at the very moment of his retaking his seat in the House, and at a period of the debate when the House was regularly ready to it. The Noble Lord, who spoke very calmly but very decisively, was the down amid loud cheers from the Ministerial and Opposition benches.

Sir C. BURRELL then asked leave to withdraw his amendment; but was met with a loud cry of "No, no," from the Ministerial and Liberal members.

After an irregular discussion,

Mr. LAW moved the adjournment, which was seconded by Mr. HUDSON.

Sir R. PEEL objected to this motion, which Mr. Law then withdrew.

The amendment was also withdrawn, and the report was agreed to—the third reading to be taken on Monday.

Lord Jeffries's and Mr. H. Gough's Amnesties Bills were severally read a second time.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the House adjourned at 1 o'clock.

RAILWAY COMMITTEES.

WEDNESDAY.

The Scottish Midland Extension.—The Committee on Group No. 6 announced, through the Chairman, that they were of opinion that the preamble of this bill had not been proved.

Edinburgh and Northern Extension.—The Committee on Group No. 7 declared that the preamble of this bill to be proved.

THURSDAY.

Forth and Clyde Junction.—In the Committee on Group No. 5, the preamble of this bill had to be declared to have been proved, and some alterations in the clauses were agreed to.

The Scottish Central Railway (Perth Termini and Branches).—The Committee on Group No. 6 went through the consideration of the bill in this case, which were agreed to.

Dundee and Perth.—All the clauses agreed to.

Stirling and Dunfermline.—The Committee on Group No. 6 declared the preamble of the bill proved, and afterwards went through the clauses of the bill.

Airdrie and Bathgate Junction.—In the Committee on Group No. 11, this bill was unopposed, and its preamble was agreed to, as were also the clauses, after some slight opposition to the Lanarkshire Road Trustees. The report was adjourned in order that a clause defining the point of junction with the Edinburgh and Bathgate Railway might be agreed to by the parties.

Edinburgh and Bathgate Railway.—The clauses of this bill were also gone through, after which the Committee adjourned, this being the last bill in their group.

FRIDAY.

Lochgelly and Leslie Extension.—Group No. 7.—Preamble not proved.

Lochgelly and Kirkaldy Branch.—Preamble not proved.

The Caledonian (Glasgow Termini and Branches).—In the Committee on Group No. 9, the Chairman announced that the Committee considered the branch over the canal so objectionable, on account of the steepness of the gradient, that they could not think of sanctioning the scheme; but as they considered it of great importance, they would grant the promoters till Monday, that they might consider, if possible, into some arrangement, with the view of obviating this objection. With respect to the main line, they would allow the passing of the Clyde in the manner proposed, provided the sanction of the Bridge Trustees were obtained. If the Admiralty continued to object, they would pass the preamble of the bill; if they did not, they would pass the preamble so far, on condition that the promoters constructed a sufficient slip on the north side of the river.

Glasgow, Paisley and Greenock (Police and Govan Branch.)—This branch was intended to form a junction between the Glasgow and Greenock and Police and Govan Railways. It was proposed to be carried over the Stone or Rocky Meadow, a swing-bridge. Several witnesses having been called for and against, the Committee were of opinion that the proposed junction might be effected without this line, and gave the parties until Monday next to make an arrangement.

Glasgow, Dumfries, and Carlisle.—Group No. 13. The case closed for the promoters, and adjourned to Monday, when the case on behalf of the Caledonian Extension will be opened.

STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE—HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The Committee decided that, in the case of the Glasgow and Dundee Railway, and of the Edinburgh and Hamilton Railway, the standing orders ought not to be dispensed with.

Caledonian Extension Bill.—The parties to be allowed to proceed, on abandoning their eastern extension.

UNITED STATES.

THE OREGON QUESTION.—THE NOTICE.

We have received, *viâ* Havre, most important advices from Washington, to the 16th ult., inclusive. They bring the result of the debate in the Senate on the Oregon question.

The proceedings in the Senate are thus detailed by our correspondent:—

Washington City (United States), Monday, April 13, 1846.

In the Senate this morning there was a conversational debate between Mr. Allen, Mr. Crittenden, Mr. Morehead, Mr. Clayton, and others, which resulted in an understanding (informally) that the vote on the resolutions respecting the 12 months' notice to terminate the joint convention relative to the Oregon territory should be taken on Thursday.

Mr. Huntington of Connecticut addressed the Senate to-day at length in favour of a settlement of the Oregon controversy by a compromise on the 49th degree.

A message was also received from the President, in reply to Mr. Clayton's resolution of inquiry, which stated that no further correspondence on the subject of Oregon had passed between the Ministers of the United States and Great Britain, since the 4th of February (the arbitration correspondence).

Tuesday, April 14, 1846.

Mr. Westcott of Florida addressed the Senate in support of the title of the United States up to 54 deg. 40 min., but in opposition to notice, which he believed, if fig did not bring on a war immediately, would at the expiration of the 12 months, find us without United States were not prepared for war, he should vote against the notice in all its shapes and forms.

Mr. Mr. Duffie of South Carolina said a few words by way of addenda to Mr. Westcott's speech, as that gentleman had attempted by appealing to Hansard to show that Great Britain had abandoned the idea of Spain to the territory in dispute. Mr. Mr. Duffie showed by quotations from the following page of the same volume from which Mr. Westcott has been quoting, that Great Britain had always denied the right of Spain to exclusive jurisdiction in Oregon.

Wednesday, April 15, 1846.

Mr. Samuel Houston of Texas addressed the Senate to-day in a speech in favour of the American title to 54 degrees 40, and advocating the "naked notice" as it is called, or a simple resolution giving the notice without preamble or qualification of any kind. He intimated, in the course of his speech, however, that a treaty which settled the matter on the 49th degree would receive his vote.

Thursday, April 16, 1846.

The Senate Chamber and galleries were very much crowded this morning by persons anxious to see and hear the closing scenes of this long protracted debate, which has extended over nine weeks, and also to see to what results it would lead.

Mr. Crittenden of Kentucky led off in a very able and eloquent speech, in support of the preamble and resolutions which he had offered authorizing the President to give the notice at his discretion.

Mr. Reverdy Johnson of Maryland moved the adoption, as a substitute, of the following preamble and resolution, which is the same as that offered by Mr. Crittenden, with the insertion of the words "and suitable" before the word "settlement" at the conclusion of the preamble, and the omission of the following proviso at the end of the resolution:—"Provided, however, that, in order to afford another time and opportunity for the amicable settlement and adjustment of all their differences and disputes in respect to said territory, said notice ought not to be given until after the close of the present session of Congress.

"Whereas, by the convention concluded the 20th day of Oct., 1818, between the United States of America and the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, for the period of ten years, and afterwards indefinitely extended and continued in force by another convention of the same parties concluded the 6th day of August, in the year of our Lord 1827, it was agreed that any country that may be claimed by either party on the northwest coast of America westward of the Stony or Rocky Mountains, now commonly called the Oregon territory, should, together with its harbours, bays, and creeks, and the navigation of all rivers within the same, be "free and open" to the vessels, citizens, and subjects of the two powers, but without prejudice to any claim which either of the parties might have to any part of the said country; and with this further provision, in the second article of the said convention of the 6th of August, 1827, that either party might abrogate and annul said convention, on giving due notice of 12 months to the other contracting party—

"And whereas it has become desirable that the respective claims of the United States and Great Britain should be definitely settled, and that said territory may no longer than need be remain subject to the evil consequences of the divided allegiance of its American and British population, and of the confusion and conflict of national jurisdictions, dangerous to the cherished peace and good understanding of the two countries.

"With a view, therefore, that steps be taken for the abrogation of the said convention of the 6th of August, 1827, in the mode prescribed in its second article, and that the attention of the Governments of both countries may be the more earnestly and immediately directed to renewed efforts for the amicable settlement of all their differences and disputes in respect to the said territory.

"1. Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby authorised, at his discretion, to give to the British Government the notice required by the said second article for the abrogation of the 6th of August, 1827."

Mr. Allen moved to amend this substitute by striking out the second and third paragraphs of the preamble, and inserting an extract from the President's Message, commencing "And whereas it has now become the duty of Congress," &c.

Mr. Pennybacker of Virginia then rose, and spoke at some length in explanation of his reason for opposing the substitute.

The question being taken on the amendment proposed by Mr. Allen, it was decided in the negative by a vote of—yeas 22, nays 32.

Mr. Allen moved to lay the resolutions reported by the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs on the table, in order that the resolutions adopted by the House of Representatives might be taken up and acted upon, which was agreed to.

Mr. Breese of Illinois then moved to amend the substitute by striking out the words "at his discretion" in the resolution. The question being taken, the motion was decided in the negative by a vote of—yeas 22, nays 32.

The question was then taken on the adoption of the substitute, and decided in the affirmative by a vote of—yeas 36, nays 24.

Mr. Allen then spoke at some length in opposition to the resolution as thus modified, declaring his intention to vote against it even if he voted alone.

Mr. Crittenden replied to Mr. Allen, who rejoined, and Mr. Crittenden sur-rejoined in a strain of great severity towards Mr. Allen.

The committee of the whole having reported the amendment to the Senate, it was concurred in.

The question then recurred on ordering the joint resolution to be engrossed and read a third time, which was decided in the affirmative by a vote of—yeas 40, nays 14.

So the Senate agreed, by a majority of 26 out of 54 votes, to adopt the resolution as amended, which will now have to be sent back to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

Washington, April 16.

Mr. Slidell has returned from his mission to Mexico without having accomplished any thing whatever. Paredes positively refused to receive him as a Minister Plenipotentiary, though, it is said, they are willing to receive a special commissioner to settle pending difficulties.

Strong news as it would appear with the orders for Mr. Slidell to return to the United States, General Taylor received orders to march the troops under his command from Corpus Christi to the Rio Grande, and they are now opposite the city of Matamoras, having put the Mexicans into a tremendous fright, so that the government official threw set fire to the Custom House, and ran off as fast as he could.

It is said that the Senate will not act upon any measure of any importance sent to it by the House, until that body has acted definitely upon the resolutions of notice, which the Senate passed yesterday.

The Tariff Bill, which has been reported by the Committee of Ways and Means, is hardly expected to pass Congress this session, or perhaps the next either.

The Caledonia had not arrived on her outward voyage on the 18th, but she was daily expected.

THE MARKET, APRIL 17, HALF-PAST 2 P.M.

Sales of cotton small.

Flour and provisions quiet.

Potashes have been sold at 3 dollars 87½c., and pearls are dull at 4 dollars 25c.

The teas per ship Montauk were sold at auction to-day, to a fair company. High grades declined a little, but the lower held their own.

Exchange as yesterday. Stocks still lower.

There is very little business in any article.

P.S. Evening.—Sales of cotton for the day 500 bales.

ONE DAY LATER. IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.

Liverpool, Saturday.

The packet-ship New York has just arrived, bringing papers from New York to the 16th ultimo, one day later than those received in London *viâ* Havre.

The intelligence received is of the return of the Hon. M. Slidell to the United States—the advance of the American army to the Rio Grande—the concentration of Mexican troops on the west bank of the river—the destruction of Point Isabel by the Mexicans, and their retreat—a patriotic proclamation by Paredes, levelled against the United States—and the probability of an immediate rupture between the Americans and Mexicans, on both banks of the Rio Grande del Norte.

The news, says the *Herald*, threw the city into a deep excitement. It is now probable that the Government of Paredes will call in the aid, mediation, or interference of France and England. This will be the first attempt in North America, like that now going on in South America, by those two powers to interfere, and probably attempt to establish a monarch in Mexico, and put down republican Government.

Washington, April 16.—Mr. Slidell arrived here this afternoon, and soon afterwards had an interview with the Secretary of State. The latter, and several other members of the cabinet, met subsequently at the President's, to consider the nature of the advices of which he was the bearer.

The belief is, that ere this time, our troops and those of Mexico have had a brush; or, that our fleet at Vera Cruz have bombarded St. Juan d'Ulloa, if not prevented by the British and French fleets in that neighbourhood. This must be expected from the present feeling upon Mexican affairs in Europe, and, therefore, I would not be surprised if the port of Vera Cruz were to be made the witness of another scene by those powers, like that of November. By destroying our naval powers, by a coup de main of that kind, we should be, for some time at least, of very little annoyance to England in regard to the Oregon question. That our difficulties with that subject will continue to increase, I have never had a doubt, and, from the movements observed among persons of rank in connexion with her Majesty's Minister there, there can be no question at all but that a perfect understanding exists between the Mexican and British Governments, as to what course is to be adopted in the event of hostilities breaking out between Mexico and the United States. It is only six or seven days since that Mexican gentleman of rank, connected with the Mexican Government, arrived in the afternoon boat from the south; and during the time they remained in this city, until the following afternoon, when they took the cars for the north, they were in close correspondence with Mr. Pakenham. The name of the principal one was Senor Escandor, connected with the financial department of that country, and then on his way to England, on behalf of his Government, to effect a large loan, for the purpose of carrying on hostilities against this country.

My impression is, that we shall meet with a more stubborn enemy in the regular Mexican troops, should we come in collision with them, than what we are led to believe; and that the force under the command of Gen. Taylor is not sufficient to meet that which the Mexicans have ready to advance upon them when their time shall have come for beginning hostilities. We ought not to undervalue too much, in advance, the strength of an enemy, and one, too, that has been familiar with war so long and constant as the Mexican regular soldier.

It is expected that the President will send into Congress, in a day or two, "a message in writing," upon the state of our relations with Mexico, and asking the advice of both Houses, as to what course he ought to adopt in relation thereto.

The Unicorn steamer had not arrived at Boston on the 16th. The Stock market was still in a very depressed state.

Cotton.—The market remains inactive and dull, sales limited to the immediate wants of purchasers, and holders in general disinclined to abate in their views, in consequence of the large falling off of the receipts of the crop compared with those at this date last season, which at present exhibits a deficit of 395,000 bales.

LONDON, MAY 9.

The Queen gave a concert yesterday evening at Buckingham Palace.

The Court.—We are informed that it was the intention of her Majesty, with the Prince Consort and the Royal Family, to have remained at Claremont until next Saturday. In consequence, however, of its having been notified to the Queen, on Monday last, that a fever of an infectious character had manifested itself in the immediate vicinity of Esher, her Majesty determined to take her departure for Buckingham Palace on the following day, where the Court arrived on Tuesday afternoon. It is expected that the Court will proceed to Windsor, for a short visit, in the course of a few days. An arrangement of this nature, however, will entirely depend upon the state of her Majesty's health.—*Globe.*

Sir R. Peel had an audience of the Queen yesterday.

The Duke of Wellington.—Preparations have been commenced at Hyde-park corner (opposite Apsley-house), for the erection of Mr. Wyatt's equestrian statue of the Duke of Wellington. The metal weighs 50 tons. The Duke will appear in a Field Marshal's uniform, and a small military cloak.

Annuities to Viscount Hardinge and Lord Gough.—Yesterday the bills before Parliament to grant the annuities to Viscount Hardinge and Lord Gough, in consideration, as it is expressed, of their "great and brilliant services," were printed. The annuity, as it is known, to Viscount Hardinge is to be £3,000, and his two next heirs, and to Lord Gough £2,000, with the same limitation. It is provided by the bill that, in the event of the East India Company granting an annuity of £5,000 for the life of Viscount Hardinge, then the grant of £3,000 to his heirs shall cease to be made; and with respect to the annuity by Parliament to Lord Gough, it is stated to be the intention of the Company to grant an annuity of £2,000 for his life, and in that event then only one half of the annuity now proposed shall be payable to Baron Gough.

Extensive Forgery of Railway Scrip.—The Committee of the Stock Exchange held a special meeting to-day on an affair which has produced much excitement in the city, and which is like to create a great sensation in the country. Yesterday (Wednesday) it seems, the directors of the Buckinghamshire Railway Company discovered that their scrip had been forged to a very large extent; and an investigation as to the parties from whom the forgeries proceeded, and the channels through which they found their way to the Stock Exchange, commenced to-day. The meeting adjourned till to-morrow without coming to any definite result, and at present all that refers to the origin of the forgery is mere conjecture. That it has been actually committed, and on an enormous scale, there seems to be no doubt, and it is said that the practice of selling shares by public auction has afforded facilities for putting the spurious documents into circulation. One party alone is said to hold forged scrip to the number of 1,250, and how many more may be placed in the same position it is impossible to say.—*City Article of Friday's Times.*

Scrip Forgeries.—A great sensation was created in the City on the opening of the Stock Exchange on Thursday morning, by an announcement from the committee of the Buckinghamshire, Oxford, and Bletchley Railway, one of the lines virtually under the management of the London and Birmingham Company, that forgeries of their scrip were to an extent to create alarm. The committee, an advertisement appeared in the morning papers, calling upon the scrip-holders to bring in their scrip for examination. It appears that when, under the new sessional orders, the scrip was called in for registration previous to the meeting which is about to take place, suspicion was excited by the appearance of two certificates for fifty shares each, which had been sent in among a large parcel by a highly respectable provincial banker. On turning to the books of the company, which show the exact numbers of the scrip issued to each person signing the deed, it was found that they were forgeries. This led to the examination of other packages, and two more forged certificates were discovered; one purporting to be a share belonging to a Gallant Colonel (Anson, we understand); the other was in a parcel sent by a highly respectable broker. No sooner did this news become circulated among the stock-jobbing fraternity, than the office of the company was besieged by alarmed shareholders, and it became evident that forgeries had been successfully perpetrated to an alarming extent. The forgeries were principally in 50. One gentleman holds 1,000 shares, a jobber holds 1,500, and a third party 300. The signature of the secretary is an excellent imitation, but the printing is rather coarsely executed, not enough so, however, to excite any particular attention, considering the rude manner in which the scrip of all companies is generally got up. The investigation of the affair was put in the hands of Daniel Forrester, so renowned for his success in detecting criminals of this description. His first visit was to the Hall of Commerce, where some of the forged scrip had been purchased by auction. Mr. Lamond at once produced his books, and gave every facility to their inquiries. By pursuing his researches, Forester was enabled to trace the forged scrip to a Mr. Fabian and a Mr. Faulkner, two parties well known in Capel Court who were taken into custody, and brought up at the Mansion House, where they were remanded, bail having been tendered and refused.—*Morning Chronicle.*

Green Ginger.—Yesterday, a sale of 74 casks of green ginger, in a recent and even growing state, brought by the Severn steamer from Jamaica, took place at Monument Yard, at the average price of 30s. per cwt. The novelty of the article attracted a considerable attendance of buyers, as it was the first that had been introduced into this country, and the majority of lots were sold to wine-makers, chemists, and some of the most eminent tavern-keepers, in the city, as well as to horticulturists, in order to experiment upon its cultivation here.

Australia.—Papers were received to-day from Adelaide, the latest of which reach to the 9th of January. If we may credit all that is said in these, it must be admitted that the colony is making rapid progress, and fast recovering from its late depression. An increased supply of labour is, however, it seems, required for agricultural purposes.

New Zealand.—Accounts from New Zealand state that Governor Grey had commenced withdrawing the colonial debentures from circulation. A sum of 5s. in the pound has already been paid to the holders, which is to be followed by another payment at the end of six months, and debenture bearing 8 per cent interest being given for the remainder of the money.

Female Buried Alive.—Monday an inquest was held at Hoylake, before Henry Churton, Esq., on the body of a young woman, 18 years of age, named Margaret Drury, who met her death under the following circumstances:—The deceased was nurse girl to John Smith, Esq., and on Saturday went out amongst the sand hills with two of her master's children for the purpose of enjoying the fresh air. Amongst the hills she came to a spot where some of the sand had been excavated, and crept into the hole while the children were playing about. She was shortly after missing, and the little children being given an alarm, the body of the poor girl was discovered about an hour after under a large quantity of sand, quite dead. The jury found a verdict of "Accidental Death."—*Chester Chronicle.*

Royal Divorces in Denmark.—A letter from Copenhagen of the 26th ult. says—"The Prince Royal of Denmark has just made an application to be divorced from his wife, the Princess Caroline of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, whom he married in July, 1841 (his second wife), and who, in 1844, after a discussion with her husband, withdrew to Neustrelitz, to her family, where she has still remained. The suit will be tried in our capital by a commission composed of ecclesiastics and laics, partly chosen by the King of Denmark, and partly by the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz. The application for dissolving the marriage is founded on the grounds of insurmountable aversion (*odium invincible*), which, according to the Lutheran religion, to which both parties belong, is sufficient to warrant the annullation of the marriage. The Prince Royal of Denmark had been first married to his cousin, the Princess Guillemine-Marie, daughter of the late King Frederick VI. of Denmark, from whom he is also divorced. The Danish journals announce that as soon as the divorce between the Prince Royal and the Princess Caroline shall have been pronounced, the King will grant him a dispensation of the delay of three years, before the expiration of which time, according to our laws, persons divorced cannot again contract marriage. The Prince, it is said, will marry, during the present year, his cousin, the Princess Augusta, daughter of the Landgrave William of Hesse-Cassel, and of the Princess Louise Charlotte, sister of King Christian VIII. of Denmark."

Louis Philippe and Sir Robert Peel.—We understand that Louis Philippe has sent an autograph letter to Sir Robert Peel, expressing his Majesty's acknowledgments for the kind and handsome manner in which the Right Hon. Baronet proposed the toast of his Majesty's health at the late civic banquet given by the Lord Mayor of London.—*Times.*

Curious Addresses on Post Letters.—Among the letters "lifted" yesterday at the General Post Office, and exhibited in the portico of the establishment in St. Martins-le-Grand, as "not known in London," is one thus addressed, "Miss Eliot, sister of his Lordship the minister, London." The letter is numbered 2 on the list dated May 6th, 1846, and has been sent to the English office from Paris. Not long since a letter was received at the General Post Office, simply directed "To my father in London!" It is a very curious fact that not less than fifty letters are received daily with equally imperfect addresses; hundreds are incompletely directed, and have to be written upon by the "blind" officer before they can be forwarded. At a low average, not less than 100 letters per day are sent to the Post-office unsealed, and this neglect being noticed by the sorter, the letters are given to the presiding officer on duty, who seals them with the official stamp, and writes upon them, "Found open in this office." Not fewer than 200 newspapers per day escape from their envelopes, and in each of these cases an entry is made of such circumstance in a book kept for that purpose, which shows the number of instances of negligence, irregularity or delay, is examined by the inspector, before the answer of the office to the case is sent to the complainant.

Sub-Marine Boat.—A sub-marine boat, of new invention, was moored on Saturday, in front of the Quai d'Orsay. It is made of sheet iron; in the form of a long regular tortoise, and probably intended to establish a monarch in Mexico, and put down republican Government.

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MONDAY MORNING, MAY 11.

We are in receipt of advices from New York to the 18th ult., inclusive. The intelligence they supply is of considerable importance.

The resolution for giving the requisite notice for the termination of the joint occupation of the Oregon territory passed the Senate on the 16th ult., by a majority of 40 to 14, but with this important modification, that the time for giving the notice is left to the discretion of the President. If we are not much mistaken, he will be in no hurry to avail himself of the discretionary power thus intrusted to him. But if he declines to give the notice, we should at once turn the tables, and give it on our part. It is our best policy to have this question adjusted immediately. America profits, and we suffer, from delay. Every year makes the arrangement of the boundary more difficult for us, and more suitable to their almost declared views of acquisition and aggrandisement. The funds, it seems, were slightly affected by the first announcement of this news. We must confess our surprise that so immaterial a step by the American Legislature should have caused a moment's apprehension. They were under the necessity of backing quietly out of the offensive and threatening attitude they had assumed, and it is not easy to say how they could have done so less ingloriously than by passing the resolution, and throwing the alternative of its adoption on the Executive. We suspect that, after all, the notice, which ought to be given, must be given by us, in order to bring the Oregon dispute to a satisfactory termination, before the actual settlement of the territory gives additional encouragement to the claims of our grasping neighbour.

But it would appear that the United States Government is engaged in another affair of more pressing urgency than the settlement of the Oregon question. Already the Texan usurpation seems about to bring forth its first fruits. Mr. Slidell, the American Ambassador to Mexico, had returned to Washington, Paredes having positively refused to receive him in an official capacity. By the latest accounts active warfare was immediately to be anticipated between America and Mexico. The latter power had concentrated its force on the West bank of the Rio Grande. General Taylor had received orders to occupy the opposite bank with the troops under his command; but it is questionable whether he will be able to make sufficient head against the Mexican soldiery without further reinforcements. In the meantime, it is not improbable that a conflict may have taken place between the American and Mexican forces, and that the intervention of France and England may have become necessary. We do not venture to anticipate; but we cannot avoid regarding this news as a shadowing forth of the future disturbances the States have provided for themselves, by their grasping spirit and unscrupulous usurpation of every territory over which circumstances gave them present power. Before they contest the Oregon, they must meet their outraged neighbours in the south, and learn by practical experience the value of the wisdom which prompted them to usurp Texas, and defy the rightful owner of the territory usurped.

The Corn Importation Bill has passed through another stage. The report was brought up on Friday, and agreed to without a division. The third reading will be moved this evening; and although we most earnestly hope that it may be allowed to pass its last stage without prolonged opposition, we cannot venture to prophecy how far it may yet be obstructed by parties who conceive themselves aggrieved by it. But we should think that few now contemplate the possibility of the present corn laws existing over another year, and that few fear the consequences of the proposed alteration.

The time of the House of Commons was occupied, on Thursday, in a discussion as to the administration of fees in the English Courts of Law and Equity. We do not imagine that our readers will thank us for any lengthened inquiry into the subject. On Friday, as we have already said, the House of Commons was engaged in discussing the report of the Corn Importation Bill. On Thursday, Lord Ashburton moved, in the House of Lords for returns, to the latest possible period, of the quantity of corn in bond in this country, stating his belief that it approximated to a million and a half quarters. It is not at all improbable that the estimate is correct—and it is possible enough, that the sudden liberation of this quantity of grain may injure the market here for the moment after it comes into operation. But the injury is occasioned solely by the prolonged delay which has intervened between the proposal and the passing of the Corn Importation Bill, and which delay is chiefly attributable to the factious obstruction offered by the Irish members. We regret to think that it is now probable that the measure which would have been a perfectly safe one some months past, will now be productive of immediate injury to the farmer. The country is full of corn, and there is every prospect of an abundant harvest this year. If the period for opening the ports is postponed until the redundancy of the crop of last year affects the probable value of the crop of this year, it is clear that the first effect of the adoption of the corn bill will be to reduce prices. The danger is, that this reduction of prices should create alarm. If it results in a panic, we need not only fear immediate injury to the agricultural interest, but real injury to every interest of the kingdom. We hope, however, that the whole question will be so thoroughly considered and understood by the country before the Government measure comes into operation, that no disagreeable consequences will result; and, in this hope, we trust that the bill will be sent to the House of Lords without another day's unnecessary delay.

On Friday, in the House of Lords, the Scotch Burghs Bill was read a third time and passed. The rest of the sederunt was occupied in routine business.

The foreign news is unimportant.

The Weather.—After the three beautiful days which ushered in the month of May, the weather in the beginning of last week became dull and heavy, and rain again fell abundantly. Since then, however, it has taken up charmingly, and the last four days have been altogether worthy of summer. Yesterday we had a rousing breeze from the southwest, and with the exception of brief showers in the afternoon and evening, the sky was bright, and the atmosphere wonderfully pure. The rains have had very little effect in retarding the labours of the field, as the effects of moisture have been so readily brushed away by the high winds which generally followed them. The temperature has not been unseasonable for early summer, the maximum during the last eight days varying from 51 to 62, and showing an average of about 56. As it is, the whole Vale of Clyde now presents a perfect flush of lusty luxuriance; the wheats have rarely shown a more vigorous plant at the same period; and though the seed time of oats and barley was generally a little late, the young breadings are already to some extent tinging the surface with a healthy green. Field potato planting has been sometime in progress; but it is yet too early to say anything decided respecting the promise of this critical root.

About eight o'clock on Friday night, a married woman, named Duffy, residing in Bridegate Street, was found dead in her bed. Her death is supposed to have been caused by a fit of intemperance.

Glasgow Herald.

INDIAN CORN MEAL.

Since this new article of food was *introduced* to the public here—first by Mr. Cowdin, the American Consul; and next by the Philosophical Society, which successfully experimented by the hands of Mr. Wilson of Gordon Street—the corn meal has become an article of sale in almost every victualling shop in the city, and many respectable families now use it regularly in the composition of bread, biscuit, and puddings; for it is one of this advantage of this kind of flour, that it is susceptible of being cooked in almost every conceivable variety of mode. The class to whom we allude, however, use this meal as a part of the diet of their families rather on account of its cheapness; and, so far as we have learned, it has yet entered to a very limited extent, indeed, into consumption by the lower orders, who seem to spend, to a much greater money by comparison. Although we are still of the opinion that we expressed some time since, that this Transatlantic bread stuff will neither displace the wheaten loaf, nor the oatmeal porridge, where the parties have the means of obtaining them in plenty, it is nevertheless to be regretted that the humbler orders have not made an effort to take to this kind of food at a time like the present, when potatoes are selling at from 7d. to 8d. per stone, or are not to be had at all; and when oatmeal and wheaten flour are, comparatively speaking, high in price. It is unquestionably cheap and nutritious, and its use might enable poor families to purchase other articles of comfort and decency, which they now do without. Indeed, it is only in pinched times like these that the extensive use of this supplemental food may become really a blessing.

We have not heard of any one, who has tried the experiment, who has taken up the notion which was most untruly and perniciously propagated in some parts of Ireland, that the maize meal is positively deleterious. It would appear, from the accounts which we have seen, that it was not tried, by reference to the United States; but we have already the proof at hand; for having learned that the Governor of Glasgow Prisons has of late been making some experiments, with the view of testing the qualities of the article, we have made some inquiries into the result, and find it in the highest degree satisfactory. Bread has been prepared from an admixture of the maize meal with wheaten flour, in various proportions; which for taste and flavour has been pronounced superior to wheaten bread itself, and equally, if not more nutritious, at a cost of something less than one penny a pound. Porridge has also been prepared with equal success from an admixture of Indian and oatmeal—one-half of each being used. We have not access to know all the details of these useful experiments; but we learn that the meal has satisfactorily stood the test in the prison, and will be adopted for the purpose it was intended to serve, namely, the supplying a cheap and nutritious diet for the inmates of the prison, who will, henceforth, we understand, be supplied with it in porridge, and in the form of bread, to those who are not disposed to take a leaf out of the book of prisons' experiment; but for all that, we do not know a better field for testing the qualities of this or any other food than the Glasgow Prisons, where there are generally about 500 prisoners daily, there are fewer cases of sickness than will be found among an equal number of the community in any part of Scotland. The police prisoners are those connected with the prisons is to give what is considered a sufficient quantity of good wholesome food, without consulting the tastes or palates of the inmates; and though, from the nature of the prisoners, a portion of them may dislike plain fare at first, the exercise of healthy labour whets the appetite, and they soon take to it kindly. Since the bread and porridge diet, composed of wheaten and Indian meal, has been so successful in the Glasgow prisons, and will undoubtedly be a saving to that establishment, it is, we think, worthy the notice of those in charge of similar institutions, and the attention of the managers of public charities, whether the same article might not be advantageously introduced into their respective dietaries.

The food prepared from Indian corn meal may, as is well known, be varied according to the peculiar circumstances of those using it; and the mechanic or labourer, if he possess the means, may, by the addition of a little milk, or sugar and molasses, form it into puddings, and other dishes, and still retain a relish. What we consider to be of the greatest moment is, that a bread admirably fitted to support the frame of the hard-working man can be produced at such a comparatively small cost as one penny per lib., especially when it is considered that it is the cheapest and most nutritious food, and the lightest of all the potato crop, the quantity of this bread stuff, which has as yet been imported into Glasgow, is exceedingly limited. By reference to the "Clyde Bill of Entry," we observe that, from the 1st January till the present time, there have been only 1,000 bags or sacks imported direct, viz., 261 from New York, 1,000 from New Orleans, and 457 from Jamaica. During the same time, we have received 472 bags and sacks meal from Liverpool, making a total of 2190. Now, however, that the ports have been entirely opened as regards this article, we may expect, in the course of the next few weeks, to have extensive importations direct, and a consequent reduction in price. As it will be long, therefore, before another harvest—the productiveness of which is yet uncertain—will be gathered in, it would be well that the poorer classes could be made extensively aware of the capabilities of this food in supplying the place in a great degree of the dearer wheaten flour, for it is only in emergencies like these that we have any desire to patronise the staple of brother Jonathan as human food.

For the information of such of our readers as may wish to make a trial of the meal, we subjoin a few directions for preparing the bread—the plan having been already very extensively and successfully followed:—

"The most simple mode of making bread of Indian corn meal is to scald the meal in boiling water, stirring it well to make it of a proper consistency, and allowing it to stand covered all night. At the same time that the meal is scalded, a small quantity of yeast is found to be used must be fermented in the usual way; retaining only a small quantity of it for forming into a dough in the morning, when they are all well amalgamated together. When put into the oven, the dough must be too brisk, else the crust will brown and the inside remain heavy. It should bake from two to three hours."

MISS CUSHMAN.

It will be observed that this accomplished actress is, along with

"MISS CUSHMAN." Glasgow Herald, 11 May 1846. British Library Newspapers, https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/BB3203440730/BNCN?u=bayreuth&sid=BNCN&xid=3ce3495c. Accessed 15 Oct. 2020.