It seems that this autumn the German Emperor means to indulge in a military experiment which was never even tried by his grandfather, for he is going to manœuvre all at once in the neighbourhood Stettin no fewer than four army corps -- viz. those of Pomerania, Brandenburg, Schleswig-Holstein, and Hanover. The total strength of these four corps is stated to be about 100,000 men, but on their peace footing they will certainly fall considerably short of this number. In any case, the display will be the most imposing one which the present Emperor has witnessed since he was present at the Austrian maneuvres near Güns, when he sent his famous telegram of conciliation to Prince Bismarck at Kissingen. Perhaps the most interesting feature of the manœuvres will be the final dispatch home of the troops in about 380 trains—a test experiment in transport that will not escape the close attention of Germany's neighbours.

The comparative statement of pauperism for the month of March, just issued by the Local Government Board, shows how close has been the connec tion between the frost and the poor-house. There was a heavy increase in the number of persons in receipt of relief during each week of March, as compared with the corresponding periods last year, in every division in England and Wales, the difference being most startling in London, where it amounted to no less than 33,385 in the first week. The number of paupers relieved during the week was no less than 137,298, a higher figure than has been reached since 1871. The report also points out that the proportion of pauperism to population was larger than it has been at any time during the past 20 years. The total number of persons in receipt of out-relief at the beginning of March stood at 607,880, and there were 219,699 persons in "the House." By the end of the month this had dropped, taking both classes together, by

The earthquake which startled Northern Italy on Saturday night is probably a fresh edition of the disturbances which shook Austria at Easter. The scenes of terror and distress enacted a month ago at Laibach have been renewed at Florence-houses and churches falling and panie-stricken people rushing into the streets and camping out for the night. At first it would seem that the area of this earthquake is less than that of a month ago, which ranged from the borders of Servia to the Bavarian hlands and from the Italian lakes to Vienna. But it is not improbable that the earth shocks which have been experienced during the past few days in the Ionian Islands, at Zante in particular, are part of the present disturbance. No further shocks were felt on Sunday in Northern Italy, and we may hope that the death roll will not prove to be a heavy one, although the destruction of the church of San Martino, when filled with wor-shippers, gives occasion for a despondent estimate.

At the Crystal Palace on Saturday afternoon the Duchess of York distributed the prizes which the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals annually offers to schoolchildren for essays upon their duties to these dumb servants and friends of numbered no fewer than 93,000 may surely be taken as a hopeful sign—a sign not of the growth of intellectual pot-hunting, but of a humane and gentle temper among the rising generation. The cynic may remember stories that he has heard of prize essays on temperance that have been written upon gin and water; but the wise man will recol-lect that this sort of hypocrisy is rare in early youth. A boy there may be here and there who. having written his humane discourse, goes out and throws a stone at a cat, or impales a beetle on a pin; but, upon the whole, the fact that 93,000 umane discourses are written by school children in a year cannot but mean that the dogs and cats—to say nothing of the horses and the donkeys—are having a better time than heretofore.

That things are not what they seem is a proverb of every-day acceptance, and one cannot be too sceptical of figures. For example, the new Brassey's "Naval Annual" gives a list of 19 armoured ships and 23 unarmoured ships to the credit of Turkey. Yet it is telegraphed to the Observer from Berlin (and we note the bull in passing) that the small cruiser Heibetnuma, launched in 1890, is found not to be seaworthy, and that she has "no other seaworthy ship." Turkey cannot be represented at the opening of the Kiel Canal in June. Considering that it is not yet 18 years since Hobart Pasha swept the Black Sea and prevented anything but a small control of the Black Sea and prevented anything but torpedo-boats and one cruiser from leaving Russian ports this is a strange thing. But the explanation is easy. In 1885, and again in 1890, the English engineers were discharged from the dockyard on the Golden Horn. They had been in the habit of at least turning the cranks so that the machinery did not set. intended Turks did not. And the money coal for the boilers was intercepted on Galata Bridge, and the waggons turned to Yildiz Kiosk, where the money went in defraying the debts of the harem. That is the reason Turkey cannot send a man-of-war to the German fetes.

Poets, chiefly Hibernian, say that the Irish are the most homesick people in the world—that wherever they may be their eyes are always turned to their native land, in which it is their chief desire to have their bones laid for ever. An old Irishwonan named Gordon completely upset all these poetical theories. She became chargeable to the parish of Marylebone, much to the chagrin of the parochial authorities, for she had a temper which would have irritated Brian Boru himself. Accordingly they induced her to write her auto-biography in the form of a declaration on oath in which she swore that her birthplace was Moylough, co. Galway, Ireland, which she quitted about 40 years ago for England, where she had wandered rom place to place, not remaining in any one parish for a period of three years. Thus she had not obtained a settlement in this country. That declaration was duly brought before a London Magistrate, who signed the customary warrant for her removal to Ireland. But before the train started she disappeared, and nothing was heard of her for some time, when she again became charge-able to the ratepayers of Marylebone. When called on to make another affidavit to enable her removal to the Green Isle, she absolutely refused, said she did not know her birthplace, and defied the guardians to send her away. The Magistrate, after considerable discussion, held that the facts document, and therefore, much to the lady's regret, he issued a warrant for her removal to Ireland.

Fresh misfortunes have lately occurred to the French Navy. A torpedo boat has capsized between Rochefort and Rochelle, the ironclad Admiral Duperre has touched on the rocks and aprung a leak, and the cruiser Davout, while crossing the Bay of Biscay on her way to join the Mediterranean Squadron at Toulon, has sustained serious injuries to one of her boilers. The Davout was considered one of the fastest of the French cruisers, and was supposed to be able to steam 20 knots an hour. She is to be retained with the Squadron, with one boiler short, under which circumstances the sanguine hope that she will still be able to steam at 16 knots will hardly be realised. The boilers of the French ships of war seem to be essentially their weak point, but it is uncertain whether the failures in respect arise from defects in their manufacture, or from want of care during the long periods that the ships are laid up in ordinary. Certain it is that the accidents in the French Navy are, in proportion to its strength, very much more frequent than among our own ships of war. Even those who not long since profe sed to regard the French Navy as dangerously approaching our own in strength must by this time see that efficiency is at least as equally an important factor in the calculation as numerical strength and weight of guns and armour. The investigations that have taken place into the state of the French war ships and Naval Establishments abated the confidence pre viously felt in France that her Fleet, with that of he: Russian ally, is sufficiently strong to cope with

The Anti-Gamblers appear to have a splendid field for effort in France. In England we have various legal provisions by which the State repu-diates any responsibility for gambling; but in France the Government itself controls race-course betting. And to what an extent! The figures published recently show that no less a sum than £7,200,000 annually passes in ready money over the counters of the pari-mutuel booths. Of this enor mous sum 7 per cent. is taxed off. Our Chancellors of the Exchequer might not mind raising half a million in this simple way. After all, taxing gambling would be only equal treatment for the

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A remarkable ecclesiastical complication has occurred in connection with the vacant rectory of Hinxhill, Kent. Under the impression that the presentation rested with them, the Chapter of Canterbury appointed a clergyman to the living; but it was afterwards discovered that the choice on this occasion lay with Sir John Honeywood, the co-patron. Sir John, however, has recently embraced the Roman Catholic faith, by which his qualification to exercise the patronage is affected, and the gift therefore falls not into the hands of the Dean and Chapter, but of Oxford University. The living is only worth about £100 a year.

Income-tax has been pronounced unconstitutional by a majority of the judges of the Supreme Court of the United States. A Bill imposing a tax of 2 per cent. on incomes over 4,000 dols. was passed in August last year, without the approval of the President, and mainly by the efforts of the Democratic party, the Republicans mostly abstaining from voting. Chief Justice Fuller, and Associate Justices Field, Gray, Brewer, and Shiras have pronounced against the tax, and Associate Justices Harlan, Brown, Jackson and White were for it. Thus the decision is virtually that of the Chief Justice, the other members of the Court being equally divided. Nevertheless, the decision makes it impossible to impose an income tax in the United States without all the labour and time involved in passing an Amendment to the Constitution. So here is an overwhelming judgment of the Legisla-ture overridden by a judicial tribunai.

We should think that as a psychological study, metaphysical wonder, the Claimant would be difficult to beat. He is one of those unrivalled prodigies who are born into this world of sorrow order to show what can be done with a little trying and some address in the way of deceiving simple fellow creatures. And now he has played another card, one of the most striking, for is really the ace of trumps, which the versatile Wagga-Wagga genius has placed on the table. Come to seriously think of it, this is a trifle unkind, for it destroys another illusion—and there are none too many nowadays—an illusion which many people have clung on to with limpet-like tenacity since the stirring days of 1874. And now, unless, of course, those people of much faith are to go behind the Claimant's own personal account and argue that he has been kept so long out of his rights that he has begun to think he must have been mistaken—unless they do that they must, one would imagine, be ready to sorrowfully take down the idol

Colonel Ford, H.M. Inspector of Explosives, tells us, in a report just issued, that explosion may be looked upon as "extremely rapid" combustion; in the case of gunpowder, if fire is applied to it, the whole in immediate contact burns instantaneously,

or "explodes." But this is not necessarily the case with some at least of the nitro-compounds; if the heat of combustion is allowed to escape as rapidly as it is generated, a conflagration, and not an explosion, is the result. The condition for conflagration only and non-explosion with this class of explosives appears to be that no portion shall be raised to the exploding temperature without being set on fire. If the herien as from some part which is being burnt, or the appli-cation of heat without contact of flame (as, for over a fire), raises the temperature of any part to the required point, the whole explodes. It is, of obvious that this condition secured in the working buildings of a factory. Although an ignition may, in one instance, lead to a conflagration only, on another an explosion may The danger buildings must, therefore, be placed at such distances apart as to provide against communicated explosion, not fire.

Those who have dared the dangers of the frigid zones for the sake of science and the honour of their country well deserve to be remembered by their fellow-countrymen. The Franklin jubilee commemoration of Monday is exceptionally interesting for several reasons. It shows that British geographers, at any rate, have not forgotton the orave men who left their shores 50 years ago under Sir John Franklin's leadership, never to It is also interesting as bringing together many other Britons who have gained honour in the same field, but who have, happily, been same then, but who have, happing, been spared the ill-fate that befel their comrades of the Erebus and Terror. Nor has the public forgotten, any more than the geographers at last night's gathering, the intrepid explorers who last set out to gain the long-striven-for goal. It is hoped that Nansen and Jackson and their respective parties are all still well, and at least sanguine of success. Should either of them be successful, there will still be fresh worlds to conquer in the Antarctic: and, should both unhappily be frustrated, brave men will still be found ready to follow the magnetic pointer to the mysteries of the great white North.

So far we have heard chiefly of woman's right and but little of the duties which should accommany those rights; but this state of things will soon be put straight if a certain French Deputy can per-suade a sufficient number of his fellow-Parliamentarians to back him in the Bill he intends to introduce for settling the status of the New Woman once and for all, and placing her as near as possible on an equality with man. The projected Bill will provide that every girl on ottaining her twentieth year will have to take her chance in the conscription just as if she was a man; and if she draws an unlucky number she will, according to her number and her general health, be told off to serve in the Military Hospitals, as a clerk in one of the offices, or as an employée in the Postal or Telegraphic Departments. But that is all. She is not to be allowed to imitate the brave daughters of France who valiantly assumed the "orthodox knickers" of their day, and combatted for Jome and glory all through the Revolutionary and Napoleonic wars. The baseness of man creeps out in the plea that this enrolment of women will set free the soldiers who are at present employed on these non-effective services, and so are lost to the strength of their regiments. And here we have the weak point of the Bill; for it is evidently not intended to give woman her rights as the equal of man, but to give the French Tommy Atkins more leisure by putting the drudgery of office work and hospital attendance on the shoulders of girls mpressed for the purpose,

It is always unwise for a passenger by any public vehicle to assume that remarks in a foreign language are incomprehensible to neighbours. A lady in an omnibus travelling from Victoria to the North of London felt a woman with short hair and long pertinacity trying to pick her pocket. She did not feel great anxiety, for two reasons first, because she knew the pocket was very difficult to get at; and secondly, because her purse was not in it. After several vain attempts to unravel the mysteries of the receptacle, the thief muttered angrily to herself in French, "Bother it, I can't find the pocket anywhere!"
The lady turned to her, and remarked with a saile, in the same language, "I am sorry, madame, you have so much trouble, but there's rothing in it." The frustrated violes, but there's nothing in it." The frustrated pickpicket left the omnibus, which at the time was turning a corner very slowly, like an arrow, and none of the pasvery slowly, like an arrow, and none of the pas-sengers were aware of the councily until the lady with the unpickable pocket explained it to them. Fortunately, the thief had not tried her skill on any other person present.

### THE TRIAL OF WILDE.

CASE OF SHELLEY WITHDRAWN. The second trial of Oscar Wilde was resumed at the Old Bailey, London, before Mr. Justice Wills. The court throughout the day was crowded, and the Marquis of Queensberry was again an attentive stener. The first two hours was occupied in taking evidence of Crown witnesses, who were examined at the last trial. Then came two new witnesses, one being a chambermaid at the Savoy Hotel, who deposed to having had her attention called to the condition of Wilde's bedroom by another chambermaid, and the other a waiter, who spoke of having served supper in Wilde's rooms one evening in March 1893, when he noticed a lad in the room. The evidence in support of the case for the prosecution being concluded, the Solicitor-General put in the transcript of the shorthand notes taken in the Queensberry case, and copious extracts from the cross-examination of Oscar Wilde bearing upon the present charges were read by Mr. Gill and Mr. Horace Avory. Sir Edward Clarke also read extracts from the examination and reexamination. The reading of these extracts occupied a little more than two hours, and at the conclusion Sir Edward Clarke asked his lordship to say in regard to the counts alleging misconduct at the Savoy Hotel with Parker and persons unknown that there was no evidence to go the jury. --Sir F. Lockwood contended that there was very strong corroborative evidence, and that there was no ground whatever for withdrawing the counts from the consideration of the jury.—His lordship said he felt that the evidence warranted the case going to the jury, but when the time came he should have to comment upon the evidence, because if the hotel servants saw what they had said they saw and reported it to the hotel authorities, it was very extraordinary that no action was taken. Sir E. Clarke then subthat no action was taken. Sir B. Clarke then sub-mitted that in the case of Shelley there was no evidence to go to the jury.—Sir F. Lockwood argued that the case was a very strong one, because Shelley was not an accomplice, and therefore corroborative evidence was not necessary. - His lordship said he had given this case his very earnest attention, and he had come to the conclusion that there was nothing remarkable in the association of Wilde with Shelley, down to the point where improper conduct was alleged to have taken place. Shelley was quite a different person to Wood and the Parkers, and the friendship that had been described was such as might honourably exist between him and Wilde. Then as to the alleged indecency, he held that Shelley must be regarded in the light of an accomplice. There was no corroboration of the alleged mis-behaviour, and therefore he should withdraw the case of Shelley from the consideration of the jury. -Sir E. Clarke made a similar application with regard to the count charging Wilde with misconduct with Wood, but his lordship held that this was a proper case to leave to the jury. summing up he should tell the jury why he thought so, and to what direction he thought the evidence

led.—The trial was then adjourned.
On Friday Sir Edward Clarke, Q.C., having opened the case for the defence, the accused was called as a witness and gave a general denial to the accusations. In cross-examination by the Solicitor-General he adhered to the explanations which he had given of his action in the previous trials.—Sir Edward Clarke, Q.C., then addressed the jury for the defence, urging that the prosecution had failed and that Wilde was the victim of a conspiracy on the part of a gang of blackmailers who had long infested London.—The Solicitor-General proceeded to reply upon the whole case and had not con-cluded his address when the Court rose.

VERDICT AND SENTENCE. end of this remarkable and excessively painful trial was reached on Saturday evening. As soon as Mr. Justice Wills had taken his seat Sir Frank Lockwood proceeded with his reply on the whole case. He was describing the relationship of Wilde and Taylor when Sir Edward Clarke jumped up and protested against what he described as the Solicitor-General's "rhetorical descriptions and comments upon things not proved in evidence." At this Sir Frank became quite fierce, maintaining that he had example, when a frozen cartridge of dynamite is being recklessly thawed in an oven or on a shovel being recklessly thawed in an oven or on a shovel lordship agreed that he had not over-stepped the bounds of legitimate comment. Passing on to another part of the evidence, the Solicitor-General, in tones of disgust, spoke of the intimacy "with people who came from the stable and the kitchen -and intimacy justified by a pretence of high intelligence and a glamour of false art." Several other sharp passages of arms followed between the

> The Judge began his summing-up at 25 minutes past 12. He said his task was a most difficult one, and he had often said to himself that he would rather try the most shocking murder case than he would try a case of this sort. He was strong in his denunciation of the letters which Wilde had written to Lord Alfred Douglas, whose name he regretted to have to associate closely with the case, but for which it seemed to him there was no help. He described how the case was brought about, and said that, however strained were the relations between Lord Queensberry and his son, he would have been an unnatural parent if he had not taken steps to break off the intimacy between Lord Alfred and Wilde. The foreman here interrupted with a question as

whether a warrant had been issued for the arrest

of Lord Alfred Douglas.
His Lordship: I should think not.

A Juror: Or ever contemplated? His Lordship: That I connot tell, of course. The issuing of a warrant, you know, depends upon what evidence there is, and, of course, the mere production of these letters is not sufficient. A Juror: If we are to adduce any guilt from the letters it implicates Lord Alfred Douglas as well as

His Lordship replied that it certainly did, but that did not relieve the prisoner. Their duty was to deal with the prisoner in the dock. Lord Alfred Douglas was not before them, and they had nothing to do with him. Lord Alfred Douglas, as they knew, went to Paris at the request of the prisoner and the jury must diseard anything about him, because not to do so would be prejudice of the worst possible kind. With regard to the case of Wood, his Lordship said unless the jury felt that his evidence was corroborated they must not accept it, because he was a blackmailer -a person

belonging to the vilest type of men which great cities produced.

The jury retired at half-past 3 to consider their verdict, and the judge, presumably anticipating that their deliberations would occupy some considerable time, left the bench. The prisoner was taken down into the cells. His suspense must have been terrible, for the jury were away for two hours. The jury were back again, and as soon as Wilde had been brought up the clerk of arraigns put the formal question, "Gentlemen, are you agreed upon your verdict?" "Yes," replied the formal wherepron the pripage translable in the pripage translable whereupon the prisoner turned his face full upon the jury. A twitching of the nuscles of the face showed that he was now suffering great mental agony. Whatever the verdict was to be it would be a relief to him to know it. After a moment's pause the clerk of arraigns asked whether they found the prisoner guilty or not guilty on the first count. "Guilty" came the response. Those who had expected that the prisoner would break down if such a verdict were returned, were mistaken. He seemed re it was over. Upon every one of the counts of the indictment, except in the case of Shelley, on which the verdict was not guilty, the jury found him guilty. When the foreman had pronounced his last

"guilty," there were cries of "Shame" in the gallery.

Sir E. Clarke now rose and applied that sentence might be postponed until the denurrer in reference to the indictment in the previous trial had been argued.

His lordship refused the application.

While this point was under discussion Alfred Taylor was put into the dock and placed by the side of Wilde. In passing sentence, his lordship said:-Oscar Wilde and Alfred Taylor, it has never been my lot to try a case of this kind so bad. One has to put a rtain constraint upon one's self to prevent one from describing in language which I would rather not use, the sentiments which must arise in the breast of every man who has a spark of decent feeling left in him, and who has heard the details

arrived at a correct verdict I cannot persuade my-self to entertain a shadow of a doubt; and I hope that at all events those who sometimes imagine that a judge is half-hearted in cases of indecency and immorality because he takes care that no pre judice shall enter into them, may see that that i consistent at least with the utmost sense of indig nation at the horrible crimes brought home to both of you. It is of no use my addressing you. Peo-ple who can do these things must be dead to every

of these two terrible trials. That the jury have

sense of shame, and one cannot hope to produce any effect upon them. It is the worst case I have ever tried. That you, Taylor, kept a kind o male brothel it is impossible to doubt, and that you, Wilde, have been the centre of a circle of extensive corruption among young men of the most hideous kind it is equally impossible to doubt. I shall, under such circumstances, be expected to pass the severest sentence that the law allows. In my judgment, it is utterly inadequate for such

The sentence upon each of you is imprison-

ment with hard labour for two years (sensation).
On hearing the sentence Wilde muttered some thing about wishing to address his lordship was taken in custody by two warders and hurried away to the cells. His eyes filled with tears, and as he disappeared down the steps he was heard to exclaim in a tone of surprise, "Two years! Taylor, on the other hand, smiled when he heard the sentence, as indeed he had smiled at every hing throughout his trial.

Outside a large crowd had assembled, but there was no demonstration. As soon as the warrants had been made out the prisoners were conveyed to Pentonville Prison,

### LYNCH LAW IN AMERICA.

REVOLT AGAINST A GOVERNOR.

A remarkable case of lynch law is reported from Danville, Illinois. A mol, comprising many well-known inhabitants of the district, stormed the gaol, seized two young white men, who were accused of having assaulted a young white woman, and hanged them from a bridge. While the crowd were battering the door of the prison with a telegraph pole used as a battering-ram, the Judge of the Circuit Court addressed the people urging that the law should be allowed to take its course. His words at first seemed to have good effect, but one of the leaders then shouted out, "Yes! jury will convict, and the prisoners will be severely sentenced, but Governor Altgeld will pardon them as he recently pardoned three men convicted of the same offence. If another man but Altgeld were Governor we should not lynch, but we are deter-mined that he shall never have a chance of releasing these prisoners." The mob afterwards refused thisten to the judge.

### FATAL FALL FROM A PRECIPICE.

Intelligence reached Birmingham, on Saturday, of a fatal accident which on the previous day befel Ralph Howard Baker, aged 17, son of Mr. J. H. Baker, solicitor, of that city. The unfortunate youth about four months ago was entered as a pupil at Guernsey College, with a view to a special course of study for the medical profession. Friday afternoon he set out to take some photos of the cliffs, and to obtain a good view he was about to take up a position on what appeared to be a firmly embedded boulder. His movements were watched by some fellow students, who were horrified to see their companion step on to the boulder, and instantly disappear. The rock had given way, and he had been precipitated into a chasm 100ft. deep. When found the lad was dead.

## FIGHTING IN FRENCH GUIANA.

FRENCH OFFICER AND MEN KILLED. The frontier territory between French Guiana

and Brazil, which has long been a subject of dis-pute between the two countries and had become a all nationalities, though chiefly of Brazilian origin, had settled themselves, has just been the scene an extraordinary outrage, immediately followed by the exemplary punishment of the offenders. A the Covernor of informed M. Chautemps, luiana Minister of the Colonies, that a Frenchman named Trajane, who has long been a settler on disputed territory, had been captured by Brazilian adventurers, and that several other French citizens had been attacked and robbed b the freebooters. The Governor had sent the paddle dispatch vessel Bengali with a company of Marines to take the necessary measures to restore order. A later telegram from the Governor was received yesterday evening, giving the following account of the serious incidents which arose subsequently, After leaving Cayenne on May 11, the anchored first at Coungni to ascertain the circum stances under which Trajane had been captured. The vessel then went on to Maps, which was reached early on the morning of the 15th inst. The ship's boats, with some of the crew and a company of Marines, then went up a stream to a village situated some 15 miles in the in-terior. Here some of the party landed, and Captain Lunier, of the Marines, proceeded towards the village bearing a flag of truce, attended only by a bugler and a quartermaster-sergeant, to demand the liberation of Trajane. The officer had scarcely come in presence of Cabral, the chief of the adventurers, when the latter treacherously fired at him, at the same time ordering his followers, who stood around him fully armed, to shoot down the sailors who were awaiting the captain's return near their boats. Simultaneously a general fusillade was opened from all the house in the village. Lieutenant Destaux hearing the sound of the firing hurried up at the head of his company to the relief of the sailors, and a fierce conflict followed, which lasted over two hours. The followers of Cabral lost 60 dead, not counting those killed inside the houses, from which they were no able to escape. A number of others were seriously wounded, and it is probable that Cabral himself was among the slain. On the French side, the losses were five killed, including Captain Lunier, and 20 wounded. The Bengali afterwards returned to Cayenne where the remains of Captain Lunier and the four sailors were interred, the entire popu-lation of the town following the funeral, which was headed by the Governor in person.

#### REPUBLIC DECLARED IN FORMOSA.

It is reported from Shanghai that a Republic has been declared in the Island of Formosa. The flag of the new State consists of a yellow dragon on a blue ground. The President is Tang, hitherto the blue ground. The Freshell is roug, and this chinese Governor, and it thus appears that this attemnt to secure the independence of the island attempt to secure the independence of the island is headed by the Chinese authorities, who have ust been recalled by Imperial decree as a pre-iminary to the handing over of the island to the Japanese.
It is stated from Washington that the United

States Government regard Formosa as belonging to Japan and it is therefore thought unlikely that they will recognise the Republic. The movement, they will recognise the Republic. The movement it is contended, cannot be regarded otherwise than as a rebellion against Japan. The idea of a Republic in Formosa is treated with some derision at the State Department.

# CHARGE AGAINST A MIDWIFE.

At the Central Criminal Court, London, on Satur day, Jane White, a midwife, was indicted on the Coroner's inquisition charging her with the wilful murder of a married woman named Fisher, the wife of a medical student. Mr. C. F. Gill said that as the Magistrate had dismissed the charge he did not propose to proceed further. Mr. Justice Wills expressed surprise that the coroners jury should have brought in such a verdict, as there was an absence of any evidence casting suspicion on the accused. A formal verdict of not guilty having been entered, the accused was discharged.

The Prince of Wales unveiled the Bishop Pelham Memorial Throne, in Norwich Cathedral, a large congregation being present.

## EPITOME OF NEWS.

There are 82,222 acres of raisin vineyards California, producing something like 80,000,000lb.

In the Chancery Division Mr. Justice Romer gave judgment in the case of the North Metropolitan Tramways Company v. the London County Council. The plaintiffs' chief contention was that the Act of 1870 applied to the whole of their line, and not to portions, so far as concerned the 21 years' purchase basis; but his lordship ruled otherwise, and gave judgment for the County Council, with costs.

Captain Malcolin Burne, of the Royal Sussex Regiment, whilst out shooting upon a snowy mountain range at Dalhousie (India), has been killed by The animal had been fired at and wounded before it attacked the officer.

A dispatch from Minsk received at Berlin states that Count Ostrorog, the richest landowner in the district of Minsk, was shot dead on Saturday in he public gardens at Minsk by Baron von Dzanovicz, a well-known nobleman rence caused much excitement in the town. Dzanovicz was immediately arrested. It is be-lieved that the prisoner was influenced to commit the orime by a desire for revenge.

The British India Troopship Jumna, in the Albert Docks, was on Saturday morning nearly destroyed by fire. The saloon and officers cabins were completely gutted, much valuable property being lost which was not insured. The cause of the fire is unknown.

A Turkish vessel, filled with Mohammedan pil-

grims, has gone ashore on a reef about 50 miles north of Jeddah. The pilgrims, numbering about 700 in all, got safely to land. The vessel will probably be a total loss.

Mr. A. E. Stoddart was entertained at a banquet

at the Cafe Moaico, London, on Saturday, by the Hampstead Cricket Club, in commemoration of his successful tour in Australia. Over 300 sat down, including Mr. W. G. Grace, who also received numerous congratulations on having scored one hundred centuries.
Sir Frank Lockwood, M.P., Solicitor-General,

took the chair on Saturday at the anniversary dinner of the Newspaper Press Fund, a gathering held at the Whitehall Rooms, London. Proposing "Prosperity to the Fund," he made a speech, chiefly humourous, but containing remarks of more serious tone—as when he referred to the break-down of journalists through ill-health, and to the purity and the greatness of the English Press. The dinner resulted in the addition of more than £1,300 to the Fund.

The Duke and Duchess of York visited the Crystal Palace, London, on Saturday and distri-buted the awards made to school children by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty Animals for essays on "Kindness to Animals." many as 93,514 essays were sent in.

Presiding at the annual general court of the Royal Cambridge Asylum for Soldiers' Widows, the Commander-in-Chief urged that more regiments should contribute to the funds of the institution

The report was adopted.

Three interesting "comings of age" were celebrated on Saturday. The Earl of Cottenham, recently appointed Master of the Bicester Hounds: the Hon. James Boswell Talbot, only son and heir of Lord Talbot de Malahide; and Mr. Henry Charles Somerset, only child of Lady Henry Somerset, severally attained their majority. The members of some Catholic societies Liberal associations came to blows in one of the

principal streets at Antwerp on Sunday. police dispersed the combatants, making one arrest. A determined attempt was made by the crowd to release the prisoner, and the police were compelled to charge with drawn swords. Several persons were arrested.

A preliminary return of the British Army for the

year 1894 shows that the average effective strength during the 12 months was 212,121. Of this number 105,749 were at home, 37,219 in the colonies and Egypt, and 76,153 in India. According to the latest returns received on 1 Jan. of the present year, the general total at home and abroad was 222,151. Annie Moran, Jane Jones, and Isabella Madden,

convicted, for two months, and Madden charged.

At the Brierley Hill petty sessions, on Saturday the hearing was resumed of the charge against Mr. Albert Billingham, chain manufacturer, of Quarry Bank, of wrongfully sending a document to Messra. Lockwood Bros., Limited, of Sheffield, purporting to be a certificate that a chain cable had been Simon Raybould, a clerk in his employ, was charged with writing out the document. The chain supplied was for the Chittagong Harbour. For the defence it was contended that the chain was not cable but mooring chain, and consequently did not come under the Act. The Bench committed Mr. Billingham to the assizes, but adjourned the case against Raybould to allow the prosecution to consider whether the charge against him should be withdrawn. Bail was allowed, Billingham in his own recognisances of £100.

A horrible affair is reported from Cookstown,

county Tyrone. A farrirer, named Rogers, residing on Ballybriest Mountain, about six miles from the on Ballybriest Mountain, about six mines from the town, while bringing in his cattle, was attacked by a bull. Some neighbours working in the vicinity, hearing the old man's cries, ran to his assistance, but before the bull was driven off Rogers had received such terrible injuries that he died while being carried to his dwelling.

The death is announced from Pau of Sir Robert

Shaw, Bart. The deceased, who was the fourth baronet, was born in 1821, and married in 1852 Kate, daughter of the late Mr. William Barton, of Grove, Tipperary. Sir Robert was at one time Lieut. Colonel of the Dublin Militia. He was a Justice of the Peace and a Deputy-Lieutenant of County Dublin.

A shocking accident occurred on Saturday at Preston. A creeler 1 amed Arthur Charles Mackley was cleaning underneath the rollers, when the engine started. The spinner, unaware of the lad's presence, set the machine on with the result that the unfortunate fellow's head was jambed with the cage, death being instantaneous.

At Norman Cross (Huntingtonshire) Petty

essions, William Grove, a millwright, of Warwick, was charged with the wilful murder of William Small by throwing him into the River Nene at Water Newton on the night of 26th January, 1890. After hearing the evidence for the prosecution the Magistrates dismissed the charge without calling upon the defence. As a woman named Eleanor Dyett, daughter of

a public-house keeper in Irvine, was returning from one of the works she was struck by a train running between two buildings and dragged along for fully 50 yards. She died a few hours after. Mr. John Edmonds, chairman of the West Hartlepool Old Operatic Band Committee, has met with a fatal accident near Seaton Carew. He was

travelling by the midnight express to Hartlepool, and while looking out of the carriage window his head was caught by a passing train, and he was jerked out on to the line. He died subsequently in the hospital from the injuries received. Sir Joseph Renals and the Sheriffs of London are as fortunate as their immediate predecessors, for the visit of the son of the Ameer of Afghanistan to the City should, according to precedent, give a baronetcy to one and knighthoods to the others. In this case there can be no doubt as to the reception being strictly official, as it was suggested in

formal letter addressed to the Lord Mayor by the Lord Chamberlain, and nearly all the Royalties in England are to be present.
On Saturday afternoon the Museum which has been established in the village of Haworth, near Keighley, as a memorial of the sisters Bronte,

The Dean of Durham has recovered from his recent illness, which was of a very alarming nature, and caused by overwork, as Dr. Kitchin has been exerting himself a great deal too much in preaching and speaking, and in connection with University and Cathedral affairs, since he went north. The deanery of Winchester is an ideal niche for the enjoyment of "learned leisure," whereas Durham is now a really laborious post, and Dr. Kitchin's strength was unequal to the strain which was suddenly imposed on it. The Dean left Durham last week for two months of complete rest, and he will spend his holiday at How House, Coniston Lake.

The value of the imports of potatoes in England early is estimated at about £600,000. In some parts of the United States marriage between whites and blacks are forbidden by h. A cloud burst which recently visited on the country. New York, cut, off all telegraphic County, New York, cut off all telegraphic communication and did great damage to property.

Simon Jacobs, the retiring City Butte, Montana, committed suicide by shorting himself through the head. His term of office expired on the day of his death, and it is reprined that he is short in his accounts 30,000 dok 34,000 dols.

Some scientific men assert that in ordina Some scientific men assert that in ordinar chemical analysis the 120th of a grain practical approaches the lowest limit of determination. To spectroscope, however, is so sensitive that it is tell the presence of a substance when the quantit a nearly 2,000,000 times less than this, or a 240,000,000th of a grain.

The Supreme Court of the United States

declared the Income Tax Law to be unconsu-tional in toto. The question was decided by majority of one. a pority of one. A bill for the punishment of persons engaging

slave raiding or trading was discussed in German Reichstag on Monday, Dr. Kayser the Colonial Department, stating that it was possible to fix a date for the complete abou slavery.
The 50th anniversary of the departure of John Franklin's Arctic expedition was commentated on Monday by the Royal Geographical Society

under whose auspices a visit was paid to insp the Franklin relics at Greenwich Hospital. In evening a commemorative meeting was held at University of London, at which addresses we Othershy of London, at which addresses we delivered by Mr. Clements R. Markham, the American Ambassador, Admiral Sir Leoph McClintock, Admiral Sir E. Commerell, and Captain Leclerc (French Navy). The Duke of Markham, the Captain Leclerc (French Navy). York was among those present.

The Board of Trade have received through t the Consul-General for Sweden and Norway abin cular glass which has been awarded by his Majer the King of Sweden and Norway to Mr. D. C. (a mour, master of the s.s. Feliciana, of Glasgow, recognition of his services to the shipwrecked or of the Swedish ship Gefion, in November, 1893.

The Legion of Honour pensions-only granted naval and military men—come this year to a hear total. There are 34 Grand Crosses entitled £120 a year cach, 176 grand officers to £80 exc 911 commanders to £40 each, 4,039 officers to £9, and 25,441 Knights to £12 each. The old soldies entitled to small pensions for military medals num.

An Englishman named Dalrymple, who has acted as secretary to Prince de Looz, was the before the Correctional Tribunal at Chent on Mor day, on the charge of committing numerous fraud and of having publicly assumed the name of Por sonby. The charges of swindling were not substatiated, but the accused was sentenced to month's imprisonment for assuming a false name. An extensive fire has occurred at St. Alban Vermont), by which a great number of dwellin iouses have been destroyed. No less than 500 the inhabitants have been rendered homeless, the loss is estimated at 750,000 dols.

According to the Budapesti Hirlap, M. Szele the editor of a Hungarian weekly newspaper, wh is charged with being the author of the rece sttempt to blow up the monument erected to the Austrian General Hentzi at Budapest, has barrested near Annemasse in Haute Savoic.

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On Saturday evening, Mr. W. Collins. journalist, and the chairman of the Gallery Comittee of the House of Commons, was proceed to his home through St. Martin's lane, London when he was set upon by a couple of roughs, wh after badly assaulting him, contrived to make a with a valuable gold watch with which the men bers of the Press Gallery presented Mr. Collins short time since, in recognition of the service which he had rendered them. It is supposed the the outrage was committed by some of a gang or ruffans who infest the neighbourhood.

Mrs. Murton, a Bolton lady, lately residing Silverdate, has bequeathed £32,000 each to the Bolton Infirmary, the British and Foreign Bible Society, Church Missionary Society, and the Church Pastoral Aid Society, this being the all aged 17 years, were charged with theft of underclothing from a shop at Birmingham, and which was pledged by Moran. Moran was sent to gaol for a month; Jones, who had been previously claims

A deputation from the Central Poor-law Conf ence will in a few days wait on the president of the Local Government Board to ask for "a thorough inquiry into the question of vagrancy, either means of a parliamentary or a department committee, with a view to secure uniformity is t treatment of casual paupers."
While walking past the Buckingham Pala

Mews, London, on Sunday afternoon, Sir Charle Clifford, formerly member of parliament for man years for Newport, Isle of Wight, was siezed with sudden illness and was unable to proceed. constable came to his assistance and at length sufficiently rallied to be assisted into a cab a conveyed to his residence where the effect of

seizure gradually passed off.

A party, consisting of six Russian noblemor headed by Count Alexis Bobringsky, and accompanied by about a dozen servants, all sharpshoots: admirably equipped, left Moscow about a wed ago for the Pamir region, with the intention or riding along the new frontier between Russia and British territory.

On Monday morning at Blackfriars Bridge respectable looking young man committed suiced by jumping from the upper parapet into the Thames; the tide being strong at the time, he was swept to the lower side. He struggled desperately and endeavoured to grip one of the abutments. police-constable rowed to rescued him, but unfortunate man sank just as the constable within reach. He was about 25 years of age. The butler at Gaywood Hall, near Lynn, on M day, took up a gun and in sport pointed it at a Lucas, one of the housemaids. The gun went

and the bullet struck the girl in the neck. The Bishop of Durham, in a circular letter to clergy and laity of his diocese, says: "The defor the reunion of Christendom must be welcome by all as the voice of God. We cannot we present how the desire can be accomplished, by we believe it answers to God's will, which cannot be accomplished. fail in the end."

fail in the end."

An army pensioner named Moss, who had be discharged as corporal from the Royal Engineer committed suicide on Monday by hanging himse in the married quarters at South Camp, Alders! Since leaving the army he had been employed storekeeper under the Lands Department of t Royal Engineers in Stanhops Lines. The p fellow, who was well known in camp, had suffer terribly from gout, and it is believed that feared he would lose his situation.

The body of Mr. James M'Donald, solicité

Greenock, was found under a bridge over a stream on High Inverkip-road, Greenock, on Monday on righ inversip-road, Greenock, on Monoger morning. He had cut his throat, nearly severing the head from the body. The deceased had been in desponding spirits for some weeks, caused by insomnia. He was about 44 years of an animarried, and was admitted a member of the contract of the c Greenock Faculty of Procurators in 1873.

Major G. W. Addison, of the Board of Trade partment, reporting as to the accident who occurred on March 23, at New Station, Leeds, say the accident was caused by a London and North Western Company's light engine running into North-Eastern train from Newcastle. No one winjured. Major Addison is of opinion that the accident was due to great carelessness on the parties of the driver of the light engine, and he furth states that the present arrangement of signals is n

atisfactory.

The telephone now connects Poulouse with Part the hangust given Marseilles, and Bordeaux. At the banquet give to commemorate the event, the toast in honour the President of the Republic was teleph the Toulouse Chamber of Commerce

The diplomatic body at Madrid were not inv to the Court banquet given in honour of the young King's birthday, because the rank to be accorded to its members in celebrations in the Royal Palace has not been provided for in the Court etique and it was desired to avoid wounding the susceptibilities either of any of the diplomatic body or of any of the high Spanish dignitaries. The foreign