

TOWN TALK. BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

I THINK the speech of Mr. Stanley, the discoverer of Livingstone, at the meeting of the British Association at Brighton has created more sensation than anything of the kind for a very long time. We know all that he had to say, but it was told with such directness and simplicity. I don't know whether he is a single man or not, but he might have had his pick that day out of a score of ladies with fortunes in five figures. According to popular rumour, he is a Welshman, and his mother still keeps a country inn in Wales, but certainly there was nothing Celtic about his very touching and simple speech, nothing either of the "high falutin'" style of the country that made him—America; for, undoubtedly, America is entitled to all the glory of producing such a man. Nearly two thousand years ago the question was asked, "Can any good come out of Galilee?" And one might fairly ask can any good come out of the paper immortalised by Dickens as the New York Stabber? But, most fortunately for the world, sons are not always like their fathers, or what a lot of hereditary fools and villains we should be persecuted with. This young James Gordon Bennett, inheritor of a princely income, is not cast in the same lines as his father, who, by the -bye, was a Scotchman, while the new man is a pure bred American. If we had him here we should make him a baronet, and in due time a peer; but in the United States there is no distinction left for him but to give most expensive balls, and to wear ten thousand pounds of diamonds as waistcoat buttons.

The first election under the ballot has taken place, and after its experience there are a great many people who will make serious sacrifices rather than accept an office which makes them returning officers. For my own part, counting shillings after twenty has always been a difficulty; as for my counting the sixteen thousand votes of the Tewor Hamlets or Westminister, I would much sooner, undertake, in perfect ignorance, to steer one of her Majesty's ironclads. Secret voting is, no doubt, established, but serious alterations must be made in the details, otherwise there will be a general breakdown at the next general election. People generally, except the most violent politicians, are glad that Mr. Childers was returned. He is a popular man, a really able and industrious official; and if he did not entirely succeed at the Admiralty, no one could have succeeded entirely in that class of despatch. He will now be in office long enough to be entitled to a pension—a matter of some importance to a man of small fortune and large family.

Tax new Licensing Act is in operation, and will be a very serious affair to those districts where drunkenness is the normal state every Saturday to Monday. Five shillings is a manageable sum, but when the penalties begin at ten shillings and rise to forty, it becomes beyond the usual assistance of the pawnbroker. At one stage of the bill, the Morning Advertiser, the organ of the public-house interest, indulged in wild war whoops of delight, and a sort of Indian dance over the prostrate body of its enemy, the grocer; but the rejoicing was premature. At another sitting the House of Commons released the bottle trade in wine from all restrictions, and allowed the sale of spirits in bottles under reasonable regulations.

According to club rumour, Sir Alexander Cockburn will retire after the Geneva Arbitration, and leave the Chief Justiceship of the Queen's Bench to Sir John Coleridge, and the Attorney-Generalship to that anti-refusing barrister, Sir George Jessel. Chief Justice Cockburn may join Lord Hatherley and accompany Sir Roundell Palmer to the House of Lords if he pleases. He would be a great acquisition—eloquent, genial, courageous, and learned. As for Sir Roundell Palmer, in him we expect a model Lord Chancellor. It will be odd if the industrious and idle apprentice reach the peerage at the same time.

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THE WAGES QUESTION AT CHATHAM.—The dockyard labourers at Chatham have held a meeting to consider the wages question. While passing a resolution thanking the Lords of the Admiralty for the extra shilling a week recently granted, they resolved that every effort should be made to obtain a further increase of pay for those labourers who even now receive but the inadequate sum of 15s. a week. Thanks were cordially voted to the members for Chatham, Mr. Rochester, and other places who have advocated the cause of the dockyard labourers.

AUTUMN MANŒUVRES.—All letters and newspapers addressed to the troops forming the Southern Corps d'Armée, or Blandford division, should be sent to Salisbury until further notice.

HAIRDRESSING EXTRAORDINARY.—A hair-dresser named Law Eccles, was fined 20s. and costs by the Huddersfield borough magistrates for cutting off the hair of a girl aged nine years, who had gone to his shop to have her hair dressed.

AGITATION AMONGST THE DUSTMEN.—A monster meeting of the scavengers, slopmen, and dustmen of the metropolis has been held in a hall in Bell-street, Edgware-road, for the purpose of forming a trade society for their protection. The following resolution was adopted:—"That, in the opinion of this meeting, the time has arrived for agitating for an increase of wages upon the present standard, and a reduction of the present working hours."

WORK OF THE SESSION.—In the Session of 1872 the House of Commons has passed 124 public bills before it. Of this number 116 became law—viz., 90 which were introduced into the House of Commons and 26 which were introduced into the House of Lords. The remaining 124 had the following fate:—109, introduced into the House of Commons, were not passed by that House; 8 brought from the Lords to the Commons, were not passed by the Lords; and one, passed by both Houses, was laid aside by the Commons on consideration of the Lords' amendments. Of the 116 bills which received the Royal Assent, 87 were Government bills and 29 were not. Of the 124 bills which came before the House of Commons, but did not become law, 33 were Government bills and 91 were not. With two exceptions, these 33 Government bills are described in the list as withdrawn, the order for proceeding with them being discharged. The exceptions are the Thames Embankment Bill, the motion for going into committee (in the House of Commons) being negative, and the Municipal Corporations (Wards) Bill, which was passed by the Commons, but in the Lords the second reading was put off for six months.

Summary of Passing Events.

THERE was a novelty this year, at the prorogation of Parliament, in connection with the reading of the Queen's Speech. Owing to an infirmity of eyesight, the Lord Chancellor was under the necessity of handing it to Lord Granville, and it was accordingly read by the Foreign Secretary. The Royal message at the end of a session generally excites less interest than the one at the beginning of a session, as it is pretty well known that the speech will confine itself, for the most part, to a resumé of the principal measures which have passed during the previous six months. The first subject of importance touched upon in the message read by Lord Granville was the settlement of the controversy between this country and America with reference to the presentation of the Indirect Claims under the Treaty of Washington. The Houses of Parliament were "informed," officially as it were, of what had taken place some two months after the decision of the Geneva Arbitrators had been given to the world. It is satisfactory, however, to have it announced in the message from the throne that all the arrangements contemplated by the Washington Treaty are now in progress, and that there is no longer any impediment to the perfect concord between two kindred nations. In the next paragraph of the speech reference is made to the reception from the Government of France of the formal notice which would bring to an end the Commercial Treaty of 1860, and an intimation is given that her Majesty's Government will do what it can to secure attention to the just claims of the people of this country, and to promote free intercourse—which is productive of so many moral and material benefits—between Great Britain and the French Republic. After intimating with satisfaction that a treaty has been concluded with the Emperor of Germany, in conformity with the provisions of the Act of 1870, for the mutual surrender of fugitive criminals, it is announced that steps have been taken to prepare the way for dealing more effectually with the slave trade on the east coast of Africa. For this announcement we are indebted to the effect of Dr. Livingstone's eloquent and vigorous denunciations of the pernicious system, which he has seen in full operation on the African coast. The Times seems inclined to throw cold water on the project, but the country at large will heartily approve of an effort being made to put an end to the vile traffic in human lives and liberties. The message then proceeds to note the royal assent given to an Act of the Legislature of the Cape Colony for the establishment there of responsible government, and next specifies the leading measures which have occupied the attention of Parliament during the past hard-working session. There is sound advice in the penultimate paragraph of the speech, in which it is stated that "periods of unusually rapid changes in the prices of commodities and in the value of labour are likewise periods in which there is more than ever a call for the exercise of moderation and foresight."

THE UNWELCOME INTELLIGENCE is made public that at a meeting of the representatives of the leading railways of the United Kingdom it has been resolved to raise the fares both for passengers and goods, the reason alleged being the augmented prices of labour and coal. It is further announced that no definite rate of increase in fares was agreed upon, and that each company was to make such alterations as might be deemed necessary or expedient. Since railway rates are already higher in England than in any other country of the world, except India, it will be difficult to persuade people that the intended rise is absolutely required. The companies which adopted the system, introduced by the Midland Company, of conveying third-class passengers by express as well as by ordinary trains, have profited considerably by the change, as we learn from the Railway Service Gazette, which states that the receipts from passenger traffic have very much advanced since the alteration was made. On the London and North-Western line the increase has amounted to £3,705 per week; on the Great Northern, £1,733; on the Lancashire and Yorkshire, £1,140; and on the Midland Railway, £1,566. The figures just quoted will suffice to show railway companies that they stood in their own light when they denied certain privileges to third-class passengers, and they will probably also find that it is a mistaken policy to raise their fares. A falling off in the number of passengers will be the inevitable result of this retrograde movement. It is unnecessary to dwell on the hardship involved in a rise of rates in the case of the thousands who require to make use of the railway every day in going to and from their places of employment.

FROM the circumstances, some of them of an extraordinary kind, reported in various newspapers, one might almost feel inclined to conclude that some malign destiny is at work, striving hard to re-introduce rinderpest into this country. On its becoming known that the plague had broken out among a cargo of cattle from Cronstadt, which arrived at Leith, the infected animals, through the prompt action of the authorities, were at once slaughtered and thrown overboard, but the carcasses were cast up by the sea on different points of the Fifeshire and East Lothian coasts, and naturally excited considerable alarm among the agriculturists in the neighbourhood. The tainting of the air, before the washed up carcasses were buried, might have sufficed to infect herds which had previously a clean bill of health. But something more alarming still has happened on the east coast of Lincolnshire. A lighter belonging to Hull, which had evidently been abandoned, was found stranded on the beach at Sutton, and the vessel was full of dead and decaying cattle, which had been slaughtered because affected by rinderpest. Several more dead cattle, presumably belonging to the same stricken cargo, were washed ashore in the same locality. No time was lost by the Lincolnshire justices in burning the lighter, burying the carcasses, and disinfecting the labourers; but, nevertheless, it is difficult for the farmers in the district to get rid of the dread of the plague breaking out among their herds. Great indignation is expressed that such a cargo should have been sent to sea without effectual means being taken for sending it to the bottom, and a full narrative of the extraordinary circumstances has, very properly, been forwarded to the Privy Council.

THE FINDING OF LIVINGSTONE.

THE following letter has been addressed to Mr. Stanley, the discoverer of Livingstone, by the President of the Geographical Society.

"I, Savile-row, Burlington-gardens, W., Aug. 6. "Sir,—In the name of a committee of the council of the Royal Geographical Society, which has just held its meeting, I beg to return you our best thanks for the transmission of direct intelligence from Dr. Livingstone to several members of the council of the society. "This is the very earliest opportunity at which it was possible to convey their thanks, as the letters in question did not reach their destination until the latter end of last week. "I take this opportunity of begging you, in the name of the committee, to accept our most cordial acknowledgments for the timely message rendered to Dr. Livingstone in his great need, and the expression of our admiration of the energy, perseverance, and courage with which you conducted your expedition. "I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant, "A. RAWLINSON, "President Royal Geographical Society. "H. M. Stanley, Esq."

THE TOUR OF THE KING OF SPAIN.

A correspondent of Galignani at Bilbao sends the following letter, dated the 8th inst.—"Notwithstanding the rain, and the delay of the arrival of the King—the Victoria being expected at two or three in the afternoon, and not coming in sight until six in the evening—the entry of his Majesty was magnificent. The vessel, being one of the largest in the Spanish navy, could not come into the port, which has not a sufficient draught of water, and the King, his suite, and the rest of the court, in a small steamer, which entered, surrounded by about a dozen others, having on board the municipality, the various corporations, &c., accompanied by music. At the entrance of the river Bilbao are seen four bathing villages, named Las Arenas, Portugalete, Santurtzi, and Algorta, forming, it may be said, the outskirts of the city, and all of which commenced firing cannon as soon as the Victoria was in sight, at the same time that the throng of spectators who lined the banks raised loud acclamations. The English Bilbao Iron Company had the novel idea of drawing up before the King as he passed all the workmen now employed on the railway in course of construction for the mines of Guadalupe armed with their picks and shovels, and all raising loud hurrahs. As the distance from the mouth of the river to Bilbao is about eight miles, the King did not reach the town before eight in the evening. The public buildings and many of the houses were brilliantly illuminated; a triumphal arch, a copy of the Aro illuminated, &c., in the name of the King, had been erected, with pavilions dressed out with flags, the whole forming a scene worthy of the descriptions in the "Arabian Nights." His Majesty first went to the church to return thanks for his safe arrival, and then, after a short repast, to the theatre, where he was received with the greatest enthusiasm. To day he was accompanied by the Duke of Albufera, who was present at a game of ball by the best players in the province of Bisaya, and afterwards visited the hospital and other public establishments, and called on the widow of Marshal Prim at the establishment of the baths of Las Arenas. The inscription on the triumphal arch was this: "Al Rey de España y Senor de Bisaya." These were the words which, by their significance, for notwithstanding the loyalty of the province, the King of Spain is for the population only Seigneur of Bisaya. The fashionable watering place of Las Arenas is very full at this moment, and among the latest arrivals there is M. Olozaga, Spanish Minister at Paris."

PARLIAMENTARY CHANGES.

DURING the session now closing, the Upper House has lost four of its members by death, and the House of Commons six. The former include the Earl of London, the Duke of Devonshire, the Duke of Bedford, the Duke of Northumberland, Mr. John Lubbock, Mr. John Peel, Tamworth; Mr. John Platt, Oldham; Mr. G. S. Sackville, North Northamptonshire; and Colonel Sykes, Aberdeen. Mr. H. Lowther's accession to the Earldom of Lonsdale created a vacancy for the Duke of Devonshire, which was filled by the unopposed election of Lord Manchester; Mr. Devereux retired from the representation of Wexford, and was succeeded by Mr. W. A. Redmond, and from a similar cause of ill-health Viscount Milton resigned his seat for South-West Yorkshire, and was succeeded by Mr. Stanhope without a contest. The other vacancies were those of Mr. W. D. T. Tollemache for the Western Division of Cheshire, in the room of his father; Mr. J. Reginald Yorke for East Gloucestershire, in the place of Mr. R. S. Holford; Mr. E. Wells, for Warrington; and Lord Richard Grosvenor for Flintshire, on accepting the office of Vice-Chamberlain to the Queen. Mr. F. C. H. Russell's accession to the Dukedom of Bedford created a vacancy in the representation of that county, which was filled by Mr. Bassett. The most keenly contested election during this session was in February last, for the North-West Riding, where Mr. F. S. Fowell, the Conservative candidate, was returned by 44 votes. Mr. Monckton was elected for North Yorkshire, in the room of the late Speaker, Mr. Pender for the Wick Burghs, in the place of Mr. Loch; Mr. Hanbury, for Tamworth; Mr. J. M. Cobbett, for Oldham; Mr. Munster, for Mallow; and Mr. Farley Leith, for Aberdeen. Captain Trench, for Galway.

A LARGE BLOCK OF STONE has fallen from the mountain upon the railway line at the entrance of the Market Place, and has been removed. The traffic will be continued by transferring the passengers and goods from one train to another until the obstacle is removed.

DEATH OF A CELEBRATED COMEDIAN.

GUSTAV EMIL DEVIEN, the celebrated German comedian, has just died at Dresden, at the age of sixty-nine—having been born in Berlin in 1803. He was the youngest of three brothers who, inheriting the histrionic genius of their father, Louis Devrient, have for many years adorned the stages of Berlin, Dresden, and Hanover.

MR. BRIGHT, M.P., IN THE HIGHLANDS.—On Saturday night the Right Hon. John Bright, M.P., arrived at Banavie, on the Caledonian Canal. On Sunday Mr. Bright was the guest of Lord Abinger, and attended divine service at Boosey Chapel, Fort William, where the Bishop of Argyll and the Isles officiated. Mr. Bright is to pass some time fishing on the Loch, his headquarters being the Lochiel Arms Hotel, Banavie. The right hon. gentleman appears to be in excellent health.

THE DECORATION OF THE ORDER OF the "Santitas Kreuz Militar," of Hesse Darmstadt, has been conferred on Miss M'Leigh, a young lady. This is a new order, founded in August, 1870, by the Grand Duke, for the recognition of services rendered to the wounded in war. The decoration consists of a twelve-pointed cross of bronze, gilded, and suspended from a crimson ribbon with silver edges.

PARTISAN SHOOTING.—The prospects of the partridge season in the North of England are not of a very cheering nature. Since the beginning of the season up to which period the promise was good, a change for the worse has taken place. The long-continued wet weather of late has played sad havoc with the broods, which were soon thinned by one half, owing to the disease consequent upon a regular rainy season. Covers which in the hatching season contained three or four hundred birds, only contain about six or seven now.

"Honesty the Best Policy." The public are cautioned to avoid inferior imitations of Horniman's Pure Tea, all genuine packets are signed "W. H. & F. Horniman & Co."

TERRIBLE FLOOD IN FRANCE.

A terrible flood, attended with loss of life, has just been raging in the town of Gignoux, on the Garonne after the overflow of the 30th and 31st July. The water rose to 13 feet above the summer level, and hurried along with fearful rapidity, carrying down timber, furniture, and household utensils from the habitations inundated. The floating baths moored off the quays in the town were for a time securing by the light of torches to the violence of the stream was such that on the evening of the 1st inst. the planks around the Municipal Swimming School were destroyed by the torrent, and swept away; a much more serious accident occurred at about midnight by the breaking loose of the bath-house belonging to M. Gignoux, with five persons on board. The night was quite dark, and the rescue then appeared hopeless, and the more so that almost immediately afterwards the floating establishment was carried away with immense force against the bridge, and was dashed to pieces; the mayor, with the corps of firemen, were on the spot with a detachment of soldiers, endeavoring by the light of torches to save the five persons, but some fragments of wood were alone washed ashore, and all were supposed to have perished. The next morning, however, it was found that two of the number had been saved from the wreck by some dredgers at the bridge of Biagnac, and that a third, the son of M. Gignoux, had swum ashore. The remaining two, the attendants at the bath, are still missing, and are no doubt both drowned.

FIRST NOMINATION UNDER THE BALLOT ACT.

The nomination at Pontefract took place on Monday, and being the first held under the provisions of the Ballot Bill, was peculiarly interesting. The returning officer (the Mayor, Mr. Richard Jones), and his legal adviser, Mr. H. J. Coleman, the town clerk, &c., at the town hall from eleven o'clock until one, for the purpose of receiving the nomination papers. The paper nominating Mr. Childers was the first handed in. The hon. gentleman, accompanied by his proposer, Mr. John Carter, his seconder, Mr. Jones, and Mr. W. E. Carter as a friend, delivered the nomination paper immediately after eleven o'clock, and then retired. It was as follows:—

"NOMINATION PAPER. "We the undersigned, John Carter, of Knott-tingly, in the county of York, and Roger Hurst, of the borough of Pontefract, do hereby nominate the following person as a proper person to serve as member for the said borough in Parliament:—Childers, Hugh Culling Eardley, 7, Pinco's-gardens, London, Privy Councillor. (Signatures) "JOHN CARTER. "ROGER HURST."

"We the undersigned, being registered electors of the borough of Pontefract, do hereby nominate the nomination of the above-mentioned Hugh Culling Eardley Childers as a proper person to serve as member for the said borough in Parliament:—Childers, Hugh Culling Eardley, 7, Pinco's-gardens, London, Privy Councillor. (Signatures) "JOHN CARTER. "ROGER HURST."

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CONTINENTAL ON DITS.

M. CERNUCHI, the Paris banker, has been travelling in Japan, and is said to have made a large collection of bronzes and other valuable curiosities.

DUXE ENNIER of Coburg-Gotha, who is passionately fond of the chase, is purchasing large forests in Upper Alsace, where the wild bear chase affords excellent sport.

The wife of Prince Napoleon having been invited by her father, the King of Italy, to spend the winter in Italy, her residence being the Royal villa at Milan.

It is announced that the Prince of Wales is to be the godfather of the infant Belgian Princess, and the Duchess Clementine of Saxe-Coburg the godmother.

WILLIAM TELL'S chapel at Uri is in such a ruinous condition that the attention of the authorities has been called to it, and steps will be taken to rebuild it. There may be a chapel, but there never was a William Tell, so authorities now state.

A PLAN has been presented to the Spanish Minister of Fomento for a tunnel under the Straits of Gibraltar, which might be connected with the shortest route to India. The length to be traversed would be 13,800 metres, while that of the contemplated Dover and Calais tunnel is stated as 32,000.

The estate and mansion La Forte-Vidame, near Dreux, formerly Louis Philippe's residence, has been sold for £48,000. M. de Persigny's chateau at Chamaraud, between Fontainebleau and Etampes, a chef d'œuvre of Mansart's and a gift of the Emperor, has been purchased for £22,000.

A MANUFACTURER in Berna left three for EMS, and desired to have his trunk sent after him. The trunk was addressed "M.N.R. Petersburg-Ems." Instead, however, of the trunk being sent to the Hotel Petersburg at Ems, it has been sent all the way to St. Petersburg in Russia, and the owner will find himself put to some inconvenience before he gets it back.

The Germans are taking quite an interest in boating matters now, and it is likely that they will challenge the English and American crews before long. The German boats are built in Hamburg, and are very fine specimens of naval architecture. Each boat is provided with a large lantern, anchor, life-preservers, refrigerator for beer, and divers' boat hooks, grapnels, &c.

An enterprising Frenchman, M. Delahante, has completely altered the aspect of Venice, and rendered it one of the gayest places of resort in Italy. The Lido is transformed into a bathing place, beautifully decorated, and supplied with cafés and restaurants, to which little steamers ply to and fro the whole day long.

A CURIOUS RESULT will commence shortly at Paris. On July 23, 1870, a wager of 200,000fr. to 100,000fr. was offered in a newspaper that the French would be at Berlin on the 15th August. On the following day a merchant addressed a letter to the same journal, accepting the wager, and he intends to sue for the money by law.

The coronation of Prince Milano IV., Crown Prince of Servia, who has just completed his 14th year, having been born on July 2, 1858, will take place at Belgrade on August 22. He is the son of the Prince Michael, and the daughter of the King of Yugoslavia. Since that time Servia has been governed by a Regency.

THE CLOSE OF THE SEASON. Farewell to London and its sights— Farewell its glories splendid! Weep, sad and sore, and pure-proud knight! Sob, tradesman and poor scribbling night! The curtain-down, turned low the lights— The London Season's ended!

Nothing with pleasure interferes— So merchants close your day-books! For lords and ladies, princes, peers— Old parsons' clerks with Phylax brown, Stern grumpy p's and d'arling jeers— All fly to nature's play-books.

Peruse her books where'er you please, And as the leaves you're turning, In pleasant groves, 'neath shady trees, On mountain side, with braising breeze, On shingly shore, by rolling seas, A lesson you'll be learning.

So quit the desk, the pen lay down— A holiday is healthy! Leave for a while the smoky town, Stain and low cheeks with Phylax brown, And emulate the village clown— Be well, and you'll be wealthy. Horat.

MR. GILBERT SCOTT has received the honour of Knighthood at Osborne.

BEAUTIFUL HAIR.—Mr. S. A. Allen's World's Hair Restorer is the only preparation that will positively restore and renew the original and natural colour of grey or faded hair, stop its falling off, and induce a luxuriant growth. It never fails. Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers, in large bottles, 8s. 6d.

KILLEBY TELEGRAPH.—The Prior of the Dominican Monastery of Vézère, in France, recently received the following telegram:—"Father Ligier is dead (et moi); we shall arrive by train to-morrow, at three—LABOREE." The ecclesiastic, being convinced that the deceased, who was highly esteemed in the locality, had selected it for his last resting-place, made every preparation. A grave was dug, a hearse provided, and with the monks a sorrowing crowd waited at the station for the train. It arrived, and to the astonishment of every one, the supposed defunct arrived, well and hearty. The matter was soon explained. The reverend father, returning from a visit to Rome, where he had been accompanied by a priest Laborée, stopped to visit some monks at Saint-Jean-de-Maurienne, and requested his companion to telegraph the return to his monastery. The message sent was—"Father Ligier and I (et moi) will arrive." The clerk inadvertently changed the et moi into et mort, with what result has already been told.

OLD'S WELLINGTON KNIFE POLICE.—Old knives cleaned constantly with this preparation best a brilliancy of polish equal to new cutlery. Can be used with any kind of knife-edge or knife-cleaning machine. Retail packets 6d.; trial 6d., 1s., 2s., 6d., and 10s. Wholesale, Messrs. G. and S. W. Wellington Knives, Black Lead Mills, Stockton, London.

IMPROVED DWELLINGS IN LONDON FOR THE WORKING CLASSES.—Alderman Sir Sidney Waterlow, the chairman, presided at the eighteenth half-yearly meeting of the Improved Industrial Dwellings Company in London, the report of which stated that the subscribed capital now amounted to £206,150, and the unallotted shares represented £48,850. The loans from the Public Works Commissioners were to the amount of £284,000 in all, of which £209,000 had been received. The result of the half-year had brought in £9,483, and the total expenditure was £5,294, leaving a profit of upwards of £2,000. The directors recommended the payment of the usual dividend of five per cent, and that from the balance (£5,332) a sum of £5,000 should be placed to a reserve fund, and invested for the equalization of dividends. The number of persons now occupying dwellings belonging to the company is 5,056—viz., 2,675 above 16, and 2,381 children, while the number of different occupations was no less than 337.

A. R. FLEMING AND CO.'S VERMOREL MACHINERY OIL.—Warranted without admixture. Entirely free of all risk. Can be used without payment of extra insurance premium. Price 6s. 6d. per gallon. Ten Gallons and upwards delivered free. Equal in working power to all other oils of the price. Certificates from eminent Chemists, Engineers, Mill and Steamship Owners, on application. Address—Chemical Works, Leith.

FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.

M. THIERS AT HONFLEUR. HONFLEUR, August 17.

M. Thiers arrived here at three o'clock this afternoon, with Madame Thiers. The Prefect of the department of Calvados, the Mayor of Honfleur, and the President of the Chamber of Commerce, went to meet him on the road to Trouville; but he took a cross road, and did not arrive until five o'clock. He was met by the Prefect, who by the route by which he was expected. He was received at the Hotel-de-Ville, having been pre-arranged by the Sub-Prefect, who presented him to the authorities. The town and port were gaily decorated with flags. The square in