THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE DAILY TELEGRAPH."

SIR—In the letter you publish from "Zæo," in your issue of this morning, that lady states that "the secretary of the Royal Aquarium came to the back of the stage and introduced the gentleman to me." As this sentence may be construed into my acquiescence in the conduct of which "Zæo" complains, will you kindly permit me to briefly state the circumstances under which the introduction took place? On Sept. 30 last, Sir Walter de Souza wrote to me, sending a printed communication giving a horribly distorted photograph of the Zæo poster, which had been sent him by Mr. E. W. Thomas. The circular stated that the "sketch was a photograph from a huge street advertisement," and proceeded to say that "The question in the minds of many persons is, Will a new licence be granted to the advertisers? The case rests absolutely on the vote of the London County Council at the coming Brewster Sessions." Sir Walter, in forwarding it, said it had been sent to him in his capacity as County Councillor, and marked "Private," and, further said, "I imagine all members of the Council have received the same. There can be nothing private that I can see in this communication, and I therefore send it to you to deal with it, as it concerns your interests."

On the evening of the day I received this letter a gentleman inquired to see the chairman, and in his absence through ill-health I was asked to see him. He introduced himself as a member of the Licensing Committee of the London County Council, and said he had received a circular (similar to the one Sir Walter de Souza had kindly sent me) which he produced, and wished to ask some questions concerning it. Acting on the instructions received from the chairman to offer every courtesy and facility to members of the London County Council who should visit the establishment, I informed him that I should be happy to answer them as far as I was able, and to show him our numerous entertainments. A conversation ensued as to the circular and photograph, and as the original photographs of Zæo were in the hands of Mr. Wieland, her foster-father, I said I would introduce him, so that he could see the distortion. Having just seen Mr. Wieland enter the stage door I took the gentleman with me on to the stage. Here Mrs. Wieland and Zæo were standing, and after inquiring for Mr. Wieland, and informing them the reason, I introduced the County Councillor to them. Mr. Wieland then returned. I repeated the object of my seeing him, introduced him to the County Councillor, and left them.

On the occasion of the second County Councillor's visit the committee had sat, and many questions had been asked me respecting this lady. I, therefore, agreed to give him an introduction to Mr. Wieland to obtain the information he required. When I met Mr. Wieland he was with his wife and Zæo. I informed them he was a County Councillor seeking information, and left.

Ever since Zæo has been with us she has declined to see any gentlemen, unless introduced by the proper authorities here; and in view of the attack which was then being made on our licence, and the publication of the distorted photo, I felt bound to afford the gentlemen interested with the refusal or granting of the licence the fullest opportunities of learning the truth concerning the artiste and the establishment.

This, Sir, was the reason for my introducing the two Councillors.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, J. W. WILKINSON.

Royal Aquarium, Westminster, March 6.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE DAILY TELEGRAPH."

SIR—Some of your correspondents abuse the London County Council. Let me give the Council a little friendly advice, which is, not to repeat the Zæo incident. Acrobats, as a rule, are not only muscular, but irritable under official interference. In this case, happily, it was only a question of sores on the performer's back; in another case it might be a question of sores on the back of a County Councillor. Captain Molesworth and Zæo's manager are sensible men, and they lost nothing by not losing their tempers. The County Council have doubled Zæo's commercial value.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

London, March 5. JOHN HOLLINGSHEAD.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE DAILY TELEGRAPH."

SIR—Permit me to reply to the very personal letter of Mr. Beerbohm Tree in *The Daily Telegraph* of to-day, in reference to my remarks at the County Council on Tuesday last. In the first place, I would remark that Mr. Campbell gave me no notice of his intention to interrogate me upon the statements of Mr. Tree, and my reply was, therefore, made on the spur of the moment without my having had the opportunity of referring to the documents connected with the case. I have, however, to-day refreshed my memory, and I have nothing to withdraw or correct. Mr. Tree complained in his first letter, dated Feb. 26, (1) that he received repeated complaints that the bolts on the doors of the Haymarket Theatre did not meet the requirements of the Council; (2) that the bolts were, however, made on the very pattern of the bolts approved by the Council at five new theatres; (3) that he was persecuted with requisitions and put to much trouble and expense; (4) that he was finally threatened with legal proceedings. Now, the facts of the case are as follows:

(1) Under date July 16, 1889, the owner of the theatre was called upon by the Council to carry out five different alterations. Four are not material to the present discussion, but the fifth was as follows: "That the padlocks to the doors next the Haymarket be removed, and that each of such doors be fastened with a single purpose-made lever bolt of a pattern to be approved by the Council." On April 29, 1890, it was reported to my committee that the padlocks had been removed, but that there were no bolts on the doors as usually approved by the Council. The attention of Mr. Phipps (the architect) was drawn to this omission on May 1, and on July 15 he replied as follows: "All the doors next the Haymarket are entirely free from bolts of every kind, and are always open and free for ingress and egress when the audience is in the theatre. I submit this should be accepted as compliance, it being better than even automatic bolts. If at any time the Council should find any of these doors in any way fastened when the audience is in the theatre, let them proceed against the lessee under the powers in their 'Various Powers Act' now in force." The doors, it appeared, were fastened with dead locks (i.e., ordinary locks without a handle) and cross-bars; the matter was accordingly reported to the Council on July 29, and by its approval another letter was addressed to Mr. Phipps, informing him that legal proceedings would be taken unless the requisition was complied with, to which he replied (on Aug. 8), stating it would take three weeks to complete the works as desired, but promising that the wishes of the Committee should be complied with. On Oct. 23 he wrote that the fastenings of the doors had been altered as required; but it appeared upon inspection that the fastenings did not comply with the requisitions of the Council, inasmuch as they were not lever bolts of the approved pattern, because they required a key to unlock them, and in the absence of the key were as objectionable as the former padlocks. In the meanwhile, the taking out of a summons had remained in abeyance, but on Nov. 6 the letter referred to by Mr. Tree was addressed to the trustees of the theatre by the Council's solicitor, informing them it would be necessary to take legal proceedings unless the requirements were complied with. About the middle of November Mr. Phipps called to see me, and I promised to meet him at the theatre and inspect the bolts myself. I did so, and was assured by him that the two doors which were fitted with the fastenings in question were always unlocked simultaneously with the centre door, and remained so as long as the performance continued. I reported this circumstance to my committee at their next meeting, and, accepting Mr. Phipps's assurance, we determined to take no further action if that undertaking was duly carried out. Under instructions an official from the Architect's Department visited the theatre at long intervals, and found the doors opened as promised except on one occasion (Feb. 9), when one door was found to be fastened until 9.10 p.m., when a performance was taking place; how much longer it remained so I am not in a position to state, as the assistant left at that time. Mr. Tree seems to take pride in the fact that the bolts remain. I am sorry for him, and that he does not recognise the courtesy and forbearance with which he has been treated. He says "there was never any question of certain doors being wrongly closed during performance." What does he suppose was the object in having bolts of a simple character substituted for padlocks on the doors but to make the means of exit in case of emergency easily available? And how could they be made so if they were fitted with fastenings which required a key, and the man in charge of the key, to open them? At all events his architect, Mr. Phipps, knew the reason why proper fastenings were insisted upon, and I must leave it to Mr. Tree to settle that point with him.

It is perfectly true, as Mr. Tree writes, that the bolts at his theatre are similar in pattern to those approved by the Council at certain other theatres, but he is mistaken in supposing that the conditions of the exits are alike in all; for, in the other buildings where these bolts have been authorised, other means of exit are provided, and therefore the objections to their use do not apply. In conclusion, allow me to add that I accept to the fullest my share of the responsibility for all that has been done in regard to these bolts at the Haymarket Theatre. The duty which devolves upon my committee of ensuring the safety of places of entertainment, as far as we are able to do so under our inadequate powers, is of a disagreeable and thankless nature, and is such as must necessarily inflict seeming hardship on individuals; but I can point to the fact that since this duty was undertaken by the Council not one single appeal against the recommendations of my Committee has been prosecuted, although the parties aggrieved have the power of appealing to the Home Secretary for the appointment of an arbitrator if they conceive themselves to have been unfairly treated.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

T. G. FARDELL, Chairman Theatres, &c., Committee.

March 5.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE DAILY TELEGRAPH."

SIR—The thanks which the theatrical profession owes to *The Daily Telegraph*, for the attention always bestowed in its columns upon theatrical affairs, have never been more thoroughly earned than by the prominence which you have given to the latest escapade of the London County Council. Whilst it is the aim of true statesmanship to govern the world with as few laws as possible, it appears to be the endeavour of the County Council to discover the maximum of legislation with which existence can be encumbered. It was the boast of the late Sir Joseph Heron that so multifarious and comprehensive were the statutory privileges which he had secured for the Corporation of Manchester that nobody could blow his nose in the streets of that city without the permission of the town clerk. The Council seems desirous of emulating the achievements of Sir Joseph, but it is doubtful whether its powers would be exercised with equal forbearance. What need is there for legislation on the subject of theatres? Who, except myself, is dissatisfied with the existing situation? Even I, who have ever contended that the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain is an insult and an injury to art, wish to be among the first to echo the words of Mr. Beerbohm-Tree, and to admit that this jurisdiction is in our time vested in gentlemen of such culture, refinement, and artistic sympathy as to reduce the evil to a minimum. Indeed, it is the very moderation with which an absolute despotism is administered which blinds the majority to the abuses of which it is capable. As a confirmed free-trader, I should be among the last to advocate any protection of the theatres against the legitimate competition of the music halls, and I should hail with pleasure any proposal calculated to introduce an element of interest or amusement into the performances at those temples of tedium; but the proposals of the County Council amount to the protection of the music halls against the legitimate competition of the theatres. So far as one-act pieces are concerned, the purveyors of drink and tobacco are accorded a distinct advantage over the purveyors of merely intellectual entertainment. This is a gross injustice to the theatrical managers, and they are entitled to resent it. They have done so unanimously and eloquently in your columns, but so far as I have observed none of your correspondents has indicated the more subtle danger which lurks in the division of authority between the Lord Chamberlain and the County Council. It is proposed to give the licensing of playhouses to the Council and the licensing of plays to the Chamberlain. Now, suppose that the Council were to disapprove of an entertainment which had been duly licensed by the Chamberlain, could it not effectually usurp the jurisdiction of the latter by withdrawing the licence from the building in which such entertainment was given, by granting conditional licences, or by making itself objectionable in an infinite variety of ways?

Can we suppose, that, having stormed the approaches to the theatre, having hoisted its standard in the vestibule, and taken forcible possession of stalls, pit, and gallery, the Council will not proceed to annex the stage itself? Has not Mr. Pettitt correctly forecast the ultimate catastrophe? The present bill is our old friend, the thin end of the wedge. As, when the provincial Puritan comes to London, his first visit is to the Empire Palace of Varieties, so the glamour of the footlights has an irresistible attraction for the London Puritan County Councillor. His ultimate aim is the censorship of the drama itself. This bill is the harbinger of an assault by sour-visaged ascetics upon the very bases of our art; and if they should ever regain their ascendancy it will inevitably be succeeded by the open excesses of the Restoration.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Kensington, Feb. 28. SYDNEY GRUNDY.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE DAILY TELEGRAPH."

SIR—The article in your issue of Feb. 23, commenting upon the London County Council Theatres Bill, has evoked letters from leading theatrical proprietors and others, with which I ask your leave to deal shortly. That bill, as is well known, proposes to give a legal right to music-hall proprietors to vary their entertainments by the introduction of dramatic sketches limited as to time and *dramatis personæ*. For nearly twenty years such performances have been given and permitted at music halls without obstruction, but the suggested legalisation of their performance has apparently created a spirit of hostility against the proposed clause and stirred with sudden horror the leading theatrical proprietors. Messrs. Irving, Hare, Tree, and Conquest have taken up the cry, and Mr. Pinero espouses their cause in a very "profligate" style. The same clause last year met with expressed approbation from theatrical proprietors, who now see therein so dangerous an attack upon "Art" and "proprietary interests therein." Their arguments are two—art will be damaged; the result, says Mr. Tree, will be "that the ethics and æsthetics of our art will be outraged." Secondly, the music-hall proprietor, with his additional attractions of drink and smoke during the performance, would starve out the less fortunate theatre owner who could only offer dry and smokeless "Art."

Now, Sir, as to the first argument. It is clearly a convenient word to cover the second argument in favour of the theatres whose business earnings might be lessened. It cannot surely be seriously suggested that a Lyceum representation of Shakespeare, or a Haymarket one of "The Dancing Girl," or a Comedy one of "Jane" (all assumedly Art), would be one whit hampered by legalising the recognised custom of a dramatic sketch on the music-hall stage. The improvement of music-hall performances has been no whit less marked than the elevation of drama proper, and why, when the music-hall proprietor, by a legal recognition, can safely invest money in the better performance, should the result be a deterioration? Whatever liberty of representation is given to music-hall proprietors, the needs of society will not be lessened, and theatrical audiences, who wish to quietly enjoy the higher phases of true drama, will not be baulked of their desire, and the theatres who provide for the want and, at the same time, cultivate "Art," will continue to thrive as heretofore.

Music-hall proprietors as a body regard the enlargement of our province as perfectly justified by our history, and if such enlargement injuriously affects a weak monopoly, it is common justice both to us and to the enormous mass for whom we work, that the opposition to this clause should be put on this ground and not on any misleading or meaningless phrases, such as abound in Mr. Pinero's contribution to this question.

Apart from structural safeguard, immorality is the only justifiable ground for interference by the Legislature with the rights of a public caterer of entertainments as to the character of his performances; and, *ex hypothesi*, it would seem that Lyceum drama being higher than dramatic sketches, the latter are equally in advance of the traditional comic song. I say, Sir, let us have a free hand, and know that the money we expend to meet the demand of, and to please our audiences, is invested with good legal sanction, and not with an uncertain licence of hostile theatrical proprietors, and then let time be the judge whether the art in a short dramatic sketch on a music-hall stage is or is not as high as Art proper in the present theatres, even though the audiences smoke almost always and drink occasionally.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, H. G. LAKE.

Metropolitan Music-hall, Edgware-road, March 4.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE DAILY TELEGRAPH."

SIR—I notice Mr. Robert Buchanan, in quoting from my recent letter to *The Daily Telegraph*, says "that I would have no restrictions save on points of delicacy." My contention, however, was for "entire free trade in amusement, subject only to supervision on the score of decency."

This is, of course, wholly a different matter. Points of delicacy are, as Mr. Robert Buchanan justly observes, points of taste, and I am quite at one with him that these should be left entirely to the public.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, HENRY ARTHUR JONES.

Townshend House, North-gate, Regent's Park, March 6.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Mr. C. B. Harness' world-famed [illegible]—(ADVERTISEMENT.)

THE EAST-END.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE DAILY TELEGRAPH."

SIR—The concluding sentence of your interesting and instructive article on the last Whitechapel murder in *The Daily Telegraph* of to-day may be supplemented by some statement of facts. Will you allow one who for ten years was rector of Spitalfields, and is still personally identified with the work among the fallen and miserable in that locality, to offer to your readers a few remarks? In the first place, I should like to assure your readers that the number of women who belong to the class to which poor Frances Coles belonged has for many years been on the decline, and has of late been greatly diminished. So long, however, as there is the demand there will be the supply. There are so many "Bodlers" frequenting the lodging-house district that our constant efforts to stop the supply of victims cannot entirely succeed. Every endeavour is being made to reduce the number of men who, on their discharge in the Port of London, yield to temptation and spend their money in vicious indulgence. They are not overlooked or neglected; but there will be always some who resist our persuasions and are themselves the victims of those who seek, by solicitation or by violence, to possess themselves of the pay they have drawn. These create the demand for such women as are represented by the last victim of the assassin, poor Frances Coles. The clergy are not unmindful of their duty towards these men who are irregularly added to the population for which they are responsible, and the agencies they direct, and their own personal endeavours are not unproductive of good results, as those who know East London by the waterside can testify. I may further be allowed to remark that no poor woman need continue her life of sin and of shame because no one cares for her and no helping hand is near to succour her. It is no easy work to rescue the fallen. When these are in the condition in which Frances Coles was when she met with her sad end, it is almost impossible to help them. It is at other seasons that our efforts are most fruitful of good results. To this end the lodging-houses are, and have been for many years, most systematically visited. A new comer is presently recognised, and the kind word is spoken, and help and assistance proffered. Our shelters afford immediate refuge to those who will avail themselves of them. That some are in despair I doubt not; and it is this feeling of despair we endeavour to overcome. I do not think any would confess, in their sober moments, that they were driven "by the pangs of hunger and cold, into the darksome streets"—I mean, that this was their only alternative. Frances Coles was not unknown to the Church workers in those parts. She, like too many, refused the help it would have been the delight of sympathetic hearts to render her. It is, indeed, "the abject despair" of which you speak that in many cases is too much for us, and frustrates our best endeavours to help these poor women to lead an honest and a better life. And yet the records of our work must certainly forbid us to despair of any.

May I be allowed to add that the Refuge and the laundry the readers of *The Daily Telegraph* helped me to open, when the first Whitechapel murders were perpetrated, has been of immense assistance to us in this work of rescuing the fallen. It is open for the reception of this particular class, to which Frances Coles belonged, and is one of four homes which are doing that useful work. I shall always be glad to introduce our homes and explain the nature of our work, both within and without the home, to any who may care to learn, at first hand, what is being done for these poor creatures. Our homes are always as full as our resources permit, and this particular refuge is never closed against any who show the faintest desire to be helped to recover themselves from their sad and lamentable condition. Those who can and will help us may be assured that I shall always most thankfully receive and gratefully acknowledge contributions small or large.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

R. C. BEDFORD, Bishop Suffragan for East London.

Stainforth House, Upper Clapton, N.E., March 3.

KENSINGTON GARDENS.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE DAILY TELEGRAPH."

SIR—I am glad to read in yours of to-day that active steps are going to be taken in Kensington in order to protect our park. Will you kindly permit me, through the medium of your widely-circulated paper, to state that we in Paddington are already astir, and that we have engaged the use of the Vestry Hall for the purpose of holding a public meeting on Monday next, at eight p.m., in order to ventilate the subject, and should be pleased if any of our Kensington neighbours (who are as deeply interested in the preservation of the beautiful trees and scenery as we are) would attend.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

W. GARDINER, Chairman of the Paddington Rate and Tax Payers' and Rentors' Defence Association.

127, Queen's-road, W., March 6.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE DAILY TELEGRAPH."

SIR—The heartiness with which you denounced the monstrous scheme for attaining cheap access to the Albert Hall at the price of all that gives to Kensington Gardens their unique charm, and renders them the delight of Londoners of all ages and classes, encourages me to hope that you will assist us on the north side of the gardens by giving publicity to the fact that a meeting has been called, on the requisition of a hundred ratepayers, at the Paddington Vestry Hall, for Monday next, at eight p.m., to protest against the contemplated defacement of the gardens.

The whole of that part of the scheme which relates to the Gardens has come upon the public as a complete surprise, and there is now no time to do anything but protest, which, however, we intend to do energetically. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A RESIDENT IN PADDINGTON.

London, March 5.

UNNECESSARY AND COSTLY.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE DAILY TELEGRAPH."

SIR—Such were the words spoken with regard to the 19th section of the Factory Act. Unnecessary, how? During the past year I have refused to certify for six boys who were suffering from scrofula and phthisis. The fact that cheap labour can be obtained easier from the unhealthy is lost sight of. Costly! for the high fee of sixpence a boy is examined as to fitness. This fee does not come from the Treasury, but is borne by the employer and employed.

I would advise the Society for the Protection of Children to interest themselves in this matter, for not only should the factory surgeon examine, but he should visit works and factories periodically, and see that the labour is congenial to the employed.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, UBIQUE.

London, March 6.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

Mr. Coghlan's new play, "Lady Barter," has been materially improved in many respects since the first night on which it was submitted to the public, and was treated at its conclusion with no outward sign of hostility whatever, but with an ominous expression of astonishment. In two respects, as was generally conceded at the outset, it was capable of no alteration for the better. The acting of Mrs. Langtry herself and the extreme luxury of the stage adornments were themes on all hands of unstinted praise. This or that opinion may be expressed about the value to art of such uncompromising pictures of social degradation and feminine heartlessness, but granted a Lady Barter—and no one can doubt her truth to nature—was it possible for a character of the kind to be rendered with greater consistency? We venture to think not. Bad and selfish women, adventuresses of tact and cleverness, the idols of the old and the ruin of the young, have been selected by dramatists before now to illustrate life as we see it with our own eyes. If you condemn Lady Barter on that score, you must condemn the New Magdalen, a somewhat canting specimen of veneered respectability, and you must refuse to look at a Lena Despard or a Stéphanie de Mohrivart. As an example of triumphant viciousness, "Lady Barter" is, perhaps, no worse than "Forget-Me-Not," though Mr. Coghlan has chosen to allow his heroine to escape the penalties of dramatic fate. As Lady Barter appears so does she disappear, and with the true artistic spirit Mrs. Langtry paints her as brilliantly, as faithfully, and as cynically as a Van Beers would paint a Parisian of to-day. The actress has made a noteworthy advance—she has studied the character with keen insight into her nature, and in an artistic sense it is by far the best thing Mrs. Langtry has done on the stage. We may think what we like of Lady Barter as a woman, but no one can condemn Mrs. Langtry the actress.

On the first night, however, the play, as a whole, materially suffered from an indecision and hesitation on the part of other performers which militated considerably against its success. It is by no manner of means a one-part piece. It is a duel, not a single combat, and no actress, however clever, can fight a spirited duel single-handed. The fight between Macbeth and Macduff would be a spiritless affair, indeed, if virtue and vice did not "lay on" with equal strength and determination. It is here that the play has been so conspicuously improved. The spirit originally wanting has been added. There is as much "give" as "take." Nervousness and halting steps have disappeared, and all who can admire a brilliant and luxurious picture of modern life will find it on the stage by means of this daring, unconventional, and certainly well-written drama.

CAMBRIDGE LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.

The class lists of the thirty-third examination, held by the Cambridge Local Examination Syndicate in December last, were issued yesterday. The examinations were held at 174 centres for boys and 156 for girls, and the total numbers of those who entered were 5,[illegible] boys and 3,[illegible] girls, making a total of 9,[illegible], of whom 1,[illegible] were seniors and 7,[illegible] juniors. Fifteen of the boys' centres and fourteen of the girls' were new centres this year. Ten of the centres for boys and seven for girls were in the colonies, the results of which are not yet declared. 277 of those who entered were absent from the examinations. Of the remainder no fewer than 6,[illegible] candidates were successful, 2,[illegible] being girls and 3,[illegible] boys. Amongst the boys eighteen seniors and [illegible] juniors gained a first-class, and in the girls section sixteen seniors and sixty-four juniors also gained a first-class. Six junior boys were rejected for copying.

Mr. Harness has received a letter from Mr. Herbert Hunt, of 7, [illegible] [illegible]—(ADVERTISEMENT.)

SPORTING INTELLIGENCE.

SANDOWN PARK NOTES.

In very enjoyable weather the third meeting of the present year was inaugurated at Sandown Park. The sun shone from an almost cloudless sky, and although the company did not compare in numbers with that assembled a week ago to assist at the Grand Military fixture it was far from small. The Prince of Wales occupied the Royal pavilion, and amongst the other visitors were many of the principal patrons of the sport under the National Hunt rules. If the ground is getting hard in consequence of the absence of rain more than one of the Grand National acceptors put in an appearance for the Ewell Steeplechase, a party of six including Royal Meath, Gamecock, Aladdin, and Phil. They may be said to have come out of the ordeal badly, as Royal Meath, who sustained a bare defeat at the hands of Leprechaun, pulled up in a very crippled condition, Gamecock cut a poor figure, Aladdin, who fell when his chance looked second to none, returned to the paddock lame, and Phil fenced badly. That the stylish Royal Meath must have given Marsh occasional trouble was the general opinion of the paddock critics, and the odds never stood at less than 2 to 1. He, perhaps, played into the hands of Leprechaun when sent to the front at the bottom turn, and after leading over the last fence he knocked under by a neck. Of course, he will not be able to take part in the Grand National, and Lord Dudley's colours are likely to be worn by Cloister. In the first event of the card, the Selling Hunters' Flat Race, Podophyllon had an easy task, and odds were also landed by Prince Edward for the Hunters' Steeplechase. It was different when Pertinax refused in the Selling Hurdle Race, and he left Diavolo to win by thirty lengths from Seamer. Of the two favourites for the Aissele Hurdle Handicap, Partisan and Theosophist, the latter, vigorously ridden by Mr. W. H. Moore, atoned for his disappointment at the previous meeting, and Captain Jones had another fancied candidate in Coolshannagh for the March Hurdle Race. But the Littleton candidate did not shine, and with Maley and Parsimonious out of court half way up the straight, Chevy Chase went out in pursuit of Carthusian. His effort was too late, and the relative positions of the pair in the Sandown Grand Prize were reversed by a lucky head. During the afternoon, Lord George was in force for the Lincolnshire Handicap, and the same may be said of Roman Oak for the Grand National.

To-morrow, GLENQUOICH or HUGGER MUGGER may win the Warren Hunters' Flat Race, PORT LAUREATE the Selling Hurdle Handicap, TERROR or STRONG TEA the March Handicap Steeplechase, the MARQUIS the Selling Hunters' Hurdle Race, MISSISSIPPI or EDEN the Open Hunters' Steeplechase, and HAPPY-GO-LUCKY the Hurdle Handicap. HOTSPUR.

Friday Night.

LONDON BETTING—FRIDAY.

Business proved of a moderate character to-day, although several horses were backed for the Lincoln Handicap. Wise Man again had the call of Tostig, Odd Fellow, and Carrick, who were supported at 100 to 7, which was the best offer against Lord George, and Lord Esterling was backed at 20 to 1, a price to which Dry Toast advanced. For the Grand National 5 to 1 proved the best tender against Ilex, Come Away being backed at 6 to 1; while the chief business in connection with the Guineas and Derby was the support awarded to Gouverneur, 550 to 200 being accepted for the former, and 1100 to 200 for the latter event. Prices:

LINCOLNSHIRE HANDICAP.

100 to 8 agst Wise Man (t & off) | 100 to 7 agst Lord George (o; 100 to 7 — Tostig (t and off) | 20 to 1 — Lord Esterling (t); 100 to 7 — Carrick (t and off) | 20 to 1 — [illegible] (t); 100 to 7 — Odd Fellow (t & off) | 20 to 1 — Dry Toast (t & o)

GRAND NATIONAL.

5 to 1 agst Ilex (o; 11 to 2 t) | 33 to 1 agst Grape Vine (t); 6 to 1 — Come Away (t & o) | 33 to 1 — Brunswick (t)

TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.

550 to 200 agst Gouverneur (t) | 100 to 8 agst Cutlantons (t)

DERBY.

1100 to 200 agst Gouverneur (t) | 100 to 7 agst Cutlantons (t & o)

SANDOWN PARK CLUB MARCH MEETING.

FRIDAY.

[illegible]

LATEST BETTING ON THE COURSE.

LINCOLNSHIRE HANDICAP.

500 to 30 agst Lord George (t) | 100 to 6 agst Lord Esterling (t and off)

GRAND NATIONAL.

5 to 1 agst Ilex (t and off) | 100 to 40 agst Grape Vine (t); 6 to 1 — Come Away (t & o) | 100 to 1 — Royal Meath (o); 10 to 1 — Roman Oak (t & o)

PROGRAMME FOR THIS DAY—SATURDAY.

[illegible]

ARRIVALS.

[illegible]

YESTERDAY'S WINNERS AND STARTING PRICES

SANDOWN PARK CLUB MARCH MEETING.

SELLING HUNTERS' FLAT RACE (t).—Podophyllon, aged, 12st (Mr. J. C. Dormer), 11 to 8 on.

EWELL HANDICAP STEEPLECHASE (6).—Leprechaun, aged, 11st 3lb (Mr. Atkins), 5 to 1 agst.

AISSELE HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (6).—Theosophist, 6 yrs, 11st 7lb (Mr. W. H. Moore), 11 to 4 agst.

HUNTERS' STEEPLECHASE (3).—Prince Edward, 9 yrs, 12st (E. Mathews), 5 to 2 on.

SELLING HURDLE RACE (3).—Diavolo, aged, 11st 7lb (E. Woodland), 2 to 1 agst.

MARCH HURDLE RACE (6).—Carthusian, 4 yrs, 10st 7lb (G. Morris), 4 to 1 agst.

[The figures in parentheses indicate the number of starters.]

SCRATCHINGS.—Sandown Park March engagements, [illegible]. All engagements, Cyprus.

ROBERTS AND PEALL MATCHED FOR £1,000.—Yesterday articles were signed by Messrs. W. H. Fry and W. Chen, on behalf of J. Roberts and W. J. Peall respectively, for these two professionals to play a match, [illegible] points up, spot-barred, Peall to receive 12,000 start, at the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, on March 16 and following days, [illegible] [illegible]

Ballot Box should have been included among the entries for the Open Hunters' Steeplechase at Rugby Hunt Meeting.

UNIVERSITY BOAT RACE.

The Oxonians were afloat about a quarter to eleven, and, coached by Mr. Pacner, of the London Rowing Club, they tested last year's boat and the one just built for them by Clasper. The new craft was launched first, and, after paddling to the Soap Works, they took up their positions at a skiff moored just off Rosebank. Starting well inshore and out of the wind, Kent set his men a stroke of thirty-six for the first minute, and they accomplished the journey to Craven Steps in 2min 50 3-5sec, ninety-six strokes being taken altogether. Then they paddled back to their quarters, and last year's boat was brought out. This time Kent set his men a stroke of thirty-four, the distance being covered in 3min 51 3-5sec, ninety-six strokes again being taken. The test thus resulted in a trifling advantage in favour of the new boat. After this the Dark Blues went up to the Lead Mills just above Hammersmith Bridge, and came back in easy stages to Putney. Just before they reached home the Oxonians indulged in a fine burst, and they finished up in front of the boathouses in splendid style, doing thirty-six in the last minute.

Coached by Messrs. Muttlebury and Symonds-Taylor, the Cantabs, went out at a quarter-past eleven in their new boat, which had been very skilfully repaired. William East was also on board the launch in order to give a few directions to Braddon. After progressing in easy stages to Thornycroft's, they turned, and did a smart piece of rowing between the Oil Mills and the Torpedo Works, Elin setting his men a stroke of thirty-four. An easy was then called, and after drifting to Craven Grounds they had another burst to the Creek at an average of thirty-three, afterwards rowing steadily to their quarters. The Cantabs have come on a lot within the last day or so, and they have improved vastly since they first appeared on the tidal waters.

To-day Oxford will be out about ten, while the Light Blues will row a course from Putney, starting about half an hour later. Names and weights:

OXFORD.

	st	lb
W. M. Poole (Magdalen) (bow)	[illegible]	[illegible]
R. P. Rowe (Magdalen)	[illegible]	[illegible]
G. Nickalls (Magdalen)	[illegible]	[illegible]
G. Nickalls (Magdalen)	[illegible]	[illegible]
F. Wilkinson (Brasenose)	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lord Ampthill (New)	[illegible]	[illegible]
W. A. L. Fletcher (Christ Church)	[illegible]	[illegible]
C. W. Kent (Brasenose) (stroke)	[illegible]	[illegible]
J. P. Heywood-Lonsdale (New) (cox)	[illegible]	[illegible]

CAMBRIDGE.

	st	lb
J. W. Noble (Caius) (bow)	[illegible]	[illegible]
E. W. Lord (Trinity Hall)	[illegible]	[illegible]
G. Francklyn (Third Trinity)	[illegible]	[illegible]
E. T. Fison (Corpus)	[illegible]	[illegible]
W. Landale (Trinity Hall)	[illegible]	[illegible]
J. F. Rowlatt (Trinity Hall)	[illegible]	[illegible]
C. T. Fogg-Elliot (Trinity Hall)	[illegible]	[illegible]
G. Elin (Third Trinity) (stroke)	[illegible]	[illegible]
J. V. Braddon (Trinity Hall) (cox)	[illegible]	[illegible]

WEIGHT-LIFTING COMPETITION.

Promoted by Sir John Astley, a weight-lifting competition of British-born strong men took place last evening in St. James's Hall, Piccadilly, which was but moderately filled. Some thirty odd competitors entered to essay the sight by no means light tasks. Of these but eighteen put in an appearance, and for the good repute of native muscle it had been better had most of them stayed away. Practically the affair was reduced to a trial of strength between four men, namely the Brothers M'Cann, Ajax, and a sturdy dock labourer, called Clifford. Two other young fellows gave great promise, but apparently lacked training. The first five feats consisted of lifting and extending at arms' length above the head dumb-bells and bar-bells of weights from 56lb to 200lb, the brothers M'Cann (Hercules and Samson) alone succeeding at No. 5 competition. No. 6 task was to raise a dumb-bell actually weighing 160lb above the head with one hand—a feat also alone performed by the M'Canns. Eventually Hercules was declared the winner, he having succeeded in every feat, including the last, which was lifting a stone weighing 350lb with one hand and another weighing 450lb with both hands. Ajax got second prize, and Samson the third prize, whilst the fourth prize went to Clifford. Among the spectators were Sir Charles Russell, Q.C., Sandow, and a number of military men. The judges were General F. Hammersley, Colonel Fox, Professors Atkinson and Hubbard, and Messrs. Lessaire, and Levi (the Amateur Champion). During the evening the Pipers of the Scots' Guards danced the broadsword dance and a Highland reel.

FOOTBALL.

There is an exceedingly heavy list of fixtures to be decided to-day, [illegible]

ENGLAND v. SCOTLAND (R).

[illegible]

IRELAND v. WALES (R).

(At Llanelly.)

Ireland—D. B. Walkington (North of Ireland) (back), R. G. Dunlop (North of Ireland), S. Lee (North of Ireland), and H. G. Wells (Bective) (three-quarter backs), R. D. Garnons (Bective) and O. J. Johnson (half-backs), [illegible]

Wales—W. Bancroft (Swansea) (back), [illegible]

ENGLAND v. IRELAND (A).

(At Wolverhampton.)

[illegible]

* An old International.

The whole of the team selected have been won by England, who have scored 24 goals to 4.

ENGLAND v. WALES (A).

(At Sunderland.)

[illegible]

FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION.—[illegible]

NATIONAL SPORTING CLUB.—Many of those who assisted at the inauguration of the above club must have often visited the premises in King-street, Covent-garden, when it was the most famous supper club in London. Few of them, had they been taken blindfold into the magnificent saloon, which is in future to be used for the entertainments which the club promises to provide for its members, would have recognised Evans's. Boxing was the main feature of Thursday night's amusement, among the performers being Frank Slavin and Charlie Mitchell, and many leading champions of present and past years, with a number of professional boxers, who gave "exhibition spars." [illegible] M. Guibal, the proceedings being kept up till Friday morning was well advanced.

SNOWSTORM IN SCOTLAND.—A telegram from Wick last night states that the severe snowstorm has continued in Caithness, and many now cover the ground to the depth of several inches. There are heavy drifts in many places, but the railway is still clear, and the roads passable for vehicles.

CAUTION.—HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINES.—[illegible]—(ADVT.)

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

CHANCERY DIVISION—MARCH 6.

(Before Mr. Justice STIRLING.)

CATHCART V. CATHCART.

Mr. Buckley, Q.C., appeared in support of a motion on behalf of Mr. James Taylor Cathcart, in an action against his wife Mrs. Mary Cathcart. He said that the notice of motion asked that the defendant Mrs. Cathcart and Charles Henry Harvey, 29, Loam-road, Brixton, London, might be committed to prison for contempt of the Court for having caused to be placarded on the walls of the village of Auchtermuchty, in Scotland, notices calculated to molest, annoy, interfere with, or prejudice the plaintiff in the prosecution of his action, and it also asked an injunction against Mrs. Cathcart. Circumstances had arisen, however, by which, counsel was happy to say, Mrs. Cathcart had been put under proper care, and under those circumstances he certainly would not pursue the application against her. Mr. and Mrs. Cathcart were married on July 20, 1887, he being the son of a Scottish gentleman of Pitcairlie, in Fifeshire. They lived together at Pitcairlie in Mr. Cathcart's father's house for about two months, and on Sept. 20 of the same year, Mrs. Cathcart, suffering, counsel believed, under the same mental affliction as at present, left her husband. Certain legal proceedings were taken by her which he would not now enter into, but ultimately, in June, 1889, a writ was issued in the present action, which was to restrain her from selling certain stocks, &c., on the ground that under the Married Women's Property Act (Scotland) her husband was entitled in certain events to a life interest in those funds. Interim injunction was granted by his lordship on Aug. 6, 1889. The action had not yet reached trial, but it was going on. Mrs. Cathcart, in December last, while suffering, counsel was afraid, from some mental delusion, applied to his lordship for protection against her husband, who, she supposed, was going to take some proceedings, which were only in her imagination. She made an affidavit stating that her husband was staying at the Midland Hotel, where she also was staying, and that he intended to seize her. In answer to that Mr. Cathcart filed an affidavit stating that he had never left Scotland at all, and had never been at the Midland Hotel. On the 5th ult., Mr. Cathcart being resident at Pitcairlie, a friend came over from Auchtermuchty, which was three miles from Pitcairlie, and told him that there had been posted all over the village of Auchtermuchty a number of the placards in a form which attacked Mr. Cathcart. The placards were as follows: "To all accomplices and whomsoever it may concern. Whereas it has come to my knowledge that certain witnesses in various matters between myself and James Taylor Cathcart have unaccountably disappeared, some being placed in convents and others in lunatic asylums, I hereby give notice that I shall offer a substantial reward for the discovery of the perpetrators of the above outrages.—Feb. 2, 1891." The other placard was dated the same date, and in it Mrs. Cathcart gave notice that from that date she declined to be responsible for any debts contracted by her husband, who is a County Councillor in Fifeshire, or by any former agents of hers, or by any relatives or other unauthorised persons. Anyone reading these notices would easily suppose that they emanated from a person who was not of sound mind. It appeared that about 20,000 of these notices were circulated, and several had been sent to Cupar, and Newburgh, and to various places in Yorkshire, including Uttoxeter, which was near Wootton Park, where Mrs. Cathcart herself resided, and great publicity had been given to the matter. Finally, matters had reached the stage at which, under the Lunacy Acts, the proper steps had been taken to put her under its custody and control, and she was now resident in an asylum. He hoped there was reason to believe that under proper medical treatment her condition might improve, and her health be properly established. He did not, therefore, ask for any order against her, but as against Mr. Harvey he must press for an order.

At this point the hearing was adjourned.

DIVORCE DIVISION—MARCH 6.

(Before Sir CHARLES BUTT.)

WOOLLAMS V. WOOLLAMS AND INOS (OTHERWISE CARLETON)—THEATRICAL CASE.

This was the petition of the husband for a divorce by reason of his wife's adultery with the co-respondent. All the parties belong to the theatrical profession. There was no defence.

Mr. Lipscombe, who appeared for the petitioner, said that the acting names of the respective parties were "Percy Everard," "Minnie Hotchley," and "George Carleton." The marriage took place on Nov. 29, 1876, at Portsmouth, after which Mr. and Mrs. Woollams went touring in the provinces. In July, 1880, the petitioner accepted an engagement to go to South Africa with Mr. Lionel Brough's company, the respondent thinking that the offer was a very advantageous one. He left his wife £150; in addition to that she was fulfilling an engagement which brought her in four guineas a week. He received various letters from her from time to time. On Nov. 14, 1889, she wrote to him complaining of some differences she had had with the theatrical company, and the letter contained the following: "Judge of the sort of existence you left me to endure during your absence. I am not complaining—I am simply telling you what are the facts. Mr. Carleton was a true friend to me in one of the greatest and bitterest trials of my life, and I have, as a most natural consequence, gone wrong with him, as the world terms it; but, to express my own real sentiments, I have repaid a most unselfish devotion in the only way a desolate woman can." Mr. Woollams naturally came to the conclusion that his wife had been unfaithful, and upon returning to this country inquiries were made, which resulted in his presenting this petition.

Mr. Percy Meyer Woollams, the petitioner, in the course of his evidence said that his wife assented to his going to South Africa. At the time she was playing in a piece called "The Miser's Will." She had an engagement for the autumn tour and for the following Christmas, and was earning four guineas a week. On Oct. 12, 1890, he went to Warrington, and at the Theatre Royal there he saw his wife and the co-respondent in the presence of Mrs. Fielding. The co-respondent had previously been introduced to him, and at the time was the acting manager of the company.

By Sir C. Butt: He was formerly in partnership with Mr. Craven, they running a piece called "The Fugitive." The respondent was a member of the company.

Why did you go away to South Africa?—Because the two years' partnership with Mr. Craven had terminated, and I entered into an engagement to go with Mr. Lionel Brough's company to South Africa.

What were the terms?—I was to receive £9 a week for eight months.

I see by the letters that your wife does not seem to have approved of your going away?—She did at the time. I had had several offers to go abroad, and it was on her account that I really did go.

What was the trouble she referred to as to Mr. Carleton being a true friend "in one of the greatest and bitterest trials of my life"?—I was away from England at the time, and do not know to what it refers.

But in a letter she writes, "You never could have loved me, or you would have tried to save me, and not have left me to the mercy of a pitiless hound"?—I do not know what she means. She never explained to me what it was.

She goes on to say, "I have always worked hard to make the home happy, and kept it going"?—It was a "fad" of hers to say she kept the house. I gave her the money, and she had her mother staying with her.

Did you answer that letter?—No.

What is she doing now?—She has just finished an engagement at Greenwich. She was on a joint salary with the co-respondent at £3 per week, and is living with him now.

Sir C. Butt: I am far from satisfied. This was a proper letter to write, and I cannot help suspecting that the petitioner's conduct had something to do with the state of things which now exists.

Mrs. Ann Fielding deposed that she kept a boarding-house at Blackburn, and was in the habit of receiving members of the theatrical profession. Last August "Mr. and Mrs. Carleton" stayed at the house for about ten days. They were engaged at the theatre at Warrington. Last October, in company with the petitioner, she identified them when they were rehearsing at the theatre.

Sir C. Butt said he was satisfied as to the adultery, but he was not satisfied with the conduct of the husband. He would not refuse to grant a decree nisi, with costs, but he should direct that all the letters, papers, and evidence in the case be sent to the Queen's Proctor. He did not intimate that that official ought to take any action at all, but that he might see how matters stood and act as he thought fit.

POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

MARYLEBONE.—ALLEGED CHILD MURDER.—A pale-faced, respectably-dressed woman, aged 25, who looked very ill and miserable, and who gave her name as *Mary Rowland*, a wet nurse, was brought up on remand by Detective-inspector Banister, S Division, charged with causing the death of her female child, Florence Mary, aged three months, on Feb. 12.—Mr. Sims, solicitor, prosecuted; and Mr. Knapp, solicitor, defended.—Mary Dainton, wife of a carpenter, of Aynhoe-road, West Kensington, said she became acquainted with the prisoner in the summer of last year. She represented that she was a married woman, and had had to go into service. She was likely to become a mother, and in consequence she left the situation and went to lodge in the house of Mrs. Dainton. She remained there from August to November, and then went to the Endell-street Lying-in Hospital. Witness fetched the woman and her baby from the hospital, and they remained with her until the accused went into the service of Mrs. Wood, the wife of a solicitor, of Melway, Greencroft-gardens, South Hampstead, where she was to be a wet nurse. Witness kept charge of the baby temporarily, until it was arranged that Mrs. Fanny Jane Aubery, of Dieppe-street, West Kensington, should have the care of the defendant's child. That was in January last. Mrs. Aubery at first asked 7s 6d a week for the care of the baby, but as Rowland said her husband was in a consumption hospital and that she had a little boy, aged three years, staying with friends in the country, the charge was reduced to 5s a week. The prisoner had remitted money and some correspondence had taken place between them, and she produced one or two of the letters. On Jan. 30 the accused wrote to witness suggesting that she should have the child vaccinated. She at the same time intimated that she would probably be taking the infant away shortly, as her husband's friends were going to adopt the baby at their own. Subsequently she received a letter, and by appointment witness took the child to Baker-street railway station, where she met the mother, who had with her a tin bonnet-box. The baby was in good health, in excellent condition, and well wrapped up. The prisoner said it was a "dear little thing," and asked witness to put its clothes into the tin box, which was done. They then separated, and the defendant went away in an Atlas 'bus.—Mrs. Wood's evidence was that she paid the accused 14s a week. On Feb. 12 (the day on which the prisoner met Mrs. Aubery at Baker-street), she obtained leave to go out, as she said she wanted to see her husband. She was out about three hours. She had a tin box with her when she went out and when she returned. The following day the prisoner spoke satisfactorily of the condition of her child, and said her husband was very pleased with it. Rowland occasionally had toothache, and witness had lent her some laudanum in a bottle. That bottle had since been found, still containing laudanum. Last Thursday week, in consequence of smells being noticed in the nursery, Mrs. Wood made an examination of the place, and found the decomposed body of an infant in the tin bonnet-box, which was under the bed.—Mr. Partridge ordered a remand.—The prisoner was weeping bitterly the whole of the time the case was before the Court.

THAMES.—A CAUTION TO SURETIES.—Yesterday, two tradesmen, named *Patrick Boden*, of 62, Jane-street, and *Robert Dent*, of 69, Elim-street, Stepney, were summoned at the instance of the Chief Commissioner of Police, to show cause why their sureties of £20 each for the good behaviour of a man who had since broken the peace should not be estreated. The man in question was convicted for intimidation and assaulting non-union men, and was ordered to find sureties. The defendants entered into a bond for him, and a fortnight since the man was again convicted for a similar offence.—Mr. R. L. Ratcliff, solicitor, who appeared for the defendants, stated that Boden was too ill to appear.—Mr. Dickinson said the recognisance of Dent would be estreated. As Boden was not present his case would be adjourned *sine die*. A representative of the Dock Labourers' Union paid the money.

THE EASTER MANŒUVRES.

In addition to the corps already announced the following local corps of volunteers were yesterday granted permission to take part in the manœuvres which will take place in the South-Eastern District (commanded by Major-General Lord W. Seymour), at Dover and Brighton.

For the Dover manœuvres permission has been given to the following corps: 1st East Kent Regiment, twenty-seven officers, 634 men; 1st Cinque Ports Artillery Volunteers, ten officers, 210 men; 2nd Volunteer Battalion East Kent Regiment, three officers, fifty-seven men, to be attached to the 1st Battalion. The Cinque Ports Artillery will put in the field four guns, 40-pounders, which will be locally horsed with six horses each. About 200 officers and men of the 1st Battalion East Kent Regiment, under Colonel W. Knocker, will take part in the Saturday's operations. It has now been arranged by Lord W. Seymour to have two field days, one on the Saturday and one on the Monday. Although the manœuvring will take place over different ground, both days' work will form part of one general idea. Yesterday Lord W. Seymour rode over the ground to inspect the land which has been obtained for the manœuvres.

The following local corps have been granted leave by Lord W. Seymour to take part in the Brighton manœuvres, the chief centre of which on the Monday will be the vicinity of the racecourse: 1st Sussex Artillery Volunteers (Eastern Division), eighteen officers, 382 men, with four 40-pounder guns; 1st Volunteer Battalion Royal Sussex Rifles, seventeen officers, 365 men. The same corps will take part in any operations on Saturday.

The arrangements for the manœuvres at Brighton have not yet been completed, and it is not settled upon whom the command of the troops will fall.

Applications have been received for additional accommodation for troops desiring to go into camp at Shorncliffe.

The appeal made at Dover for subscriptions and a guarantee fund in reference to land compensation has been most successful.

SUICIDE OF A BANKER.

Yesterday morning Mr. Robert Lindsay Antrobus, second son of Sir Edmund Antrobus, Bart., was found dead in bed at his residence, 16, Grosvenor-crescent, under circumstances which, it is alleged, leave no doubt that he had committed suicide by shooting himself. The deceased was a junior partner in the firm of Messrs. Coutts and Co., bankers, of which his uncle, Mr. Hugh Lindsay Antrobus, is the senior partner. He was unmarried, and was thirty-four years of age. It is stated that Mr. Antrobus was at business, as usual, on Thursday, and that there were then no indications that he was in anything but his usual health and spirits. The Press Association understands that the inquest will be held to-day.

LABOUR AND WAGES.

Quiet has now been almost completely restored in the London Docks, and the crisis has for the present been overcome without resort to extremities. The officials of the Shipping Federation say, however, that they consider the trouble of the past few weeks to be but a preliminary canter in the struggle which is almost certain to take place in a short time between the shipowners and their men.

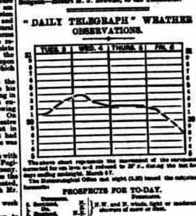
Mr. Wilson, of the Seamen and Firemen's Union, telegraphed from Cardiff yesterday stating that all hopes of a settlement have been abandoned. The shipowners absolutely declined at the conference yesterday to discuss Mr. Wilson's manifesto, or any part of it.

In support of the Silksworth strikers the first contingent of Lord Londonderry's New Seaham and Rainton miners commenced bringing out their tools and gear last night. The other contingents will follow to-day.

THE NAVY.

The following appointments have been announced: Staff-Surgeon—A. E. Joyce, to the Thunderer. Fleet-Engineer—Charles W. Nible, to the Northumberland. Surgeon—Robert H. J. Browne, to the Thunderer.

"DAILY TELEGRAPH" WEATHER OBSERVATIONS.



The above chart represents the movement of the barometer [illegible] days ending midnight, March 6.

The Meteorological Office last night (8.30) issued the subjoined forecasts:

PROSPECTS FOR TO-DAY.

[illegible]

LATEST INDICATIONS.

"DAILY TELEGRAPH" OFFICE, SATURDAY (2 A.M.)

BAR.	THERM.	WIND.	WEATHER.
29·76 Falling.	47°	S.W. Fresh.	Cloudy.

Our correspondents forward the following latest telegraphic reports:

[illegible]

Fair to unsettled weather probable to-day.

It is understood that either Mr. Justice Denman or Mr. Justice Stephen will be the presiding judge at the sessions of the Central Criminal Court which opens on Monday.

DOVER.—Considerable interest has been caused at Dover by the discovery of an extensive range of caves in the cliff to the eastward of the town. A portion of the face of the cliff having been knocked in the entrance to a cave was discovered. The passages are tunnelled in the cliff beneath the castle, and it is stated that they were closed up by the military authorities at the time of the threatened French invasion. The Royal Engineers department have taken possession of the caves, and they will again be closed up.

MURDER BY SWINDLERS.—A Dalziel telegram, dated Bay City (Michigan), March 6, states: A murder was committed here last night which has aroused great indignation, not only on account of the horrible manner in which death was inflicted, but because the crime is believed to be the result of a conspiracy among "green goods" dealers to get rid of a dangerous informant. The victim, a man named Andrew Poulson, had the top of his head cut off during the night, and the body was found to-day at a distance of several miles from the scene of the murder, having apparently been dragged thence by the murderers to a place of concealment. Poulson was placed under arrest some months ago for writing in reply to an advertisement of "green goods." The revelations which ensued showed the manner in which a gang of men carried on operations for swindling countrymen by offering them "green goods"—a term used for forged greenbacks—for sale. These disclosures were made by Poulson while proceedings against him were pending; and the theory is that the dealers were afraid of his further testimony leading to their conviction, and consequently determined to put him out of the way.

UNIVERSITY JURISDICTION AT CAMBRIDGE.—The Cambridge Town Council met yesterday to ratify the proceedings of a previous meeting respecting questions of University jurisdiction over townspeople. A communication from the Vice-Chancellor set forth that the University Committee for the proposed conference would be the Vice-Chancellor, the Masters of Christ's and Trinity Hall, Professor Browne, and Mr. E. T. Wright. The committee were not authorised to enter into the further matters suggested by the Borough Council, but the Council of the Senate were willing to give careful consideration to any communication they might receive from the Borough Council with reference to these other matters. Upon the motion of Mr. Alderman Redfern it was formally agreed to accept the conference suggested by the University. Mr. Bond then moved, "That no settlement of the questions raised by the recent Spinning House Case will be satisfactory which does not abolish the jurisdiction at present possessed by the University authorities over inhabitants of the town." It was urged that the motion did not express what was really intended, and Mr. Alderman Finch moved to insert the words "in such questions" after the word "jurisdiction," with the understanding that other negotiations could follow. The amendment was carried by 21 to 14, and the motion as amended was adopted, on which Mr. W. P. Spalding proposed: "That in the opinion of this Council it is desirable that the jurisdiction of the University in all matters over residents of the town not members of the University be considered by the proposed conference between representatives of the two bodies, and that the Council of the University be requested by this Council to give power to their delegates to confer on all such matters." This was seconded by Mr. C. A. Vinter, and carried nem. con. The Council appointed as its representatives the Mayor, Aldermen Redfern, Bell, and Cockerell; Councillors Vinter, Bond, and Nichols. The conference meets for the first time to-day.—The proceedings will be private.

THE DRINK OF HEALTH.—[illegible]—(ADVT.)

SITUATION IN THE ARGENTINE.

[REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BUENOS AYRES, MARCH 5 (11.30 p.m.)

The financial panic continues. The Government issued a decree this evening suspending business on the Bolsa and in the Custom House and banks for two days, owing to the run on the Provincial Bank.

A meeting of 120 merchants is to be held to-morrow to arrange a loan of 20,000,000 dollars to the Government. There is to be no fresh issue of paper money.

The tax of 2 per cent on deposits in private banks is to be abolished next May. It is reported that Señor Lopez, Minister of Finance, has resigned, and that Señor Uriburu will probably succeed him.

PARIS, MARCH 6.

Intelligence from Buenos Ayres of yesterday's date states that thirty explosive bombs are reported to have been seized by the police at Cordoba.

PARIS, MARCH 6 (LATER).

A telegram from Buenos Ayres of to-day's date says that it is hoped that the Government measure suspending business on the Bourse for two days will facilitate the settlement of the present financial crisis. The message adds, however, that in the general opinion the issue of a forced paper currency is regarded as inevitable.

AUSTRALASIAN FEDERATION.

[REUTER'S AGENCY.]

SYDNEY (NEW SOUTH WALES), March 6.—In yesterday's sitting of the Federation Convention the Hon. James Munro, the Victorian Premier, declared that the Union must be under the Crown and under one Legislature and executive Government, and founded on principles just and equitable to all the colonies. The Government must be stable, in order not only to make laws, but also to have power to enforce them. The Constitution should be framed on the principles of the British Constitution as nearly as possible, and the Ministry must be responsible to the House of Representatives, which must be a popular assembly. The final power must rest with Parliament. He agreed in the view that the Senate should not have co-ordinate power with the House of Representatives over money bills, because it would be likely to create deadlocks. The delegates, he declared, had assembled with the special object of meeting the difficulties and devising a stable Government, in which all interests would be represented. The Constitution must be pliable so as to be workable. The duty of the convention was to form a true and responsible Government. He heartily supported the necessity for federal action in reference to the defences, and said that it was necessary to place the power of taxation in the hands of the Executive. He was not satisfied, however, that it was prudent at present to prevent appeal to the Privy Council in legal matters, and declared that nothing should be done to weaken any link binding Australia to the mother country.

The Hon. Thomas Playford (South Australia) favoured the proposition relating to the powers of the Federal Government propounded by Sir Henry Parkes.

Mr. W. R. Russell (New Zealand) dwelt upon the warmth of the federal spirit in New Zealand, declaring that that colony was in no wise inimical to Federation.

The Hon. Alfred Deakin (Victoria), in a lengthy address, favoured as small a standing army as possible, but a large expansion of the citizen soldiery. The Australian colonies, he declared in conclusion, claimed all the privileges possessed by Great Britain and Ireland, and all constitutional rights save those necessary for the maintenance of the prerogatives of the Crown. This would alone satisfy the people of Australia.

THE GERMAN EMPIRE.

[REUTER'S AGENCY.]

HANOVER, March 6.—The National Liberal Committee in the Nineteenth Electoral District of Hanover have nominated Prince Bismarck as their candidate at the approaching by-elections to the Reichstag. The ex-Chancellor is stated on good authority to have accepted the candidacy, and should he stand his return is regarded as certain.

BERLIN, March 6.—The *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* is of opinion that the address of the Alsace-Lorraine Provincial Committee, praying for the repeal or mitigation of the frontier passport regulations, must considerably strengthen the Emperor's confidence in the people of the province and their representatives. "The protest against all unjustifiable foreign interference will," says the journal, "have a decided cooling effect upon the fiery Parisian Chauvinists. The greater the gain for the cause of peace the sooner will the Reichsland obtain the reward for the courage displayed by the Provincial Legislature in adopting the address."

PARIS, March 6.—The *XIXe Siècle* publishes an account of an interview with M. Herbette, French Ambassador in Berlin, who is represented to have said that much vexation had been caused in the German capital by the attitude of the French artists, who, he declared, obeyed the orders of a few blusterers. He considered it illogical that the artists should have exhibited at Munich and Stuttgart, and yet refused to send their works to Berlin. M. Herbette is represented to have added that the Empress Frederick's visit to Paris, though possibly imprudent, was undertaken without consulting any one. He was not sounded on the subject of the Empress's journey, nor was the French Government, which was not advised of her Majesty's intention until the day before she arrived. The ambassador declared that, although no advocate of a Franco-German alliance, which he regarded as an impossibility, he thought that every possible effort should be made to remove the tension at present existing with Germany, in which country France had many friends.

M. Herbette warmly eulogised the Emperor who, he said, was a man of great character and indomitable will, and would certainly achieve great things. He concluded by condemning acts of false patriotism committed by a few people as amounting to veritable treason, and likely to do the greatest harm to France.

FIGHTING IN EAST AFRICA.

[REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BERLIN, March 6.—A Zanzibar telegram of yesterday's date, published in the afternoon edition of the *Berliner Tageblatt*, announces that Major Wissmann has inflicted signal chastisement on the Kishobo tribe for their numerous marauding raids.

Two hundred Kishobo warriors fell in the fighting, sixty were wounded, and fifty taken prisoners. The loss on the German side amounted only to two black soldiers killed and two German non-commissioned officers and thirteen blacks wounded.

The Germans captured 5,000 head of cattle and quantities of ammunition and ivory. Lieutenant Bumiller led a successful assault against a very strongly fortified native village, and afterwards hoisted the German flag over it.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Right Hon. Arthur Macmorrough Kavanagh, a biography compiled by his cousin, Sarah L. Steele.—Essays in the History of Religious Thought in the West, by Brooke Foss Westcott, Lord Bishop of Durham.—(Macmillan and Co.)

To Save Himself, a novel, in 2 vols., by Captain Claude Bray.—(Richard Bentley and Son.)

The Companionship of the Lord, Chapters on the Lives of the Apostles, by Charles E. B. Reed.—The Penny Books for the People.—(The Religious Tract Society.)

The Children's Year, Verses for Sunday and Holy Days, by C. H. Woodruff.—(Longmans, Green, and Co.)

His Cousin Adair, 3 vols., by Gordon Roy.—(William Blackwood and Sons.)

The Philadelphian, 3 vols., by Louis John Jennings, M.P.—(Hurst and Blackett.)

La Fenton, a novel, in 2 vols., by Gwendolen Douglas Galton.—(Eden Remington and Co.)

The Log of a Jack Tar, edited by Commander V. Lovett Cameron.—(T. Fisher Unwin.)

The Richest Merchant in Rotterdam, a novel, in 2 vols., by A. N. Homer.—Not a Moment to Spare, 2 vols., by Hugh Coleman Davidson.—Studies in Italian Literature, by Catherine Mary Phillimore.—(Sampson Low, Marston, Searle, and Rivington.)

Political Manual, by Sydney Buxton, M.P.—(Cassell and Co.)

Benjamin Franklin (Minerva Library), edited by John Bigelow.—(Ward, Lock, and Co.)

Impressions and Opinions, by George Moore.—(David Nutt.)

Geological Features of the Transvaal, by Charles J. Alford.—(Edward Stanford.)

A Short History of Political Economy in England, by L. L. Price.—(Methuen and Co.)

Burdett's Official Intelligence of Securities, by Henry C. Burdett.—(Spottiswoode and Co.)

Newspaper Press Directory.—(C. Mitchell and Co.)

While hearing assessment appeals at the London Sessions yesterday, Sir Peter Edlin announced the arrangements for disposing of the assessment and criminal business before the Court. He would sit, if counsel wished, on Good Friday; on which day he had heard of a Court sitting, also on Bank Holiday, and every day he could spare until March 31.

At the monthly meeting of the Corporation of Hastings, yesterday afternoon, the report of the medical officer of health for the quarter ended Dec. 31 last was presented, from which it appeared that the death-rate for the period mentioned, in an estimated population of 59,513, was only 11·84 per 1,000, the lowest which has been recorded for the December quarter, being 2·09ths below the average of the past nine years.

On Thursday the traffic receipts of the Suez Canal amounted to 200,000f, against 180,000f on the corresponding day of last year.

LONDON WATER COMPANIES.—Mr. Henry C. Burdett will next week issue his "Official Intelligence for 1891," containing an exhaustive and precise statement of the issues involved in the purchase of the metropolitan water companies by the ratepayers. Mr. Burdett remarks: "The present position would appear to be almost identical with that which prevailed after the presentation of the report of the Select Committee of 1880, plus the declaration of 'the new municipality' that the next step must be taken by the Government, with whom the responsibility now rests, and not with the London County Council. The water companies have not declared themselves, but coolness is to hold an expectant attitude, so as to be in a position to protect the interests of their shareholders in any event."

WEDDING INVITATIONS, &c.—Visiting Cards in the newest styles, [illegible]—(ADVT.)

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