THE FIELD, THE FARM, THE GARDEN, THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN'S NEWSPAPER

VOL. XXV.—No. 634. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1865. With SUPPLEMENT. *Price 6d—Stamped 7d.*

SHREWSBURY SPRING RACES.

POSTPONEMENT.—In consequence of the protracted frost and deep snow, the stewards find it impossible to complete the new straight two-year-old course or to prepare the land for running by the time fixed, and therefore has to announce to the noblemen and gentlemen supporting this meeting, that he is most reluctantly compelled to postpone the races.

LIVERPOOL SPRING MEETING

will take place Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, March 7, 8, and 9.

First Day.

THE GRAND NATIONAL UNITED HUNTERS' STAKES of 100 sovs in specie, added to a sweepstakes of 3 sovs each, for horses not thorough-bred, and which have never won a hurdle or flat race of the value of 20 sovs, for which they have been liable to pay racehorse duty, and have not been in a public training stable since the 1st of January, 1865, and have been fairly hunted with an established pack of foxhounds during the present year; certificates from the masters of the hounds to be produced if required; four-year-olds 10st 4lb, five 11st 10lb, six 12st 4lb, and aged 12st 7lb; winners of a hunters' stake, value 50 sovs once, to carry 5lb extra, twice or more 7lb extra; horses to take their age from the 1st of January; to be ridden by gentlemen, farmers, or their sons; jockeys to carry 5lb extra; three horses to start or the added money will be withheld; ten subscribers or no race; 2 miles, on the Flat Course.

To close and name on or before Tuesday, the 28th February, to Messrs Weatherby, 6, Old Burlington-street, London; or to Mr E. W. Topham, Clerk of the Course, Chester.

Lord SEFTON,
Lord WESTMORELAND,
Lord UXBRIDGE,
Lord COURTENAY,
Lord POULETT,
Hon. W. G. CRAVEN,
G. PAYNE, Esq.,
B. J. ANGELL, Esq.
} Stewards.

WEST SOMERSET STEEPLE-CHASES, April 5

(Patron, H.R.H. The Prince of Wales).

The entries for the following stakes must be made on or before Feb. 20:

THE WEST SOMERSET OPEN HANDICAP of 10 sovs each, with 100 added.

THE GRAND MILITARY of 5 sovs each, with 80 added.

THE HASELBURY OPEN HANDICAP of 5 sovs each, with 50 added.

THE SELLING STAKES of 3 sovs each, with 30 added.

THE HUNTERS' STAKES of 5 sovs each, with 70 added.

THE SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY PLATE of 3 sovs each, with 25 added.

Full particulars can be obtained on application to the Hon. Sec., C. G. ELLIS, Esq., Crewkerne, to whom the entries must be sent.

Mr J. F. VERRALL, Clerk of the Course and Handicapper.

LLANBOIDY HUNT RACES and OPEN STEEPLE-CHASES

will take place on Tuesday and Thursday, March 21 and 23 (under the Grand National Steeple-chase rules).

First Day.

THE OPEN STEEPLE-CHASE, a handicap of 10 sovs each, h ft, if forfeit be not declared on or before Tuesday, March 7, with 70 sovs added; entrance 1 sov, to go to the fund; second horse to save his stake; the winner of any steeple-chase after the publication of the weights, once 7lb, twice 10lb extra; five entries or no race; those declaring forfeit in time pay only entrance money; 4 miles over the Steeple-chase Course.

THE OPEN HURDLE RACE, a handicap of 5 sovs each, 2 ft, if forfeit be not declared on or before Tuesday, March 7, with 30 sovs added; entrance 1 sov, to go to the fund; second horse to save his stake; the winner of any hurdle-race or steeple-chase after the publication of the weights, once 7lb, twice 10lb extra; five entries or no race; those declaring forfeit in time pay only entrance money; 2 miles, over seven flights of hurdles.

THE U.H.C. STEEPLE-CHASE, a Sweepstakes of 3 sovs each, with a piece of plate added, value 25 guineas, the gift of David Pugh, Esq., M.P.; entrance 1 sov, to go to the fund; second horse to save his stake; five entries or no race; non-starters pay only entrance money; for horses that have been regularly hunted in Wales during this season, and have never been in a public training stable, or won a race in respect of which race horse duty is payable; four-year-olds 10st 7lb, five 11st 5lb, six and aged 12st; a winner of any steeple chase or hurdle-race once 7lb, twice 10lb extra; 3 miles over the Steeple-chase Course.

THE HUNTERS' SCURRY, a Sweepstakes of 1 sov each, p.p., with 15 added, for maiden horses that have been regularly hunted in Wales during this season, and have never been in a public training stable, or have ever started for any flat or hurdle race or handicap steeple-chase with 20 sovs or more added (garrison races excepted); second horse to save his stake; four-year-olds 11st, five 11st 12lb, six and aged 12st 7lb; gentlemen riders; those who have never won a race of the value of 50 sovs allowed 7lb; 2 miles over the flat.

Second Day.

THE CAMBRIAN STEEPLE-CHASE, a handicap of 5 sovs each, 2 ft, if not declared on or before Tuesday, March 7, with 40 added; entrance 1 sov, to go to the fund; second horse to save his stake; the winner of any steeple-chase after the publication of the weights, once 7lb, twice 10lb extra; five entries or no race; those declaring forfeit in time pay only entrance money; 4 miles over the Steeple-chase Course.

THE CEFEN STEEPLE-CHASE, a selling race of 4 sovs each, with 30 added; second horse to save his stake; entrance 1 sov, to go to the fund; five entries or no race; non-starters pay only entrance money; four-year olds 10st 10lb, five 11st 10lb, six and aged 12st 2lb; the winner to be sold for 200 sovs; if entered to be sold for 150 sovs allowed 7lb, if for 100 14lb, if for 80 21lb, if for 50 28lb; the surplus if any, to go to the fund; 3 miles over the Steeple chase Course.

THE PRINCIPALITY HURDLE RACE, a Sweepstakes of 3 sovs each, with 25 guineas added, the gift of David Jones, Esq., M.P.; entrance 1 sov, to go to the fund; second horse to save his stake; five entries or no race; non-starters pay only entrance money; for horses that have been regularly hunted in Wales during this season, and have never been in a public training stable, or won a race in respect of which race horse duty is payable; four-years-old 9st 12lb, five 10st 10lb, six and aged 11st 4lb; winners extra, as in the U.H.C. Steeple-chase; 2 miles, over seven flights of hurdles.

THE FOXHUNTERS' STAKES, a Sweepstakes of 1 sov each, p.p., with 15 added, for maiden horses that have been regularly hunted in Wales during this season, and have never been in a public training stable, or have ever started for any flat or hurdle-race or handicap steeple-chase with 20 sovs or more added (races run during this meeting and garrison races excepted); four-year-olds 11st 8lb, five 12st 2lb, six and aged 12st 10lb; riders who have never won 50 sovs allowed 7lb; 2½ miles over the Steeple-chase Course.

CONDITIONS.—The Open Steeple-chase, the Open Hurdle Race, and the Cambrian Steeple-chase to close to the stewards, at the Maesgwynne Arms Hotel, Llanboidy, by Wednesday, Feb. 22. The weights to appear in *Bell's Life* on the 4th of March. The U.H.C. Steeple-chase and the Hunters' Scurry to close by Saturday, March 11. The Cefen Steeple-chase, the Principality Hurdle Race, and the Foxhunters' Stakes to close by Tuesday evening, March 21, by eight o'clock. The entrance-money and the colours of the riders must accompany each entry, or the same will not be received; three horses the property of different owners to start for each race, or the added money or plate will not be given; weighing, 2s 6d. each race.

Mr Powell's hounds will meet on Wednesday and Friday.

An ordinary on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, at the Maesgwynne Arms Hotel.

M. A. SAURIN, Esq.,
GEO. W. BARKER, Esq.,
} Stewards.

Mr R. JOHNSON, York, Handicapper.

T. R. OLIVER POWELL, Esq., Hon. Sec.

N.B.—Llanboidy is situated within five miles of the St. Clears, Whitland, or Narberth-road stations, on the Great Western Railway. All P.O. orders must be made payable on the Llanboidy Post-office.

THE IRISH NATIONAL HUNT and KILDARE HUNT RACES

will take place April 26 and 27. There will be 1600*l.* given in added money. Among the stakes

THE CONYNGHAM CUP, of 300 sovs, added to a Sweepstakes of 5 sovs each.

THE CHAMPION STAKES of 400 sovs, added to a Sweepstakes of 5 sovs each, in case of acceptance; a winner of a steeple-chase or flat race, value 60 sovs, in which professionals rode, is excluded; four-year-olds 12st 7lb, five 13st 8lb, six and aged 14st; a winner of a steeple-chase value 50 sovs, to carry 5lb extra, of one value 100 sovs, or steeple chases collectively value of 100 sovs, 10lb extra; a steeple-chase value 200 sovs, or of steeple-chases collectively value 200 sovs, 16lb extra; value, or collectively value, 300 sovs, 22lb extra; horses that have started for a steeple-chase, value 100 sovs, in which professionals rode, 4lb extra; in one value 300 sovs, or in two each value 100 sovs 7lb extra; this penalty will be carried in addition to any other incurred; first entry, at 2 sovs, March 9, second entry, at 4 sovs, March 25; the winner to pay 25 sovs to the fund; the sums subscribed from the hunts of Ireland, and from other sources, will be given to this stake; 300 sovs is guaranteed to it from the Kildare Hunt Race Fund; to be run over the Hunters' Course, including a four and a-half foot wall; gentlemen riders, as qualified for the National Hunt races; about 3½ miles.

THE GRAND MILITARY STEEPLE-CHASE of 300 sovs, added to a sweepstakes of 5 sovs each, p.p., for horses the property of officers on full pay in the army or navy, or on the staff, in the United Kingdom, and in their possession before March 1st, 1865; the winner of a handicap steeple-chase, value 100 sovs, is excluded; weight for age; four-year-olds 10st 9lb, five 11st 9lb, six and aged 12st; about 3½ miles, over a portion of the Down-shire or hunters' course; entrance 2 sovs. To close April 7 with Mr Hunter.

PENALTIES.—1. A winner of a steeple-chase, or steeple-chases, value collectively 100 sovs 7lb, of 200 14lb, of 400 21lb extra; the second horse in a steeple-chase value 300 sovs 7lb, the third horse 4lb extra. These penalties are not accumulative. 2. The locality in which, and the person by whom each horse has been trained for the month previous, must be stated at entry. The stewards retain the power of placing a penalty of from 3lb to 7lb according to the advantages they consider a horse may have received in his preparation. The penalties will be announced on the 11th.

ALLOWANCES, &c.—Horses that have never started for a flat race or steeple-chase value 100 sovs in which professionals rode, are allowed 4lb. A winner of a steeple-chase value 50 sovs, cannot claim this allowance. Horses carry no penalty for winning a regimental or depot battalion race (the winner of the Artillery Gold Cup excepted), and can claim the allowance of 4lb. Officers quartered in Ireland, whose regiments have not subscribed 5 sovs, pay double entrance. The winner to pay 10 sovs to the fund; if less than twelve horses start, 20 sovs.

RIDERS.—The race to be ridden by officers qualified to enter a horse. 1. Riders who have never won a steeple-chase value 30 sovs (regimental and depot battalion races excepted) are allowed 4lb. 2. Riders who have won a steeple-chase value 100 sovs, in which professionals rode, carry 7lb extra.

100 sovs will be subscribed to this stake from the Kildare Hunt Race Fund.

All penalties disqualifications, &c., are dated up to the time of starting.

In other details, the Rules of the Irish National Hunt Steeple-chases will be carried out.

QUALIFICATION FOR RIDERS FOR THE NATIONAL RACES.—The races are to be ridden by members of the National Hunt Club.

RULES FOR ADMISSION TO THE NATIONAL HUNT CLUB.—1. A candidate must receive the vote (sanctioning his admission) of four of the stewards; nor can any gentleman ride for these races until he receives this qualification. 2. His name must be submitted to Mr Hunter by a steward, a master of hounds in England or Ireland, or by a field-officer in the army or militia. His address and occupation will be stated at the time of his nomination. Entrance, if a candidate's name be submitted previous to March 21 5s.; if after that date, 2 sovs. If Mr Hunter fail in securing the approval of four stewards for his admission, it rests with him to use his interest to procure the signature of four stewards to the following, viz.:—"We admit Mr —— a member of the National Hunt Club." 3. Owners of horses must forward to Mr Hunter, on the Saturday before the meeting, their colours, and the names, qualifications, and addresses of the riders of their horses, or they will be fined 3 sovs previous to their horses being allowed to start.

Marquis of DROGHEDA
Marquis of CONYNGHAM
Marquis of CLANRICARDE
Earl of CHARLEMONT
Viscount St. LAWRENCE
Baron de ROBECK
HENRY BRISCOE, Esq.
JOHN GOING, Esq.
Capt. M'CLINTOCK
Capt. MONTGOMERY
E. SAUNDERSON, Esq.
} Present Stewards.

SECRETARY, Mr R. HUNTER, 2 Margaret-place, Dublin, who will give every information, on application, connected with the above races.

ASHDOWN PARK COURSING MEETING

is POSTPONED to the week after the Waterloo Meeting.

CRAVEN CUP, for puppies, at 5*l.* each.

UFFINGTON CUP, for all ages, at 5*l.* each.

Other stakes will be made after first day.

Milton Hill, Abingdon. J. S. BOWLES, Hon. Sec.

CARDINGTON OPEN COURSING MEETING

is POSTPONED to the 28th of February next, and following days, when the following stakes will be run for:

THE BEDFORDSHIRE STAKES, for 16 all-aged dogs; entrance 5*l.* 5*s.*

THE SOUTHILL STAKES, for 16 dogs and bitches; entrance 5*l.* 5*s.*

THE SUMMERHOUSE HILL STAKES, for 4 dog saplings; entrance 2*l.* 2*s.*

THE HARROWDEN HILL STAKES, for 4 dog saplings; entrance 2*l.* 2*s.*

THE CARDINGTON STAKES, for 4 bitch saplings; entrance 2*l.* 2*s.*

THE FENLAKE STAKES, for 4 bitch saplings; entrance 2*l.* 2*s.*

Gentlemen desirous of taking nominations in any of the above stakes, are requested to apply to Mr S. BAILEY, Hon. Sec., Southill, Biggleswade.

A dinner will be provided at the King's Arms, Cardington, on Monday, Feb. 27, at five o'clock.

THE NATIONAL EXHIBITION OF SPORTING and OTHER DOGS.

—A Special General Meeting of Subscribers will be held at Mr Arnold's office, New-street, Birmingham, on Thursday next, the 23rd inst., at one o'clock precisely, for the purpose of confirming the resolutions passed at a meeting held on the 15th inst., authorising the committee to invest a portion of the surplus funds. GEORGE BEECH, Secretary.

Birmingham Feb 15.

ACCRINGTON CATTLE, POULTRY, and DOG SHOW,

April 6. John Duglale, Secretary, Piccadilly. Prize Lists, &c., will be ready on and after March 1, and can be had on application, and sending a stamp.

GREAT HORSE FAIR, Frankfort-on-the Maine,

April 3, 4, and 5. Usual number of horses present, 1500. Premiums given for the best horses; Horse Lottery drawn on the last day of the fair. Room for horses can be secured in permanent built stables by early application to Mr NENTWIG, Secretary, Goetheplatz.—N.B. Cost of transport for a horse and servant between Frankfort and London, about 4*l.*

TO be SOLD, cheap, a PRIVATE COLLECTION

of beautifully-arranged BRITISH STUFFED BIRDS, ornamented on imitation rock and water.—For full particulars apply by letter to "B. T." (No. 6.3), FIELD Office, 346, Strand, London, W.C.

PUBLIC FISHERY of the THAMES.—

The Committee of the THAMES ANGLING PRESERVATION SOCIETY APPEAL for INCREASED FUNDS to enable them to employ wholly-paid keepers in lieu of the present subsidised staff. The receipts of the society are now 300*l.*; an additional income of 200*l.* is required.

To assist the society, the Board of Thames Conservancy have erected fish ladders at Teddington and Moulsey weirs. Netting is abolished—other improvements are contemplated.

Fish-hatching is carried on at Hampton and thousands of salmon, trout, and other fish are annually turned into the river.

The committee appeal to anglers, residents on the banks of the Thames, and the general public, this society being the only one which provides the healthy and gratuitous recreation of angling to thousands of the working classes of the metropolis.

Annual subscription from 1*l.* 1*s.*; life subscription, 10*l.* 10*s.*

Subscriptions and donations will be received at the bank of Messrs MARTIN and Co., 68, Lombard-street; and at all the respectable tackle shops. W. H. BROUGHAM, Sec.

Gothic Villa, Isleworth, Feb. 13.

GRAND NATIONAL ARCHERY MEETING.

—The TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL MEETING of the Archers of the United Kingdom is appointed to take place in the College Grounds, at Clifton, near Bristol (by permission of the Council), on July 26, 27, and 28. Full particulars will be shortly issued in the usual circulars. OCTAVIUS LUARD, Hon. Sec. G.N.A.S.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.—LINCOLN RACES.

—Ordinary Return Tickets issued from London (King's-cross), Doncaster, York, Peterborough, and Louth, to Lincoln on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Feb. 20, 21, and 22, will be available for returning with by any train on any of those days.

Trains leave King's-cross for Lincoln *via* Peterborough, at 6.30, 7.40, and 9 a.m. (*via* Retford, at 12 noon), 1.15, 2.45, and 5 p.m. SEYMOUR CLARKE, General Manager.

London, King's-cross station, February.

RAY SOCIETY, Instituted 1844, for the Publication of Works on Natural History.

Annual Subscription, One Guinea.

Two Volumes will be issued to the Subscribers for the year 1865.

Subscriptions for 1865 are now due and will be thankfully received by H. T. STAINTON, F.L.S., F.G.S., Sec.

Mountsfield, Lewisham, near London, S.E.

THE HAMMAM (Turkish Bath unimproved).

—Entrance through the St. James's Hotel, 76, Jermyn-street. Open daily for Gentlemen from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Private Bath for Ladies or Gentlemen by arrangement.

TURKISH BATHS, Victoria-street.

—This magnificent establishment, accommodating 800 daily, is NOW OPEN, Sundays excepted. Public and private baths for ladies and gentlemen, price from 1s. 6d. upwards. N.B. Baths for horses.—ORIENTAL BATH COMPANY OF LONDON (Limited), Victoria-street, near the station, Westminster.

HINDUSTANI.—An Officer, lately retired

from her Majesty's service, having high certificates of efficiency as interpreter during the late Indian rebellion, devotes a portion of his time to the INSTRUCTION of officers and civilians in HINDUSTANI.—Apply to "PLAUTUS," 36, Conduit-street, Regent-street, London.

ESHER, Surrey.—The SONS of GENTLEMEN EDUCATED

for Eton, Harrow, and the Public Schools, the Army, Civil Service, and India, by the Rev. CHARLES CLARKE, &c., &c. From eight years old and upwards. Terms according to age and requirements.

EDUCATION.—In a Literary Family,

resident in the country, TWO YOUNG LADIES are received for FINISHING and ACCOMPLISHMENTS. Music, Singing, Drawing, French, German, Latin, and English, with other branches, by resident and visiting professors, and the benefit of a first-class library, readings, and conversaziones at home.—Address may be obtained from Mr W. T. MARSH, at THE FIELD Office. As the advantages offered are very unusual, good references will be required and given.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—FIRST DAY of the GREAT SHOW of CANARIES,

BRITISH and FOREIGN SINGING and TALKING BIRDS, and GOLD and SILVER PHEASANTS, THIS DAY (Saturday).

The show will be held in the Tropical Department, agreeably warmed, and, amid the most luxuriant vegetation; this show is one of the most pleasing exhibitions of the season.

Admission, including Saturday Concert and Promenade, Half-a-Crown; Guinea Season Tickets free.

BLONDIN! BLONDIN!! BLONDIN!!!

BLONDIN! RE ENGAGEMENT FOR A SHORT TIME!!

GREAT SUCCESS!!!

PRICE'S SPANISH CIRCUS and HIPPODROME, AGRICULTURAL HALL.

BLONDIN, THE HERO OF NIAGARA. GREAT FEATS ON THE HIGH ROPE!

Wheeling a Barrow on the High Rope—Walking in a Sack Blindfolded on the High Rope—Great Chair Feats on the High Rope.

Evening Performance at Seven.

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BLONDIN ON THE HIGH ROPE

at PRICE'S SPANISH CIRCUS and HIPPODROME.

Day Performances: Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Doors open at Two.

BLONDIN! BLONDIN!! BLONDIN!!!

IN conjunction with PRICE'S GREAT SPANISH CIRCUS and HIPPODROME.

—This company is pronounced by the whole of the public press to be the greatest and most talented company ever yet brought to England.

SEGUNDO AND MALLOL ON THE AERIAL TRAPEZE.

See Opinions of the Press.

ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION,

14, Regent-street.—Mr and Mrs GERMAN REED, with Mr JOHN PARRY, in THE RIVAL COMPOSERS (in which the Sisters Pry will reappear); with THE BARD AND HIS BIRTHDAY; and MRS ROSELEAF AT THE SEASIDE, by Mr John Parry. Every evening (except Saturday) at Eight; Saturday at Three.—Unreserved Seats, 1s. and 2s.; Stalls, 3s. and 5s. The Opera di Camera Entertainment, THE SOLDIER'S LEGACY, and TOO MANY COOKS, Tuesday Morning, and every Tuesday and Thursday, at Three.—Seats secured without fee. An Opera di Camera Entertainment on Saturday evening, Feb. 25, at Eight.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—

The world never saw the like; GENERAL TOM THUMB, his LITTLE WIFE, and INFANT DAUGHTER, together with COMMODORE NUTT and MINNIE WARREN, the smallest human beings of mature age on the face of the globe. They are pronounced by all who see them the greatest wonders of the age. The whole four appear in a great variety of songs, dances, duets, &c., also in a number of comic characters "Perfect Buckstones in miniature." They will give three levées daily at eleven, three, and half-past seven o'clock. At the eleven o'clock levee they will appear in the identical costume worn by them at Grace Church, New York, on the occasion of their marriage. Admission to the day levées, 1s., 2s., and 3s.; to the evening levée, 1s. to all parts of the house, except a few reserved seats at 2s. Children under ten years of age, half price. Remember, the whole party can be seen for One Shilling.

HUNTING, SHOOTING, AND FISHING QUARTERS AND RESIDENCES.

SHROPSHIRE.—To LET, a commodious

and very comfortable RESIDENCE, suitable for a gentleman's family, with 15 acres of superior grass land, eight miles from Shrewsbury and four from a railway station, within easy reach of Sir Watkin's and Shropshire meets. Shooting over 600 acres.—Address Mr W. HALL, Shrewsbury.

LEICESTER.—To be DISPOSED OF, a

very commodious and substantially-built HOUSE and offices, standing in its own well-timbered grounds of about 31 acres, comprising meadow lands home farm, &c., well adapted, from its extensive accommodation, for a family residence or as a hunting box, being situated in the neighbourhood of four or five packs of hounds and having excellent stabling.—Full particulars on application to Mr F. JONES, 72, Park-street, Grosvenor-square, W.

DESIRABLE HUNTING RESIDENCE

at Market Harborough.—To be SOLD by PRIVATE CONTRACT a DWELLING-HOUSE containing breakfast, dining, drawing rooms, and six bedrooms; situate within five minutes' walk of the railway station at Market Harborough. With extensive compact premises easily convertible into stabling for fifteen or twenty horses.—Apply to Mr JOHN SMITH, High-street, Market Harborough.

CAPITAL HUNTING and SHOOTING QUARTERS, Warwickshire.

—COOKES and SONS have received instructions to LET a desirable RESIDENCE, furnished, within five miles of Leamington, on an annual tenancy, together with the shooting and fishing attached to the same. The house contains drawing room, dining-room, and breakfast-room, five bedrooms and two dressing-rooms on first floor, three good-sized bedrooms on upper floor, and four men-servants' rooms, bath-room, and ample domestic offices and outbuildings. The stabling consists of five loose boxes, four stalls, and infirmary; carriage-house, straw-yard, hovel, and cow-houses. These latter can easily be converted into additional stabling. There is a small but well-stocked and highly-productive kitchen-garden, good orchard, and two small paddocks of about 1½ acres each. The shooting, over 300 acres, has been well preserved, and is unsurpassed in acreage in the county, for the quantity of game annually killed off it. The fishing consists of one mile of river, well stocked with white fish. For a hunting-box the property is admirably adapted, being within reach of several packs of hounds, &c.—For further particulars apply at the Midland Counties Estate, Land, and House Agency Offices, 34, Warwick-street, Leamington.

OXFORDSHIRE. HEYTHROP HUNT.—FAMILY RESIDENCE or HUNTING BOXES.

—To be LET, for a term, on a repairing lease, with immediate possession, all that excellent and substantial stone-built and newly blue slated residence, formerly well-known as CHAPEL HOUSE HOTEL and POSTING-HOUSE, on the turnpike-road from Oxford to Birmingham, situate within one mile of Chipping Norton, and two miles of the Heythrop Hunt kennels, together with the extensive stabling and coach-houses, and pleasure-grounds, and either with or without about 20 acres of pasture and arable land adjoining. The foregoing is capable of being occupied altogether as a family residence, and as such would afford abundant accommodation for a large family, or for a school, or may be continued as two distinct dwellings (in which way it has been lately occupied), and, with a little expense in fitting up, would make two most comfortable hunting boxes, for which purpose it is admirably suited, being so near the Heythrop kennels, and upon the cross turnpike roads to Oxford, Birmingham, Worcester, and Banbury, and within little more than a mile of the Chipping Norton station, on a branch of the Great Western Railway. It is also within easy reach of the South Warwickshire and other hounds.—To view, and for further particulars, apply to A. L. RAWLINSON, Esq., Solicitor, Chipping Norton.

COUNTRY RESIDENCE, FARM, and SHOOTING WANTED,

about July, in southern counties; about eight bedrooms, warm situation, south aspect, dry soil, good walled garden, with glass. A small FARM, belonging, or detached. The house would be taken furnished, for the winter months, to give experience of the locality.—Apply, S. CLIFFSIDE, Bonchurch, Isle of Wight.

DEER and GROUSE SHOOTINGS in the ISLE of SKYE.

—The SHOOTINGS of KYLEAKIN and KINLOCH are now to LET either together or separately, and by such boundaries as may be arranged. The game consists of red and roe deer, grouse, blackgame, ptarmigan, partridges, hares, &c. There is no lodge, but excellent accommodation can be had, either on the ground or in the immediate neighbourhood. The rent of these shootings if let together, will be 300*l.*, if divided, each beat will be 150*l.*—Apply to Mr SNOWIE, Inverness; A. K. MACKINNON, Corry by Broadford; or to Messrs GIBSON, CRAIG, DALZIEL, and BRODIES, W.S., Edinburgh.

GROUSE SHOOTING and SALMON FISHING in the ISLE of SKYE to LET.

—The SHOOTINGS of PORTREE, with RIGHT of ANGLING on the celebrated salmon river Snizort, all as lately occupied by the Earl of Hopetoun. The moors are some of the best in the West Highlands, and are easily traversed. There is a commodious lodge on the ground, and a well-stocked garden, and supplies of every kind can be had at all times in the village of Portree, in the immediate neighbourhood. Two steamers ply from Glasgow and Oban to Portree every week, and there is a post every alternate day. Rent 210*l.*—Apply to Mr SNOWIE, Inverness; A. K. MACKINNON, Corry by Broadford; or to Messrs GIBSON, CRAIG, DALZIEL, and BRODIES, W.S., Edinburgh.

INVERNESS-SHIRE.—DEER FOREST, GROUSE-SHOOTINGS, and FISHINGS to be LET,

on lease of 10 or 15 years from Whitsunday 1865.—The well-known DEER FOREST of GLENQUOICH, as at present occupied by the proprietor, together with the house, offices, garden, and pleasure-grounds of Glenquoich; the Shootings of the extensive hill-range of Kinloch Hourn, and the Salmon and other Fishings of the district. The house and offices contain ample accommodation for a large establishment. There is a daily post to and from the South and Invergarry, and the journey between London and Glenquoich now occupies about twenty-three hours. Also, the GROUSE SHOOTINGS upon the extensive farm of GARRY-GUALACH, in Glengarry. This ground adjoins the Forest of Glenquoich, and will be let either with or separately from it.—Apply to Mr GEORGE MALCOLM, Factor, Invergarry, N.B.; Messrs GIBSON, CRAIG, DALZIEL, and BRODIES, W.S., Edinburgh; or, Mr HUGH SNOWIE, Gunmaker, Inverness.

THE M'DONALD DEER-FOREST, with

a large tract of Grouse Moor attached, and RIGHT of ANGLING in the river of Sligichan, are now to LET for any period not exceeding five years. There is a comfortable lodge fully furnished, and situated about the centre of the ground. It contains dining-room, three good bedrooms, a dressing-room, kitchen, servants' hall, four servants' sleeping rooms, water-closets, &c., and the offices consist of a four-stalled stable, coach-house, laundry, kennels, deer-larder, dairy, coal-house, and a room capable of accommodating three men servants. There is also a productive kitchen garden, and sheep, poultry, eggs, &c., can always be obtained at moderate prices. A mail-cart passes and repasses the lodge-gate three times a week, and two steamers from Glasgow pass within easy distance of the lodge. Rent for the forest will be 500*l.*, and for the grouse ground 200*l.*—For further particulars apply to Mr SNOWIE, Inverness; A. K. MACKINNON, Corry by Broadford; or to Messrs GIBSON, CRAIG, DALZIEL, and BRODIES, W.S., Edinburgh.

SHOOTING and FISHING QUARTERS and ESTATES

continued on the next page.

GROUSE SHOOTING.—WANTED, in the north-west of Scotland, a good GROUSE-SHOOTING, sufficient for two or three guns, with Salmon-fishing and a comfortable Lodge, &c.—Apply to "F. E." care of A. Lancaster, 27, South Audley-street, London, W.

TWO GUNS WANTED to make up a party of five, to take a first-rate shooting in the north of Scotland. To pay 200l. to 250l each. Every gun share alike.—Apply by letter to "N. O." (No. 684), Field Office, 346, Strand, London, W.C.

SHOOTING WANTED.—A MANOR is REQUIRED from 1000 to 3000 acres, with or without a good furnished residence.—Particulars sent to Mr Geo. Fuller, 18, Poultry, will be attended to immediately.

SHOOTING.—WANTED, for next season, and would be taken for a term of years, some good mixed SHOOTING, or a first-class GROUSE MOOR, on which 400 or 500 brace can be killed during the season; not more than five or six hours by rail from Liverpool.—Address "Box F 19," Post-office, Liverpool.

SHOOTING, with RESIDENCE, WANTED, over a good extent of country, or a moderate estate would be purchased, from thirty to sixty miles of London.—Apply to "M. D.," personally, or by letter, at Stevens', Stationer, Duke-street, Grosvenor-square, W.

SHOOTING to be LET in KENT, from Feb. 1, over upwards of 2000 acres of land, within two hours of London by South-Eastern Railway; a station on the estate.—Apply by letter to Mr Oliver, 11, Old Jewry, London.

SHOOTING WANTED.—A gentleman who does not shoot much is desirous of RENTING the EXCLUSIVE RIGHT over 500 to 800 acres of good GENERAL SHOOTING in Kent; must be easy of access, on the North Kent line preferred, and near a station. A fair price will be given, but it must be good.—Apply, by letter, to "J. G. C.," Mr Chatres, 40, King William-street, London-bridge.

FURNISHED HOUSE and SHOOTINGS, &c., to LET.—The MANSION-HOUSE of CARNOCK, furnished, with the stables, coach-house, and offices, garden policies, and pleasure-grounds. Together with the house will be let the SHOOTINGS, which are very good and extend to about 1500 acres. The house, &c., will be let for such a term of years as may be agreed on, with entry at Whit-Sunday 1865, or previously, if arranged.—For further particulars apply to Mr M. J. Martin, Factor, Mansion-house, Greenock. Mr Bowie, the Overseer at Carnock, will show the house and grounds.

TO be LET, FURNISHED, in the county of Northumberland, a spacious MANSION, with ample stabling, pleasure grounds, kitchen, flower, and walled gardens and grass land, in all about 60 acres; shooting over 4000 acres.—For particulars, apply to Holland and Sons, 23, Mount-street, Grosvenor-square.

WALES, near Aberystwith, within a few minutes' walk of Glan Dovey station.—To be LET, for a term, or by the year, YNYS-HIR HOUSE, thoroughly furnished, and beautifully situated on the estuary of the Dovey, containing hall and three reception rooms, with eleven bedrooms, capital stable, coach-house, walled garden, good supply of water, and 4 acres of meadow land, with right of shooting over upwards of 1000 acres of wild and varied sporting, with good fishing, foxhounds, and harriers in its vicinity. The house may be had unfurnished, or the furniture taken at a valuation.—For terms apply to W. S. Crealock, Esq., Lanra-place, Aberystwith.

HIGHLANDS of SCOTLAND.—To be DISPOSED OF, by PRIVATE TREATY, for a term of years, the GRAZINGS, SHOOTINGS, and FISHINGS of a large ESTATE of about 25,000 acres, situate in the most romantic and beatiful part of the Highlands of Scotland, remote and retired, yet within an easy distance from Glasgow. All kinds of Highland game will be found on the estate, including red deer, to make a forest for which the estate is peculiarly adapted, there being both high hills and a great deal of natural wood. The fishings on the lakes and rivers are very good.—For particulars apply to Messrs Barnes and Bernard, 2 Great Winchester-street, London.

MANSION HOUSE of CARGEN, near Dumfries, and SHOOTINGS, to LET. Entry at Whitsunday.—To be Let, for two or three years, furnished.—The house is situated within three miles of Dumfries, where there is railway communication with all parts of the country. It has ample accommodation for a large family, and contains four public rooms, with a billiard room, three bedrooms, with dressing rooms five single bedrooms, nurseries, and ample servants' accommodation, including washing house and laundry. There are two bath rooms supplied with hot and cold water, &c. The house is lighted throughout with gas. The offices are very commodious with stabling for nine horses, large coach-house, byre, piggeries, dog kennel boiler house, and every requisite. The garden is large and very productive, with two vineries, conservatories, &c. The shooting extends over about 900 acres of arable land, and is well stocked with game.—For particulars apply to R. K. Walker, Maxwell-town, by Dumfries.

HOUSE and SHOOTINGS in Ross-shire to LET.—To LET, furnished, for such period as may be agreed on, the MANSION-HOUSE of Teaninich, with the SHOOTINGS over the estate of Teaninich. The house contains drawing-room and dining-room, connected by a morning room, library, breakfast-room, and study, eight bedrooms and five dressing-rooms, laundry, with good servants' accommodation, and having coach-house, stables, &c., attached; is in a sheltered situation on the north shore of the Cromarty Firth, three miles from the seaport town of Invergordon, from which there is direct steam communication with Edinburgh and London, and the Inverness and Ross-shire Railway passes through the property, on which there is a station a short distance from the house. The shootings are well preserved and plentifully stocked with game, and consist of excellent low ground shooting, with that on a moor, situated at the end of Lochmuire, in the midst of beautiful scenery, at which there is a shooting and fishing bothy, and about six miles from the house, extending to 3000 acres, and well stocked with grouse and blackgame. There is also excellent wildfowl shooting on the sea-shore. Entry may be had at Whitsunday 1865.—For particulars apply to Messrs W. F. Skene and Peacock, W.S., 18, Hill-street, Edinburgh.

SIX MONTHS' RESIDENCE, in North Devon, with FISHING.—To be LET, handsomely furnished, for six months, from March 1 next, a COUNTRY HOUSE, charmingly situate in its own grounds amidst lovely scenery; containing dining, drawing, breakfast-room, conservatory, and the usual kitchens and servants' offices, five best bedrooms, two dressing-rooms, servants' rooms, closets, &c.; two men and three maid servants; the use of a horse and carriage; two Guernsey cows, garden produce for the family, and the exclusive right of trout fishing in a capital river, the whole offering every inducement to a family wishing to spend a few months in the country. The house is situate under five miles from a railway station, about seven hours from town, near two market towns, capital road, and about one and a half miles from church. Many children would be objected to.—For permission to view (by cards only), and further information apply to Mr J. Groves Cooper, Wear Gifford, Torrington.

GERMANY, Duchy of Baden.—Good SHOOTING and FISHING.—To be LET, a genteel HOUSE and GARDEN, stable and other outbuildings, delightfully situated in the vineyards at the foot of a mountain of the Black Forest. The house consists of dining, drawing, and five good bed rooms, kitchen and servants' apartments. Half an hour from Offenburg, on the direct line of rail from Strasbourg, Basle, and Switzerland; one hour by rail from Baden-Baden.—For terms apply, post paid to Mr Albert Fischer Offenburg, Grand Duchy of Baden.

SHOOTING and FISHINGS WANTED.—Messrs E. and H. LUMLEY have numerous APPLICATIONS from Noblemen and Gentlemen desirous of RENTING SHOOTINGS and FISHINGS in all parts of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and will be glad to receive particulars of any to let.—Auction, Land, and Estate Offices, 67, Chancery-lane, London; and 31, St. James's-street, Piccadilly, London.

SHOOTINGS and FISHINGS on the Muirkirk Estate, in the parish of Muirkirk and county of Ayr, to be LET.—The SHOOTINGS of WELLWOOD, which are of a first-class character, are now to LET for four years from Candlemas next, and extend to from 18,000 to 20,000 acres. The lands, consisting of both hill and dale, is of a character favourable to game; the grouse are plentiful and in good condition; the low-ground shootings consist of pheasants, hares, partridges, woodcock, rabbits, and the usual low-country game. Wellwood House is large and commodious and well furnished, is beautifully situated on the river Ayr, consisting of dining-room, drawing-room, parlour, five bedrooms, dressing-room (with two bachelor's bedrooms in an adjoining building), as also kitchen and suitable servants' apartments, and other conveniences in the mansion-house. The offices are in good order, and consist of a five-stall stable, two coach-houses, harness and gun-rooms, with coachman's-room, two keepers' houses, and excellent kennels recently built. The tenant of the shootings will be entitled to possession of the house and offices till Whitsunday 1869. The Glasgow and South-Western line of railway passes through the lands, and Muirkirk station is within two miles, and Old Cumnock station, where all the express trains stop, is within six miles of the house, and there is a post passing Wellwood twice daily. The distance from London by rail is accomplished in twelve hours and a half, and from Glasgow in two hours and a half. The fishings in the river Ayr, consisting of trout and grayling, are good, and have been strictly preserved for many years.—Application to be made to Messrs Trail and Murray, W.S., 7, Melville-street, Edinburgh; and Messrs M'Murtrie, Writers, Ayr.

TO be LET, furnished or unfurnished, a very desirable and modern-built Residence, called DUNSA BANK, standing on a dry, yet sheltered situation, and overlooking the beautiful vale of Ravensworth. The house contains dining-room, library, drawing-room, ten bed and dressing rooms, water-closet, kitchens, pantries, and other domestic offices, suited for a family of respectability. There are also good gardens, stables, coach-houses, &c. Dunsa Bank is about six miles from Richmond and seven miles from Barnard-Castle, both good market towns, and railway stations. It is within easy reach of two packs of hounds. Shooting and fishing could be had near.—For further particulars, and to treat for the same, apply to H. J. Turner, Land Agent, Richmond, Yorkshire.

SCOTLAND.—WANTED, FURNISHED, on LEASE (Perthshire or Ross would be preferred), a gentleman's RESIDENCE, with gardens and pleasure-grounds, three reception rooms, and not less than four or five best bedrooms, besides servants' rooms, and the usual domestic offices, with Salmon Fishing and Shooting, or Fishing only, provided it be in the vicinity of a good river.—Replies, addressed to Holland and Sons, 23, Mount-street, Grosvenor-square, W.

TO be LET, in May next, DOLGORSELLWYN HALL and 16 acres, near Machynlleth, Montgomeryshire, newly built, with every modern requirement, together with shooting over about 2000 acres, and exclusive fishing in the salmon river Dovey, where it runs through the estate; about three miles strictly preserved.—Apply to Mr Bell Williams, 40, North John-street, Liverpool.

PIKE-FISHING WANTED for the next two months for TWO RODS, in a good preserve, within thirty miles, on the south side of London.—Address, with terms and full particulars, to E. Mappin, 67, King William-street, City.

HAMPSHIRE.—Good TROUT-FISHING in the best part of the old river Itchin, near Winchester, to be LET to a limited number; well-stocked with trout, and strictly preserved.—Apply, early, to Hammond, Fishing Tackle Maker, Winchester; where, also, rods and tackle, and flies suitable for the water can be obtained.

SALMON FISHING.—RIVER SHIN.—Good Accommodation for anglers may be had at Inveran, in the immediate vicinity of the river Shin, on application to Mr McArthur, Inveran, by Tain, Ross-shire.

SALMON and TROUT FISHERIES WANTED to RENT or PURCHASE.—Full particulars to be sent to Greene and Co., Fishmongers, 17, William-street, Dublin. Contracts made with the owners of fishings for any quantity of salmon, trout, &c.

THURSO RIVER, SALMON ANGLING.—A TICKET to be LET for the month of May, price 30l.—Apply to R. C. Musgrave, Brawl Castle, Halkirk, Caithness.

TO FISHERMEN and Others.—A Devonshire vicar, having no family, with a large house and stabling, seeks a companionable bachelor or widower to RESIDE with him. Salmon and trout-fishing to be had. Hounds near. Terms from 200l.—Address "Devon Vicar," Hatchards, Piccadilly.

TO be LET, a large and convenient modern HOUSE, called CLOMENDY, on the banks of the Dee, near Corwen, North Wales, within five minutes' walk of a railway station, and three hours from Manchester or Liverpool. Splendid Fishing and good Shooting to be had in the neighbourhood.—Apply to Walter Jones, Plas-yn-du, Corwen.

USK, Monmouthshire.—FISHING.—Tourists visiting the neighbourhood and gentlemen fond of fishing will find every accommodation with moderate charges, at the KING'S HEAD HOTEL. The beautiful river, so far famed for salmon and trout, runs through the land of the proprietor of the hotel, which is ten minutes' walk from the railway station. Ladies' and gentlemen's board and lodging: Terms, 1l. 1s. per week; attendance, 1s. 6d. per day; private sitting and bed room, 3s. per day. Fishing tickets procured.—James Jones, Proprietor.

THREE SALMONS HOTEL, Usk, Mon.—This Hotel is most advantageously situated for anglers, as well as for tourists generally, on the banks of one of the most celebrated salmon and trout streams in the kingdom, and within easy distance by rail and road of the far-famed ruins and picturesque scenery of Monmouthshire. The river is strictly preserved; and a limited number of salmon tickets, for the day, week, or month, may be secured at this hotel on moderate terms; also an unlimited number of trout tickets.—For terms and tariff of boarding charges, apply to S. Macfarlane, Proprietress.

COSTELLO FISHERY, County Galway.—The SALMON and WHITE TROUT FISHERY of the Law Life Assurance Society in the Upper Waters of the Costello Fishery to be LET. This extensive Fishery comprises among other lakes part of Glenicmurrin Lough, Lough Cloonadoon, and Lough Fermoyle.—Particulars may be obtained of Messrs Bockett and Co., Solicitors, 60, Lincoln's-inn-fields; or of J. G. Robinson, Esq., Ballynahinch Castle, *via* Galway.

FISHING SEASON.—To be LET, furnished, on reasonable terms, for three or five months, a RESIDENCE on the banks of the river Usk, with right of trout and salmon fishing. The house is dry and well situated, and contains three sitting-rooms and seven bedrooms, with all the usual offices, coach-house, and stabling, and two rooms for menservants.—Apply for further particulars to "G. H.," Post-office, Abergavenny.

FURNISHED HOUSE to be LET, with immediate possession. 10, Park-road, Haverstock-hill, consisting of drawing-room, dining-room, and breakfast-room, four bedrooms, three dressing-rooms, kitchen, and offices, coach-house and stabling for two horses, and good garden; pleasantly situated. Omnibuses pass for the Bank within two minutes' walk.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE, near the Wye.—To be LET, a moderate-sized FAMILY HOUSE, in the village of Newland, containing three sitting-rooms, four bedrooms, and four attics; and a cottage attached (suitable for a laundry); a good garden.—For particulars apply, prepaid, to Mr Thornton, Newland, near Coleford.

ONGAR and CHELMSFORD.—WANTED, in this locality, a FAMILY RESIDENCE, unfurnished, with not less than twelve or fifteen bedrooms, suitable reception rooms and offices, capital stabling for six or eight horses, &c., gardens, and meadow of from 15 to 30 acres would be sufficient, although more would not be objected to.—Particulars to "E. C. M.," at Messrs Thomas Fox and Co.'s Upholstery Warehouse, 77, Bishopsgate-street-within, E.C.

HERTFORD, WARE, or Adjacent Villages.—WANTED, an UNFURNISHED FAMILY HOUSE, in its own grounds, with coach-house and stabling for several horses; to contain six best, besides servants' bedrooms, four reception rooms, and offices.—Address particulars to Thomas Fox and Co., Upholsterers, &c., 77, Bishopsgate-street-within, E.C.

HOUSE and PARK.—WANTED to PURCHASE, a moderate-sized, handsome modern RESIDENCE, situated in a park or park-like grounds of from 60 to 100 acres: an elegant house, with good gardens and well-timbered pleasure-grounds, within 100 miles of London.—Address "H. J.," care of Messrs. Hawks and Willmott, Solicitors, 82, Borough.

A FREEHOLD MANSION to be SOLD. The elegant furniture may be had at a valuation. There are four reception rooms, two being 50ft. in length, eleven best bedrooms; stabling for eight horses and coach-houses for four carriages, suitable servants' offices; extensive ornamental grounds, with greenhouses, in all 28 acres; gravelly soil; near Sunningdale station, South-Western Railway, half a mile from Windsor Great Park, and fifty minutes' from the Waterloo station.—Apply to J. Bowen May, Esq., Solicitor, 67, Russell-square.

TO be LET.—A capital MANOR, seven miles from Bury St. Edmunds, comprising 2300 acres of good partridge shooting, including about 180 acres of covert; rent 200l.; yearly tenancy. A large, furnished MANSION, with coach-houses, stables, gardens, and paddock, in a good neighbourhood, with shooting over 1500 acres of land; rent 300l. a year. A gentleman's RESIDENCE, with excellent gardens, stables, coach-house, a gardener's cottage, and about five acres of pasture; possession at Midsummer; rent 100l a year; ten miles from Bury, and two and a half from Elmswell station.—For further particulars, apply to Messrs. Newson and Stanley, 2, Walbrook, E.C., and Bury St. Edmunds.

TO be LET, on a LEASE of five or six years, the mansion-house of CULROSS ABBEY, near the burgh town of Culross, beautifully situated on the northern bank of the river Forth. There are dining-room, drawing-room, picture gallery, ample bedroom accommodation, kitchen, and other conveniences. The garden is well stocked with small fruit, and the orchard with fruit-trees, which bear abundant crops. The house is only partially furnished, and several of the rooms are in an incomplete state, as regards papering, &c. Papering, painting, and other finishing will be done to meet the views of a tenant, and to such extent as may be agreed upon. Culross Abbey is about a mile and a half from the East Grange station on the Stirling and Dunfermline line of railway.—For particulars apply to Messrs Watson and Dickson, C.A., 3, North-street, David-street, Edinburgh.

SUSSEX.—To be SOLD or LET, a moderate-sized FAMILY RESIDENCE, situate in the most desirable part of the city of Chichester, comprising drawing and dining room, four bedrooms, dressing-room, two attics, good offices and garden, stable and coach-house attached; within an easy distance of two packs of foxhounds. The house is freehold and land-tax redeemed.—For particulars, apply to Hunter, Gwatkin, and Hunter, 9, New square, Lincoln's-inn, London; and Messrs Wright and Son, House Agents, Chichester.

EAST KENT.—To be LET, for three or seven years, with or without about 1200 acres of excellent shooting, BROOME MANSION, an Elizabethan manor-house of great beauty and in perfect repair, partly furnished, situate in the parish of Barham, distant seven miles from Canterbury, Dover, Folkestone, and Sandgate, one mile from the parish church, and one mile from the Adisham station on the London, Chatham, and Dover railway.—For further particulars, and to view, apply to Messrs Wightwick, Kingsford, and Brayne, Solicitors, Canterbury.

UPPER NUTWELL, near Exeter.—To be LET, for three, five, or seven years, from Lady-day, this excellent FAMILY RESIDENCE, in a pleasant neighbourhood and sheltered site, about two miles and a half from the Woodbury-road station, between Exeter and Exmouth. Contains large drawing-room, dining and breakfast rooms, five best and three secondary bedrooms, dressing-room, extensive domestic offices, four-stalled stable, double coach-house, harness-room, cowhouses, an excellent large well-stocked walled garden, and with or without a few fields.—For particulars, and cards to view, apply to Messrs Robert Dymond and Sons, Surveyors, Exeter.

COUNTY CORK, Ireland.—To be LET, 78 acres of first-class land, with the house, offices, garden, &c., of OLDTOWN. This will be found one of the most desirable places in the South of Ireland, beautifully situated on the river Aubeg, in the midst of a fox-hunting country, also, adjoining, a first-class Farm for any length of term, containing 186 acres prime land, suitable for grazing or tillage, and nearly all at present in grass. This would be well-suited to build on, and every encouragement given to a party so disposed. The entire will be found well worth the immediate attention of a person wishing for a good farm, with house, offices, &c. &c., in a nice neighbourhood, and fit for the reception of a gentleman's family.—Apply to R. Campion, Esq., Oldtown, Shanballymore, Ireland.

CORNWALL, near Bude.—To be LET, from Lady-day next, furnished, with piano and the use of a carriage if required, a good family HOUSE, in the parish of Morwenstow, two miles from the coast. The aspect is south, and the house commands most extensive land and sea views; there are four lofty sitting rooms on the ground floor, two of them, the dining and drawing-rooms, with windows opening out on the flower-garden, about 20ft. by 20ft., and six bedrooms over; there are besides three capital servants' bedrooms over the offices, which are compact and complete; good stabling, with coach-house, and all necessary outbuildings, kitchen and flower-gardens; any portion of 150 acres of land in a ring fence might be let with the house. Bideford, the nearest railway station is about eighteen miles distant, and Bude is within eight. Fishing in the neighbourhood, and shooting, if desired, over about 800 acres.—For further particulars, apply to the "Rev. W. V.," Chapel-House, near Stratton, Cornwall.

TO be LET, by the year, or for five years, THE FALLS, Kenmare, co. Kerry, Ireland. The Falls consists of a beautiful furnished villa, on the edge of the sea, with parlour, measuring 16 ft. by 16 ft.; drawing-room, which measures into the recess 20 ft. by 16 ft. (which has a large plate-glass bow window); four bedrooms, measuring 16 ft. by 16 ft.; a dressing-room, a water-closet, servants' rooms kitchen, servants' hall, scullery, dairy, larder, fowl-house, coach-house stable, dog-kennels, pumps, &c. There are also a lawn, kitchen and fruit garden, and grass for two cows. The house and premises are kept in repair by lessor. Also, with one or two trifling exceptions, the exclusive rod-fishing of the river Sheen, which discharges itself by a waterfall into the sea, about fifty yards from the house. There are over six miles of good fishing-ground, the river being about fifteen miles from its mouth to its source. An excellent road runs all along up the valley, within a quarter of a mile of the river. There are two keepers kept on the river by the lessor. Also, the exclusive shooting of 20,000 acres of mountains, valleys, and woods. About 400 head of game may be shot during the season, of grouse, snipe, woodcock, and hares. A keeper is kept on the hill by the lessor. Also, there is a four-oared pinnace, a lifeboat, and a punt attached to the place. The town of Kenmare, where all ordinary household requisites may be had, as well as medical advice, the Protestant and Catholic churches, post-office, &c., are within one mile of the Falls. The Falls is situated in the midst of some of the most beautiful scenery in Ireland. It is eighteen miles by an excellent level road from Headfort railway station, and twenty-one from Killarney. Kenmare is half way between Kenmare and Glengariff. Commencement of tenancy, Jan. '65.—Apply to J. Townsend Trench, Kenmare.

TO GENTLEMEN and TRAINERS.—To be LET, a TRAINER'S COTTAGE, and STABLING for eighteen horses.—For particulars apply, post paid, to Mr Kennard, Lambourne, Hungerford, Berks.

ESTATES AND FARMS.

Herts.—A pretty but inexpensive Freehold Cottage Residence and Gardens, about a mile and a half from Stevenage town and railway station, on the Great Northern line, on the outskirts of the picturesque and notedly healthy village of Graveley.

MESSRS DEBENHAM and TEWSON will SELL, at the Guildhall Coffeehouse, on Tuesday, March 7, at one punctually (unless previously disposed of by private contract), a Gentleman's Freehold Cottage Residence, know as HILLSBANK, in the parish of Graveley, having five bedrooms, dressing-rooms, three sitting-rooms, and offices; two-stall stable, coach-house, &c., neatly laid-out lawn, flower-garden, and productive kitchen-garden, about an acre and a half in all, bounded by a shrubbery walk and some well-grown trees. All in perfect order; gravel and chalk subsoil. Fine spring water.

Particulars, now ready, of Messrs Ingle and Goodby, Solicitors, 37, King William-street; and of the Auctioneers, 80, Cheapside.

Freehold Residence or Hunting Box, with small Paddock.

TO be SOLD by AUCTION, at the Cock Hotel, Stoney Stratford, on Thursday, Feb. 23, at five, p.m., a capital FREEHOLD RESIDENCE, standing in its own grounds, suitable for a gentleman's establishment on a moderate scale; containing dining, drawing, and breakfast rooms, or library, four bedrooms and a dressing-room, coach-house, stabling, with lofts over; lawn, shrubberies, conservatory, and an excellent walled kitchen garden, adjoining which is a convenient paddock, containing 3r. 17p., having buildings thereon capable of being converted at a small expense into stabling for four, or a coach-house stabling for two horses. The whole is most substantially built, is in complete repair, and situate within two miles of the Wolverton Station of the London and North-Western Railway, in the centre of the hunts of the Duke of Grafton and Mr Selby Lowndes, and within easy distance of Baron Rothschild's stag hounds.

Further particulars and cards to view may be obtained of John Worley, Esq., Solicitor, Stoney Stratford; or of Messrs Dudley and Son, Auctioneers and Land Agents, Winslow.

Upset prices greatly reduced.—Splendid and Valuable Highland Estates on the West Coast of Ross-shire, including Grazings, Deer Forests, Shootings, and Salmon-fishings.

THERE will be EXPOSED to PUBLIC ROUP, on Thursday, Feb. 23 next, 1865, at two o'clock afternoon, at Dowell's, 18, George-street, Edinburgh, if not previously disposed of by private bargain:

1. The estate of BRAEMORE, &c., extending to about 25,000 acres. Upset price, 55,000l.

2. The estate of AUCHENDREAN and MEALL DHU, &c. extending to from 12,000 to 13,000 acres. Upset price, 30,000l.

These estates have been fully described in former advertisements. The pasture, shootings, and fishings are of the very best description, and equal to any in the north of Scotland. If not sold, the Lodge and Shootings will be LET for next season. Rent, 1200l. Probable sport, 1000 brace of grouse and ptarmigan, 400 salmon, and from 15 to 25 stags, besides hares, woodcocks, &c.

Capt. Davidson, at Inverbroom Mains, will give directions for showing the estates. Lithographic plans and full particulars, can be obtained on application to Thomas Mansfield and Robert Spottiswoode, C.A., No. 7, Thistle-street, Edinburgh; or Messrs J. and R. J. Robertson, W.S., 11, Heriot-row, Edinburgh.

Isle of Wight.

FOR SALE, an excellent FREEHOLD SPORTING ESTATE, of 305 acres, with new farm-house of eight rooms, and about 160 acres tile-drained. Price, with possession, crops, &c., 7000l.

Address the proprietor, J. R. Haig, Esq., Union Club, London.

WANTED to PURCHASE, an ESTATE of 500 to 600 acres, with a gentlemanly RESIDENCE of moderate size. The southern counties preferred.—Apply, by letter, to Mr J. Smith, 16, Kirkgate, Bradford, Yorkshire.

FREEHOLD LAND.—To be SOLD, 440 acres, in one of the most healthy districts in England, thirty miles south-west of London, three from a station, but there will be one within a mile, and another probably within a few hundred yards; extensive frontage, with fine sites for villas or a mansion; gravelly soil. Price, including timber, 16,000l. Plots of not less than 20 acres, according to situation, three-fourths on mortgage.—Apply to the Messrs Watts, Land Agents, Rolls Chambers, 89, Chancery-lane, W.C.

ABERARDER, Inverness-shire.—This ESTATE, containing about 11,600 acres (of which about 850 acres are arable and the rest moor and pasture, on which the Shootings are excellent), with newly-erected mansion, all as recently fully advertised, is now for SALE by PRIVATE BARGAIN, at reduced prices, for the whole or the divisions separately.—Apply to Messrs. Stewart and Rule, Solicitors, Inverness; or Messrs Mackenzie and Fraser, W. S., 55, Frederick-street, Edinburgh.

BROOKS and SCHALLER, 25, Charles-street, St. James's, opposite the Junior United Service Club, (removed from Piccadilly).—The INDEX printed MONTHLY (first published in 1820) of ESTATES, country and town houses, manors, hunting quarters, shootings, and fishings, farms, &c., to be LET or SOLD, can be had (free) at their offices as above. Particulars for early publication must be forwarded before the 28th of any month.

MESSRS DEBENHAM and TEWSON'S FEBRUARY LIST of ESTATES and HOUSES, including landed estates, town and country residences, hunting and shooting quarters, farms, ground-rents, rent-charges, house property, and investments generally, may be obtained, free of charge, at their office, 80, Cheapside, E.C., or by post for one stamp. Particulars for insertion in the March List must be received by the 28th of February at latest.

MESSRS EDWIN SMITH and Co., Auctioneers and Land Agents, 302, Regent-street, W., beg to notify that they have a demand for SHOOTING and HUNTING QUARTERS, and solicit particulars, which they enter on their office registries, free of charge. Their extensive connection and central offices afford excellent facilities to trustees, executors, and solicitors for the disposal of every description of property. Valuations for probate duty and for railway compensation cases, by Messrs Edwin Smith and Co., Auctioneers and Valuers, 302, Regent-street, W.

TOWN and COUNTRY RESIDENCES. Mr JOHN F. LOCKWOOD'S printed LIST, containing full particulars of landed estates, country and town residences, hunting and shooting boxes, farms, &c., may be obtained free or forwarded by post on receipt of two stamps.—Offices, 21, Grosvenor-street, Grosvenor-square, W. Mr Lockwood solicits noblemen and gentlemen having properties for disposal to send him full particulars for insertion, for which no charge whatever is made except the usual commission in the event of his effecting a sale.

MR JAMES BEAL, 209, Piccadilly, W. Auctioneer and Estate Agent, begs to inform the nobility and gentry that his REGISTER of LANDED ESTATES, Country and Town Residences, Investments, Hunting Seats, Fishing and Shooting Quarters, Manors, &c., is published on the 1st of each month, and will be forwarded per post on receipt of stamp, or may be had on application at his Offices, 209, Piccadilly, W. Particulars intended for insertion in the next list, should be supplied as early as possible, and not later than the 26th inst.

West-end Offices, 31, St. James's-street, Piccadilly.
City Offices, 67, Chancery-lane. } London.

E. & H. LUMLEY'S "FREE PROPERTY REGISTER" (Established in 1853), *Five thousand copies* of which are circulated gratuitously every month, contains the particulars of nearly all the Landed Estates, Country Residences, Hunting Boxes, Fishing Quarters, Shootings, Farms, Manors, Advowsons, Town Houses and Investments generally now in the market.

The "FREE PROPERTY REGISTER" may be obtained *gratis*, at either of Messrs Lumley's Offices as above, or at the Bookstalls of the principal Railway Stations throughout the kingdom.

OWNERS of ESTATES, and LANDED and HOUSE PROPERTY GENERALLY, are informed that particulars will be in time for insertion in the next number of the "Register," if sent to either the West-end or City Offices previous to the 28th of the current month.

THERE IS NO CHARGE whatever for insertion, and the usual agency commission is only chargeable when business is actually effected through Messrs Lumley's instrumentality.

Free Property Register, Land, and Estate Offices, 67, Chancery-lane, and 31, St James's-street, Piccadilly, London.

RAILWAYS in PARLIAMENT for Session 1864-65.—LANDED PROPRIETORS wishing to have their PROPERTIES ARRANGED FOR, prior to the bills passing into Committee, can do so on application to Mr Geo. Fuller, Claimants' Surveyor, 18, Poultry, E.C.

COMPENSATION CASES AND SEVERANCE.

TO LANDED PROPRIETORS.—Mr GEO. FULLER, having given his particular attention to the above-mentioned valuations for a number of years since the passing of the Lands Clauses Act of 1845, begs to call the attention of those interested in the above important matters. Testimonials sent on application. Mr Geo. Fuller, will have pleasure in reporting the value in all cases, and advising thereon.—Estate and Timber Offices, 18, Poultry, E.C.

Valuable Equitable Life and Contingent Interests in Consols and Life Policies, and 10 Shares in the Rawcliffe Joint-Stock Stud Farm Company (Limited).

MESSRS FAREBROTHER, CLARK, and Co. will SELL by AUCTION, at Garraway's Coffee-house, Change-alley, London, on Wednesday, March 1, at twelve, by direction of his Honour the Master of the Rolls, in three lots.

Lot 1. THE EQUITABLE LIFE INTEREST, in possession of a gentleman who attained the age of 47 in January 1865, in the income of the sum of 20,000l. Consols and contingent interests, &c.

Lot 2. TWO POLICIES in the Royal Insurance-office, on the life of the above-named gentleman, for sums amounting to 8000l., effected in 1863

Lot 3. TEN SHARES of 100l. each, in the Rawcliffe Joint-Stock Stud Farm Company (Limited).

Particulars and other information may be obtained of Messrs Coleman, Turquand, Youngs, and Co., 16, Tokenhouse-yard, E.C.; Messrs Bridges, Sawtell, Heywood, and Ram, Solicitors, 23, Red Lion-square, W.C.; Messrs Cutler and Turner, 29, Bedford-square, W.C.; and of Messrs Farebrother, Clark, and Co., 5, Lancaster-place, Strand, W.C.

THE BEST FIELD GLASSES, SPORTSMEN'S TELESCOPES, &c. Smith, Beck, and Beck, 31, Cornhill, E.C., late 6, Coleman-street.

SMITH, BECK, and BECK'S GREEN-HOUSE and HOTBED THERMOMETERS. These instruments are of the very best construction, and at moderate prices.—31, Cornhill, E.C.

"FITZROY" BAROMETER, 21s.—Accurate, sensitive, and not easily deranged. We supply this invaluable instrument for 21s., mounted in elegant mahogany case and glass front.—Salom and Co., 98, Princes-street, Edinburgh.

EDINBURGH THERMOMETER (SALOM'S "ECONOMICAL"), beyond all question the cheapest self-registering thermometer in the world, is accurate, sensitive, and not easily deranged. The waterproof metal scales are enamelled, so as to be read in all lights. The degrees are engraved on each instrument independently, so that each thermometer is, in reality, a standard. Packed, and sent to any address, on receipt of the price, 4s.—Salom and Co., 98, Princes-street, Edinburgh.

THE CELEBRATED LORD BURY TELESCOPE, 3l. 10s., will distinguish a flagstaff at 23 miles, the name of a light ship at eight miles, and shot marks on a target at 1½ mile. Catalogue and testimonials sent cost free. Sole maker of this fine instrument, J. H. STEWARD, Optician to the National Rifle Association and Long Range Club, 406, Strand, W.C.

THE planets and double stars seen distinctly by a NEW TELESCOPE, for 5l., which will also distinguish the face of a sheep and the features of a man four miles, the sign of a public-house five miles, shot marks upon a target two miles, and time by a church clock ten miles. This instrument is guaranteed in writing to perform the whole of the above, and to be equal in the most important respects to telescopes costing 70l. It has a three-inch superior achromatic object glass, two eye pieces, &c., with portable metal tripod, and pillar stand with jointed claw feet. Persons are invited to apply for a diagram, with other particulars, and eight sheets of closely-printed testimonials from scientific and other gentlemen, including Lord Rosse. Sent free by book post.—S. and B. Solomons, Opticians to the Government, 39, Albemarle-street, Piccadilly. Powerful small pocket telescopes, opera, race, field, and general outdoor glasses.

"RECONNOITRER" GLASS, post-free, 10s.-10d. This tourist's and sportsman's favourite shows landscape distinctly at thirty miles, small windows ten miles off, Jupiter's moons, &c. The unequalled excellence and cheapness are due to extraordinary division of labour. "The reconnoitrer is very good."—Marquis of Carmarthen. "Most useful."—Lord Gifford. "Remarkably good."—Lord Garvagh. "It gives me complete satisfaction, and is wonderfully good."—Sir Digby Cayley. "I never before met an article so completely answering its maker's recommendation; nor, although I have tried many, a glass combining so much power for its size, with so much clearness."—F. H. Fawkes, Esq., of Farnley. "Effective on the 1000-yard range.—Capt. Sengley, Royal Small Arms Factory, Enfield. "We have carefully tried it, and found it fully equal to others which had cost more than four times its price."—Field. "What intending tourist will now start without such an indispensable companion to a pleasure trip?"—*Notes and Queries.* The "Hythe" Glass shows bullet marks at 1000 yards, 31s. 6d. Only to be had direct from Salom and Co., 98, Princes-street, Edinburgh. No agents.

STUD GREYHOUNDS.

BELLIGERENT, by Pugilist out of Desdemona: a limited number of bitches at 6 guineas. —Apply to W. Howse, South Bank, Runcorn.

GABRIEL (brother to Glendower), by David out of Gauzewing, at 5 guineas.—Apply to Charles Ridge, Wilton-terrace, Melton Mowbray.

RIENZI, and REFEREE (winner of the Druid Cup), by Judge out of Riot; at 7 guineas each. —Apply to William Waring, Springwood, Woolton, Liverpool.

MAMELUKE, a blue dog, by Mathematics out of Margaret, sister to Mildew, and is the sire of The Mummer, at 5l.—Application to be made to James Price, at The Greenway, near Cheltenham.

BRIGADIER (red), by Chesterfield out of Queen of Hearts, own brother to Bribery, at 5 guineas. He is a handsome dog, and winner of several stakes. For performances, see *Coursing Calendar*.—Apply to Alex. Grant, Mellerstain, Kelso, N.B.

WOODMAN (red), by Larriston out of Fan, from the celebrated blood of Mr Webb's Flirt. ["Woodman is a fast and clever son of Larriston."—Stonehenge.] At 5 guineas.—Apply to Mr E. Watton, Bridge-street, Worcester.

CANARADZO, winner of the Waterloo Cup in 1861, at 10l. 10s.; sire of King Death, winner of the Waterloo Cup, 1864, besides thirty-three other winners and runners-up this season.—Stands at Dalgig, New Cumnock, by Carlisle.

MONARCH, by Mustard out of Bride, at 5 guineas. Winners and dams of winners of a 32-dog stake, 3 guineas.—Apply to Mr A. M'Kenzie, Hoddesdon, Herts, within one mile of Broxbourne station on the Great Eastern Railway.

FELIX (fawn), by Sandy out of Just Decision, own brother to Fairwater; took the first prize at the Birmingham Show, 1864, winner of the Ashdown Cup, 1862, and runner-up at Amesbury (Just Decision is the dam of Fantail, winner of the Oaks at Ashdown, 1863); at 5l. 5s.—Apply to Mr Faulkner, Christ Church, Oxford.

GOLDEN HUE, black, at 5l. 5s., by Bonnie Laddie out of Golden Eye; Bonnie Laddie, by Bedlamite out of Swallow; Golden Eye, by Neville out of Black Fly, dam of Riot, &c. Ran twelve courses in public, and only lost two. Won three courses in the Waterloo Cup. A few bitches of approved blood at half price.—Apply to Mr J. W. Bourn, Cleobury Mortimer.

LISTON (late Slowcoach), the property of W. J. Legh, Esq., M.P., by Skyrocket out of Silkworm. For performances see Thacker. He is a red dog, weighing 65lb., of great bone and substance, and very fast. This is his third season. The first of his stock are Levity and Ladybird; the former dividing the Bitch Puppy Stakes, and the latter the Molyneux Stakes at the late Altcar meeting. Terms, 5 guineas.—Apply to Samuel Twiss, Dean Dam, Newton, near Warrington.

RAILROAD, at 5 guineas, by Speck, own brother to Hopmarket (Effort's dam), by Bedlamite out of Cerito (three times winner of the Waterloo Cup). Railroad's dam Sly, by Furious, was Sister to Gossip and Rowden's dam. Railroad is the sire of Dreamer, winner of the West Norfolk Cup (42 dogs), and divided the Lambourne Stakes at Ashdown with his brother Consideration; he is also the sire of Black Strap and Light-train. These puppies are the produce of the only two litters out.—Apply to James Stenning, The Beeches, Crawley, Sussex. The Beeches is two miles from Balcombe and four miles from Crawley stations.

EFFORT, by Larriston out of Hopmarket. At 5 guineas.—Apply to Charles Talbot, Idstone, near Shrivenham.
CANTAB, by Stanley out of Moneytaker. At 5 guineas. Apply to Edmond Lee, Dudding-hill Farm, Willesden, Middlesex (four miles from the Marble Arch).

SKYROCKET, by Blue Light out of Syncope, at 10 guineas.
SHOOTING STAR, by Skyrocket out of Cinderella, at 5 guineas.
SKYSCRAPER, by Skyrocket out of Shame, at 5 guineas.
Apply to H. Beale, Croxteth Kennels, near Liverpool.

SEA FOAM, white, by Beacon out of Scotland Yet, at 10 guineas.
SEACOMBE, blue and white, by Hermit out of Fly, at 7 guineas.
SEA ROCK, fawn, by Willow out of Fanna at 7 guineas.
Application to be made to Archibald Coke, Westfield House, Knotty Ash, within five miles of Liverpool.

COOROORAN (white).—This game, honest son of Beacon and Scotland Yet, will serve a limited number of bitches at 7 guineas for winners and dams of winners, all others 10 guineas. Also,
OSCAR, black ticked, by Jacobite out of Lothians' Queen, by Sam out of Sybil, Sybil by Drift, the sire of Wigan (sire of Scotland Yet) out of Moorland Meg, by Lord Eglinton's Waterloo.
Both dogs stationed at Woolmet, four miles from Edinburgh, and near the Millerhill and Portobello stations of the North British Railway, from Newcastle and Carlisle to Edinburgh.—Apply to Robert Murray, Woolmet, near Dalkeith, N.B.

THE KENNEL.

THE WEST NORFOLK FOXHOUNDS.

MESSRS TATTERSALL have been favoured with instructions to OFFER for SALE, at the end of April, unless previously disposed of, this well-known PACK of FOXHOUNDS, with the entire establishment of HORSES, &c., the property of Henry Villebois, Esq., who gives up the country at the end of the season. By permission of Messrs James and Newcombe Mason, the sale will take place at their farm, at Hendon, near London, in consequence of Messrs Tattersall having no accommodation for the hounds at their new establishment near Albert-gate, Hyde-park.

BEAGLES.—WANTED, THREE or FOUR COUPLES of first-class pure-bred BEAGLES, thoroughly broken, and well under command, good colour; 15 inches high. Any gentleman having the same to dispose of will please send full particulars to Mr A. Davis, Saddler, 72, Piccadilly, W.

HARRIERS for SALE.—A few Couples of young unentered HOUNDS from 19 to 21 inches high, of the best blood in England.—Apply, by letter, to "A. B." (No. 634). Field Office, 346, Strand, London, W.C.

HARRIERS.—For SALE, a first-class PACK, consisting of fifteen couples, and which has been established twenty-five years. They are all good hounds, and may be sold separately. WANTED, a HOUND of the Old Southern breed.—Apply, by letter, to "J. W. R." (No. 632), Field Office, 346, Strand, London, W.C.

FOX TERRIER for SALE, suitable for stud purposes, strong, well made, pure breed; will face anything; sire, Mr Wootton's celebrated Jock; colour white, tan ear.—Address T. H. Coleman, Arnold, Notts.

FOX TERRIERS.—Any gentleman WANTING true kennel TERRIERS, of Eclipse's blood, may hear of FOUR, nearly white, 5 months old, correct in courage and points, by applying to Mr Wootton, Daybrook Cottage, near Nottingham.

FOR SALE, a black-and-white SAPLING DOG, by Sea Foam out of Shamrock, dam of Grecian Girl, Geranium, &c.—Address G. E. Gorton, Newport House, Bolton.

GREYHOUNDS for SALE.—The entire KENNEL of a gentleman retiring from public coursing, consisting of brood bitches, running dogs (first and second season), and saplings. All first class, and will be sold without reserve.—For particulars apply by letter to "Slips" (No. 634), Field Office, 346, Strand, London, W.C.

YOUNG POINTERS.—FIVE BRACE of well-reared PUPPIES, from 9 to 12 months old, of the best possible pedigree.—Apply to Mr W. Brailsford, Ranton Abbey, Eccleshall.

POINTERS.—For SALE, three very handsome and well bred young POINTERS, 11 months old.—For pedigree, &c., apply to E. F. Rayne, Esq., West Barnes Park, Wimbledon.

STUD POINTER.—MAJOR, winner of the large size first prize at Birmingham, 1864. He is by Mr Bird's Bob out of the late Mr Gilbert's Bloomer; colour lemon and white.—Terms 5 guineas.—Apply to Mr W. S. Matthews, Hill House Farm, Tooting-common, five miles from London, on the Epsom-road.

STUD POINTER.—PETER, winner of the first prize at Islington and champion prize at Birmingham, and joint winner of champion prize at Newark and Nottingham, 1864.—Terms, 5 guineas.—Letters to be addressed to "J. S.," Box 50, Post-office, Lincoln.—Personal applications to be made to the Dolphin, Eastgate, Lincoln.

BLOOD RED IRISH SETTERS.—To be SOLD, BELLE, aged 4 years, winner of the second price at the Ashburnham dog show, 1863. FLIRT, neice of Belle. The former is well trained and excellent in the field. Both are unrivalled for colour, and are of the purest breed.—Apply to Colonel Baker, Croft Lodge, Cambridge.

RETRIEVER and SETTER for SALE.—The latter, handsome, perfectly broken, and steady, and used to grouse and partridge. The Retriever 18 months old, one of Lord Wenlock's breed; has been with an experienced keeper, and nearly broken; tender-mouthed and capital nose; a splendid dog, black, and good for water.—Address "D. D. D.," Oxford and Cambridge Club, Pall-Mall, London.

RETRIEVER.—For SALE, a fine handsome black DOG, 3 years old, invaluable; such a perfect dog for shooting purposes seldom met with; from the kennel of a nobleman; price 5l.—Apply to Mr J. Johnson, Coleshill, Warwickshire.

RETRIEVER.—A gentleman wishes to DISPOSE of a first-class black RETRIEVER DOG, has been thoroughly broken by a keeper, excellent nose, very tender with wounded game, and most obedient.—Apply by letter to "Sancho" (No. 614), Field Office, 346 Strand, W.C.

RETRIEVER (must be SOLD).—A handsome, curly-coated RETRIEVER DOG, 14 months old; has been shot over all the season; under good command, tender-mouthed, and first-rate for wildfowl. 80s will be taken.—Apply to "Z. Y. X.," Post-office, Llanelly, Carmarthenshire.

CLUMBER SPANIELS.—For SALE, in one or two lots, the property of Sir St. George Gore, SIX CLUMBER SPANIELS, of the very best blood in England, and regularly shot over. Some of the bitches took second prizes at Islington in the clumber spaniel team class. Price of the lot 50 guineas.
For SALE, THREE POINTERS and ONE black and tan SETTER (all dogs), of the very best quality, 15l each. TWO well tried KEEPER'S NIGHT DOGS, 10l each.—Address Mr Fielding, Hopton Hall, Wirksworth, Derbyshire.

STUD BLACK-AND-TAN TERRIERS. —DANDY, winner of 15 first-prizes, weight 12lb; he is the best dog of his class in England. BRUM, weight 4lb., not to be equalled at his weight. Price, one guinea each.—Apply to Mr G. Fitter, 3, Hyde-park-corner, Nechells, near Birmingham.

TOY TERRIERS.—THREE first-class, long-coated, TOY TERRIER BITCHES, free from white; good at vermin. One blue short-backed, 17 months old, 4½lb, 6l. 10s. One grizzle-tanned, 15 months old, 4½lb, 6l. One grizzle-tanned, 9 months old, 5½lb, 5l. All very handsome and well bred.—Address No. 33, box, Post-office, Sheffield.

ON SALE, a LITTER of DEERHOUND PUPPIES, very cheap.—Apply to Rev. T. Openshaw, Kentisbury, Barnstaple.

DEERHOUND DOG.—WANTED to PURCHASE. Must be 32 inches at the shoulder, and for which a liberal price will be given.—Apply to Mr Wootton, Daybrook Cottage, near Nottingham.

WANTED, TWO or THREE COUPLES of OTTER HOUNDS that have been regularly used and trained to the animal; the pure rough-haired breed preferred.—Apply to "J. W., Esq.," Worthy Kennels, Winchester, Hants.

MOUNT ST. BERNARD BITCH for SALE; young, very docile.—To be seen at Mr Green's Veterinary Establishment, Skelton-street, Greenwich.

FOR SALE, a BLOODHOUND BITCH, 2 years old, of good pedigree. Also, FIVE VOLUMES of "BOXIANA," quite as good as new, strongly bound containing all the original portraits, and the celebrated sketch of the Fives Court, by George Cruikshank.—Apply, "C. C." 2, Victoria Cottages, Aldershott.

FOR SALE.—Black WOLFHOUND PUPPY, price 4 guineas; sandy DEERHOUND BITCH, pure breed, 12l; also one of her puppies (bitch) by Wolfhound dog, all as advertised in The Field, Feb. 4.—Apply to G. Graham, 6, Queen's Parade, Cheltenham.

DOGS for SALE.—A handsome King Charles Spaniel Dog, 18 months old; white Scotch Terrier Bitch, 7½lb. weight; white Bull Terrier Bitch, 8lb.; and three handsome brindle Bull Terrier Dogs, all of the best blood.—For further particulars apply to "H. S.," Post-office, High Wycombe, Bucks.

DOGS for SALE.—FOUR LITTERS of PUPS, viz., Retrievers, Pugs, King Charles Spaniels, and Maltese, all from first-prize stock. Also, some very good black-and-tan Terriers, Bulldogs, Bull-Terriers, Skye-Terriers. Two very handsome Dalmatian Pups, over distemper. Stock dogs of all kinds kept, and country orders attended to. —Address Wm. M'Donald, Cremorne Arms, Chelsea (late of 27, Long-acre).

DOGS for SALE.—A fine, large, and remarkably handsome jet-black NEWFOUNDLAND DOG, aged 18 months; will fetch and carry any distance either by land or water, is a capital watch and guard, and very tricky and docile. Also a fine large and exceedingly handsome rough-coated fawn-coloured DEERHOUND DOG, aged 2 years; been entered to deer and of very high pedigree. Likewise a very handsome well-marked liver-and-white RETRIEVING SUSSEX SPANIEL DOG PUPPY, aged 10 months; will fetch and carry, and take water freely; is a very promising puppy, and warranted over the distemper.—Apply to "W. S.," 10, Brewer-street, Blenheim-street, King's-road, Chelsea.

DOGS for SALE.—Two of the handsomest long-coated, small, silver-blue ISLE of SKYE TERRIERS in England, dog and bitch, aged 15 months, and of the purest, gamest, and best breed. Likewise an exceedingly handsome dark-blue grizzle DANDY DINMONT TERRIER DOG, aged 17 months; very game, a fine specimen, and very scarce. Will all fetch and carry, are famous rat-destroyers, and will kill any description of vermin, good house dogs, and very tricky. Also, a beautiful small, white POMERANIAN FOX DOG, aged 20 months; a capital house dog, and very tricky.—Apply to "W. S.," 10, Brewer-street, Blenheim-street, King's-road, Chelsea.

Established upwards of One Hundred Years.

BUTLER and McCULLOCH invite the attention of sportsmen and others to their WORM POWDERS for DOGS, as a safe, speedy, and certain cure. The numerous testimonials received from all parts of the kingdom, conveying assurances of their valuable nature, both as a specific and alterative, are a convincing proof of the value of these powders. In packets, with full directions for use, price 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. each.—Butler and McCulloch, Covent-garden market.

WORMS in DOGS.—Sportsmen, look well to your dogs. No dog can be got into condition and fit for work if he has worms. NALDIRE'S WORM POWDERS are pronounced by hundreds of sportsmen to be the only safe and effectual remedy in use. In packets, 2s., 3s. 6d., and 5s. each.—To be had of Barclay and Sons, Farringdon-street, London; of Mr W. Whyte, 4, Marlborough-street, and Messrs George Oldham and Co., 107, Grafton-street, Dublin; of Raimes, Blanshard, and Co., Leith-walk, Edinburgh; and Raimes and Co., Hanover-street, Liverpool, Agents for Proprietor.

DOGS.—Upwards of thirty years' increasing demand proves the efficacy of BENBOW'S original ALTERATIVE MIXTURE for destroying worms, purifying the blood, and producing first-rate condition; recommended to exhibitors of dogs of every description for making their coats smooth and glossy. Its use has become universal throughout the principal kennels in the United Kingdom. The genuine mixture is a vegetable preparation, and may be administered at all seasons as a general medicine. For distemper it is the most effectual remedy. Sold in bottles, 2s., 5s., 10s., 20s., by all medicine vendors; wholesale by Benbow and Son, 12, Little Britain; agent for Dublin, Mr Whyte, 4, Marlboro'-street.

LANCASTER DOG MEDICINES.—INTERNAL CANKER in the DOG'S EAR.—A certain CURE for the above, price 2s. post free.
CARRUTHERS and BAGNALL, Chemists, Lancaster.
(From the Hon. C. P. F. Berkeley, M.P.)
"Old Park, Chichester, Feb. 23, 1863.
"Gentlemen,—Please to forward me your remedy for 'Internal Canker,' which has once before entirely cured a dog of mine. I inclose the 2s. in stamps, and remain yours, &c.—C. P. F. Berkeley.
"Messrs Carruthers and Bagnall."
WORM PILLS, a certain cure, 2s. per box, post free.
DISTEMPER PILLS, 2s. per box, post free.
ALTERATIVE COOLING POWDER, for dogs, 2s. per lb.
MANGE OINTMENT, an infallible specific for the cure of mange and reproducing hair; price 3s. per tin.
The LANCASTER WATERPROOF COMPOSITION, price 2s. per tin, renders boots or shoes completely waterproof.
Carruthers and Bagnall, Chemists, Lancaster. Agents: Whistler, 11, Strand, London; Whyte, Marlborough-street, Dublin; Blanch, Gunmaker, Liverpool; Lynch and Bateman, Chemists, Manchester.
Chemists can obtain the above from Barclay and Sons, Farringdon-street; or W. Sutton and Co., Bow Churchyard, London.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—WANTED, a very fine handsome NEWFOUNDLAND DOG, about 30 inches high, well-bred, black curly coat. Any gentleman having the above to dispose of will please send all particulars to Mr A. Davis, Saddler, 72, Piccadilly, W.

DOGS for SALE.—A. DAVIS, Saddle and Harness Maker, having been desired to open a registry for the mutual use of gentlemen only, wishing to buy or dispose of their dogs, has arranged to keep a REGISTRY of DOGS of all classes for SALE, from every part of the country. A. Davis will give every information and communicate between buyer and seller free of all charge. In case of a sale, 5 per cent. will be charged, which will include all expenses. A. Davis wishes to state that he does not undertake the keeping or warranty of any dogs sent to his registry, merely acting upon the information supplied to him by gentlemen. To avoid confusion, this branch will be confined to the establishment at 72, Piccadilly.

DOGS for SALE.—Entered in Mr A. Davis's REGISTRY of DOGS for SALE at 72, Piccadilly, where all particulars may be had as to price and owners.
(Note.—Gentlemen are respectfully requested to send full particulars and pedigree (if any) on a separate sheet of paper.)

		£	s.	d.
	RETRIEVERS.			
1.	Retriever, 14 months old, not broken, 27 inches ...	12	0	0
2.	Retriever, HECTOR, 3 years old, broken	10	10	0
3.	Retriever (bitch), 7 months old, by Wyndham, winner first prize at Cremorne and Birmingham	5	5	0
4.	Retriever, SAM, 11 months old, retrieves a little ..	3	3	0
5.	Retriever (dog), 12 months old, by Mr Joyse's Wyndham	5	5	0
6.	Retriever (bitch), small, two seasons	12	0	0
7.	Retriever, 2½ years old, good water dog	10	10	0
8.	Retriever (bitch) 3 years old, two seasons	12	12	0
9.	Retriever, 10 months old, shot over last season, from Lord Wenlock's breed	8	8	0
10.	Retriever, black curly, 3 years old, not broken, make a good companion............	4	4	0
11.	Retriever, black, Romney Marsh, thorough-bred, 4 years old............	8	0	0
	SETTERS.			
12.	Setter, Gordon, black and tan, 10 months old	7	7	0
13.	Setter (bitch), 3 years old, black and tan, broken	2	0	0
14.	Setters, two puppies, 12 months old, lemon and white, partly broken	21	0	0
15.	Setters, Red Irish (three bitches and two dog puppies), 4 months old, had distemper .. ...each	2	12	6
16.	Setter, white, broken, from Sir Watkin Wynn's kennels	5	5	0
17.	Setters, Red Irish, 3 years old, one brace (dog and bitch), by Mr Watts's Ranger out of Nelly, by Carlow out of Mona, broken .... the brace	15	0	0
	POINTERS.			
18.	Pointers, one brace (dog and bitch), 2½ years old, by Druid out of Doll, broken............	15	15	0
19.	Pointers, one brace (dog and bitch), five seasons, prize dogs	31	10	0
20.	Pointers, one brace (dog and bitch), 11 months old, not broken	8	8	0
21.	Pointers, one brace (dogs), 11 months old; not broken............	15	15	0
22.	Pointers, one brace (dogs), 10 months old, by a prize dog	15	15	0
23.	Pointer (bitch), 2 years old. Lord Derby's breed, one season............	7	0	0
24.	Pointer, 8 years old, 26½ inches, thoroughly broken, by Mr Antrobus's Mars out of Dido, by the late Lord Sefton's Beau out of Mr Parker's Minx, by Captain White's Monarch	21	0	0
25.	One dog puppy by the above............	10	10	0
	SPANIELS.			
26.	Spaniel, English, 2 years old, 23 inches across ears	5	0	0
27.	Spaniel, Springer (bitch), 18 months old, 22 inches	3	3	0
28.	Spaniels, one brace, 12 weeks old, black and tan...	2	10	0
29.	Spaniel (red bitch), 2 years old, broken, mute	2	12	6
30.	Spaniel (dog), 14 months old, mute	2	10	0
	and a Clumber Spaniel bitch	2	0	0
31.	Spaniel (bitch), 3 years old, two seasons, retrieves	3	3	0
32.	Spaniels (two dogs, one bitch), 2 months old, by Bob out of a bitch of Marquis of Anglesey's breed ....each	3	3	0
33.	Spaniels, same breed (dog and bitch), 2 months old;	8	8	0
	One liver and white, and one all liver-coloured bitches ....each	3	3	0
	GREYHOUND.			
34.	Greyhound (bitch), 4 years old	6	0	0
	BEAGLES.			
35.	Beagles, one brace (dog and bitch), hound marked, one season, between 12 and 13 inches	5	5	0
36.	Beagles (two bitches, black and white and tan, one season............	4	4	0
	One brace (dog and bitch), lemon and white, one season............	4	4	0
	One dog, wire-haired, three seasons............	2	2	0
	FOX-TERRIER.			
37.	Fox-terrier, broken-haired, 14 months old, 13 in...	1	1	0
	HARRIER AND FOXHOUND.			
38.	Cross-bred Harrier and Foxhound, 21 months old, 22 inches	3	3	0
	MASTIFF.			
39.	Mastiff (bitch), 10 months old, fawn colour, 26 inches, Baroness De Clifford's breed	5	0	0
	RUSSIAN BOARHOUNDS.			
40.	Two Russian Boarhound Pups (dogs), by Colonel Palmer's Sam, 12 weeks old ....each	5	5	0
	NEWFOUNDLANDS.			
41.	Newfoundland, 2 years old, very handsome	15	15	0
42.	Newfoundland bitch pup, 20 weeks old, 21 inches	2	10	0
	BULLDOG.			
43.	Bulldog, by Puss, 5 months old	3	0	0
	TERRIERS.			
44.	Bull Terrier Puppy, 7 months old, white............	4	0	0
45.	Bull Terrier Puppy, 4 months old, good blood......	1	5	0
46.	Bull Terrier (brindled fawn), 20 months old, 22lb..	1	10	0
47.	Bull Terrier Dog, 20 months old	4	0	0
48.	Terrier, English, retrieves, and been shot over ...	2	0	0
49.	Italian Greyhound, bitch and pup	2	0	0
50.	Terrier (black and tan), 18 months old, 16lb	2	10	0
51.	Terrier (black and tan), 9 months old, 10 inches ...	3	3	0
52.	Terrier (black and tan bitch), 3 years old	3	3	0
53.	Toy Terrier (black and tan), 5 years old, 5lb. exactly, very handsome, and a splendid stud dog and lady's pet	5	5	0
54.	Terrier (black and tan bitch), 7 months old, 4lb., perfect in markings and colour	4	0	0
55.	Skye Terrier Dog, 3 years old; about 14lb.	2	0	0
56.	Skye Terrier Dog, 15 months old, from Lord Macdonald's kennels	2	2	0
57.	Scotch Terrier, 18 months old, handsome	10	10	0
	PUGS.			
58.	Pug Bitch Puppy, 6 months old	4	0	0
59.	Pug Dog Puppy, 6 months old	6	0	0
60.	A gentleman can send a Pointer Bitch to the celebrated Ranger, by paying 2l. 2s., cost 5l. 5s.			

DOGS WANTED

(Note—In answer to these, only offers of dogs from Gentlemen can be entertained or entered on the Registry.)
Beagles, two or more small.
Beagles, about four couples; 13 to 15 inches.
Retriever, small black; warranted on land or water.
Retriever Puppy (dog).
Retriever, small black, unbroken, black and tan muzzle and feet.
Retrieving Spaniel, or a good small retrieving dog with a tender mouth.
Mount St. Bernard puppies.
Newfoundland, dogs, and dog and bitch pups.
Spaniel Puppies (not Clumbers).
Toy Terrier (black and tan), thorough-bred, about 4lb. or 5lb. weight.
Setters, Red Irish (two bitches and one dog), pure-bred, thoroughly broken, and pedigree required.
A Fawn-coloured Bull Terrrier Dog, about 13lb. or 14lb. weight.

DOG BISCUITS of superior quality. White, 14l.; Brown, 13l.; Scotch Oatmeal, 16l. to 18l.; Arabian Hound Meal, 17l.; Buffalo Meat Greaves, 13l.; Locust Beans, 7l. 10s.; Fennygreek, 12l.; the great secret for fattening and keeping cattle and sheep in health.—Apply to Vertue and Son, 90, High-street, Borough, S.E.

DOG BISCUITS—a superior quality, old ship stores, 14s. per cwt.; Hound Meal, 14s per cwt.; Indian Corn Meal, best quality, 11s. per cwt.; Oatmeal, 16s. per cwt. (a reduction in price by the ton); best Tallow Greaves, 18s. and 14s. per cwt., and extra quality of Biscuits for Pheasants; Mixed Corn, much recommended for poultry, 4s. 6d. per bushel; Chicken Rice, 10s. per cwt.; Pig Meal, 6l., 7l. 10s., and 9l. per ton.—Address, Robert Bartrop, Meal Stores, 176, High Holborn, W.C., near Drury-lane. Orders from unknown correspondents must be accompanied with cash.

DOG COLLARS, Muzzles, Whips, Greyhound Clothing, Whistles, Greyhound Slips, Ferret Muzzles, Ferret Bells, Coursing Collars and Slings, Fancy Toy Dog Collars and Bells, Leather Dog Leaders, Kennel Chains, Hunting Whips, Spurs, Bits, &c., &c. A. DAVIS, has the largest and best assorted stock of the above articles in England at very low prices. Manufacturer of Saddlery, Harness, Horse Clothing, Brushes, &c.; Hunting Horns in Bell Metal and Electro-plated, Leather Gun Cases, Drinking Flasks in great variety for the pocket and saddle; Sandwich Cases and Drinking Flasks in leather cases for hunting, &c.—Price lists on application to A. Davis, 33, Strand, 72, Piccadilly, Agricultural Hall, Islington, and Aldershott.

TO VETERINARY SURGEONS.—In consequence of the death of a Veterinary Surgeon, in good practice in the town of Wrexham and neighbourhood, the HOUSE, STABLES, and PREMISES are to be LET. The stables were erected by the deceased with every convenience for carrying on his practice. A respectable duly qualified practitioner would be introduced to the business connection.—Apply to Mr John Bury, Estate Agent, Wrexham.

POULTRY AND PIGEONS.

WIGTON POULTRY and PIGEON SHOW.
Patron—Sir Robert Brisco, Bart.
50l in Premiums and Two Silver Cups.
The ANNUAL SHOW of POULTRY, PIGEONS, and EGGS, will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 4 and 5. Schedules are now ready, and may be had of the Secretary, Mr Joseph Hall, King-street, Wigton.

PERIODICAL SALE OF POULTRY AND PIGEONS.

MR J. C. STEVENS will SELL by AUCTION, at his Great Rooms, 38 King-street, Covent-garden, on Tuesday, Feb. 21, at Twelve o'clock precisely, about 300 PENS of POULTRY and PIGEONS and RABBITS; comprising most of the known varieties from the yards and lofts of Miss South, G. Manning, Esq., J. J. Stainton, Esq., and other well-known breeders and exhibitors.—On view the morning of sale, and catalogues had.

BIRMINGHAM PERIODICAL POULTRY and PIGEON SALES.—The sale on Tuesday next, Feb. 21, at the Odd Fellows' Hall, Upper Temple-street, will include about 500 Cochin, Dorking, Hamburgh, Spanish, Game, Crèvecœur, and other Fowls, Turkeys, Peafowls, and Ducks. Also, about forty lots of valuable Pigeons, from most eminent breeders. Also some excellent Wire Pens and Hurdles, suitable for a poultry fancier.—John B. Lythall, Auctioneer. Sale to commence at eleven o'clock. Catalogues may be obtained on application at the offices, 13, Temple-street, Birmingham.

SPANISH FOWLS.—A gentleman has THREE first-rate white-faced SPANISH COCKS which he would part with very cheap.—Address to "C. C.," Union Society, Oxford.

POULTRY.—A gentleman wishing to DISPOSE of two handsome, well-bred, black SPANISH COCKS, will be happy to take others (Black Spanish) in EXCHANGE, or to SELL them.—Apply to Isaac Whitemay, Torne Abbey, Torquay.

POULTRY for SALE.—Mr FIELDING has a surplus STOCK of POULTRY to DISPOSE of, from the yard of Sir St. George Gore. Coloured and White Dorkings, Black Red, Brown Red, and Duckwing, Game, Hamburghs, Rouen, 10s. each; Black East Indian, 10s. each; White Call, 10s. a pair; and tame-bred wild ducks, 10s. a pair. Notice to correspondents—Mr Fielding does not supply sittings of eggs.—Hopton Hall, Wirksworth, Derbyshire.

BLACK-BREASTED RED GAME BANTAMS.—Mr JAMES MUNNS has for SALE Cockerels and Pullets (from 20s. each upwards) of the same strain as his winners of the silver cup at Kendal, and first prize in the Single Cock class at the same show; silver cups in both classes at Bradford, and numerous other prizes at Kendal, Bradford, Manchester, Whitehaven, Islington, &c.—Shawclough, Newchurch, near Manchester.

ROUEN DUCKS.—WANTED, ONE first-class exhibition DRAKE and TWO DUCKS; the Drake to weigh from 9½lb. to 10lb. Also, a first class pen of La Flèche Fowls.—Address Mr Fielding, Hopton Hall, Wirksworth, Derbyshire.

EGGS and BIRDS, from the yards of Francis R. Pease, to be DISPOSED OF. List of prices and all particulars may be had on application to W. Gray, 89, Northgate, Darlington.

EGGS for SITTING.—Mr W. MASSEY can now supply EGGS at 6d. each from his Spanish and Buff Cochins. The stock are selected birds, comprising the best strains in the kingdom. WANTED, a good pen of White-crested BLACK POLANDS.—Haverhill House, Gedney, near Wisbeach.

MR. R. W. BOYLE, the winner of silver cups and first prizes at the leading shows, will DISPOSE of a limited number of SITTINGS of EGGS from the undermentioned breeds: Dark Brahmas, Coloured Dorkings, Spanish, Rouen Ducks, and White Cochins, at one guinea per dozen; also from Toulouse Geese and Cambridge Turkeys, at two guineas per dozen. A few selected birds from above varieties on SALE.—Apply to F. Wragg, Rosemount, Dundrum, Dublin.

EGGS from Prize Poultry of the following varieties: Black Spanish, Buff and Partridge Cochins, all the varieties of Hamburghs, Game Fowl, and Game Bantams, Black, White, and Laced Bantams, and East India Ducks, 6s. 6d. per dozen. A few birds of all the above varieties. Black, Gold, and Silver Polands; Rouen, Domesticated Wild, Teal, Brown and White Call Ducks. Specially one pen each large Cambridge Turkeys of 1864, 4l. 4s; White Game Fowl, 3l.; Brown Red Game Fowl, 3l. A tame Fox and Kennel, and a few Fancy Pigeons.—E. Hutton, Pudsey, Yorkshire.

EGGS from the PRIZE POULTRY of Miss EMILY and Mr HENRY BELDON, at 6s. 6d. per dozen, package included. The stock consists of winners of silver cups, and prizes at almost every exhibition in the kingdom. The varieties are—Gold and Silver Spangled and Pencilled and Black Hamburghs, Gold and Silver and White-crested Black Polands, Black and Brown-breasted Red and Duckwing Game, Grey Dorkings, Black Spanish, Buff Cochins, Dark Brahmas, White, Black, and Game Bantams, Aylesbury and Rouen Ducks. N.B. A few BIRDS for SALE of all the above varieties, and some first-rate PIGEONS.—Application to be made to Mr Henry Beldon, Gilstead, Bingley, Yorkshire.

CUP and first-prize SPANISH and ROUEN DUCK EGGS for SALE.—Mr JOHN RODBARD, of Aldwick Court, Wrington, near Bristol, having taken silver cups with his Spanish fowls in 1864, at Jedburgh, Bath and West of England, and Newcastle-on-Tyne, and first prizes at Islington, Kendal, Halifax, Howden, and Manchester and Liverpool Agricultural Shows, has EGGS for SALE from cup and first-prize birds, at 1l 1s per dozen; Rouen Duck eggs from cup and first-prize birds, at the Bath and West of England and Darlington shows, at 12s. per dozen; and Partridge Cochin China eggs, from first-prize birds at the Bath and West of England and Yorkshire Agricultural shows (Cartwright and Hodgson strain), 16s. per dozen, and 1s. the box.—Post-office Orders payable on Wrington.

TWO FEMALE SWANS, 2 years old, and a large MALE BIRD of this year, to be SOLD, or Pea Fowl taken in exchange.—Apply to Henry Cooper, Poultry Keeper, Hexton House, Ampthill, Beds.

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TO ANGLERS.—Messrs EATON and DELLER, 6 and 7, Crooked-lane, London-bridge, E.C., Manufacturers of first-class Salmon and Trout RODS, Winches, Lines, choice Salmon Gut, Flies of every description for Norway and other salmon-fishing. Salmon and Trout Flies dressed to pattern. Ronald's Fly Cases, containing specimen flies for each month, with suitable entomological extracts complete, one guinea. Phillips's Limerick Hooks.

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JAMES DEWHIRST, Secretary.

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HENRY ELLIOTT.—(1) We have not experimented with No. 4 shot sufficiently to answer your question. (2) With No 6, the number of pellets striking the surface you mention (14½in. by 11in.) should be from twenty-five to thirty-five, and the penetration from thirty to forty sheets, the latter number being very rarely attained.

A SUBSCRIBER.—(1) The Hares Killing Act, which permits occupiers of land to kill hares without a certificate, was passed on the 22nd of July, 1848. (2) The Game Licences Act, by which a licence is forfeited on conviction of the holder of it, was passed on the 13th of August 1860. (3) The latter was published in our columns, but not the former, as THE FIELD was not in existence at the time of the passing of the Act.

REMEX.—(1) The paper used by us in last year's trials was obtained from Messrs Pettitt, 23, Frith-street, Soho. It is known as D Imperial Brown, 140lb. per ream. (2) It should be hung against a smooth surface, but not nailed to it. (3) An average gun will penetrate from 30 to 35 sheets, but the paper varies a good deal, and we have generally confined our trials to paper of which forty sheets, one-eighth the size of the full sheet, will weigh from 20 to 22 ounces. (4) Mr Dougall's theory is opposed to the practice of every other gunmaker with whom we are acquainted, and is easily disproved by experiments which we shall be happy to describe to you, if you wish to satisfy yourself by repeating them.

BEES.

C. L. B.—There is no work that contains directions for the proper management of the Stewarton hives. We believe that they will be found in Mr Tegetmeier's work, which is announced as nearly ready.

COURSING.

A SUBSCRIBER.—Lady, the dam of Rebe, is by Kentish Fire—Tiney; the latter being own sister to Linnet.

J. S. (Stamfordham).—Thanks for your report, which we should have been glad to publish, had it reached us in time to appear with the return we gave in our last impression.

ANGLING.

SPERO MELIORA.—Not the slightest chance of it, unless you belong to some club, rent a water, or can obtain permission from some person holding water.

AQUATICS.

TRIREME.—We know of no book specially devoted to the subject, but an hour's practical demonstration would, we fancy, be the best way for you to learn. No papers on sailing or yachting have appeared in THE FIELD; but the "Sailing Boat," by H. C. Folkard (Longmans), would no doubt prove of service to you.

THE NATURALIST.

SECUNDA.—Silkworms feed freely on lettuce leaves, and very reluctantly on black currant; mulberry is most unquestionably the proper food.

A MUFF.—The habit of the grebes to pick feathers off the surface of the water and swallow them, has been observed by very many naturalists, and has excited much discussion, but the object is not very obvious. We do not consider you "a muff" because you are unable to solve a problem that has puzzled many a learned brain.

W. K. S.—There are two *forms* (as naturalists now call them) of weasels in Britain; one is fully a third larger than the other. Some writers have contended that the discrepancy in size is sexual, and that the larger individuals were males. Others have as confidently stated they are females; but this point is not settled. An idea prevails in some counties that the smaller weasels prey exclusively on mice, the larger on rats, and hence they are respectively called mouse-weasels and rat-weasels.

COUNTRY HOUSE.

A. D.—Your letter can only appear as an advertisement.

TRUFFLE.—The hard, dark substance in *pâte de foie gras* is truffle.

A SUBSCRIBER.—Drive her in a ring snaffle.

POULTRY.

INCUBATOR.—We refer you to our advertising columns.

GALLUS.—Give her a grain of calomel, and five grains of jalap.

WHITE DUCK.—You will always find announcements in our advertising columns.

H. B. S.—Eggs exposed to the severe frost are not to be depended for producing chickens. A slight degree of frost does not injure them. Try Routledge's or Baily's treatises.

GARDEN.

F. M. J.—Try the *Florist and Pomologist*, is monthly, published at 131, Fleet-street, and see if it suits you. If it does not, write again, stating fully your requirements.

CANINE.

WINDHAM.—Keep the dog muzzled, and the wound will soon heal.

G. B.—There is reason to believe that the stain might appear in subsequent litters, but the question is not positively settled.

F. R. B.—The black hairs in the flag and tips of the ears of the Irish setter are signs of a cross with the Gordon. The black nose is not so objectionable.

A. L.—You are quite right in supposing that brimstone is perfectly insoluble in water, and therefore innocent of any effect, either good or bad, when a lump is placed in a dog's drinking-trough.

SKYLARK.—(1) Your description is too indefinite for us to decide whether they are ticks or lice. In either case white precipitate will destroy them. It should be rubbed in as a dry powder, and after six hours brushed out, the dog being muzzled in the interval. (2) They must have been caught from other dogs.

CANIS.—You had better consult the descriptions of dumb madness in the various works on diseases of the dog. The opinions of correspondents would only be valuable on this subject if they had specially devoted themselves to the diseases of the dog.

VETERINARIAN.

COSMOS.—(1) Apply a lotion consisting of 1oz. of tincture of arnica in a pint of water. (2) There would be no harm in so doing.

FARMER.—They contain aloes and calomel. Never give medicine to your horses unless they require it; then the kind of physic to be administered beyond the ordinary "physic ball," can only be determined by a veterinarian.

MILES.—The complaint is the mange. Dress the parts twice weekly with an ointment consisting of 1 drachm of iodide of sulphur to 1 ounce of lard; and give one dose of 2 ounces of Epsom salts.

INDEX TO VOL. XXIV.

THE Cover and Index for Vol. XXIV. are now ready, and may be had a THE FIELD Office. Covers, 3*s*.; Indices, 6*d*. each.

THE SCOTCH SALMON-FISHERIES.

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mr Francis Francis, is about to proceed to Scotland to report upon the spring salmon-fisheries. Any advice, hints, or permissions to fish or to inspect waters, which any of our correspondents may have it in their power to give him, we shall thankfully receive.

THE FIELD.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1865.

THE HORSE-DEALER'S BUSINESS.

WE REMEMBER the time when a horse-dealer's yard was a place to be avoided by all possible means; when nothing but the absolute necessity for a horse, which exists mainly among doctors and hunting-men, could be regarded as an excuse for such an act of foolhardiness. There was no such thing as a timid old gentleman, in search of a cob to carry him, to be found inspecting stables in Oxford-street or Piccadilly. The embryo horsekeeper from a university or a bank-parlour, was compelled to listen to the most marvellous accounts of rascality, and was satiated with pamphlets on the infallible traps laid by dealers, before he could be trusted up a mews by his mamma, in search of what she had already permitted him to purchase. We never had these extraordinary misgivings ourselves, and have somehow succeeded in finding (even in these recondite ages) men sufficiently honest for our purpose; but it is not too much to say that some years ago the general impression on the mind of the public was highly unfavourable to the horse-dealing fraternity. It was not that you were likely to pay for your whistle about twice as much as the whistle is worth, for that, indeed, is the admitted fact of the present day; but that the whistle would not play, be it blown ever so skilfully. We confess to an uncomfortable indigestion attacking us when we find ourselves at dinner next to a gentleman with exactly the thing to suit us, "*not exactly for sale*." But we are happy to inform the horse-buyers, whose name is now "legion," that there is at all events a very large class of tradesmen who are at least as honest as tradesmen in general, and whose wares, if costly, answer the purpose for which they are bought. That there are plenty of copers and robbers in this business, as well as in every other, is perfectly patent: but when we consider the amazing opportunities given them, by the credulity of some, the ignorance of many, and the assumption of knowledge by others, we are inclined to hold up our hands in astonishment, and exclaim with the great Indian peculator, who said, "By heavens! when I think of the temptation, I am astounded at my forbearance."

There can be no doubt that at some period of our lives this general impression was mainly correct. Not only in nineteen yards out of twenty were you paying fifty or one hundred per cent. above the market value of what you were buying; but the worst of it all was that, the horse being bought, he was found to be either actually infected with half the diseases to which his flesh is heir, or certainly subject to them, with every prospect of their shortly exhibiting themselves. And then there was no redress! It was not the case of a good sound horse, returnable because he did not answer his purpose, and (at a certain loss to you) still profitable in a dealer's hands. But he was so palpably unsound and unsaleable that, once out of the stable, no dealer was fool enough to have him back again, and many preferred the glorious uncertainty of a court of law.

It is obvious to men whose occupation or pleasure lead them into the horse market, that this state of things is very much altered for the better. Where is that cumbersome piece of machinery called a warranty? If such things are asked for occasionally from respectable dealers, they are always couched in such simple and comprehensive terms as to give no trouble in putting doubts to flight and squabbling on one side. *Sound in every respect.* The fact is, the growth of a well-educated class of professional veterinary surgeons owes its rise to the absolute necessity of strict examination before venturing upon a deal. No man considered himself safe, so everybody was glad to give his half-sovereign for a professional opinion. That these were not quite correct in all cases, we have reason to know; but, at all events, the examination and declaration sufficed to take the "onus" from the shoulders of the dealers, and to satisfy the purchaser that, if he was taken in, it was neither by his own folly nor another's rascality, but rather by a page of that chapter of accidents which happen in all undertakings of the kind.

When a man buys a horse of a professional dealer at the present day, he has regard, not only to the horse he wants, but to the price he wishes to pay for him. He knows, if he knows anything about the matter (and if he does not, he had better employ some one who does), that if he attempt to buy a fourpenny loaf for twopence, it must be a stale one. In these days of wealth, vanity, and competition, there is a customer for every class of horse, except the rank bad one, and more than a fair price to be given for him. If, then, he places himself in the hands of a leviathan dealer, he does so with his eyes open—with the certainty that he will have to pay an enormous price, a price far above the, to him, abstract value of the horse, though not, perhaps, above the marketable one. This being done with his eyes open, no blame can attach to the dealer that he takes three hundred from his customer for a hundred-and-fifty-guinea horse; provided only that he really is what he has been represented to be. Price now seems to be so enormous, and the supply of first-rate horses so exceedingly below the demand, that no judgment can be formed of the money value of the article. We constantly hear the argument adduced, as against a dealer, that he only gave two hundred, and now demands four. This is not a cause of complaint, for the dealer is certainly guided in his demands by the market itself, ruled, in this case, by the wealth or inclinations of his customers. It is a rare case to hear that a respectable dealer, or one in a respectable position we should say, has been guilty of a deliberate imposition upon a customer. With the question of price this has nothing to do.

But there is one flaw, to call it by a mild term, in the dealings of some of the highest class sellers, which deserves to be exposed. It is the sale of a high-priced horse, with the almost moral certainty that he will come back again: in which case no money will be returned, but another deal entered into, perhaps no more profitable to the buyer than the first. This has been known to take place to such an extent in certain yards, *that several hundred pounds* have been turned on some horses, over and above the original price for which they were sold. There was, and there may be now, in a Cheshire stud, as we were given to understand, a horse, originally sold for four hundred, at a profit of two hundred and fifty. He has been into the same dealer's hands several times, and the calculated profit upon him is now about twelve hundred pounds, plus the original sale. We cannot vouch for the truth of this, because we have the figures only at second-hand; but we would ask for confirmation of the principle from the numberless noblemen and gentlemen who are compelled to buy in the same fashion, and who really have not courage to go through the money value of half their horses. We do not commend this system, we should be glad to see it come to an end; but the cry from the bitten ones is "How shall we get out?" Simply enough. Insist universally upon a return of cash, if but two-thirds of the price paid, and the consequent liberty of dealing in another market. It would then be the interest of the dealer to suit his customer with his first venture. Under the present custom, this is certainly not the case.

We have been led to our remarks by the wonderful sale of the late Mr Anderson's horses. The entire business has been dealt with in our columns of last week, and needs no repetition to give it interest. All we say is, where are the farmers and breeders, when a gentleman's hack fetches six hundred guineas at the hammer?

SO MUCH PER CENT.

A TOPIC has recently been mooted in the columns of the *Times*, which, had it been started by any correspondent of less dignity than a noble duke, would in all probability have either been consigned forthwith to the "Balaam box," or relegated for the Parliamentary session to some official limbo, there to await, in the congenial company of the great Penny-to-the-waiter question, the Hotel Charges question, the *Diner à la Russe* question, and the How-to-live-on-three-hundred-a-year question, the return of the Silly Season. We refer, of course, to the question just started by his Grace the Duke of Sutherland as to how far the little transactions between West-end tradesmen and the upper servants in large and wealthy households, as to percentages allowed on purchases, are justifiable.

The Duke of Sutherland seems, somehow or other, to have arrived at the conclusion that he is being robbed by his servants; or, to put a milder face upon it, that for every pound expended in his large household a certain toll or mulct is levied by virtue of the arrangements of which he complains. How this discovery came upon him we do not learn. Whether he arrived at it by slow conclusions, and careful divings and delvings into his steward's and butler's books, we do not know; or whether the great truth burst upon him on a sudden, and, like Timon of Athens, he passed suddenly from the extreme of confidence in the honesty of human nature to the conviction that all men are rogues, is not, perhaps, important to know. Anyhow, the Duke of Sutherland has announced it to be his intention to stand this no longer; and as the Duke is known to be a very energetic man—good at the putting out of fires, and so forth—it is more than likely that he will, at any rate, have "a good try" for it; but whether he will succeed or not, whether the great reformer of Stafford House will accomplish that which sages, philosophers, and statesmen have striven for in vain, whether he will in the end gain a victory over what Mr Thackeray used to call "the awful Areopagus of the servants' hall," is a question which time and experience alone can solve, and for the solution of which we shall look with a curious, though doubtful eye.

We will take the liberty of stating, for the information of the duke, and all others whom it may concern, one or two reasons why we think the success of the experiment extremely problematical. In the first place, all experience is against it. To be sure, the Duke of Sutherland may be able to accomplish that which no man ever did before him; but when we come to consider how many men have been trying to do it, the chances are evidently against him. Counsel, learned in the law, may indite manuals and treatises full of useful information upon the relative positions of master and servant, but if there be one principle more established than another with regard to these very necessary relations of life, it is this, that a great man—a man who occupies a large position in life—must always, to a certain extent, be dependent upon his servants. This is one of the sacrifices which he pays for his wealth and position, and no man has ever yet discovered the means of avoiding it. A poor man may bully and screw down his servants or servant at his pleasure. So long as the accounts of his estate do not surpass the limits of a twopenny account-book, and he can do his own marketing himself, he may avoid being cheated. A rich man cannot do this; he must be content to accept the world as it is, to remember that his servants serve him at least as much for their own profit as his convenience, that service is no inheritance, and that, if he is to lead a quiet life and enjoy the benefits of his riches, he must be content to share some portion of them, over and above the stipulated wages, with the "confidential" servants about him who minister to his comforts and conduct the expenditure of his household. That great men have been dependent, even in the most important matters, upon their servants, has been notorious from all time. When that great pastor-chieftain of Chaldea—Abraham—wanted to select a wife for his son and heir, upon whom did he rely? Being far too great and important a personage to go himself into Mesopotamia and seek for the required damsel among the daughters of the land, he confided the delicate matter to his servant—"the eldest servant of his house, *that ruled over all he had*." So has it been, in one form or other, from all time. The wealthy and cultivated Greeks and Romans complained of this bondage to their slaves in a semi-humorous fashion; and the practices of servants upon their masters supplied many a comic touch to Terence, Plautus, and Aristophanes. The Romans had apparently much more power over their servants than the Equites of the present day have: they could have them scourged, and, upon occasions, would order them off for execution; but the servants bullied them in a respectful way, and took their percentages notwithstanding. A great Roman magnate complained of the slave who presided over his kitchen, that he robbed him vilely, but where was he to get such another cook? No doubt the spectacle of the portly Mr Corkscrew being tied up in the servants' hall at Stafford House and receiving two dozen at the hands of John Thomas, would be novel and perhaps wholesome; but the Duke of Sutherland may take our word for it that, even had his order inherited this power from the ancient Romans, the percentages would be none the less. Corkscrew's back might be all the sorer; but to the demon of avarice would be added that of revenge, and the duke's cellars would suffer in consequence.

Let us consider for a moment how the duke can effectually carry out his proposed reform. To do it effectually, he must see after everything himself; for if he do not execute his own shopping, he *must* depend upon some one, and that some may insist upon percentages. Personally, then, he must see to the purchase of the fish, meat, vegetables, bread, wine, apparel, household utensils, and the thousand other things required for the maintenance of a great household. He must be sure that they are supplied to him of the best quality, at the market price, and of full weight or measure, and he must superintend the process entirely, for at any one of these links the system may fail. Here would be a pretty occupation for a noble duke! Here would be a sacrifice! What time would be left for enjoying the more dignified functions of his station: for attending to the legislature of the country in the House of Lords; for leading about Garibaldi; or even for putting out fires—we leave the duke to calculate. And all for what? For the sake of saving at the most a few hundred pounds. A gentleman once came upon the late Duke of Northumberland (even him who now lies dead in his princely Castle of Alnwick) and found him working like a clerk, with ledgers and bill-books and accounts and bankers' books around him. "Ah!" said the duke, with a sigh, "it gives me quite as much trouble to spend my money as it does others to make theirs." But the labours of the Duke of Northumberland, be it well understood, were not directed to the scrutiny of the butchers' and bakers' bills; they were employed upon the charitable expenditure of hundreds of thousands of pounds; of vast sums laid out in improving the physical, moral, and mental condition of his tenantry; in rendering the soil more fertile; in making roads and bridges where none were before; in building schools and churches at his own costs and charges; in founding sailors' homes and endowing life-boat stations; in a word, in doing good to all about him. These were labours worthy a prince.

Far be it from us to attempt to dissuade the Duke of Sutherland from endeavouring to do away with a system in favour of which nothing can be really urged from the moral point of view. By all means, if he can regenerate the world and make servants contented with that which is their legal due, he will do good work. Can he do it, however? Can he do it until the millenium have arrived? And even should he, by dint of vigilant personal supervision, manage to stop the percentages with regard to a part of his household, will even his energy and activity enable him to pervade the whole of his great establishment—or rather establishments? Should his vigilance get the better of the cellar and the kitchen, will not the still-room, or Mrs Housekeeper's parlour, be too much for him? And if these should confess themselves vanquished, how about the stables and the kitchen-garden? And even supposing that the possession of faculties rivalling those of Argus and Briareus in one, should enable him to carry out his reforms in Stafford House, still we imagine the sanguine duke would be as far off as ever from realising his idea in perfection; for Trentham, West Hill, Lilleshall, Tongue, and Dunrobin would still have to be watched, and each might require a separate duke to effect its reformation.

And then to push the argument just one step farther, let us suppose that the duke has really succeeded, at the sacrifice of all his time and personal convenience, in effecting the reformation, as far as he himself is concerned; how many of his order are likely to follow his example? Of all the correspondence which has appeared on this subject (and much of it is insufferably silly and stupid) there is but one letter which seems to us to shed much light upon the real gist of the matter, and it is so brief and so much to the point, that we cannot do better than quote it:

SIR,—A late dignitary of the Church, who had been rector of a West-end parish, used to tell the following story:—He had asked his fishmonger the price of a turbot; "A guinea." That being more than he meant to give, he passed on to something else. At that moment a man of respectable appearance made the same inquiry—"Twenty-five shillings." The rector, as in duty bound, asked his tradesman parishioner to account for this increased charge. The answer was, "That the man was Lord —— butler; that he (the fishmonger) would only

get the price originally asked; the difference was the butler's perquisite; and that if some such arrangement was not made with the upper servants of great families he should lose their custom. The rector thought it his further duty to call on his noble parishioner and state these facts. The reply was, "I am very much obliged to you for the interest you take in the matter, but the man suits me very well, and whether I pay a guinea or 25*s.* for a dish of fish is of less consequence to me than parting with him; so I shall pass it by."

The fishmonger and the butler were not the only persons to blame in this business, and it is probable that many masters encourage the dishonesty of such parties by unwillingness to suffer any inconvenience by change. S.

We should like to follow this instance a little farther, and to know whether, when the rector became a dignitary of the Church, he did or did not imitate the philosophy of his noble quondam parishioner, and leave to *his* butler the uninspected provision of the dish of fish.

It may seem a little beside the question, but as the Duke of Sutherland is taking the matter up, it may be as well to tell him that, according to the representations of the London tradesmen themselves, the accounts between themselves and their noble customers would be very much simplified, and would be settled greatly to the ultimate pecuniary advantage of the latter, if a more regular and timely system of settlement came into fashion. Rich men lose quite as much in the end by long-standing bills as they do by percentages, and this is especially true of those particular "little bills" which are referrible to the female part of the establishment. We cannot now do more than just hint at this branch of the subject, but it is really more intimately connected with the grievance of which the Duke of Sutherland complains than he may, at first sight, be inclined to suppose. We will merely cite the practice (as it has been told to us) of a late nobleman, who had the reputation of being one of the most just and regular paymasters breathing—we refer to the late Lord Fitzhardinge. It was (we have been told) the custom of this nobleman to insist upon it that his tradesmen should send in their bills half-yearly, punctual to the day. If they sent in their bills in due time they were paid; if not, they had to wait another half-year. When the bills came in, his lordship checked them with his steward, and as the time was too short to admit of much mischief from short memories, and as his lordship was usually pretty familiar with the market prices of things, no very large amount of "sweetening" could find its way into the bills. When the bills were all checked, his lordship *wrote the cheques for their payment upon the backs of the bills themselves*, so that they remained ever afterwards vouchers for themselves. A simpler and fairer way of keeping accounts it would be difficult to imagine, and whether the Duke of Sutherland succeed or fail in carrying out his reform of the percentages, *this* practice, at any rate, is capable of imitation.

FOREIGN FIELD SPORTS.

SPORTS AND PASTIMES IN FRANCE.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

PARIS, FEB. 15.

WITH A TEMPERATURE falling at intervals to 19° Fahrenheit, it is scarcely possible to avoid making a few observations on the weather. Its effects, indeed, both upon the mind and body, upon the internal feelings as well as upon the tips of ears, nose, and fingers, are too sharp to allow of these unexpected atmospheric influences remaining altogether unnoticed. They have proved an effectual bar to sport, and have put an absolute impediment for the moment in the way of a design I had formed to pay a visit to M. Paul Caillard and his foxhounds, and give your readers some account of their performances in a French country. But after being rendered next to impassible for hunting operations by continuous wet, our fields are now bound up in thick-ribbed ice, and covered in many parts with deep snow. The frost was supposed to be over, as it usually is in the neighbourhood of Paris, by the middle of February, when this sudden revulsion took place, literally to spoil our sport and bring us back again to mid-winter. Skating has again become the chief pastime of the day, and the newly-formed club, which had nearly thawed and dissolved itself into a dew (at least for this year) under the influence of the late moisture, has risen into new life and vigour at the restoration of its primary element, and telegraphs daily to the Jockey Club that "the lakes bear again, and the ice is good in the Bois de Boulogne." Swarms of *élégants* and *élégantes* flock daily in that direction, and repeat in daylight the dances which they have been practising during the greater part of the previous night. Quadrilles on the ice are the great fashion; and it must be allowed that if the skill displayed in the movements is not all that could be wished, the invention exhibited in costumes, both male and female, is such as Paris and the Parisians are alone capable of. But, whether as regards themselves or their horses—whether they are following their sports on foot or on horseback, with the gun or in the hunting field, riding or driving—their besetting sin is to overload both themselves and the animals that draw or carry them. The aspect of horseflesh in Paris, during such a season as the present, is quite remarkable; and I could not help paying more attention to it, as I scanned the long line of carriages which wound round the frozen lakes, than to the gay groups of bipeds which covered their surface. It becomes at such times an almost general practice to drive horses with their clothes on under their harness. You constantly see horses driven—not merely standing, but driven, with leather not only over their loins, but with leather breast and neck pieces up to their ears. They look like hogs in armour or rhinoceroses, rather than horses. Even those driven rapidly in light, single harness, in buggies or tilburies, are not unfrequently smothered up in this fashion. I doubt whether any state of the atmosphere can justify such precautions, if they deserve the term, as these. They are practised on the lawyer's principle of *abundante cautelâ*, and often lead to the very mischiefs which such superfluities are intended to avoid. I grant that there is a sharpness in a pure northerly blast here, in clear, frosty weather, far exceeding in intensity the dull, dreary cold of an English north-easter; and also that the violence and abruptness of the changes are much greater; for the *varium et mutabile semper* of the frost is as true of our Parisian climate as it is of the people who live in it. But "coddling" cannot be the proper remedy in such cases either for man or horse, except in rare individual instances; and the French are getting more and more into the coddling system every year. Their stables—which formerly were like the doors and windows of their dwelling-houses, so very far from being air-tight—are now made too comfortable, and generally kept too hot. I have particularly remarked this of late, and especially the other day, when, on entering the coquettishly-kept stables of a friend and sportsman, I found them as hot as the *bureaux* of an *employé* of the Government, who does *not* pay for the wood he burns. You will have heard or seen something, probably, respecting the epidemic which has prevailed lately among horses in the French capital. It has been variously represented, and not always correctly. For instance, it has been spoken of as though of recent occurrence, whereas it first manifested itself as early as September last, and has now well nigh passed away. Again, it has been represented as almost confined to cavalry horses; but it has, in fact, been prevalent in almost every stable, sixty or seventy of the Emperor's horses having been affected, and a large number also of those standing at the Tattersall-Français. Nor has it been nearly so fatal as alleged, the number of deaths being few, and the treatment adopted proving for the most part efficacious. The symptoms are a yellowness of the eyes, great prostration and heaviness of the head, swelling of the legs, and impoverishment of the blood. It has been called here jaundice and typhus fever and other names; but it seems to be in reality nothing but influenza, which has prevailed, I understand, much in England also; and the disease is, in fact, asserted to have first appeared in horses recently sent over to France: but it spread rapidly, and was at one time very general. The treatment adopted consisted in the administering of large doses of turpentine and liquorice, with occasional but rare recourse to bleeding, and only when the fever ran very high and the head became much affected. These remedies almost always proved effectual, and comparatively few animals have been lost. But the root of the evil, and of the general weakness of constitution becoming visible in French horses, and liability to disease, must be mainly looked for, I apprehend, in the over-delicacy of the mode of treatment which is now so usual, and which is aggravated in this country by the comparative paucity of those sports of the field which harden horses to weather as well as men.

With such a temperature as above described, it is needless to say that the records of sport are scanty in the neighbourhood of Paris. I must record, however, one feat performed by the Comte d'Osmond's English hounds at Montargis, just before the frost set in, and which was narrated to me by the noble sportsman himself. It was the last day's hunting in the country of the Loiret, and the meet was in a thinly-wooded and comparatively open district; nevertheless, a wild boar was speedily roused, which, finding so little protection from his pursuers in the coverts, fairly took to the open, and gave English foxhounds a rare opportunity of showing what superior speed could do, even in boar-hunting, under such favourable circumstances. The result was such a chase as is almost unknown in French sporting annals. The pace was tremendous, boar and hounds running both in a group together for a great part of the distance, the latter having completely the heels of their adversary, but altogether unable to stop him. They ran in this way without a check for an hour and twenty minutes, when *sanglier* had had enough of such going, and, fairly winded, was obliged to pull up, which he did at last by setting his fore-feet well in the ground before him, and standing like a fortress against his assailants. He was dispatched by a boar-spear in this attitude, before he did more mischief. But to run such an animal to a standstill in an hour and twenty minutes is a feat of which probably only English foxhounds are capable; for the chase was a species of combat throughout between dogs and boar, only at full speed.

Our countryman, Capt. Alcock, of Pau, where he is in sole possession of the field since Mr Livingstone gave up hunting that country, seems to have been showing good sport to the cosmopolitan inhabitants of that favourite winter residence. His pack consists of some fifty harriers, which are large enough and fast enough, it seems, to hunt very successfully the small foxes of the locality. Caught and bagged the night before, the latter afford a sure and pretty run of an hour and a-half or two hours, over an open heathery country, intersected by sloping dykes with single or double ditches, not over difficult. The most awkward impediments are the deep cut roads with a heavy drop, intersecting the country rather too frequently, and across which it is sometimes very puzzling how to transport oneself. A considerable number of our best-known French gentlemen steeple-chase riders are down there just now, keeping themselves in training for La Marche and Vincennes next month. The pack, however, which is a subscription pack, is supported entirely by the English. At a recent meet the field mustered some fifty gentlemen and fifteen ladies on horseback, among the latter of whom a Russian countess especially distinguished herself and was presented with the brush, having been, with a young English lady, Miss Hamilton, the only female riders in at the death.

By a privilege of somewhat dubious taste and character, the Emperor is entitled, it appears, to carry on shooting operations in his well-stocked preserves beyond the time limited for the general public. His Majesty enjoyed a successful day's sport since the closing of the season, in the grounds of Rambouillet, where he bagged 278 head of game to his own gun, including 119 pheasants, 6 chevreuils, and 31 hares. M. Béhic, the clever Minister of Commerce (lately director of the great company of the Messageries Impériales) came next after his Majesty, and shot 172 head, of which 98 pheasants. The Prince de la Moskowa bagged 148; and the whole party of six guns, 736.

The Duc d'Aumale has kindly and considerately forwarded 1000f. to the subscription for the aged mother of Jules Gérard, and her four little granddaughters. An English lady of rank, resident abroad, writes to M. Devisme to express her conviction that if this case of real destitution were well known in England aid would not be refused there to the distressed family of one "who was so well received in English aristocratic circles, and whose last departure on his perilous enterprise was from English soil." Contributions are thankfully received by M. Devisme, 36, Boulevard des Italians.

M. Pertuiset, whose departure for Africa I lately spoke of, emulous to follow the footsteps of Gérard as a lion-hunter, writes from Constantina, in Algeria, to say that he has been twice on the track of lions, but failed to see them after a night's watch. "This evening," he writes, "I hope to be more lucky, and burn to kill my first lion."

Various accounts from the East speak of the immense abundance which prevails this season in Egypt of wild ducks and wild geese. The banks of the Nile are stated to be "literally covered with the multitudes of these wildfowl," which are killed in swarms by the inhabitants along the shores and by sportsmen upon the river.

THE WILDERNESS.

(*Continued from page* 73.)

STILL-HUNTING is not learnt in a week nor a month, nor yet a year—to be a first-rate still-hunter the experience of a lifetime is required. It is as different to deer-stalking in the Highlands as can well be imagined, for in the woods no "Dollond" is required, nor does the hunter crawl along on his belly like the Father of Evil. The American still-hunter is generally a character, living for weeks and ofttimes months all alone in his rude log shanty. He is of a retiring and taciturn disposition, and only to be drawn out when under the magic influence of an extra lot of whisky. He is considered an authority on all sporting matters, and his exploits are continually being referred to by his admirers, something in this manner: "Dew yew mind, Phil, when old Steve shot that 'bar' down to Cranberry-pond?" or "I can tell yew, Capting, that 'painter' Ike killed near Lion Mounting some seven year agone was the darndest, biggest, ugliest critter I ever clapped eyes on, and his ditto warnt to be found in the whole of Franklin County, nor in New York State either for that matter."

When the hot sun has begun to tinge the leaves of the maple, the still-hunter takes down his rifle from the rack where it has lain since the previous mid-winter, and gives it a thorough overhauling and greasing, prior to a start for the forest. His camp requisites are neither numerous nor costly. A pot, frying-pan, axe, bowie-knife; and in the commissariat line, a bag of flour, a few pounds of salt pork, tea, sugar, salt, and an unlimited supply of tobacco—for our friend is a great consumer of the weed, chewing during the daytime, and smoking over his camp-fire at night. All these various articles he packs in his blankets, and with the aid of cords, fastens the bundle knapsack-fashion to his back. Arrived at some old and favourite haunt, he begins by putting the shanty in order. The last year's dried-up hemlock sprigs are removed, and a fresh supply obtained; a good stock of firewood is cut and piled ready for use, and the neighbouring "cachés" (places where the hunters hide boats-stores, traps, &c., to prevent their being stolen) visited. Should he find everything in the same condition in which he left it, our friend rejoices greatly, and loses no time in commencing operations against the deer. As soon as there is sufficient light, he sallies forth from his shanty, rifle in hand, to look for "sign." He gets over the ground fast, with a long, swinging stride, and he surmounts logs and other obstacles with surprising facility. To look at him loping along, with the eternal quid between his jaws, no one would take him to be what he really is—the best hunter in the district.

Suddenly he stops to examine a bush, which the inexperienced woodsman would have passed by unnoticed. Our still-hunter's practised eye has caught sight of a torn leaf, and he at once perceives that it is the work of a deer: a second glance, and he knows that the marks are of recent date—the deer must have passed along that very morning. Cautiously he examines the ground in every direction until, coming to a soft spot, he distinctly sees the imprint of hoofs; and a little further on some fresh droppings make it evident that a deer has passed that way some two hours before. With a light step he follows the trail, the sign getting stronger and stronger as he advances, until some more droppings, not yet cold, warn him that the game is not far distant. The deer being luckily to windward of him, he has no occasion to circle; so, with rifle cocked, and neck outstretched to catch the least sound, he again noiselessly advances. Not a branch cracks under his foot, nor does a leaf rustle, as he stealthily creeps along; for the slightest noise, and his morning's work would be now altogether lost. Hush! he hears a noise; he stops, and listens. Yes, there it is again—the deer must be close at hand; and on tiptoe he steals behind a huge hemlock, and cautiously looks around. If the hunter should happen to be in luck's way, he will perhaps espy from his covert—standing in some open forest glade, with head erect and nostrils distended—the object of his pursuit, anxiously sniffing the wind, for already he scents danger, and has half a mind to flee. But not a sound is to be heard; so, partially reassured, he turns round and walks leisurely away, presenting, as he does so, his broadside to the enemy. The next minute he is tearing through the forest, mortally wounded, his track marked by large drops of blood—for the small bullets used by the hunters in the wilderness seldom bring down a deer in his tracks, and the poor brute often covers miles of ground before he falls to rise no more.

The hunter, having reloaded his rifle and taken a fresh chew of tobacco, next proceeds to follow up the trail; and perhaps, after miles of weary travel, he ultimately finds his victim, stiff and stark, stretched across some log over which he had fallen in his death throes. After dressing his prize, our hunter generally consults his watch, or the sun if he have none, and calculates whether there be time enough to regain the shanty before sundown. If there be, he shoulders the deer and patiently makes "back tracks;" if not, he prepares to camp out for the night. A bough shanty having been erected to shelter him from the chill night-air, sufficient fuel chopped to last the night, a fire lit, he next proceeds to cut some steaks off the fore quarters of his deer, and, after making a hearty supper, he lights his pipe, and stretching himself on his bed of hemlock with his feet to the fire, ruminates on his day's adventures.

I have tried, in as few words as possible, to describe the manner in which deer are hunted in the Wilderness; and as one day's sport closely resembles another, I think it would be tedious to give a detailed description of the two months' autumn-shooting that I enjoyed in the St. Regis and Saranac districts; so I will therefore content myself by explaining in a general way to my readers the style of life they will have to lead should they ever favour these woods with a visit.

My guide was by no means a first-rate still-hunter, so, much to his disgust, I handed him over to the tender mercies of Jones, and put myself under the guidance of the best hunter in the district, who only undertook my tuition as a great favour. He certainly was the most patient of men, and took an infinity of trouble to make me as good a backwoodsman as himself; but with what success his labours were attended it is not for a modest individual like myself to state. His first care was to make me familiar with the "lay" of the country, by explaining to me its chief characteristics, the course of the principal streams, form of the mountains, situation of lakes, &c., and also how to shape my course without compass by marking the moss on the trees and other well-known signs. He next taught me to wield an axe, build a fire, and "shanty out," in the most approved backwoods fashion; and, lastly, how to kill my deer without having recourse either to hound or lantern.

I am ashamed to say how many weeks elapsed before I killed a deer still-hunting. In vain did I follow my guide's instructions to the very letter, scouring the woods in every direction day after day, with a perseverance that deserved success. It was no go! the deer appeared to know instinctively that I was on their tracks, and I could never manage to get a shot. Morning after morning I would put into my canteen sufficient biscuit, butter, and salt to last me for a couple of days, and start off with a determination not to return to the shanty until I had killed my deer in a sportsmanlike manner. After a couple of hours' hard walking, I would perhaps come upon fresh deer-tracks, and then the whole morning would be spent in following up the trail. Sometimes I would lose sight of it altogether, and then many precious minutes would be spent in circling to the right and left before I could again strike it. Then, again, tracks innumerable were continually crossing the one I would be following up; and, amongst them all, I used to get so bewildered that I generally succeeded in selecting the wrong one, and night would overtake me before I had overtaken the deer, and thus another day's work would be thrown away.

I did, on several occasions, manage to creep so close that I could plainly hear the deer browsing on the bushes as they leisurely walked along; but just at the very moment when I felt sure of at length getting a shot, some unlooked-for accident would invariably arise to prevent it—either a dry branch would crack under my feet, or I would stumble over some confounded log, or something else would happen to alarm the deer, and they would go bounding away through the forest, leaving me half crazy with rage and disappointment.

But, although unfortunate in my still-hunting, it must not be imagined that I had no sport, and that I had to retire night after night supperless to roost: far from it. My shooting-iron, as they called it in the woods, had only one barrel rifled, the other being smooth-bore; and the moment I found that no deer were likely to be forthcoming for dinner, I would gently draw the green cartridge and substitute some smaller shot than Eley's SS. There was plenty of small game, and I generally managed to pick up something before it was time to look about for a camping ground. Ruffed grouse, Canada or spruce partridge, an occasional snipe and plenty of wild duck, were to be had; besides, as I always carried fishing tackle, I could, when in the vicinity of a lake, catch a speckled trout or two to furnish forth a meal—and such a meal as few epicures have ever had the chance of enjoying!

About an hour and a half before sundown I would fix upon a camping ground in the vicinity of some spring or rivulet, and, with the aid of an axe (which, together with a large bowie-knife, I carried in my broad leathern belt) I would cut down a few saplings for my wigwam, and some logs for the fire; that accomplished, all my energies would be directed to the solemn task of preparing dinner. On the glowing wood-embers I could cook fish, flesh, and fowl, to a turn, without the aid of any *batterie de cuisine*; and what an appetite I had! sharpened as it always was with what Jones used to call "Spartan sauce." A good-sized trout and a couple of by no means small grouse, used to disappear at a sitting; and how delicious everything tasted! I have eaten dinners in all quarters of the globe; renowned *chefs*, in Paris and Vienna, have superintended the cooking of feasts of which I have partaken, and yet how insipid they all appeared to me after those exquisite little game suppers that I myself prepared in the Wilderness, when a wigwam was my dining-room, and a few blazing logs my kitchen! Whenever the condition of my flask allowed it—which was not always, for one is apt to run short of liquor in the woods—I used to mix myself a stiff nightcap of hot whisky-punch, and enjoy some fragrant "varginny," until I felt drowsy. Then how I used to sleep! Wolves might howl and night-owls screech; nothing roused me but the cold night-air, when the fire began to burn low, and then I was of course obliged to rise and pile on more wood. I got so used to this at last, that I would awake regularly at midnight, make up the fire, smoke a pipe, and fall asleep again; and when I was again obliged to conform to the usages of civilised life, I would be quite angry when I awoke in the night to find that I was in a small close bedroom, where I had no excuse for taking a nocturnal whiff before again composing myself to sleep! MARK TAPLEY.

(*To be continued.*)

SPORT UP THE BALTIC.—In reply to the inquiry of "A Young Yachtsman," as to the shooting to be had up the Baltic in the months of June and July, I can safely assure him that there is none to be had during the months he mentions; but about the middle of August he will find on the marshes at the mouth of the river Niemen, about twenty-eight miles from Memel, the solitary snipe (*Gallinago major*), and the double snipe or becassin in abundance, and wild duck of all descriptions very plentiful. I am acquainted with a peasant (a crack shot), living near these marshes, who kills a couple of thousand head of snipe and wild duck during the autumn. The solitary snipe is rarely found after the second week in September, but the becassin remains until the frost set in. An English nobleman visited the above grounds in Nov. 1861, and the sport which he then had induced him to return last year, with a party of friends, and, notwithstanding they had the bad luck to find the marshes almost inundated, they had fair sport. The same party shot two magnificent elk, weighing each 1100lb., in the adjacent forest of Ibenhorst. I shall be happy to furnish "A Young Yachtsman" with any further information he may require about the shooting on the shores of the—BALTIC.

ARCHERY.

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY'S ANNUAL MEETING.—It is somewhat difficult to account for the unprecedented activity with which the secretaries or managers of the different public meetings in England are engaged, thus early in the year, in fixing the days on which their matches are to take place during the ensuing season. The Leamington Meeting, as we have already stated, resumes its accustomed place in the programme and takes the lead, followed by the Crystal Palace gathering, the first week in July. At the close of that month we are to have the Grand National of England. The fixture has first been made for the 26th, 27th, and 28th of July, and the place, as we reported a fortnight ago, is to be Clifton. The Council of the Clifton College have granted the use of their extensive grounds, and such rooms connected with the establishment as may be required for the business and general purposes of the meeting, as soon as the Midsummer vacation begins. An archer whose experience gives weight to any opinion he may express on such a subject, has seen the ground and pronounced favourably upon its adaptability and extent. The selection of Clifton will be a popular one, if no other ground than that the usual public meetings will remain intact as to numbers, which they would not have done had Leamington been chosen as the site for "The National." Mr Merridew's meeting, which now heads the list according to custom, must, under the circumstances, have been abandoned for one season, at least—a result as inevitable as it would have caused very general regret and disappointment among toxophilites. In our opinion, the Leamington Meeting is safe, not only for 1865, but also for 1866, from any calamity such as this. Only one of the great English matches now remains unfixed—the Grand Western; and it is believed that Bath will, this year, receive the archers of the five counties, and their co-operators from other parts of the country. This impression has obtained wide currency, but, in the absence of official information upon the subject, the matter is mere surmise. Of course we shall not hear anything anent the Scotch or Irish national meetings at present; but it would be well that some announcement should appear as to the probable holding of the latter, that clashing may be avoided as regards the Grand Western. It may be assumed that if the Grand Leinster and Munster Meeting is revived this year, of which there need be little doubt, it will be held close upon the Irish National, with the view of attracting English visitors to participate in the competition. A fifth public meeting in England, towards the close of the season, has been spoken of, but remains, at present, a subject for further inquiry and discussion. If undertaken by the gentleman whose name we have heard associated with it, such a meeting would, undoubtedly, be attended by great success. The programme of Mr Merridew's meeting at Leamington contains twelve prizes for ladies and fourteen for gentlemen, independently of awards specially applicable to residents of the county. The prize list is worth about 100*l.*

SHOOTING.

ENTERING A NEIGHBOUR'S LAND TO RECOVER DEAD GAME.

THE JUDGMENT in the Appeal Case, to which Mr Gillbanks alluded last week, is of so much importance that we insert the report at length, as given in the *Law Times*, and which, therefore, may be received as correct. As we stated last week, we have never had any doubt on the question, whether a trespass in pursuit of game was committed when a bird, shot on A.'s land, but falling within that of B., is followed and retrieved by A. But by the recent judgment, it is doubtful whether game rising from A.'s land, but killed while *over* or *on* that of B., may not also be retrieved without committing any offence against the statute law. This question, however, was not settled by the decision, which rested solely upon the interpretation of the words "search" and "pursuit of." The three justices unanimously held that they could only apply to live game; and, consequently, affirmed the conviction, leaving the other point to which we have alluded still undecided.

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH.—FEB. 3.

KENTON (appellant) *v.* HART (respondent).

Game—Illegal trespass in pursuit—1 & 2 Will. 4, c. 32, s. 30.

A., upon his own land, shot at a pheasant which rose from his land; but the act of shooting took place while the pheasant was in the air over B.'s land. The pheasant fell dead on B.'s land, and A. went on B.'s land and picked it up.

Justices having refused to convict A. of a trespass in pursuit of game under the 1 & 2 Will. 4, c. 32, s. 30, this Court held that they were right.

Case stated by justices under 20 and 21 Vict., c. 43.

At a petty sessions holden at Ashford, Kent, on Nov. 5, the respondent, Stephen Hart, of the parish of Westwell, in the said county, farmer, appeared upon an information exhibited by the appellant, James Kenyon, of the said parish of Westwell, under-gamekeeper, charging him, the said respondent, for that he did on Oct. 1, 1864, at the parish of Westwell aforesaid, unlawfully commit a trespass by being in the daytime of the same day upon certain arable land in the possession and occupation of Henry Tappenden, there in search of game without the licence or consent of the owner of the land so trespassed upon, or of any other person having the right to authorise the said Stephen Hart to enter or be upon the said land for the purpose aforesaid, contrary to the statute, &c., whereby the said Stephen Hart had forfeited a sum of money not exceeding 2*l*.

On the hearing of the case the appellant, upon his oath, stated: "I am under-keeper to Sir R. Tufton, Bart. On the 1st October last, about half-past ten in the morning, Mr Hart (the respondent) was out shooting. He shot a cock pheasant and it fell on Mr Tappenden's field, belonging to Sir R. Tufton. He went and fetched the bird himself, taking his dog and gun with him. Mr Hart was on his own land when he shot the pheasant, and it rose off Mr Hart's land. The pheasant was dead when Mr Hart picked it up, and it laid upon its back."

When the respondent's counsel was addressing the court, the chairman recalled the appellant and asked him whether, when the respondent shot the pheasant, it was or was not in the air over the land belonging to Sir R. Tufton? The appellant replied it was over Sir R. Tufton's land, and fell a considerable distance within Sir Richard's boundary. The respondent's solicitor objected to the question being put after the appellant had heard the opening of the respondent's case.

The respondent's attorney contended on his behalf—1. That upon the appellant's evidence no trespass within the meaning of the Act 1 & 2 Will. 4, c. 32, s. 30, had been committed, as the pheasant rose off the respondent's land, and the respondent was upon his own land when he shot the bird. 2. That the 30th section of the above-mentioned Act did not apply to game when dead.

Having heard the evidence of the appellant, and the argument of the respondent's attorney, the justices dismissed the case, the grounds of their determination being, that as the pheasant was raised off the respondent's land, and shot by him when he (the respondent) was upon his own land, the mere act of entering the land stated in the information, for the purpose of picking up the pheasant which was then dead, as proved by the evidence, was, in our opinion, not such a trespass in pursuit of game as is contemplated by the 30th section of the 1 & 2 Will. 4, c. 32.

The question for the opinion of the court was, whether the justices were right in point of law in dismissing the case upon the grounds above stated.

Keane, Q.C., for the appellant.—The justices ought to have convicted the respondent. It was immaterial that the pheasant rose on the respondent's own land. It was a fact in the case that the respondent shot the pheasant when it was over a neighbour's land. That was in itself a civil trespass, and the entry upon the adjoining field to pick up the bird was an illegal trespass in pursuit, or at least in search of game, under 1 & 2 Will. 4, c. 32, s. 30. Osbond *v.* Meadows, 31 L. J. 238, M. C.; Morden *v.* Porter, 29 L. J. 213, M. C. [Blackburn, J.—The 30th section must mean living game, and not dead game. The pheasant was dead in this case when the respondent went to pick it up.] It may mean dead game also. The word "search" applies as well to dead as to living game. If not, poachers may easily evade this enactment.

Denman, Q.C., for the respondent.—The words "search" and "pursuit of" can only apply to living game, and the section cannot be held to apply to dead game found on land. In Osbond *v.* Meadows the information was for pursuit of game; here it is for search of game.

Blackburn, J.—The justices were right in refusing to convict. The 30th section of the 1 & 2 Will. 4, c. 32, was evidently directed against a trespass by entering land in pursuit of living game, and cannot apply, in my opinion, to game that is dead. We have no doubt whatever upon that point. The respondent undoubtedly entered the land of his neighbour and committed civil trespass, but he did so in search of a pheasant which had risen from his own land, and at which he had a right to shoot, as he did, from his own land. The case would have been precisely similar if it had been a hare which had started from his land and been shot when it had got to his neighbour's land. The case of Reg. *v.* Pratt, 4 E. & B. 860, decided that, in order to be a trespass to shoot at game under this sect. 30, it must be a personal trespass. Therefore, the sole point is, whether the mere fact of going in to pick up the dead bird brings the case within the 30th section. The case of Osbond *v.* Meadows was in the Court of Common Pleas, was not capable of being taken to a court of error, and is not, therefore, binding upon us. But it is not necessary for us to dissent from that case. Here the justices declined to treat the shooting of the bird, which had been shot at from the respondent's own ground, as one act with the trespass to pick it up, and we think they were quite right. It was, so far as the trespasser was concerned, matter of surprise that the bird fell on his neighbour's land, and it was no planned thing on his part to commit any trespass in pursuit of game such as is contemplated by the 30th section.

Mellor, J.—I am of the same opinion. I think that the justices were not bound to convict in this case. I agree that the 30th section refers to living, and not to dead game, and the 31st section confirms that construction. If this case were not distinguished from Osbond *v.* Meadows, I confess I should have liked further time to consider, although that decision would not be binding on us sitting in this court. I do not think, however, there is any real conflict between that case and our present decision. *Judgment for the respondent.*

SIR,—I have the greatest respect for Mr Gillbanks' authority on sporting matters, but I believe him to be utterly wrong in his letter of last week, and I think his brother sportsmen will agree with me that he is so. At least, I can say for myself, that I have shot for twenty years, and in very many counies, and I have always found it acknowledged that if a bird, shot by you as it flies over your own land, fall into that of your neighbours, sporting etiquette permits you to get over the fence and fetch it. As a matter of taste you would leave your gun on your own land, and would probably not go at all unless you were tolerably certain that the bird fell dead. Of course you would not hunt for a wounded bird, so as to disturb your neighbour's game. It would be easy to warn off a man who abused this principle; but surely for the comfort of real sportsmen, it should be retained. PEREGRINE.

SIR,—If Mr Jackson Gillbanks is astonished at the decision of the justices of Ashford, and the subsequent affirmation of the court, how much more astonished will all liberal-minded sportsmen be when they peruse his letter, and learn from it he not only entertains such unsocial ideas, but would prosecute any brother sportsman for picking up dead game beyond the confines of his beat, or in putting an end to the agonies of a wounded and mortally-struck denizen of the chase!

It has, I rejoice to say, not been my bad luck to come within the grasp of such a litigious neighbour, nor is it now likely I ever shall.

The feelings of such sportmen must be a misery to themselves, wholly actuated by the *quo plus habet*, &c., truism. I admit there are some men to whom it would be courtesy thrown away to allow them any licence; but even in such cases liberality will often disarm, when resistance or opposition in the extreme will prove of no avail.

Every sportsman, who reflects for one moment what is due to his neighbour, will put down his gun and go unarmed to recover the object of his search. If his neighbour's keeper is within view, the matter is then very familiar; and no servant, I should think, would withhold a head of game—a small douceur, or a taste of what the pocket-pistol may contain, would remunerate him for his trouble.

To allow dead game to rot, or become the prey of vermin, is a law or a right wholly at variance with our social feelings and duties towards each other (I mean the evidence or possession of such feeling).

I thank you for your opinion in placing the act of recovering dead game in its true position as regards the law.

I cannot conclude without expressing my opinion, when views and feelings are carried to such an unbounded length, we are influenced by that overpowering proverb of "judging others by ourselves."

VENATOR.

"Sir Hugh, persuade me not; I will make a Star-chamber matter of it: if he were twenty Sir John Falstaffs, he shall not abuse Robert Shallow, esquire. . . . . Robert Shallow, esquire, saith he is wronged."—*Shakespeare.*

SIR,—It is quite bad enough that we should be condemned, occasionally, to listen to the twaddle of Mr Justice Shallow at petty or quarter sessions; but really when he takes upon himself to impugn the legal decisions of the Court of Queen's Bench, and sneer at county court judges and stipendiary magistrates, he becomes perfectly unendurable.

I am, myself, a J.P. of long standing; but I had, at the outset of life, the misfortune (Mr Gillbanks would, no doubt, look upon it as such) to be trained, during many years, as a barrister on circuit and in Westminster Hall. It, therefore, naturally, comes to pass that I prefer the law as administered in the Court of Queen's Bench to that of Mr Justice Shallow. I entertain, moreover, an unconquerable contempt for the performances (on any instrument) of amateurs as compared with those of artists. I speak generally, of course: there are exceptions to every rule; and if I had only had the advantage of hearing Mr Gillbanks (swollen with importance and legal lore—a living embodiment of "Burn's Justice of the Peace"), from the summit of his throne at petty sessions, terrify poor, simple-minded Smock-frock, I might perhaps be disposed to mistrust the infallibility of "Justices Crompton, Mellor, and Blackburn," when I find them delivering a judgment at which he "cannot find words to express his astonishment." Not having had this good fortune, however, I am able to look at the matter in question with that degree of calmness and impartiality which we cannot all hope to retain in presence of an opinion delivered, *ex cathedrâ*, by a recognised luminary.

Mr G. states that "it appears that Justices Crompton, Mellor, and Blackburn thought" that the sportsman was entitled to follow his game on to another man's land. With deference to Mr G. I don't think that anything of the kind "appears." If a county court judge or a stipendiary magistrate had expressed the same opinion as he does, I should have ventured to contradict him most flatly; but, in dealing with a gentleman whose legal acumen enables him to state, authoritatively, that her Majesty's judges have pronounced a decision which "abrogates the whole principle and practice of the game laws from their commencement down to the present time," it is obviously necessary to be cautious. Mr Gillbanks has "been a magistrate for many years, and has decided as many game cases as most people;" and it would be very odd if he did not know something more about law than the judges of Westminster Hall.

There was once a sign-painter who, coming up to London, accompanied a friend to the Zoological Gardens. "What's that?" said he, pointing to the king of the forest. "A lion," answered his friend. "No, no!" returned the painter, "that's no lion. I've been a sign-painter for many years, and I've painted as many lions as most people; and I think I may say for myself, as well as for the bulk of the artists in England, that if that be a real lion, we have lived under a complete delusion, and painted lions wrongly all our lives." Surely Mr Gillbanks must have read this anecdote and adopted the language of it!

But to return to the decision of the judges; if the report be correct, they gave no opinion whatever on the right of a sportsman to follow his game. They contented themselves with "affirming the judgment of the justices." What was that judgment? Here it is: "The magistrates refused to convict upon that evidence, stating for their reasons that they did not consider that the Legislature contemplated such trespasses as those under the section that alluded to 'trespasses in pursuit of game.'" I congratulate the bench of Ashford, in Kent, on having magistrates so much less learned in the law than Mr Gillbanks. Had it been otherwise, a man would have been improperly convicted. But why is Mr G. so bitter against the judges? Why does he not rather reprimand the Shallows of Ashford, in Kent? He will excuse me if I venture to say that there is something cowardly in attacking poor ignorant judges for merely saying ditto to the judgment of the "great unpaid."

There is one part of Mr Gillbanks' letter which strikes me as particularly alarming for the erring judges. He tells you that, "through some irregularity in the mails," he "had not had time to look up former decisions on the point." What then must "Justices Crompton, Mellor, and Blackburn" expect when he has thoroughly investigated "Burn's Justice"? On behalf of those learned judges, will be allow me to plead that though he may be, "in the county of Cumberland, justice of the peace and *coram*," "and *Custalorum*—ay, and *ratolorum* too; and a gentleman born, who writes himself *armigero*; in any bill, warrant, quittance, or obligation, *armigero*"—though he may be (and, I dare say, *is*) all this and much beside—he should not forget to "temper justice with mercy," and not to be too hard upon those less learned in the law than himself, who, no doubt, thought they could not go wrong in endorsing the decision of any of the "magistracy of England."

Your remarks are, in my opinion, exactly what they should be. Clearly, no other decision *could* have been expected. That a trespass was committed, not even the Ashford justices dispute; but there was no trespass within the game laws. Sir R. Tufton has the civil courts open to him, but, practically, not the criminal ones. He can bring his action; but if Mr Gillbanks should be called on the jury, Mr Hart's counsel will probably know how to get rid of him.

If Mr G. had inveighed against the law of trespass, instead of against those who most properly administered it at Ashford in Kent, and subsequently at Westminster, I, for one, would have joined in chorus with him. That law is simply a scandal and a shame to the country. It is a disgrace to any civilised nation that its legislature should give a man no real protection against trespassers except that which he can obtain by the costly proceedings of an action at law. Like most land-owners, I have had much personal and painful experience of this blot in our legislation; but, happily, a case which happened to me about six months ago is not (though there is no reason why it should not be) of common occurrence. To put an end to a series of trespasses which threatened ultimately to oust me from an inheritance to which I have upwards of one hundred years' title, I was compelled to bring an action against paupers, which, though undefended, has cost me upwards of 500*l*. I was put to this expense by the mistaken judgment of a stipendiary magistrate; but I will not, therefore, follow Mr Gillbanks' example by offering a gratuitous insult to the hardworked and underpaid body of men of which he is a member.

A GAME-PRESERVER.

THE HIRING OF GROUSE MOORS.

SIR,—"Shot," in THE FIELD of Feb. 4, suggests that it would be for the interest of renters of moors to have an agent in Scotland to examine and report upon the condition of any grouse-shootings which may happen to be in the market. I have no doubt it would be to their interest; but from my experience I am inclined to think that sportsmen do not always do that which is most to their interest—in short, they will not pay for information. Old sportsmen, at least old grouse-shooters, know pretty well the capabilities of any and every shooting in the market; and if they do not know, they send down a trustworthy keeper to look over the ground. Green hands, who have never rented a moor, but who are on the look out for a "good thing," will not pay for information. I say this advisedly, knowing it from actual experience. They will come poking about, asking questions, generally of persons interested in getting the shootings let at any rate; but as for paying a disinterested person, I know they will do nothing of the kind, and in nine cases in ten they are "done," and I cannot help thinking deservedly.

It is not very often that a good—a really good—grouse-shooting gets into the market. They are generally handed from one friend to another. If Mr So-and-so is, from some cause or other, going to give up his shooting, he is almost certain to have half a dozen friends who know its value, and are quite ready to step into his place; on the other hand, you will see some shootings advertised every year. I would have nothing to do with these until I had gone over the ground—they are a "sell." It is the renters of these who make such a number of complaints. They have no one to thank but themselves! I am pretty certain, also, that many shooters expect their shootings to pay; they look at the thing in a mercantile manner. This idea has crept in much of late years. A man has about as much right to expect shooting to pay, as he has to expect yachting or cricket, or any other amusement, to do the same thing. My idea of the thing is, that he should never attempt to indulge in any kind of sport or pleasure till he can afford it: no one has any right to expect to be paid for enjoying himself. GROUSE.

KILLING POWER OF GUNS, &c.

SIR,—In answer to "High Elms," I must say that my guns being "11-gauge" do not fall under his conditions, and I am, moreover, too much interested in the subject of the "Shooting of Guns" to care about a bet on the matter. I am not in the least anxious that my opinion, simply as such, should prevail; but I am desirous that the truth should be established. In writing, therefore, I wish it to be understood that I do not state facts with the object of boasting of my guns or shooting, but simply in support of a theory which I have been forced to adopt as the result of an experience, at targets as well as in the field, in various parts of the world, of nearly thirty years. I have no prejudice for or against any gauge from 14 to 10, because I have seen and shot with guns of 14, 13 and 12 gauges, which have "cut down" their birds at long ranges in a style not to be surpassed by any 11 or 10 gauge that I ever saw.

I remember two 14-gauge guns belonging to a brother officer (one built by Beckwith, the other by Beattie) which really "cut down" their birds at long ranges in brilliant style. The "Beckwith" was remarkably short in the barrels, having been reduced in consequence of an accident. I watched its performance closely, because, in spite of Beckwith's assertion, I thought it was "done for," except for rabbit-shooting in coverts.

I will now, in as few words as I can, state some of my reasons for believing that the killing power of guns is much under-rated.

As the season advances—and I find little pleasure in shooting grouse or blackgame till after September—many chances for fair measurement offer themselves.

I would here remark that, save in very exceptional cases, I always measure to the rise (never to the fall) of any bird or animal, for the reason that many partridges even are carried from fifteen to twenty-five yards beyond the point at which their wings ceased to act, and they "left their lives in air." This I have proved by actual measurement.

As the temperature falls, and the air grows keen among the hills, one sees single birds, generally old cocks, with their necks stretched above the heather, looking out sharply over the flat. One has small chance of getting within any range, but sometimes a burn, or an old road, or some such inequality in the ground, enables you to stalk within some sixty yards of him; as you "keek" over the brae edge cautiously, having removed your cap or wide-awake, you see your friend standing by a bit of rock, whinbush, or other mark, easily distinguishable from the ground many yards wide of it. By a sudden and rapid advance you frequently steal several yards ere the bird gets on his wings; he then, however, goes off like a bullet. Holding about a foot over him if going straight away, or from two to two and a half or even three feet in advance if crossing, and keeping your gun moving as (he after) you pull the trigger, he falls! After loading, with the help of your keeper and a measuring tape, there can be no difficulty in ascertaining the distance to the rock, on or by which he stood, from the spot on which you stand. I always measure to the nearest part, so as to be well within my distance.

In this way I have measured many shots brought to bag at distances varying from forty-five to fifty-four yards rise. Some of these birds were winged, but others were killed on the spot, and the feathers of the wings showed that the shot had been travelling thickly for the distance.

One hen grouse killed at fifty-three yards rise, going straight away, had the bone of each wing smashed, was grazed by a shot along the head below the eye, and killed by others in the body.

The shot I use is Walker and Parker's No. 5, 204 to the ounce. Their shot bought in London runs lighter—207 to the ounce.

I could mention longer shots far, truly measured to the point of hitting; but these I admit at once were accidental, because every yard over sixty (and with many good guns over fifty) tells seriously on the pattern; and if a strong shooting gun will not make a fair average pattern at long ranges, it is clear that if it kills it can only be by a "fluke."

I have sometimes got more information from my misses than by my hits; and in this way a vertical face of snow or mud or a flat rock, across which a bird has been flying, has given me both pattern and time, the former being good enough had it got there sooner, *i.e.*, I shot behind the villain.

Now, as regards the cruelty of shooting at long ranges, of which I hear a great deal—though principally from men who do not like the hard work of the hill-side in November, when, by-the-way, a blackcock *is* a blackcock, and not a bunch of feathers and paper. I am afraid that a certain amount of pain to the animal is inseparable from all sport; but the only way of avoiding this, that I am aware of, is by staying at home. I must say, however, that I see infinitely greater numbers of birds go away wounded badly and unretrieved at ranges varying from twenty-five to thirty-five yards rise than at the long ranges. The quick shots of the present day, who take their right and left out of a covey rising sharply, about the end of September, out of turnips, thirty to thirty-five yards range, very frequently wound one or two besides the brace killed, and these may not be seen again. As a rule, I think that single birds at long ranges either get off scot free, are killed, or wounded so as to lie to a dog when followed. I know that if I did not shoot at long ranges, I should often tramp all day without a shot, and many friends who have forwarded my sports in other days would miss their box of grouse and blackgame. In spite of all this, the heather is not whitened by the bones of victimised grouse, nor do I often come across a skeleton thereof.

I presume that men who call themselves "sportsmen" have an idea of the probable whereabouts of a wounded grouse, even if they cannot actually mark him down; the dog should do the rest. I assume, also, that they would rather spend an hour in trying to make out a wounded bird than in killing a brace of fresh birds. INDOCTUS.

SIR,—In my opinion thirty-three or thirty-five yards is the extreme distance at which game can be handsomely killed. Forty yards I consider a very rare instance to kill clean at, and very few guns will kill at that distance. Thirty-five yards I consider quite the extreme range of the average guns in use, therefore game should not be fired at which rises over thirty yards from the gun. Most game is killed under twenty-five or twenty-eight yards. Breaking a hare's leg or winging a partridge at fifty yards, I do not consider at all a proof of a gun shooting well. It is a great pity to use large shot and to fire at long distances, as you wound but do not bag your game. Let "Aldinore" use No. 6 instead of No. 4, as unless you use $1\frac{1}{2}$oz. of 4, there are not enough of pellets in the charge, and $1\frac{1}{2}$oz. is too much for game shooting. No. 6 will kill any game or ducks, out of a good gun, at the distance I have named; it is a very good gun to put on an average four shot in a pound powder-canister at forty measured yards, charge not to exceed $1\frac{1}{4}$oz. shot. The above remarks also refer to guns shooting no more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ or 3 drachms powder, and $1\frac{1}{4}$oz. shot. G. G.

WINTER SHOOTING.

(From the *Cornhill Magazine* for February).

WE have on so many occasions been induced to put our readers on their guard against isolated statements as well as entire articles on sporting subjects, published in certain of our contemporaries, who are more at home in political, literary, or artistic questions, that it gives us the more pleasure to be able to draw their notice to an admirable article on winter shooting in the *Cornhill Magazine* for the present month. It is so good, indeed, that we cannot tantalise them by an extract, but publish it *in extenso*:

This day is the last of the shooting season; and to-morrow will consign to its case, till next August or September, many a double-barrel that has for the last two months been dealing destruction by flood and fell, in closely-preserved "home coverts," in outlying copses by the side of rushy brooks, and over the "dismal swamp." Not that all the use of the gun can be held to terminate with the 1st of February. Sportsmen continue to shoot snipe and wildfowl wherever they can find them. Rabbits are shot as a work of necessity, if not of sport, the whole year round. The gamekeeper is engaged in thinning his stock of hares by picking off the old males throughout the spring. But people, except in good wildfowl districts, give up the idea of "going out shooting" as a regular amusement, after the beginning of this month. As we ushered in the season with a dissertation on partridge-shooting—the distinctive sport of its commencement—let us now, therefore, bow it out with a few remarks on such sport as brings it to its close.

Really good winter shooting at preserved game can only be had at a great outlay of both time and money. Pheasants, rabbits, and hares cannot take care of themselves as partridges can. The last-mentioned are more completely *Feræ naturæ*. And if a manor be swept nearly clear of them one season, they will always reappear there the next, if the ground is to their liking, and there are any preserves at all within a reasonable distance. But that is not the case with the first-mentioned species. Hares and rabbits, it is true, breed uncommonly fast, and a good head of both may be got up with astonishing rapidity, if a man goes to work to do it. But it is a business of itself; and the consequence is, that shooting of this description requires a degree of permanent attention, a regular staff of employés, and an organised system of defence against poachers and vermin, which places it beyond the reach of that particular class of shooters in whose interest we support the partridge.

As regards the trouble and expense of preserving pheasants, something will depend upon the ground you have to deal with; for instance, upon the nature of your coverts, upon the number of foxes, and upon the remoteness or contiguity of large towns. If the coverts consist principally of oak, the birds won't require so much feed, as pheasants are very fond of and thrive famously upon acorns. But then, upon the other hand, the birds are much more easily seen at roost in these trees than in fir, and are consequently a much easier prey to the poacher. To baulk him, it is common for men to go round every evening at dusk, and tap the trunks of the trees, to put the pheasants off their seats, who seldom or never reascend the same night. Yet see the various ills game is heir to! A descent from the oak into the fern or underwood is a leap from the frying-pan into the fire—an escape from the poacher's barrel to fall into the fox's jaws. Who is to guard against this last danger? The best plan, we believe, is for a man or two to be kept strolling up and down the covert sides—sometimes perhaps blowing a horn, or making some such noise, till the hour of peril has gone by. Of course, if the coverts happen to be situated very favourably at a very long distance from any rendezvous of poachers, the birds might be left upon their perches: or, if they lie in a non-hunting country, where foxes are scarce, you can leave them to repose upon the ground. In either case, the trouble and expense of preserving them is materially lightened. On the whole, we suppose, and taking an average case, a gentleman who thoroughly understands his business might keep pheasants enough to insure killing his five hundred a season, at an expense varying from a hundred to a hundred and twenty pounds a-year. This estimate does not, of course, include rent of shooting, which would probably be a third as much more. He would require a head-keeper at a pound a week, and an under-keeper at twelve shillings a-week. This would come to about eighty pounds,

For occasional helpers and watchers, we can hardly set down less than ten pounds more. This brings us, in round numbers to ninety. The cost of feed depends, as we have said, upon the composition of the coverts. Without the help of acorns, pheasants may be fed at a cost of about ten or twelve pounds. Barley—of course not the best quality—is the commonest food to throw down to them; but peas, and even potatoes, are considered by many persons to do as well or better than corn; and they have, at all events, this advantage—that the small birds do not pick them up as they will any kind of grain. If pheasants are fed with the latter a good deal of chaff or chopped straw should be mixed with it, as that causes them to be a longer time in feeding, and to stay more about the spot.

The vermin which pheasants have to fear do not differ materially from those which prey upon the partridge; nor need we recapitulate here what has been already said on that subject. The poacher is the grand enemy with whom the pheasant-shooter has to deal. And the worst of it is that as pheasants can only be shot—cannot, that is, be netted like other game—the poacher must always come out for them with a gun in his hand. Many gentlemen forbid their keepers to take guns with them at night, in the hope—too often an idle one—that either poachers will be too generous to fire upon unarmed men, or the keepers too prudent to provoke an encounter against such overwhelming odds. A gang of eight or ten poachers, armed with guns, of course feel pretty secure against capture when they meet a party of keepers who carry nothing worse than sticks. But then it is the duty of the keepers, if they cannot take the men then and there, to come sufficiently close to them to be able to swear to their identity, and perhaps to track them to their retreat. It is in resisting these attempts that fatal affrays take place, perhaps oftener than from any other cause. It is, however, with netters of game that keepers have the fairest fights, though then, generally, against numerical odds, and a very brutal style of combat. As the process of netting may possibly be little understood by thousands who read of it in the newspapers, a few words descriptive of what is really an exciting sport may not be amiss. Hares and rabbits come out of their covers at night to feed in the open fields, and stay on till three or four in the morning. The poacher, accordingly, selects one side of a cover; and as close as he can to the hedge, without entangling his net in it, pegs along the ground some thirty or forty yards of netting. The net stands off the ground about as high as a man's knee. It is stretched tight, and fastened securely at each end, and fixed by intermediate pegs at intervals of eight or ten yards. The netting is sufficiently loose to cause a rabbit running against it to become inextricably entangled: and all being prepared, the men hide themselves in the nearest ditch, and send round dogs, specially trained to the work, to beat the adjacent fields. If they are in luck, the rabbits soon come trooping in, and dash madly into the netting, whence they are at once extricated, to have their necks broken by the nearest watcher. Ten or a dozen couple of rabbits is considered a very good "set." In less than half-an-hour it is all over, the net taken up, and a move made somewhere else. These nets are very expensive articles, and a good dog is a treasure. To seize the one, and to shoot the other, is considered by keepers nearly as great a triumph as the capture of the men themselves. This kind of poaching can only be followed on a dark night; so that the West-country poacher, who professes that

It's his delight of a shiny night,

must have had nobler game in view than rabbits. Hares, which are easily netted at the gates through which they are in the habit of passing, may be taken, we suppose, when it is light; but we should have fancied that a dark night was better even for this work. However, as the practitioner aforesaid, whose ideas have been reduced to verse, offers to drink the health of

e'er a genelman
As wants to buy a heer,

we may presume that his experience tended in the opposite direction. For getting pheasants off the roost, a moonlight night is of course indispensable.

Hares and rabbits do not require to be fed like pheasants, and the watching which does for the one will do equally for the other. They add nothing to the cost of preserving where pheasants are preserved, though they add enormously to the pleasure of shooting when the pheasants are being shot.

Our readers will hardly require to be told that to kill five hundred pheasants in the season admits of nothing like regular battue shooting, at which nearly four times that number have been ere now killed in a day. But they will give a man ten or a dozen days of good sport, and, combined with running game, will afford as much shooting as a reasonable man can desire. A party of four guns, killing their thirty brace of pheasants, forty or fifty couple of rabbits, half as many hares, and two or three woodcocks, will have had more than fifty shots apiece. If they began at eleven and left off at four, deducting an hour for luncheon, they will have fired thirteen shots an hour, or more than one every five minutes; so that something very much less than this would be fairly entitled to be called an excellent day's sport. Twenty brace of pheasants, with hares and rabbits in proportion, is, considering the shortness of a winter's day, ample for any four men who do not differ as much from a true sportsman as a glutton differs from an epicure.

To one who cares for natural scenery, the best time of the year for covert shooting is November, when the foliage is thinned sufficiently to give you a fair chance at the pheasants, while the woods have not yet doffed their rich autumnal robes of gold, and purple, and crimson. A more utilitarian reason for the same preference exists likewise in the fact, that the weather in November is still tolerably warm, and that you are able to stand still without such a coldness arising upon the part of your toes and your fingers, that you seem to have lost all acquaintance with them. Moreover, in many parts of England, November is the best month for woodcocks. But if your only object is to make as good a bag as possible, it is better to wait till the leaves are quite off the trees; when the pheasants loom large and black between the bare poles athwart the dead December sky.

A certain knack is required in shooting pheasants, as in shooting everything else, which until a man has mastered, he will go on missing what seems to both himself and lookers-on the easiest shots imaginable. There ought certainly to be no difficulty in hitting a pheasant. He does not dodge and twist like a snipe or a woodcock. To shoot as one does at partridges in the open when our bird is fifty yards away, is folly in covert, and what none but a novice would think of. Pheasants do not rise in covies and bother us in that way. They make a great noise no doubt, about launching themselves before the public: but that is just a bit of bounce which one soon gets used to, and which, after a time, ceases to impress one at all, except perhaps by lending additional gust to the act of stopping them. We believe the chief reason why men miss a pheasant is, in the first place, that he flies a great deal quicker than he seems to fly; and, in the second place, that they do not always wait till he has done rising, which it is generally possible to do without letting him get out of shot, and then firing just as he steadies himself for a straight flight. To kill pheasants, or indeed any birds coming over your head, is an art by itself. If you wait till they are perpendicular, you must give the gun a little swing backwards as you pull; but it is better to breast them if you must shoot, for the shots are unlikely to enter the breast, and probably take fatal effect in the head, neck, or belly.

To shoot a covert properly, the men and beaters should all walk in a line, gunner and beater alternately. We are here, of course, speaking of coverts where that is possible. Many are so thick that it is quite impossible to shoot inside them; and in that case the guns are stationed outside. But the other plan is ten times the more pleasant one, as it admits of a little sociability, seasoned with a few bets, and streaked with a vein of mild chaff. There is no trouble at all in *finding* pheasants and rabbits, if you know they are there. In the coverts they must be, or else, the latter, at least, in the hedgerows. So you beat out the coverts before lunch, and the hedges afterwards, unless upon a day especially set apart for the slaughter of pheasants in all the coverts on the ground. A party of four or five intimate friends for a day of this kind is uncommonly jolly. By the time the winter shooting has arrived, men have had the first keen edge of their desire taken off; and, though they enjoy the sport as much as ever, they are not so nervously anxious about it as on the first of September. The consequence is that there is generally more *fun* going on with a party of this kind than in partridge shooting; also, it is not made quite so much a toil of. You start after a good—perhaps late—breakfast, and a lounge over the fire afterwards, discussing anything but the subject on hand, and giving no one suppose, as you infallibly do in September, that in your opinion the world was created for the sake of shooting. There is no particular skill required in choosing your coverts or beating your ground. The nearest is the best to begin with. Here you are at the side of a nice ash spinney, intersected with ditches, and sloping down to a bit of a brook in the middle. Will you go inside or out? Inside. Very well. Away goes the stump of your cigar. Your shot-pouch is hitched round a little; or, if you use a breech-loader, the belt receives a final tug. Here's the place to get over. Now, then, are you all right? Very well. Let the dogs go; and the day has begun. The men knock at the stems of the ash-trees, and thrash the bushes with their sticks, and probe every tuft of grass with their nailed toes. The keeper roars venomously to some over-zealous spaniel; all together emit a mixture of sounds familiar enough to shooters, but wholly indescribable in words, which are considered calculated to invite, terrify, or deceive into showing themselves, the birds and beasts who lurk beneath the thick covert. Some unwary rabbit is usually the first victim. But that one shot is always the signal, somehow or other, for the commencement of a fusillade which is to last till sunset. Hares and rabbits cross and recross, are killed and missed by dozens, till at last you approach a rather thicker spot, or perhaps a corner of the plantation. Then, from under your feet, comes a sudden roar, as if a tiger had been sprung—so at least it seems to you. A cock pheasant, finding further progress impeded by the thorns, and uncomfortably pressed by men and dogs in his rear, has determined on a bold dash for it. The well-known whirr of his wings sets half-a-dozen more in motion. The pheasants are rising all round you. "Don't leg 'em," bellows some one. "Well missed," cries another. "Come on, sir," says the keeper; "better have this bit out again—there's a lot gone back."

Perhaps, three or four times in the course of the day, the monotonous chant of the beaters will be varied by unearthly shrieks of excitement, out of which is gradually evolved the great fact of "cock—forward"—the simple meaning being that a woodcock has been marked down in front of us. Not a man of the party but would cheerfully pay down a sovereign to bag him. Whereabouts was it, asks every man with a gun, of every man with a stick, in an under-tone, hoping that he himself may obtain some exclusive information. "Oh, he beant far off, sir!" is the usual answer on such occasions. "Just were us be now, a little bit further on, I thinks sir." At that moment, very likely, the bird gets up half-a-dozen yards behind the whole party, dodges sharply between two trees, wheels out of the covert, and is brought down, a long shot, with a broken wing, by one of the outsiders. Just your luck, you think.

The best of luncheon on a winter day's shooting is that you can eat and drink as much as you feel inclined to eat and drink, without either damaging yourself for the day's work, or spoiling your appetite for dinner. On a hot summer's day—and early September is summer—when you are fresh to the work, and the work itself is much harder, you cannot indulge at luncheon without considerable danger. The severe bodily labour which you then undergo weakens your digestive organs. And the inevitable result of indulging your thirst and hunger in the middle of the day is, that you unfit yourself for further walking in the first place, and for comfortable dining in the second. Now, on a winter day's shooting nothing of this kind is likely to occur. You are in good condition. The work is just hard enough to give you a healthy appetite, and not hard enough to make you jaded or feverish. Lunch, therefore, at such a time is a much more unexceptionable institution than it is on a sultry day in early autumn, when you are thoroughly fagged with four hours' hard plodding through heavy wet turnips under a broiling sun. We gave our readers in our last paper upon shooting our ideas of a September luncheon. What ought that meal to be in the middle of December? Why, simply, whatever you like - the best you can get. We object not to hot dishes at such a moment as this. But, after all these involve elaborate preparations, which are scarcely, perhaps, worth the trouble. The chief desideratum, in our opinion, is some good sherry. This should be preceded by a fair allowance of tolerably strong beer—porter, by the by, is a good item in such refreshment—and for eatables, nothing is better than cold pie, cold beef, and such like substantial viands. Perhaps, after all, the chief difference between the two sorts of luncheon is in quantity rather than quality. It is to be remembered, however, that extreme cold, as well as extreme heat, has a tendency to make liquor take effect. And as shooting in covert is rather more ticklish work than shooting in the open, you must be careful to avoid taking so much as to endanger the lives of your companions, either canine or human. The former, however, are always recognised as the more precious of the two. To wound a favourite dog not only inflicts a severe pang upon its owner, but may, perhaps, spoil your day's sport. Whereas, if a man, or, what is more likely, a little boy, gets peppered in his less vital parts, nobody but himself is a pin the worse for the accident—at all events, a human being is taught caution by getting a few shots into his skin, whereas a dog cannot be. Such, ladies, is the brutal style of talk with which your brothers and husbands habitually regale themselves "after lunch."

Rabbit shooting is a most important branch of winter shooting. It is quite sufficient diversion for a whole day, and affords a delightful change after a morning's work among the pheasants. Shooting rabbits in covert as they jump across a narrow ride, or dart between the thick bushes, requires, of course, much greater dexterity than shooting them out of a hedgerow. But this latter practice affords admirable sport. To enjoy it thoroughly there should be four guns, two on each side of the hedge - one to take the rabbit as he comes out, the other to wipe his colleague's eye, should that organ have been too much wetted to enable its possessor to see clearly. We have seen more fun over an hour or two's shooting of this kind than over any kind of shooting we are acquainted with. The worst of preserving rabbits in sufficient quantities is that the presence of them on a farm seems to put tenants into a greater rage than any other kind of game. No doubt they do a great deal of damage, but they can't do more than hares. We suspect that farmers regard a large head of rabbits as the mere wantonness of preserving. Hares and pheasants, they would tell you, are worth eating when you get them; but rabbits they call vermin. They can buy them, too, for 6*d*. apiece, and cheapness, we must suppose, breeds contempt.

Snipe and duck shooting are getting worse and worse every year in England. This falling-off is probably attributable to the extensive drainage which has been carried on all over the kingdom for the last few years, and bids fair to extinguish, within no long period, one of the prettiest of the sportsman's pleasures. There will always, we imagine, be certain districts which are not worth reclaiming, where birds of this species will continue to be found pretty plentifully. But in the cultivated parts of England the complaint is universal, that where, twenty years ago, you could get thirty or forty shots in a morning's walk, you now cannot count on half a dozen. The present writer has never seen either snipe or wildfowl shooting in anything like perfection; but he can speak to the cheerful and invigorating character of a walk along the brook-side in the early days of a frost, when the ground is just covered with a thin coating of snow, and both snipe and duck have come up the running streams which remain as yet unfrozen, away from the ice-bound marshes. In walking a brook-side, the young sportsman should remember always, if he can, to beat down the wind, for snipe always fly against it; and by pursuing that course you are almost sure of getting cross-shots at them, in which position they are very much easier to kill. The best way of shooting at a snipe is still a moot point among sportsmen. Some say, shoot directly, the moment you catch sight of the white under his wing—straight at *that*, and don't let him get away. Others recommend waiting till he has finished the gyrations with which he begins his flight, and to take him at thirty or even forty yards. A great deal depends upon every individual's style of shooting. If he is a very quick shot, perhaps the first-mentioned plan is the best. But we should be inclined, on the whole, to back the other in the long run, especially seeing that a very slight wound is sure to bring a snipe to the ground; and that if you shoot steadily after him as he goes away straight, with a large charge of very small shot, it is hard if one or two don't catch him.

But you have just come upon a sharp bend in the stream where the banks are rather steep, and two or three willows or thorn-bushes, hanging very thickly over the surface, hide a nice little pool from observation. What is this sudden splash, as if a cow were waltzing in the water? The quack, quack-quarck, in another quarter of a second, sends a thrill through your whole body. Ducks, by jingo, and well within shot, too! Two mallards and three ducks—now only take your time! Take your time, sir, I implore you. They rise straight up, and hang for a moment ere they go. Then's your chance. Take your first bird as he poises himself almost stationary in mid-air, and the second as he turns to make off. So shall you seldom fail of your double shot, and return covered with glory. How well I recollect my first duck! I was about seventeen, I believe, at the time. Ducks were scarce in our neighbourhood, and I lived very little at home. It was a very hard winter, and I was determined to have blood or perish in the snow. They got up, two of them, out of a large ditch, nearly full of half-frozen water, from under a great hawthorn-bush, on which the berries blushed through the snow like a bride's cheek through her lace. This simile, I confess, I thought of at a subsequent period. I banged rather recklessly at the nearest as soon as my gun was to my shoulder, and down she flopped dead into the water she had just risen from. I jumped in—I know that, nearly up to my middle, to make sure of my prize at once—and never shall I forget the triumph with which I walked home icicled, but still glowing, and banged down my treasure on the kitchen table. Well, we grow older and wiser. I've gone knee-deep into many follies since, but I don't think I should do *that* again.

NOTES AND QUESTIONS ON SHOOTING.

GLASS FOR GAMEKEEPERS.—What is the best kind of glass for a keeper, and a fair price for the same? Can it be obtained at Callaghan's, in Bond-street?—LANCASHIRE.

GREENER'S BREECH-LOADERS.—I shall feel greatly obliged if either "Jäger" or "Broadcast" will kindly say whether the gun mentioned by them respectively, in THE FIELD of Dec. 24 and 31 last, to be built by Greener, were built by Mr W. W. Greener, of 61 and 62, Loveday-street, Birmingham.—ST. BERNARD.

ALTERATION OF MUZZLE-LOADERS.—I am anxious to have a muzzle-loader altered into a breech-loader, and Sylven's name has been mentioned to me as doing it well and economically: can any reader of THE FIELD give me any information on the subject? I shall be much obliged for all hints.—T. G. F.

WILDFOWL SHOOTING.—While watching wildfowl on Friday and Saturday last, I killed the following miscellaneous bag: Two mallards, four teal, two scaup, three wigeons, five golden eyes, and three pochards. I also saw several tufted ducks and one goosander, but could not get within range. I was using an ordinary double gun, No. 12, 3drs., and 1¼oz. No. 3. My lake is about seven miles inland, and is perfectly crowded with wildfowl. I could have killed many more, but it was too cold to watch long at a time.—N. B. (Forfarshire.)

LIVE GROUSE FOR STOCKING A MOOR.—Could any of your correspondents inform me where I could, during the ensuing season, procure a quantity of live grouse to introduce on a property in Scotland, which, from its outlying situation, has not otherwise the means of having fresh blood introduced? Probably some gentleman who is a proprietor or tenant of a deer-forest where grouse are of no value, would be willing to assist a brother sportsman in this matter.—GROUSE.—[Live grouse cannot be legally obtained before August next. Under the Scotch game laws, not only may you not kill, but you may not take, carry, buy, sell, or have them in possession, during the close season.—ED.]

EFFECTS OF SALT WATER ON A GUN.—About four months since, through the capsising of my boat, I lost a favourite gun of mine in 20 feet of salt water. I offered a reward, but without success. A fortnight since, I went myself, taking two men with a trawl-net, and the second haul found it in its black leather case—rusted up as I expected, but, strange to say, none the worse, excepting the stock being quite black, and, what I cannot account for, the mainsprings broken in three pieces. Why should that happen? There were several frosty nights during its submergence; would that affect salt water 20 feet deep? I saw a single gun that had been dredged up after having lain for three years and three days, in the same water, very little the worse, and the lock as good as ever. It was a back-action lock, and the wood had swollen and formed an air-tight box for it. Thinking this may interest some of your readers who may have lost, and given up the search for, some favourite gun of theirs, I send you this account.—R. J. S.

SCOTCH SHOOTINGS.—In replying to "Ossian" upon the subject of the preservation of deer in the Braemar district, I will courteously say that I was quite aware that deer and sheep were the only subjects mentioned in the *Banff Journal*'s paragraph; but I quoted in THE FIELD that paragraph, because I was pleased to find even an admission that some sort of game did form an admitted article of value in the tariff of Scotch proprietors of moors. The paragraph rather led up to the subject of the value of the preservation of grouse and other muir game in general, and I followed it, though, as "Ossian" observes, rather illogically—but the rules of the schools never stand in my way. My object has always been to seize upon everything which goes to prove that the rentals derived from Scotch shootings are of more importance than the proprietors of them affect to admit, and that they are largely indebted to the sporting spirit of the age for no mean portion of their landed incomes; and *ergo*, that they ought to behave well. The most susceptible political economist need not alarm himself that deer will ever supplant sheep in Scotland, or grouse interfere with sheep. Sheep are too valuable an article of commerce to be lightly esteemed; but grouse-rents and sheep-rents will flourish very nicely together, and I am truly glad that Scotch proprietors have two strings to their bow, or, as I said in my other letter, that they get a double rental—one from sheep, and the other from grouse. *Semper floreant!*—UMBRA.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND THE GAME LAWS.—The *Courier of Lyons* tells a funny story about the arrest of a photographer for poaching. M. Garcin was taking "sun pictures" on the picturesque estate of a M. B——, a well-known preserver of game. While busily engaged with his head under his cloth, he was accosted by a gamekeeper. "Your name?" said the latter. "Garcin." "Your license." "I don't shoot." "Pooh! what is that cannon for?" asked the keeper, pointing to the photographer's apparatus. M. Garcin, laughing heartily, endeavoured to explain that it was for photography. "Oh, that is what you call it, eh?" cried the man, "I shall draw up a *procès verbal*." And he proceeded to write in his memorandum book to the effect that on a certain day of a certain month, he had discovered a poacher named Garcin pointing a cannon at the birds in the hedges, &c. After this important record had been made, the keeper told the photographer that he must go with him before the mayor. When the case was heard by the magistrate, it of course created immense amusement; but it was long before the keeper could be convinced of his error. Perhaps he was not thoroughly satisfied even when the photographer, having recovered his apparatus, showed him the portrait of himself as he appeared watching the "poacher" through an aperture in a hedge.

YACHTING AND ROWING.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

		A.M.	P.M.			A.M.	P.M.
SATURDAY,	Feb. 18	6.21	6.43	WEDNESDAY,	Feb. 22	10.46	11.26
SUNDAY,	... 19	7. 6	7.33	THURSDAY,	... 23	12 0	12 4
MONDAY,	... 20	8 2	8.37	FRIDAY,	... 24	12.34	12.59
TUESDAY,	... 21	9.20	10. 4	SATURDAY,	... 25	1.23	1.49

High Water at Putney an hour later.

COMING EVENTS.

Tues, Feb. 28.—Caffin and King, to scull from Putney to Mortlake (old-fashioned boats) for 50*l*.
Thurs, Mar. 16.—Drewett and Sadler to scull from Putney to Mortlake for 100*l*.
Sat., March 25.—United London Rowing Clubs: opening day, at Putney.
Tues, April 11.—Mackinney and T. Wise, to scull from Putney to Mortlake for 50*l*. (open for 100*l*.)
Tues and Wed, June 27 and 28.—Royal Western Yacht Club of Ireland Regatta, at Queenstown.

ROWING.

CHAPTER VII.—STEERING.

THE DUTIES OF A COXSWAIN are, generally speaking, simple; but they are often most inefficiently performed.—I am now speaking of a coxswain proper, and not of a coach or trainer, temporarily acting as such; although while in charge of a boat and her crew he will fulfil the same office, use the same words of command, and act in all respects like any other coxswain. These duties consist in controlling the movements and actions of the oarsmen in the crew, of giving the requisite orders for starting, stopping, or easing, and especially of steering a straight or true course without deviation. At the present day he does little else, because it is the prevailing fashion to have a coach with each crew until they row their race; and this person exercises many of the functions which were formerly the part of the steersman, as mentioned in the foregoing chapter.

In consequence of this practice, coxswains are now usually chosen on account of their light weight; but excepting in very special cases this "feather" weight is accompanied by want of judgment, not to say knowledge, and especially by want of decision and presence of mind in moments of danger and difficulty.

At the same time, if a coxswain can be found combining, in his own proper person, lightness of weight, a minute knowledge of rowing, a clear and cool head, with an unerring eye, he is a most valuable acquisition—he is the Jemmy Grimshaw of coxswains. But, on the other hand, it is far better to carry a stone or two of extra weight, combined with these qualities, than to put at the yoke-lines a mere child without discretion and without discrimination. How often do we see races hanging in the balance, utterly thrown away by a sudden sheer to the right or the left, when the exercise of a fragment of judgment, and an appeal to the crew for a spurt at the nick of time, would land them winners by a yard. I need only mention one name—Henley—to recall many such to the minds of my readers. One of the most memorable instances on record was the final heat for the stewards' cup in 1859 between the Third Trinity and the London fours. These crews rowed as nearly level as possible all the way from Remenham to Poplar Point, where the Cambridge boat, on the outside, led by a few feet—half way to the finish the London four in its turn led, and when close home both crews answered to the final and impassioned appeals of their coxswains, and Third Trinity were declared the winners by about eighteen inches, or at the most two feet! I never, I must admit, saw such a race before or since, and long shall I remember it. I don't hesitate to assert that the steering of the Cambridge coxswain alone won that heat, for, notwithstanding the disadvantage he was at in being outside, and despite the attempt of the Londoner to throw him out at the fatal spot, he scarcely budged an inch from his course, kept his eyes and his mind on the stretch, and landed himself the winner with the most consummate skill. The same regatta also furnished a memorable example of the mischief done at this same critical spot by the idiotcy of the outside coxswain in sheering out, though but a little. Oxford men know well enough to what I allude.

But to return. The coxswain should take up his position on the aftermost thwart, upon which he should sit upright, with his body tilted slightly forward, his legs crossed, tailor-fashion, and brought as close under him as possible, each foot resting sideways on its outer edge, and his knees wide apart. The yoke-lines should be stretched quite taut, and be held one in each hand, with a single turn round the palm; and there is usually a loop tied in each line, for the insertion of the thumb. Sometimes the thumbs are put in the loops without taking a turn of the line round the hand; but in every case the lines should be fastened together in front of the coxswain's body—even if they are not made of one piece, which seldom happens—otherwise, by a sudden lurch, or from some other accidental cause, one of them may go overboard and tow astern—a *contretemps* by all means to be avoided. The steersman's hands may rest one on each gunwale, the thumbs being inside, and the fingers outside. This enables him to balance himself and to assist in steadying the boat; and, by sliding his hand along the gunwale, forwards or backwards, he tightens or slackens the line accordingly. A coxswain can steer just as well, and can keep quite as true a course, as by holding the lines in any other manner, always providing he keeps them taut, which is essential. Another way of holding the strings is with the hands in the lap; but in either case, the knees, by resting on the gunwales, contribute to regulate the body of the coxswain, which too often renders the after-part of the boat top-heavy and unsteady. The coxswain should incline himself forwards, with the slightest possible departure from an upright position, at every stroke. The lift of the boat will guide him correctly enough; but he must especially be careful never to bob backwards and forwards, after the absurd and erroneous fashion of days gone by.

The words of command that are commonly used in directing a crew are few, and the fewer the better. The same terms should always be employed, as there is then no chance of being misunderstood; but various localities have various practices. When starting a crew in any ordinary sort of way, although it is frequently necessary for Nos. 1 and 3, or 2 and 4 to pull a stroke, the coxswain generally says, "Are you all ready?" followed by, "Row on, all!" but on the London water these instructions are divided into three—*i.e.*, "Are you ready?" "Get forward all," and then "Go!" This may be all very well in a race or in practising starts; but it is preferable to economise words. When it is necessary to diminish the pace, but not to cease rowing, the term "Row easy all" is employed; or "Row easy bow-side," or "stroke side," as the case may be; but when discontinuing pulling, "Easy all," at which command every once ceases to row: this last order should be given at an appreciable interval before the conclusion of one stroke, so as to prevent the crew from getting into another. When deemed desirable to stop the boat suddenly, the coxswain should say "Hold water," or, "Hold her up, all," or, "Stop her up, all;" and this may, when her way is checked, be followed by "Back water, all." In turning round, "Pull bow-side, back stroke-side," or, *vice versa*, or, "Nos. 1 and 3 row," and so on, according to requirements: "Easy all," or "Easy 1 and 3," as the case may be, bringing them again into a state of rest. In the event of getting too close to an obstruction, such as another boat, a barge, bridge, or the bank, so that there is a chance of the oars on one side touching it, the attention of the men wielding those particular oars may be called to the fact by the words "Oars, bow-side," or "stroke-side;" or, "Mind your oars, bow-side," &c. The former is the shortest, and, therefore, the best.

In steering a boat, the coxswain will have no difficulty when the course is straight, if he takes for his mark to be steered to, the most conspicuous object in the proper direction in which he is to go; but the further it is off the better. A chimney, a craft at anchor, a tree, a house, or any other equally visible object, will serve his purpose. When, however, the stream takes a turn in the distance, the boat's head should be guided straight to the supposed point in the water at which she will commence to make her bend—but yet wide of the corner—and any notable object in this line, but beyond it, will be the correct mark to aim at, until close to the promontory. The boat's head should not be brought round until nearly opposite the apex of the bend; but the main point to be recollected is to fetch a boat round gradually and by slow degrees, because the greater the application of the rudder, the greater the diminution of speed. In some cases it is even advisable to ease the oars on the inner side of the boat, or to call upon the outer side for an increased effort. The following maxim, however, is well worth remembering, viz., that "a boat should be 'coaxed' by its rudder;" and by judiciously increasing the pressure on the tightened line when the oars are out of the water, and slackening it when they are being pulled through the water, the labour of the men is lightened. It is only permissible to jam a rudder hard up or hard down, when turning a sharp corner, as at the Universities, or in cases of threatened collision.

The reason for coming up wide to a corner is sufficiently obvious, viz. to pass clear of the point without the necessity of pulling first one line and then the other; for, supposing a boat's nose steered straight for a corner, just before reaching it the rudder would have to be used to sheer her head out sufficiently to clear it, and immediately afterwards it would

again have to be put on the opposite way, so as to follow the true course. A zigzag, instead of a regular steady bend, would be the result, and ground would be thereby lost. To obviate this, a boat's head should always point towards the shore opposite to the corner round which she is travelling, and correctly so, for the reason I have just indicated, notwithstanding, at first sight, it may appear somewhat strange.

The most difficult time for steering is during a strong cross-wind, because a boat drives away rapidly to leeward. Under these circumstances, it will be necessary to keep her head slightly to windward of her true course; experience and the force of the wind will alone determine how much: thus, her line of keel will not be coincident with the line of motion. Should the wind happen to be several points before the beam, or on the quarter, the stern of the boat will be driven to leeward and her head be brought up to windward; this must be counterbalanced by a proportionate use of the lee-line—always bearing in mind that the stern is more powerfully acted upon by the wind, than the bow.

When preparing a crew for a particular race, it is as well to let the coxswain have almost as much practice as the oarsmen; they will then get accustomed to one another, and if of an enquiring turn of mind, and of quick apprehension, he will soon learn to pick out any little fault indistinguishable or unnoticed from the bank, and thereby will exercise a double check over his men. He will naturally make the most of every opportunity to study the set of the tide or current, and will use his best endeavours to pick up items of information on the point, from persons qualified to advise him. The rule is to keep close to the banks when against the stream, and nearly in the centre when with it; but particular courses require special directions, into which it is not my purpose now to enter, if I make two exceptions—these are the Putney and the Henley courses.

Notwithstanding the elaborate and somewhat voluminous instructions upon the course to be steered between Putney and Mortlake, given by the Oxford writer previously quoted by me, and which contain several fallacies, I may mention that the correct and best course is to make for Craven Cottage point, rounding it rather closely, but avoiding getting in under the Fulham bank between Putney-bridge and that landmark; thence in nearly a straight line to the Soap-works point, which should not be passed too wide; thence under the Surrey arch of Hammersmith-bridge—which is itself the apex of the promontory—and close in until opposite the bottom of Chiswick Eyot, off which the best position is at a third of the width of the river from the Towpath, giving the corner opposite Chiswick Church a moderately-wide berth; thence in midstream, until off the Bathing Creek, on the right-hand side, and then at the distance of a third of the width of the stream from the Middlesex bank, to the Ship, taking the shore arch of Barnes-bridge and keeping close to the buttress. With the ebb, nearly in midstream until passing the bottom of Chiswick Eyot, where the boat should be kept slightly to the Middlesex side of the centre until off the Doves; thence midstream to Hammersmith-bridge, which should be passed pretty close to the Surrey buttress or Steamboat Pier; and about midstream to Putney-bridge, unless the tide is very low, when the Towpath shore should be hugged from the Crab Tree until arriving at Craven Cottage; thence in midstream to the Aqueduct. A voyage in one of the steamers which ply for hire in the summer-time is an easy way of finding the correct path, for they always follow it according to tide.

At Henley the course to be kept is in midstream (or according to position at starting) until nearing Poplar Point, when the Towpath bank should be hugged quite close until halfway up the last straight reach, where the second arch of the Bridge from the Berkshire side should be aimed at. The Towpath side is generally considered the best at starting—that is to say, in the absence of wind, or if there is a breeze off that shore; but the centre of the river is the preferable course, unless a gale blows down the reach or off the Buckinghamshire bank, when the shelter of the bushes on that side may be sought and be cultivated for three-quarters of a mile.

It is almost unnecessary for me to mention that no coxswain should allow himself to be bored out of his course by an adversary, but it is better to give way rather than to assist in bringing about a foul. This, however, must not be understood to mean that one is always to give way to such conduct, for if, on being cautioned, the opposing coxswain persists in boring, and causes a foul, he does so at his own peril, and must take the consequences. If uncertain how to act in a dilemma, the coxswain should seek the advice of the stroke-oar, with whom he should under such circumstances communicate. Otherwise he must depend upon his own judgment; but his mind should promptly be made up, and his determination as promptly be acted upon. No wavering in the horns of a dilemma. Perhaps one of the most awkward things to allow for and pass, is a sailing barge making short boards across the course of a racing boat, and an inexperienced and nervous coxswain is sure to make a bungle. The intervening distance between the two craft and their respective rates of progression, should be calculated to a nicety in deciding upon the proper course to be taken.

Lastly, a knowledge of the mysteries of giving an antagonist the wash, by getting a rapid lead, is only to be gained by repeated handling of the lines; but the large wave travelling at a tangent from the boat's quarter, if judiciously thrown upon the bow or side of the enemy, will grievously prejudice their chance, even if in other respects the crews are pretty well matched.

ARGONAUT.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY BOAT CLUB.

THE University crew were only able to have two days' practice up to Thursday last, the Cam being completely frozen over below the boat-houses on Wednesday. There have been no changes made at present, but, in all probability, when they resume practice, Mr Kinglake, another of last year's crew, will take a place in the middle of the boat.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY BOAT CLUB.

THE University eight has been composed, for the past week, of much the same material as during the former one, that is to say:—1. Raikes (Merton); 2. Wood (Pembroke); 3. Coventry (Pembroke); 4. Schneider (Trinity); 5. A. Morrison (Balliol); 6. Henley (Oriel); 7. Smith (University); Brown (Trinity). (st.) Nos. 3 and 6 have frequently changed places, but the crew, as a whole, seems to be pretty nearly fixed upon. As the men will not go into training for another fortnight, probably, it is too soon to speak of the form of the boat; suffice it to say that present appearances are not very encouraging for the dark blue, neither the time nor swing being by any means perfect. A week or two may, however, see a great improvement. On Thursday Mr Coxe, of Brasenose, took Mr Smith's place at No. 7.

At a captains' meeting, held on Monday last, the proposal of Cambridge to restrict the time during which men might row at Putney to four years' standing was discussed. The whole tone of the meeting was averse to it, and a resolution to that effect was passed, and ordered to be transmitted to Cambridge.

At the same meeting Mr Pocklington-Senhouse, of Christ Church, was elected on the committee in place of Mr Carr, of Wadham.

KIPPEN AND HASSALL.

A SCULLERS' race was rowed on Monday afternoon from Putney Aqueduct to the Ship at Mortlake, between George Kippen, of Hungerford, and Robert Hassall, of Lambeth, for a stake of 50l. Neither of the men had previously appeared in a public match that we are aware of, but, judging from the reports of their practice for some weeks prior to the day of the race, the affair appeared to be considered a foregone conclusion, and proved of very little interest in any way.

Shortly after four o'clock the two scullers went to the post, Hassall taking the Fulham and Kippen the Surrey station. The former was coached up by George Drewett, of Chelsea, and the latter by H. Kelley, of Putney.

Kippen was the favourite at starting, odds of 7 to 4 being laid upon him, and we believe as much as 2 to 1 was betted a day or two before the race. Mr C. Newnham of Lambeth officiated as referee, on board the steamer Volunteer. Immediately after the start, Kippen, who was by far the better sculler, commenced to lead, and was nearly a boat's length ahead off the Star and Garter. At the London Club Boathouse he had taken Hassall's water, and gradually increased his advantage all the way up to Mortlake, winning an easy race by several lengths, in 27 minutes. Hassall rowed gamely, but was outpaced throughout.

STEAMBOAT ON THE TRENT.—I was glad to see that "Novarcensis," in the last FIELD, drew attention to that universal pest to all sportsmen who frequent certain parts of the banks of the Trent, viz., the steam-tug. This horrible engine was started some three or four years ago, and since that time has continued to ply between Nottingham and Newark at all periods of the year. During the last six months, its journeys have, however, been more frequent. Angling, for at least half an hour after it has passed, is quite out of the question, as it raises immense waves, and, when the water is clear, fish of all sizes may be seen to rush terrified to the sides on its approach. It is very injurious to wildfowl-shooting, as it makes a noise which may be heard a mile distant. It also emits sparks on a darkish night sufficient to frighten birds tamer than a wild-duck. Not being a rower, I have not experienced its evil effects when on the water. It is reported to have been purchased by a man who paid too much for the keep of his horses which towed barges. Be that as it may, one would have thought the Trent Navigation Company had power to stop a nuisance alike detrimental to the interests of the angler, the rower, and lovers of the trigger.—TRENT BANK.

DATE OF OUTRIGGERS.—I first saw outriggers used in Canada in 1841, on the St. John's river, at Isle aux Noix, on a dug-out or log canoe. These canoes are clumsy affairs, generally propelled by paddles. In this instance there was a piece of plank 3 or 4 inches wide, fastened right across the canoe, with the ends projecting 1 foot or 1 foot 3 inches on each side; the oars worked on iron pins, so as to allow them to swing alongside. The boatman informed me that he remembered this method of rowing a canoe in smooth water for years. This rude apparatus acted very well for the purpose there required. The canoes vary much in length and size. I adapted a similar outrigger to a bark canoe, making the wood bend inside to the form of the canoe for greater convenience, but found it useless in so light and short a craft, as it pulled her head under water. The paddles used in Canada for canoes are single, not like those used by the Esquimaux.—M. V.

—— The first outrigger that I can find used on racing boats, was fixed on a boat called the Diamond, of Ouseburn, Tyneside, when she rowed against the Fly, of Scotswood, Tyneside, in 1828, it being only a rude piece of wood fixed on the side, invented by Anthony Brown, of Ouseburn, and fixed by Ridley, a boat-builder of that period. Frank Emmet in the same year claimed the invention, and fixed something similar on a boat belonging to Dent's Hole, Tyneside; and there can be no dispute that the Eagle of Dent's Hole, by Emmet, was the first with iron outriggers, in the year 1830.—TYNE.

SLIDING KEELS FOR YACHTS.—My only actual experience of moveable keels has been in an 18-foot boat of the American model, which answered well in smooth-water sailing; but I had no opportunity of testing her qualities in a sea-way. The moveable keel was pivoted above the water line, and its case rose to the height of the deck, having a fixed cover, with a small aperture at the after end, through which the galvanised iron handle worked to lift or push down the keel as required. This handle was a jointed one of flat iron, consequently when the keel was raised the handle dropped forward on the keel case out of the way; holes were punched through the handle at intervals, and by inserting a peg the draught of water was adjusted at pleasure. In beating up muddy creeks we took soundings with the keel, one steering, the other, handle in hand, watching the wake of the boat for stirred-up mud—when down helm was the word, and she was away on the other tack in a twinkling. They are most amusing boats in rivers where you have to deal with sand-banks or narrow creeks, and are frequently used as shooting yachts; but the smaller ones are considered dangerous in a sea-way, and from their shortness and light draught are bad to steer before the wind. At Topsham on the Exe the fishermen often build their boats without a keel, substituting a stout elm plank about eight inches wide in the middle, and tapering towards the stern and sternpost (in which boats men known as lumpers will go alongshore twenty miles or more in search of vessels to discharge by contract), which would evidently afford good fastening for a keel case. I am in communication with an English yacht-builder, and if I can procure an estimate either for building or altering, will forward the same, as there is nothing like being practical in these matters. As the mudbanks of Cremorne are rather out of my latitude, I am not likely to have the opportunity of inspecting the triple-keeler referred to by the Editor, but imagine the keels must have been of great depth. I would not, therefore propose, if I made the trial, more than four inches.—J. WILCOCKS.

YACHT BUILDING.—I read with much interest the various opinions given in THE FIELD of the 11th inst., on the best method of building vessels for speed and stability, and, of course, of great interest to the yachting world. I may be considered bold, when I say the principles of ship-building for speed, especially in yachts, as at present applied, are totally at variance with the laws of nature. An idea is dawning on the intellects of some ship-builders, as to the style necessary for speed and stability; but not wishing to take up the space of your valuable columns, permit me to say that I shall be most happy to describe personally, to any gentleman purposing building a model craft, my design for a yacht. Nature does not point out to man the positive principles he may use that she gives to fish, or creatures swimming in the vasty deep, suitable to their objects for speed, but permits his superior intellect to convert those principles for his purpose. I venture to say we have overlooked the means to the end. Being much interested in ships and their sea-going qualities, I may be allowed to say that, being the inventor of the twin screw-paddles, I have adopted the law of propulsion for speed (as shown in the duck, and pectoral fins of the fish) to our own objects. Her Majesty's royal steam yacht is now to be fitted for trial with my patent propellers, instead of paddles. The opinions of the most scientific men of the day are in my favour. The principle is simplicity itself. I have proved the fact that my patent propellers give greater speed, no vibration, no paddle wave, more useful to river and canal boats than the feathering float-wheels or screw. The sea-going results of my wheels will be soon known. I have also proved their extraordinary power on the rudder—at least thirty per cent. over the power of the rudder as found with the present mode of propulsion—besides a lifting property to the vessel. I have combined remarks on both heads, of speed and propulsion, with scarcely any disturbance of the water, a matter invaluable to those who amuse themselves in river rowing or sailing, and do not wish to be swamped or upset.—J. MCGRIGOR CROFT, M.D., late Staff Surgeon to her Majesty's Royal Army, the Inventor of the Alexandra Arrow and Smooth-bore Rifle Bullet (Mandarin Villa, St. John's-Wood, Feb. 14).

COST OF KEEPING A YACHT.—"Rus" asks the yearly expense of a yacht of 50 tons, keeping her afloat three months? A cutter of that tonnage should have at least a captain and three hands, although most yachtsmen would have four; then if "Rus" lived on board, he must have a good man as cook and steward. A captain may be had for 30s. to 35s. per week, the men at 21s. to 24s., and the cook at 25s. to 27s., all of them provisioning themselves. A schooner of 50 tons will work with one hand less than a cutter of similar tonnage. When "Rus" desires to lay his yacht up he may do so at most of the yachting stations for about 10s. per week; say 5s. per week for a shipkeeper to look after the vessel, and 5s. for a store for the sails, gear, boat, &c., or they can be kept on board and the storeage money saved. The expenses attending dismantling to lie up, and of fitting out again for a cruise, presuming the vessel required no new gear, sails, &c., would be but moderate—say about 10l. altogether, for varnish, paint, &c; of course this is if the captain and crew did it. The dismantling and storing would take them a week at most, and the fitting out, painting up, &c., another week or ten days. As to the average expense, according to size of yacht, the rule is one man to every 10 tons, up to about 70 or 80 tons. Many gentlemen keep their captains permanently, at a yearly pay, or at so much per week whilst cruising, and about half-wages when vessel is lying up; the captain can then look after the yacht. A captain permanently engaged would expect two suits of uniform clothing per annum, and many yachtsmen give their men the same, although they do not keep them on pay all the year round. Some captains are provisioned by their owners, and so are the cooks; it is, perhaps, policy to agree with one's cook at so much per week, and find him in food, or he may find himself out of one's own stock. There are, however, so many methods of agreeing with the crew of a yacht that I fear to trespass too much on your space to give them all, but if "Rus" likes to have my address, please give it him; and I will answer him direct, or I will reply to any further inquiries through your medium.—V. W. (R.W.Y.C. of Ireland).

—— In answer to "Rus's" inquiry about cost, &c., yearly of a 50-ton yacht, it depends upon what sort of condition the yacht is in when she is purchased, and in what condition she has been always kept up. I think with others, that if you allow 1l. a-ton per month, it will cover wages, &c., and moderate wear and tear. If the vessel has been let out before she is sold, "Rus" will find always something wanting, and in that case, the yearly expense of a yacht is difficult to arrive at. The 1l. a ton per month does not include expenses, of course, in a racing vessel, for the wear and tear then is considerable, but only in a cruising vessel. My humble opinion is, that to keep a cutter yacht of 50 tons as she ought to be kept afloat for four months, it would cost, with an allowance for wear, &c., not less than from 300l. to 350l. This is exclusive of food and wine, which, of course, can be made a very expensive item.—QUASIMODO.

—— The expenses of yachting may be divided into two classes—the necessary and incidental—for both of which I will endeavour to give an estimate. A yacht of 50 tons may be bought new for about 25l. to 30l. a ton 1500l.; but this latter sum ought to include every fitting except racing sails, lead ballast, and ornamental gimcrackery, which may be run up to any amount. Second-hand yachts may often be purchased at the rate of 10l. a ton. I should take the average price of a 50-ton yacht as 1000l.; and as interest must be calculated on this kind of investment at least as high as ten per cent., the annual cost would be 100l. The usual sum asked for the hire of a yacht is 1l. a ton for a month. A 50-ton yacht would therefore cost 150l. for three months to hire; and this sum, though rather high, is less in reality than the cost of owning a yacht, when all the various items of fitting and repairs are taken into account. To this must be added subscriptions to clubs, hire of moorings, insurance, dock and harbour duties—amounting probably to 50l. If a yacht is in commission for only three months, she must be laid up for the rest of the year; and if she is a valuable vessel, her rigging must be dismantled, her mast and decks payed over, and a snug berth found for her during the winter months. This, and the fitting out again in the summer, will make a hole in another 50l. The principal expense while the yacht is afloat will be the keep of the crew, which for a yacht of 50 tons may be reckoned at 6l. a week; and although for this the men ought to keep themselves, practically they never do, and another 4l. or 5l. a week must be added for their eating and drinking. Housekeeping on board a yacht is not likely to be economical, and must be calculated with a very large margin for extravagance, waste, and inordinate appetites, both on the part of the owners and the crew. The capacity of the latter for solids and liquids will astonish a novice. It is impossible to fix any sum for this item, but the most liberal estimate will not be found to exceed the reality. Taking these and many other items into consideration, such as purchase of yachting suits for self and family, and clothes for the crew, bunting, gratuities, charities, subscriptions, and general outlay in excess of shore-going habits, I should put the yearly expense of a yacht of 50 tons, keeping her afloat for three months, say with a party of four persons on board, at 500l. I think that a calculation based on this would be found to hold good on the ascending scale, as a yacht of 200 tons would involve an outlay of little less than 2000l. a year, including living on board for three months and interest of money laid out in prime cost;—100l. a year would easily cover the expense of a 10-ton yacht. As a set-off to this, it may be borne in mind that it is very possible to live entirely on board a yacht of 50 tons and upwards, so that the expense of a house or lodgings at the sea-side may be avoided—no inconsiderable item on the south coast. These figures may appear rather high to some of your readers, but they are based on actual experience and a knowledge of the expenses attendant upon this most delightful of sports. There may be those who, like John Gilpin, "when on pleasure bent" retain "a frugal mind;" but they had better steer clear of Ryde and Cowes, the Scylla and Charybdis of many a young yachtsman, whose bones (figuratively speaking) lie bleaching on the shores of the Solent.—J. H.

PRINCE OF WALES YACHT CLUB.—On Friday last, the monthly meeting was held at the club-house, Freemasons' Tavern, Mr Long in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the vice-commodore gave notice of an alteration in sailing regulation 15; and the annual ball for the 23rd was discussed. The stewards will meet on Tuesday to report progress, and they are as follows; the officers of the club, and Messrs A. Turner, J. Webber, G. Burney, L. Lemaum, W. Massingham, H. Dodd, J. R. Palmer, E. G. Knibbs, T. Burton, T. O. Buss, J. Smith.

ROYAL LONDON YACHT CLUB.—The monthly meeting will be held on Monday at the Caledonian Hotel, Adelphi. The special committee will bring forward their report as to the practicability of raising the subscriptions and entrance fees of the club. The ball will take place on Tuesday at Willis's Rooms, and the following are stewards; the flag officers, treasurer, and cup-bearer, and Messrs Smith, C. Borras, F. W. Bullen, E. Crosley, J. K. H. Gough, W. Hodges, Foster Newton, S. F. Oriel, R. S. Phillips, C. O. Rising, J. S. Smeath, and R. J. Wood.

THE LIBRARY.

Our Saddle Horses. By KER B. HAMILTON, Esq., C.B. London: Smith, Elder, and Co., 65, Cornhill. 8vo. pp. 39.

WE are all of one mind that good saddle-horses are scarce, as compared with those of the last century, and, indeed, the great increase in the price of such articles within the last fifty years affords ample proof of that opinion. Within our memory, a hack which would now fetch 100l. could be bought for 30l. or 40l., and hunters in a like proportion; but this only proves that the difference between demand and supply is greater than it was formerly. Arguments from price are altogether fallacious in estimating the relative value of commodities at two different periods, because it is impossible to get at the relation which the demand has borne to it in each. If we were to take it as a rule, we might be induced to come to the conclusion that the grey horse Echo, purchased at the late Mr Anderson's sale last week, is from three to six times as good as any hack sold in the early part of this century, for, assuredly, it would be difficult to find a hack sold by auction for 200l. at that time; yet we think most practical men would refuse their assent to this opinion. We accept, however, as a fact, in common with the great majority of those acquainted with the present condition of our saddle-horses, that there is room for improvement in them, and we therefore eagerly looked for the appearance of the book whose title is given above. But alas! our disappointment has been as great as our expectations, for we can find no suggestion whatever made by Mr Hamilton towards the improvement of the saddle-horse, either in breeding, breaking, or use. The first four chapters consist of a short sketch of the opinions which have lately been expressed by Mr Dickenson, Mr Wyndham, Admiral Rous, "Oxonian," and other writers in the *Times*, followed by the ordinary and well-known history of the horse. These may be useful as a means of reference, imperfect though it is; but the concluding chapter on our riding horses—embracing, according to its table of contents, an account of "Our cavalry horses," and a statement that the "remedy for, or prevention of, deterioration of our horses is in the hands of English landholders"—is absolutely almost without a single original remark on these important subjects. Several extracts are made from Capt. Nolan's well-known work on cavalry, as well as from articles in the *Edinburgh* and *Quarterly Reviews*, *Baily's Magazine*, and a pamphlet, published by Hatchard, on "The Condition of our Saddle-horses;" but scarcely a suggestion from the author beyond the concluding paragraph, in the first half of which we cordially join, that "the country would gratefully acknowledge its obligation to his Royal Highness (the Prince of Wales) in leading or countenancing the movement for improving the breed of horses, and obtaining that description of horse which an exclusive regard to the racecourse has made scarce." We cannot agree with the author in the latter part of this statement, for we do not believe in its truth. His argument is founded upon the fact that racehorses, as a class, go with a straight knee; and he advises his readers, in the only practical suggestion which we can find in this chapter, to make this the sole test of the desirability or otherwise of a sire. We think we could show the fallacy of this rule, by reference to numerous examples of good sires with straight action, and bad ones though bending the knee, but we have no desire to enter into a discussion upon this point. Our sole object in referring to it, is to indicate to our readers the very slight nature of the materials of which the book is composed.

The Cruise of the Royal Yacht Squadron Schooner "Eva." By ARTHUR KAVANAGH. With Illustrations. Dublin: Hodges, Smith, and Co.

HAVING, some time since, noticed a remark in THE FIELD expressing regret that none of the many yachtsmen who visited foreign countries ever gave their experiences to the public, the author of the present volume determined to jot down and publish a description of a shooting cruise to the Albanian shores, on which he sailed from the Waterford river towards the close of October 1862, and in this particular he breaks nearly new ground. The "Cruise of the Eva," a fore-and-aft schooner of 130 tons, which he owned, is the result.

In his voyage out to Gibraltar, Mr Kavanagh bears testimony to the difficulty of navigation in the Channel on account of the numerous vessels about, especially coasting-steamers, whose look-out—even on a dirty night, with the weather "as thick as a hedge," accompanied by a driving rain—is of the most slovenly kind, if perchance the watch is not wrapt in peaceful slumber; and he advises yachtsmen who may be caught in a gale in that unpleasant cruising-ground never to heave-to if it can possibly be avoided, and always to keep a bluelight dry and handy upon deck, as it may serve to rouse a sleepy coaster.

His opinion upon shaping a course to the Mediterranean is, that as regards crossing the Bay of Biscay, the best plan to pursue after having worked down to the latitude of Finisterre, and having gained an offing out of sight of that point, is to shape an easterly course until land is made, and then to hug the coast of Portugal down along, the wind there prevailing being N.E. for nine months out of twelve according to the pilots, but for the whole twelve according to his own experience. Again, should it be the summer season, calms are frequent; but by being close to the land, there is every prospect of the land breeze at night, because it does not blow with much force in the offing; and even in winter, a continuance of N.E. wind is not to be reckoned upon far out, with the same certainty as alongshore. In the log of the voyage to the Ionian Islands, there are but few noteworthy incidents, if we except a short stay at the Rock, a race with a schooner of 160 tons, belonging to the Royal Victoria, and a heavy storm between Cape de Gatte and the Island of Sardinia. After a stay of three days at Palermo, and twelve at Naples, the Eva arrived inside Corfu, and let go her anchor in the Bay of Gomenitza, on the Albanian coast, on the 10th of December. On the following day she hove-to in Corfu Roads.

The remainder and by far the larger portion of the book, viz., from pp. 78 to 217, is devoted to the shooting obtained in the neighbourhood of the Seven Islands as well as along the Albanian shores; and the various localities and their capabilities for sport are fully entered into, and must prove eminently useful to sportsmen intending to visit those parts, though it is questionable whether the report of a smooth-bore will be so frequently heard there as formerly, now that the islands have been annexed to the kingdom of Greece, and the garrison removed to other stations. The game met with consisted principally of cocks, wildfowl, and pigs; although deer, hares, and jackals were occasionally picked up; and the bag—though not, perhaps, a very heavy one—at any rate contained a variety. On the 7th of March the Eva set sail on her homeward voyage, and on the 15th of April once more anchored in Irish waters.

It is to be regretted that, in a book devoted to sport, a writer should enter into a discussion on politics; but, we presume, the subject of the cession of the Ionian Islands, which was the topic of the day during the stay of the Eva at Corfu, was too tempting to be left untouched. We also trust that, should the issue of another edition be called for, the pages of the work now before us may be submitted to a more careful revision than appears to have been accorded to them. The book, however, is nicely got up, well printed, and contains some excellent engravings, more especially those of the Eva herself, and of the bays visited by her party.

Essays on Fiction. By NASSAU W. SENIOR. London: Longman and Co.

FOLLOWING the fashion, Mr Senior has collected the essays contributed by himself to the *Quarterly*, *Edinburgh*, *London*, and *North British Reviews* from the year 1821 to the year 1857. The subjects of these elaborate criticisms are, Sir Walter Scott, Sir E. B. Lytton, Thackeray, Colonel Senior, and Mrs Beecher Stowe. But the author has aimed at something more than reviews of the works of those novelists, rather using them as illustrations of treatises on fiction as a branch of literature which seems to flourish even more in an advanced civilisation than in those ruder times which are commonly supposed to be most congenial to it. When there was a mania for the diffusion of useful knowledge, it was confidently believed by the promoters of the movement that the marvellous facts of nature and the revelations of science would speedily banish fiction from popular favour. But it flourishes more than ever. Education has multiplied immensely the readers of fiction; and it is certainly disappointing to find that the art of reading—which we have taken such pains to teach—should be directed to fiction rather than to fact. Why it is so, the reader will learn from the very philosophical discussion on the principles of the art of fiction contained in the volume before us.

THE NATURALIST.

PRIVATE LIFE OF THE KINGFISHER.

BY EDWARD NEWMAN, F.L.S., F.Z.S.

I HAVE NEVER MET with a naturalist who did not love the halcyon: its brilliant colours, its rapid and elegant movements, its exquisite appearance while hovering, its statuesque figure while watching, its peculiarity in nesting, and the lovely transparent pink of its remarkable eggs, have all attracted the notice of the naturalist, and have employed the descriptive powers of his pen: Montagu, Waterton, Weir, Turner, Macgillivray, Yarrell, and many others, have petted the halcyon as one of their choicest subjects. Poets also have been lavish in its praise: Ovid, Shakespeare, Cowper, Tennyson, and a host of minors, handle her name with reverence and love. So abundant are the passages that treat of the halcyon that I can scarcely forbear prefacing my unassuming history with a "prelude of mottoes." With such a superabundance of admirers, one would think the reputation of lovely halcyon perfectly safe; but, alas! it is far otherwise, and the columns of The Field attest the fact that the finest points in her character have not yet been brought out.

The practical naturalist and the imaginative poet have alike overlooked the inestimable worth of the kingfisher in an economical and commercial point of view: to this lovely bird are we indebted for the preservation of the delicate fry of the salmon and trout. This is a statement that any one may verify if he desire, or which, if untrue, he may refute with ease. Nature, ever bounteous, creates the embryo of our fishes in profuse abundance; but she also provides checks to their too rapid increase. Now, whoever will take the trouble to examine the fry of that invaluable fish the salmon, will find it at first a shapeless, helpless object, rolling about on the gravelly bottom of our transparent streams, and apparently sadly in want of locomotive power, and also of a rudder wherewith to direct its course. This helpless, shapeless multitude is not allowed to pass downward to the sea unmolested; it is accompanied and intermixed with a finny army of depredators and devourers, minnows and sticklebacks, creatures with insatiable appetites, and seemingly created to keep the hosts of Salmonidæ within legitimate bounds. In localities where the kingfisher is unknown, or even where it is scarce, these destroyers work their will, and myriads upon myriads of infant salmon and infant trout become their prey. But this is not invariably the case: the minnow and the stickleback are the favourite though possibly not the only food of the kingfisher: instances may have occurred, and certainly it has been so recorded, of a kingfisher making free occasionally with a juvenile chub, or minute roach, or a nasty dace or bleak, but always in a state of infancy, and while their diminitive dimensions induced the beguiled kingfisher to imagine them either minnows or sticklebacks. Supposing, however, this mistake to be committed now and then, the loss is very unimportant; for no man of taste cares a button for chub, roach, or dace, or bleak, even when arrived at maturity. As for salmon or trout, I have never met with an instance of the kingfisher feeding on either. Thus, the private life of the kingfisher is one of unmixed utility: to him it is given in charge to protect the infant salmon when it is totally unable to take care of itself. Let it not, however, be imagined that I suppose the kingfisher has any particular objection to the colour of salmon, or picks out the minnows on account of their superior flavour; such an idea would be absurd with regard to a bird that invariably swallows its prey whole. The truth is, that the minnows at this period are full grown, and are excessively well-conditioned, so that they are fishes of mark, and offer a greater temptation to the bird than the insignificant beings destined hereafter, should they escape the minnows, to become salmon. Now admitting—and who shall deny it?—that salmon is a wholesome, nutritious, and withal a palatable food for man, and hence that the culture of the salmon is desirable in an economic point of view, then the kingfisher, as guardian of the salmon, is unquestionably a friend and benefactor to man, and should be preserved and encouraged by every means in his power.

Let us turn to the domestic arrangements of the kingfisher: my own experience of its home economy is that it makes no nest, and excavates no burrow—on both which points I admit that difference of opinion prevails. These differences of opinion are perfectly allowable, but when any statement is made without a concomitant attempt at proof, it should certainly be received with caution; and frequently as we have read these statements, we must admit that we have no direct evidence on their truthfulness. The site chosen by the kingfisher for oviposition is the extremity of a cylindrical burrow in a sand-bank, varying from two to three feet in depth, and, though sometimes tortuous, generally straight, and almost invariably slightly ascending from the entrance to the extremity. A question arises as to the engineer by whom this work is executed: some say that it is the work of the mole, others of the water-rat, and others assert that the kingfisher itself designs the excavation, but the best observers think it adopts the forsaken hole of the sand-martin. With this last view I entirely concur. I reject the mole theory (though it appears in Bewick) and the water-rat theory (though advocated by Temminck)—first, because the burrow of these animals is very much longer and very much more tortuous; and, secondly, because water-rats never mine lofty sand-banks or the walls of quarries. Then, I cannot give the kingfisher itself the credit, because it has never been detected in the act; and, lastly, I believe the sand-martins to be the real engineers, because I have repeatedly seen these birds making exactly similar excavations, in exactly similar situations. Wherever the breeding place of the kingfisher has been discovered, the bottom had always been found wholly or partially floored with the bones of minnows and sticklebacks: these bones are cast up in spherical pellets from the stomachs of the birds; for a short time these pellets retain their round form, but soon crumble to pieces, and resolve themselves into clean-bleached minnow-bones. An observant naturalist, the author of "Life in Normandy," thinks the eggs are laid on the bare surface of the sand, and that the bone pellets are scattered around by the incubating parent in such abundance as to form the bed on which the young ones subsequently repose.

The eggs are from five to eight in number—six or seven generally, and very rarely as many as eight; they are almost round, have a delicately-smooth surface, and semi-transparent shell, through which the colour of yelk is perceptible, giving the most delicate rosy tint to the entire egg. When empty, the shell is white, without the slightest spot or shade of any colour.

The young kingfishers much resemble the adults, and the exquisite colour of the back makes its appearance before they leave the nest—if I may call by the name of nest the bed of minnow-bones on which these juveniles repose while dependent on the care of their parents. There is scarcely any difference between the male and female; but the beak of the latter is slightly smaller, and her colours somewhat less brilliant.

I know of no more beautiful object than the kingfisher as it flies over the surface of a stream, or hovers, hawk-like, for a second over its prey, the sun lighting up the metallic hues of its back, which rival those of the humming-bird in splendour. Waterton, that closest observer of birds, has devoted one of his most exquisite essays to the beautiful halcyon. In days gone by he fixed a stump for her to rest on; and while she contemplated the minnows glancing in the gently-murmuring stream beneath, the beneficent lord of the domain watched her every movement from the boughs of an umbrageous oak spreading its giant arms far and wide overhead. I have often observed that a sudden fright—as the movement of some object on the bank—causes one here and there among a little shoal of minnows to turn momentarily on one side, and then his silvery belly flashes in the light. The kingfisher avails himself of that unintentional display, and darts like an arrow on its prey: he seizes the minnow crosswise, and immediately returning to his perch, gives it one or two blows—just like a thrush breaking a snail-shell—and then holding himself upright, swallows his prey head foremost.

In all ages of the world the kingfisher has been regarded with an almost superstitious veneration; its beauty, its pleasing manners, and its supposed connection with fine summer weather, have all contributed to this. I would, on no account, disturb these illusions, but somehow or other they seem to disturb themselves. All of these panegyrics on the calm-creating power of the kingfisher originate in a single error—the making the kingfisher a bird of the ocean. Aristotle, Ælian, Plutarch, Ovid, and Pliny believed that the nest of the kingfisher floated on the sea during the entire period of incubation, and this floating in safety for so many days seems certainly to imply the existence of calm weather during the entire period. Pliny minutely describes the nest: it was "wonderful, of the figure of a ball, rather elevated, with a very narrow mouth;" it looked "like a large sponge;" it was so hard that "it could not be cut with a knife, but might be broken with a smart stroke," and, finally, it "had the appearance of petrified froth." This is quoted in Bewick's "British Birds," but quoted only to be condemned. It is, however, equally at variance with my own observation that the nest should be described as "resembling" that of the chaffinch in the compactness of its form; and yet the author of the letterpress of Bewick's "Birds" states this to be the case.

This little life-history of the kingfisher would be incomplete without some reference to a supposed property vested in its body after death, and this is the power of turning itself to the point whence blows the wind. To allow of free rotation the bird is suspended by a packthread from the ceiling. Mr Yarrell has taken pains to collect passages bearing on this romantic notion—three may be cited in evidence of its existence:

> Turn their halcyon beaks
> With every gale, and vary of their masters.—Shakespeare.
>
> Or as a halcyon, with her turning breast,
> Demonstrates wind from wind, and east from west.—Storer.
>
> But how now stands the wind?
> Into what corner peers my halcyon's bill?—Marlowe.

The origin of this strange superstition I am unable to trace.

NOTES AND QUESTIONS ON NATURAL HISTORY.

OCCURRENCE OF THE BITTERN.—On Jan. 21 a bittern or miredrum was shot at Birchwood Park, Staffordshire, by Mr R. Craven, jun., and has been forwarded to Mr Shaw, taxidermist, Shrewsbury.—W. J. B.

—— Two fine specimens of the bittern, or miredrum, have been shot in our locality of late; one six weeks ago, in the river Itchin, about two miles from Southampton, killed by Mr Henry Huntly, of Southampton; the other was shot on Monday last, by Mr Henry Lavington, of Horton Farm, Bishopstoke, which has been presented to William Standish, Esq., of South Stoneham Park, the worthy master of the Hursley hounds, who has entrusted it in the hands of Mr Charles Hendy, taxidermist, Southampton, for preservation. I am not sufficient judge of the sexes of this bird; but it would be well to know, as your correspondent "Solway" remarks, whether they are male and female, as the distance is only about four miles from the places where each were killed. About two miles from the place where the first bird was shot is a place called Bittern, which, from history, I find was a celebrated place for this now rather scarce bird; it once was a barren, desolated spot, but is now a thickly-populated village.—Robert Ridgley (Fleming Arms, North Stoneham).

ALBINO BAT.—My sister had a white bat with pink skin, fly into her room. She has been told such an one has never been seen in England or elsewhere. May I beg of you to state if this is correct?—A. E. S. (Hampshire.)—[We can only say we never saw an albino bat, and therefore think them very uncommon.—Ed.]

EGG-COLLECTING IN THE HEBRIDES.—I shall be much obliged if any gentleman who has had any experience of egg-collecting in the Hebrides could give me all the information in his power relative to that subject. I wish to know what are the best islands to go to, and what sorts of birds breed there, and what would be the best mouth for the rarer sorts of sea birds. I have heard that the islands of North and South Uist, Benbecula, and Barra are good places for collecting, but do not care much about the common sorts of sea-bird's eggs. Those which I want principally to take myself are stormy and fulmar petrel, red and black-throated diver, Manx shearwater, common and Richardson's skua, eider duck, sheildrake and merganser, gannet, and ringed guillemot; and shall be much obliged if anyone can tell me whether these birds breed in the islands mentioned.—H. J. E.

LONGEVITY OF A MULE SISKIN.—A mule siskin died here a few days ago, belonging to Mrs Jane Chester, Hexham. It had attained the age of twenty years. Is it a common occurrence for the canary to attain so great an age? This bird was a cross between the canary and siskin. I have on several occasions in the last three years seen it take a dizzy fit and pant heavily, when it appeared to be dying; but was always restored, except on the last occasion, by a few drops of port wine. Do you think the port was the means of prolonging its life?—F. Jewitt.—[Mule animals often live much longer than the species from which they are reared. We should not attribute the longevity of the bird to the influence of the port wine. The dizziness to which it was subjected is of very common occurrence in cage birds belonging to the finch group. The size of the brain is even greater in proportion to the bulk of the body in these birds than in man, and the result of this enormous cerebral development is that fits and disorders of the brain are frequent among them.—Ed.]

THE EYE OF THE SEAL AND THE OTTER.—On Wednesday evening last, we had a most interesting lecture at the Royal Irish Academy, Dublin, upon the anatomy of the eye of the seal; and the medical lecturer was of opinion that, from its very peculiar construction, the animal could see better under the water than above it. Though not presuming to offer any opinion upon the structure of the eye, I imagine (and mentioned it at our meeting) that, as the eye of amphibious creatures is as essential for their preservation above water as it is the chief means of supporting life under, they must see equally well in both elements. Many of us are aware that at a distance of forty yards or more a seal will instantaneously pop his head under water at the sight of a flash-in-the-pan of an old flint gun; and it is, therefore, almost impossible, with that implement, to shoot him or, indeed, many diving birds, while swimming. Otters have most acute sight; and, if they can see as well under the water as above it, the construction of their eye must be most singular indeed, for they can procure their favourite food—salmon and trout—in a flooded, muddy river as well as in a clear one. Seals are frequently to be seen at the mouths of flooded rivers, in not very clear water. Probably they, as well as otters, possess the power of procuring food by other senses as well as sight—namely, scent or touch. Were we to blind one of these animals, it is very likely they may still be able to support life. Peasant boys will grope in muddy streams for trout, and are often very successful. I believe the following questions have never been satisfactorily answered: Why do salmon and trout make such spasmodic efforts and summersets *towards* the water, and *never* in a contrary direction, when landed on a level bank? Do they retain the power of sight on these occasions; or is it their natural instinct, that does not forsake them in such extremities?—A Good Observer (Roscrea).

APPEARANCE OF FISH IN NEWLY-FORMED PONDS.—The summer before last, a small pond on Clapham Common was drained, and the whole of the mud deposited on its bed carefully removed. For a considerable time the pond remained perfectly dry. It was subsequently refilled, and on the succeeding summer boys were seen catching sticklebacks in it. Among local novices in natural history (I among the rest) this incident has created curiosity; and possibly some of your numerous scientific correspondents, who solve such enigmas so lucidly in your interesting columns, may not consider it *infra dig.* to explain to us how these sticklebacks were generated.—J. B. (The Pavement, Clapham, Feb. 15.)—P.S. Since writing the above, I have accidentally stumbled upon a somewhat *àpropos* passage in a recent interesting work, published by Messrs Smith and Elder, on the Indian Archipelago, viz., Cameron's "Malayan India." I subjoin the anecdote; but would still like to know how the sticklebacks got into the pond on Clapham Common, as tropical fishes may be more cunning and eccentric in their "artful dodges" than those at home. Mr Cameron says: "I may mention here a rather remarkable feature of fresh-water fisheries which I have noticed in Singapore. The roads there are generally lined by ditches a few feet in depth, which carry off the rain in wet weather, but are totally dry after three days' drought. I have often in the mornings, on my way to town, passed by these ditches when they were as dry as the road over which I travelled, and on my return in the evening, after a day of heavy tropical thunder showers, found two or three feet of water flowing through them, and men and women with rods a couple of feet in length, sitting on the banks, pulling out good-sized wholesome fish, some of them four or five inches long. I believe that these fish, when the water begins to dry up, burrow into the mud, and lie caked there till the next wet day renews the stream."—[The subject is one of great interest, and has frequently engaged the attention of naturalists. It is certain that many fishes burrow in the mud of rivers as the dry season approaches, and revive when the rain returns. It is also certain that the spawn of fishes adheres to the breast feathers of ducks, geese, and other swimming birds, and may thus be conveyed from one pool to another. We shall be glad to receive other suggestions on the subject.—Ed.]

WILD SWANS.—These birds—so magnificent in their appearance upon the wing, and whose musical calls resemble the cry of a pack of hounds—well merit the protection of every gentleman who possesses waters capable of attracting them, on their occasional visits to this country in rigorous weather like the present; and no birds would be more easily induced to make a sojourn of several weeks, as they have repeatedly done at Walton Hall, as we are assured in the works of Mr Waterton. Had I been acquainted with their confiding disposition in the year 1838-39—a very severe winter, when a flock of nine visited the river in the locality from whence I am writing—I would not have committed the folly which I did, of going in pursuit of them with a gun, when, of course, they left the neighbourhood. No sooner had I banished them than, on mentioning them to the occupant of a farm on an adjoining estate, he informed me he had seen the flock on his part of the river for several days past, and had repeatedly ridden by at no great distance from them, wondering what variety of large domestic geese they could be, and whence they could have come, but that he never molested them. I now saw the full extent of my own haste and folly, but all too late. As they rose and went off, I never saw a finer ornithological spectacle than their beautiful ivory plumage over the snow and against the intensely blue sky. A week or two afterwards, a solitary hooper appeared on our ground in a smaller stream, quite near to a small hamlet. I offered it hospitality, and no one disturbed it. It remained some time, but was plainly either wounded or sickly, and very likely fell a prey to a fox, though quite able to fly. I should now never think of allowing wild swans to be made objects of persecution here, but would throw oats and barley into the stream above their haunt, for their especial benefit. The utility of such visitants, unless where they appear regularly and in numbers, may truly be said to consist in their great and inherent beauty, when in health and at liberty. Young and keen sportsmen will instinctively take a different view, and the great majority of gunners will follow a flock of hoopers, to procure, if possible, every bird of them. But, nevertheless, there are many gentlemen, like the considerate correspondent from Lough Derg, who will think twice before they fire upon wild swans; and these only are addressed. Some such gentlemen possess fine private waters, which, if a reward were offered to the gamekeepers for leaving all rare birds undisturbed, would be visited regularly by many interesting wildfowl. The wild-ducks should be procured on the stubbles, or in the brooks and water-courses of the estate, wherein corn might be thrown to attract them. A gun should never be fired near the lake in the park, which should be reserved as the safe resort and asylum of every aquatic bird. Then would our stubbles and water-courses soon be repeopled with wild-ducks, teal, &c., and ten times as many obtained for the table as at present. Our whole ignorance, neglect, and persecution of aquatic wildfowl in England, at this time of day, is pitiful and discreditable in the extreme: it requires to be thoroughly reformed.—R. Carr.

ANSWERS.

MODE OF PRESERVING BIRDS' NESTS.—I have noticed the correspondence in your paper lately as to the best way of arranging and keeping birds' nests and eggs. I have a great many of the former, and have found no plan so satisfactory as having various-sized round pasteboard boxes with glass in the lid, and nicely covered and finished. I have had my wishes in this respect very well carried out by Mr C. Journet, 71, Great Titchfield-street, Oxford-street.—Alfred Crowley (Bramley Oaks, Croydon).

THE KINGFISHER.—Mr Crewe attacks me, in the last Field, for the destruction of the kingfisher. I am myself so great a lover of birds, and so much opposed to their wanton destruction, that I can readily excuse the warmth with which he writes, though I cannot think he would have weakened his case had he abstained from such expressions as "ignorance," &c. But let it pass—the real question is, does the kingfisher destroy the trout? I maintain he does, and although Mr Crewe states that he has never exercised the slightest injurious effect upon the welfare of the fish, yet, with a slight inconsistency, he says elsewhere that the kingfisher naturally preferred my trout to the sticklebacks in the stream. Now I may state—what regard for your space deterred me from mentioning before—that I have not allowed the kingfishers to be destroyed for several years, and the consequence has been that the whole produce of at least fifty brace of spawning trout has been destroyed; and my reason for laying the blame upon the kingfishers is, that the last year I kept the young trout in a portion of the brook apart from the sticklebacks and other fish, and at this place the kingfishers were always to be found. The stream is so small and shallow, that I could not protect them, so that I was obliged to choose between the kingfisher and the trout, and I preferred the latter. I demur to Mr Crewe's statement that "every one who knows anything of natural history is aware that this bird has never exercised the slightest injurious effect" upon the increase of salmon and trout; there are some naturalists who have, in your pages, maintained a contrary opinion; and my experience has proved that he so far prefers the trout, that as long as one of them is left, he will not touch a stickleback. As an ornithologist, let me tender my mite of thanks to Mr Crewe for saving the lives of the nightingales near Derby; it is, as he says, an unusual event to find them so far north. But he need not deprive his friend of the services of his gamekeeper on my account: I am not in want of a Philomelicide.—Australian.

—— I read with regret, in last week's Field, a letter on this subject, from Mr Harpur Crewe. I say with regret, because I think the tone of it is not calculated to effect the very laudable object the writer has in view, namely, inducing "Australian," and others holding the same views, to spare the kingfishers. The old saying that one man can lead a horse to water, but twenty cannot make him drink, is a very true one; and I think that naturalists, when urging others to adopt their views, should be particularly careful not to depart in the smallest degree from the *suaviter in modo*. I think that Mr Crewe will see, on reflection, that the favour he asks of "Australian" of going to the expense and trouble of making his trout breeding-boxes kingfisher proof, would have proceeded from him with a better grace if he had not termed "Australian," by implication, an "insensate pisciculturist," &c. Had Mr Crewe read "Australian's" most interesting former letters, he would have seen that, so far from his being a gentleman likely to encourage such brutes as the keeper Mr Crewe speaks of in their wanton destruction of interesting birds, he has been at the trouble and expense of turning out large quantities of goldfinches and woodlarks, by which means, I have reason to believe, he has stocked the country in the neighbourhood of his residence with the former birds. I call this the act of a true naturalist, to use Mr Crewe's expression, and I wish we had more such patriotic individuals. While regretting that such a good naturalist as Mr Crewe should have allowed his zeal in a good cause to lead him to overstep the bounds of that extreme courtesy which I think should always characterise such appeals, I must say I entirely agree with him in all that he says on behalf of the kingfishers, and I hope that "Australian," and other kingfisher destroyers, may become converts to his views.—N. and F.

HUNTING.

THE SOUTH BERKSHIRE HOUNDS.

FROM OUR SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.

TO TREAT OF HUNTING AND HOUNDS, with the thermometer registering from eight to fourteen degrees of frost, seems somewhat out of place; to start on a hunting "tour," in the midst of a snowy garment which covers your line of country, and proclaims to you the fool's errand you are going on, is symbolic either of a dogged obstinacy or an insane folly just as the reader may choose to construe it. To be sure, there were other inducements held out to us in this case—engagements which the snow could not obliterate, and fixtures over which the frost had no power. South Berkshire wooed us! not alone with Tilehursts and Pangbournes and Twyford Gates, but mention was made of a seat at a dinner table, and a Hunt Ball as a sequel—things not to be despised, and coming also, we considered, within the legitimate scope of "the commission" under which we act. And though that old impostor, Horace, does recommend that the "ingenuus puer" of his day, "Qui studet optatam cursu contingere metam," should abstain from things savouring of such dissipations, we are not aware that any man ever went worse for a moderate quantity of '42 the night before; or, because he clasped closer and yet closer at 4.15 a.m. in the last rapid finale of the Guards' Valse the waist that had been, perhaps, more respectfully treated in the earlier portion of the evening, he therefore, a few hours later, shirked a big fence, or took to the lanes. *Au contraire*, we should say, was the real truth. Both (the '42 and the other article) would nerve him to deeds of "high emprise;" and we are sure that, had the weather been propitious on Wednesday morning last, the meet at Tilehurst—the church and rectory of which speak to all Oxford memories of an honoured name—would have shown us a goodly muster of those anxious, perhaps too anxious, to be in the first flight, and who would have required strong remonstrances from Mr Pitman to restrain them. But there was no such trial for his patience or their energies. We all know the weather that has brought the Skating Club (a distinguished member of which, by the way, gave us, on the morning in question, a specimen of his going) to the foreground, and dismissed M.F.H., huntsmen, and hounds—the former to the anything but "cool shade" of a crowded ball-room, where, in pink and silk facings, they exhibit staying powers of a high order, and the latter to the warm harness-room and a hard paddock.

A wish, most kindly expressed, by Mr Pitman, the master of the South Berks, that we should, despite the frost, avail ourselves of the engagements he had made for us, and, at all events, inspect his kennels, decided us in coming down to Reading on Tuesday evening. An English country house, where the national hospitality is tempered by the refinements of modern society, is always a pleasant place to descend upon. We certainly found it so on this occasion, and a most agreeable introduction did Calcott Park prove to Reading Ball-room. The latter, freshly done up, and that with no small amount of taste, contained within its rather narrow space one of the largest assemblages ever seen at this, the most popular and crowded of the three Hunt *réunions*. The M. F. H. in the county were there in force; and the beauty of Berkshire—a county rather rich in the article—was represented in a way one does not often see in provincial ball-rooms. Chary lest our own first impressions might mislead us, we consulted a distinguished member of the Aldershott contingent present, who, as one eminently qualified to give an opinion, pronounced it "as pretty a lot as he had seen for some time." To that we set our seal: and so, with the help of Coote and Tinney, who played of their best—a floor not too slippery—a good supper, and (we are bound to add) some very bad champagne, the rosy hours were danced away, until the rosier light of morning was well nigh "peeping o'er the hill."

But "what came we out for to see?" An eloquent, perhaps a rebuking, answer is returned to us as we find ourselves in the parlour of "the World's End," after a late breakfast on Wednesday, and hear the beautiful cry of fifty couple lifting up their voices in the still air, after the fashion and manner of hounds, and inviting us to visit them. We have been brought to the kennels by the quickest of dun ponies, to whose intimate knowledge of every stone in the road between the G. W. R. and his destination our charioteer trusts. Mr Pitman—who if not, as a steward of the ball, the first in the field the previous evening, had been the last to quit it that same morning—thaws us with cherry brandy, and then proposes a cursory look round before his brother master, Mr Henley Greaves, whom he is expecting, arrives. The South Berks kennels are spacious and well planned, and we are at once struck with the condition of the hounds. Some of them, indeed, look too big, but on handling them we find it is not so. They have an excellent kennel-huntsman in Traviss, the first whip, and certainly do him great credit. Though Mr Pitman never feeds them himself, they well know the master, and leaped and fondled upon him this morning to a great extent. Forty-five and a half couple of bitches, divided into a large and small pack, are the working stock of the South Berks. The former average about 22½ or 23 inches; the latter 21½, though there are some hounds among them remarkably small. They have no dog-hounds, and Mr Pitman drafts from a variety of kennels, this year's entry being chiefly from Mr Scratton's, whose "Mentor" paid a long visit to the World's End—which, by the way, was once an inn, and is not a very imposing edifice now; but Mr Pitman is a bachelor in Berkshire, and it suits him very well. But now we are joined by Mr Greaves—who looks as flourishing as when we last saw him in Essex—and we proceed to a more detailed survey of the kennels and their inhabitants. The master has had sloping boards put for the hounds to walk off their lodgings instead of jumping down—a good plan, we

thought. The whole of this department is very good; and if his horses were lodged as well as the hounds, there would be nothing to complain of. There are but few old hounds here, not above six couple, and among them Graceful, by Mr. Morrell's Hercules, is a good specimen of a well-made bitch, remarkably straight on her legs, considering her seven years' work; and though Mr Greaves says he never had a Hercules worth anything, Mr Pitman affirms that some of the handsomest and best hounds he has come from him, and that maternity (and there we fancy he is right) influences the working quality of a hound. Beauty and Fatima, by Mr Garth's Bluster and Foiler, are very good, and more particularly adapted for a cold scent. All the Foiler blood are doing remarkably well. He was one of Sir John Cope's breed, we believe, and has left his mark in many kennels. Comedy, a daughter of the Berkeley Chieftain, is handsome, and remarkably clever; she has been the means of killing more foxes on bad scenting days than any hound in the pack. Ardent, by Lord Portsmouth's Actor, is one of the small ones, though boasting of some of the best blood in the Eggesford kennels. She was the little one of the litter, and though her brothers were all 24-inch hounds, she is only 21½; she possesses a beautiful tongue. Bluebell and Brilliant, by Lord Yarborough's Orator, out of Bracelet, are the best blood we have got in the country. Their dam was by Lord Fitzwilliam's Hardwick out of Assheton Smith's Benefit, both of high renown. Their descendants show a good deal of quality, and the master gave them a high character. Another small one, Flighty, is by the Bentinck Ferryman, out of his Rapid; and the stock of both sire and dam is about the best, we hear, Lord Doneraile has got. Murmur, by Lord Fitzwilliam's Marplot, is an excellent hound, with great speed; while Riot, from the Duke of Buccleuch's, is *the* little one of the small division—not above twenty inches, very neat and graceful, a foxhound in miniature; yet possessing a fine turn of speed and always at the head of the pack. Barbara and Bonny Lass (we are now among the three-year-olds), though from the same sire and dam, are quite distinct in points and character, the latter the best looking, with fine shoulders, very straight, and with great propelling powers.

There were many good-looking ones among last and this year's entry, and we noticed a few of the most remarkable. Gaylass and Gipsy are by her Majesty's Hercules, and their dam by Mr Morrell's Hercules, and they are both very neat, with good sterns and shoulders. Gaiety and Gaudy are by Lord Fitzhardinge's well-known Lusty, and Julia is by that celebrated sire the Heythrop Harlequin. Vengeance, a daughter of old Violet, a South Berks bitch, though rather coarse, has a very good pair of breeches, and is a capital worker. This year's entry promises well. Mr Scratton's Nestor has done the state service here; and there are Bashful, Betsey, Birdlime, and Bramble, their dam by the celebrated Cheshire Redwing, who show both shape and quality. Cobweb, Columbine, and Cora, by the Blackmoor Vale Benedict, have entered well; and there are two very handsome ones, though exception may be taken to their yellow colour, Rakish and Ruin, by Mr Garth's Chaser, which we considered the best of the young ones. Their dam is also by the Cheshire Redwing, so there is a fair share of that blood in the kennels of the South Berks.

We have before remarked on the condition of the hounds, as reflecting great credit on Traviss, the first whip; there cannot be a better man in his line. He was brought up by Mr Horlock, in the Old Berks, under Moreland, and was a little while in the Berkeley Vale; after that he went into Dorsetshire, and was fourteen years with Henry Farr Yeatman, the mention of whose name is sufficient guarantee for that of his servant. Under his roof he gained his knowledge of condition, and much kennel lore. The second whip, Alfred Thatcher, has his heart in his work, with a capital eye to hounds and a wonderful memory for pedigree. The stables are the worst part of the arrangements at the World's End—close and low, much too warm in even the present severe weather. Mr Pitman has one or two very useful animals, but does not profess to give extravagant prices or go for show or quality. He has a clever-looking chesnut, that we admired, but there was nothing of a stamp to call for particular notice.

Kennel inspection ended, the pond in Calcott Park invited us; and we found the ice in fair order, and one or two promising "first appearances" in the skating line. It was a lovely afternoon, the sun shining brilliantly, with very little wind; and our fair friends of the previous evening looked as if they had been leading the most virtuous of country lives, innocent of Hunt Ball and the "Harum-Scarum" Galop at four a.m. A couple of hours were passed very pleasantly. There may be worse passages in a man's life than when engaged in helping and guiding over the ice a fair *debutante* depending upon him for protection. Combined with some maraschino and good cigars, it made one sadly forget the special object of our mission into South Berks, to which we were recalled by the cheery voice of Mr Pitman, asking us if we would see the hounds fed. Of course we would; so, with good byes to Calcott, that wonderful dun pony is once more put into requisition. A little gossip with our host; a few more parting words with Traviss, who is anxious to point out to us his favourites; another look at the hounds in the paddock; and we turn our back for the present on the South Berks and their kind and hospitable master.

Mr Pitman, we need scarcely say, is a keen sportsman. A man who is master of a pack of foxhounds in Berkshire, has harriers of his own in Somersetshire, and hunts them both, must be fond of the sport, to say the least. Mr Pitman resides near Taunton, and manages to have generally, two days with his harriers, in addition to three in Berkshire—eleven hunting days a fortnight, indeed, is about his allowance. His face is, therefore, about as well-known on the G. W. R. as the guards', and he thinks but little of his 800 or 1000 miles a week. A pupil of that fine sportsman, Lord Wemyss, he was entered early to hounds; and though we have never seen him in the field, his thorough knowledge and love of "the noble science," and the scraps and fragments of kennel lore that fell from him in conversation, confirm what we have heard of his being a good huntsman. His term of office expires in May, when he hands over the management to his successor, who is more than hinted at in the person of Mr Hargreaves, a gentleman of fortune and a new comer in the county. Mr Pitman talks of seeking, in the mild excitement of a hunting trip to the Himalayas, a fresh opening for his energies; but we hope a field nearer home may be found for him. Some headless establishment there must be, that will open its arms to the retiring master of the South Berks, and place him easily in the pigskin he loves so well. With a lingering hope that we may be yet able to have a day with them—a hope, which we confess, gets smaller and smaller under the present aspect of affairs—we take a leave that we hope is *au revoir*, and not farewell!

THE SHROPSHIRE HOUNDS.

SIR,—I believe it to be an axiom admitted on all hands that a pack of foxhounds are a decided benefit to every country. Such, then, being the fact, you will, as an advocate of the "noble science," be sorry to hear that it is now pretty certain that the Shropshire hounds will be given up at the close of the present season; and there is even reason to believe that certain well-wishers have already begun to kill foxes in anticipation of that event.

Now I need not tell you that it takes some years to re-establish the wild animal in any country after an interregnum—Col. Corbett, our late worthy master and the founder of the present pack, had fourteen blank days in one season during this process; neither, perhaps, need I inform you that we have now a very valuable pack of hounds, such as few counties can boast of—fast, and first-rate hunting hounds; or that this is in a great measure owing to the dog knowledge and good kennel-management of the present master. If then this establishment is to be broken up, we have nothing to look forward to but a scarcity of foxes hereafter (the country being at present well stocked), and a scratch pack of foxhounds—the culls and cast off brutes of neighbouring kennels—and these, probably, located on the outside of the hunt.

Now, why is this to come about, and who are at the bottom of this folly? It is rumoured that the present master has positively declared that he will not, after the present season, continue the hounds under any circumstances, looking to the treatment he has experienced at the hands of certain individuals who shall be nameless. But surely there is some little debt of gratitude due to a man who has for ten years spent some 1200*l.* per annum on a county pack (to which the subscriptions have for the last five or six years been only some 300*l.* per annum), and, what is more, shown us first-rate sport. Surely an effort ought to be made by the independent men of Shropshire to put this matter right, and I think it possibly may yet be done. If a public meeting were called, good feeling shown, and a huntsman—or in other words, 300*l.* extra per annum—provided, it may be that Mr Morris would, out of the kindliness of his nature, reverse his decision. If he will not be prevailed upon so to do, then Shropshire is open and will be obliged to any stranger who will undertake to carry on what Mr Morris has so long and so liberally done.

FAIRPLAY.

FOX PRESERVING IN BEDFORDSHIRE.

SIR,—In a letter headed "Extraordinary Proceedings in Bedfordshire," in THE FIELD of Saturday last, your correspondent "An Occasional Follower of the Chase," in the remarks he made upon certain coverts having been drawn blank has (no doubt quite unintentionally) done very great injustice to the owner of one of the coverts he mentioned. Wootton Wood is included in his black list. Now it is well known that there is no stricter preserver of foxes or better friend of fox-hunting, either in Bedfordshire or any other county, than Coventry Payne, Esq., of Wootton House; his covert is regarded quite as a nursery for foxes in that part of the Oakley country, and there are numbers who can bear testimony to the fact that it is seldom if ever drawn blank.

Though Mr Payne does not join in the sport himself, still whenever there is a meet at Wootton, and he is at home, not only is there a good fox in his covert, but there is also offered to the field that fine old English hospitality and good cheer which are now so seldom met with; and I should strongly recommend the latter to the special notice of your correspondent, as he may find a dash of extra jumping-powder useful in helping him over the stiff Wootton country.

FOXHUNTER.

VULPECIDISM NEAR BATH.

SIR,—May I draw your attention to the following facts in connection with the subject of the destruction of foxes in this neighbourhood; though being a stranger I cannot tell in what hunt this place is. Since I have been here (only two months and a half) I have known no less than three foxes openly destroyed. One was trapped and taken round to the different public-houses between here and Bath, in broad daylight, with a broken leg, for show; and afterwards, I believe, killed. The other two, a dog and vixen, were destroyed last week, having been tracked in the snow, and I believe shot—at all events killed. The people about here, far from feeling that it is selfish and unsportsmanlike to destroy foxes in a neighbourhood where hounds are kept, seem to take an intense delight in the very idea of having a shot at poor Reynard, or in being able to trap or murder him in any way they can; the reason they give being that, if they did not, there would not be a fowl left in the parish. And if you remonstrate with them, they evidently seem to think that you are not quite properly "roofed."

South Stoke, near Bath, Feb. 11. R. J. G. S.

MR RACE'S HARRIERS.

SIR,—I have read with much interest, and equal satisfaction, the letter which appeared in THE FIELD of Feb. 11, from "One of the Judges 1864," of harriers at the Islington show, and am glad to perceive that the writer (evidently a good judge) does ample, though somewhat tardy justice to the excellence and merits of Mr Race's pack generally, as well as of those particular hounds which were exhibited by him and took prizes on the occasions referred to. I wish "Leporello" joy of the refutation thus conclusively and satisfactorily given to the assertions contained in his letter to you (last October) in derogation of the merits of these unique hounds as harriers.

Having known Mr Race and his hounds for many years (and his father before him—that celebrated old sportsman, "Jack Race"), I am enabled fully to confirm all that "A Judge" has thus stated; and it may not be without interest to some of your sporting readers if I add that the pack, at the commencement of the present season, consisted of 15½ couples—viz., 13 of old and 2½ of young hounds—and that their average height is about 18 inches.

I may also state, without fear of refutation, that there are few better or more experienced judges of hounds than Mr Race himself; and certainly no master can devote himself more than he does to the breeding as well as the general arrangement of his pack, which he hunts himself three days a week, with the assistance of his man Bob (the "portly whip" so graphically described by "A Judge"); and there are few better men across a difficult country than these two, whilst Mr Race's reputation as a huntsman is as indisputable as his control over his pack, under the most difficult circumstances, is extraordinary.

His popularity, too, is so great as, combined with the wonderful sport he shows, to render his "fields" frequently larger than is desirable for those who permit him (and their name is Legion) to hunt over their farms; and, consequently, he abstains scrupulously from advertising in any way; whilst he is too unassuming to send in any returns as to his establishment to yourself or any sporting contemporary, which I must confess I regret.

In conclusion, I will only express my regret that "A Judge" was so unfortunate in his visit to Road Farm as regards sport, and that I heartily wish he had been favoured with such a run as I was fortunate enough (as an outsider, and, therefore, an unfrequent attendant) to witness with these hounds on the 15th of December last, when they ran a hare at top speed across three large parishes, and killed at the furthest point from her form, at the end of 53 minutes, with only two slight checks, which were at once disposed of by two as clever and quick casts as you can possibly conceive.

SENEX.

SIR,—It is not now my habit, as of yore, to rush into print on every occasion or provocation; but, in defence of a cherished theory, I must offer a few lines in comment upon a passage contained in a letter from "One of the Judges" of the Islington show of harriers, 1864, published in your last number. He says: "What *foxhound blood* Mr Race's hounds possess has assuredly not prevented them from hunting the lowest scent, and must add much to their powers of endurance and pluck under difficulties."

To the first part of this sentence let me say, "I should *rather* think *not*;" to the latter, I should just think it did: to the whole, to borrow a phrase from over the water—"*ça va sans dire.*"

It should run thus: that the foxhound blood possessed by this pack enables them to hunt the lowest scent, and to this can alone be attributed the stamina for which they are so justly celebrated.

I have ever contended, and will maintain, that no hound created, not excepting the bloodhound, will hunt so low a scent as a purely high-bred foxhound. Should this be pronounced mere matter of opinion, it is an opinion founded on and confirmed by practical experience; an opinion held by the late Duke of Bedford, second to none as authority on hounds—himself commencing, like your humble servant, as a master of harriers; an opinion shared by some of the most competent judges. I have constantly had the advantage of witnessing the prowess of Lord Dacre's Sampson in hunting the fox; I have also had several opportunities of admiring the performances of the couple, the progeny of Sampson, at the head of Mr Race's unrivalled pack of harriers. Truly the blood of such a Sampson would infuse strength worthy of the name into any pack. When I hunted the hare—with success well remembered, but which it becomes not me to chronicle, according to the fashion of some, my contemporaries—it was with eighteen couples of the purest-bred foxhounds, from eighteen to twenty inches. This pack, when transferred to the late Sir J. Flower, figured in the annals of Norfolk, *non sine gloriâ.*

Let all who love the cry of "the merry harriers"—let even those who join *con amore* in the chorus that

> Nought can compare
> To the hunting of the hare—

rely on the fact that in this, as in all other transactions—"Blood will tell."

THE COUNTRY SQUIRE.

HER MAJESTY'S STAGHOUNDS.

SINCE my communication, giving an account of a capital run on the 3rd, there have been two runs worthy of record, the last especially so. On Tuesday, the 7th, the meet was Farnham Common. Ran a circle over some stiff inclosures to Hedgerley, Burnham Beeches, and took at the public-house at Salt-hill. Some parts of this run were at a great pace, particularly from Burnham to Salt-hill: the run was finished by 1.15, and we had no second deer turned out: it was not required. On Feb. 10 we met at Shottisbrook Park; the morning opened with cold wind and frost, and great doubts were entertained by us that there would be no turn-out; but the noble master (Lord Bessborough) having come down from London that morning, as well as a few staunch followers of this hunt, Charles Davis shrank from causing disappointment to any persons who had joined the hunt that morning, and amongst whom were several ladies—some under the tutelage of that good sportsman, Mr John Parker, of the Dolphin Hunting Stables, at Slough. The hounds were paraded before the visitors of Shottisbrook Park, and Davis was complimented on his own state of health and the fine condition of the pack. The deer Truant ran well—a circle at first, then to Bear-hill, through Twyford. Hare Hatch, and took at Cockshole or Cockspade, a small village two miles from Henley-on-Thames. At the commencement of the run the ground was hard, from the severe frost of the previous night; but as the day wore on, a happy change took place in the weather, the scent was good, the pace great, and some of the fences were large, and required to be cleverly jumped, or grief would have ensued. I observed Count de Morella take some big jumps very cleverly and boldly, and many others went well.

SYLVAN.

MONMOUTHSHIRE HUNT.—DINNER TO W. R. STRETTON, ESQ.

ON Friday, a complimentary dinner was given by the non-members of the hunt and farmers of the neighbourhood, at the Angel Hotel, to Major Stretton, the much-respected master of the Monmouthshire hounds. The dinner was well served up by Mr P. Morgan; and Mr Curre, of Itton Court, presided; Mr Haines, of Llanrothel, officiating as vice-chairman. The attendance was large, and amongst those present we observed Major Stretton, Mr F. C. H. Williams, Mr Howard, Mr Edgar Batt, Mr Wm. F. Batt, Dr. Samuel Steel, Mr E. Y. Steel, Mr Penry Lloyd, Mr Ashwin, Capt. Frederick Lewis, Mr Rosher, Capt. Wheeley, Major Gwynne, Mr Williams, Mr T. C. Hallen, Mr John Morgan, Mr Roger Morgan, Capt. Hill, Mr E. Brewer, Mr Nelmes, Mr Fred. R. Levick, Mr Rolls, &c.

Upon the removal of the cloth, the Chairman gave the customary loyal and patriotic toasts, followed by "The health of the Duke of Beaufort, the prince of foxhunters, with the finest pack of hounds in the country."

The Chairman then introduced the toast of the evening, "The Health of Major Stretton," which he solicited the company to drink with three times three. (Applause.)

Major Stretton rose to reply amidst great cheering, and when it had subsided he said that twenty-six years ago, and in the town of Abergavenny, he had had a compliment paid him similar to the one this evening; and he could assure them that then, as a young man, he was highly gratified with it, and now, as an old man, he felt more so, because, as a young man, he was untried in this neighbourhood; but now, since they had known him for thirty or forty years, he came before them as a tried one. And it was a pleasure to him to know that he was now recognised in the same friendly way as he was twenty-six years ago. They must excuse any deficiency in his response, for if he had the best speech in the world, and already cut-and-dried, he should be unable to deliver it. The past period he had adverted to was incorporated in the proudest days of his life; and now, as an old fellow, having been connected with them so long, he could go home to-morrow and say that he felt this to be the next proudest day of his life. (Applause.) He knew that the invitation had been given to non-subscribers to his hunt, and to those friendly to fox-hunting; but he did not expect to find so many unconnected with the hunt present. He dared say they had come to show they had a kind feeling for him, and he must say that he appreciated it most warmly. He also saw around the room some who had ridden twenty and twenty-five miles to come to this dinner. Now, had their hearts not been in the right places, they might have stopped at home. Had this affair been in the neighbourhood of Monmouth, he might have expected to see his Monmouth friends; but he did not expect to see so many of them on this occasion, for he had thought that it might, perhaps have been looked upon more as a local dinner. He was, however, extremely gratified to see them, and he hoped to long remain amongst them either as a master of foxhounds or not, to keep up that feeling which he now saw existing. (Hear, hear). His first entrance into Monmouthshire was when he was about nineteen years of age, and he then became acquainted with the old squire of Coalbrook, who was his first acquaintance, and young Mr Jones, of Llanarth. Those gentlemen gave him a liking for Monmouthshire, and he thought that when he left the army he should like to live in this part of the country. Therefore, when he left that branch of the defences of the country, he came into this neighbourhood; and, God willing, he meant to end his days amongst them. (Applause). But he would not have done that had he not thought that the Monmouthshire farmers and the Monmouthshire tradesmen were good sets of fellows, and he would not have done it had he thought that the Monmouthshire farmers ever intended to kill foxes. He did not believe they did. (No, no.) He believed there were one or two anonymous writers upon the subject; but notwithstanding "Sufferer from Misrule," he thought they would not have one fox less at the end of the season—(A Voice: Excepting those you kill)—excepting those I kill. (Laughter.) There was another matter he should like to mention to-night. His friend, Mr Curre, had very justly and very familiarly said that the first man in the county—and a prince of sportsmen, too—was the Duke of Beaufort. He had always found his grace one of the sincerest friends to sport, and he was very sorry to find—which he had just heard of—that a tax had been set upon Raglan Castle, which had been shut up in consequence. (A Voice: Bad, bad.) He would be sorry to offend any one in the room, but he wished the committee who had taxed the noble old ruins of the Castle, which they had denominated a *beneficial* residence, had the benefit of a night's lodging there to-night. He thought if they had, they would not say it was worth much—they would not say that it was worth 40*l.* a year. He trusted that the tax would be removed, the Castle being one of the ornaments of the county, and that the people would again have access to it in the same liberal way as he had treated them. He had lately received one or two letters from gentlemen and farmers who, he might say, had been annoyed and vexed because some of his young men had ridden over their wheat, but those gentlemen had said that so long as he was the master of the hounds they would not interfere. He was himself always most anxious when he went across the country to do as little harm as possible. But he thought (whether the times were bad, or whether in '65 there might not be quite so much love for foxhunting) there was quite sufficient love for it, and they might continue to have their sport if they would do as little damage as possible. He did beg and pray for the farmers in these hard times that his friends who hunted with him would abstain from riding over the wheat or hurting the young clover whenever they could. He believed, individually, that they did as much harm over a field of turnips as clover—(A voice: More.)—very likely; but if that was a prejudice of the farmer, it was their duty to observe it, and, therefore, he said (supposing himself to have a great many foxhunting followers around him), "don't let us annoy them." (Hear, hear.) Major Stretton concluded by giving, in complimentary terms, the health of the chairman.

The Chairman briefly replied, and more toasts and speeches followed, in which Mr Harris, Mr Capel Hanbury Williams, Mr Rolls, Capt. Hill, Mr Nelmes, and others took part, and a most enjoyable evening, enlivened with some good singing, was spent.

MR E. H. S. HUDSON'S HARRIERS.

ON Friday, the 10th, the Worcestershire foxhounds were to have met at Cropthorne, but the frost in the morning proving too severe, especially at and near Crowle, where the kennels are situated, the huntsman, doubtless, deemed it prudent to keep his hounds at home. However, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, a large field assembled, who waited anxiously until twelve o'clock (by which time the frost had taken its departure), in the hopes of the pack making an appearance. They were, however, doomed to disappointment; and a council of war being held, it was determined to solicit Mr Hudson, the owner of that beautiful pack of harriers known as the "Vale of Evesham," to supply the deficiency. Fortunately the kennels were within easy reach, and it being a non-hunting day with the V. E. H. Mr Hudson kindly placed his hounds at the disposal of the field, and a move was made in the direction of Mr Holland's gorse, near Cropthorne. The pack were scarcely thrown in when a fine fox broke away for Netherton. We raced him through the wood at Kersoe to Churley Park, up to the Fir plantation at the top of the Bredon-hill, where he turned to the left, bearing down for Ashton Wood, which, however, he did not enter, but made for the village of Ashton-under-Hill, where he went to ground in a stone quarry, after one of the prettiest bursts it has been my good fortune to witness.

We then trotted off for Ashton Wood, where almost immediately a gallant fox was viewed going at best pace for the vale below. Hinton gorse was the word, and everybody seemed to think, from the pace the hounds were going, that the scent had improved, and that a good thing was in store for them, and they were not disappointed; so after taking a pull at the girths and brandy flask, we settled ourselves down to work in earnest. He took us straight through Hinton gorse, hounds going at a racing pace, where, being headed, he reversed his tactics, and turned for Elmley, skirting the village and park, and away over the top of the Bredon-hill, across the open to Beckford coppice, where he was viewed making for Beckford Hall, his point evidently being Dumbleton-hill; here, however, by some mischance, his course was altered, and we rattled away in the direction of Teddington, where he turned to the right before reaching the Ashchurch and Evesham railroad, towards the village of Overbury, across the allotments, and close by the door of the Catholic chapel, up to within a field of Overbury Wood, where it being past five o'clock, and drawing fast into the land of shadows, Mr Hudson stopped the hounds, and Reynard succeeded in retaining a brush which but a few minutes previously he must have considered as no longer his own; and thus ended this splendid run, which will be long remembered by those who had the good luck to be in it throughout.

Amongst the numerous field were, H.R.H. the Duke d'Aumale, H.R.H. the Prince de Condé, and the Earl and Countess of Coventry, all of whom expressed themselves highly delighted with the day's sport.

THE STRANGER.

ROEDEER-HUNTING IN DORSET.—I should be much obliged to any of your correspondents who would give some account of roedeer-hunting in Dorsetshire; whether the runs are good and straight, and whether there are large woodlands in the country. If the roe affords good sport, there might be capital hunting in parts of Scotland where now there is none.—C. G.

SCENT.—Snow appears to be a good retainer of scent, under certain conditions of the atmosphere. I was surprised to see a foxhound puppy, eight months old, when with me to-day in a forenoon walk, more than once recognise and follow up the pad of a fox, left on his previous night's wanderings. This I mention more as a matter of curiosity than as likely to prove an antidote to the hunting man in the present protracted frost.—NORTHUMBRIAN.

HUNTING APPOINTMENTS.

(Weather permitting.)

ENGLAND—STAGHOUNDS.

HER MAJESTY'S.—Tues. Burnham Beeches; Fri. Horse Shoes, Warfield—11.30
CONSTABLE'S, SIR CLIFFORD.—Wed. Preston; Sat. Coniston—11
ROTHSCHILD'S, BARON.—Mon. Blackgrove; Thurs. Mentmore Cross-roads—11

FOXHOUNDS.

ALBRIGHTON.—Tues. Norbury Village; Thurs. Enville; Fri. Boscobel; Sat. The Plough, Weston Heath—10.45
ATHERSTONE.—Mon. Kirkby; Wed. Clifton; Fri. Ullesthorpe Station; Sat. Out Wood Gate—11
BADSWORTH.—Tues. Askern; Thurs. Darrington; Sat. Hiendly Common—10.30
BEAUFORT'S, DUKE OF.—Two first open days at the Kennels—11
BEDALE.—Mon. Leeming Bar; Wed. Thirsk Lodge; Fri. Willow Bridge; Sat. Exelby Village—10.45
BERKSHIRE, OLD.—Mon. Tar Wood; Wed. Kingston House; Fri. Great Coxwell—11
BERKSHIRE, SOUTH.—Tues. The Grotto; Wed. Englefield; Fri. Twyford Gate—11
BLACKMOOR VALE.—Tues. King Stag, Pulham; Wed. Glanvilles Wooton; Fri. Holnest Pound; Sat. Yarlington Lodge—11
BRAMHAM MOOR.—Mon. Plompton; Wed. Grimston Park; Fri. Wighill Park; Sat. Bardsey—11
BURTON.—Mon. Normanby-by-Stow; Tues. Sudbrook; Wed. Panton; Thurs. Coleby; Fri. Swinethorpe; Sat. Newbold Common—11
CAMBRIDGESHIRE.—Mon. Childerley Gate; Fri. White Hall—10.30
CHESHIRE.—Mon. Ravensmore Windmill; Wed. Highwayside; Thurs. Belmont; Sat. Booth's Obelisk—11
CHIDDINGFOLD.—Tues. Rodgate; Fri. Park Hatch—10.30
CLEVELAND.—Mon. Claphow; Thurs. Lazenby Station—10.30
COTSWOLD.—Mon. Dowdeswell Wood; Wed. Coomb End; Thurs. Springhill Lodge, Broadway; Sat. Puesdown
CRAVEN.—Mon. Blindman's Gate; Wed. Inholmes; Sat. Catmore Farm—10.45
CUMBERLAND.—Mon. Newsham; Thurs. Crofton Hall—10.30
DACRE'S, LORD.—Mon. Redbourn; Wed. Maulden Wood; Fri. Eaton Green—10.30
DRAKE'S, MR.—Mon. Bourton Village; Tues. Bletchington Village; Thurs. Grindon Village; Sat. Shenford House—10.45
DURHAM.—Mon. Layton; Wed. Selaby Park; Thurs. Stotfold; Fri. Newbiggin; Sat. Houghton Bank Toll Bar—10.45
ESSEX.—Mon. Shanks Mill; Wed. Hatfield Town; Sat. Norton Heath—11
ESSEX, EAST.—Tues. Bulmer Plough; Fri. Braxted Park—11

F. B. H.—Tues. Pendarves; Thurs. Truthian; Sat. Croft West—11
FITZHARDINGE'S, LORD.—Mon. Black Horse; Tues. Gossington Bridge; Thurs. Falfield; Sat. The Kennels—10.45
FITZWILLIAM'S, EARL.—Tues. Thrybergh; Fri. Slaveley Station—10.30
FITZWILLIAM'S, HON. GEORGE.—Mon. Bulwick; Wed. Bythorn Toll Bar—11; Thurs. Washingly; Sat. Sawtry Toll Bar—10.30
GALWAY'S, LORD.—Mon. Blyth Law Hill; Tues. Rampton Field; Thurs. Steetley Bar; Fri. Grove—10.45
GARTH'S, MR.—Mon. Billingbear; Wed. Holdshot Mill; Fri. Greywell Hill; Sat. Hartford Bridge Flat—10.30
H. H.—Mon. Lasham Village; Tues. Ropley Cottage; Thurs. London Lodge, Stratton Park; Sat. Bentley Green—10.45
HAMBLEDON.—Mon. Wickham Gate; Tues. Butser Hill; Wed. Southwick Park; Thurs. West End; Fri. Adsdean House; Sat. Warnford Park—10.45
HASTINGS'S, LORD.—Tues. Bawdeswell; Fri. Hanworth Post Office; Sat. Thursford Crawfish—11.30
HEYTHROP.—Mon. Heythrop; Wed. Bradwell Grove; Thurs. Gawcombe; Fri. Eyford; Sat. Sturdys Castle—10.45
HOLDERNESS.—Mon. Burton Constable; Tues. Melbourne Hall; Thurs. Lowthorpe Lodge; Fri. Arras—10.45
HURSLEY.—Mon. Farley Mount; Wed. South Stoneham House; Fri. Keeper's House, Baddesly—10.45
HURWORTH.—Tues. Welbury; Thurs. Neasham; Sat. Elton Toll Bar—10.45
INGRAM'S, MR MEYNELL.—Mon. Eaton Wood; Thurs. Longford; Sat. Wichnor—10.45
ISLE OF WIGHT.—Mon. Shalfleet; Wed. Whitefield Wood; Fri. Rookley
JOHNSTONE'S, MR.—Tues. Langdale End; Fri. Sockton—10.30
KENT, EAST.—Tues. Waldershare Park; Fri. White Hill—10.30
KENT, WEST—Tues. Birchwood Corner; Thurs. Olbury; Sat. Halstow Hoo
LECONFIELD'S, LORD.—Mon. Blackdown; Tues. Goodwood Kennels; Thurs. Coolham Green; Sat. Fair Oak—11.30
LEDBURY.—Mon. Stanley Hill Turnpike; Fri. Hethel Pit Gate—10.30
LOWNDES', MR SELBY.—Tues. Bletchley Station; Sat. Swanbourne Station—11
LUDLOW.—Tues. The Kennels; Fri. Staunton Lacey—10.30
MIDDLETON'S, LORD.—Mon. Birdsall House; Tues. East Hesterton; Wed. Weston; Fri. Cottam Warren Farm; Sat. Kexby Wood—10.30
MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Tues. The Hendre; Fri. Skenfrith Bridge—10.30
MORPETH.—Tues. Cockle Park Tower; Thurs. Angerton Station; Sat. The Kennels—10.45
MUSTERS'S, MR CHAWORTH.—Tues. Morley Toll Bar; Fri. Straggiethorpe Cross-roads—10.45
NEW FOREST.—Tues. Brockenhurst Station—11; Thurs. White Parish—10.45; Sat. Fawley—11
NORFOLK, WEST.—Mon. Lynn Scoote, Swaffham; Wed. Middleton Tower; Fri. Hare Inn, Docking—11
OAKLEY.—Mon. Salford Village; Thurs. White Lion, Ravensdon; Sat. Pertenhall—10.45
OXFORDSHIRE, SOUTH.—Mon. Nuneham; Fri. Menmarsh Guide Post—10.45
POLTIMORE'S, LORD.—Mon. Chalmington House; Tues. Nether Cerne; Wed. Combe; Fri. Alton Village (by permission); Sat. Corscombe—11
PORTSMOUTH'S, LORD.—Two first open days at the Kennels—11
POWELL'S, MR.—Tues. Lanvatteg Bridge; Fri. Brixtarra, near Langharne—10.15
PYTCHLEY.—Mon. Hardwick Village; Tues. Rockingham Castle; Wed. Stanford Hall; Fri. Arthingworth; Sat. Badby Toll Bar—11
PUCKERIDGE.—Mon. Patmore Heath; Wed. Elsenham; Sat. Asten Village—10.30
QUORN.—Mon. Wartnaby Stone Pits; Tues. Ratby Burrows; Thurs. Bunny Park; Fri. Gaddesby; Sat. The Kennels—11
RADCLYFFE'S, MR.—Mon. Piddle Wood; Thurs. Melcombe Park—11
ROLLE'S, HON. MARK.—Mon. Wooley Pound; Wed. Woolserey; Fri. Passaford; Sat. Gammaton Moor—11
RUFFORD.—Tues. Newbound Mill; Thurs. Kirklington Hall; Sat. Wellow Green—10.45
RUTLAND'S, DUKE OF.—The first open day at Belvoir—11
SCRATTON'S, MR.—Mon. Hadleigh Crown; Tues. Orsett Heath; Thurs. Purleigh Wash; Sat. White's Bridge—11
SEALE'S, SIR HENRY.—Tues. Roister Bridge; Sat. Burlestone Wood—11
SHROPSHIRE.—Mon. Ercall Mill; Wed. Hanwood Village; Fri. Fox, Albrighton—10.30
SINNINGTON.—Tues. Sinnington; Fri. Ampleforth—10.30
SOMERSET, WEST.—Tues. Cleeve Hill; Fri. Bagborough Plantation—10.30
SOUTHDOWN.—Mon. Horsted Ponds; Wed. Plough Dicker; Fri. New Inn, Hurstpierpoint—10.45
SOUTHWOLD.—Mon. Tothill Manor; Tues. Coningsby Hall; Thurs. Girsby Hall; Fri. Welton Guide Post—11
STAFFORDSHIRE, NORTH.—Mon. Whitmore Station; Wed. Seighford; Fri. Betley—10.30
SUFFOLK.—Tues. Barton Bunbury Arms; Thurs. Bradley Fox; Sat. Risby Tollgate—10.45
SUSSEX, EAST—Mon. Broad Oak; Wed. Iden; Fri. Udimore—10.45
TAILBY'S, MR.—Mon. Saddington; Tues. Tilton Wood; Thurs. East Morton; Sat. Wardley Toll Bar—11
TEDWORTH.—Mon. Amesbury; Tues. Oare Hill; Thurs. Southgrove; Sat. Crawlboys Farm—11
TICKHAM.—Mon. Leeds Castle; Thurs. Squirrels, Stockbury; Sat. Halfway House, Challock—10.30
TIVERTON.—Wed. Shillingford Turnpike Gate; Thurs. Cadbury Castle—11
TIVYSIDE.—Tues. Cardigan; Thurs. The Kennels—10.30
TRELAWNY'S, MR.—Tues. Plym Bridge; Sat. Bridgend—11
TROLLOPE'S, SIR JOHN.—Mon. Greetham Inn; Wed. Hambleton Lodge; Sat. Casewick—11
TYNEDALE.—Mon. Barrasford; Wed. Whittington; Fri. Belsay—10.45
UNITED PACK.—Tues. Purslow; Fri. Marsh Brook Station—10
V. W. H.—Tues. Harnhill; Wed. Maisey Hampton; Fri. Eastcourt House; Sat. Whiteway Bar
VALE OF AYRON.—Mon. Alltiwyd; Sat. Bwichbychan—10
VINE.—Tues. Clerken Green; Thurs. Chinham; Sat. Hannington—10.45
WARWICKSHIRE.—Mon. Goldicote; Tues. Weston House; Wed. Alscote Park; Thurs. Shuckburgh; Fri. Wroxton Abbey—11
WARWICKSHIRE, NORTH.—Mon. Bacon's End; Tues. Cubington Gate; Thurs. Dunchurch; Fri. Haywood—11
WESTERN.—Tues. Gamekeeper's Lodge, Tehidy; Fri. Zennor—10.30
WHEATLAND.—Tues. Weston Toll-bar; Fri. Billingsley—10.30
WILTS, SOUTH.—Mon. Wardour Castle; Wed. Gallows Hill; Fri. Knoyle—10.45
WORCESTERSHIRE.—Mon. Bishop's Wood; Wed. Knightsford Bridge; Fri. Feckenham—10.30
WYNN'S, SIR W. W.—Mon. Whittington; Tues. Hanmer; Thurs. Macefen; Sat. Carden—10.30
YARBOROUGH'S, EARL OF.—Mon. Redbourne Hall; Thurs. Healing Village; Fri. Rye Hill—11
YORK AND AINSTY.—Mon. Sutton-on-the-Forest; Tues. Nun Appleton; Thurs. Copgrove; Sat. Thirkleby Park—11

HARRIERS.

B. V. H.—Sat. Manor House, Blewberry—11
BRECONSHIRE.—Tues. Halfway House, on the Brecon Road; Fri. Moor Park—11
BRIGHTON.—Mon. Patcham; Wed. Thunder's Barrow; Sat. Dyke—10.45
BROWNLOW'S, EARL.—Wed. King's Hill, Berkhampstead; Sat. Billington—11
CHICHESTER'S, SIR BRUCE.—Mon. Kentisbury Down; Thurs. Parracombe; Sat. Bratton—11
CLAYTON.—Mon. Northowran; Wed. Marley, near Bingley; Sat. Hawksworth—10.30
CRAVEN.—Mon. Mickleber, near Gargrave; Wed. Gillichurch; Fri. Thorlby, near Skipton
EASTBOURNE.—Mon. Birling; Thurs. Snap Hill—10.30
FLOWER'S, MR WALTER.—Mon. High Post; Fri. Winterslow Hut—11
GAISFORD'S, MR.—Tues. Steep Down; Sat. Nell House—11
H. H.—Mon. Higham Bridge; Thurs. Lower Stoke—11
HAMPTON LEWIS'S, CAPT.—Tues. Black Horse; Fri. Hendrehowel—11.30
HUDSON'S, MR E. H. S.—Mon. Norton Cottage, near Bredon; Fri. Beckford Inn—11
LANGPORT.—Mon. Long Sutton; Sat. Pudymore—10.45
PRICE'S, MR LLOYD.—Mon. Whitemill; Fri. Pontantwm—10.30
PRYSE'S, MR.—Mon. Nanthenfol; Thurs. Rhyd Cwmerral—10
ROMNEY MARSH.—Mon. Hope Chapel; Thurs. Knatchbull Land, Guildford Lane—10.30
TREDEGAR.—Tues. Tregwillyn; Fri. Castletown—10.30
V. C. H.—Tues. Rhewl Station; Fri. Bwlchan—11
WEST-STREET.—Tues. Ripple Mill; Thurs. Reach Court—10.30
WHITEHAVEN.—Mon. Wilton; Wed. Rosehill; Fri. Arlecdon—10

SCOTLAND—FOXHOUNDS.

BUCCLEUCH'S, DUKE OF.—Mon. The Kennels; Tues. Eckford; Thurs. Kelso Bridge; Sat. Mertoun—10.30
DUMFRIESSHIRE.—Tues. Lockerbie; Thurs. Conciongan; Sat. Castle Milk—10.30
EGLINTON'S, LORD.—Mon. Skeldon Ford—11.15; Wed. Southenan; Fri. Drybridge Station—11
FIFE.—Tues. Kilmany; Fri. Balcarres—11
LANARKSHIRE AND RENFREWSHIRE.—Tues. Darnley Toll—11; Sat. Bridge of Weir—11.15
LOTHIAN.—Tues. Newbyth; Thurs. Longniddry Station; Sat. The George Hotel, Haddington—11

HARRIERS.

AYRSHIRE.—Tues. Minhishant; Sat. Largie Toll—11.30

IRELAND—STAGHOUNDS.

WARD UNION.—Mon. Flat House—1.30; Wed. Kilrue Gate; Sat. The Ward—1

FOXHOUNDS.

CURRAGHMORE.—Tues. Mount Neill; Fri. The Sweep—11
DENNIS'S, MR.—Tues. New Forest; Thurs. Gallagh; Sat. Killroe—11
DUHALLOW.—Tues. Halfway House (Muskerry Hounds); Wed. Bowenscourt; Sat. Kilbrin—11
GALWAY.—Tues. Monivea Castle; Fri. Kilcornan—11
KILDARE.—Mon. Bray; Tues. Sallins; Thurs. Spratstown Bridge; Sat. Blessinton—11
KILKENNY.—Mon. Jenkinstown; Wed. Ballykeefe; Fri. Tinstioge—11
LOUTH.—Wed. Platten; Fri. Laggan Bridge—11
MEATH.—Mon. Navan Station; Tues. Dunshaughlen; Thurs. Kells Station; Fri. Archerstown—11
MUSKERRY.—Tues. Halfway House between Cork and Mallow (by invitation); Fri. Crookstown—11
QUEEN'S COUNTY.—Mon. Timoney; Wed. Ballylinan; Sat. Killeen Gate—11
ROSCOMMON.—Mon. Rockville; Wed. Mount Talbot; Sat. Strokestown—11
UNION.—Mon. Ahern Bridge; Thurs. Clonmult; Sat. Dunmoon—11
WESTMEATH.—Mon. Knockdrin; Wed. Turbotston—11.30; Sat. Ballinlough—12
WEXFORD.—Mon. Blackhall; Wed. Ballinkeele; Sat. Foulks's Mills—11

HARRIERS.

CORK.—Tues. Whitechurch; Fri. Coole Cross—10.30
FERMOY GARRISON.—Tues. Mr Adams's Gate, R.R.B.; Sat. Careysville Gate—12
IVEAGH.—Tues. Tullylish Bridge; Sat. Ballievey Bridge—12
KILLULTAGH.—Wed. Sinclair's, Killead; Sat. Crawley's Whins—11.30

SINGULAR DEATH OF A FOX.—The poultry at Cuckfield Park have lately been subject to frequent visits from a fox, which had taken up its quarters in the coverts around the park. Two or three years ago, a dispute having arisen between Mr Sergison and the master of the Crawley and Horsham hounds, the coverts are never drawn by them, and it is out of the country belonging to the Southdown Hunt; therefore Sir Reynard has remained undisturbed in his domicile, but during the late frost he met with his end in a singular manner. It seems that he had a taste for a duck to supper one evening—and it was not his first treat in that way; but in making his spring among the ducks that were sitting round a hole that had been broken on the ice for their convenience, he either missed his aim or slipped up, and was plunged beneath the ice, from which he could not extricate himself, and was drowned. On the going off of the frost he was got out, and proved to be a fine old dog fox, that had seen more summers than one.—*East Sussex News.*

[ADVERTISEMENT].—Homœopathic Medicines for Veterinary use—in large or small chests, suited to the various works on veterinary practice, or in single bottles, may be obtained from Headland's Homœopathic Pharmacy, 15, Princes-street, Hanover-square, W., or through the agents for Headland's preparations. Price-list on application.

COURSING.

COURSING MEETINGS TO COME.

FEBRUARY.

Name.	Judge.	Slipper.	Day of Meeting.	Day of Running
Aston (Oswestry) Salop	Mr Warwick		—	20
Newport, Salop	Mr Cherrington	Cheadle	20	21
Hesketh Bank, Lancashire	Mr A. Bennett	J. Caunce	20	21, 22
Hornby, Balmesse, and Catterick	Mr J. Hay		20	21, 22
Upper Annandale, Dumfriesshire	Mr Springall		20	21, 22
Jed Forest, Roxburghshire	Mr M. Charlton		21	22 & fol day
Waterloo, Lancashire	Mr Warwick	T. Raper	21	22, 23, 24
Jed Forest, Roxburghshire			21	21 & fol. days
Blackpool (Open), Lancashire	Mr Bennett		22	23, 24
Ardrossan St. Leger (Sharphill)	Mr Green		23	24, 25
Belsay, Northumberland	Mr S. Slater	W. Ridley	24	27
Spelthorne Club (Home Park)	Mr Warwick		—	27
Audlem, Cheshire			27	28
Dirleton and North Berwick	Mr J. Hay		27	28
Leinster, Open (Courtown)	Mr Westropp	W. Wilson.	27	28 & fol. days
Ashdown Park, Berks	Mr Warwick	T. Raper	27	28 & fol. days
Cardington Club, Bedfordshire	Mr Warwick		27	28 & fol. days
Whitehaven Spring, Cumberland	Mr C. Miller		27	28 & fol. days

POSTPONEMENT OF THE GREAT WATERLOO CUP MEETING.

Stewards—Lord Binning, Lord Lurgan, and Messrs Randell, Jones, Long, and Gibson. *Field Steward*—Mr A. Graham. *Flag Steward*—Mr N. Slater. *Judge*—Mr Warwick. *Slipper*—T. Raper.

OWING to the severity of the frost in London on Tuesday morning, and to the telegrams received from Liverpool overnight, we reluctantly came to the conclusion that no coursing could come off till towards the end of the week. We therefore entrusted to "Robin Hood" the task of keeping our readers informed of the proceedings there, and, as it has turned out, we were right in our conclusions. After meeting from day to day at the Waterloo Hotel in the hope of a change, the stewards on Friday decided to give up all chance of carrying out the draw made on Tuesday night, and the meeting stands postponed till next Tuesday, when a fresh entry and draw will be made at the Waterloo Hotel, the former closing, as usual, at six o'clock, and the draw taking place immediately, as there will be no public dinner. Those nominations which are not renewed will be forfeited; but we understand that on Thursday evening forty-seven subscribers had decided to retain their nominations, and we have since heard by telegram from our correspondent that the only gentlemen who have not yet replied to Mr Lynn's circular, in the affirmative, are the Earl of Eglinton, Earl Stair, Colonel Bathurst, M.P., Messrs Brocklebank, Bake, Hyslop, Dunlop, Massey, and Lloyd. There are, we understand, several applications for nominations, should any of these gentlemen decline, so that there is no chance of the stake not being as full as ever. Several changes will, no doubt, be made in the dogs selected to run, but we have not been able to ascertain any of them with positive certainty. Of course all bets are off, and the bookmakers, therefore, will have to commence *de novo*, with a worse chance than usual of getting round. The only betting at Manchester on Friday evening was as follows:

100 to 6 agst Lord Uffington	20 to 1 agst any other.

At Liverpool the following were the latest quotations, at the same date:

1000 to 50 agst Lord Uffington	1000 to 30 agst Mr Thompson
1000 to 50 — Mr Jardine	1000 to 30 — Mr Bateman
1000 to 50 — Mr Haywood	1000 to 30 — Mr Gibson
1000 to 45 — Mr Bland	1000 to 30 — Mr Jones
1000 to 40 — Mr Randell	1000 to 30 — Mr Blundell

It fortunately happened that Lord Uffington was present at Croxteth, and thus Lord Sefton was enabled to state that the Ashdown Meeting would be put off till the week following the new fixture of the Waterloo Cup, and this would of course release the judge and slipper from their engagements there. Every courser feels such an interest in the great Liverpool gathering, that we are quite sure all the subscribers to the Ashdown Stakes will cheerfully consent to this arrangement. By reference to the draw, which we append, it will be seen that in almost every instance our anticipations of the dogs to be selected have been realised. Below we give the report of the proceedings by "Robin Hood."

UPON arriving at head-quarters on Monday evening, I found but few strangers present, the reports from Formby and the neighbourhood being anything but favourable as regarded the weather. At the Albion, later on in the evening, some attempt was made at the speculation, but the only bet that came under my notice was 90*l.* to 20*l.* taken about Calabaroona, Rebe, and Bonus, coupled, the non-coursing aspect of the weather entirely putting a stop to speculation. Early on Tuesday morning the frost had set in sharper than ever, consequently the prognostications of the weatherwise, who on the previous evening had prophesied a change, unfortunately failed, and people began to talk of the possibility of the meeting not taking place. It is now ten years since the event had to be postponed owing to the frost, when it was put off from Feb. 24 to March 5 and following days, and whilst I am writing there is every probability of the meeting not being held this week. Towards the afternoon the company began to arrive, and although several *habitués* were absent, still the general attendance of comers from all parts of the United Kingdom showed that the meeting had lost none of its popularity. As the hour approached for closing the entry, the entrance-hall of the Waterloo Hotel was crowded with eager bookmakers, anxious to glean the latest intelligence from Formby and other districts, where most of the dogs were located, the principal favourites being reported as looking well, particularly Bonus and Calabaroona.

The following was the state of the odds during the afternoon:

WATERLOO CUP.

14 to 1 agst Lord Uffington	40 to 1 agst Lord Lurgan
16 to 1 — Mr J. Jardine	40 to 1 — Mr J. Hyslop
20 to 1 — Mr J. S. Bland	40 to 1 — Mr J. Blackstock
25 to 1 — Mr C. Randell	40 to 1 — Col. Goodlake
25 to 1 — Mr Spinks	40 to 1 — Mr W. Mather
25 to 1 — Mr J. Johnstone	40 to 1 — Mr Lloyd
30 to 1 — Mr B. H. Jones	40 to 1 — Col. Bathurst, M.P.
30 to 1 — Mr Croft	40 to 1 — Mr Stocker
30 to 1 — Mr D. Bateman	50 to 1 — Hon. C. C. Molyneux
33 to 1 — Dr. Richardson	50 to 1 — Mr A. Graham
40 to 1 — Earl of Sefton	50 to 1 — Mr Callander
40 to 1 — Mr W. G. Borren	50 to 1 — Lord Eglinton

50 to 1 agst any other.

MEETING OF THE NATIONAL CLUB.

AT a meeting of the National Club, presided over by the president, the Earl of Sefton, and the following members being present, viz., Lord Binning, Lord Grey de Wilton, J. Gibson, R. A. Welch, A. Graham, G. Gregson, S. Mallabey, N. Slater, J. Hardman, N. Saxton, W. Long, T. Brocklebank, W. Langley, and T. D. Hornby, Esqrs. (the last-named gentleman officiating in the absence of Mr Bake, who was prevented by indisposition from attending):

After reading the minutes of the last meeting, which were, as a matter of course, confirmed, the next business taken was the consideration of the notices of motions, as follows:

2. To the rule, "Alteration of Name," I propose to add after the words "shall have run for any stake or piece of plate, or having purchased a greyhound and retaining the name," shall omit the letters "late Mr, &c. &c."—By R. A. Welch.

After some discussion this was negatived.

3. In the rule, "Prefix of Names," I propose that in the sentence the name of the *bonâ fide* owner of the greyhound named by him if called for, the words "if called for" be omitted.—By R. A. Welch.

This was affirmed; the addition of owner's name being imperative, and to be entered in the secretary's book.

4. To consider the propriety of framing some rule as to the *bonâ fide* ownership of greyhounds, and, if desirable, to move resolutions thereon.—By W. H. Massey.

This resolution dropped through, Mr Massey not being present.

5. I propose to strike out in the fourth rule the words "At any open meeting," in the second line.—By T. D. Hornby.

This was carried unanimously.

6. To propose a new rule, namely, "When three dogs are left in at the end of a stake, and one of them is drawn, the other two, if they run out the deciding course, shall do so at once, without any previous byes."—By T. D. Hornby.

This was carried.

The Earl of Sefton and Mr Bake were unanimously re-elected as president and hon. sec., which brought the meeting to a close.

The dinner and draw, as had been previously announced, took place at the Law Association Rooms, Cook-street, where, at seven o'clock, between eighty and ninety gentlemen sat down under the presidency of Mr A. Graham, who has attended every one of these meetings since 1837, and has, I believe, been in the chair on every occasion but one, when Mr C. Jardine presided. Among the company we noticed the following public coursers of note, viz., Lord Binning, Lord Lurgan, Major Boothby, Messrs Gibson, Randell, Ivie Campbell, Brocklebank, Strachan, S. Smith, Hornby, J. Knowles, Stocker, Croft, Gregson, D. Bateman, S. Bateman, Kay, Haywood, W. Long, Armistead, Saxton, Massey, Bland, Johnston, Russell, Steele, Lister, Mallabey, Deighton, Blundell, Cage, Hodson, Green, &c. &c. Mr Lynn, of the Waterloo Hotel, had made every arrangement for the comfort of his guests, who were thus enabled to enjoy an excellent dinner with ease to themselves, the spacious hall affording plenty of elbow-room—a marked contrast to the former reduced space at the Waterloo Hotel. Upon the conclusion of the dinner the chairman proposed "The Queen" and "The Noble Patron," with the customary honours; "The Prince and Princess of Wales" health being also drunk with great enthusiasm. After these toasts were duly disposed of, we proceeded to

THE DRAW.

THE GREAT WATERLOO CUP, value 1600*l.* (less 360*l.* deducted for Waterloo Purse and Plate), by subscription of 25*l.* each; the winner 500*l.*, second 200*l.*, two dogs 50*l.* each, four dogs 30*l.* each, eight dogs 20*l.* each, and sixteen dogs 10*l.* each; three dozen of claret to be given by the winner to the club dinner.

(E) Mr J. H. Blundell's bd d *Beware*, by Seagull—Cleopatra	agst	(E) Mr G. B. Bruce ns (Mr James Johnstone's) bk d *Fiery Cross*, by Jacobite—Wild Wave
(E) Mr J. Johnstone ns (Mr Jamieson's) w bk d *Johnny Cope*, by Canaradzo—Annoyance	„	(E) Mr Deighton's r b *Deodora*, by Skew—Desdemona
(I) Lord Bective ns (Mr Raester's) bk d *Reveller II.*, by Seagull—Racketty Hop-picker	„	(E) Mr Williams ns (Mr Dean's) bk d *Blackstrap*, by Railroad—Sprite
(E) Col. F. H. Bathurst's bk d *Rapid Rhone*, Regan—Gambol	„	(S) Lord Eglinton's bk d *Rainbow*, Cardinal York—Maid of Lincoln
(E) Mr C. Randell ns (Mr S. Smith's) bd b *Sultana*, by Sea Foam—Editha	„	(E) Mr Gregson ns (Mr Clarke's) bk w d *Carouser*, by Bugle—Banter
(I) Mr Massey ns (Mr R. Loder's) bk d *Don Felix*, by Regan—Cricket	„	(E) Mr T. L. Reed ns (Mr Knight's) be d *Wide-awake*, by Smoker—Rachel
(E) Mr T. T. C. Lister's w bk b *Chloe*, by Judge—Clara	„	(S) Mr J. Dunlop's bk d *Marshal Forward*, by Picton—Coquette
(E) Mr Knowles ns (Mr Kennedy's) w bd d *King Tom*, by Canaradzo—Kitty Nicholson	„	(E) Mr Croft ns (Mr Hyslop's) bk w d *Roaring Lion*, by Cardinal York—High Idea
(E) Mr D. Bateman's w be b *Blue Bell*, by Canaradzo—Silkworm	„	(E) Mr J. S. Bland's w be b *Beatrice Princess*, Canaradzo—Prizeflower
(E) Mr J. Cunningham's bd w d *Barnard Castle* (late Westwick), by Promised Land—Clara	„	(S) Mr J. Hyslop ns (Mr Dunlop's) f w d *Duppel*, by Daring—Donetta
(S) Mr G. Steele's be d *Scots Grey*, by Seagull—Sourocks	„	(E) Mr Mallaby's bk d *Merevale*, by Regan—Sister to Moscow
(S) Mr Campbell's be b *Coodareena*, by Beacon—Scotland Yet	„	(E) Mr Spinks's bd w d *Sea Chief*, by Sea Foam—Sea View
(E) Mr W. R. Clarke ns (Mr Harris's) r d *Henchman*, by Woodman—Hortense	„	(E) Dr. Richardson's w bk d *King Death*, by Canaradzo—Annoyance
(E) Mr B. H. Jones's w be d *Jem Mace*, Pugilist—Happy Lass II.	„	(E) Mr W. Long ns (Mr Saxton's) bk d *Samuel*, by David—Patch
(I) Mr Barden's w f d p *Oliver Goldsmith*, by Blue Hat—Sheelnagira	„	(E) Col. Goodlake ns (Mr Carruthers') f b *Meg*, by Terrona—Fanny Fickle
(E) Lord Grey de Wilton's bd w d *Glendower*, by David—Gauzewing	„	(S) Mr G. Blanshard's r d *Bubwith*, by Baffler—Burning Shame
(E) Mr Stocker ns (Mr Halewood's) bk b *Merry Heart*, by Pugilist—Merry England	„	(E) Mr G. A. Thompson's bk w d *Tullochgorum*, by Canaradzo—Annoyance
(E) Mr J. Brundritt's bk w d *Burgomaster*, by Spider—Lady Jane	„	(E) Mr Green's bk b *Gaiety*, by Seagull—Gem
(E) Mr J. F. Armistead's r w b *Bessow*, by Gilbert—Veritas	„	(S) Mr J. Gibson ns (Mr Oliver's) r d *Clasper*, by Clansman—Jane
(S) Mr A. Graham ns (Mr G. Steele's) be b *Schweppe*, by Seagull—Sourocks	„	(S) Mr J. Jardine ns (Mr Ramsay's) r d *Bonus*, by Terrona—Fanny Fickle
(S) Lord Binning's r w d *Donald*, by Johnny Armstrong—Dora	„	(I) Lord Lurgan's bk t d *Master Burleigh* (late Sapper), by Regan—Gertrude
(E) Mr T. Brocklebank's bk d *Baron Lyndhurst*, by Nestor—Blengdale	„	(E) Mr J. F. Callender ns (Mr Gibson's) bk t d *Snowflake*, by Jacobite—The Kitten
(E) Mr Cloudesdale ns (Mr T. T. C. Lister's) bk d *Cheer Boys*, by Skyrocket—Clara	„	(I) Mr Garnett ns (Mr Wise's) f b *Winsome Lassie*, by Bold Enterprise—Wave
(E) Mr C. Chesshyre ns (Mr Dean's) bk w d *Dreamer*, by Railroad—Sprite	„	(E) Mr W. Mather ns (Mr W. Brundritt's) r d *Accident*, by Joshua—Sister to Gauzewing
(I) Mr J. Russell's bd b *Ruth*, by Othello—Rustic	„	(E) Mr Lloyd ns (Mr Crane's) bk d *Crabcatcher*, Seagull—Chere Amie
(S) Major Boothby ns (Mr Hyslop's) bk w d *Good Idea*, by Cardinal York—High Idea	„	(E) Hon. Capt. C. Molyneux ns (Lord Sefton's) r w b *Simple Susan*, by Shillelagh—Shyface
(E) Mr Bartholomew's be w b *Mock Modesty*, by David—Bonnie Lass	„	(E) Mr Hodson's be b *Hera*, by Wizard—Nell
(E) Mr H. Haywood's bk b *Rebe*, by Regan—Lady	„	(E) Mr Bake ns (Mr Gorton's) r w b *Grecian Girl*, by Canaradzo—Shamrock
(S) Lord Stair ns (Mr R. Jardine's) f w b *Annabelle*, by David—Goneril	„	(I) Mr Savage ns (Mr Moore's) r d *Billy* by Hawk—Kitty
(E) Mr Strachan's f d *St. George*, by Seagull—Seaweed	„	(S) Mr W. Borron ns (Mr Spinks's) bk w d *Sea Ranger* (late Legerdemain), by Beacon—Larkcatcher
(E) Lord Uffington's bk d *Calabaroona*, by Cardinal York—Canopy	„	(E) Mr T. D. Hornby ns (Mr W. Brougham's) bk b *Bonnie Venture*, by Forester—Meg
(E) Mr J. Blackstock's r d *Beckford*, by Bridegroom—Finesse	„	(E) Lord Sefton's r b *Shandygaff*, by Brewer—Sylphide.

The draw having been expeditiously got through, Lord Binning proceeded to read the list, and the following were the odds on the respective favourites against their competitors, speculation being much tamer than usual, several courses, in the absence of their owners, not being invested upon: 11 to 8 on Beware, 6 to 4 on Johnny Cope, 5 to 4 (off.) on Reveller II., 6 to 5 on Rainbow, 7 to 4 on Sultana, 6 to 4 on Don Felix (off.). Marshal Forward, after slight odds had been laid on his opponent, left off the favourite at guineas to pounds; 5 to 4 on Roaring Lion (off.). Bluebell, after 200 even had been laid, left off the favourite, more money being invested upon this course than on any other during the evening. 5 to 4 on Duppel, 6 to 4 on Scots Grey, 5 to 4 on Coodareena, 2 to 1 on King Death, 5 to 4 on Jim Mace (14 to 10 afterwards), 2 to 1 on Meg, 5 to 4 on Glendower, 6 to 4 on Tullochgorum, 5 to 4 on Burgomaster, 2 to 1 on Bonus (taken to 100*l.*), 5 to 4 on Snowflake, 6 to 4 on Cheer Boys, 5 to 4 on Accident (who was the non-favourite at commencing), 5 to 4 on Crabcatcher, 6 to 4 on Good Idea, 2 to 1 and 5 to 2 on Rebe, 5 to 4 on Annabella, 5 to 4 on Calabaroona, 5 to 4 on Shandygaff. Owing to the late hour (twelve o'clock) before the list was got through, with the exception of forty ponies against Lord Lurgan's nomination, nothing further was done, and the meeting immediately afterwards broke up.

WEDNESDAY.—The stewards met at the Waterloo Hotel at four o'clock, when, after hearing the opinion of Mr Flatman, the head-keeper—who stated that the ground was so hard that it was quite impossible for the dogs to run this week—it was decided to adjourn the meeting until Thursday, at twelve o'clock, when Lords Sefton and Uffington would attend, and settle definitively when it should take place, so as, if possible, not to interfere with the Ashdown Park Meeting.

THURSDAY.—As previously announced, the Earl of Sefton, Lord Grey de Wilton, Lord Lurgan, and Messrs J. Gibson, A. Graham, T. D. Hornby, B. H. Jones, and W. Long, met at the Waterloo Hotel, when a long discussion took place regarding the postponement of the meeting. The Earl of Sefton stated that Lord Uffington had very handsomely authorised him to say it was his wish that the Ashdown Meeting should in no way interfere with the Waterloo Meeting, and that Mr Warwick and Raper would be given up if necessary. After a lengthy discussion, it was deided the stewards should meet again on Friday, as a change had taken place in the weather here, as well as at Holyhead and other places. Coursing, if possible, to take place on Saturday.

FRIDAY.—The meeting stands postponed till next Tuesday. Particulars will be found above.

ROBIN HOOD.

MOUNTAINSTOWN (CO. MEATH) CLUB MEETING.—FEB. 8 & 9.

Stewards—Marquis of Conyngham, Lord Lurgan, Capt. Archdall, M.P., Lieut-Col. Conyngham, Capt. Rodon, and C. A. Nicholson, W. S. Garnett, and G. A. Pollock, Esqrs. *Slip Steward*—J. N. Coddington, Esq. *Judge*—Mr H. Walker. *Slipper*—W. Wilson.

THE CASTLETOWN STAKES.

I.

Lord Lurgan's r b *Lady Hillsea*, by Portsea—Beeswing	beat	Mr Pollock's r d *Drot-it*, by David—Hoax
Mr C. A. Nicholson's bk d *Soapy Sam*, by Seacombe—Lolla	„	Mr Pollock's r d *Do-it*, by David—Hoax
Col. Conyngham's bk t d *Conducteur*, by Mast Brabazon—Cygnet	„	Mr W. S. Garnett's f d *Rumplestiltskin*, by Searock—Seatrip
Lord Lurgan's r d *Master Blacksea*, (l. Blacksea) by Portsea—Beeswing	„	Mr C. A. Nicholson's r d *Dawn*, by David—Lilla

II.

Lady Hillsea beat Soapy Sam | Coducteur beat Master Blacksea.

III.

Lord Lurgan's LADY HILLSEA and Col. Conyngham's CONDUCTEUR divided.

THE MOUNTAINSTOWN PLATE.

I.

Col. Conyngham's w bd b *Cinoloa*	beat	Mr Pollock's r d *Borealis*
Mr W. S. Garnett's r b *Gazania*	„	Lord Lurgan's bd b *Lady Java*
Mr W. S. Garnett's w bk d *Whiteboy*	„	Lord Lurgan's f b *Lady Southsea*
Mr Pollock's r d *Bonfire*	„	Mr C. A. Nicholson's be d *Sulphur*
Lord Lurgan's bk d *Master Ned*	„	Col. Conyngham's bk t d *Caruso*

Mr W. S. Garnett's bd b *Groundsell* (a bye).

II.

Gazania beat Cinoloa | Master Ned beat Groundsell.
Bonfire beat Whiteboy |

III.

Gazania beat Bonfire | Master Ned (a bye).

IV.

Lord Lurgan's MASTER NED, by The Peer—Mercy, beat Mr W. S. Garnett's GAZANIA, by Effort—Heiress, and won.

THE MAKESHIFT STAKES.

I.

Mr C. A. Nicholson's be b *Caller Ou*	beat	Mr Pollock's r b *Pine*
Lord Lurgan's bd d *Master Lennox*	„	Mr Pollock's r b *Boudin Richelieu.*

II.

Mr C. A. Nicholson's CALLER OU beat Lord Lurgan's MASTER LENNOX, and won.

The South Lincolnshire (Holbeach) Meeting is postponed till the 1st of March and following days. Mr E. Spafford will officiate as judge.

Mr Barden's Savourneen Deelish, having permanently injured a toe in her course with Lord Lurgan's Master Burleigh (late Sapper) at the October Meeting of the North Union Club, has been set aside for breeding.

SHEFFIELD PARK (SUSSEX) MEETING.—FEB. 9.

(By permission of the Earl of Sheffield.)

Stewards—T. Brown, R. Loder, and H. F. Stocken, Esqrs. *Hon. Sec.*—Mr Hale. *Judge*—R. Loder, Esq.

SHEFFIELD PARK STAKES.

I.

Mr Oram's bk b *Golightly*	beat	Mr Blachiston's w bk b *Dart*
Mr Z. Sandall's bd w b *Fly* (a bye)	"	Mr J. Agate's r d *Deerfoot* (absent)
Mr C. Taylor's r w d *Hilow*	"	Mr Blachiston's bk d *Young General*
Mr Oram's be d *General*	"	Mr Maxfield's r b *Bertha*
Mr Blachiston's r b *Lucy*	"	Mr Carr's w f b *Nina*
Mr Z. Sandall's bk b *Music* (a bye)	"	Mr Agate's r b *Cactus* (absent)
Mr Stocken's r b *Sweet Margery*	"	Mr Lilley's w f b *Lucca.*

II.

Golightly beat Fly | Lucy beat Music
General beat Hilow | Sweet Margery (a bye).

PEVENSEY STAKES.

I.

Mr G. Taylor's r w b *Queen*	beat	Mr Z. Sandall's bk d *Sweep*
Mr Maxfield's r b *Jeanie*	"	Mr T. Dier's bk b *Venus*
Mr Bex's bk w b *Shade*	"	Mr S. Agate's w b *Lightfoot*
Mr Taylor's f b *Fawn* (a bye)	"	Mr W. Botting's bk d *Dart* (absent).

II.

Jeanie beat Queen | Shade beat Fawn.

HOLROYD STAKES.

I.

Mr Bex's bk w b *Black Bess*	beat	Mr R. Wood's f b *Blink Bonny*
Mr Z. Sandall's r w d *Spring*	"	Mr Bellingham ns bk d *Grantham*
Mr T. Gilbert's bk b *Nelly*	"	Mr Maxfield's r b *Marguerite*
Mr H. Shelly ns f w d *Merry Hart*	"	Mr Roberts's f w b *Minnie.*

II.

Black Bess beat Spring | Merry Hart beat Nelly.

FLETCHING STAKES.

I.

Mr R. Batchelor's bk b *Jipp*	beat	Mr G. Taylor's bk w d *Nimble*
Mr Z. Sandall's bk d *Regent*	"	Mr Webbe's bd b *Olive*
Mr W. Dier's r d *Peter*	"	Mr Histed's be d *Fly*
Mr Elliott's bk d *Sambo*	"	Mr G. Baggett's f w d *Nip.*

II.

Jipp beat Regent | Sambo beat Peter.

IN consequence of darkness coming on, and being only a one-day meeting, all the stakes were divided.

SALES OF GREYHOUNDS.

A STRONG muster of the lovers of the leash took place on Tuesday last, to witness the annual sale of greyhounds at Lucas's Repository, Liverpool. As usual, the arrangements were such as to afford every facility to intending purchasers, and, as will be gathered from the following list, good prices were in most cases realised. The saplings of Messrs Campbell and Johnston, combining some of the best blood of the present day, were, generally speaking, a good-looking lot, and caused some brisk competition.

MR IVIE CAMPBELL'S.

SAPLINGS		Gs.
Bk d, by Cardinal York—Canopy (June 18, 1864)	(Mr Jebb)	12
Bk w d, brother to the above	(Jas. Campbell)	28
R d, brother to the above	(Mr Jebb)	9
W r b, sister to the above	(Mr Randell)	15½
R b, sister to the above	(Mr Lloyd)	10
W b, by Canaradzo—Speculation (March 15, 1864)	(Lord Lurgan)	20
RUNNING DOGS		
Cadazooro, bk w d (second season), by Cardinal York—Canopy	(Mr Houghton)	10
Cam Ye by Athol, w d (first season), by Canaradzo—Dunlop's Diana Vernon	(Mr Johnston)	17
BROOD BITCH.		
Canopy, be b, by Beacon—Scotland Yet	(Mr J. P. Craven)	52

MR FRANK JOHNSTON'S.

SAPLINGS		
W f b, by Dunlop's Picton—Jessie o'Dunblane (April 17, 1864)	(Mr Jebb)	5½
W bk d, brother to the above	(Mr Logan)	7
Bk w d, brother to the above	(Mr Lawton)	6
Bk d, brother to the above	(Mr Armistead)	6½
Bk b, by Green's Bird of Prey—sis. to Wild Wave (May 26, 1864)	(Mr Brundritt)	3
W d, by Picton—Jenny's Bawbee (April 1, 1864)	(Mr Jebb)	11½
W br d, brother to the above	(Mr J. P. Craven)	11½
W br b, sister to the above	(Mr J. P. Craven)	10½

MR A. A. MORRELL'S.

Morning Star, r w, brood bitch, by Momentum—Meg Merrilies	(Mr Nicholson)	1
SAPLINGS		
Bk d, by Der Freischutz, dam by Ajax—Malibran (May 1, 1864)	(Mr Poole)	4½
Bk w b, sister to the above	(Mr F. Johnston)	4
W bk b, by Railroad—Malibran (May 25, 1864)	(Mr Lawton)	3½
Bk w b, sister to the above	(Mr Wise)	7½
Bk w d, by Mercury—Glee (June 2, 1864)	(Mr Butterworth)	11½
W bk d, brother to the above	(Mr Talbot)	2½
W f b, sister to the above	(Mr Butterworth)	4
W bk b, sister to the above	(Mr Jones)	6½

MR T. T. C. LISTER'S.

Cresswell, r w d, by Judge—Clara	(Mr Gunson)	8
Promised Land, bk brood bitch, by Black Cloud—Lady Clara	(Mr Smith)	5½
FIRST-SEASON DOGS.		
Claribel, f w b, by Red Lion—Kitty	(Mr Lonsdale)	25
Charlie, f w d, brother to the above	(Mr Talbot)	3
Cœur de Lion, r d, by Red Lion—Kitty	(Mr Lonsdale)	5
R w b, by Belligerent—Chicory (July 5, 1864)	(W. Firth)	7
W r b, sister to the above	(Mr Garnet)	4½
W bk b, sister to the above	(Mr Talbot)	7
Bk w b, by Cresswell—Promised Land (Aug. 7, 1864)	(Mr Garnet)	3
Bk b, sister to the above	(Mr Butterworth)	4½
W br d, brother to the above	(Mr Lloyd)	7½

MR J. F. JOHNSTON'S.

Barney Williams, stud dog, by Hurkaru—Leda		0
Joan of Arc, brood bitch, by Hurkaru—Blue Bonnet	(Mr Wyatt)	2½
Puppy, by Welcome Guest (late Cameronian)—Joan of Arc (May 4, 1864)		0
Puppy, by Welcome Guest—Joan of Arc (May 4, 1864)		4
Puppy, by Welcome Guest—Joan of Arc (May 4, 1864)	(Mr Smith)	2½
Puppy, by Welcome Guest—Joan of Arc (May 4, 1864)	(Mr Smith)	1½
Puppy, by Welcome Guest—Joan of Arc (May 4, 1864)	(Mr Talbot)	4½

MR BARDEN'S.

Blue Hat, stud dog, 7½ yrs old, by Legar Hill—Leda	(Mr Lawton)	20

LORD BINNING'S.

Bacchus, bk d, by Sackcloth—Darkness	(Mr Moore)	1
Bracken, bk b, own sister to Bacchus, Bergamot, and Burlesque	(Mr Watt)	1
Brand, w r b, by Chesterfield—Queen of Hearts	(Capt. Bayley)	6
Blaze, r b, own sister to Brand	(Mr Smith)	1½
Black Hawk, bk b (second season), by Canaradzo—Bracken	(Mr Logan)	7
Bertha, bk w b (second season), by Canaradzo—Bracken	(Mr Dale)	1½
Battledore, bk w d, by Seacombe—Bribery	(Lord Lurgan)	7½
Waldie, bk w d, own brother to Battledore	(Mr Biggins)	2
Beethoven, w r d, own brother to the above	(Lonsdale)	2
Battery, bk b, by Shooting Star—Darkness	(Lord Lurgan)	4½
Black Thorn, bk d (first season), by Brown's Bodo—Brand		0
Bradwardine, r b (first season), own sister to the above		0

SALE OF MR SPINKS'S GREYHOUNDS.

BY MR JOSEPH ASBERY, at Lloyd's Repository, Liverpool, on Feb. 14.

SECOND SEASON BITCHES.		Gs.
Sea Belle, w bk, by Seacombe—Sea Flower	(Bought in)	22
Sea Bar, f w, sister to the above	(Mr Bartholomew)	6
Sea Breeze, f, sister to the above	(Mr Woods)	1½
FIRST SEASON DOGS.		
Seaman, be, by Sea Foam—Sea Flower	(Bought in)	23
Sea Cook, be, brother to the above	(Mr G. Lawton)	3
Sea Spray, w bd, brother to the above	(Mr Ivie Gampbell)	1½
Sea Link, w be, sister to the above	(Mr Woods)	2
Sea Queen, be, sister to the above	(Mr Whiteside)	8
Sea Bride, w bd, sister to the above	(Mr Woods)	6
Sea Bay, w b, by Sea Foam—Sea View	(Mr Poole)	3
Sea Prize, r, by Skyrocket—Lapwing	(Mr Houghton)	10
Sea Flower, by Sandy—Criffie (with 7 puppies to Sea Foam)	(Mr J. P. Craven)	7

GREYHOUND PRODUCE.

On the 5th inst., Mr East's Revolution, seven pups to Retribution.

On the 11th inst., Mr Davy's Fairwater, six puppies to The Brewer.

On the 11th inst., Bit of Gold, by Blaze of Light out of Golden Eye, six pups to Mr Bourn's Golden Hue, viz., four red dogs, one black dog, and one black bitch.

On Jan. 12, Mr R. Ibbotson's Gaylike visited Mr Jackson's Forrester.

On the 4th inst., D. Kent's, Esq., Evening Star visited Forrester.

On the 10th inst., at Hayes, Middlesex, Mr Reader's Ruth, by Dart out of Lilla, by Lopez out of Langravine, visited Mr Hanley's His Excellency, by His Grace out of Her Ladyship.

On the 10th inst., Mr Christie's Leonerta, by Big Ben out of Fly, visited Blue Hat, in Dublin.

On the 11th inst., Mr Codling's Contented Meg visited Pugilist.

On the 12th inst., Mr Rhoades's Blighted Rose (late Brinhelda), winner of the first prize at the late Birmingham show, by The Switcher out of Blue Bonnet, visited Mr Bourn's Golden Hue.

On the 13th inst., Mr J. Colewell's Fanny, by Longslip out of Fanny, visited Mr Johnston's Joint Enterprise, by Effort out of Hasty Conclusion.

On the 14th inst., at Liverpool, Mr Barden's Savourneen Deelish (own sister to his Mr Blue Hat) visited Mr Spinks' Sea Foam, by Beacon out of Scotland Yet.

By friendly favour between owners, Mr Wyse, of Cork, two bitches, Wave and Whin, the first to Bold Enterprise, the latter to Black Flag, have visited Seafield Tower kennels. The following other brood bitches belonging to those kennels are being bred from: Delight to a son of Larriston, Bit of Lace and Bridesmaid to Black Flag, Bit of Fashion to Bold Enterprise.

THE ASHDOWN PARK MEETING is postponed until the week after the Waterloo Cup comes off.

RAID OF DEER AT GLENISLE.—From the intense severity of the prevailing storm in the Highlands, making it difficult for deer and game to find the means of subsistence, the number of deer which came down the glen on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, in search of food, was larger than has been seen for many years. No fewer, it is calculated, than 400 fine deer were in the drove. On Thursday morning the hills above the Burn of Kilry were thick with grouse in search of food. The snow is very deep up all the glen. In some parts it is many feet in depth, and nearly all outdoor work is stopped. —*Edinburgh Courant.*

THE TURF.

IF THE COURSERS were baulked at Altcar, it seems very likely that racing men will meet with a similar bitter disappointment at Lincoln next week, for the ground cannot possibly be got fit for galloping upon in the short space of time before the day of running. To say that the postponement, if really carried out, would cause general regret, would be absurd; for those who do not use horses as instruments of gambling, and have been bred up with the idea that certain sports are appropriated to certain months of the year, will be glad to find that the attempt to anticipate the seasons has been frustrated. More than once have the Lincoln authorities been compelled to put off their meeting *de die in diem*, from the state of the ground being so bad that trainers refused to start their horses, and jockeys of the stamp of Custance, Fordham, and Edwards to ride, for by so doing they would have risked their lives; and if they had met with an accident, their old employers, who had the legitimate call on their services, might be deprived of them at the most critical period of the season. For these and many other reasons, it would have been a wise step if the Lincoln authorities had taken the first week in March for their gathering, when there would be every probability of the racing coming off, and trainers would know how to prepare their horses, and not be kept in the state of anxiety in which they have been placed for the last month with regard to those animals which are engaged at so early a date as that on which Lincoln falls. Even if it should come off, the chances of predicting the winner of any of the events is rendered more than usually difficult by the circumstance that for a period of nearly five weeks not a racehorse in the north of England has been galloped, or done more than trotted about on a straw bed. And in the south the same state of things may be said to have existed; therefore the victory must in each case be determined more by accidental circumstances than by delay, and the running can in no way be taken to be correct. One glance at the Lincoln programme, however, will serve to show that the go-ahead division of the turf are eager for the commencement of operations, and, scorning old-fashioned prejudices, repudiate the phrase "legitimate" season, and would argue that a man has a right to run his own horse whenever it suits him, as much as a master to flog his own nigger. That this is a healthy state of affairs, few can be found to contend; and it is much to be feared that those who are most interested in bringing about a species of reform have not the activity of mind requisite for the subject, and are indisposed to move in a matter which would expose them, perhaps, to some amount of personal obloquy. As it is, the journalist has only to deal with the case as he finds it, knowing he can reckon on the support of the leading members of the Jockey Club for the advocacy of his views. The report that the Prince of Wales would patronise the ensuing meeting, and become the guest of Mr Chaplin, is contradicted on good authority, and is supposed to have been put into circulation merely with a view of imparting a little tone to the gathering, of which it stood sadly in need. Considering the elevated site of the Lincoln racecourse, there are few more cheerless spectacles than that which it presents on a February morning, and nothing but the prospects of gain could make three-fourths of those who assist enjoy the sports of the day; and a deserted stand hardly atones for a crowded inclosure, with a superabundance of welshers of the worst class intent on their game of plunder. This may be deemed a gloomy view of affairs at the opening Spring Meeting of the year, but, nevertheless, it is a correct one, as any impartial observer must admit. It is a moot question whether or not I should deal with the programme, when such a slender probability of its being run out at the appointed time exists. But it will be only erring on the safe side if I make a few observations on the chief items of the list; at the same time frankly admitting that I am entirely in ignorance of what animals are likely to go to the post, therefore your readers can know the extent of their value, and act upon them accordingly.

The Trial Stakes has closed with twenty subscribers, but very few of the nominations have any pretensions to what is called "form," and as Manrico will in all probability be reserved for the Handicap, and Exchequer has more valuable engagements before him, Donnybrook and Gemma strike me to be the safest pair to rely upon for the winner, both of them being well adapted to the distance.

The Brocklesby Stakes, for two-year-olds, will be a great feature in the card, for there are no less than forty-six names to it. This is a first-class entry, at least in a numerical point of view, but no public or private clue has yet been obtained as to the merits of any of the nominations. Count Lagrange and Lord Stamford are both famous for having their "young things" forward, and should the market indicate a partiality for them, it would be well to follow it.

The City Handicap being run for over only six furlongs, it would be absurd to offer any opinion upon it, as in all probability it will be a scramble from end to end.

On the second day we have the Lincolnshire Handicap, which obtained the unprecedented entry of 113 subscribers—a fact impossible to shut our eyes against, as indicative of the change of spirit that has come over the whole system of our English racing. The declarations of forfeits, or rather the scratchings, have not been numerous; but Lord Stamford, feeling his trio had been dealt with too severely, put his pen through their names the instant he saw the weights. As yet only one animal has been backed for it by the public, viz, Manrico, who, with 7st. 10lb., must be said to have a very fine chance. The report, however, that has got into circulation as to his being trained on the Worthing sands, and ridden in his gallops by his owner's son, is wholly incorrect. Neither have the stable, as is asserted, backed him for a shilling, preferring to wait until he came to the post, when they were in a position to judge of him better than they could do now. On paper, no horse looks to have a better chance, and with ordinary luck, he is certain to have a place. Donnybrook, 7st 7lb, after the sensation he created at Liverpool, where he was said to be better than The Tartar, should also run well; and if his party, forgetful of the dressing he gave them at the back end of the year, again trust him with their confidence and money, it will be indicative of having got a proper "inkling" of his quality, and should not be forgotten by his old friends. Gaily is very lightly assessed, and is understood to have been prepared for this event; and as the ground is certain to lie heavy, and she has been prepared on it, she will have a greater advantage than many of the others, and beat considerably more than beat her. Benazet, 6st. 12lb., is turned loose for a six-year-old; and if Goodwin has been enabled to get him fit, he is certain to get forward at the finish. Auditor, 6st. 2lb., has no reason to find fault with the way his merits have been estimated, as his running last year was most respectable, and he landed on more than one occasion good stakes for his owner. Benanoar may also have an outside chance, as he gave promise last season of making a nice three-year-old.

The above lot are the only ones that I can discover with any reasonable pretensions to winning. Therefore, if I take five of them, viz., Manrico, Donnybrook, Gaily, Auditor, and Benazet, to beat the field, fortune may, perhaps, reward me for my boldness with success.

OBSERVER.

THE SPRINGHILL (IRELAND) STEEPLE-CHASE.

IN the Court of Common Pleas, Dublin, an action was brought on Friday last, by the Marquis of Drogheda, against Mr Harper, the treasurer of the Springhill race fund, to recover 35*l.*, the balance which, it was contended, was due to the Marquis, after receiving 95*l.*, which the stewards decided on paying him, as winner of the Open Handicap Steeple-chase at Springhill. Evidence was given as to the conditions being as follows:

The open handicap steeplechase of 100 sovs; about 3 miles; entrance 2 sovs, and 5 sovs stakes, if no forfeit is declared. To close at Farrell's Repository, Great Brunswick-street, Dublin, on Saturday, April 16, before six o'clock p.m. Weights to appear on Monday, the 18th, and forfeits to be declared at the place of entry, before three o'clock p.m. on Thursday, April 21. The winner to pay 5 sovs to the fund. Six to accept, or no race; if less than eight accept, the winner to pay 5 sovs to the fund. Four horses to start, or the money given will be at the option of the stewards.

The Marquis of Drogheda won the Steeple-chase with Satanella, and contended that he was entitled not only to the 100 sovereigns, but also to the stakes of 5 sovs each. The stewards, on being referred to, decided that only the 100 sovereigns was due, and that sum was consequently paid, with certain deductions, the balance being now sought to be recovered. Several witnesses were examined in support of the plaintiff's case, and among others Mr Hunter, the compiler of the *Irish Calendar*; but curiously enough he has returned this steeple-chase in the last *Calendar* as being "of 100 sovs," so that it would appear that he has changed his opinion since its publication. For the defendant it was shown that Mr Smith, the winner of this race in 1862 and 1863, had only received 100*l.* under the same conditions; and it was therefore contended that the Marquis of Drogheda was only entitled to that sum. After the adjournment of the case to the following day, the Lord Chief Justice left it to the jury to say—First, whether, according to the true construction of the articles, the plaintiff was entitled to the 80*l.* only, or 80*l.* and 35*l.*? Secondly, whether, according to the true construction of the conditions as to the decision of the stewards, the dispute between Lord Drogheda and Mr Harper was one to be decided by the stewards? Thirdly, whether, according to the true construction of the approved rules of steeple-chasing, this was a dispute to be decided by the stewards? Fourthly, did Messrs Harper and Baker honestly and *bonâ fide* decide that Lord Drogheda was not entitled to the 80*l.* and 35*l.*?

The jury then retired, and, after a short deliberation, returned into court and stated that, according to the true construction of the articles, Lord Drogheda was entitled to have the 80*l.* and 35*l.*; that the stewards had no right to decide the matter in dispute under either condition, but that Messrs Harper and Baker, the stewards, had acted honestly and *bonâ fide* to the best of their judgment in deciding against Lord Drogheda.

His Lordship, under these circumstances, directed a verdict for Lord Drogheda, with costs, with stay of execution, reserving leave to the defendant to move to have a verdict entered for him.

There can be no question that the intention of the stewards was to pay only the 100*l.*, receiving the stakes towards making up that sum; but their conditions were so loosely worded that they will bear the construction put upon them by the jury. This should be a lesson to secretaries of race-meetings, and should teach them to be cautious in so framing their programme as to avoid any chance of disputes beyond such as can be settled by the stewards.

STUD NEWS.

At Swalcliffe Stud Farm, Pulias (sister to Neptunus), a colt by Neville, and will be put to him again. To whom have arrived:—Filly by Annandale out of Hand-over-Hand's dam; filly by Lord of the Isles out of Hand-over-Hand's dam. Arrived to Big Ben:—Lord Naas's Dirt Cheap, by Orlando; and Mr Johnson's Molly Malone, by Sprig of Shillelagh.

At Highfield Hall Paddock, on Feb. 11, the stallion Caractacus arrived. Intimidation and Lady Langford have arrived to him, and the following mares to the Prime Minister:—Alma (Molly Carew's dam), Yard-arm (Gunboat's dam). On the 14th, Ambush dropped a chesnut filly foal by Simple Simon; and on the 16th, Griselda, a bay filly foal.

At Stanton, Mr Eyke's Shelah (sister to Mary and My Mary), by Idle Boy, a bay colt, by Knight of Kars; she will be put to him again.

At Mamhead, Wild Rose, by Surplice, a bay colt by Crater; Columbine, by Derby, a black or grey filly by Gemma di Vergy; both mares will be put to Crater. Devoniensis, by Fandango, a bay filly by Dupe, and will be put to Gemma di Vergy.

At Hasketon, on the 13th inst., Medica, by Pyrrhus the First, a bay colt by Oulston, and will be put to Surpliee, to whom the following have arrived, and three more subscriptions are taken. He will be limited to fifteen mares: Bracelet (Bangle's dam), in foal to Oulston; The Hind (Hober's dam), in foal to Nutbourne; Avonmore (Avondale's dam), in foal to Nutbourne; Cochineal, barren to Trumpeter; Stitch-in-time, barren to Trumpeter; La Traviata, barren to Fitz-Roland; Sweetbriar, by Coningsby; Diadem, by Bay Middleton (maiden). Melissa, barren to Prime Minister; Merry May, barren to Yellow Jack; and Wagtail, in foal to Trumpeter, have arrived to Ace of Clubs. Homily, by Surplice, and Thimblerig, by Sleight-of-Hand (both in foal to Oulston), will also be put to him.

OLDBURY STUD.—The following mares will be put to Wallace: Cecilia, by Windhound; Grand Mistress, by the Cossack; Mabel Lindon, by Orlando or Alarm; Tabret, by Little David; Daniel O'Rourke mare, the dam of Junius; Daniel O'Rourke mare, the dam of Royal Tartar; Daniel O'Rourke mare, the dam of Memento; Lady Elizabeth, by Ignoramus out of Chatteress; Sir Hercules mare, out of Prestige; Prestige, by Epirus; also Victorine, by Wild Dayrell out of Victrix. La Belle, own sister to Wallace, and Our Maria, by Malcolm, have been sent to Hurstbourne, and will be put to Vengeance.

Sir Joseph Hawley is spending the winter at Nice.

Mr Joseph Dawson has sold Limosina for a brood mare.

The Ace of Hearts is struck out of Tivyside.

A bay filly, by Alonzo out of Mountain Daisy, died on the 12th inst. of a heart disease.

The entire stud of Lord Uxbridge will come to the hammer at Tattersall's on Monday next.

Muscovite and Anfield, the joint property of the late Mr Greville and Mr Payne, will be sold at Tattersall's, on Monday week.

Dux (3 yrs), Cranmore (2 yrs), and Wild Beauty (2 yrs) have left Spring Cottage, Malton, for Lund's stable at Richmond.

Capt. Tempest sold, last week, Merrimac and Lady Douglas to Capt. Shaw, but the price did not transpire.

Johnny Armstrong and Gentilhomme have reached Malton to assist in the Derby preparations of Mr H. Chaplin's Breadalbane.

The Duke of Newcastle purchased Myrtle, 6 years, at Tattersall's, on Monday last, for 250 guineas, and she joins the stud.

The compilation of the memoirs of the late Mr Greville has been entrusted to his friend, Mr Reeves, and will appear in the course of a few months.

Flyfisher was struck out of the Derby steeple-chase on the 13th, at ten a.m., and out of all handicaps out, except at Liverpool. The above horse is trained in private, not at Golby's, as stated.

Mr John Day, the well-known trainer, was operated upon for his eyes, on Wednesday last, by Mr Bowman, the eminent oculist of Clifford-street, assisted by Dr. Simmonds of Oxford. The result, which was an object of much interest to the numerous employers of the patient, we are happy to state was as satisfactory as could be desired, and he is going on as well as can be expected.

Baily's Magazine for February is embellished with a portrait of Lord Hawke, the oldest master of foxhounds in England, and a sketch of his career in the hunting-field, which extends over thirty-eight seasons, is appended. A defence of the battue system is offered by "The Gentleman in Black," for which its patrons will no doubt be obliged. "Discursive Notes on Breeding" is written with taste; although the writer's opinions are of course open to dispute. The other papers are well written, and appropriate to the season of the year.

COLOURS OF RIDERS.—Mr Hugh Smith's are altered to white, red seams, red and white quartered cap.

FORFEIT LIST.—The forfeits of Crazy Jane and Lady of the Lake have been paid.

DATCHET STEEPLE-CHASES have been postponed to Monday and Tuesday next; somewhat injudiciously, we imagine, as they will clash with the more important Lincoln fixture.

EASTBOURNE HUNT RACES will, as usual, precede Reigate, and afford the visitors to the Sussex coast two enjoyable days' sport, weather permitting, on April 12 and 13.

LLANBOIDY HUNT RACES AND OPEN STEEPLE CHASES.—The entries for the Open Steeple-chase, the Open Hurdle-race, and the Cambrian Steeple-chase, close on Wednesday next. Full particulars appear in our advertising columns.

WANSTEAD FLATS.—Efforts are being made to purchase or take on lease a sufficient portion of Wanstead Flats, Essex, for a racecourse. The site proposed is on the west side of the Eagle and Child Tavern, where volunteer reviews have hitherto been held, and not far from Wanstead-park.

SERIOUS ILLNESS OF THE EARL OF STRATHMORE. — We regret to hear that accounts have reached the metropolis of the alarming illness of the above nobleman, who, while sojourning at Barcelona, was seized with a fit of paralysis, and from which it was thought impossible for him to recover.

THE HERTS HUNT has been, we imagine injudiciously, fixed for March 23, which not only clashes with the Warwick Meeting, but so immediately precedes the Grand Military at Rugby as to seriously militate against its own success. Would it not be more advisable to hold it on the Tuesday following, viz., the 28th?

BIRMINGHAM STEEPLE-CHASES.—In consequence of the severe frost and heavy fall of snow, the fixture for the current week of the Birmingham Steeple-chases, named for Tuesday and Wednesday, was postponed until Thursday and Friday last; but, from the continuance of adverse weather, the stewards have selected the same days next week, so as to follow Lincoln. In the event of the latter meeting with the same disappointment, the hardware gathering will be postponed until further notice. The Hunters' Plate and Scurry Handicap will close the evening before running. The meeting being under the National Steeple-chase rules, all nominations, subscriptions, and bets stand. The programme will stand as published in our last week's paper, except with regard to the alteration of dates as above stated. The first race, weather permitting, will take place at two p.m.

THE GRAND NATIONAL HUNT STEEPLE-CHASES AT WETHERBY.—These events, which are exciting great interest among hunting men, not only in Yorkshire, but among the more fashionable shires, will come off at the appointed time, over the Wetherby course, and the few requisite alterations will shortly be commenced. The site is one of the best that could be procured for seeing, and the fences, which are forty-seven in number, are of a hunting, but not trappy character. There will

be two water jumps, but no ridge and furrow, and the distance to be traversed will be four miles and a half. There will be a stand erected for the public, as well as another for the stewards and the ladies, and every exertion will be used to give satisfaction to those interested in the sport. The course, with only a trifling alteration, is the same as that on which Jacob Faithful, Proceed, Box-keeper, and other steeple-chase celebrities have distinguished themselves. The programme of the meeting will be found among our late advertisements.

Shrewsbury Spring Races.—On reference to our advertising columns, it will be seen that, in consequence of the very severe frost and snow, Mr Frail finds it impossible to complete the alterations now being made, or to finish the new straight Two-year-old Course by the time fixed, and he has, therefore, been reluctantly compelled to announce the postponement of the races. In coming to this conclusion we think Mr Frail has acted with his usual judgment.

PROGRAMME OF LINCOLN SPRING MEETING.

TUESDAY, FEB. 21.

The Trial Stakes of 5 sovs each, with 25 added; three-year-olds 7st 3lb, four 8st 10lb, five 9st 5lb, six and aged 9st 10lb; winning penalties and maiden allowances; 1 mile; 20 subs.

Ethel, 3 yrs	Sancho, 3 yrs	Ollerton, 3 yrs	Sympathy, 3 yrs
Hecate, 3 yrs	Thordisa, 3 yrs	Gemma, 6 yrs	Heurlys, 6 yrs
Donnybrook, 5 yrs	Mongrel, 3 yrs	Gownsman, 4 yrs	Tim Meagles, 3 yrs
Exchequer, 6 yrs	Terror, 3 yrs	Guardsman, 4 yrs	Double First, 4 yrs
Roarer, 3 yrs	Troubadour, 3 yrs	Gomera, 3 yrs	Manrico, 6 yrs

The Brocklesby Stakes of 5 sovs each, with 40 added, for two-year-olds; colts 8st 10lb, fillies and geldings 8st 7lb; winners 3lb extra; about half a mile; 46 subs.

Mr C. Ashton's b f Nagrada
Mr Bowes's Hope
Mr Bradley's b c by Promised Land—Hope
Mr Bradley's bk f by Vedette—Woodbine
Mr R. Ten Broeck's Fickle
Mr R. Ten Broeck's b f Slender
Mr Bryan's Capricious
Mr T. Cliff's b f Miss Polly
Lord Coventry's Cinder
Mr J. Day na Grand Falconer
Mr W. Day's f by St. Albans—Minié
Mr G. K. Dyke's b f by Promised Land—Bay Rosalind
Mr F. Fisher's ch f Novice
Mr W. Ford's br f by Lord Fauconberg—Rebecca
Mr W. Ford's ch f by Magnum—Fanny Fern
Mr F. Fisher's b c Actor
Major Fridolin's f Fleur des Bois (French)
Mr Haig's b f Star of the Evening
Mr Hodgman's Vexatious
Mr Hodgman's b f Valentine
Mr Hodgman's Variety
Mr W. Hudson's br f by Lambton—Lady Elizabeth
Mr J. Jackson's ch g by Lord of the Isles—Princess Maud
Mr W. E. Jones's Seam
Sir F. Johnstone's c by Newminster—Miss Lavinia
Count F. de Lagrange's br f Good for Nothing (French)
Count F. de Lagrange's ch f Frileuse (French)
Capt. Machell's ro f Rosita
Mr T. V. Morgan's Harriet
Mr Naylor's b c by Newminster—Barége
Mr Pardoe's b c Chapel Royal
Mr Pardoe's b c Qui Vive
Mr J. R. Preston's b c Conservative
Mr J. R. Preston's b f Mazurka
Mr Savile's Kinghorn
Mr Saxon's br f Merry Lass
Mr Smith's b f Ozone
Lord Stamford's Y. Hopeful
Lord Stamford's Mischief
Lord Stamford's Qui-va-la
Mr T. Sunley's br f Inheritress
Lord Uxbridge's Life Guardsman (late Life Guard)
Lord Westmoreland's f by Ambrose—Bavaria
Lord Westmoreland's Accountant

The City Handicap of 3 sovs each, with 40 added; winners after Jan. 31 at 10 a.m., 7lb extra; six furlongs; 57 subs.

	Age	st	lb		Age	st	lb		Age	st	lb		Age	st	lb
Gemma	6	9	2	Walpole	6	7	2	Wild Duck	6	6	7	Salliet	3	5	11
Reindeer	a	8	3	Confederate	4	7	1	Benanoar	3	6	3	Tring	3	5	10
Historian	4	7	13	Jane Shore	4	7	0	Tim Meagles	3	6	3	Protectionist	3	5	9
Walloon	a	7	13	Mrs Somerville	5	7	0	Purity	3	6	3	Ollerton	3	5	9
The Gillie	5	7	11	Tom Sayers	6	7	0	Minette	3	6	0	Roarer	3	5	9
Le Marechal	5	7	8	Regenerator	5	7	0	Sympathy	3	6	0	Poodle	3	5	9
Troublesome	6	7	7	Gayous	4	6	12	Moldavia	3	5	13	Ethel	3	5	9
Gownsman	4	7	7	Clairvoyante	4	6	11	Imogene	3	5	13	Volatile	3	5	8
Trap	5	7	6	Tomfoolery	4	6	12	Sisyphus	3	5	13	Spain	3	5	8
Heurlys	5	7	6	Forester	4	6	11	Pink	3	5	11	Grace Darling	3	5	7
Theobalds	4	7	6	Balderdash	4	6	10	The Turner	3	5	11	Mrs Lirriper	3	5	7
Goldy Locks	4	7	4	Hawkshaw	4	6	10	Herschel	3	5	11	Rose	4	paid	
Brown Stout	a	7	3	Br f by Guicowar—Pretty Girl	4	6	9	The Crow	3	5	11	Pupil	6	paid	
Shakespeare	4	7	3	Thais	4	6	8	Gloriette	3	5	11	Lightning	3	paid	
Brandy Wine	4	7	2												

The Grand Steeple-chase (handicap) of 10 sovs each, 5 ft, and only 3 if declared, with 100 added; the winner of any steeple-chase of 100 sovs after Jan. 24, at 9 a.m. 8lb, twice or 200 sovs 12lb extra; 4 miles; 31 subs, 15 of whom pay 3 sovs each.

	Age	st	lb		Age	st	lb		Age	st	lb		Age	st	lb
Pigeon	6	12	7	Bridegroom (h-b)	a	11	12	Princess Dagmer	a	11	3	Acton	6	10	11
Ironsides		12	4	Acrobat		11	11	Romulus	6	11	3	Vivandiere	a	10	11
Joe Maley	a	12	3	Yaller Gal		11	4	Cockatoo	a	11	3	Hawthorn (h-b)	a	10	8
Rook the Gardener	a	12	3	Vindictive	5	11	3	Patience (b-b)	6	11	1	Woodford	6	10	8

The All-aged Selling Stakes of 5 sovs each, with 40 added; three-year-olds 8st, four 9st 10lb, five 10st 6lb, six and aged 10st 10lb; mares and geldings allowed 3lb; maiden and selling allowances; 1 mile. To close and name at Monson's Arms Inn, Lincoln, between seven and nine o'clock on the evening before running.

WEDNESDAY.

The Handicap Hurdle Race of 5 sovs each, 3 ft, with 40 added; the winner of any hurdle race or steeple-chase after Jan. 31, at 10 a.m., 7lb, of two or 200 sovs 12lb extra; 2 miles, over six flights of hurdles; 38 subs.

	Age	st	lb		Age	st	lb		Age	st	lb		Age	st	lb
True Heart	5	10	13	Innellan	6	10	0	T. P. Cooke	a	9	8	Bass Rock	4	9	2
Stanton	a	10	11	Vindictive	5	9	13	The Rogue (l. Orphan)	a	9	7	Flattery	6	9	2
Jacob	a	10	10	Patience (h-b)	6	9	13	Overton	a	9	6	Bombay	4	9	0
Real Jam	6	10	9	Adriers	6	9	12	Corsica	4	9	6	Wheldrake	4	9	0
Harlequin	6	10	9	Wamba	a	9	12	Vision	5	9	5	Shropshire	a	paid	
Bowman	a	10	6	Gamecock	a	9	10	Huntsman's Daughter	5	9	3	Bellman	a	paid	
West End	a	10	4	Woodford	6	9	9	Edith	5	9	3	Knave of Trumps	5	paid	
Douche	5	10	2	Physician	a	9	9	Vivandiere	a	9	2	Flimsy	6	paid	
Sinking Fund	a	10	2	Lisbon	6	9	9					Ellangowan	6	paid	
Brown Stout	a	10	0	Ibex (h-b)	5	9	9								
Balder	6	10	0												

The Blankney Handicap of 50 sovs, added to a Sweepstakes of 3 sovs each, for all ages; winners after the weights appear to carry 7lb extra; about half a mile. To close and name as for the Innkeepers' Selling Stakes.

The Lincolnshire Handicap of 5 sovs each, 3 ft., with 100 added; the winner of any handicap after Jan. 24, at 9 a.m., 7lb, twice or 100 sovs 10lb extra; 1 mile; 113 subs.

	Age	st	lb		Age	st	lb		Age	st	lb		Age	st	lb
Twilight	a	8	12	Juliet	a	7	3	Balderdash	4	6	9	Nu	3	5	11
Stockinger	6	8	10	Olivia	4	7	3	Idle Girl	4	6	9	Gloriette	3	5	10
Deerfoot	5	8	2	Earl of Surrey	6	7	2	Br f by Guicowar—Pretty Girl	4	6	8	Nabob	3	5	10
The Monk	a	8	2	Pigeon	6	7	2	Alpheus	4	6	7	Silverlocks	3	5	10
The Principal	6	8	2	Brown Stout	a	7	2	Sancho	3	6	7	Trapeze	3	5	9
Jarnicoton	5	8	2	Lapidist	6	7	2	Charmian	4	6	7	Club Queen	3	5	9
Dr. Syntax	5	8	0	Countersign	4	7	2	Wild Duck	6	6	5	Ollerton	3	5	8
Reindeer	a	8	0	Shakespeare	4	7	2	Edinburgh	3	6	5	Gomera	3	5	8
Qn. of Spain	6	7	13	Goldy Locks	4	7	0	North End	4	6	5	Roarer	3	5	8
Turcos	5	7	13	Walpole	6	7	0	Double First	4	6	5	Volatile	3	5	7
Dunkeld	5	7	11	Confederate	4	7	0	Touriste	3	6	5	Protectionist	3	5	7
Historian	4	7	11	Throdisa	4	7	0	Handley Cross	4	6	4	Spain	3	5	7
King George	4	7	10	Fisherman's Daughter	4	7	0	Lady Valentine	3	6	4	Poodle	3	5	7
Manrico	6	7	10	Ellangowan	6	7	0	Troubadour	3	6	3	Grace Darling	3	5	7
Roman Bee	5	7	9	Canzonette	5	7	0	Tim Meagles	3	6	2	Mrs Lirriper	3	5	7
Voluptas	5	7	8	Regenerator	5	7	0	Benanoar	3	6	2	Gemma	6	paid	
Donnybrook	5	7	7	Rob Roy	4	7	0	Auditor	3	6	2	Coup d'Etat	4	paid	
Le Marechal	5	7	7	Land of the West	4	7	0	Grappler	3	6	0	Persuasion	4	paid	
Troublesome	6	7	7	Oberon	4	6	11	Mongrel	3	6	0	Rose	4	paid	
Comet	5	7	6	M. Philippe	a	6	13	Foxholes	3	6	0	My Mary	6	paid	
Heurlys	6	7	6	Benazet (late Gentilhomme)	5	6	12	Purity	3	6	0	Revolver	5	paid	
Gownsman	4	7	4	Mrs Somerville	5	6	11	Terror	3	5	13	Brick	5	paid	
Trap	5	7	4	Forester	4	6	11	Tesane	3	5	12	Sandal	4	paid	
Guardsman	4	7	4	Tom Sayers	6	6	11	Moldavia	3	5	12	King of Clubs	4	paid	
Gally	5	7	4	Yamuna	4	6	10	Sympathy	3	5	11	Privateer	4	paid	
Theobalds	4	7	4	Physician	a	6	10	Pink	3	5	11	Knave of Trumps	5	paid	
Charming Woman	6	7	3					Hecate	3	5	11	The Crow	3	paid	
Nebula	5	7	3					The Turner	3	5	11	Naples	3	paid	

The Innkeepers' Selling Stakes of 5 sovs each, with 40 added; two-year-olds 7st, three 9st, four 9st 9lb, five and upwards 10st 4lb; mares and geldings allowed 3lb; maiden and selling allowances; about half a mile. To close and name at Monson's Arms Inn, Lincoln, between seven and nine o'clock on the evening before running.

DONCASTER SPRING MEETING.

The Doncaster Spring Handicap of 10 sovs each, 5 ft, and only 3 if declared by Feb. 21, at noon, with 100 added; St. Leger Course; 53 subs.

	Age	st	lb		Age	st	lb		Age	st	lb		Age	st	lb
E. Lancashire	5	8	12	Armagnac	5	7	4	Earl of Surrey	6	6	10	Benanoar	3	5	13
Oldminster	a	8	8	Gally	5	7	3	M. Philippe	a	6	10	Minnette	3	5	12
Buckenham	6	8	5	Finesse	4	7	3	Hartley	4	6	9	Doge	3	5	12
Gibraltar	a	8	3	Demon	5	7	3	Idle Girl	4	6	9	Elsinore (h b)	3	5	10
Welcome	6	7	11	Deerstalker	4	7	2	North End	4	6	8	Moldavia	3	5	10
Turcos	5	7	11	Nuneaton	4	7	2	Physician	a	6	8	Lord Waldegrave	3	5	10
Dunkeld	5	7	10	Fanfreluche	5	7	0	Alpheus	4	6	7	F by Jordan—Black-eyed Susan	3	5	10
Revolver	5	7	10	Royal Stag	5	7	0	Bombay	4	6	6	Nu	3	5	9
L'Africain (late Falendre)	6	7	9	Dean Swift	4	7	0	Sancho	3	6	6	Club Queen	3	5	9
Change	5	7	6	Privateer	4	7	0	Friday	3	6	6	Gannochy	3	5	8
Heurlys	6	7	6	Olivia	4	6	13	Macbeth	4	6	6	Defy	3	5	7
Sandal	4	7	5	Nucleus	4	6	13	Troubadour	3	6	2				
Wandering Minstrel	4	7	4	Oberon	4	6	12	East Lynn	3	6	2				
				Huntsman's Daughter	5	6	11	Tim Meagles	3	6	0				
								Grappler	3	5	13				

DERBY MEETING.

The Great Midland Steeple-chase Handicap of 100 sovs, added to a Sweepstakes of 15 sovs each, 10 ft and 5 only if declared; about 3½ miles; 35 subs, 8 of whom pay 5 sovs each; the highest weight accepting being 12st 2lb, it has been raised to 12st 7lb, and the others in proportion.

	Age	st	lb		Age	st	lb		Age	st	lb		Age	st	lb
Flyfisher	6	12	7	Balder	6	11	3	Roulette	a	10	13	Vivandiere	a	10	7
Pigeon	6	12	0	Spatchcock		11	1	Marble Hill	6	10	13	Wilford	a	10	7
Globule	6	11	12	Oscar (h-b)	a	11	1	Pres. Dagmar	a	10	11	Merrimac	a	10	7
Meanwood	6	11	8	Alcibiade	5	11	1	Demon	5	10	10	Jacob	6	10	6
Sly Fox	a	11	7	Agnes	a	11	0	Adriers	6	10	10	Acton	6	10	6
L'Africain (late Falendre)	6	11	5	Bridegroom	a	10	13	Kg. of Hearts	6	10	9	T. P. Cooke	a	10	5
				Charity Boy	a	10	13	West-End	a	10	7	Rhodomontade	4	10	5

HORSES STRUCK OUT OF THEIR ENGAGEMENTS.

Feb. 11, at 9 a.m., Wandering Minstrel, out of Nottingham Handicap.

Feb. 14, at 9 a.m., Purity, out of Lincoln Handicap.

Feb. 15, at 9 a.m., Bowman, out of Lincoln Hurdle Race; Nucleus, out of Chelmer Handicap; at 3 15 p.m., all horses named by Mr R. Ten Broeck, out of all handicaps at Lincoln.

Feb. 16, at 2 35 p.m., Pink out of Lincolnshire and City Handicaps, Lincoln.

Feb. 17, at 10 a.m., Touriste, out of Lincolnshire Handicap, having, by mistake, been entered as a three-year-old.

SALES OF HORSES.

At Tattersall's, Hyde-park-corner, Monday, Feb. 13. Gs.

Myrtle, b m, 6 yrs, by Lexington—Evergreen, by Glencoe.........(Mr Newcastle) 260
Greenland, ch c, 4 yrs, by Weatherbit—Skycutter, by Birdcatcher (Mr Phillips) 210
Accident, ch c, 5 yrs, by Colsterdale, dam by Hampton.........(Mr Phillips) 510
Blackdown, ch c, 5 yrs, by Rattle—Subtility.........(Mr Phillips) 510
B f, 2 yrs, by Steamer—Young Brilliana, by Falstaff.........(Mr Hicks) 21

BETTING AT TATTERSALL'S.

Monday.—A full attendance, and business much brisker than we have seen it for some time. Emblematic was the heroine of the hour for the Liverpool, and after her Light Heart, the Czar, and Arbury may be considered as being backed for the most money. Real Jam and Tony Lumpkin also had some friends. The Northamptonshire Stakes were scarcely mentioned, but there was a good deal doing on the Chester Cup, for which Lord Zetland was in great demand, 10 to 1 only being obtainable about him at the close of the afternoon. Ackworth was also inquired after in one or two good quarters, and the owner of Gratitude backed her with such spirit that she came to 25 to 1. Of the extreme outsiders, La Toucques was also mentioned for any money. For the Two Thousand Chattanooga was a warm one; Zambesi held his own at the quoted price. The Derby did not call for much remark.

Thursday.—The room was full, despite the wretched weather. A favourite was made for the Lincolnshire Handicap in Heurlys, but the only feature of consequence was the hostility against Chattanooga for the Two Thousand, and the disposition to back Liddington for that event. Breadalbane was also in great force for the Derby.

	Trainer.	Monday.	Thursday.
LINCOLN HANDICAP.			
Count de Lagrange's Heurlys	T. Jennings		10 to 1 (t)
Mr Sanders's Manrico	Owner		100 to 8 (t)
LIVERPOOL STEEPLE-CHASE.			
Lord Coventry's Emblematic	Weaver	16 to 1 (t)	
Mr Peace ns Light Heart	Sanders	100 to 7 (t)	
Mr Goodliffe's The Czar	Private	20 to 1 (t)	
Col Forster's Tony Lumpkin	Private	20 to 1 (t)	
Mr T. Hughes's Real Jam	Owner	20 to 1 (t)	
Count de Dampierre's Arbury	Balchin	25 to 1 (t)	
Mr T. Wadlow's Shropshire	Owner	25 to 1 (t)	
Lord Coventry's Emblem	Weaver	25 to 1 (off)	
Lord Coventry's Balder	Weaver	33 to 1 (t)	
Mr J. Galby's Merton		500 to 15 (t)	
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE STAKES.			
Lord Coventry's Thalestris	Weaver	16 to 1 (t)	14 to 1 (t)
Lord Stamford's Spring Gun	Smith	25 to 1 (t)	
CHESTER CUP.			
Duke of Beaufort's Lord Zetland	J. Day	10 to 1 (t)	
Marquis of Hastings's Ackworth	J. Day	20 to 1 (t)	
Mr Robinson's Gratitude		25 to 1 (t)	
Mr W. Day's Watchbox	Owner	25 to 1 (t)	
M. A. Montgomery's La Toucques	Abroad	40 to 1 (t)	
Mr Merry's Mœstissima filly	M. Dawson	1000 to 30 (t)	
TWO THOUSAND.			
Mr Naylor's Chattanooga	Godding	6 to 1 (t)	13 to 2 (t & off)
Mr Merry's Zambesi	M. Dawson	8 to 1 (t)	
Lord Glasgow's Rifle	J. Scott	12 to 1 (t)	10 to 1 (off)
Count de Lagrange's Gladiateur	T. Jennings	100 to 7 (t)	100 to 8 (t)
DERBY.			
Mr H. Chaplin's Breadalbane	W. I'Anson		9 to 1 (t)
Lord Stamford's Archimedes	W. Smith	20 to 1 (t)	
Mr H. Chaplin's Broomielaw	W. I'Anson	22 to 1 (t)	
Count de Lagrange's Gladiateur	T. Jennings	40 to 1 (t)	
Lord Westmoreland's Brahma	W. Goater	40 to 1 (t)	

BETTING AT MANCHESTER.—Friday.

LINCOLN HANDICAP.—10 to 1 agst Heurlys (t)

LIVERPOOL STEEPLE-CHASE.

100 to 8 agst Light Heart (t) | 20 to 1 agst Emblem (t)
100 to 7 — Emblematic (t) | 20 to 1 — Tony Lumpkin (t)
20 to 1 — Jerry (t) | 25 to 1 — Hussar (t).

CHESTER CUP.

100 to 8 agst Lord Zetland (t) | 20 to 1 agst Ackworth (t).

TWO THOUSAND.

7 to 1 agst Chattanooga (t) | 8 to 1 agst Liddington (t).

But a thin attendance, and little doing.

STEEPLE-CHASE FIXTURES.

FEBRUARY.

Datchet 20, 21	Fitzwilliam Hunt (Peterboro') 23	Tivyside Hunt 21	Brackley 28
Lincoln 21, 22		Uxbridge 23, 24	Tamworth 28
Birmingham 23, 24			

MARCH.

Wellington 1	Bangor 14	Llanboidy Hunt 21, 23	Torquay 28
Wrangle Common 1	Coote Hill 15	Warwick 23	Lichfield Hunt 28
Baschurch 3	Moreton-in-Marsh 16	Herts Hunt 23	York 28
Woolwich (Royal Artillery) 7	Folkestone Military 16	Isle of Wight 24	Gr National Hunt (Wetherby) 29
Liverpool 8	Coventry 16	East Barnet 24, 25	Cheshire Hunt 31
Kidderminster Hunt 13	Chertsey 16, 17	Grand Military (Rugby) 24, 25	
	Scarborough 16, 17		

APRIL.

West Somerset 5	Blackheath and Woolwich 17, 18	Cheltenham 18, 19	Cardiff 25, 26
Tenbury 6	Knighton 18	Abergavenny 20, 21	Aberdare 27
Grantham 6		Liverpool Hunt 21, 22	Croydon 27, 28

MAY.

Springhill (Dublin) 1

DECEMBER.

Ealing 27, 28

RACING FIXTURES.

FEBRUARY.

Lincoln Spring 21 | Birmingham 23 | Nottingham Spring 28

MARCH.

Derby Spring 2	Shrewsbury Spring 10	Warwick Spring 21	Barham 30
West Drayton 2	Doncaster Spring 14	Chelmsford Spring 28	Lewes Spring 30
Chatteris 4			

APRIL.

Northampton 4	Durham 17	Abergavenny 20	Epsom Spring 25
Croxton Park 7	Newmarket Craven 17	Thirsk 21	Cardiff 25
Eastbourne Hunt 12	Canterbury Spring 18	Liverpool Hunt 21	

MAY.

Newmarket First Spring 1	Chester 9	Salisbury 18	Harpenden 26
	York Spring 16	Bath 23	Epsom 30

JUNE.

Chelmsford 7	Beverley 14	Hampton 21	Odiham 27
Manchest. Summer 7	Liverpool 19	Newton 21	Bibury 28
Ascot 13	Alexandra Park 20	Newcastle 27	Stockbridge 29

JULY.

Newmarket July 4	Abingdon 11	Nottingham 18	Goodwood 25
Carlisle 4	Stamford 13	Southampton 19	Down Royal Corp. —
Worcester 6	Winchester 18	Chesterfield 20	

AUGUST.

Brighton 1	Wolverhampton 8	Royal Windsor 17	Devon and Exeter 29
Brighton Club 3	Reading 10	York 22	Derby Summer 30
Lewes 4	Radcliffe 14	Plymouth 24	Weymouth 31
Huntingdon 8	Egham 15	Lichfield 28	

SEPTEMBER.

Leicester 7	Brecon 18	Monmouth 21	Newmarket 1st Oct. 26
Doncaster 12	Richmond 19	Manchest. Autumn 22	Walsall 27

OCTOBER.

Northallerton 5 | Newmarket 2nd October 9 | Newmarket Houghton 23

NOVEMBER.

Liverpool Autumn 7 | Shrewsbury 13

INDEX TO THE CLOSING OF STAKES.

Doncaster Feb. 21	Croxton Park Feb. 28	Warwick Spr. Feb. 28	West Drayton Feb. 28
West Drayton 21	Liverpool Spring 28		

THE VETERINARIAN.

HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT OF HORSES AND DOGS.—Will any of your readers kindly inform me if they have tried the homœopathic treatment in the cure of disease in horses and dogs, and with what success?—Barroll.—[We can only insert short statements of the results of trials of this mode of treatment, and not merely theoretical opinions.—Ed.]

CURIOUS CASE OF BRAIN ATTACK IN PUPPIES.—On Saturday last I went out for a walk, taking with me for exercise two fox-terrier puppies, aged six months. They appeared very lively, and seemed to enjoy the run out. We had not gone more than two miles before one of them fell down in convulsions, which lasted about two minutes; after which he got up, appearing all right again, but seemed timid, as if he had been chastised. In less than five minutes, the other dog was seized exactly in the same manner, and with similar results. After an interval of twenty minutes (having gone about a mile), both dogs simultaneously began to howl and run round me. They then started off in different directions, howling as a dog would when severely beaten. They seemed to pick out, and rush through the thickest parts of the hedgerows (sometimes stopping inside as if to hide themselves, but still howling), tumbling head over heels in leaping down, perfectly reckless of anything: both attempted to run up trees. This continued for at least ten minutes. They then disappeared from our sight, but we could hear them howling, as they ran in different directions, in the distance. One, having jumped down a stone quarry and broken a leg, was carried back to us. It was still howling and foaming at the mouth, the white of its eyes being pink or bloodshot. This we immediately destroyed. The other, just able to crawl, found its way into the stable of a farm. We watched it for about twenty minutes: its eyes became pink and glossy, as if blind. It crawled about, dragging its limbs, half paralysed, foaming at the mouth, and biting at stone, or iron, or anything it came against. I then ordered it to be destroyed. These puppies were great favourites, had a large loose-box (horse) to romp in, were well fed on new milk, horse-beef, and scraps, were not at all fat, had never been beaten, and until within an hour of their death seemed in perfect health. Although I never saw a case of distemper, my idea is that this may be some form of it, perhaps aggravated by cold and more exercise than usual. Some of your readers may be able to tell the cause and complaint; if so, I shall be very glad, as we were both grieved and terrified.—W. H. A.—[There would be nothing remarkable in either case by itself, as one of distemper attacking the head; but the coincidence of two exactly alike looks more like poisoning, although of course it is possible that the influence of the former disease, being excited at the same time upon both, might be followed by like results.—Ed.]

LATE ADVERTISEMENTS.

PHEASANTS, DEER, &c.—Red and Fallow Deer for Hunting or Stock, tame-bred common Pheasants; also Silver and Gold Pheasants, Swans, Waterfowls, and a variety of fancy live stock, at W. Herring's, Menagerie, 328, Euston-road, London.

SMALL BRAHMA BUFFALO COW and CALF, lately arrived from India, for SALE.—To be seen at the Queen's Head, Fendall-street, Grange-road, Bermondsey.

A GENTLEMAN wishes to obtain a temporary PLACE for his servant, in a nobleman's or gentleman's family, as GROOM. Age 27. The highest references given.—Apply to "J. M.," care of Mr Jones, 8, Bury-street, St. James's.

THE GRAND NATIONAL HUNT STEEPLE-CHASES, 1865, will take place at Wetherby, on Wednesday, March 29.

(Wetherby, where there is accommodation for any number of horses, is situated fourteen miles from York, twelve from Leeds, six from Harrogate and Knaresborough, and two and a-half from Boston Spa and Spofforth, to all of which places there is direct railway communication.)

First day.—[To commence at one o'clock.]

THE BRAMHAM MOOR AND YORK AND AINSTY HUNT CUP, value 40 sovs, given by Sir C. Slingsby, Bart., Geo. Lane Fox, Esq., and the members of the York and Ainsty and Bramham Moor Hunts, added to a Sweepstakes of 2 sovs each, for horses that have been regularly hunted with the York and Ainsty and Bramham Moor hounds, and to be *bona fide* the property of farmers occupying land, and tradesmen carrying on their business in either of the above hunts, and to be ridden by farmers and tradesmen so qualified, or their sons, such horses to have been in their possession since March 1, 1865; four-year-olds to carry 10st 7lb, five 11st 10lb, six and aged 12st 7lb; the winner of any steeple-chase to carry 10lb, of one of 50 sovs, 14lb, of one of 100 sovs, 21lb extra; thorough-bred horses 14lb extra, inaddition to other penalties; the second horse to receive 5 sovs out of the stakes; about 3½ miles.

THE GRAND NATIONAL HUNT STEEPLE-CHASE, a Sweepstakes of 10 sovs each, 5 ft, and only 8 for subscribers who do not name (to go to the fund), with 250 added, for regular hunters that have not been in a public training stable since Jan. 1, 1865, and that have never won any steeple-chase, hurdle race, or flat race value 20 sovs (not including the winner's own stake), or that have never started in a handicap steeple-chase or hurdle race up to the time of starting; four-year-olds 10st 10lb, five 12st, six 12st 6lb, aged 12st 10lb; ages from the 1st of January; to be ridden by gentlemen, farmers, or farmers' sons, who have never ridden for hire; the second horse to receive 50 sovs, the third 20 sovs, and the winner to pay 25 sovs towards expenses; tenant farmers occupying 100 acres of land or more in the United Kingdom, and not being either licensed horse dealers or trainers, will be permitted to enter horses that have been *bona fide* their own property and in their possession since the 1st of January, 1865, for 5 sovs each; those claiming this privilege must make their claim at the time of entry, or they will be liable for 10 sovs, and certificates from their landlord or from the master of hounds with whom they hunt must be produced previous to weighing if demanded; horses running in this race will not be liable to the racehorse duty; about 4 miles. To close and name to Messrs Weatherby, Old Burlington-street, London, or to the Clerk of the Course, on or before the 1st of March.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales	Lord Dunkellin	Mr H. Behrens
Duke of Manchester	Lord Bateman	Mr John A. Craven
Marquis of Hastings	Lord Doneraile	Mr B. J. Angell
Lord Clanricarde	Lord Spencer	Mr James Baillie
Lord Drogheda	Colonel Berkeley	Mr George Payne
Lord Hartington	Mr F. Morgan	Mr T. A. B. Callendar
Lord Conyngham	Mr Spencer Lyttelton	Mr C. C. Martyn
Lord Westmoreland	Mr G. Morgan	Mr E. C. Burton
Lord Coventry	Mr H. Wilkinson	Mr W. G. Craven
Lord De Grey and Ripon	Mr C. Vivian	Mr H. Savile
Lord Harewood	Mr F. W. G. Calthorpe	Mr Dawson Damer
Lord Wilton	Mr W. H. North	Mr J. O. Machell
Lord Hopetoun	Sir F. Johnstone	Mr A. H. Sumner
Lord Stamford and Warrington	Sir George Wombwell	Mr H. Coventry
Lord Bective	Sir Charles Slingsby	Mr C. Clarke
Lord Grey de Wilton	Major Reilly	Mr F. Pryor
Lord Ingestre	Col. V. O. Baker	Mr A. Cooper
Lord Earlsfort	Capt. G. W. Knox	Captain Sharp
Lord Andover	Mr F. Wombwell	Mr Owen Whiteside
Lord St. Lawrence	Mr W. D. Bromley	Mr W. Ingilby
Lord Rendlesham	Mr W. Gilmour	Mr H. Chaplin
Lord Proby	Mr C. Fludyer	Captain Boyce
	Mr G. Finch	Mr H. Wombwell.
	Mr C. Vyner	

THE STEEPLE-CHASE CUP, value 100 sovs, for all horses, 13st each; 1 sov entrance to go to the fund; to be ridden by members of the following clubs: White's, Brooks's, Boodle's, Carlton, Arthur's, Pratt's Egerton, Pratt's, Army and Navy, Senior and Junior United Service, Guards, Arlington, Yorkshire Club, and also by members of Croxton Park, Bibury, and Brighton Clubs; about 4 miles. To close and name to Messrs Weatherby on or before March 11. Four horses to start or no race.

HANDICAP SELLING STEEPLE-CHASE PLATE; entrance 2 sovs; the winner to be sold for 40 sovs, and any surplus to go to the fund; any winner after the publication of the weights to carry 7lb extra; above 2½ miles. To close and name to Messrs Weatherby on or before March 21.

Second Day.

THE FARMERS' OPEN STEEPLE-CHASE, with at least 50 sovs added, for horses the property of farmers occupying 100 acres of land, in Great Britain; four-years-olds 10st 10lb, five 12st, six 12st 6lb, aged 12st 10lb; to be ridden by farmers, or their sons following the same occupation; entrance 1 sov; about 4 miles. To close and name to Messrs Weatherby, Old Burlington-street, London, on or before March 21.

THE BRAMHAM MOOR CUP of at least 60 sovs given by the town and neighbourhood of Wetherby, added to a Sweepstakes of 10 sovs each, h ft, for hunters *bona fide* the property of residents in the county of York, that have been in their possession since Jan. 1, 1865, that have been regularly hunted with any established pack of foxhounds in the county of York, and that have not been in a public training stable since Jan. 1, 1865; five-year-olds to carry 12st 5lb, six 12st 12lb, aged 13st; to be ridden by gentlemen, or by farmers occupying 100 acres of land in the county of York, or by their sons following the same occupation; about 4 miles. No horse will be allowed to start for this race unless a certificate be shown to the stewards on the first day of the meeting to say that the horse has been fairly hunted. The certificate must be signed by the master, or the acting master, and by two other gentlemen of the hunt from which the horse comes. Horses running in this race are not liable to the racehorse duty.

THE GREAT YORKSHIRE OPEN HANDICAP STEEPLE-CHASE of 10 sovs each, h ft, and 3 only (to go to the fund) if declared on or before March 16, to Messrs Weatherby, with 100 added; the winner of a hurdle-race or steeple chase value 50 sovs after the publication of the weights ( ) to carry 5lb extra; twice, or of 100 sovs, 10lb extra; about 4 miles. To close and name to Messrs Weatherby, on March 1. Weights to be published on March 11.

THE DEALERS' STAKES of 5 sovs each, with 25 added; the winner to be sold for 150 sovs, if for 100 allowed 7lb; five-year-olds to carry 11lb, six 11st 9lb, aged 12st; winners of 50 sovs 5lb extra, of 100 or upwards 10lb extra; half-breds allowed 7lb; 10 subs, or no race; about 3 miles.

Viscount NEVILL,
Viscount GREY DE WILTON,
Hon. Col. BERKELEY,
Sir F. JOHNSTONE,
Sir CHARLES SLINGSBY,
G. LANE FOX, Esq.,
W. G. CRAVEN, Esq.,
B. J. ANGELL, Esq.,
H. CHAPLIN, Esq.,
} Stewards.

Mr R. JOHNSON, York, Clerk of the Course and Judge.

TO be SOLD by AUCTION, by Messrs TATTERSALL, at Hyde-park-corner, on Monday, Feb. 27, without reserve, the private property of the late Mr John Anderson, of Green-street, a remarkably clever SHOOTING PONY, and a good LADY'S MARE; also, TWO POINTERS, a SETTER, and TWO RETRIEVERS, that have been shot over several seasons, and very perfect in every respect.

TO be SOLD by AUCTION, by Messrs TATTERSALL, at Hyde-park-corner, on Monday, Feb 27, the following well-bred HORSES. Have been regularly hunted and ridden by a lady all last season, and up to the present time, the property of a gentleman:

1. THE DEACON. | 2. BIRTHDAY.

SALMON-FISHING.—Only twenty-five hours from London.—To be LET, at Ballycroy, barony of Erris, county Mayo, the large, convenient, well-furnished Lodge of LAGDUFF, with the right of angling in a portion of the Ballycroy river, containing thirty-eight pools, and abounding in salmon and sea trout. The river is preserved free of expense to the tenant, who would also have gratuitously the services of a first-rate keeper. The keeper's wife can act as cook and housemaid if desired. Rent, from March 1 to Aug. 10, 100l.—All particulars to be had on application to Mr Thompson, at Mr Bushby's chambers, 5, Essex-court, Temple, London, E.C.

PASTON HALL, near Peterborough.—To be LET, with immediate possession, this desirable Gentleman's Residence, with five acres of ground, shrubberies, and gardens, and with 13 or 70 acres of land in addition if required. Paston Hall is a few minutes' walk from the city of Peterboro', on the Midland line of railway, and about two hours from London by the Great Northern.—For terms, and further particulars, apply to Mr Langley, Estate Agent, &c., Stamford.

WOTHORPE HOUSE, near Stamford.—To be LET or SOLD, with immediate possession, the elegant Cottage Mansion, known as WOTHORPE HOUSE, as at present occupied by Jos. Thos. English, Esq., with the grounds, &c., measuring altogether about three and a half acres.—For terms, full particulars, and cards to view apply to Mr W. Langley, Estate Agent, Auctioneer, &c., Stamford.

THE ROYAL THAMES YACHT CLUB, being about to quite the HOUSE it now occupies, invites TENDERS from parties who may have suitable PREMISES to OFFER in the locality of the present clubhouse. All letters on the subject to be addressed, headed "Club Premises," to the care of the Secretary, 7, Albemarle-street W. The nature and extent of the accommodation required, may be ascertained by an inspection of the present club premises, on application to the Secretary between the hours of two and five p.m. Tenders to be sent in on or before Saturday, 25th inst.—R.T.Y.C., Albemarle-street, Feb. 14.

Just published, Vol. X. of

THE GENERAL STUD BOOK, containing the pedigrees of thorough-bred horses, brought down to the end of 1864, price one guinea, in boards. By C., J., and E. WEATHERBY.

Sold at the Publishers' Office, 6, Old Burlington-street, and by all Booksellers in town and country.

On Friday next will be published the Volume of the

RACING CALENDAR, 1865,—containing the Races to Come, and including the Nominations, Handicaps, and Acceptances up to the latest period, with a complete Index to the Engagements of every horse, the Rules of Racing, &c., and also a Guide to the usual time of naming for all the principal stakes in England. By C., J., and E. WEATHERBY.

Sold at the Publishers' Office, 6, Old Burlington-street, London, and by all Booksellers. Price 8s.; bound in calf, 8s. 6d.; post free to all parts of the United Kingdom.

Just published, price 1s.

VENTRILOQUISM MADE EASY; What it is, and How it is to be Learned. By F. HARDY. Post free for thirteen stamps, from Alfred Holmes, Stationer, 15, Clemens-street, Leamington.

London: F. Pitman, 20, Paternoster-row, E.C.

WATERLOO CUP.—VALENTINE and WRIGHT, William IV. Tavern, Albany-road, Camberwell, and the Bell Tavern, 95, Fleet-street, City, London, EXECUTE COMMISSIONS on the above event, and all races and steeple-chases during the season. Price-list sent on receipt of stamped envelope.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL ADELPHI.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr B. WEBSTER.—Re-appearance of Mr Benjamin Webster in MASKS AND FACES, in his original character of Triplet, for six nights only. Peg Woffington, her original character Mrs Stirling.—Monday and during the week, ICI ON PARLE FRANCAIS, Mr J. L. Toole. MASKS AND FACES, OR BEFORE AND BEHIND THE CURTAIN, Mr Benjamin Webster, Messrs P. Bedford, Stuart, Billington, Ashley, Eburne, C. J. Smith, Mrs Stirling, Miss H. Simms, and Mrs Billington. DARK DOINGS IN THE CUPBOARD BY THE KNOTTING'EM BROTHERS, Messrs J. L. Toole, P. Bedford, and Mrs A. Mellon. Commence at seven. Due notice will be given of Miss Bateman's re-appearance.

THE COUNTRY HOUSE.

THE PARIS DOG SHOW IN MAY.

BY THE COURTESY OF THE GENTLEMEN who are making preparations for the exhibition of dogs which is to be held in Paris next May, we have received an early copy of the prize list and regulations to be observed by exhibitors on that occasion, so interesting to the lovers of the dog, whether as a companion to man, or as an object of natural history. It will be seen, by comparing the present programme with that which we published at the corresponding season in 1863, that considerable changes have been made in the value of the prizes offered, as well as in the classification of the several varieties of the dog. One of those most important to English exhibitors is the decision of the committee not to make any distinction between English and French pointers, in the belief that the two breeds have been so constantly crossed as to make it impossible to distinguish the one from the other by any external signs. One distinctive feature not recognised by us in this breed (that of whole, or self colour) has been made the basis of a class, and possibly it may be a sufficient foundation as far as regards the French breeds; but it does not apply in England, though we have two well-marked varieties of setters, distinguished by their colour, namely, the Gordon and the Irish; and three varieties of the spaniel—the Clumber, and the Sussex Springer, and the Devonshire Cocker. The committee have come to this decision in the belief that colour is a most important characteristic in domestic animals generally, and that therefore it should be made so in dogs, but we fancy our M.F.H.'s would not subscribe to this dictum, and we think, as a rule, it cannot be supported. There are, no doubt, many breeds of domestic animals in which colour is recognised as an important sign of purity of blood, as, for example, the Hereford, Sussex, and Devon cattle, the Southdown and Highland sheep, &c.; but, on the other hand, with all our horses, and with many of our breeds of dogs, colour is not regarded as of any great importance, and the axiom that "a good horse cannot be of a BAD colour" has been universally received. We understand that more than thirty of the most celebrated packs of French hounds will be exhibited, and we sincerely hope that at least a couple or two, from some of our best English packs, will be sent over to compete with them. Accommodation will be afforded for nine hundred dogs, in a building which will be erected nearly in the centre of Paris, and which will therefore be of easy access. Should any of our subscribers wish for information beyond that which is comprised within the following programme, we shall be happy to obtain it for them. We intend ourselves to inspect the show, and we shall have great pleasure in attending to the interests of those gentlemen who may send dogs for exhibition without personally being able to be present.

Programme of the Second International Dog Show to be held by the Society of the Acclimatisation Zoological Gardens of Paris, under the patronage of the Imperial Society of Acclimatisation, in the Avenue de la Cours de la Reine, in the Champs-Elysées, 1865.

RULES.

I. The Exhibition will be open to the public on Sunday, the 7th of May, 1865, at nine a.m., and will be closed on Sunday, the 14th, at six p.m. It will consist of such dogs as shall have been approved of by a committee to be appointed for that purpose by the administrative council of the Society of the Acclimatisation Zoological Gardens. This committee will sit at the Exhibition building, in the Avenue Cours de la Reine, on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th of May, and on the last day only until four o'clock p.m.

II. Intending exhibitors must give notice to the directors of the Acclimatisation Gardens, in the Bois de Boulogne (Neuilly-sur-Seine*) some time before the 7th of April, of the number, breed, sex and age of the animals which they purpose sending for exhibition. No application made after that time will be attended to † The dogs must be delivered, carriage paid, to the Exhibition building, Avenue du Cours de la Reine, by three o'clock, on the 3rd of May, at the latest; each to be furnished with a serviceable collar on pain of exclusion. To avoid inconveniences, the chains must be all made according to a uniform model, supplied by the authorities of the gardens, at the price of one franc for each animal, and which will be given up to the owners when their animals are returned to them. The dogs should be sent by the most expeditious mode of conveyance, addressed as follows:—"*à M. le Directeur du Jardin d'Acclimatation, au siége de l'Exposition, avenue Cours de la Reine à Paris.*" All animals unaccompanied by attendants should be sent in hampers or cases, so that they may be transmitted and returned without risk of loss or accident.‡ Every dog refused by the committee of admission will be immediately returned to the owner at his own expense. No animal which has been pronounced admissible can be withdrawn before the close of the Exhibition, except in the event of illness. As an exception, however, toy dogs may be taken home every evening by their proprietors, on condition that they are brought back again every morning before ten o'clock. After the close of the Exhibition, five days will be allowed for the removal of the dogs; afterwards, all animals then unclaimed will be sold by public auction by a licensed auctioneer, and the prices fetched will be retained for the benefit of the owners, less the expenses incurred. At the same time, the same auctioneer will sell by public auction all such animals as the owners may desire to have so sold, provided a demand to that effect shall have been made four days before the closing of the Exhibition.

III. For the better ordering and regularity of service, the administration of the gardens will feed the animals at the rate of half a franc per head per diem. This rule is obligatory, and every exhibitor must conform to it.

IV. The animals will be exhibited according to the following arrangements:—1st. Toy dogs, such as Italian greyhounds, pugs, King Charles's, &c., will be placed in compartments of one metre (39 inches and a third) each way, covered in with a tent roof, and with boards on all sides except the front, which will be an open grating. 2. Packs and parts of packs of hounds will be under tents, in inclosures of thirty-two superficial square metres, with kennel-floors to raise them from the ground. 3. Other dogs will be upon kennel-floors or platforms of two metres square, joined two and two, so that the animals cannot touch each other, and will enjoy as much liberty as possible. They will be covered by tents. Exhibitors are expressly prohibited from placing tickets of any kind on or near their animals.

V. A gratuitous ticket of admission, not transferable, will be granted to each exhibitor or his representative. Should this privilege be abused in any way the ticket will be withdrawn.

VI. Objects of art, prizes in silver, gold, silver-gilt, silver, and bronze medals, will be awarded by way of prizes on the 16th May, according to the report of a jury to be named by the Council of Administration of the Society of the Acclimatisation Gardens, and these awards will be placarded in the Exhibition building on the 13th May.

VII. The organisation and management of the exhibition will be entirely under the control of the director of the Acclimatisation Gardens. The administration will not be responsible for the death or loss of animals, from whatever cause it may arise.

PROGRAMME OF CLASSES—FIRST DIVISION.

DOGS FOR SERVICE FOR THE DEFENCE OF MAN OR DRIVING FLOCKS, &C.

CLASS I.—*Shepherds' and Cattle Dogs:* Dogs of the Brie race and other French shepherd's dogs. Dogs for driving Cattle. [Prizes, see List 1.]§

CLASS II.—*Foreign Shepherds' Dogs:* German, English, Scotch (collies), Russian, &c. [Prizes, List 1.]

CLASS III.—*Watch Dogs* (used for the defence of man and mountain dogs): Pyrenean dogs, St. Bernard, Leonberg, Camargne, Abruzzi, Spanish, Scotch, St. Domingo, Mexican, Breton and other mastiffs. [Prizes, List 1.]

CLASS IV.—*Dogs from the Arctic Regions* (small and large breeds): Esquimaux, Siberian, Tartar, Kamschatkan, Greenland, Canadian, Pomeranian (commonly called Lulus), Alsatian, Iceland, Lapland. [Prizes, List 2]

CLASS V.—*Newfoundland and Labrador Mastiffs:* Black short-haired Newfoundlanders, black curly-haired Newfoundlanders, black and white Newfoundlanders, Labrador dogs. [Prizes, List 1.]

CLASS VI.—*Mastiffs:* The large Bordeaux Mastiff, black and white Mastiff, Spanish, Cuban, and Thibet Mastiff, British Mastiff, &c. [Prizes, List 1.]

CLASS VII.—*Bull-dogs.* SUB-CLASS I. *Bull-dogs over 4 kilos weight (about 9lb. English)*: brindled, black-and-white, white, yellow. SUB-CLASS II. *Bulldogs under 4 kilos.*: brindled, black-and-white, white, yellow. [Prizes, List 2.]

CLASS VIII.—*Bull Terriers* (ratters). SUB-CLASS I. (over 5 kilos weight): Brindled Bull Terrier; white; tawny; black, &c. SUB-CLASS II. (under 5 kilos): Brindled; black; white. [Prizes, List 3]

CLASS IX.—*Smooth-haired Terriers* (ratters). SUB-CLASS I. (over 4 kilos weight): White Terrier; black-and-tan; Fox Terrier; various kinds. SUB-CLASS II. (under 4 kilos weight): White Terrier; black-and-tan; Russian; various. [Prizes, List 3.]

CLASS X.—*Long-haired Terriers:* Double-nosed Griffon Terrier; single-nosed ditto; long-haired Terrier; Scotch; Highland; Skye; South American; Dandy Dinmont. [Prizes, List 3.]

CLASS XI.—*Danish Dogs.* SUB-CLASS I.: Large Danish, or Great Dane [Prizes, List 1.]—SUB-CLASS II: Dalmatians or Carriage Dogs. [Prizes, List 2.]

SECOND DIVISION.—PACKS OR PARTS OF PACKS.

To join in this competition the exhibitor must show a lot consisting of at least eight hounds. For Prizes, see the second and third medals of honour, and List 4.

CLASS XII.—Bloodhounds. [Prizes, List 5.]

CLASS XIII.—Gascon, Saintonge, and analogous races of dogs. [Prizes, List 5.]

CLASS XIV.—Short-haired Vendean dogs, Normand d'Artois, and analogous races. [Prizes, List 5]

CLASS XV.—Long-haired Vendean dogs, Bretons, Bressan, Otter hounds and analogous races. [Prizes, List 5]

CLASS XVI.—*Briquets* (*small dogs for hare hunting*): Hounds of the Haute Marne, Morvan, Gascony, Norman, Vosges, Corsican. [Prizes, List 2.]

CLASS XVII.—Staghounds and Foxhounds. [Prizes, List 5.]

CLASS XVIII.—Harriers and Beagles. [Prizes, List 1.]

* The postage of letters to the Gardens, even from Paris, is 20 centimes.

† The authorities at the Gardens will send to all exhibitors who apply for them forms of entry in blank, to be filled up. There should be a separate form for each animal, excepting when a pack of hounds is to be exhibited.

‡ The railroads have agreed to a reduction of one-half of the carriage of dogs packed in cases or hampers; and, in order to have the benefit of this concession, exhibitors will have only to show at the offices of the railroads the forms of entry which they receive from the Acclimatisation Gardens Society.

§ At the end of the programme will be found a prize-list, and the references at the end of each class will enable the reader to see at a glance what prizes are awarded in that class.

CLASS XIX.—*Various pure-bred hunting dogs* German bloodhound; Swiss hound; Russian hound; Polish hound; Italian hound; Schweisshund, &c. [Prizes, Class I]

CLASS XX.—*Cross-bred hounds.* SUB-CLASS I.—Cross-bred hounds of the large breeds (over 55 centimetres in height—about 20 inches) [Prizes, List 5.] SUB-CLASS II.—Cross-bred hounds of the small breeds. [Prizes, List1.]

CLASS XXI.—*Basset hounds of all kinds.* SUB-CLASS I.—Large bassets. SUB-CLASS II.—Small bassets. [Prizes in both sub-classes, List 1.]

THIRD DIVISION—POINTERS.

SMOOTH POINTERS.

CLASS XXII.—Smooth pointers, spotted, red or liver (large size). [Prizes, List 5.]

CLASS XXIII.—Smooth pointers, spotted, red, or liver (small size). [Prizes, List 5]

CLASS XXIV.—*Pointers special to certain localities in France:* Dupuy (Poitou); Picardy; Normandy; Ardennes; Bourbonnais (tail-less); double-nosed; Anjou. [Prizes, List 5.]

CLASS XXV.—*Various foreign Pointers:* Spanish (lemon-and-white); Balearic; German; Italian; Bengalese. [Prizes, List 5.]

CLASS XXVI.—*Pointers of one colour:* Black; black-ticked; lemon-coloured; red; red-ticked; mouse-coloured. [Prizes, List 5.]

CLASS XXVII.—Pointers of the St. Germain breed. [Prizes, List 5.] N.B.—The St. Germain breed which was imported from England, where it is now scarce, is lemon-and-white.

ROUGH POINTERS.

CLASS XXVIII.—*French Setters*—Pont Andemar; double-nosed. [Prizes, List 5.]

CLASS XXIX.—English Setters. Scotch Setters. [Prizes, List 5.]

CLASS XXX.—Gordon Setters. [Prizes, List 5.]

CLASS XXXI.—Irish Setters. [Prizes, List 5.]

CLASS XXXII.—*Field Spaniels*—Clumbers, Norfolks, Springers, Devonshire Cockers, Welsh Cockers. [Prizes, List 5.]

CLASS XXXIII.—Water Spaniels. [Prizes, List 1.]

CLASS XXXIV.—Retrievers. [Prizes, List 1.]

CLASS XXXV.—Griffon Pointers, and Russian Retrievers. [Prizes, List 5.]

CLASS XXXVI.—French Poodles. [Prizes, List 1.]

FOURTH DIVISION—GREYHOUNDS.

CLASS XXXVII.—*Smooth-haired Greyhounds:* Greyhound; Sloughi; Greek; Tiger Greyhound of South America; Charnègue; Greyhound of the Balearic Islands. [Prizes, List 1.]

CLASS XXXVIII.—*Long-haired Greyhounds:* Persian; Syrian; Scotch Deerhound; Russian; Tartar; Circassian, and Kurdish Greyhounds. [Prizes, List 1.]

FIFTH DIVISION.—TOY AND PET DOGS.

CLASS XXXIX.—*Toy Greyhounds:* Italian Greyhound; little Syrian Turkish Greyhound (hairless); hairless dogs of Mexico and China; Greyhounds with manes. [Prizes, List 2.]

CLASS XL.—*Pet Spaniels:* King Charles; Blenheim; Gredins; black-and-white Chinese Spaniels; Japanese and Chinese short-legged dogs. [Prizes, List 2.]

CLASS XLI.—*Little Pet Poodles:* Havana lap-dogs; Peruvian, Maltese, Balearic, Austrian, Lion dogs. [Prizes, List 2.]

CLASS XLII.—*Toy Terriers* (under 2½ kilos—about 5½lb): Black-and-tan; white; yellow; black. [Prizes, List 2]

CLASS XLIII.—*Other Toy Dogs:* Mopseys or Pug-dogs; Alicant dogs. [Prizes, List 2.]

PRIZE LIST.

LIST 1.—1st prize, a medal worth 6*l.*; 2nd, a large silver-gilt medal; 3rd, silver medal; 4th, bronze medal.

LIST 2.—1st prize, a medal worth 4*l.*; 2nd, a silver-gilt medal; 3rd and 4th, as in List 1.

LIST 3.—1st prize, a large silver-gilt medal; 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, as in List 2.

LIST 4.—1st prize, a medal worth 14*l.*; 2nd, a medal worth 10*l.*; 3rd, a medal worth 6*l.*; 4th, a large silver-gilt medal; 5th, a silver-gilt medal.

LIST 5.—1st prize, a medal worth 8*l.*; 2nd, a medal worth 4*l.*; 3rd, a silver-gilt medal; 4th, a silver medal; 5th, a bronze medal.

SPECIAL PRIZES OF HONOUR.

1. A large medal of honour worth 20*l.*, in the First Division.
2. A large medal of honour worth 40*l.*, in the Second Division.
3. A large medal of honour worth 20*l.*, in the Second Division.
4. A large medal of honour worth 20*l.*, in the Third Division.
5. A medal of honour worth 10*l.*, in the Fourth Division.
6. A medal of honour worth 8*l.*, in the Fifth Division.

N.B. When any particular breed is represented by a very large number of specimens, the jury may arrange a special competition.

When a dog has obtained the medal of honour in his division, he cannot also take the first prize in his class.

COUNTRY-HOUSE NOTES AND QUESTIONS.

HOW TO CATCH WOODPIGEONS.—I should be obliged if any of your readers would inform me how to catch or destroy woodpigeons by other means than poisoning or shooting.—A VICTIM.

THE HEAPS OF OYSTER-SHELLS IN GALWAY.—May not those large collections of oyster shells, cockles and mussel shells, with layers of ashes between them, that Mr Buckland found in Galway, have been heaped together for burning into lime? They are burnt in Mayo at the present time for that purpose.—GREENHEART (Castle Connell).

COST OF EDUCATION IN OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.—You will, I feel certain, confer a favour on a numerous class of your readers if you can allow us to make known, through the medium of THE FIELD, the cost of education in a few of the principal public schools I have several boys to educate, and should much like to know the cost at Eton, Harrow, Winchester, Marlborough, Rossall, Cheltenham, &c., to non-residents. I do not mean the printed terms, but the actual amount of the cheques paid by the parent each half year. This, as a general rule, includes board, education, repair of clothes, purchase of caps, jerseys, flannel trousers, &c. I will commence by giving you the amount paid for four consecutive half years at the School House, Rugby, for my sons, aged 16 and 17, namely, 51*l.*, 53*l.*, 61*l.*, and 57*l.* respectively; and hope some of your readers will kindly supply similar information with regard to other schools, and also the cost to residents in the towns where local privileges exist and the boy does not reside in the house of a master.—HONOR.

—— Your correspondent, "J. Hooker," in his letter last week, omitted to mention one of the best schools of the day, viz. Shrewsbury, which, under Dr. Kennedy, has of late turned out some good men, and which has some valuable exhibitions to St. John's College, Cambridge. At this school, if my memory serves me, the Senior Classic of 1864 was educated. Neither is mention made of Westminster, Charterhouse, Tunbridge, Radley (near Abingdon), Lancaster, the Victoria and Elizabeth Colleges in Jersey and Guernsey, &c. A reference to the Oxford and Cambridge Calendars may also give "West Somerset" some valuable hints.—ARGONAUT.

—— "J. Hooker" last week mentioned so many schools of more or less fame (some of them savouring very strongly of the "less"), that it seems unaccountable he should have omitted one which has lately become of very considerable importance. When the present head master came to Uppingham some eight or ten years ago, there were, I believe, about twenty boys: there are now nearly three hundred. I know (for I have two sons there) that a most perfect machinery is at work for the welfare of the school. It boys are not manly, self-reliant—if they are not scholars—at Uppingham, they have a poor chance anywhere. Look at their cricket; time their races; remember that their captain got the first Balliol scholarship the other day; inquire into the exquisite arrangements of their dormitories; observe that every boy is made to be clever in something, whatever his general ability; and it will appear that "J. Hooker's" list omits one of the first schools in England.—PEREGRINE.

DRESSING SKINS OF WATER-BIRDS.—I lately procured a specimen of the eared grebe, and being desirous to cure the skin I first applied spirit of turpentine to it, in order to remove the fatty matter, and afterwards gave it a plentiful dressing of corrosive sublimate and spirit of wine. I find, however, that it still retains a great quantity of oily matter, and has also a very disagreeable fishy smell. Will some of your readers kindly inform me what I must do to remove these imperfections, and thus render it fit to be made into—A MUFF.—[The application of spirit of turpentine would render the grease more liquid and liable to spread. Taxidermists always endeavour to absorb the largest proportion of the liquid grease by absorbent powders, and convert the remainder into a soap, by having a certain proportion of alkali in their preservative materials. Try whiting or fullers' earth, applied only to the inner side of the skin, and renewed as it absorbs the oil.—ED.]

SINGULAR DEATH OF SOME SWANS.—Upon a particular sheet of water, until the late deep snow, were a certain number of swans, in two parties. One party consisted of but two individuals, another of five. The five swans generally kept to themselves, apart from the two. Their usual food was corn, and I believe latterly acorns in addition. Just before the late frost broke up, about a fortnight ago, the five swans were as well as usual at night, and in the morning all of them were dead, or so nearly so when found that they soon did die. Upon examination very little food was found in the inside of them, and that apparently quite healthy. The various organs of the interior of the body, too, seemed healthy. Will any correspondent kindly give me his opinion as to the probable cause of the death of these swans? If so, I shall be much obliged, as I am anxious, if possible, to find it out.—J. J. BRIGGS (King's Newton, Swarkeston, Derby).—[In the absence of any further data, it is difficult to hazard a conjecture as to the cause of death; perhaps, however, some of our correspondents may do so.—ED.]

WATERPROOFING CLOTH.—I shall be much obliged by your informing me of the best and most economical means of waterproofing cloth for a rifle corps. I believe sugar of lead and alum are used, but I do not know the quantities and means of application.—J. R. R. (Ensign).—[Alum and sugar of lead may be employed according to the following directions: Dissolve 2oz. of sugar of lead in 2½ gallons of boiling water, and 4oz. of alum in another 2½ gallons of water; when the solutions are cold, dip the article into the first and hang up to drip; when nearly dry, dip it in the second, then let it dry without fire heat. Or the cloth may be moistened on the wrong side, first with a strong solution of soap, and then, when dry, with a solution of alum. Mr Cooley strongly recommends the following plan, which is certainly worth a trial: A simple method of rendering cloth waterproof without being airproof, is to spread it on any smooth surface, and to rub the wrong side with a lump of bees-wax (perfectly pure and free from grease) until it presents a slight but even white or greyish appearance; a hot iron is then to be passed over it, and the cloth being brushed whilst warm, the process is complete. When the operation has been skilfully performed, a candle may be blown out through the cloth if coarse, and yet a piece of the same, placed across an inverted hat, may have several glassfuls of water poured into the hollow formed by it without any of the liquid passing through. Pressure or friction will alone make it do so. During the last twenty years we have shown this to numerous cloth-manufacturers, waterproofers, tailors, and others, several of whom have adopted the method very extensively, and with perfect success.—ED.]

ANSWERS.

PHEASANT-FEEDING BOXES.—The boxes enquired about by "Everthorpe" are in common use. I get mine in Glasgow.—C.

UNDER-COVERT.—In reply to your corespondent respecting the *Berberis Asiat.*, I regret I cannot give him the information he asks. I know, however, it is grown as stock in every large nursery; and have no doubt but that if he communicated with Messrs Sutton and Sons, of Reading, they would supply him with any quantity. There were thousands of plants sold by auction two or three years ago, by a nurseryman from Stowe, the Duke of Buckingham's seat, from whence I procured mine, at almost a nominal sum.—COSMOPOLITE.

OSIERS.—The best osiers to plant are "Spaniards" and "Long-skins." Two-year-old sets cost 10*s.* per 1000, and a statute acre requires 20,000. The ground should be trenched two spits deep. The better the soil the better the osiers: true, they will grow in any wet poor land, and they are usually planted in such places because nothing else will grow there. They ought to be weeded every spring, if the osiers are the first care; though, if the game is the chief consideration, this should be neglected. If the soil is tolerably good, the crop at the end of two years ought to be worth 9*l.* or 10*l.* per acre, and afterwards perhaps 7*l.* or 8*l.* would be about the value. It is a good plan to leave part of the bed uncut each year, so as always to have a supply of two-year-olds, as they may be wanted for sets; and if not, they are nearly of double the value of the yearlings, and part of the bed being quiet for two years makes it all the better for game. Osiers are well cultivated in the neighbourhood of Castle Donington, near Derby, and I have bought some excellent sets from a man named Rains, a basket-maker there. This information is for "Lincolniensis."—OLIM "RAMROD."

HERALDRY.—When a man marries an heiress he is entitled to bear her coat of arms upon an escutcheon of pretence, which is a small shield placed in the centre of the shield containing his own coat of arms, thereby showing his pretensions to her lands by his marriage, accruing to him and the heirs of his body. Such heirs bear, with the proper marks of difference, the father's and mother's arms quarterly; say, the father's arms in the first and fourth quarters of the shield, and the mother's in the second and third quarters. The man can please himself as to wearing the crest belonging to the heiress's arms over the shield, as well as his own crest, but usually only the man's crest is worn. A man marrying a woman entitled to a coat of arms, but not an heiress, simply impales them; that is, he puts his own arms on one side of the shield, and hers on the other, and the children cannot quarter them, but only take the father's or paternal arms. If "Hercules" wishes for further information on this subject I shall be most happy to give it, and he can obtain my address from the Editor of THE FIELD, and, by direct correspondence with myself, avoid troubling that gentleman further in this matter.—AN AMATEUR IN HERALDRY.

COCKADES.—In my last I pointed out that the right to wear cockades could not be a matter of mere opinion, but must be susceptible of settlement by authority; and I requested that some one would point out the authority, and quote the rule. Since then, there have been plenty of letters on the subject, but everyone just giving his own opinion, quoting no authority, and therefore not worth a straw. "Civilian," who wrote so dogmatically at first, conceded the right to deputy-lieutenants, and put militia officers among those who "usurped the privilege." He now writes, admitting that he was wrong about the militia; and others write that he was wrong about deputy-lieutenants also, they being one of the "usurping" classes. I daresay "Civilian's" first opinion was as good as his second, and his second is as good as his first. Will no one give us something more authoritative than his own opinion? "Ten Years' Service" professes to give a description of all the services—and a most absurd and unfair one it is: exalting the militia at the expense of everything else. When permanently embodied, the militia are very good indeed—one or two regiments I have seen that seemed almost, if not quite, as good as the line; but when not permanently embodied, a militia officer's duties are of the most trifling description: in quarters a month in the year, a little drill in the forenoon each day, and, for the rest of the day, dinner-parties, flirtations, and county balls! all the rest of the year absolutely nil! If a militia officer—serving one month, and off duty for eleven out of the twelve—is entitled to the cockade, I confess it seems to me that if duty or responsibility count for anything, the volunteer officer may put in a claim. There is not a month in the year that he has not a good deal to do; and though "Ten Years' Service" is pleased to call it all mere "diversion," that only shows his utter ignorance of it. I can assure him there is precious little "diversion," particularly to a commanding officer, who has nearly every day some orderly-room work to do,—has from year's end to year's end the responsibility of keeping up the efficiency of the corps to enable him to make conscientious returns in claiming the Government grant,—and has the unintermitting responsibility for 2000*l.* or 3000*l.* worth of Government property in the shape of rifles, &c. distributed among those "soldiers of a day," "who can snap their fingers at a commanding officer at the end of a fourteen days' notice;" and, moreover, instead of receiving pay for all this service, has the additional "diversion" of shelling out from his own pocket pretty freely on all sorts of occasions. "Eboracum," also, has a fling at volunteers and yeomanry, and rather a shabby one, I think. He says—speaking of the right to the cockade, and the status of the respective forces—"what the police are to our standing army, the volunteers and yeomanry are to our militia." If this statement has any bearing on the question of cockades, it must mean that an officer of yeomanry or volunteers is as inferior in status to an officer of militia as an officer of police is to an officer in the standing army! But it is sheer nonsense to speak of the police at all in the question. The police is an organisation for the detection and suppression of crime, and has no analogy whatever to any of the other forces; and "Eboracum" might just as sensibly compare us to scavengers, lamplighters, postmen, or parish beadles, or any other of our organised institutions. The "cockade" question is as unsettled as ever. I know nothing about it myself, and that seems exactly the extent of all your other correspondents' knowledge so far. I may, however, mention that in the War Office Regulations 1863, volunteers are referred, for their "distinctions" and "appointments," to the "Dress Regulations for the Army" as their guide; but I do not know if these throw any light upon it. If the thing is a "right" at all, there must be some authority for using the right. Can no one point it out?—FREELANCE.—[That there is no law to prohibit the use of the cockade by unqualified persons will be generally admitted. With regard to who are to be considered qualified to adopt it, we know of no one whose opinion will carry more weight than that of Sir Bernard Burke, Ulster King of Arms. He gives, in a short article in Timbs's "Popular Errors Explained," some remarks on the origin of the cockade, and then says: "At the present day the right to wear a cockade seems to be confined to the servants of all those in any way connected with the army or navy, or the military or naval defence of the country. This latter class includes the militia, the lieutenant, the deputy lieutenants, &c., of each county, and various other persons." This was published prior to the establishment of the volunteer corps. Subsequently he gave the following opinion: "I have no hesitation in saying that *commissioned* officers of volunteer corps are entitled to the privilege of having cockades in their servants' hats." This was published in vol. ix. of *Notes and Queries*, in which publication a number of letters appeared on the use of the cockade. Unless any of our readers are prepared to produce a more authoritative opinion than the above, we may declare this correspondence at an end.—ED.]

BEES AND BEE-KEEPING.

HOW TO OBTAIN EARLY SWARMS.—My bees never swarm before the middle of July; can you or any of your correspondents inform me of the best means for bringing them forward to swarm earlier? If by feeding, how much should be given at a time, and how often? Also, if you know of any work of practical information on bee-keeping?—NOVICE.—[The secret of early swarms consists in maintaining strong stocks during the previous season. If the hives are well supplied with food, artificial feeding is of little value. Keep your hives warmly protected during the spring, either by wrapping haybands round them or covering in such a mode as to shelter them from the cold winds of March and April; but do not meddle with them in any way during the present severe cold.—ED.]

A WOLF ADVENTURE.—A correspondent writes:—Perhaps the following extract from a letter, received by the last mail from India, may prove interesting to some of your readers. None of the wolves I have seen or killed in India appeared to me capable of the feat ascribed below. I can, however, vouch for the veracity of the writer's statement:—"We were in such a state of excitement the last night or two we remained in camp (Jounpore, Dec. 11)—a huge wolf made his appearance in a village about a quarter of a mile from where we were encamped, and carried off a boy about seven years' old. There was a cry raised, and E. went in pursuit of the brute; he fired his gun, and the wolf dropped the child and made off: the poor boy was quite dead when found, and one leg had been bitten off. In three nights the wolves carried away five children. We were not sorry to leave the place yesterday, as the natives told us there were a great many wolves about. One lair was discovered and seven cubs found in it. The father of one of the children who was carried off shot a huge wolf, measuring upwards of six feet in length and big in proportion. E. brought away the skin as a relic."

CURIOUS HUNTING CUSTOMS OF THE INNUITS.—There exist also among the Innuits many curious customs connected with hunting. They cannot go out to take walrus until they have done working upon tuktoo clothing; and after beginning the walrus hunt, no one is allowed to work on reindeer skins. One day in March, I wanted Tookoolito and Koodloe's wife to make me a sleeping-bag of tuktoo skin; but nothing could persuade them to do it, as it was then walrus season. They "would both die, and no more walrus could be caught." When a walrus is caught, the captor must remain at home, doing no work, for one day; if a bear is killed, he must remain quiet, in like manner, for three days; after the taking of a whale, two days. If, however, he is on a hunt, and game is plentiful, the Innuit frequently keeps on at the sport, making up all his resting days at the end of the hunt. When a seal is captured, a few drops of water are sprinkled on its head before it is cut up. If there is no water to be had, the man holds snow in his hand till he squeezes out a single drop, the application of which answers every purpose. Women are not allowed to eat of the first seal of the season, and this rule is so strictly enforced that they do not feel at liberty even to chew the blubber for the sake of expressing the oil. When Tunukderlien and Jennie were with me on my sledge-journey up Frobisher Bay, the first seal of the season was caught, and Henry was obliged to pound the blubber to obtain the oil we needed, because the women were not allowed to do it. There is a regular order for cutting up a walrus. The first man who arrives at the captured animal cuts off the right arm or flipper; the second, the left arm; the third, the right leg or flipper; the fourth, the left leg; the fifth, a portion of the body, beginning at the neck, and so on, till the whole is disposed of.—*Life with the Esquimaux, by Captain C. F. Hall.*

WHIST.

HANDS ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE GAME.

BY "CAVENDISH."

[Note.—We advise our readers when playing over hands, to do so with the cards face upwards before them. Though all the cards are exposed, it must be remembered that each player can see only his own hand. W., X., Y., and Z. are the four players; they sit round the table in the order of the letters, W. and Y. being partners against X. and Z. W. has the first lead, and Z. is the dealer.]

HAND No. XII.

[This hand has been sent to us by a correspondent, with some queries. The points started by our correspondent are interesting, we therefore give them with our replies.]

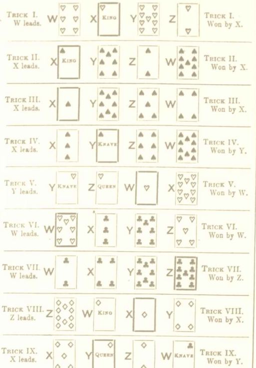
W.'s HAND.	X.'s HAND.	Y.'s HAND.	Z.'s HAND.
10, 9, 4 of .... ♠	Ace, King, 3 of .. ♠	Qn., Knv., 8, 7 of ♠	6, 5, 2 of .... ♠
Ace, 8, 7, 6, 4, 3 of ♡	King, 10 of ...... ♡	Knave, 9 of .... ♡	Queen, 5, 2 of ... ♡
King, Knv., 2 of ♣	6, 5, 4, 3 of ...... ♣	8, 7 of .... ♣	Ace, Qn., 10, 9 of ♣
King of .... ◇	Ace, Knv., 9, 5 of ◇	Qn., 8, 7, 6, 4 of ◇	10, 3, 2 of .... ◇

Score WY, three.—Z. turns up the five of hearts.

THE PLAY.

[The cards in each trick are placed in the order in which they are played, the leader's card standing first. The capital letter placed just in front of each card shows by which player that card is played. For greater distinctness, the winning card in each trick is surrounded by a thick outline.]

N.B.—After each Trick refer to the Remarks.



Y. leads the queen of spades, and WY. make two by cards.

REMARKS.

Trick I.—W. very properly leads from his six trumps. He does not lead the lowest, but the lowest of the intermediate sequence. This is the card we should lead, but some very good players object to leading from intermediate sequences.

X., with king and one other, puts on the king second hand. This is a moot point. It is contrary to our practice, but some very good players advise that the king should be put on in trumps.

Trick II.—Our correspondent very well remarks of the lead of the king of spades that X. should, in his opinion, lead from his diamond suit, because he has numerical strength in diamonds, whereas he has not in spades. We think that, as the cards happen to lie, if X. leads from his strongest suit (diamonds), he will avoid his subsequent difficulties, and save the game by the most ordinary play.

… plays the nine of spades, intending to ask for trumps. Some players think that "calling" is not necessary after having led trumps. But we think differently. We think if a player leads trumps, and afterwards has an opportunity of calling for them, and does not do so, that the inference is he has changed his mind respecting the advisability of a trump lead.

Trick V.—Y. returns his partner's trump lead.

Our correspondent asks whether Z is right in covering the knave? We think he is wrong. It will be remembered that X. put on king second hand, so he can only have had king and one small one, or ace, king, &c. In neither case does Z. gain by covering, and he may lose, for if X. has the ace single it will fall.

Trick VII.—A question here arises as to the card W. should lead. He needs not show his partner that he has the remaining trumps, as the seven drew the five, and W. must have the eight, which he would lead if any more trumps remained to be drawn. Still no harm would be done by leading one of the long trumps to render matters quite clear. (Some remarks on making it easy to partner will be found in lesson xlix.)

We think W. should lead the king of diamonds. Y. has discarded a club, and his discard should be taken to be a directive one, since his partner (W.) has shown such strength in trumps. Another reason for leading the king of diamonds is that it gives Y. a good chance of remaining with a winning diamond with which to procure the lead to bring in his queen of spades. The lead of the small club is not so likely to put Y. in. A problem illustrating this principle of play appeared in The Field of Nov. 26, 1864.

Trick VIII.—Our correspondent inquires about this lead. We think the ten of diamonds is clearly the card. Z. requires two tricks to save the game (*vide* score), and if X. proves utterly weak in diamonds the only chance of saving the game is for W. to obtain the lead, and to be obliged to lead clubs again.

Our correspondent points out that if X. does not put on the ace of diamonds, such play would save the game. As the cards happen to lie that is perfectly true, but since the ten of diamonds must be the best of a weak suit, X. should argue that the game cannot possibly be saved unless his partner, Z., has the ace of clubs. We are, therefore, of opinion that X. is right to win the king of diamonds, when he should, at trick ix., lead a club. If the ten of diamonds is Z.'s best, it is demonstrable that the return of the diamonds must lose the game.

A very pretty coup might be constructed out of this position. Suppose W. to have queen, instead of king of diamonds, and Y. to have king instead of ace, the ace being in Y.'s hand instead of the queen. (Place the cards as directed in order to realise the position.) Then if the ten of diamonds is led, W. puts on the queen, and X. should not win it, this coup being the only chance of saving the game, on the assumption that the ten is Z.'s best diamond. And on the other hand, Y. might out-coup X. by winning his partner's trick and leading his queen of spades. This, of course, he ought to do, as he can count the game certain in that way if he gives his partner three more tricks in trumps (*vide* remarks on trick vii.).

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Booth v. Child.—Tricks count before honours. Consequently, if you do not call honours at eight, and the adversary is out by tricks, he wins the game.

R. J. E.—A. has revoked twice. The revoke penalty can be claimed for as many revokes as occur during the hand. You may either take three tricks from the revoking player, or deduct three points from his score, or add three to your own score, for each revoke. The revoke penalty takes precedence of every other score; and however the penalties are taken, the player revoking cannot win the game that hand. *Example*: The score is—A., 3; B., 2. A. has every trick and four by honours. For the first revoke B. takes three from A.'s score, making him love for the second revoke B. adds three to his own score, making himself five, and all A.'s tricks and honours go for nothing, and B. wins a treble. Suppose A. to win every trick and to revoke once, the score being love-all; then B. would add three to his own score, and A. would score four. He cannot score five, as the player revoking cannot win game that hand. The score would stand—A., 4; B., 3.

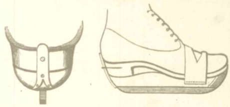
Stock.—*Case* 1: At piquet the dealer misdeals, giving himself thirteen cards and leaving only seven in the stock. What is the law? *Decision* 1: The elder hand has a right to look at his cards and to say whether he will have a fresh deal or not. If he elects to stand the deal, he can put out only four cards and take in four. He must leave three in the stock for the younger hand. If he takes in one of the three cards belonging to the younger hand, he loses the game.—*Case* 2: The misdeal as above described happens, but it is not discovered until after the elder hand has discarded his five cards and has touched the stock, intending to take in. He does not take in because he finds only seven cards in the stock. Can the elder hand then (if he elects to stand the deal) alter his discard, notwithstanding that he has touched the stock? *Decision* 2. He can alter his discard. According to written law, the elder hand having touched the stock is too late to alter his discard. But in the case given, this is such obvious nonsense and injustice that we do not hesitate to decide the other way. The laws of piquet are even more imperfect than those of whist were before the recent Club revision.

SKATING.

SKATE FASTENINGS.

Sir,—I notice in The Field of Feb. 4 another communication on skate fastenings, pointing out the London Club skates as the best and easiest of use. Allow me once more to advocate the principle I have already laid down, through the medium of your columns. In all the new-fangled notions it seems necessary, in the first place, to have a distinct pair of boots, to be kept solely for skating; then a number of iron plates, boxes, and what not, to be let into them here and there—in fact, a species of comfort has to be attained by the greatest complication.

Now, I take it that simplicity is the desired object, if security and comfort can be combined—all of which are gained by adopting the plan I have severely tested during the past frost. On the heel of the skate is fixed a plate, through which a hole is drilled to admit of a pin projecting from the heel of any boot you may be wearing. The wooden frame of the skate fits the foot closely, and there is a toe-strap to be buckled: this is all that is required. A skate is off and on in a minute: no screwing, no picking dirt out of the box-holes, &c., but comfort, ease, and security. I add a sketch for guidance.



Here are represented an end and a side view—the former showing the heel of a boot, with the upright plate attached to the wooden frame of the skate below; and the latter representing the pin in the heel projecting through the plate, and showing also the form of the wooden frame of the skate, rising at the toe, so as to fit to the sole of the boot. The "plate" may be made of brass or iron, say an inch in height above the wooden frame, about as thick as a threepenny-piece, and with a hole the size of a pea drilled in it, not so near the edge as to weaken it. For the pins, take two common screws, say 1¼ inches long, file away the heads to the size of the body of the screw, and then pass through the hole in the heel-plate merely to see if they go easily. Such being the case, and say you are sitting at home and intending shortly to turn out for a skate, place your foot on the skate with the heel against the upright plate, and with your gimlet mark the exact spot through the hole where the screw must be placed, then bore the hole, and with a screwdriver send your screw home, leaving but little more than the eighth of an inch outside; you may leave more if you like, but it only requires just enough to pass through the thickness of the heel-plate. This small projecting pin makes no difference to the wearer of the boots in any way; in fact in winter I always wear them, and in summer if the boots are thin enough for wear, I merely drive the screws home flush with the heel until wanted again, when a turn of the screwdriver brings them out.

Everybody, friends and strangers, to whom I have shown my skates, have at once said they would have theirs altered; so to-day I went to Sefton Meadows and recognised some old faces with my new principle of skate; they all were charmed, and declared them the best thing out. I am sure that any one who tries them will laugh at their simplicity and ease; a man with corns can use them—that is saying a good deal. Mind, as a last caution, to have the toe of the skate in a rise so as to fit your foot without any severe strapping down—in short, have it so that when you fasten the toe strap it fits more like a boot than a vice.

If anybody prefers the stock of the skate to be made of iron (say an iron plate), it comes almost to the same thing as wood; only it is best to have it covered with a layer of cork next the sole of the boot, for the sake of warmth.

Some people may say of the above, "It's old." If it be so to some, it certainly is not to all; and nothing yet, to my ideas, has been brought out to equal it.

Query.

ATHLETIC SPORTS.

MANUAL OF EXERCISES FOR VOLUNTEERS.

Sir,—There is a want felt amongst our local bodies of volunteers (especially during the winter months) of manual exercises for filling up the leisure hours of evening, &c. Your advocacy goes a long way: would you kindly lend a friendly hand in promoting some sort of exercises for us? Gymnasiums are open in large towns, and are well patronised—what is the cost of such things? Most volunteer corps are provided with drill instructors! Why cannot we have sword exercises, single-stick, &c., introduced into our drills? Boxing is now become a part of the drill of the soldier—why not a part of ours?

Five years' regular drill has taught the steady volunteers of our corps about as much as they can ever learn in company drill. Some other incentive to volunteering is wanted! Let us have sword and single-stick exercises; the extra work would gladly be undertaken, and the additional stimulus would increase our ranks and much enhance our value as soldiers.

W. S. on H. A.

The Cambridge University athletic sports are fixed for March 16, 17, and 18, and the Oxford and Cambridge inter-University sports for the 25th proximo. The Oxonians for this turn go over to Cambridge, the sports having last year been held at Oxford. We believe a walking-match will be included in the programme, in lieu of the steeple-chase of last season. Fenner's ground has been selected for the races, &c.

GARDENING.

THE CUCUMBER AND MELON.

"What cucumber do you grow this year?" is becoming the every-day salutation amongst gardeners; and the variety chosen by the saluted is (to hear him declaim its merits) by long odds the best cucumber in the world. But we all have our weaknesses, professional and individual, and the gardener's most conspicuous professional weakness is always the having (or going to have) the best of everything there is in the world of horticulture. Well, this is very pardonable, and the man is very harmless—so there is no cause for fright, though there is, we grant, a fear of being bored. So, leaving each to choose the precise kind he most particularly fancies, we proceed to advise the timely sowing of the seeds; and in speaking of this operation we may as well put ourselves in the background a little and rub off a debt we owe to one of our friends besides, by allowing him to describe his mode of proceeding with this preliminary of cucumber growing. James Cuthill, the veteran horticulturist, a man grown grey in garden service, and to whom has been given an insight into this and similar subjects rarely granted to many, has published his life experiences in a few pamphlets, all of them full of sound, clear, practical information. It is to one of these that we wish to draw the attention of our readers, for it is the one from which we purpose extracting those instructions which the worthy old man tells so well and so simply. In his "Treatise on the Cucumber and Melon," page 7, he describes his way of sowing the seeds:

My seed-bed is built upon a layer of brushwood, so that when more bottom heat is wanted the warmth from the bottom strikes into the centre and increases the bottom heat. I do not now force early. Therefore my seed-bed is not required to be so deep of dung as before, but all other conditions are, and must be, the same: that is, sweet dung, sweet linings, sweet mould, clean pots, together with clean frame and clean glass. Not even a bit of slack lime, or a bit of fresh mortar as big as a walnut should be put in, or they will kill the plants. The gases evolved by them are highly destructive to vegetable life. This I ascertained many years ago by having pits built too late in the autumn, and heated by dung linings; in these every plant was killed repeatedly, until the mortar got hard and dry. When all is ready the seed should be sown in pans about three inches deep, in order that the roots may get direct to the bottom, for if sown in a deep pot or pan the roots are never half so strong or fibrous as in a shallow one. The mould used should be old cucumber soil with the addition of leaf-mould and a little loam. In my case, however, I am obliged to be economical. As soon as the plants are up and the seed-leaves have separated, I plant into sixty sized pots, that had been prepared for the purpose in mould that had been heated. No crocks are used; one dry horse-dropping is put over the hole in the bottom of the pot to prevent the mould from escaping. I never sift the mould. Two plants are planted in each pot. Unless the weather is sunny I do not give any water for two or three days, for fear of damping off. But of late I have found a good preventative—a fortunate circumstance—for of all damping off, that of your fresh-potted cucumbers is the worst.

As soon as potted off, my plan is to scatter silver sand over the surface, just sufficiently thick to cover the mould. Sand is what is called inorganic and what is called mould or damp cannot establish itself. Therefore after the first watering I again dust all over with silver sand. Until I found this out I dusted over the surface with mould dried in an oven, but it never answered like dry sand; because it contained vegetable matter and encourages what is called mould. The heat ought to be very moderate, for a few days, about 65 degrees, in order not to draw up the plants and make them long-legged. I have always given air, day and night; this is a great advantage to very young plants.

Mr Cuthill, like all old practical gardeners, places great confidence in a precise compost for both cucumbers and melons, and this is what he says he likes best:

The mould to fill the pits with used to be brought from paddocks where sheep or cattle had fed for many years; therefore, it was rich enough without more manure, and was put into the pits in a rough state. In colour it was dark, and contained a fair proportion of sand; not loamy. Where fields existed, houses and streets have sprung up. The mixture I now use, therefore, is about a third of Mitcham loam, a third of road-sand, and a third of what came out of the pits the previous year, and two or three dozen of barrowfuls of horse-droppings, or very short fresh dung; all this is turned over once, about a month before wanted. For those who can get it, fresh field-mould, rather loamy, is always the best, and would be rich enough without additions.

And on the subject—always a vexed and puzzling question to the gardener—of watering, he has some very telling remarks, particularly the management of watering when the plants are coming into bearing; and the hint as to air-giving is not without its value.

When the plants cover the trellis and begin to bear fruit, I apply as much liquid manure as will not discolour the leaves and fruit, and water over the leaves always with water having the chill off, and soft water if possible. If pump water is used it ought to have been exposed to the air to soften it, beside taking the chill off by means of hot water. Even in midsummer the water I use is always exposed to the sun and air; I know, too well, that canker, mildew, and gout proceed from careless watering. Again, watering ought to be done not later than three, or at most half-past three in the afternoon; then shut down in order that the glass may rise to 90 or even 100 degrees; if sprinkled daily using about half a gallon to each light will not be too much, but half a gallon would be too severe a watering daily if not done as above directed even in hot weather. I never give air in front of the pits, always at the back; not by tilting, but by pushing the light down; by so doing a more humid atmosphere is kept up. Currents of air are as bad in a cucumber frame as in a vinery.

Mr Cuthill's way of building up his fruiting-frame is worthy of more particular notice, and we extract his description at full length:

The fruiting-frame can be got ready by first laying a bed of brushwood or logs to raise it up, in order that less hot dung mixed with leaves may be required. This foundation, whether for two lights or three, ought always to be about 18 inches wider and longer than the size of the frame, and for the same reasons as I have described in the raising of plants for early work. The bed should be made up with sweetened dung to the depth of 3 or 4 feet, depending of course whether it be the end of February or the middle of March. It must always be borne in mind that what the frame rests upon must be higher by 9 inches than the general level of the inside, for if this is not attended to the frame will sink down, and the leaves of the cucumbers get bruised against the glass. I wish particular attention to be paid to this, not only in cucumber-frames but in melon-frames also; the further the plants are kept from the glass the more heated and healthy air there is, and the better they thrive. The mould is put in, not in the form of a mole-hill, as the old-fashioned plan was, but in a ridge about 6 inches nearer the back than the centre of the frame, to the depth of 10 inches, and the same, of course, in breadth. The mould should not be put into the frame until the violent heat in the fermenting material has subsided—a point ascertained by keeping a trial stick thrust into it. When the mould gets warm, plant two or three plants under each light, according to its size; water to settle the soil about the roots. Plant up to the seed-leaf. Where seed saving is not cared for, it is a good plan to have various sorts, provided they are a good breed, in order always to have a cucumber to cut when wanted. In dung-frames the plants are stopped from the beginning, and are never allowed to ramble about; on the contrary, they are continually stopped in until fruit appears, then stop again just before the fruit in every case; if this is attended to, what is called knife-pruning will be unnecessary, because the fruit will check over-luxuriance. Above all things, make a difference between night and day heat.

On the cultivation of the melon—in which Mr Cuthill is even more successful than in cucumber-growing—his remarks are very good, and so simple that he that "runs may read:"

Any one who perfectly understands cucumber-growing can easily manage the melon. A melon plant requires a stiffer mould to grow in than a cucumber; for although I have grown melons very well and also high flavoured, in a mould of as light a character as that used for cucumbers, and have likewise grown them in old brick rubbish, yet as a rule a stiff soil is best. If you cannot get the proper mould for either a melon, a cucumber, or a strawberry, one must be made; if too light and sandy it can always be rendered stiffer by treading. This I have practised not only in pits but also out of doors. The rising, potting, and young growth up to a month old are so similar to those of a cucumber that I can add but little under these heads; the only thing is if the plants are trained on the mould instead of on trellises, they must be stopped about twice before planting out. When I came here (which is twenty-four years ago) I sowed on the 1st of February and planted out on the 5th of March or so. The seasons then were, however, somewhat different from those we experience now. A twelve-light pit was got ready in the same way as for the cucumber, and furnished with hot-water pipes. In putting in the mould I kept the centre higher than the rest of the surface by six inches. I always found that the plants throve better about eighteen inches from the glass than at any other distance from it, no doubt on account of more pure-heated air having accumulated there. In planting out one plant grows to the back half and the other to the front half of the light; three leading shoots only should be left on each plant; when the shoots reach to within six inches of the back wall or frame, and the same from the front, they should be stopped by pinching off their heads. They soon push outside shoots and upon them form fruit, stop the side shoots one joint beyond the fruits; as soon as the flowers are open let them be set or fertilised with pollen from a male flower. The perfect and most promising fruit will soon be indicated. Pick off all except about six fruit, if there be two plants to a light; that will be three fruit on each plant; if three plants, two fruit.

We have quoted largely, with Mr Cuthill's permission, but we earnestly counsel all our readers to see and learn for themselves the good things contained in the book.

Cultural Guide and descriptive Seed Catalogue. Smith and Simons, Seed Merchants, Glasgow. 1865.

What a strange power and peculiarity the North Briton has of seeing through a thing, and hitting, just the particular nail that wants hitting, such solid thumps on the head! In the catalogue before us, besides an extraordinary list of all good and useful things, there are good, sound, useful hints on the management of the soil to insure those things coming to their highest perfection. The short, but pithy, paper on "The Preparation of the Soil," which opens the catalogue, is full of good sense.

General Spring Catalogue of Flower, Shrub, Ornamental Plant, and Kitchen Garden Seeds. Hooper and Co., Central Avenue, Covent Garden Market, London, W.C.

The fulness and completeness of Messrs Hooper's catalogues is becoming proverbial—nothing bad admitted, nothing good omitted. Their new Etruscan pottery, of which they give figures of flower-pots, vases, hyacinth-glasses, &c., moulded in the most classical shapes, is quite making a new feature in plant-growing. As a pretty plant in one of these beautiful pots will always be a most striking object, we commend this new pottery to the attention of our lady readers.

Chrysanthemum Flowered-Aster Sowing.—I shall be obliged by your kindly furnishing minute details for the management of the dwarf chrysanthemum flowered-aster in the hot-bed, the proper time for the seed to be sown, when air should be given and for how long at a time.—F. M. J.—[The asters, of all kinds, are generally sown in March and April, according to the earliness of their wished-for time of flowering. They are sown in shallow seed-pans, in the usual seed-sowing compost, which has been so often described in our columns that we need not mention it now; and the pans are then placed in either the hot propagating frame, amongst the cuttings, or are put on the warmest shelf in the greenhouse or vinery. When the seed lobes are fairly expanded the young plants are pricked out, either singly or in clumps, in small pots or pans. When they are a little larger they must be put singly in the pots in which they are to remain till they are planted out. Very little air is required until they are pretty well-grown and settled in their last pots; the precise quantity must be governed by experience.—Ed.]

[Advertisement.]—Hunting.—Gentlemen suffering from weakness and strains in the thigh, &c., should wear Col. Lowther's Hunting Band, the only article that keeps its position during the most violent exertion. Descriptive circulars of many articles suited for persons who follow field-sports and require support, post-free.—Sparks and Son, Patent Truss and Surgical Bandage Makers, 28, Conduit-street, Regent-street, London, W.

[Advertisement].—Cures of Coughs and Colds.—The most disinterested testimony is constantly offered to the value of Dr. Locock's Pulmonic Wafers for the cure of asthma, consumption, coughs, colds, and disorders of the throat and lungs. The following is from Mr J. Floyd, Chemist, Market-place, Great Yarmouth: "I recommend the wafers, finding them much more speedy and certain in effecting a cure than any other medicine; and though profits are equal, I prefer selling what I think most effective." They have a pleasant taste. Price 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s. per box. Sold by all druggists.

I'se jist Sam.—During the last summer a "contraband" came into the Federal lines in North Carolina, and was marching up to the officer of the day to give an account of himself, whereupon the following colloquy ensued: "What's your name?" "My name's Sam." "Sam what?" "No, sah; not Sam Watt. I'se jist Sam." "What's your other name?" "I hasn't got no odder name, Sah. I'se Sam—dat's all." "What's your master's name?" "I'se got no massa now; massa runned away. Yah! yah! I'se a free nigger now." "Well, what is your father's and mother's name?" "I'se got none, sah; nebber had none. I'se jist Sam—nobody else." "Have not you any brothers and sisters?" "No, sah, never had none. No brudder, no sister, no fadder, no mudder, no massa—nothing but Sam. *When you see Sam, you see all dere is of us.*"

POULTRY AND PIGEONS.

AT THE TERMINATION OF THE SHOW SEASON, it may not be undesirable to take a retrospective glance at the progress of the poultry fancy during the past year, and to note the more remarkable incidents that present themselves.

The most striking occurrence unquestionably, has been the prominent position taken by the Poultry Club in reference to so many shows that have associated themselves with this organisation.

In spite of much ill-concealed and party opposition, the club is evidently making steady progress. The number of its members is rapidly increasing, and its influence extending far and wide. Associated, as the members are, to promote the general interest of exhibitors, and by united efforts to give force to any movement that may be for the general good, we cannot but wish it success. Being, as it is, a perfectly open body, holding public meetings at many of the largest shows, the proceedings of the executive are always under the control of the body of the members, and thus, even the very suspicion of private influence is avoided.

We are anxious to see the "standard of excellence" which has been so long promised. We are aware that the preparation of a work of this kind is one of no small labour; but as it promises to be of so great an assistance to breeders as well as to exhibitors, we would urge strongly on the stewards the great desirability of issuing it at as early a period as possible.

The reformation which the club has effected with regard to non-appointment of persons as judges who sell birds for the purpose of exhibition, we regard as a very important step in the right direction.

In awarding the prizes, we should be glad to call the attention of the stewards to a plan that we think worthy of general imitation. We allude to that adopted at the Manchester show, where the birds in the pens, during the adjudication of the prizes, were numbered according to the date of entry, and not according to their position in the classes or in the catalogue; consequently the exhibitors did not know the number of their pens in the judges' books. It may be said that it is an insult to the poultry exhibitors as a body to suppose that any one would forward his numbers to a judge. Unfortunately we know that such things *have* been done, and consequently believe they may be done again; and preventing the possibility of such an occurrence is a much wiser plan than denouncing the scandal afterwards.

The Poultry Club has effected so much good that we desire to see more done by its aid; and therefore commend it very cordially to all who desire to promote the best interests of the poultry world.

WHITE COCHINS.

[WE have much pleasure in publishing the following graphic account of this beautiful variety, from the pen of one of the most constant admirers and successful exhibitors of the breed.—ED.]

I LIKE WHITE COCHINS. I know they do not at present fetch such high prices as Buff; I know the secretaries of shows look coldly on them; but for all that I am rash enough to assert that they are to the full as entitled to public respect as their coloured relatives; and I am presuming enough to try and persuade some secretaries that they ought to be better treated in their prize lists.

Birmingham gives them but two classes and 10*l.* in money, against four classes and 20*l.* for Partridge; yet how do we find the entries stand? In 1864, Whites show thirty pens against nineteen of Partridge. There are classes for Partridge hens and pullets, but this advantage is not accorded to Whites; so we cannot compare them. Take, however, the Islington show, where White Cochins are placed on a par with Buff and Partridge, and the result is twenty-three pens Buff, ten of Partridge, and twenty-one of White—an entry far exceeding the Partridge, and within two of equalling the Buff. As I said before, I like White Cochins; and though I don't want to dwell on the natural history of the Cochin, and the Cochin mania, yet I do wish to dwell on the beauties and merits of my favourites.

Let us look round the yard: there is my favourite hen. Notice her great depth, bringing her straight and pointed breastbone apparently close to the ground, sunk between two very short and widely-set shanks, covered to the end of the outer and middle toes with thickly-placed, laterally-spreading feathers! My favourite has some sign of vulture hock; I know well that she ought not, but I also know that rare shank-feathering cannot be had without it; and if I do not see it so accompanied in the show-pen, I have my own idea as to what has become of it. But look at her fine broad back, where, two inches from the fall of the thick and ample neck-feathers, the rightly-named cushion begins to rise, softening, thickening, and widening till its reaches the short, round, blunt tail-feathers. Notice that short and well-set neck, with its rich soft feathering; the small head, the bright hazel eye; clear yellow bill, surmounted by the straight, fine-grained, and evenly-serrated comb, not high or thick, but just enough to set off, with her orange legs, that soft and pure white plumage which makes this hen the most attractive feature in my yard!

See! she has turned; and now you see her thick and ample fluff, soft and white as swan's down, and wider than herself, as she canters before us up the yard, thickly clothing her wide stern, and bulging out in heavy masses beyond her tightly-clipped-up wings. If, as Mr Weller asserted, "vidth and visdom" go together, she must be sage indeed! How genial her temper, how easily controlled her wanderings—a yard-high fence keeps your White Cochin at home. And what glorious large pink eggs she keeps on laying! Talk of Cochin eggs being small, why one of this hen's eggs will make two of those of her coloured relatives—aye, and cheaper eating, too, for your White Cochin is a nice feeder, and will eat much less than her Buff neighbour.

So much for our favourite who lives; now for her departed mate, who lives only in his sons. Short of leg, too, was he; well feathered were his shanks, straight and well covered were his toes; he, too, should have had no sign of vulture hock, but soft and nicely rounded into the top of the yellow shank. Wide was his breast, and well filled out withal in its lower parts, making him look, as the sailors say, "a bit down by the head;" his neck clothed with rich-falling hackle; a strong, curved yellow bill; wide, firm, upright, comb, springing from the nostrils and going from front to back almost in a semicircle, evenly serrated and finished with a plain round piece, which, though nearly touching the neck, was rounded under and just tucked nicely in to finish on the crown. His back was short, and rising to the glossy and straight-falling saddle hackle which covered the tips of his short and tightly-clipped up wings. For his tail—well, he ought not to have had any hard feathers in it, but nice soft, rolling plumes, making him look almost tailless. I know the winning pens at Birmingham never have tails or vulture hocks, either; but my old friend had, though a compulsory moult might have made him also look soft-hocked and tailless. In back, loins, and fluff he was matched only by his Sultana. His wattles were long, very red, and pendulous; and his deaf ears might be similarly described. His glorious white colour was a thing to be remembered, though the summer sun made sad havoc with its purity!

White Cochins will not suit a city; but when a garden has to be protected and a bit of green can be given, commend me to my Whites. They are handsome and massive to look at; where they have a fair chance they will be snow white. For the table, killed under six months old, they carry plenty of meat, with a slight and most palatable gamey flavour. Both as old birds and chickens I have ever found them exceedingly hardy. They have not had as much written about them as the Brahmas, but I believe the strength in which they have of late appeared will get justice done them in the prize lists.

Admirers of Buff and Partridge Cochins, forgive me for being so diffuse, and let me hope ere long to see a vigorous advocacy of the claims of *your* favourites in the columns of THE FIELD!

POULTRY-BREEDING COMPANY.—Among the many bubbles of the day, a limited liability company is proposed for the purpose of Breeding Poultry and Preserving Eggs! The capital is to be 10,000*l.* Every attempt to breed poultry in large numbers has hitherto proved a disastrous failure, and, judging from the utterly impracticable series of papers that preceded this announcement of the company, we cannot anticipate any other termination to the new scheme.

PROPERTIES OF EXHIBITION BIRDS.

THE BARB.

BY MR P. H. JONES, Vice-President of the National Columbarian Society.

IN DESCRIBING THE PROPERTIES OF THE BARB, as an exhibition bird, I will assume that it is not necessary to go into the question of its origin or natural history. In the writer's opinion this beautiful variety should stand first of all toys, his estimation ranking them very little below the high fancy Carrier, Almond, and Pouter—indeed, it is almost as difficult to produce a perfect Barb as either of the last-named varieties; and as the Barb is becoming a more fashionable bird every season, I believe the present to be a good opportunity of describing the properties which would constitute a perfect bird, as a standard to breed up to: for, be it known, that at the present time it is much easier to describe a perfect bird than to find one.

The engraving accompanying this article is a portrait of a red cock, three years old, and although a tolerably good bird, the properties in the head are not so fully developed as it is hoped they will be in another year or two. But (which is very much to the purpose) the artist has been very successful in catching the general characteristics and contour of the bird, and the breeder will not do amiss if he succeed in producing a few such in the course of two or three years.

The principal characteristic properties of the Barb are in the head, but there are also certain peculiarities in the neck and body, which must be taken into account. I take them to stand in the following order:

Head—Shortest face, squarest and broadest skull.

Beak—Shortest and thickest, pale colour.

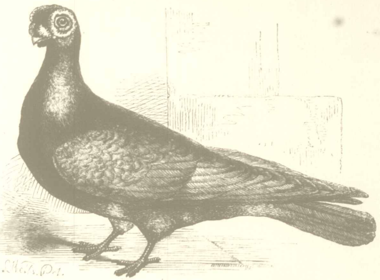
Eye—Pearl.

Eye wattle—Largest, roundest, of even and regular shape and fine texture, of a bright vermilion or slightly deeper and richer red.

Beak wattle and jewing under the beak—Large, white and fine texture.

Shape of body and neck—Broad and full chested; round and plump in hand; neck moderate in length, and tapering rather quickly, but very graceful and delicate in good specimens.

There is a certain peculiarity about the carriage and neck of the Barb which is very difficult to describe, and can only be thoroughly understood by long acquaintance and the eye becoming thoroughly educated to it. The flight feathers are long as compared with other varieties about the same size. This is a rather important feature in the general character of the bird, as it serves to give a nice proportion to the full plump body and breast.



THE BARB.

Size is also another thing which must be borne in mind, as a large, coarse, heavy bird, with ever such good properties, looks at a disadvantage when compared with a good medium-sized bird with fine points. It is almost impossible to fix a limit in size, but a good mature bird should not exceed 1lb. in weight. A good eye would measure about three-quarters of an inch across the wattle, or a little larger than a half-sovereign; and the face and beak, measuring from the front inner edge of the eye, should not exceed three-quarters or seven-eighths of an inch, but five-eighths would be better.

The above description, weight, and measurements apply more particularly to cocks, hens being usually a little smaller, narrower and finer in head, and smaller in eye, but the beak should be as short and bullfinch-shaped as in the cock; and with the diminished size of the bird we should of course look for a neater and more graceful outline and carriage, with proportionately thinner neck.

The Barb is essentially a self-coloured bird, and the recognised colours are black, white, red, yellow, and dun. Mottles and splashes are occasionally met with, and may be useful in the breeding loft, but are not tolerated in a show pen. Of the above colours, whether from accident or from greater care having been bestowed on the breeding of them, the blacks and yellows have attained the highest point of excellence, next in order being the duns and reds, and lastly whites, which offer a fine field for the breeder to go in for improvement, they being as a rule at present deficient in all the properties.

To sum up, looking at a pair of birds in a pen for competition, I should look at—1, head; 2, beak; 3, wattle; 4, shape, carriage, and size; 5, eye; 6, colour or feather; and I think it would be very easy to give all these properties their several and comparative numerical values in accordance with the system advocated in your columns a few weeks since.

Having bred Barbs for ten or twelve years, I can state they are hardy and good breeders; in fact, during the summer months they are inclined to be too prolific, frequently going to nest with a pair of young ones only a few days old, which they will then neglect; but as a rule I think them better feeders than many of the fancy varieties.

PROPERTIES OF THE CARRIER PIGEON.

SIR,—Some very interesting sketches on the properties of some varieties of pigeons and poultry have lately appeared in THE FIELD; and, as your paper is extensively read among fanciers, I trust good results will not fail to follow their publication.

No article has yet been contributed on the Carrier pigeon; and the members of the National Columbarian Society propose to discuss the properties, &c. of this bird; and, if the ground is not already occupied by other correspondents, they would ask your permission to insert their opinion in your paper.

The society finds good reasons for the course it adopts. The old standard for the Carrier pigeon has become much modified since the publication of any treatise on pigeons that is considered an authority; consequently, the relative value of its many points are now ill-defined—producing confusion in our tastes, and dissatisfaction with the awards of judges.

Desirous of substituting more uniformity of opinion—at all events of originating a friendly discussion with any who may think differently from us—we shall lay before your readers the judgment of the Carrier fanciers amongst us; repeating that the society does not pretend to constitute itself an infallible authority, and that our object, if we overrate or underrate any points, is to receive a friendly correction.

S. C. BETTY, Hon. Sec. National Columbarian Society.

NOTES AND QUESTIONS ON POULTRY.

LA FLÈCHE FOWLS.—Will any of your readers give me some particulars as to the merits or demerits of La Flèche fowls?—COCHIN.

MATCHING UP FANCY PIGEONS.—Having just started a pigeon-house, and given some long prices for some fancy birds, pouters, carriers, &c., I should be extremely obliged if any of your readers could give me a few hints as to their management, &c., as I know nothing whatever about it. I am told that it is not necessary to keep the various sorts separated if you get them once paired; but the question is, how to get them paired? for it seems to me that if you get two or three different sorts, and turn them loose into a pigeon-house, it is very probable that two of different sorts may pair, and mongrels would be the result, which is what I particularly want to avoid. Any other information as to the breeding and rearing of carriers would be most gratefully received by—INAX.—[If you turn your different varieties together, it is extremely improbable that they will mate as you desire. There is rarely any difficulty, however, in matching them up as required, for if the two that it is desired to mate are shut up together in a place separate from the other pigeons, they will soon pair. Should the two birds fight at first, they should be parted by open wire-work for a few days; this may be taken away as soon as they are seen playing up to one another. Every fancier has in his possession a few matching-up pens or cages, for this purpose of mating his birds. The information you require respecting carriers will be given very shortly—a very valuable paper on these birds being promised, as stated in Mr Betty's letter.—ED.]

FORTHCOMING POULTRY SHOWS.

DUBLIN (Royal Society).—April 18 to 21. Sec., Dr. Steele, Kildare-street. Poultry and Agricultural Stock. Entries close March 17. Schedule, see FIELD, Jan. 14.
HEREFORD (Bath and West of England Society).—June 5 to 9. Sec., S. Pitman, Esq., Bishop's Hull Manor, Taunton. Poultry and Pigeons, and Agricultural Live and Dead Stock. Entries close May 15. Schedule, see FIELD Jan. 28.

FARMING.

IT IS NOT VERY LONG AGO SINCE MR MECHI, at a meeting of the Central Farmers' Club, pointed out a long catalogue of reasons which go to render farming unprofitable. The list certainly is appalling, enumerating no less, if we were right in our calculation, than sixty-one causes—enough to deter any sane person from entering upon such a business with any possible chance of success. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, farming still goes on its way progressive and progressing, and bids fair at no distant date to assume a very advanced position in the category of sublunary occupations. On looking over Mr Mechi's list, it is at all events satisfactory to find that these detracting causes are not confined to farming alone: many of them apply to any and every business; many are beyond human reach or control, and not a few belong to the common lot of mortals under any circumstances of life. What motive Mr Mechi could have had in collecting such a catalogue does not quite appear, as the worthy alderman suggests no remedy, but bids us go, as Abernethy was wont to tell his patients, and read his book. Now there was this advantage in the doctor's advice, that the book suggested a remedy; Mr Mechi's panacea is, "Do as I do," to which unfortunately there is no response, that is, no practical response. Mr Mechi's self-illustration stands, consequently, like the Nelson Column in Trafalgar-square—a very good object in itself, but acting as a warning to others, or, as Mr Lincoln's phrasing would be, "to all whom it may concern."

Mr Mechi's method of speech is somewhat loose and rambling—attractive, certainly, from the good-humoured vein in which the delivery is made. He is in earnest, no doubt, in what he wishes to impress on his farming compeers; but these have somehow come to the conclusion that Tiptree Hall is not supported from within, but from without, and that the world-renowned thoroughfares of Leadenhall and Regent-street contribute not a little to the maintenance of rural economy at Tiptree; and hence it is that while all are glad to hear him, and be silent that they may hear, all are not equally willing to ride the same hobbyhorse. Mr Mechi is thus left alone in his glory, with his pipes and hose around him.

Mr Mechi commences his catalogue with "not understanding the business of farming." Now this would so obviously be the root of want of success, that all the other causes might almost be left out; for like the mayor of York's many reasons for not firing a salute on the entrance of royalty into their loyal town, the very first—that they had no powder—was deemed so satisfactory by the royal personage himself, as to need no further enumeration. So with Mr Mechi's many causes of unprofitable farming—want of knowledge would be the root of all the evil. Our American cousins, it is true, are apt to consider this absence of information of no account whatever in balancing the chances of success; but in the old world this happy indifference would almost lead of a necessity to the inevitable result. Taking, therefore, Mr Mechi's first cause as sufficient, we will spare our readers the lengthy and apparently unnecessary enumeration.

While thus commenting on Mr Mechi's exposition of the reasons of unprofitable farming, we may admit that a vein of good sense generally runs through his lucubrations, whether oral or written; and no doubt there is much information often contained in them. The following statement, although putting the profits at a somewhat low point, may be considered as useful generally, and may give to many who have any intention of investing in farming business, what they may reasonably expect therefrom: "On well-cultivated arable farms, employing 10*l.* per acre capital, 1*l.* per acre profit would be certainly a good average, and I know many, very many, good farmers who consider 500*l.* a-year on a 500-acre farm, a full remuneration, having their residence, stabling, &c., rent-free, and some trifling advantages of the farmyard. Unlike townspeople, they get their bread, pork, poultry, milk, and eggs, first-hand, unadulterated and unburthened with intermediate expenses and profits; also their hay, corn, and straw for their riding horses. Vegetables are also fresh and untaxed. Servants' wages are always much lower than in towns, so that altogether their 10 per cent. is equal to a much larger profit in towns, where rent and other matters form a large charge." We have here as a set-off a few of the *agrémens* of farming, and a prospect of the 10 per cent. profit, with the other little et ceteras, appears attractive; and it might be added, that the social position is not altogether devoid of interest, and there is often an absence of those harassing cares which sometimes beset the denizens of towns in their avocations. Mr Mechi also gives wholesome advice when he recommends personal supervision and rigid economy in the smaller matters, as necessary elements of success.

After all, farming may be looked upon much as any other business. The elements of success are in reality much under the control of the individual; but it ought to be understood by those that now undertake it, that a much wider range of knowledge is required than would have sufficed for the agriculturist sixty years since; and Mr Mechi, even with his many assumed drawbacks, looks forward to a grand future for British agriculture, when the general system will be based on commercial and manufacturing principles, when education, more frequent intercourse, and greater intelligence, will bring about an escape from ancient custom and feudal restraints. And when thus set free, the national character will no doubt in this, as it has done in all other matters, exhibit a healthy, vigorous, and with Mr Mechi, we may say, gigantic action.

FURZE AS A GREEN CROP.

SIR,—Having found that a letter of mine, which appeared in THE FIELD some time ago, respecting the importance of furze (*Ulex Europæus*) as a green crop, and its proper cultivation and management, attracted, as it was designed to do, considerable notice from many English readers, I have thought of renewing the subject after both seeing and hearing of the extensive failure of turnips and mangolds in so many parts of England.

To my own long experience of this valuable addition to the list of green crops, I am now able to add that of a gentleman whose efforts in his own country have served to induce a very great number of his countrymen, all agriculturists, to use this plant very largely, and with complete success.

The advantage that furze has over every other green crop is, that it can be grown upon any soil that is not wet, and if need be, without any manure at all, but of course the better it is treated the more abundant will be the yield. Moreover, it is not a plant to die out shortly, for its productiveness will continue great for any length of time, with proper care; and if it be allowed to grow on without any interruption it becomes the very best covert for game and foxes, it makes very handsome hedges, and when planted judiciously, as a protection to young plantations becomes a valuable one.

March, April, and May are the three months for planting it, and the gentleman above alluded to, the Rev. W. R. Townsend, Rector of Aghada, in the diocese of Cork, gives the following directions for the cultivation of this very valuable, but as yet not sufficiently well-known, plant:

"Should the land be inclined to be wet or tenacious of moisture, it should be effectually drained, or, if divided into wide beds, raised with a slope from the centre, and the trenches deep; this will give a suitable bed for the plants. The field to be sown should be well and deeply subsoiled; the stripped or subsoil plough following the mould-board plough to the depth of sixteen inches or more; all stones and weed

cleared away, and natural grasses well picked off. If the field has been under a well-manured green root crop the previous year, or sheep folded on it, it is best; but if it has produced corn, then, after the ploughing, manure with 10 cwt. of half-inch bones to the statute acre, well harrowed in, then sow eight stone of corn to the acre; and when this is harrowed in and rolled sow the furze seed, not less than 40lb. of seed to the acre, some recommend as much as 60lb.; some sow without any corn. The first crop can be taken in the following November.

"The time for its use is from October to March, both months inclusive; but it is common to use it until June. There is none so good food for store or milch cows—the milk is rich and best tasted; with four bushels cut as for horses, half a stone of turnips four times a day with each feed of furze, cut in Gardner's turnip-crusher, they require no other food; the produce in quantity and quality is fully equal (if not superior) to that from any other food. They require no hay or straw, and only the small quantity of roots stated. The produce of a statute acre, properly cultivated, and mowed annually, varies from fourteen to twenty tons, and it will feed from four to five horses or cows for five months. The time of its use is from October to April; the manure produced is next in quality to that from oil cake."

It is pretty evident that from such an addition to feeding resources the farmer must benefit largely by the use of furze. And knowing, as I do, the extensive use of it in Ireland, I have perfect confidence in its success wherever else it is introduced with good management. Not that a crop cannot be raised without any manure, should it be thought worth while to try it, for I know very well that it can.

I find this communication becoming too lengthened already, and therefore will reserve some additional interesting information for a future one. T. J. HUNGERFORD.

St. Mary's Hall, Lynn, Norfolk.

Descriptive Priced List for 1865, *of Seeds of Agricultural Grasses and Forage Plants.* RAYNBIRD, CALDECOTT, and BAWTREE, Seed-growers and Seed Merchants, Basingstoke and Andover, and at 89, Seed-market, Mark-lane, London.

THE mere mention of the reception of the catalogue from this firm will be sufficient, as the universality of their dealings, and the integrity and uprightness of their business arrangements, have given them a name "familiar as household words."

THE UTILISATION OF SEWAGE.—When the select committee of the House of Commons made their report on sewage, in which attention was drawn to the fact that sewage as a manure was valuable, the Common Council instructed the Coal, Corn, and Finance Committee of the Corporation of London to investigate the matter. Accordingly this committee did so, and sent their report to the Common Council. It was unanimously adopted by the court, and a copy was sent to the Metropolitan Board of Works. That board subsequently made a concession of the sewage of the north side of the metropolis to Messrs Hope and Napier, upon which the Common Council desired the Coal, Corn, and Finance Committee to report upon the scheme. The committee, upon examination, found many discrepancies in the several statements made by Messrs Hope and Napier before the House of Commons, so much so, indeed, as not only to modify but materially to alter the original design proposed. There are discrepancies, also, as to the quantity of sewage, one estimate putting it at 168,033,115 tons annually, while Baron Liebig takes the amount at 266,000,000 tons. There is thus a material difference in the calculations. According to the first estimate it is given at 1,831 557*l.*, while Baron Liebig's value is 2,040,715*l.*, who also adds that if the ammonia is reckoned at the price the farmer pays at present for it in Peruvian guano, the ton of sewage water would be more than doubled in value, which would give for the whole 4,084,430*l.* as the annual value of the metropolitan sewage. Baron Liebig also states in his report that sewage is not only applicable to grass land, but "that the full value of sewage and of its separate constituents can only be got out of it when it is employed upon arable land." Turning from Baron Liebig's views to the scheme of Messrs Napier and Hope, the committee find that they not only propose to apply the sewage in enormous and wasteful quantities to grass exclusively, for which crop, in their opinion, it is alone suitable, but that, as their plan is one of gravitation from first to last, the manure being applied by flooding the land from open gutters, it would be impossible to use it on arable land and and for general farming purposes, as for such it must of necessity be applied by the hose and jet, which system those gentlemen entirely repudiate and hold up to ridicule. The committee then state that having maturely considered Baron Liebig's view, they are of opinion that the scheme of Messrs Hope and Napier, if it could be carried out, of which great doubts are expressed, would be a glaring violation of the laws of agricultural science, by which the least possible increase to our home supplies would be obtained, as well as the smallest return to the ratepayers of the metropolis for their property; and conclude by recommending that the court should petition the House of Commons for the appointment of a select committee to take into consideration the best mode of utilising the sewage of the metropolis and other towns of the kingdom, and to inquire into all the plans for dealing with the sewage, and specially to report upon each of such plans, for the information of the country, with a view to secure for the ratepayers of the metropolis the greatest amount of profit from the utilisation of their property, and also that they should be authorised to take the necessary measures for opposing the Metropolis Sewage and Essex Reclamation Bill in Parliament, which has for its object the obtaining of the sanction of Parliament to the carrying out of the arrangement entered into by Messrs Napier and Hope and the Metropolitan Board of Works.

ANGLING AND PISCICULTURE.

A FEW DAYS AMONGST THE PIKES.

(Continued from page 58.)

MAN IS CERTAINLY A PREDATORY ANIMAL—a noble savage, endued with all the wild animal's desire to kill, but with a sort of generous preference for killing that which is most savage and most in the habit of killing others. He is no doubt the highest link in the chain of animal creation, and follows the natural bent of creation in preying upon beings which all in turn prey upon one another; but looking on himself as a lord over the creation, he delights to work out a sort of rude retributive justice in slaying by preference the destroyer of his species. And this feeling is not by any means confined to civilised life; for amongst the rudest tribes, whether of the recesses of the Rocky Mountains or the plains of Timbuctoo—where even the very cassowaries are predaceous, if we believe the rhyming of the poet, to the remarkable extent of devouring whole missionaries and their families, not excepting even their hymn books—there is no achievement so desirable as the slaying of the great slayer, and the claws of the catamount or the grizzly, and trophies from the lion and tiger, always hold a first place of estimation. So strong is this feeling among savage tribes, that I firmly believe the successful hunter might if he chose wield a far more powerful aid to civilisation (if civilisation in its present condition be desirable for the happiness of the human race, which I doubt) than the most zealous missionary of modern days who has issued, raging with self-righteousness, inflammatory tracts and green tea from Exeter Hall to worry and proselytise the heathen—(I may say here that I don't hold with missionaries, and if the aforesaid cassowaries were to devour the whole race, it would not give me an uneasy moment)—what respect can the poor savage have when he sees forty missionaries with forty creeds, all professing (only professing, mind) Christianity, and denouncing one another like poison, while preaching peace and goodwill? No, the great hunter may civilise to some extent, but the other party will but make "5*l.* or 10*l.* Christians."* The first natural respect of the human mind turns towards personal prowess. We all like to prove it, and if we cannot exhibit strength and courage, we like to show our skill. This is, I suppose, the sort of feeling which animates the angler when he goes forth armed with his gorges and his triangles, his gaff and his fourteen-foot rod, to do doughty battle with the 20lb. pikes. I had a desire to try the upper water at the Duke's, "for I had heard of battles" with great pike there, "and longed to follow" for "THE FIELD some warlike lord," and "heaven soon granted what," upon a former occasion, his grace "denied." A note from Sir R. told me that all the water was open to us, and we accordingly made arrangements for another day at S——.

The day before had been frosty, and the morning came up dark and cloudy, with a dull, hard frost. The wretched individual who was to have brought the bait at six had not put in an appearance at seven. What was to be done? Sir R. would be performing a maniacal saraband at the carriage window if I did not put in appearance, bait in hand, at Kingston, when the train rolled up. I started at length to drive down to the water-side, and met the being crawling up with about ten or a dozen little bits of things, which any sizeable pike with a well-regulated interior would have swallowed at a meal. Here was a go! Awful state of things, wasn't it? If Sir R. had danced the aforesaid business in a reversed position, like, as I think Dickens says, an inverted Banshee, it would have served me right, it would have served the bait-man right; in fact, it would have served everybody but himself right. "Driver!" I shouted hoarsely; "drive like"—"where good manners won't let me tell," as Ingoldsby hath it—"to Bill Kemp's, at Teddington."

* The story runs that in a certain locality, where opposition ran very high, the desire to obtain proselytes was frequently carried out rather upon electioneering principles. Certain niggers were one day disputing upon a point of precedence. "Tan aside, darky," said one; "you darty nigger, and ony 1*l.* Christian. Me, Massa Sambo, person ob 'sponsibility, sah—me 5*l.* Christian."

We hadn't a minute to spare. The driver did not drive quite as I had ordered, but he pushed his old crock—which resembled an animated crinoline stretched on a clothes-horse—along somehow. "Bill Kemp! Bill Kemp! where are you?" The "little Billee" soon put in an appearance. "Have you any baits handy?" "Lord bless you! is it you, Mr Francis? Yes, sir, plenty; as many as you like." I didn't embrace him, but I felt kindly disposed towards him; and while he was ladling me out two dozen whopping fine baits from a neighbouring punt, he detailed to me many grievances which they were all labouring under from the action of the Preservation Society—some of them certainly not unreasonable. He asked me, if they called a meeting of the fishermen, if I would attend and hear what they had to say; and to so reasonable a request, I could not but answer in the affirmative. This idea is now, I believe, carried out, and in the present impression of THE FIELD will, I think, be found an advertisement calling the meeting. Billee was far behind; Kingston-bridge was at hand. "Can we catch the 8.20 train?" I asked of the toll-man. "Lord bless you! sir; you could walk it if you chose." "You're the best fellow I have seen to day, barring Bill Kemp; and I hope you'll never be a missionary nor devoured by cassowaries!" And I gave a sigh of relief, and lighted a remarkably good weed I had preserved for the occasion. All was right: I was in capital time. Sir R. and a friend were there, and off we went.

Soon we reached our station, disembarked, and toddled to the little inn. Some greedy people, gormandising wretches! utterly regardless of the feelings of others, ate at this unpleasant little public, I think, the finest broiled ham I have ever seen, and drank the clearest of hot creamy purl. I had breakfasted before I left home on cold mutton; cold boiled leg of mutton, rather overdone, I think it was—it wasn't very savoury, I know, but it was wonderfully filling; and the self-indulgent proceedings I was compelled to be a witness to on this occasion were simply loathsome—such a yielding to appetites of a carnal nature was very uncivilised, to say the least of it. In vain, in the words of the immortal Squeers, did I apostrophise them: "'Restrain your appetites, boys, and then you've conquered human nature!' Imitate my self-denial and self-deprivation, and don't keep the fly waiting." But they wouldn't: they ate and they drank well—like pigs, or like denced hungry sportsmen with a keen appetite after a fifty-mile ride on a frosty morning and a twelve hours' fast. Jehoshaphat! how they did put that ham out of sight—it was a bit of legerdemain worthy of Döbler! and how the steaming purl gurgled and gluggled down, down, down! Would they never finish? But the trap was ready, the last fragments of the feast disposed of, the "banquet hall deserted;" and we were soon bowling along the frosty road again. The park gates opened to receive us, and ere long we were deposited by the side of the river. Spinning baits were speedily rigged up, and to work we went. A good stretch of the river was fished down by Sir R. and myself, without the ghost of a run. The morning was bitterly cold, and it was freezing tremendously: evidently the fish were sluggish, and things did not look prosperous. Every ten minutes the line froze in the rings, which became lumps of ice; and the ice had to be broken out to allow the line to run. Still we fished on, and still no run. At length we came to the lake, into which a branch of the river ran. We had hopes of doing better in the lake, as it was a good deal sheltered from the shaving wind by high trees on three sides. And we were not altogether disappointed, for soon "I've got him!" from Sir R. told the arrival of No. 1. He was a nice little fish of 5lb. Then I got a pull, and hauled out his brother, apparently. Then we got two or three small ones, under 3½lb. Anon I got another fish about 4½lb.; and then I got hold of a good one; he made a good bit of play before I brought him to the gaff—the place was awkward, too, for landing. However, by careful manipulation I got him in to the rushes, and slipped the gaff into his gills, and he scaled 10½lb. He was an ugly, lean fish, that ought to have weighed 13lb. or 14lb. if he had been well fed; but as the lake seemed to be well stocked with pike, probably feed was scarce. After this we neither of us did much more in the lake: two or three small ones came out to see what sort of weather it was out of doors, and went back to tell their friends that there were a brace of the ugliest-looking, two-legged beggars perambulating the banks with intents wicked and uncharitable towards the entire pike family.

We fished on back to our starting point, and carefully spun the water up to a weir, without a touch, although the water was as pikey a looking bit as heart of jack-fisher would desire—well reeded and weeded, with holes here and there, and plenty of clear water well adapted for spinning. At the weir we expected a bit of sport, but the only sport we got was in Sir R.'s pitching his spinning-bait into a tree on the opposite bank—a rascally yew, one of the trees that always necessitates a break. Oak, hawthorn, and yew are my abomination in this way, as they will neither yield nor break; and a hang up in either, if you cannot reach your tackle, always necessitates a smash—and a smash was of course the result.

The day grew colder and colder; it was a regular nipper. It was evident that spinning was at a discount in the open river; so, as there was some water just above us more suitable to it, on went the live snap. Above the weir the river divided and formed an island, to which we crossed over in a punt. On the further side of the island the water passed through a sluice. Sir R. went round to fish the head of the sluice, and I remained upon the near side of the island. I had a run, but, before I could strike, the fish left the bait half dead; I put on another, and was engaged in trying for my friend again, when a great shout of "I've got a regular monster!" from Sir R. reached me; but it was soon followed by "By Jove, he's gone!" and a despondent growl of intense disgust. Two minutes after, "I've got another!" came from the same quarter, and I went to land the fish for him. He had hooked him in the head of the sluice in deepish water, and it was astonishing how hard the brute fought to get down the sluice. *Skyence* and gimp were too much for him, and I slipped the gaff into the gills of a fish of 6½lb., as handsome and well-fed a fish as ever I saw. He was a perfect little beauty, as round as a top. But Sir R. bemoaned the lost fish, which he described as a "slogdolager"—and from our subsequent experience of this spot, he might well be so. Sir R. then went to the other side of the river, and I fished off some rushes at the head of the island. I was not long in getting a run, and I soon brought a 6-pounder to hook, and then another 6. Meantime Sir R. got one more 5-pounder, and then hooked and lost three fish in succession, some of them good ones. Just then I pitched my bait out more towards the mouth of the neck than I had fished before, and as the bait splashed into the water, I saw, some five or six yards off, a tremendous boil, as if a small boat had turned round under water, and in a second, my float was streaming away at a tremendous rate; accordingly, I hauled up tight, and found something heavy at the end of the line. After a steady bore out for some distance, a huge splash, and the glimpse of a tail of portentous size, told me I had a whacker on. The struggle was not a very long one, however, and, leading my fish round to a convenient spot, I popped the gaff in his gill and hauled out the best fish of the day so far—a banging 15-pounder. I was just taking the hook from his mouth when a tremendous outcry from Sir R. arrested me. "A whale! a whale! by Jove, a whale!" I looked round, and there sure enough was an awful splashing and "tourousling" going on. Hastily snatching up the gaff, and pitching my fish to a safe distance from the water for future attention, I ran round. Sir R. had hooked his fish, which showed a pair of jaws like a shark, between two trees which overhung so that he could not get the point of his rod up, and the fish was making a straight pull of it, lashing the surface of the water into foam. Sir R. would not give him a yard, and how it happened that line and all was not smashed to "smithereens," I never could understand. However, he walked him back, and as I had my boots on I stepped in and slipping the gaff into his head, I hauled him along up the bank. I could not lift him comfortably, for he weighed 19lb.; and leaving Sir R. to unhook him, I trotted round to my own fish, which in the meantime had, in his flounders, taken to himself a jacket of dead leaves. Thus we had these two fine fish of 15lb. and 19lb. kicking about on the bank at the same instant. Although the small fish were well fed, neither of these big ones were. Perhaps the large collection of big pike at this spot had thinned the food a good deal; and a pike of this size requires a wide range, and plenty of food on it, to keep him in good condition. My fish ought to have weighed over 20lb., and Sir R.'s 25lb. or 26lb., had they been as well shaped as the smaller ones. We were, however, in a great state of glorification and delight at the smart bit of sport we had had. I never remember a much more lively turn for the time we were over it. After this Sir R. got another 4½ pounder, which was the last from this productive spot. It now seemed that we had achieved all the sport we were likely to at this point, for we could not run another; so we proceeded up-stream. We fished on, however, for a long way without another run. At length we came to the second weir, and here we expected great things, but were disappointed, trying both spinning and the snap without a touch.

The day was now drawing on, and we worked on pretty quickly to a deep hole below the bridge, where our trap was to meet us—never getting a run, although the water was a splendid piece of pike-water. No doubt the day was all against spinning and the shallows, as we now had to break the ice out of our rings every ten minutes. At length we reached the bridge, and there was the fly waiting for us; but the hole below it was deep and still, and was the favoured resort of a 30-pounder, which had been often seen; so, although it was past the best of the day, we determined to try for our fat friend, who would have made a splendid finish to the day, but he would not come. I got hung up in a stump and broke one of my two hooks in it, and, following on this, hooked three fish in succession and lost them all. I forgot to say that Sir R. when he came to examine his tackle after catching his large fish, found that he also had lost a hook, which might account for his losing so many fish. The proceedings were closed by Sir R. getting a couple of small fish of about 3lb., which he gave to the driver; and now, as it was drawing towards dusk, we tackled up, re-embarked, and were soon recounting the events of the day, over a rousing fire and various hot mixtures, at our public. The bag was by no means a bad one: one fish of 19lb., one of 15lb., one 10½lb., one 6¼lb., two 6lb., one 5½lb., two 5lb., two 4½lb., or eleven fish weighing 87lb. Besides these, we gave away a couple of 3lb., returned half a dozen of 2lb. or 3lb. to the water, and hooked and lost seven or eight more—some of them very good fish indeed. The average of 8lb. would make a Thames-fisher's mouth water. My share was seven fish, weighing 52lb; Sir R.'s four fish weighing 35lb.; and I believe if he had not been fishing through the best of the sport with a broken hook, there would not have been much difference between us.

Anon, the train came rattling up, and we were duly transferred to our respective homes. FRANCIS FRANCIS.

(To be continued.)

RANDOM RECOLLECTIONS OF A COCKNEY ANGLER.

Contributed by "BOWBELLS," and Edited by GREVILLE F.

(Concluded from page 59.)

Benvolio.—I carrie my *pike* thus—both faste and *luce* I carry it."
Trautaire.—I pray you mercie—good Benvolio!
Benvolio.—Mercie! quotha, mercie—what is that? [Trautaire kills Benvolio.]
Ancient MS.

"YOUR LONG ANGLING EXPERIENCE, friend Bowbells," I remarked, "must have brought with it a good deal of knowledge respecting the genus Gamekeeper."

"Much, very much, Greville," replied Bowbells, laying a more than usual emphasis upon the adverb. "These men usually possess a certain amount of practical knowledge of the living world around them, and if your chap be a fellow of observation, his discourse is generally of interest to his auditors. Prejudices they have in most cases, to an incurable degree; but, allowing for the social element they are born and bred in, this is not surprising. The beau ideal of a keeper which I have now in my mind's eye, was courteous and respectful to strangers; firm and zealous in the pursuit of his employer's interest, thinking his master the perfection of all that should constitute a gentleman; he possessed the good will of the tenantry around, and was spoken of, even by the labouring man, as a just and upright official. He was ever welcome in his visits amongst the farmers, who hailed him as an intermediate friend between their landlord and themselves, and who found in him a ready agent to listen to and redress any well-founded complaint of the encroachments of the game or the necessity for increased vigilance or expense in keeping down the rabbits, &c. To listen to the cheerful recital of his manifold duties would have at once removed from the minds of the uninitiated the notion that a gamekeeper's life was one of indolence and pleasure—to lounge about fields with a gun, sit upon a stile and indolently knock over a bird as it flew unsuspectingly past. There are, however, men of a widely different stamp, who have contrived to be despised by most people, and, as it too unfortunately happens, have tended to give a bad fame to the whole fraternity. I could recite many a daring adventure of these men with water-poachers, and likewise a few tales recounted to me by the poachers themselves."

"To you by poachers, Bowbells! Do you consort with depredators, and herd with thieves?"

"I have found good in all men, dear Greville. How, my good sir," added Bowbells, with an arch smile; "how about the gipsy gang you consorted with under canvas for a summer's month? Where are the folios of sketches of the black-eyed houris that cooked your trout? the full-length portrait of the stalwart roost-despoiler? the grizzly-bearded harridan? the ragged urchins? the fleshless knackers guiltless of a legal owner—eh? Some gamekeepers," continued Bowbells, "are very artful and suspicious, and exercise an offensive surveillance over, even, the most intimate friends and acquaintances of their lords and masters. As I, however, have never asked anything of a servant to which his employer could object, any offensiveness on the part of a keeper to myself has been rare. Colonel B.'s head-keeper, although brusque, was withal an obliging fellow, but was likewise one of those who seemed to consider that the spice of the poacher existed in the constitution of every man, whether he were yeoman or carpet knight. Consequently he did all he could to persuade the Colonel so to arrange the shooting and fishing that not more than one party, and that attended by himself, should visit the manor upon the same day. Having received an invitation from the Colonel, through my father, I hurried from our seaside cottage on the previous afternoon of the day indicated in the note, and put up at the nearest hotel to the estate. Scantily provided with tackle and bait, I hastily obtained a dozen smelts, that in case the trout would not rise I might fall back upon pike-fishing, by a plan I had at that time of making my double-handed fly-rod serve, by the substitution of a short stiff top, for trolling or spinning. Upon my arrival I sent for Chapman, the keeper, and upon his entering the room in which I was finishing my dinner, I bade him take a chair, and asked him what he would have to drink. 'I beg your pardon,' said he; 'first of all let me ask you a question, sir, if I may be so bold.' 'Go on, Chapman,' I replied, knowing a little of the oddity with which I had to deal. 'Well, then, sir, are you come to fish?' 'Yes, Chapman, and I hope there are plenty of trout, that the water is in prime order, and that I shall be accompanied by you.' 'I carnt go with yer; the water is all right, but you sharnt fish,' said the man. 'How! what do you mean?' I exclaimed, a little nettled by his manner, and his rising from his seat, as I imagined, somewhat defiantly. 'That I am going out, sir, with Colonel Charles and Mister Scott a-shooting, and I carnt look arter the water and shoot too—and that's the long and the short of it,' was the curt reply. 'But, Mister Chapman, allow me to tell you that I have the Colonel's permission to fish to-morrow, written with his own hand; and here it is.' Chapman conned over the almost-illegible aristocratic scrawl, and after trying to make me believe that the Tuesday was intended for Thursday—which certainly was somewhat doubtful, had not the date been plain enough—he resumed his hat, and, while moving towards the door, looked wistfully at the decanter—'It's not meaning any disrespect for you, sir, but I carnt trust no one on that ere water without I be wi' 'em.' 'Here, Chapman,' said I, filling a goblet with port wine, 'drink this to the health of the Colonel, and as you seem to imagine there may be some mistake, I will write and ask the Colonel whether there is any error.' 'My respects to'ards yer,' said Chapman, throwing down his throat the port wine at one gulp, 'you may do as yer please, but I knows the Colonel would never go to fix a day for any gent, purwiding always without my permission—leastwise without axing me.' Shortly after Chapman had quitted the room, I heard the music from the feet of a four-in-hand approaching—that glory of motion alone fit for gods, and gentlemen! It was the Colonel's private drag, upon the box of which I saw him, reining up and addressing the landlord of the house. He recognised me through the parlour window, and, in real coachman telegraphy, made certain signs with his whip more easy of translation than his caligraphy, which plainly asked me to come forth to take the seat beside him, and that he would tool me up to the hall. Now, this was one of those occurrences I take every pains to avoid. If I go fishing, I go fishing, and not visiting—which means late hours, and very little to do with water. But, being in doubt whether I should get any fishing at all on the next day decided me, and I at once mounted the box. Oh! the delight, more particularly to a boy, to sit behind four spanking tits! But I will not detain you here with my ride, or the entertaining evening I passed in the company of several kindred spirits at the hall; suffice it that, after telling the gist of my interview with Chapman to the Colonel, the latter told me that, although he believed his head-keeper to be a thoroughly honest fellow, he feared his assumption of authority and arrogance of conduct would compel Chapman's removal to one of his less important manors. I crept from my bed early on the following morning and made my way to the trout-stream; to reach this I had to pass a very picturesque piece of the parent river, which I knew to be the abode of large pike. Here I came suddenly upon a brood of wild-fowl. The drake took wing at once, but the duck, with all a mother's courage for its young, exhibited the greatest solicitude for the safety of her offspring, and she partly drove, and they partly followed her, into a bed of sedges growing in shallow water, in which they became hidden from me. I was walking onward, when I heard a loud and continuous splashing, accompanied by the well-known distracted cry of the wild duck when its progeny are in danger. The cause of this commotion was the attack of a pike upon the brood,

and the ineffectual efforts of the parent bird to save them from destruction The reeds bent and snapped around the scene of strife, and I could occasionally see the broad back of a monstrous fish darting to and fro, and whom I distinctly saw drag more than one of the luckless ducklings under water. The poor dame, when I quitted the bank, was still showing battle with a broken wing against her formidable assailant; but I determined to have a sweet and signal revenge before the day was over, for this base and cruel murder of the innocents. I threw my fly for several hours, securing several handsome trout, and, considering that I had done sufficient, called a lad of about my own age to carry these trout up to the hotel, to lighten my load and leave me free for the pike. I spun in the pike water with a smelt, and it was some time before I moved a fin. It was evidently not a Lent day, the pike preferring duck to fish, and I was reluctantly disposed to think that the feathered mother's revenge would have to be deferred until a more auspicious period, when, in spinning across the spur or opposite end of the rush-bed I became conscious of a 'knock;' but the bait came up free from any show of teeth; not so the pipe of lead upon the trace, which was jagged to the touch as a coarse file, with the serrated parts quite bright and fresh. I threw over the exact spot again, and again I felt that undefinable presence, and again found evidence of the fellow's masticators upon the lead. The fact was, that the peculiar formation of the shelf over which I had to cast, caused the lead to fall firstly into the channel where my friend was doubtless lying *perdu*, while the bait itself did not travel over this portion of the water until after the lead had made for bank. What was to be done? take off the lead, for which he appeared to have so strange a penchant, or let him indulge his morbid and metallic fancy? I decided at once upon the latter course, and, cutting away the bait and flight to the swivel nearest to the lead, threaded the gimp of a single set of triangular hooks through the metal pipe in a fashion which, while it strengthened the hold against the chance of severance by the villain's jaws, left the hooks projecting from the end of the orifice of the lead in the fashion of a grapnel. Thus prepared, I threw again—I had him! Shall I ever forget the extatic delight of the succeeding hour!—a delight, however, not unmixed with fear as the eyes of that leviathan occasionally met mine, and conveyed, as plainly as orbs can speak, his thorough contempt for his temporary captor, and his confidence in his own enormous strength. For the first ten minutes all was a dull, heavy, ponderous pull, made up of short and abrupt turns here and there, around and about the spot in which he was accustomed to reign dominant. Then succeeded a course of tactics, reminding one more of the agile antics of the noble salmon, and then the rage of the mastiff followed; but throughout the whole of this struggle for life, there was a dignity and majesty of demeanour, which in no one respect betrayed the slightest fear or want of presence of mind. The monster, even when he sailed immediately under me, and plainly saw the connection of the line and rod that held him with his enemy upon the bank, exhibited none of that sudden desire to escape observable in smaller fish, but appeared to be impressed with the futility of *my* attempts to conquer him rather than any doubt as to his own safety. Indeed, this view of the duel took such forcible possession of me, that I could not help thinking that if any one should be observing the encounter from the neighbouring covert, they would exclaim, 'Look, there is a large fish that has caught a little boy;' and perhaps, if of a sporting turn, would have been disposed to bet odds upon the pike's lugging me into his element rather than my introducing him into mine. Thus time went by, and the brute showed not the slightest symptoms of abating vigour, and, in contradistinction to the courage of the Greek heroes, he manifested no desire to present me more than his back; when, getting tired of this unequal contest, I really began to wish I was well rid of him. As if impressed with a like notion, he made suddenly for the fall I have before alluded to as supplying the trout-stream below, and at one leap he was over the camp-shed and dashing off, with some twenty yards of line between us, down the comparatively shallow streamlet. To rush after him was the work of a moment, and knee-deep, plunging and floundering, the trout darting frantically upon every side as their enemy passed, I followed as best I could, but the overhanging branches, which met upon either side, were an almost fatal impediment to my pursuit. On, however, I pushed and stumbled, when I suddenly found the line had perceptibly slackened; and here the bank being pretty free, I took to *terra firma*, and winding up with trembling hands and excited frame, plainly felt that my companion had not given me the slip. Tracing the line along, I found he had in his flight run himself aground, and lay, with his malicious eyes turned towards me with inveterate hate, amidst some pickerel weed. I approached him cautiously, and drew his bulky body out of the reach of the water; and no vulgar iron-tipped boot gave him the *coup de grâce*, but this was done by a true Sheffield blade, which, entering his spine, imparted one spasmodic quiver to his structure, and he lay dead at my feet, a model of surpassing strength and beauty!"

"Did he bark at you, Bowbells?"

"No, sir; so great a monarch of the flood would have scorned to die like a dog! It was I who acted like a conceited cur. I strutted up and down, and quoted aloud all the classic heroics I could think of, until I fairly believed that no single combat in history—not excepting Bel and the Dragon—could compare with the prowess I had displayed on that occasion. But when I tell you that he weighed 37¼lb., that his body, in a glass case, is still to be seen at the hall, and that I was scarcely fifteen years of age at the time, you will perhaps pardon my boyish vauntings, and spare me for another evening to tell you how I fared with Chapman the keeper."

THE THAMES.

THE floods at present existing in the valley of the Thames are lamentable enough in their present condition; but should a sudden thaw again follow the snow now lying upon the ground, the consequences must prove, indeed, disastrous. I alluded in my last to a trip I had made of two days from London to Oxford; but I did not enter therein into particulars, and I do not now purpose giving any elaborate details of the state of the inundations which meet the eye of the passenger by the Great Western Railway, throughont the whole of those stretches of the Thames open to him between Reading and Oxford, upon the main line, and likewise upon the loop round by Henley. It would but be stating that it is water, water everywhere; over meadows, orchards, pleasure grounds,—in cellars, kitchens, and parlours,—and surrounding ricks of hay, corn, beans, and clover. But I do earnestly desire to convince all who may read these few lines that this state of things is quite within the power of man to remedy; and that man himself, in the greater part, has been the cause of these destructive floods, so ruinous at once to valuable property and so injurious to the health and welfare of both himself and the animals around him. And I would, moreover, wish to impress the fact, now almost universally acknowledged, that the interests of the Thames ought to be taken up by the Legislature, and at once, as a whole, whether the piscatorial, agricultural, or sanitary. In a word, that all those concerned—whether by reason of the injury done to their property or to their sport, or urged by a desire to see the health of the community permanently secured and the food of the people increased—should combine for one common and substantial benefit. The fable of the bundle of sticks was never more apposite than in this instance of the Thames. Separate and dispersed, these several interests are weak and brittle: united, they would be too strong for the greatest opposition—if then any opposition would dare to impede its combined progress. I am satisfied that the improvement of the Thames—properly so called—is for the good and lasting good of all classes; and that while its millers, the farmers upon its banks, the aristocracy on its hills, the fishers on its stream, or the navigation association ought not individually to have a monopoly, all would profit according in their just proportion. Experience has convinced the most enlightened and energetic men that it is next to useless to deal with the Thames in detail, and that a comprehensive course of legislation will alone bring with it a remedy for the many serious evils which now arise from past mismanagement and present neglect. Will it be believed, that although the waters were out for miles above nearly every mill I inspected upon the Thames; that simple arrangements might be so contrived as to let the waters off almost at will—at any rate, to regulate them sufficiently to prevent the serious recurring damage to property that now accrues; and that such is the apparent jealousy of the owners of every mill—shamefully squatted down in the middle of the stream—that the escape of water otherwise than beneath the wheel is looked upon as so much injury done to the proprietors! This is indeed a manifest abuse of "power," and calls for an immediate legislative interference, for surely no man can have a valid right to dam up the water below a town or village for his own private ends, so as to cause certain mischief both to property and health. I can safely assert, and that from a long personal experience, that as matters are at present managed, the millers have a direct and uninterrupted control over the river Thames; and that many of them (there are certainly honourable exceptions) do, for their own private gain, let off the water so low in the summer droughts that the bed of the river is rendered nearly dry, and that then, in some places, all navigation is completely stopped, even for small boats, while the mud, being partly the accumulation of sewage deposits, is left to stagnate and produce malaria, by the direct influence of the heat of the sun. It will naturally be asked, "Where are the commissioners?" The reply is, the commissioners are powerless; the millers assert this, and twit the commissioners with their (the millers) possessing prescriptive rights, which, as they allege, float over the Thames Acts. Prescriptive rights, indeed! to flood the country or empty the river, to stop the entire navigation, and poison those whose food they grind, with the most malignant fevers! Here, then, is a flagrant anomaly; and having caught it I have made a note of it for the benefit of the future historian, who will, it is devoutly to be hoped, truthfully add that such quasi-privileges were entirely abolished within a session or two after the facts were brought to light and made the subject of calm discussion and indignant reprehension. If the millers would be worse off by the adoption of means I may have occasion to refer to; or if the community were wholly dependent upon water-power, applied by the under-shot system, for the grinding of their corn; and had no alternative but to consent to have the health winnowed out of their mortal sack at the same time, we might have some pity for the millers—but the facts are diametrically the reverse.

GREVILLE F. (Barnes.)

THE PRESERVATION OF THE THAMES.

SIR,—I observe in your last number some editorial observations as to the present system of preserving the Thames by fishermen-bailiffs, appended to an extract from an article on the subject which recently appeared in *Baily's Sporting Magazine*. With the views contained in this article, and in your comments thereon, I most cordially concur; and as my name has been mentioned somewhat prominently in connection with this question, perhaps you will allow me to trespass on your space for the purpose of offering a few remarks on some further points in which it appears to me that the present system is defective.

On the question of "Subsidised Bailiffs *versus* Wholly-paid Keepers" I shall not touch, as it appears to me that the facts and arguments adduced in your last number are unanswerable, and must carry conviction with them. Indeed, the patent absurdity of the present regime has long been a subject of ridicule to all practical men; and as I see from the quotations and observations in the *Sporting Gazette*, *Bell's Life*, and *Sporting Life*, that the whole of the sporting press unite with THE FIELD in condemning it, I hope that its days may be considered as numbered, and any expression of further opinion on my part an unnecessary trespass on your space. A few of the other radical vices and shortcomings (as they appear to me to be) of the system may be epitomised as follows:

(1). Many complaints are made of the difficulty and expense of procuring proper supplies of live and dead bait for pike, trout, and perch fishing, in consequence of the restricted size of the casting-net allowed to be used.

(2). The setting of night-lines for eels destroys a great many trout and other fish, whilst at the same time eel-pots are now disallowed, which did little or no real damage, and the prohibition of which deprives the fishermen of a considerable source of legitimate profit.

(3). The practice of many professional fishermen of fishing *by themselves*, and when unengaged by any gentleman, is not only highly injurious to the fishing of the river, but also to their own interests. The few fish they catch with the rod and line are worth little, so far as profit is concerned; whilst nothing is so likely to drive an angler from the river, and consequently from their punts, as the—not uncommon—sight, so often animadverted upon lately in THE FIELD and elsewhere, of a professional fisherman taking the cream off the trout-pools day after day, or, still worse, fishing down all the likely reaches in front of any boat with gentlemen in it that may happen to be on the river. This latter is, I am informed, a particularly favourite amusement with some of the bailiffs of the Thames Angling Preservation Society.

Now, I cannot but think that if the following (or analogous) regulations were adopted, it would to a great extent correct these anomalies and abuses, and at the same time offer a sufficient equivalent to the fishermen for any problematical sacrifice which they may consider would be entailed upon them:

1. A register to be established containing the names of all such professional fishermen as may be willing to subscribe to the revised rules of the Thames Angling Society.

2. A certificate of registration to be issued yearly to each registered fisherman, and anglers to be requested not to employ those who cannot produce it.

3. Registered fishermen to be allowed to use a casting-net, of not more than 17 feet in circumference, for the purpose of taking bait for their own use and that of their customers (being anglers). [I think there is a great deal too much small fry in the river at present.]

4. No one but registered fishermen to be permitted to use any casting-net whatever, under penalty of a fine.

5. The name of any fisherman to be removed from the register who fishes (otherwise than with the casting-net) *when unaccompanied by the gentleman-angler or other person by whom he is properly hired for fishing.*

6. That no description of night-line, trimmer, eel-line, bank-runner, or other fixed line, be set in any part of the river.

7. Eel-pots to be allowed to be set (under the approval of the society's officers) by *registered fishermen only*, in any part of the Thames where they will not interfere with the navigation.

A proposal was recently made by one of the most able members of the T. A. P. Society, for permitting the catching of eels in *eel-bucks*, by the fishermen. This, if feasible, would prove a great source of additional gain to the men, and would work well as an accessory to the measures above suggested.

With regard to the construction of the committee of the Thames Angling Society, I cannot but think that the subscribers of the society, who provides the funds, ought to have some voice in selecting the persons who are to administer them, and that a committee of five or seven members, elected for three years by the subscribers, would be a more common-sense organisation, as it would certainly be a more manageable one, than the body as at present constituted. A proposition for some such change I hope to be in a postion to bring forward at the next general meeting of the society.

Weybridge, Feb. 14. H. CHOLMONDELEY PENNELL.

THAMES ANGLING PRESERVATION SOCIETY.

SIR,—I certainly think Greville F. has hit the right nail on the head in reference to the Thames Angling Preservation Society; but does he really expect that any good will come of it? If he does, I can assure him that all the mental friction he has the power to bestow is useless upon this truly effete body. Greville F., I am inclined to believe, is too merciful? Why three years' services from each committee-man? New brooms proverbially sweep clean; and if men would really work, a twelvemonth would afford them every opportunity of showing their fitness for office; then, if it be the wish of the majority of the subscribers, re-elect the busy bee by all means. How is it that Greville F. ignores the supplicatory letter which has gone forth to whip up increased funds? Is it possible he has not seen it? In case this should be so, I forward you a copy. For impudence it beats anything of its kind in modern days, and it is evident the secretary is of the like opinion, as he issues the passages in inverted commas. Some while since, one of your correspondents hinted at a public meeting of the subscribers. I will cheerfully subscribe my guinea to the expenses which may be incurred to call them together. It is really shameful that a splendid river like the Thames should be handed over to such a set of do-nothings.

EDW. BROWN, late Hon. Sec. Harewood Anglers' Club.
13, Manchester-street, Argyll-square.

PURIFICATION OF WATER FROM LEAD MINES.

SIR,—In respect of the poisonous nature of the water from lead mines, the following facts seem to be unknown to "Live and Let Live," and to B. S. R.

Many of the ores of lead, among others the sulphuret, when exposed to the atmosphere in a state of fine division, and in a moist condition, become changed into more soluble salts; thus, the sulphuret above cited may become changed, at least partially, into sulphate of lead, while this compound again, under the influence of some of the carbonates which are often found in spring-water, becomes changed into carbonate of lead. This last-named salt, and even the sulphate of lead itself, is soluble in water containing carbonic acid, the alkaline carbonates, and some other salts, and even in pure water. It will thus be easily understood that, besides the fine particles of mineral which are formed in the stamping-mills, and become suspended in the washing-water, there is another portion which is carried away in real solution, and this may be quite enough to kill fish and poison birds and animals.

The only plan which seems feasible to me would be to try and conduct the washing-water into a natural or an artificial morass, containing peat or vegetable matter in a state of decomposition. Such matter contains organic acids, forming insoluble salts with lead; and such a filtration, if properly managed, might purify the water. The nascent hydrogen and reducing agents contained in peat, would also reduce the sulphate of lead to the state of an absolutely insoluble sulphide.

If it were possible to wash with water containing some of the sulphates which are the most common constituents of spring water, or to mix such water with the washings, this might aid in partially preventing the solution of the lead on the one hand, or in precipitating it on the other, as lead under every form is far less soluble in water much charged with sulphates, especially where carbonic or soluble carbonates are absent. The merest tyro in chemistry will easily discover the presence of sulphates in water, by testing with nitrate of baryta and nitric acid.

F. C. S.

[We doubt the efficacy of the purifying powers of organic filtration.—ED.]

UNDERSIZED FISH AT THE CLUBS.

SIR,—In THE FIELD of Feb. 11, in which you report the meeting of those gentlemen (headed by W. Cox, Esq., M.P.) who so strongly advocate the preservation of the Lea river, it is stated by one of the speakers that "anglers do not take undersized fish, and have no interest in doing so," &c. I beg to draw your attention to the fact, which is well known to myself and many others, that at many fishing clubs which I could name, large quantities of undersized fish are constantly taken and brought up for show. I have seen thousands of roach and dace not 4 inches long, and jack not half a pound (taken perch-fishing), brought up and exhibited on the table. The reason of this is, that the clubs give prizes for gross weight taken during the season. There are prizes for the greatest weight of roach, of perch, of dace, chub, &c.; and, besides this, frequent wagers are made between individual members on the greatest weight of fish taken by each during the season, and which, to be allowed, must be registered at the club. This is an immense evil, and it would not exist if the societies would make a stringent rule that no undersized fish of any description should be allowed to be shown; or, what would be still better, make it a peremptory fine against any member who did so; and instead of giving prizes for gross weight, let such prizes be confined to specimen fish above a certain weight. If you can lend your aid in abolishing this unsportsmanlike practice, you will merit, and I am sure receive, the cordial thanks of every fair angler.

GENERAL ROD.

[Our correspondent has every reason for his complaint, for although anglers have "no interest in taking undersized fish," they do in many clubs most notoriously go against their own interests in this respect. We have often pointed out the evil of the system and deplored it.—ED.]

"LIGHT CAST'S" SPINNING TACKLE.

SIR,—I have to thank "Light Cast" for the opportunity of trying his spinning-tackle; and in order that it should have the fairest possible chance, lent it to two other spinners, and, I regret to say, the result is dead againt it. It may do in waters free from foulness, but in any other it is an inveterate, and, from the principle it embodies, an incurable weed and snag catcher. Nothing would please me more than to give it another chance with "Light Cast" himself, who, I trust, will not cease to exert himself, like a zealous fisher, for the improvement of the tackle of his brethren. If any other angler would desire to try it, I will forward it to him. But he must not attempt to arrange any bait with it of a size that will not readily pass the springs when extended.

GREVILLE F. (Barnes).

NOTES AND QUESTIONS ON ANGLING.

SEA-FISHING ROUND THE CHANNEL ISLANDS.—I cannot refrain from bearing testimony to the accuracy of all that your correspondent Mr Wilcocks writes on the subject of Channel Island fishing. I believe I may say that very few gentlemen, *natives of Guernsey*, know more about the fishing round all the islands than I do. Certainly no amateur (except perhaps Mr May, of Alderney), native or imported, knows as much as Mr Wilcocks does, or was as devoted to the sport (when last I visited home), as was that gentleman. Far away as I am, I write this note because I see "Piscator Vindex" impugns Mr Wilcocks's veracity. "Piscator" sends his landlady and his cook to buy his fish. I know others who do this in Guernsey. I hope they get fresh fish for their money, and not too many old maids' tales into the bargain. I am sure "The Chronicler" can uphold all Mr Wilcocks writes; and J. Falla and Peter le Nourry can afford to laugh at "Piscator," even if one or other of them is obliged to get his son to sign his name.—HAL (Bundelkund, India, Jan. 4).

ANSWERS.

THE GASPEREAU.—CANADIAN SALMON.—Some one under the signature of "Nova Scotia" wrote to THE FIELD concerning gaspereau. I answered, giving a letter of my experience about the habits, &c., of those fish. I must protest against "Novia Scotia" making me to write (*vide* THE FIELD, Dec. 31), so as to impress the mind that they are a fish (to use "Nova Scotia's" words) "so void of flavour-giving condition as to be food only fit for slaves." I should not notice "Nova Scotia's" digression from the matter he first wrote upon, but that he boldly pronounces "our Transatlantic salmon to be not of superior quality, and rarely taken in the high state of condition which forms great part of the recommendation which the salmon in the British waters enjoy." I beg leave to tell him as boldly that, in my opinion, he labours under a strange delusion.—WM. CHEARNLEY (Halifax, N.S., Jan. 28).

FLY-BOOK.—In reply to the question in THE FIELD as to the best kind of fly-book, I beg to send a description of one which I have contrived. Suppose a small book of a hundred pages, and bound in cloth; the leaves removed; the one back covered with flannel; a rim round it of a quarter of an inch in width; down the centre two rows (a quarter of an inch apart) of stitches; the book fastened with the common purse-clasp. The barb of the hook is inserted into one of the stitches, and there is a projecting rim round the edge to keep the gut down. This book may be made of any size, and any number of them may be bound into the usual leather covering of fishing-books. The flies cannot be crushed, they can be readily taken out or replaced, and the whole number can be seen in a few seconds without being handled. The fishing-book which I used last season, with entire satisfaction, contained four of these small books, and it carried above a hundred mounted flies. Messrs Forrest and Son, Kelso, have executed my orders for the book, and I believe that they now have it on sale under the name of "The Wark Fishing-book."—H. T. (Wark.)

—— In the late numbers of THE FIELD there have been many suggestions for fly-books. Flannel has one great objection—if a hook happens to catch a thread of it, there is great difficulty in extracting it. Parchment is too hard, is spoiled by wet, and contains nothing to absorb the moisture of a wet fly replaced therein. I have for nearly thirty years used a coarse felt, nearly a quarter of an inch in thickness, but compressible in the fingers to the thickness of paper. It is used, I believe, for stuffing or padding harness-saddles. The surface is covered with longish interwoven fibres, which are sufficient to retain the hook in any wind, if it be passed through two or three of them. It absorbs the moisture of a wet fly, or of rain-drops fallen upon it when open. There is little pressure, and no friction, and I have now flies which have been in my book fifteen or twenty years, with the wings as smooth and perfect as on the day when they were made. I have four leaves of it, but two will suffice, as each will contain a large number of flies as I arrange them. I place the flies all round the edge of the leaf about an inch from the margin, as nearly flat as possible, with the hook slightly penetrating the felt. The gut coiled, but loosely, lies in the centre of the page, and interferes in no way with the flies. Though the gut appears intertwined, it is not so, as by taking hold of a fly its own gut draws out without the slightest difficulty. Flies are usually sold coiled together in half-dozens: undo the coils without straightening the separate strands of gut, and lay each singly as I direct.—F. W. O.

HOTELS AND SALMON ANGLING, &c.—Like other anglers, I have sought high and low for that El Dorado—a good hotel with open fishing, and shall be happy to give your readers the benefit of my researches. I am happy to endorse W. H. F., as regards the Spalding Arms, Ken Bridge, New Galloway. I think that the streams in that locality are well worth a visit; but it is a wild, weird-like, desolate country, and the angler must be content with sport *et præterea nihil*. Usk I do not know, but the Editor does; and if he affixes his *imprimatur* to "Snipey's" remarks, it is all right. Cornhill is a nice locality, but a stranger would have a poor chance of a cast on Tweed, except at an exorbitant cost. Nor do I think much of the sport at Llanrwst, although the Victoria is a nice hotel; for it is out of the question to get a rod on the Conway, and the trout-fishing up the country is far from good. The Waterloo, at Bettws-y-Coed, is a nice hotel, but the fishing is held by a club. This is the case in all good streams that I know, and it is no use telling people that there is good fishing, if it is all taken up. There are good quarters at Mr E. Bray's, Kingsland, Leominster; also at Mr Rowland's, Mallwyd, and Mr Boyd's, Pontardulais, Llanelly, and tolerable fishing at all these places. England is now so thoroughly opened up, and the value of salmon-fishing so accurately known, that a high figure must be paid for anything like good fishing. The only spots which are worth a visit are far from railways, and, of course, in poor and uncivilised parts, such as North Devon (about Dulverton), North Wales (about Dinas Mowddwy), and a few rivers which are little known to fame on the Solway Firth. For open trout-fishing, I know no stream better than the Whitadder. —J. HOOKER.

FLY-FISHING WITHIN REACH OF CHELTENHAM.—I see that an able correspondent has already given some useful information to the gentleman who made the inquiry respecting fly-fishing within reach of Cheltenham. Should he be in Cheltenham he may obtain further particulars, either of Ogden, the famous flymaker, in Winchcomb-street, or of Mr Mac. F. Patterson, wine merchant, &c., of Montpellier-parade, a brother of the angle and most obliging informant. It is as well, however, to take the information about the Fairford fishing in a piscatorial sense, and I should be sorry if any reader of THE FIELD went there with the idea that he was going to bring away a basket of three-pounders. How many three-pounder trout have any of us taken in the course of our angling experience? Very few, I take it; and if they were to be had for love or money, are there not thousands of anglers who would rush off to the favoured diggings for the chance of such a prize? Cheltenham alone contains about 70,000 people, and among them a very large proportion of independent men; and would not they, as many as are anglers, make a rush to Fairford if three-pounders could be had for the asking? When I look out for fishing, I take care that there are no large towns, especially idle towns, near. Mr Patterson told me that if he wanted

a day's fishing he went up to Leominster or to Kintbury, neither of them nearer than thirty miles to Cheltenham. As for the Stroud brook, considering that there are cloth factories and dye works nearly the whole length of it, and that the water is usually the colour of ink, I don't know what the "excellent fish" can be that are taken in it, unless they are black fish. If any of your readers should get a good day's sport in the Stroud valley, or catch a few three-pounders at Fairford, perhaps he will be so kind as to forward a specimen to The Field Office to be put in the museum.—J. Hooker.

THE SPARLING, OR SPERLING.—Some weeks ago I mentioned in a paper, which has probably gone to the *limbus infantum*, that I had recently come across the sparling in the west of Scotland and eaten them for the first time. Like your correspondent, I took them from the name to be of the salmon tribe, but soon discovered, from the smell and taste, that they were nothing more nor less than very large smelts of exquisite flavour. Those which I had for breakfast at Creetown were all of herring-size and quite equal to the Medway smelt. They are rarely seen in the London market, but are common enough in Liverpool, where they fetch from 1s. 6d. to 2s. per lb. They are packed in small wooden boxes, and the Liverpudlians—who seem to know what good eating is—anxiously look out for their arrival and "jockey" for them like schoolboys. There is a fish well-known about Tweed called the herling, which I never could make head or tail of, some calling it a trout, others a salmon. But I know this is forbidden ground: the similarity of the name brought it to my recollection.—J. Hooker.

THE RIVERS.

THE TAY.—More or less success attended the labours of the Tay fishermen at the start, at most of the stations on the river, from the entrance of the Almond to the Linn of Campsie. Upwards of four score of fine seasonable salmon have been taken from the Linn and Ballymore alone during the past week, and fish of 18lb. to 25lb. each are found amongst them. When the low state of the river is considered, and the number caught in the lower tidal stations are taken into the estimate, the commencement in this river must be considered favourable. Every day brings additional evidence that the early run of clean salmon was good in Loch Tay, although the sport of the first day or two, influenced by the unfavourable state of the weather, proved indifferent. The latter days of the past week introduced more flattering evidence that the loch contained a fair share of the good things which the abundant waters of winter have provided. The net fishers were successful beyond the average of years, and the anglers also have partaken of the earnest of the sport which awaits them when the elements regain their placid aspect. The Earl of Breadalbane, who leads the van and is an accomplished angler, has met with good sport on every occasion of visiting the lake. His captures have been numerous, several of them heavy winter fish, among which one or two of 30lb. each were noticed. Kelts are still numerous in this loch, which must remain where they are until we have a spate of fit proportions to carry them seaward. We hear of the same state of matters in other fishings, where the late piercing frosts have rendered large streams mere dribbling brooks in their present dimensions. Of this a change may soon be expected, and the ascertained abundance of spring will enable the angling visitors to Loch Tay to tell some pleasing tales.—T. Y.

THE TWEED.—Several interesting facts attend the river Tweed and its finny inhabitants at this time, surrounded as it is with mountains whose summits carry coats of snow to all appearance deeper than the general supply to be seen among these troublesome glens, in which such arduous undertakings have recently been accomplished by the highland snow-cutters. With all this the severity of the frost on high grounds is so great, that every tarn and brook diminishes its discharge daily, the eventual effect of which is visible in the main river, now reduced to summer size. Notwithstanding, there is strong reason to conclude that a full, if not a more than ordinary supply of spring salmon will be found when the fishermen put the net test in force. Many clean salmon have been seen recently forcing their passage over the mill caulds, too many of which present serious barriers to the upward-bound salmon at all seasons. It is therefore obvious that no tempting immediate prospect is to be held out to the angler, although blood has been drawn by some of the indomitable persevering anglers about the upper waters, and those which have been taken were found to be of promising quality, small but in fine condition. The upper waters and tributaries continue to furnish statements that there are many fish on the redds yet to spawn; these fish are probably parts of the shoals which entered the river unusually late, or may they not be retarded in the operation by the endurance of severe weather? Berwick Bay is perhaps seldom, if ever, clear of salmon—a fact supported by their presence at this time in the neighbourhood of the entrance to the river. Those who have seen them leap state that they are large fish, apparently in good condition. It is a natural question where and when will these fish spawn? That they are not kelts is tolerably clear, for the kelts slink away as soon as they reach the sea, and are rarely seen to leap in salt water whilst the weakened and exhausted state continues.—Tweedside.

THE NESS.—I take up my pen for the purpose of giving you some idea of the way in which our dear old Ness is netted. There are no less than seven sets of nettings, and I fear there will be small chance of good fishing on the free days for the young men of the town this season. I have been a fisher from early boyhood, but I never saw the Ness netted in this way before. The first day I went out with my rod, I landed two kelts, and returned them again. On that day the nets killed one hundred and fifty clean fish, owing to the low river. Had it been in good fishing order, those fish would have been up in the Gerry, and the lessee Capt. Warriner would have had good sport with the rod. Surely the upper proprietors might take steps next year to prevent all this netting by forming a club, and taking the river into their own hands, so that they might get the sport with the rod.—T. B. S.

THE CARAGH.—Five weeks ago I informed you that the weir in this river was without a free-gap, though one had been ordered by the special commissioners. I beg to say that I examined the weir on the 5th inst. and found it in just the same state. Under *existing circumstances*, it is obvious that rule 4 sect. 12 of the new Act does not apply. What is the use of legislating for Ireland, if there is no power to enforce the law?—Dropper.

BALLINA.—The latest sport by Mr Collier is, forty-five sea-trout. He also landed seventeen salmon, but only one was a clean fish. The river is coming down fast, and will be shortly in good order.—Pat Hearns (Mill-street, Ballina.)

THE SHANNON, KILLALOE.—The prospects of plenty of sport for the ensuing season—thanks to the great exertions of the special commissioners in removing stake-nets, &c., as also to the care and attention bestowed by the spirited proprietors of the Limerick Lax Fishery on the protection of the fish—have not been so good for many years, the amount of salmon seen from the bridge at Killaloe and other points along shore, during the close time, having almost exceeded belief, as many as fifty-two fish having been counted on a space of not more than ten square yards. Notwithstanding that the opening day, Feb. 1, was looked forward to with the utmost impatience by many anglers, yet, strange to say, not a single boat put out on the river on that auspicious day. This was owing to a blunder committed by the Limerick conservators through issuing printed notices, and also instructions to their bailiffs, to the effect that no one would be allowed to fish for salmon unless provided with a Limerick licence, stated by them to be 1*l*.! Other districts, however, not having (very wisely as I think) raised their prices until the movement shall have become general, a few of the professionals relying on the 30th section of 11 & 12 Vict., c. 92, and to whom the additional 10s. was an object, preferred obtaining their certificates elsewhere (I believe in Dublin) at the lower rate, and proceeded to fish on the 2nd. Whilst on the subject of licences, I should like to refer to the letter of "An Angler and Conservator" (The Field, Jan. 21), in which it is suggested that a person, wishing to angle in various districts, should take out a licence in each. This, I imagine, would, even independent of the expense, be found to work anything but agreeably, the districts in Ireland being so dovetailed into each other that the mere crossing of a rivulet or fence may quite unwittingly take one out of bounds and subject one to the annoyance of being pounced upon by a water-bailiff belonging to another district. The present system, by which a certificate taken out in any one of the seventeen districts holds good in all the rest, is really the simplest and best that could be adopted; and any departure from it would be almost certainly attended with endless confusion and annoyances, if not litigation, to anglers. To return. So far, I am not able, owing to the severity of the weather and high water, to speak of many captures of new salmon—one only, a beautiful plump fish of 10lb., having been killed by the brothers Ellis, the champion fishermen on the Shannon; though the number of spents hooked and liberated again on their return to the sea has been considerable—one boat (two rods) having met with and played sixty-six in the space of six days. This enormous preponderance of red fish clearly demonstrates how much the river would be benefited were the fishing to commence two or three weeks later. Should the weather settle down, and the floods disappear, I have no doubt but that I shall be enabled to send you very encouraging accounts of sport shortly.—Gillaro.

Fish Culture.—Mr Francis Francis will deliver a lecture on fish culture, at the Twickenham Literary Society, on Wednesday evening next, the 22nd inst., at eight o'clock. Tickets to be obtained of Mr Goatley, estate-agent, Twickenham-green.

Large Capture of Grey Mullet in a Dock.—The gates of the large graving dock in the Southampton docks, which had been open for two or three tides, were closed on Monday morning for the purpose of pumping out the dock, when the water was found to be swarming with shoals of grey mullet. In the course of a couple of hours several tons of fine fish were caught, hundreds of men rushing to the place as soon as the fact was known, and capturing the fish by hand-nets, baskets, and every kind of machine which could be made available, even brooms and shovels being called into service.

Stour Salmon-fishery Association.—A meeting of the committee of this association was held on Thursday week at the Crown Hotel, Blandford, at which Colonel Mansel, Mr Austin, Mr Hambro, &c., were present. Several subjects in connection with the salmon-fishery in the Stour were discussed—namely, the obstruction still existing to the free progress of the fish up and down the river, in the shape of beds of weeds, mill weirs, gravel shoals, &c. The necessity of obtaining some immediate assistance in the shape of funds for carrying out these objects was also discussed, and it was agreed that an appeal should be made to the county for donations and annual subscriptions, which we hope will be heartily responded to. We are happy to say that in consequence of what has already been done by the erection of ladders, &c., there has, notwithstanding the low state of the river during the past season, been a great increase in the number of the fish in the stream. By the permission of Sir Ivor Guest—who is a great supporter of the movement, having already put up two ladders at his own expense—a hatching apparatus has been put up by Mr Hambro at Canford, in which he hopes this year to hatch some 25,000 salmon. Some 10,000 of these ova were procured from Colonel Townley's fishery in Yorkshire, permission having been obtained from him by Colonel Napier Sturt. Thanks are also due to Capt. Coventry for having put up a ladder at Corfe Mullen. —*Dorset County Chronicle.*

Ribble Fisheries Association.—The annual meeting of the subscribers to this association was held at Whalley, on Thursday last, and was very influentially attended. Mr J. Ffennell, chief inspector of fisheries for England, attended to ascertain the views of the association on certain points to be embodied in an Act to amend the Salmon Fisheries Act of 1861, to be shortly introduced by the Government. The report of the committee for the year suggested that, without diminishing either the supply of fish to the public or the rents of the fisheries in the tideway, the weekly close time as regards net fishing might be somewhat extended. The report was adopted, and a copy ordered to be sent to the fishery commissioners. Mr Ffennell then addressed the meeting, and explained the provisions of the contemplated bill. He said the Government thought it better to confine themselves in it to the great and important point of legislation, so as to produce funds for the protection of the fisheries. It was proposed that all the engines employed in fishing should pay a duty. There was a difficulty in apportioning the rates, and Government were open to receive suggestions upon it. There was some difficulty in settling the relative rates required. He then explained the institution of the county committees. It had worked well in Ireland, and was left to the opinion of the country to settle. The Government had made up their mind to rectify the existing Act in its clauses as to fix times, which it was unquestionably contemplated to remove. He objected to a reduction of the size of the mesh, and did not see any reason to continuing the privilege of rod-fishing to the 1st of November; but he was in favour of recognising the protection of trout in tributaries to large rivers. He concluded by remarking upon the pollution of streams, and recommending the association to support Lord Robert Montagu's movement. A discussion followed, and resolutions were passed to get legislative enactments to suppress all nuisances; to prevent fixed engines; that the weekly time begin on Friday mornings; and that the association approves the principle of placing a tax on all engines for taking fish.—*Manchester Guardian.*

THE MARKETS.

CORN.—Mark-lane, Feb. 13.—There was a short supply of wheat from Essex and Kent; that of barley, beans and peas rather limited; with moderate arrivals of oats from Scotland and Ireland. There have been fair imports of foreign barley and oats, but those of other articles of the trade quite trifling. English wheat met a steady sale at the full prices of last Monday, condition being better. The demand for foreign wheat was in retail, and prices were without variation. The top price of town-made flour was unaltered. Country marks were in fair request, at previous rates. Americans steady. Choice malting barley met a good sale at quite as much money. Intermediate qualities were purchased slowly, but not lower. Foreign grinding descriptions were held on former terms. Malt sold quietly at previous rates. Beans were in request, at rather more money. Peas met a fair inquiry at quite as high rates. There was a fair extent of business transacted in oats, at the full quotations for all sorts, and occasionally a slight advance was demanded and made. Linseed was saleable on nearly former terms. Rapeseed was rather easier to purchase. Choice red cloverseed continues to be held very high, and sells steadily. White samples have commanded more money. Foreign tares were in steady request at fully up to previous value, and the large Scotch were held at high rates.

Mark-Lane, Feb. 17.—Only a moderate supply of English wheat was on sale here to-day. The condition of the produce was good, and the trade, on the whole, ruled steady, at full quotations. With foreign wheat, the market was but moderately supplied. Importers and holders were firm in their demands, and although the demand ruled far from active, Monday's prices were well supported. Floating cargoes of grain were in moderate request, at late rates. The supply of barley on sale was moderate. Good and fine malting qualities sold steadily, at full currencies, otherwise the barley trade was quiet, at late prices. In malt a limited business was transacted, at previous quotations. The supply of oats on sale was moderate. For all qualities the trade was firm, and fine samples were rather dearer than on Monday. Beans ruled firm, at fully the late advance in prices. Peas moved off slowly, but at full quotations. There was a fair demand for most descriptions of flour, and prices ruled firm.—Ship Arrivals this Week.—English and Scotch: Wheat, 1010; barley, 1820; malt, 2690; oats, 4450 quarters; flour, 1330 sacks. Foreign; Barley, 2600; oats, 10,800 quarters; flour, 3?0 sacks.—Current Prices.—Wheat: Essex and Kent, red, 1864, 36s. to 41s.; ditto, 1863, 35s. to 39s.; ditto white, 1864, 40s. to 46s.; ditto 1863, 39s. to 45s.; Norfolk and Lincoln, red, 1864, 35s. to 40s. Rye, 26s. to 28s. Barley: Grinding, 24s. to 26s.; malting, 29s. to 32s.; chevalier, 33s. to 35s. Malt: Suffolk and Norfolk, 54s. to 61s.; Kingston and Ware, 54s. to 61s.; chevalier, 60s. to 62s. Oats: English feed, 18s. to 22s.; potato, 22s. to 26s.; Scotch feed, 16s. to 21s.; potato, 19s. to 25s.; Irish: black, 17s. to 22s.; white, 18s. to 23s. Beans: Ticks, 33s. to 36s.; Harrow, 34s. to 38s.; Pigeons, 36s. to 40s. Peas: Grey, 31s. to 34s.; maple, 35s. to 37s.; white, 33s. to 37s.; boilers, 34s. to 37s. Flour: Town-made, 37s. to 40s.; Country marks, 28s. to 33s.; American, 19s. to 24s. per quarter.

COMPARATIVE QUANTITIES AND PRICES OF GRAIN.

For the week ending Feb. 11, 1865.	Qrs.	Average.	For the corresponding week last year.	Qrs.	Average.
Wheat	6[illegible],918	38s. 4d.	Wheat	74,753	40s. 4d.
Barley	6[illegible],164	29s. 2d.	Barley	63,056	32s. 0d.
Oats	8375	19s. 8d.	Oats	14,341	18s. 9d.

Liverpool, Feb. 14.—We have had rather a better demand for wheat to-day from local and neighbouring millers, and we repeat the extreme quotations of last Friday. Flour slow, without change in value. Indian corn is held with much firmness, at an advance of 3d. per quarter, but does not move freely however. Oats and oatmeal remain the same. Peas, from scarcity, are fully 6d. per quarter dearer. Beans and barley command full rates. Market closes steady.—Ireland and Thornely, Brokers.

CATTLE.—Islington, Feb. 13.—For the time of year the supply of foreign stock on sale to-day was good, but chiefly in middling condition. The trade may be considered steady at full prices. The arrivals of beasts from our own grazing districts were moderately extensive. The quality of most breeds, however, was only middling. The supply from Scotland was in excellent condition. On the whole the beef trade was in a sluggish state, at in some instances, a decline in the quotations, compared with Monday last, of 2d. per 8lb. The top figure for Scots and crosses was 5s. 4d. per 8lb. Notwithstanding the severity of the weather about a moiety of the sheep—the show of which was small—was out of the wool. The quality of most breeds was good, and the demand ruled steady, at fully last week's currency. Prime Downs sold at 6s. 2d., but a few half-breds with very fine wool realised 6s. 4d., and even 6s. 6d. per 8lb; clipped Downs produced 5s. per 8lb. A few lambs were disposed of at 7s. to 7s. 4d. per 8lb. Calves were in moderate supply and steady request, at full prices—viz., from 4s. 4d. to 5s. 6d. per 8lb. We have to report a good trade for pigs on rather higher terms.

Islington, Feb. 16.—There was about an average supply of beasts here to-day, both as to number and quality. All breeds were in request, at full prices. The best Scots and crosses sold at 5s. 5d. per 8lb. The show of sheep was rather limited. Downs and half-breds moved off freely at full quotations. Other breeds were inactive, but not cheaper. The general top figure was 6s. 2d. per 8lb. The few calves on offer sold steadily at full currencies—viz. from 4s. 4d. to 5s. 6d. per 8lb. Pigs were firm in price, but milch cows were very dull.

Per 8lb. to sink the offal.

	s. d. s. d.		s. d. s. d.
Coarse and inferior beasts	3 8 to 4 2	Prime coarse-wooled sheep	5 6 to 5 10
Second quality ditto	4 4 „ 4 10	Prime South Downs	6 0 „ 6 2
Prime large oxen	5 0 „ 5 2	Large coarse calves	4 4 „ 5 0
Prime Scots, &c.	5 2 „ 5 4	Prime small ditto	5 2 „ 5 6
Coarse and inferior sheep	4 6 „ 4 10	Large hogs	3 6 „ 4 0
Second quality ditto	5 0 „ 5 4	Neat small porkers	4 2 „ 4 8

Suckling calves, 20s. to 22s.; and quarter old store pigs, 20s. to 26s. each.

HEAD OF STOCK ON SALE.

TOTAL SUPPLY.		FOREIGN.	
Beasts	1100	Beasts	400
Cows	120	Cows	0
Sheep	3040	Sheep	1200
Calves	112	Calves	104
Pigs	3[illegible]0	Pigs	0

MEAT, Newgate and Leadenhall, Feb. 17.—But moderate supplies of meat are on sale at these markets; and the trade is firm for all descriptions, at our quotations.

Per 8lb. by the carcase.

	s. d. s. d.		s. d. s. d.
Inferior beef	3 2 to 3 6	Inferior mutton	3 8 to 4 2
Middling ditto	3 8 „ 4 2	Middling ditto	4 4 „ 4 6
Prime large ditto	4 4 „ 4 6	Prime ditto	4 8 „ 4 10
Ditto small ditto	4 8 „ 4 10	Veal	4 4 „ 5 4
Large pork	3 6 „ 4 4	Small pork	4 6 „ 4 10

POULTRY, BUTTER, &c.—Feb. 17.—Turkeys, 4s. to 10s.; geese, 4s. 6d. to 8s.; goslings, 7s. to 9s.; ducks, 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.; ducklings, 4s. to 6s.; tame rabbits, 1s. to 2s.; wild ditto, 1s. to 1s 3d.; pigeons, 8d. to 1s. 3d.; wood ditto, 9d. to 10d.; hares, 3s. 9d. to 4s.; woodcocks, 3s.; snipes, 9d. to 1s.; wild ducks, 2s. to 2s. 6d.; wigeons, 1s. to 1s 6d.; plovers, 9d. to 1s. 6d. each. Surrey fowls, 8s. to 14s.; ditto chickens, 8s. to 12s.; barn-door fowls, 3s. to 6s.; Guinea fowls, 7s. to 8s. per couple. English eggs, 9s. to 12s.; French ditto, 8s. to 11s. per 100. Ostend fresh butter, 1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d.; English ditto, 1s. 4d. to 1s 6d. per lb.

FISH.—Billingsgate, Feb 17.—Eels, 8d. to 1s.; pike, skate, sturgeon, and halibut, 6d.; Dutch salmon, 2s. to 2s. 6d. per lb. Soles, 6d. to 2s. 6d. per pair. Cod, 2s. 6d. to 10s.; red mullets, 1s to 2s.; doreys, 1s. to 7s.; turbot, 3s. to 21s.; lobsters, 1s. to 4s.; crabs, 6d. to 2s. 6d. each. Whitings, 4s. to 5s.; haddocks, 6s. to 12s. per dozen. Herrings, 12s. per 120. Common oysters, 10s. to 60s.; natives, 81s. to 90s. per bushel.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.—Covent Garden, Feb 17.—Our market is tolerably well supplied with most descriptions of produce. The trade is steady at the annexed quotations:—Fruit: Pineapples, 8s to 10s.; hot-house grapes, 6s. to 10s.; foreign ditto, 1s. to 2s.; filberts, 1s. to 1s. 3d per lb. Apples, 2s. to 3s. 6d. per half-sieve. Oranges, 4s. to 8s.; lemons, 3s. 6d. to 7s. per 100.—Vegetables: Cauliflowers, 1s. 6d. to 3s 6d; red cabbages, 2s. to 4s.; white ditto, 1s 6d. to 3s.; savoys, 1s. 6d. to 3s.; celery, 1s. to 1s. 9d.; horseradish, 1s. to 2s. per dozen heads. Greens, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.; turnips, 2s. to 3s.; carrots, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d per dozen bunches. Potatoes, 60s. to 120s. per ton. Brussels sprouts, 1s. 6d. to 2s. per half-sieve. Seakale, 1s. 9d. to 3s. per punnet. Brocoli, 10d. to 1s. 3d.; forced rhubarb, 1s to 1s. 9d. per bundle.

POTATOES.—Borough and Spitalfields, Feb. 17.—These markets are moderately supplied with potatoes, for which there is a fair demand, at fully late rates—Yorkshire Regents, 80s. to 100s.; Yorkshire Flukes, 120s. to 140s.; Kent and Essex Regents, 80s. to 100s.; Scotch Regents, 80s. to 90s.; Rocks, 70s. to 80s.; Dunbar Regents, 90s. to 105s.; Foreign, 55s. to 65s. per ton.

WOOL.—Feb. 17.—The English wool trade continues dull, and prices have still a drooping tendency. In the value of Colonial wool very little change has taken place since our last report, and the business doing, privately, is moderate. The next public sales will probably commence on the 2nd prox. The arrivals since last sales are about 50,000 bales.

HOPS.—Borough, Feb. 17.—Our market continues to be very moderately supplied with English hops. For good and fine qualities, the market still presents a firm appearance, and late rates are well supported. Inferior hops are in slow request, but at full prices. The best foreign hops move off steadily, at full currencies.—Mid and East Kents, 110s. to 200s.; Weald of Kents, 105s. to 155s.; Sussex, 100s. to 140s.; Yearlings, 100s. to 140s.; Bavarian, 100s. to 190s.; American, 100s. to 140s. per cwt.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BIRDS, BEASTS, REPTILES, FISH, &c.—HENRY WARD, 2, Vere-street, Oxford-street, opposite Bond-street, collector to the celebrated naturalist Audubon, in North America, successor to the late T. M. Williams. Preserver of birds, beasts, reptiles, fish, and every species of animated nature. Dealer in foreign and British skins. Skins dressed. Birds' and animals' eyes. Feathers for fly-fishing, &c., &c.

FAGG BROTHERS' HACKS for use on the turf; an elegant riding-boot; the foot part is made of waterproof leather or not, as desired, and will take an excellent polish with blacking.—9, Panton-street, London, S.W.

WATERPROOF FISHING-BOOTS always ready.—Fagg Brothers, 9, Panton-street, London, S.W.

PATENT MOCASSINS—The new shooting or walking boots, by Fagg Brothers.—"Any tidings of improvement in sporting gear we imagine are welcome to our readers, and we are therefore bound to say a word for the Mocassins of Mr Fagg, of Panton-street. As the name would imply, it is a shooting boot, and its recommendation that, instead of taking as long to lace as a lady's stays, it can be put on and off as a slipper. Made without lace holes, no water can penetrate it, and a man may really 'fag' in mocassins the first day as on the last, and we never shot more comfortably in our life than we have done lately in them."—*Baily's Magazine* for Jan., 1865.—9, Panton-street, London, S.W.

THE NEW "MOCASSIN" SHOOTING BOOT, invented by H. STOKES (Patentee of the celebrated Gaiter Boot), is thoroughly waterproof; can be fastened in a moment, and unfastened in less. The comfort to the wearer is guaranteed.—H. Stokes, Military Bootmaker, 28, Coventry-street, Haymarket; and Wellington-street, Aldershot.

THE MOOR BOOT, made without the ordinary seams over the foot, avoiding the discomfort produced by their pressure—a fault so frequently overlooked by the wearer—admirably adapted for sportsmen, tourists, or officers in camp.
King and Archer, 21, Piccadilly, W.

"A DUCK OF A BOOT," intended for ordinary wear, not for croquet in particular. Some of these are formed of calf dressed with the hair inside, which give warmth without bulk.
S. W. NORMAN, 116, Westminster-bridge-road, and 3 and 4, Oakley-street, Lambeth.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION. 1862.—Class 27. Prize Medal, No. 4972.—E. BROWN was awarded the Prize Medal for the excellence of his MELTONIAN BLACKING and VARNISH for Boots and Shoes; one trial will prove their superiority over all others.—Manufactory, 67, Princes-street, Leicester-square, London, W. Retail everywhere. It is now used in the Royal Household.

TO SPORTSMEN.—The Elite of the First Flight over any Country.—BARTLEY'S FAST BROWN, for brown tops of all tints, for those who are nice to a shade; the celebrated hunting polish, "wot will cut a shine in or over any country," for dress or patent leather hunting boots of every description. Bartley's Hunting Persuaders, with the improved rowels; Boot-top Powders of all colours; Bartley's Nulli-Secundus Blacking. To be had from Alexander Bartley, Bootmaker, 251, Oxford-street, London. Post-office Orders payable at Post-office, 210, Oxford-street, W.

WATERPROOFS for all CLIMATES,

WATERPROOF DRIVING CAPES,

WATERPROOF SHEETS, PORTABLE BATHS, &c.

WOOLGAR and Co, Waterproofers, WAREHOUSE, 16, LUDGATE-STREET, LONDON.

FLAX PREPARED CLOTH for SHOOTING JACKETS.
FLAX CANVAS KNICKERBOCKERS, BREECHES, and TROUSERS.
INDESTRUCTIBLE LEATHER SHOOTING-COAT
For the bush, for exploring and travelling, for the moors, the mountain, the field, and the farm.
Waterproof Leather and Flax Shooting Gaiters and Leggings Hunting Breeches, &c.
Inventor and Sole Manufacturer, WILLIAM NICHOLLS, 163, Fenchurch-street, E.C.

SANGUINETTI'S FLAX CLOTH The new material for SHOOTING JACKETS, KNICKERBOCKERS, TROUSERS, GAITERS, LEGGINGS, &c., WATERPROOF.
Manufactured from the finest flax fibre, the most useful invention yet introduced for wearing apparel, and made under the inspection of F. B. SANGUINETTI, of 63, Jermyn-street, one door from St. James's-street, S.W.
Also in Leather and Cloth, Hunting Breeches, Riding Trousers, and Shooting Coats of every class for the sportsman, of the best manufacture and workmanship only.

CORDING'S WATERPROOFS for all climates, light to carry in the pocket, or stout for rough service; Ladies' Waterproof Cloaks and Hoods, really waterproof; also Shower-proof Tweed Cloaks; Portable Baths, round and square, Knapsacks and Drinking Cups, Tourists' Bags, Straps, and Slings, Sponge Bags, Light Ground Sheets, Leggings, Caps, &c. Warm and Waterproof Driving Aprons. IMPROVED FISHING BOOTS and STOCKINGS of various fabrics, the best to be had; Portable Boats for one or three persons; Air and Water Beds and Cushions; Life Belts. Excellent Oil proof Capes for labourers, 3s. 6d. each, or 40s. per dozen; and all Waterproof and Air proof Goods.—J. C. Cording, 231, Strand, Temple Bar.

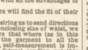
THE GUINEA STORM COAT.—Air and Water Beds and Cushions. All the best India-rubber goods.—Saml. Matthews and Son, by Appointment to Her Majesty, 58, Charing-cross, S.W.

THE HUNTING BELT.—The Elastic Hunting Belt, for Gentlemen, gives great support to the loins, and will keep its position during the most violent exertion. Those accustomed to much exercise, subject to corpulency, weakness in the back, lumbago, &c., and particularly those who follow field sports, should not be without one. Measures required:—Depth of Belt in front; circumference at A; ditto at B.—Circulars, with full particulars and prices, sent post-free on application to Sparks and Son, Patent Truss, Belt, and Surgical Bandage Makers, 28, Conduit-street, London, W.

A

B

HODGKINSON'S RIDING DRAWERS yield IMMENSE COMFORT and SUPPORT to EQUESTRIANS. Years of careful study have enabled the manufacturer of this important garment to arrive at the acme of fit. Being cut from the piece, to a most accurate measure, they fit like the skin, especially in the fork, thereby giving increased freedom to the body. The band is constructed with all the advantages of a belt, without the liability to shift.



Gentlemen adopting these drawers will find the fit of their trousers materially improved.
Having received several letters desiring us to send directions for self-measurement, and others enclosing size of waist, we beg to inform intending purchasers that where (as in this case) exact fit and adaption of the garment to all the peculiarities of figure are desired, self-measurement is impossible, and we decline (for the future) sending out this article unless assured that they are Perfect Fitting Drawers.
SAMUEL HODGKINSON and SON, Tailors and Shirtmakers, Wellington-street, London-bridge Station, S.E., and 48, Threadneedle-street, E.C.

ELSTOB'S HUNTING and RIDING BELTS and DRAWERS.
From The Field of Sept. 3, 1859.
"Gentlemen who are fond of a gallop with the merry harriers, or a 'brilliant thing' with foxhounds, are recommended to try the Riding Belt made by Elstob, of 60, New Bond-street. We can bear testimony to the relief it affords to stout persons and men subject to pains in the back at the end of a long day. There is but little trouble in putting it on, it is attended with no inconvenience, and can be loosened or drawn tight in a few seconds. One trial will be ample to test its advantages in lessening fatigue."
Wm. Elstob, 60, New Bond-street, W.

SAMUEL MATTHEWS and SON, INDIA-RUBBER MANUFACTURERS, BY APPOINTMENT, TO HER MAJESTY.
WATERPROOF HUNTING COATS, LEGGINGS, RIDING and DRIVING APRONS.
SUPERIOR FISHING-BOOTS, TROWSERS, and STOCKINGS.
PORTABLE BOATS and PUNTS of improved construction.
INFLATING DECOY DUCKS.
INDIA-RUBBER ARTICLES of every description of the best quality.
58, CHARING-CROSS (opposite the Napier statue).

ALFRED WEBB MILES, Merchant Clothier, begs most respectfully to inform his numerous Customers that his
NEW SPRING STOCK
is ready for inspection, and gentlemen will have an opportunity of making a selection from
MILES OF NEW TROUSERINGS,
at his Only Establishment, 73, BROOK-STREET, HANOVER-SQUARE.
Established 1841.

WANTED, LEFT-OFF CLOTHES.—Naval and Military Uniforms, Court Suits, Guns, Pistols, Saddlery, Harness, Horse Clothing, Furniture, &c.; also Diamonds, Pearls, Point and Foreign Lace, Antique Articles, &c., &c. Ladies or gentlemen having the above to dispose of, in large or small quantities, can have the full value given in cash by addressing Mr or Mrs Phillips, 31, Thayer-street, Manchester-square, London, W. Parcels from town or country, the full value returned the same day in money, or by post-office order.
Ladies or gentlemen waited on at any time or distance by appointment.

UMBRELLAS.—C. S. CADMAN'S TWENTY SHILLING SILK UMBRELLA, On the Patent Light Frame.
18 and 19, Burlington Arcade, Piccadilly, London.

NO MORE SCARLET COATS stained by the drippings of the HAT in wet weather.
NO MORE EXPENSIVE HUNTING CAPS spoiled by the rain.
The NEW, and now celebrated, HUNTING HATS, 14s. 6d. and CAPS, 16s., are proof against any amount of rough weather as manufactured by GEORGE HART, 67, Regent-street, W., from the late firm of Lincoln and Bennett.
"Queen's Terrace, Exeter, March, 1864.
"The rough weather hat which you supplied me with has most thoroughly sustained the character you gave it for retention of shape and freshness of appearance. It is without exception the best hat for resisting the effect of weather I have ever worn. I shall strongly recommend my friends to test its qualities.—I am, yours, &c., "J. Courtney."

THE GUINEA WINTER BONNET. Mrs BOOTH respectfully informs the nobility and gentry that she has just returned from Paris with a large assortment of French Millinery, Wreaths, Gloves, Stays, Crinolines Juvenile and Baby Linen, at unusually low prices.

The Bonnet of the Season, One Guinea.

Evening Dress, with Silk Slip, complete for wear, with Flowers, 5½ guineas.

Black Moiré Antique, 6½ guineas No extras.

LADIES' OWN MATERIALS MADE UP.

Plain Dresses, 7s. 6d.

COUNTRY ORDERS RECEIVE SPECIAL ATTENTION.

*** Agent for André Bettion's celebrated "Sachet Perse."

SPECIAL NOTICE.

MRS BOOTH being an advocate for early closing, has restricted the labour of her assistants during the season to TEN HOURS daily, except Saturdays, when all business ceases at five o'clock. Her patrons are, therefore, earnestly solicited to give their commands, so that Mrs B. may carry out her intentions.

124, Mount-street, Grosvenor-square.

THE REINDEER GLOVE—2s.—a new "Worcester glove" for gentlemen, manufactured expressly for SCOTT and CO., Glovers, Worcester, and introduced by them at their Glove Bazaar during the meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, at Worcester, in 1863. They are soft, pliant, effective walking and driving gloves—thicker than kid, but thinner than dog-skin, cut to every size in the following combinations, and fitted with "Scott's patent hinge-jointed buttons:" Brundore, sown black and white; Gold Tan, sewn violet, also black; Light and Dark Drab, with pique seams and ponts. Two Shillings per pair, by post 3d. extra for a single pair, or 4d. for two pairs, and 10d. for six pairs. For gloves, extra order, state size, and enclose stamps or P.O.O.

DOG-SKIN GLOVES.—To THE FIELD of May 10, 1862, a correspondent writes:—"I look upon dog-skin gloves as very expensive; they are soiled directly, and I do not think they can be cleaned. If W. will send his size to J. C. BOUCHER, Man's Mercer, 7, New-street, Birmingham, he will send him a pair of Calf-skin Kid Gloves 3s. 6d., I believe, is the price; but they will wear out six pairs—I might say ten—of dog-skin, besides being, in my opinion, much better looking—in fact they are not easily distinguished from kid. I have a pair now which I have worn for three months, first for general wear, then for driving, and lastly for gardening, and they don't look so bad now as a pair of dog-skins which have been worn a week. I have never been able to get them anywhere but as above, and never wear any other kind if I can help it.—P.S. If W. will send his address, I will send him an old glove of the kind I recommended, which will satisfy him as to durability.—SPINNING MINNOW."

J. C. BOUCHER makes the above in the following colours: tan, violet, brown, green, and black. In case a faulty pair of the above should be received, J. C. B. will immediately on the receipt of same send others in lieu, free of charge.

WATCHES, Plate, Jewels, Gold Chains, Dressing-cases, and other valuables.—SALES by AUCTION every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, at Messrs DEBENHAM, STORR, and SON'S Great Metropolitan Mart, King-street, Covent-garden, London, W.C. Established 1813. N.B.—Large or small consignments can be included in these sales. Catalogues gratis. Valuations made for probate, &c.

GOLD WATCHES, CHAINS, and JEWELLERY, first-class only, at moderate prices, at HASELDINE'S (late Young), 3 Coventry-street, Haymarket Diamonds and precious gems purchased.

M. F. DENT,
WATCH, CLOCK, & CHRONOMETER MAKER, by Special appointment to her MAJESTY, and the principal Courts of Europe.
33 and 34, Cockspur-street, Charing-cross
(Corner of Spring-gardens, London).

DENT'S CHRONOMETERS have long held pre-eminent rank, as may be seen from the following reports:

SIR WILLIAM ARMSTRONG, inventor of the Armstrong Gun, says:

"9, Hyde-park-street W., Nov. 14, 1861.

"The Chronometer Watch you made for me in December, 1859, has never been affected by travelling or riding; its variation at the end of a year was only 45 seconds. It has proved in every respect a most satisfactory watch.

"W. G. ARMSTRONG.

"Mr M. F. Dent, 33, Cockspur-street, Charing-cross."

THE ASTRONOMER ROYAL, Greenwich Observatory, reporting in 1829 on the celebrated trial, when nearly 500 chronometers were tested, says:

"Your Chronometer, No. 114, is entitled to the first premium. Actual variation in the year, 0·54 hundredths of a second. This is superior to any other yet tried.

"Mr Dent." "J. POND, Astronomer Royal.

COUNCIL and PRIZE MEDALS awarded by the Royal Commissioners of International Exhibitions 1851 and 1862. 31 and 34, Cockspur-street, Charing-cross, London.

RODRIGUES' DRESSING-CASES and TRAVELLING DRESSING-BAGS, with silver or plated fittings, in every variety, carriage-bags, reticules, JEWEL CASES, MOUNTED and ORMOLU SUITES for the boudoir, toilette, and writing-table, CARTE DE VISITE PORTRAIT ALBUMS, in splendid bindings, and a choice selection of elegant NOVELTIES suitable for PRESENTS. At HENRY RODRIGUES', 42, PICCADILLY, W.

RODRIGUES' DESPATCH BOXES and TRAVELLING WRITING CASES, in Russia or Morocco. Despatch boxes well seasoned for India. Elegantly mounted ENVELOPE CASES, BLOTTING BOOKS, INKSTANDS, BOOK-SLIDES, and every requisite for the library and writing-table of the best quality. At HENRY RODRIGUES', 42, PICCADILLY, London, W.

J. GEORGE and COMPANY, MANUFACTURERS of TRUNKS, PORTMANTEAUS, &c., to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, SADDLERS and HARNESS MAKERS, and Wholesale Manufacturers of the following Articles, viz:—Travelling Cases of every description, Carpet Bags, Leather Bags, Dressing Bags, Knapsacks, Haversacks, Saddle Bags, Game Bags, Gun Cases, Coat Cases, Hat Cases, Shooting Tackle, Hunting Bottles, Dram Bottles, Leather Drinking Cups, Sandwich Cases, Luncheon Cases, Fishing Rod Cases, Yorkshire Kegs, Hunting Horns, Whips of all kinds, Whip Racks, Sword Cases, Dog Chains, Dog Whips, Dog Collars, Greyhound Slips, Retriever Slips, Horse Clothing, Post Letter Cases, Boot Tree Cases, Brush and Blacking Cases, Hair Brush Cases, Opera Glass Cases, Telescope Cases, Leather Covers for Dressing Cases, Writing Cases, Jewel Cases, Despatch Boxes, Medicine Chests, Musical Instruments, Globes, &c., &c. Plain and Embossed Leather in Gold, for Bookshelves and Screens, Doors, &c.—20, Long-acre, London, W.C.

THE SHAKSPEREANA DRAUGHT-BOARD, for railway travellers, voyagers, "and the home circle," shuts up like a book, with pegged men, *in statu quo*, and is elegantly got up in papier maché style, sent by book post for thirty stamps.—Address J. W. SCOTT, Patentee, Sidbury Works, Worcester. Opinions of the press: "A very decided novelty." "The wit and wisdom of Shakspere in a new and attractive form." "Amusement and edification on a draught-board." "Complete and ingenious little souvenir." The board is a Shakesperean *multum in parvo*, containing an obituary with autograph, a list of his thirty-six dramas, and dates of first publication. A representation of his house, and the bust in Stratford church, and some 160 choice quotations, arranged under thirty-two subjects, which are cleverly introduced on those squares not used in the game. The whole idea is novel and unique, and comprises much ornament, literary taste, and amusement for the trifle of half-a-crown.

HUNTING.

PROPERT'S PASTE is now prepared for cleaning leather breeches, gloves, hunting kerseys, cords, drills, &c.; with directions for use on each jar.

TRAVELLING BOXES complete, containing four jars of paste, two brushes, and two sponges, price 1l.

PROPERT'S BOOT-TOP POWDERS, with recent improvements, pink, white, browns, and all the new colours for the season.

PROPERT'S BROWN BOOT-TOP FLUID and POLISHING CREAM.

COUNT D'ORSAY'S UNIQUE WATERPROOF POLISH, for hunting boots, carriage heads, gig aprons, &c. PROPERT, Sole Agent.

Manufactory, 22, South Audley-street, Grosvenor-square, London.

PROPERT'S WATERPROOF HARNESS BLACKING continues to receive the highest patronage, and is acknowledged to be the best leather preserver ever prepared, rendering it soft, pliable, and impervious to wet, and combines a permanent dye with a brilliant polish.

PROPERT'S NON-MERCURIAL PLATE POWDER is unrivalled for its high polishing properties and purity, quickly removing tarnish without wearing away the plate.

PROPERT'S CLOTH BALL for DRY CLEANING all kinds of light-coloured and scarlet clothing, angolas, tweeds, tartans, velvets, shawls, &c., extracting grease stains, without injuring the most delicate colour.

PROPERT'S CELEBRATED BLACKING WITHOUT VITRIOL, and IMPROVED KID-REVIVER.

Importer of French Varnish.

Manufactory, 22, South Audley-street, Grosvenor-square, London.

MYTTON O GYMRU (Welsh Mutton), direct from the Principality, weekly. Legs, saddles, and haunches.—D. R. DOSSETOR, 5, Russell-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

SILKMERCERY, Woollendrapery, Attire, and Miscellanies.—SALES by AUCTION every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at Messrs DEBENHAM, STORR, and SON'S Great Metropolitan Auction Mart, King-street, Covent-garden, W.C. Small consignments can be included in these sales on a few days' notice. Established 1813. Rebuilt 1860. Valuations made for probate, &c.

CARPETS and CRETONNE CHINTZES. SEWELL and CO. beg to announce that they have now on SALE a large consignment of FRENCH CHINTZES, from 1s. per yard, worth 2s. An unequalled collection of the superb Cretonne Chintzes, and an unusually well-selected stock of Carpets of every description.—Compton House, Compton-street and Frith-street, Soho, W.

J. MAPLE and CO.'S OAK FURNITURE for dining-room and library.

J. MAPLE and CO. for CARPETS; choice new patterns.

J. MAPLE and CO. for FIRST-CLASS FURNITURE.

J. MAPLE and CO.'S CHIMNEY GLASSES, in best French plates and double gilt. The following is a list of prices:—

Size of Plate.	Outside Measure of Frame.	Price.
40 by 30 inches ...	50 inches wide by 39 in. high ...	£2 12 0
40 by 36 inches ...	50 inches high by 45 in. wide ...	3 15 0
50 by 40 inches ...	63 inches high by 52 in. wide ...	4 15 0
60 by 50 inches ...	74 inches high by 66 in. wide ...	8 8 0

Larger sizes in proportion. Among which are several handsome pairs 7ft. 6in. by 6ft., price 15 guineas each; girandoles from 14s. 9d. An illustrated catalogue post free.—Entrance, 145, Tottenham-court-road.

BEDROOM FURNITURE. — The GENERAL FURNISHING and UPHOLSTERY COMPANY are now exhibiting an entirely novel description of furniture, manufactured expressly for them, of native British wood. It is light, chaste, and elegant in character, and suitable for first-class bedrooms.—The General Furnishing and Upholstery Company (Limited). F. J. ACRES, Manager, 24 and 25, Baker-street, W.—N.B. The Company's Illustrated Catalogue of Furniture is forwarded, post free, on application.

THE SMEE'S SPRING MATTRESS (Tucker's Patent), or "Sommier Tucker," price from 25s., received the only Prize Medal or Honourable Mention given to Bedding of any description at the International Exhibition, 1862. The Jury of Class 30, in their report, page 6, No. 2955, and page 11, No 2014, say:

"The Sommier Tucker is perfectly solid, very healthy, and moderate in price. . . A combination as simple as it is ingenious. . . A bed as healthy as it is comfortable."

To be obtained of most respectable Upholsters and Bedding Warehousemen, or wholesale of the manufacturers, WILLIAM SMEE and SONS, Finsbury, London, E.C.

BRANSBY BROTHERS guarantee their FURNITURE, BEDSTEADS, and BEDDING, of equal quality to, and at prices from 20 to 40 per cent. below West-end houses.

BRANSBY BROTHERS' new illustrated self-estimating MANUAL for HOUSE FURNISHING gratis and post free. All orders delivered, carriage and packing free, without regard to amount or distance.

MANUFACTURING and COMPLETE HOUSE FURNISHERS,
121 and 123, Old Kent-road, S.E. (next Bricklayers' Arms station).

THE PERFECT SUBSTITUTE for SILVER.—The REAL NICKEL SILVER, introduced more than thirty years ago by WILLIAM S. BURTON, when PLATED by the patent process of Messrs Elkington and Co., is beyond all comparison the very best article next to sterling silver that can be employed as such, either usefully or ornamentally, as by no possible test can it be distinguished from real silver.

A small useful set, guaranteed of first quality for finish and durability, as follows:—

	Fiddle or Old Silver Pattern.			Bead Pattern.			Thread Pattern.			King's or Shell & Thread.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
12 Table Forks	1	13	0	2	0	0	2	4	0	2	10	0
12 Table Spoons	1	13	0	2	0	0	2	4	0	2	10	0
12 Dessert Forks	1	4	0	1	10	0	1	12	0	1	15	0
12 Dessert Spoons	1	4	0	1	10	0	1	12	0	1	15	0
12 Teaspoons	0	16	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	1	5	0
6 Egg Spoons, gilt bowls	0	10	0	0	12	0	0	12	0	0	13	6
2 Sauce Ladles............	0	6	0	0	8	0	0	8	0	0	9	0
1 Gravy Spoon............	0	6	6	0	9	0	0	10	0	0	11	0
2 Salt Spoons, gilt bowls	0	3	4	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	4	6
1 Mustard Spoon, gilt bl.	0	1	8	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	2	3
1 pair of Sugar Tongs ...	0	2	6	0	3	6	0	3	6	0	4	0
1 pair of Fish Carvers ...	1	4	0	1	10	0	1	10	0	1	10	0
1 Butter Knife............	0	2	6	0	4	6	0	5	6	0	6	0
1 Soup Ladle............	0	10	0	0	12	0	0	16	0	0	17	0
1 Sugar Sifter	0	3	3	0	4	6	0	4	6	0	5	0
Total	9	19	9	12	9	6	13	9	6	14	17	3

Any article to be had singly at the same prices.

An oak chest to contain the above, and a relative number of knives, &c., 2l. 15s. Tea and coffee sets, dish covers and corner dishes, cruet and liqueur frames, &c., at proportionate prices. All kinds of re-plating done by the patent process.

BEDSTEADS, BATHS, and LAMPS.—WILLIAM S. BURTON has six large show-rooms devoted exclusively to the separate display of lamps, baths, and metallic bedsteads. The stock of each is at once the largest, newest, and most varied ever submitted to the public, and marked at prices proportionate with those that have tended to make his establishment the most distinguished in this country.

Bedsteads, from..................	12s. 6d.	to 20l.	each.
Shower Baths, from..................	8s. 6d.	to 6l.	each.
Lamps (Moderateur), from ...	6s.	to 7l. 7s.	each.

(All other kinds at the same rate).

Pure Colza Oil.................................. 4s. per gallon.

WILLIAM S. BURTON, GENERAL FURNISHING IRONMONGER by appointment to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, sends a Catalogue gratis and post-paid. It contains upwards of 600 Illustrations of his illimited Stock of Sterling Silver and Electro Plate, Nickel Silver, and Britannia Metal Goods; Dish Covers, Hot-water Dishes, Stoves, Fenders, Marble Chimney-pieces, Kitchen Ranges, Lamps, Gaseliers, Tea Trays, Urns, and Kettles, Clocks, Table Cutlery, Baths, Toilet Ware, Turnery, Iron and Brass Bedsteads, Bedding, Bedroom Cabinet Furniture, &c., with Lists of Prices, and Plans of the Twenty large Show Rooms, at 39, Oxford-street, W.; 1, 1A, 2, 3, and 4, Newman-street; 4, 5, and 6, Perry's-place; and 1, Newman-yard, London.

MONEY. — 2000l. at 4½ per cent.—The above sum will be loaned on good freehold landed security at 4½ per cent.—Particulars can be addressed to Mr GEO. FULLER, Surveyor, 18, Poultry, E.C.

MONEY.—READY to be ADVANCED in SUMS from 1000l. to 50,000l. on real security on land or long leasehold property, well situated and well let.—Apply to JOHN YONGE, Esq., 151, Strand, London.

MONEY.—Immediate and Confidential.—CASH ADVANCES made to responsible parties, upon personal or any approved securities, in sums from 100l. and upwards, to any amount.—Apply personally, or by letter, to the Land Loan and Investment Offices, 24, Cecil-street, Strand, London.

MONEY immediately ADVANCED, in sums of 100l. to 5000l., on the Note of Hand of Noblemen, Gentlemen, Officers in the Army, Heirs to Entailed Estates; also on Reversions, Life Estates, Legacies, Freehold and Leasehold Property, at 5 per cent.—Apply personally, or by letter confidentially to Mr MENDS WILLIAMS, 22, Conduit-street, Regent-street, W.

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CLAYTON, SHUTTLEWORTH, and Co., Engineers, Manufacturers of Portable and Fixed Steam-engines, Machinery for Pumping, Hoisting, Grinding, Sawing, &c., Engines for Steam Cultivation, Self-moving Engines for common roads and agricultural purposes generally.—Stamp End Works, Lincoln, and 78, Lombard-street, London; also at Lowengasse No. 44, Landstrasse, Vienna, and Gegenüber dem Bahnhof, Pesth.—Descriptive, illustrated, and priced catalogues, free per post. Special drawings when required. The best Steam-thrashing Machinery made.

OIL PAINT NO LONGER NECESSARY. HILL and SMITH'S Patent Black Varnish for preserving iron-work, wood, or stone. This varnish is an excellent substitute for oil paint on all out-door work, and is fully two-thirds cheaper. It may be applied by an ordinary labourer, requires no mixing or thinning, and is used cold. It is used in the grounds at Windsor Castle, Kew Gardens, and at the seats of many hundreds of the nobility and gentry, from whom the most flattering testimonials have been received, which Hill and Smith will forward on application. Sold in casks of about thirty gallons each, at 1s. 6d. per gallon at the manufactory, or 1s. 8d. per gallon paid to any station in the kingdom.

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Hon. Agents for the R.W.Y.C. of Ireland, &c. &c.

YACHTS FOR SALE.—Messrs PEARCE and CO. are favoured with instructions to DISPOSE OF the following first-class vessels:—

A SCHOONER, about 200 tons, one of the strongest, handsomest, and best sea boats afloat; in thorough good order.

A SCHOONER (steel), 130 tons, 3 years old, considered the handsomest yacht of her size afloat, roomy, and very fast.

A SCHOONER of 117 tons, a very handsome and fast sailer, only 5 years old, and in thorough good order. Her cabins are very commodious, well arranged for the comfort and convenience of a family, and handsomely fitted up.

A SCHOONER, 90 tons a fast, handsome very commodious and capital sea boat, in perfect order throughout.

A SCHOONER, 75 tons, rebuilding, will be ready by May, and thoroughly well found, price very moderate.

EIGHT SCHOONERS, 140, 105, 90, 80, 73, 41, 25 and 20 tons.

A handsome SCHOONER, 43 tons (iron), 4 years old.

A SCHOONER, 35 tons, thoroughly well found and in good order, handsomely fitted up, fast, and a good sea boat.

THREE YAWLS, 125, 110 and 70 tons, all good cruisers.

A CUTTER, 66 tons, a fine, powerful, and thorough good sea boat, very fast; in commission, a bargain; or for Hire.

TWO CUTTERS, 54 and 55 tons, by Fyfe, and Rakey, in 1864.

A CUTTER, 54 tons, rebuilt in 1864, a fast, good sea boat, roomy, handsomely fitted, well found, and very cheap.

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TWO very handsome CUTTERS, 36 and 39 tons, 4 years old, fast, good cruisers; both in excellent condition throughout.

TEN CUTTERS, 80, 33, 30, 23, 20, 15, 12, 10, 8 and 6 tons.

A CUTTER, 23 tons, very fast (not a racer); in splendid condition, abundantly found, one of the handsomest afloat.

SCREW STEAMER (iron), 300 tons, 6 years old, sch. rig, 13 ft. draught, engines 70 h. p. nominal, speed 10 knots. A very commodious; handsome vessel, in excellent order throughout.

A PADDLE STEAMER, new in 1864, (iron), 56 ft. long, 18 in. draught; speed 11 miles, and handsome, price 15*l*.

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SCREW STEAMER (iron), 35 tons, sch. rig, disconnecting screw, fast, handsome, well found, in good order, cheap.

SCREW STEAMER (iron), 35 tons, just put in thorough order, handsome, fast, and very strong; or for Hire.

SCREW STEAMER, 22 tons, sch. rig, coppered, new 10 h.p. engine, boiler, &c.; capital shooting boat, in commission.

FOUR SCREW STEAMERS (iron) of 300, 116, 108, and 40 tons.

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FOR SALE.—The Iron Screw Steam-Yacht SUNBEAM, 108 tons o.m., 72 tons register, built in 1861, engines 20 horse power, working up to 40, speed 11 knots, disconnecting screw, very large cabins, handsomely fitted, can be ready for sea in two weeks. Owner would take a smaller screw or an 80 ton schooner in part payment. —For further particulars, apply to PEARCE and Co., 100, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

SCHOONER YACHT WANTED, from 60 to 70 tons; must be a good sea boat, fast, commodious, and in good order.—Address, with full particulars, to "C. F. C.," Box H 9 extra, Manchester.

BRITISH & FOREIGN STEAM YACHTS ON SALE; also SAILING YACHTS, and Small Paddle and Screw Pleasure Steam-boats of light draught for rivers and lakes.—Apply to ALEXANDER CANSH, Egerton Dock, Birkenhead, Honorary Agent to the Royal Western Yacht Club, Ireland.

SAILING YACHTS ON SALE.

WREN	Yawl.........	36 tons, coppered.
LILY OF THE EXE ...	Cutter	30 tons, coppered.
PARAGON..................	Cutter	44 tons, coppered.
VIGILANT	Cutter	40 tons, coppered.
EDITH........................	Cutter	12 tons, coppered.
DART	Schooner...	20 tons, iron.
DELIA........................	Cutter	25 tons, coppered.
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The above, and other yachts, to be inspected at Birkenhead.

Steam and Sailing Yachts of large tonnage on sale; also Small Paddle and Screw Pleasure Steam-boats of light draught for rivers and lakes.—Apply to ALEXANDER CANSH, Egerton Dock, Birkenhead; Honorary Agent to the Royal Western Yacht Club of Ireland, &c.

CARRIAGES, HARNESS, &c.

BAKER-STREET BAZAAR.—CARRIAGE DEPARTMENT.—NEW and SECOND-HAND CARRIAGES of all descriptions on SALE by commission. Sellers and buyers are equally protected. The proprietors warrant new carriages for twelve months: Carriages warehoused.

CARRIAGES by AUCTION. — Baker-street Bazaar, King-street entrance. — The next PUBLIC SALE will be on Tuesday, Feb. 28. About Forty Carriages, belonging to coachmakers and gentlemen are usually sold at these Fortnightly Sales, which have been established 21 years. The commission is 5 per cent.

NEW STYLE of CARRIAGE, to open and close at pleasure, invented and patented by LAURIE and MARNER, Carriage and Harness Manufactory, Oxford-street, Union-street, and Tenterden-street, Hanover-square, W.

THE CONGLETON NOVELTY, the only carriage ever made to suit everybody, which forms three distinct carriages, viz., Vis-a-vis Phaeton, ditto with driving seat, and ditto close carriage; more roomy than a brougham, and lighter; weight, complete, 8½ cwt.; an inspection of which is respectfully solicited. Invented and made only by J. H. SMITH, Congleton.

MINIATURE BROUGHAMS LET on HIRE for three years, after which, and without any further payment, the carriage becomes the property of the hirer, viz.: a single seat miniature brougham, price 120 guineas, at 40 guineas per year; a circular-fronted ditto, price 125 guineas, at 42 guineas per year. Every carriage warranted of the best material and workmanship, at the original manufactory for miniature broughams, STRONG'S, 29, Long-acre.

MINIATURE BROUGHAMS.—The great success that has attended the introduction of these elegant little carriages, induces Messrs WILLIAM KINGS and Co. to solicit the early orders of intending purchasers, that disappointments may be avoided, as their orders are now so numerous that over fifty may be inspected at their Manufactories and Show-rooms, 100 and 101, Long-acre, in every variety of colour and finish. We subjoin short extracts from the opinions of the press:—"A carriage recently introduced to the public by Messrs Wm. Kings and Co., under the title of 'miniature brougham,' is one of the most complete and tastefully devised conveyances which have yet been turned out of any manufactory."—*Morning Herald.* "We do not often praise warmly, but as far as a careful inspection will allow us to judge, the 'miniature brougham' deserves the warmest eulogium we can pronounce in its favour."—*The Field.* "They cannot fail of becoming extensively used, if they do not altogether supersede those now in general use."—*Post.*

MECHANICAL SCIENCE and artistic skill are daily working wonders in all manufactures, introducing fresh novelties for the comfort and benefit of the human family. Among the most recent we have noticed of the present day are the vast improvements in the construction of carriages (for the road or rail). One of the neatest and most perfect carriages we have ever seen has been invented by Mr STRONG, of Long-acre, London, and christened the MINIATURE BROUGHAM, which we cannot too highly praise; it is only to be seen to be appreciated by all who ride in carriages. It combines lightness with strength and roomy comfort inside, the want of which has been the general source of complaint in the numerous imitations of his invention. The recent applications of indiarubber to the springs gives them an amount of elasticity equal if not superior to the old cumbrous cee-spring carriages, which may now be numbered with the past; we confidently say, from our careful inspection of these elegant little carriages, that an ordinary cob can draw them with ease, and they may be used with one or a pair of small horses without disturbing the harmony of proportion. They are elegant in design, the appointments are of the best and most novel description, and the general contour of the whole surpasses all similar vehicles that have hitherto been introduced to the public. A large patronage must be doubtless ensured to the inventor of this truly *récherché* and unique specimen in the art of carriage building.' A visit to Mr Strong's establishment, 29, Long-acre, will amply repay all who are in search of useful, light, and ornamental carriages of every description.—Vide *Wellington Gazette*, Dec. 15, 1864.

TWO and FOUR-WHEEL DOG-CARTS and WAGGONETTES, at Messrs C. LENNY and CO.'s Carriage Manufactory, Croydon.

CARRIAGE PURCHASERS are respectfully informed that Messrs LENNY and CO., 9, Park-lane, London, and Croydon, have every description of first-class CARRIAGES for SALE, or Job, consisting of Sociable-Landaus, Barouches, Broughams, Open Sociables; Park, Stanhope, and Driving Phaetons, Waggonettes, T-carts, their patent Pony Carriages, Kophilon Carts, and Croydon Basket Carriages. They caution purchasers not to credit the assertion of some coachmakers, that "Messrs Lenny and Co. only build basket carriages." A visit to either establishment will evidence to the contrary.

BIDDLECOMBE, 32, 33, 35, Long-acre, for BASKET CARRIAGES, Park Phaetons, Waggonettes, Stanhopes, Sociables, Barouches, Light Landaus, and Circular Broughams, for home and exportation. Best and cheapest house in London. An immense variety of choice. Sheet of drawings, six stamps.

THE IMPROVED LADY'S SADDLE (registered), ensures a much more secure and easy seat. It will fit any horse, without hurting the back. To test its superiority over the old-fashioned saddle, it may be hired. If purchased within one month, no charge for hire.—Messrs LANGDON, Saddlers, Duke-street, Manchester-square.

LADIES' SADDLES.—The latest improvements: the most elegant shapes.—On HIRE, with option of PURCHASE.—A. DAVIS, 33, Strand; 72, Piccadilly; Aldershot; and Agricultural Hall, Islington, with a view of allowing ladies to practically test the great superiority of his improved LADY'S SADDLE, has arranged to hire them, that ladies may form their own opinion previous to becoming purchasers. In case of purchase no hire will be charged. Their great superiority is in their elegant shape, easy fit to the horse's back, and comfortable seat to the lady rider.—A. DAVIS, 33, Strand; 72, Piccadilly; Agricultural Hall; and Aldershot.

HENTON'S PATENT ELASTIC SADDLE.—Give it but once a trial, which the patentee invites gentlemen to do, and they will be convinced there are none more easy and comfortable to ride on. The tree is made of leather, with steel springs. Price 5l. 10s. complete. Those noblemen and gentlemen who have used them for some time acknowledge to their being the best ever invented.—Manufactory, 7, Bridge-street, Surrey side of Westminster-bridge.

SADDLES.—A. DAVIS, 33, Strand, 72, Piccadilly, Agricultural Hall, Islington, and High-street, Aldershot.—Those SADDLES are of the most superior quality and on the most improved principles; the tree being constructed so as to fit the horse in a manner yet unattainable in most saddles, giving at the same time to the rider an easy and comfortable seat. Military saddlery to regulation on the same principles. Racing, steeple-chase, and every kind of riding-saddle; ladies side-saddles of the newest fashion, at very low prices. Horse-clothing, blankets, saddlery, harness, whips, bridles, &c., at nearly half the saddlers' prices. Hunting establishments can have a list of prices forwarded. Officers and regiments can be supplied with estimates of every description of outfit.—A. DAVIS, 33, Strand, 72, Piccadilly, Agricultural Hall, Islington, and High-street, Aldershot.

BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

EXPANDING SADDLE.—GIBSON and COMPANY respectfully invite the attention of Military Officers, Equestrians, and more especially persons possessing extensive studs, to their EXPANDING and CONTRACTING SADDLE, for fitting various sized horses. The expansion or contraction seen to be necessary is readily obtained by the mechanism employed. This useful invention has secured distinguished patronage, and has elicited the highest eulogiums from several competent judges. The saddles made by GIBSON and Co. are now extensively adopted, and are constructed upon principles insuring comfort both to horse and rider, combined with the utmost elegance of form. For India and the Colonies the Expanding Saddle will be found most useful.—GIBSON and COMPANY (Patentees), Saddlers and Harness Makers to the Queen, the Royal Family, and Her Majesty's Cavalry, 6 and 7, New Coventry-street, Leicester-square, London, W.

ACCIDENTS PREVENTED from Horses taking fright or running away by the use of the SELF-ACTING NOSEBAND. This invention renders hard-mouthed or pulling horses perfectly safe and easy to ride or drive. It is used in lieu of the usual noseband, and has the same appearance when on.—Registered by Messrs LANGDON, Saddlers, Duke-street, Manchester-square.—Sent free on receipt of Post-office order—for driving, 12s. 6d.; for riding, 10s. 6d.

BRYANT'S HARNESS DEPOT, Belgravia.
BRYANT'S SADDLERY DEPOT, Belgravia.
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In fact, every description of new and second-hand harness and saddlery in stock. The cheapest house in London is GEORGE BRYANT'S Depot, 1, Chapel-place, Chapel-street, Belgrave-square. Established 1837. Saddlery of every description purchased.

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HARNESS, Saddles, and Horse Clothing.—J. and A. DEANE, 2 and 3, Arthur-street East, London-bridge, wholesale and retail saddlers and stable outfitters. J. and A. Deane manufacture on the premises, and sell the very best articles at moderate prices. Due regard is paid to strength, fit, style, and suitability. Their varied stock comprises aprons, bits, brushes, spurs, sponge, whips, sporting and horse breaking tackle, chaff-cutters, oat-bruisers, enamelled mangers, racks, corn-bins, coach lamps, and every requisite for the horse and stable. Portmanteaus, trunks, cases, bags, &c.

BITS, STIRRUPS, and SPURS.—J. HAWKINS and Co., Manufacturers, 38, Lisle-street, Leicester-square, W., beg to call attention to their Patent Safety Bits, and Mr Lee Steere's Stirrups for hunting purposes, which were acknowledged last season to be the best yet invented, and for which a prize medal was awarded at the Great Exhibition, 1862. A fair trial gratis. Also the only wholesale agents for Lennan's Patent Safety Lady's Stirrup. The largest stock of Bits, Stirrups, and Spurs, in the world to choose from. The Patent Bit and Lee Steere Stirrup, to be had of all saddlers.

GUNS, &c.

WILDFOWL GUNS.—Single-barrel Guns, of large calibre and heavy metal, for killing at long distances, average prices 7l. 18s.; Double Guns, of 4, 6, and 8 gauge, proportionably massive, and well balanced, from 12 guineas; Powder flasks and Shot-pouches, with large chargers, &c. &c.; Wire Cartridges and Wadding to suit large calibres.—E. M. Reilly and Co., 502, New Oxford-street, and 315, Oxford-street, near Regent-circus, London.

RIFLES for LARGE GAME.—ALEX THOMSON and SON beg most respectfully to intimate they are now manufacturing Sporting Rifles for Large Game. Having made breech-loaders and shell-rifles on all the most approved systems, they are enabled to complete all orders in a style that will bear comparison with the work of any of the first London makers. All guns sold by us (*bearing our name*) are made here, and under our own superintendence, 16, Union-place, Edinburgh.

BREECH-LOADER GUNS and RIFLES cannot be made too well. Excellence of workmanship in the ironwork of these guns obtained the PRIZE MEDAL for JOSEPH BRAZIER, Wolverhampton, whose trade mark, "Joseph Brazier Ashes," will guarantee the same class of work to the sportsman.

BEST GUN LOCKS of every description for rifles and fowling-pieces are to be obtained from JOSEPH BRAZIER, Wolverhampton, through any respectable gunmaker in the kingdom. The trade-mark, "Joseph Brazier Ashes," inside the plates, will be a guarantee of the quality being first-class.

SIMPLICITY, lightness, strength, durability, and quickness combined in COLLINS and POUNTNEY'S unrivalled Patent LEVER SNAP BREECH-LOADING DOUBLE GUNS. A trial will show the superior shooting qualities of these guns; they are, moreover, the quickest ever invented.—To be had, with particulars, from Mr J. B. Watts, 3, Barge-yard, Bucklersbury, London; Mr W. A. Hackett, 38, Patrick-street, Cork, Agents; or at the Manufactory, 132, Great Charles-street, Birmingham. Price 17l. and 20l.

GUNS, RIFLES, and REVOLVERS.—Gentlemen in search of the above are respectfully invited to inspect E. WHISTLER'S well-selected stock by the best makers at greatly-reduced prices. BREECH-LOADERS, second-hand, single and double grip, snap action, and all the latest improvements, at moderate prices, varying from 15l. in case complete. Guns and every description of property bought for cash or taken in exchange. Sole Agent in London for W. W. Greener's Guns and Rifles; on view his improved Self Half-cocking Breech-loaders.—E. Whistler's, 11, Strand, London.

THOMAS TURNER, Gunmaker, Reading, begs to inform his valued connection that he is making a moderate-priced Breech-loader, of the same excellent style of workmanship as his best guns; also altering muzzle-loaders into breech-loaders.

THOMAS SYLVEN, late of 33, Leicester-square, Gun and Rifle Maker, and the original inventor for converting the old muzzle-loading gun into the modern breech-loader, begs to inform the noblemen and gentlemen who have so liberally patronised him that he has now REMOVED to his large and spacious workshops at 44, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C., where all future orders will be punctually attended to.

W. W. GREENER'S SELF-HALF-COCKING BREECH-LOADER is the quickest and safest yet invented, embodying great strength and durability; cannot explode without the barrels being securely locked; it has been in use two seasons, and given great satisfaction to sportsmen at home and abroad; it is not a spring-action, and is well adapted for India. (See Field Dec. 24 and 31). Price 20l. to 35l.—To be had only at Whistler's, 11, Strand, London; and at St. Mary's Works, Birmingham.

N.B. I have no business connection with my father, Mr William Greener. The letters that lately appeared in The Field have reference to my Patent Breech-loader.

THOMSON'S BAR LOCK BREECH-LOADING DOUBLE GUN has now been in use two seasons; during that time it has been patronised by a vast number of our leading sportsmen, who all agree that it is the best sporting gun yet produced. The attention of gentlemen (who dispute the hard-hitting qualities of breech-loaders) is directed to this gun, as the advertisers warrant its shooting equal to that of their famed muzzle-loaders. An inspection of this gun will show its great simplicity, which secures it against any mechanical derangement; and as the action is perfectly free from any spring movement, A. T. and Son confidently offer it to "the Sporting World." Specimens of the Lockfast, Self-cocking, and other snap action Guns, may also be seen. Drawings and prices free on application.—Alexander Thomson and Son, 16, Union-place, Edinburgh. *Established 1830.*

A NEW PATENT BREECH-LOADER.—JOSEPH LANG, of 22, Cockspur-street, London, begs to inform gentlemen that he has a BREECH-LOADER on an entirely new principle, the simplest and quickest ever offered to the public. It combines strength and durability. J. L. was the first to improve and introduce the breech-loader into England, and having had ten years' experience in them and received four medals for improving them and excellence of workmanship, he feels confident his new gun will give every satisfaction. J. L. is, by the advice of many friends, manufacturing breech-loading guns of a plainer and less expensive finish, to suit the many. They are all thoroughly regulated, the shooting of which cannot be beaten by any breech or muzzle loader ever made. A few secondhand guns can also be seen.

SHOOTING of BREECH-LOADERS.—J. D. DOUGALL'S PATENT LOCKFAST GUNS alone shoot with the strength and regularity of muzzle-loaders. It is notorious that many gentlemen, while granting the superiority of breech-loaders in other respects, will not use them, from their irregularity in throwing the shot. This great fault comes from mechanical defects in their construction, nullifying the highest skill on the part of the barrel-maker, and which defects are entirely removed in the Lockfast Guns. The slightest inspection will show this theoretically, while in practice the fact of their equality to muzzle-loaders has been vouched for in the press by the most competent authorities. No other Breech-loaders possess the peculiar locking power, which is secured by patents in Great Britain and on the Continent.—J. D. Dougall, 59, St. James's-street, Piccadilly, London; and 23, Gordon-street, Glasgow.—Business established in 1760.

GUNS, &c.—JAMES BEATTIE, 205, Regent-street, W.—Branch Establishment, 89, Fenchurch-street, E.C.—(established forty years), begs to call the attention of sportsmen to his large, varied, and well-selected stock of BREECH and MUZZLE-LOADING GUNS and RIFLES. As a strong proof of the superiority of J. B.'s breech-loading guns, he is prepared to shoot them against any muzzle-loaders, and will be happy to furnish testimonials from many noblemen and gentlemen. N.B. Double and single barrel breech and muzzle-loading rifles, regulation and other gauges, and for rabbit and rook shooting, &c.; large double rifle, commonly called "bone smashers," as made for India, Ceylon, and elsewhere, *vide* S. W. Baker's work, entitled "The Rifle and Hound in Ceylon." Agent for Eley Brothers' Ammunition.
James Beattie, 205, Regent-street, W.

DOUGALL'S PATENT LOCKFAST BREECH-LOADER amid all the British and foreign inventions shown at the Exhibition of 1862, received the *sole award* of a prize medal for "principle" of construction. Sportsmen are requested to examine the jurors' awards for their own satisfaction, as to the meaning of the language used in discrimination of the different guns. There being but one class of medal given, the terms of the awards are the only gradations of merit. This unique mark of approbation is fully borne out by the successful test of four shooting seasons, bringing this gun into the highest repute both as a Smooth-bore and Rifle. No breech-loader can enter into competition with it for shooting powers. See Field of June 27, 1863.—The ordinary breech-cartridge (Eley's) is used with this gun.—Business (established in 1760) now simultaneously conducted in all its branches, at 59, St. James's-street, London, S.W., and 23, Gordon-street, Glasgow. Drawings and prices free.

BREECH-LOADING CANNON.—J. D. D. has recently invented and patented a light cannon, which throws either solid shot or shell with perfect accuracy, and is suitable for mountain warfare, defence of merchant-vessels against pirates, exploding ammunition waggons, and all similar operations. This cannon contains improvements never before introduced in breech-loading artillery, and has been tested and approved by military men for combined simplicity and strength.

BREECH-LOADING SPORTING GUNS.—To the Gun Trade.—Gentlemen,—After many trials and much study I have succeeded in perfecting an improvement in this description of gun, which places it on equality, if not superiority, to any muzzle-loader made. Its shooting power is capable of modification, from a gun suitable to the wildest of grouse-shooting, to that of a covert gun of the shortest range. It does not interfere with nor introduce any new form of mechanical action whatever, but is applicable to all the many varieties now in use. It is also extremely simple, and so effective that no advocacy is required; once to be seen is to be adopted by all makers possessing any pretension to mechanical science. I purpose offering it to the trade for universal adoption on licence at very moderate terms. The patent is now nearly completed, and the specification will be filed on the 21st March next. In the meantime any information and terms will be given on application. The cartridge also is combined in it. An opportunity offers to any manufacturer to secure a monopoly of make, as this is also offered on licence or sale.—Yours, &c., WILLIAM GREENER, Rifle-hill Works, Birmingham.
No connection whatever with any other maker of the same name.

BREECH-LOADER, by a good London maker, to be SOLD, cheap, the owner having no further use for it.—Address "A. B.," 34a, Lorrimore-street, Lorrimore-square, S.

HARLOW'S Wedge-bolt BREECH-LOADER is unequalled for efficiency, simplicity, and durability. It is very pleasant to handle, and exceedingly quick and certain in its action. Drawings and price on application.—Manufactory, 133a, Bradford-street, Birmingham.

NEEDHAM'S SELF HALF-COCKING and SELF-LOCKING BREECH-LOADER, which, for strength, quickness, safety, and simplicity, is submitted as unequalled.—This gun takes the Lefaucheux cartridge.—Manufactured by J. V. Needham, New-street, Birmingham. Price-lists on application.

THEOPHILUS MURCOTT is converting MUZZLE-LOADING GUNS into the modern BREECH-LOADERS, and of latest patterns and first style of workmanship, at moderate prices. Every description of Rifle and Explosive Shell, Breech-loading Cartridges and Cases, Colt's and all other Revolvers. Guns taken in exchange. Eley's, Whitworth's, and Rigby's Ammunition.—68, Haymarket, London, S.W.

By her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent.

BREECH-LOADERS can now be made to shoot as strong, and kill at as long ranges, as the muzzle-loaders, with 25 per cent. less powder. A gentleman who has this season shot with SCOTT'S PATENT VALVE-WADS, writes:—"I find I can NOW kill as far or further with my breech-loader as my muzzle-loader, since adopting your VALVE-WADS." Scores of high-class testimonials attest the same fact, and the many other advantages secured to them. A sample-box, containing 100, forwarded by post on receipt of twelve penny stamps, and a pellet for size of bore.—Address the Patentee, J. W. Scott, Sidbury Works, Worcester.

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with Lubricator and other recent improvements. These wads are guaranteed to kill at longer distance than any other wad, to save 25 per cent. of powder, and are backed by scores of high-class testimonials to be the best ever introduced to the notice of the sporting world, for either breech or muzzle loaders.

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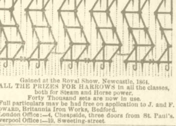
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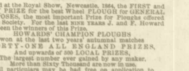
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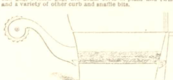
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Gun Covers	Hot-Water Feet-Warmers
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GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH used in the Royal Laundry, and awarded the prize medal, 1862.—Sold by all grocers, chandlers, &c. &c.

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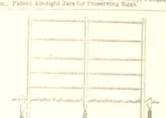
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CROOK'S PHEASANT FEEDER.



CROOK'S SANITARY POULTRY-HOUSE APPLIANCES.
Improved Incubators, 50s. each; Artificial Rearers or Mothers, can be used either as a warm or cool retreat, 45s. each; Registered Poultry Fountains; Improved Hen Nests; Portable Wire-runs or Yards; Feeding and Fattening Cages; Pigeon-feeding Hoppers; Pheasant-feeding Boxes, weather and vermin proof; Metallic Mashing Plates, for mixing soft food; Galvanised Wire Netting of every size and strength.—Further particulars upon receipt of a stamped and directed envelope. E. and F. CROOK, Inventors and Manufacturers, 5, Carnaby-street, London, W.—Agents for Douglas's Preventitive from Gapes and Roup in Poultry, Pheasants, &c.; Patent Air-tight Jars for Preserving Eggs.

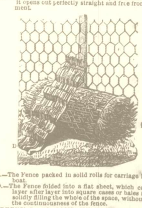


IRON HURDLES, FENCING, & GATES, made of superior Iron, in the best manner, at moderate prices. Illustrated price lists free of
COTTAM and Co.,
Iron Works, 2, Winsley-street (opposite the Pantheon), Oxford-street, W.

REGISTERED DESIGN. PATENTED CONSTRUCTION.
GREENING and COMPANY'S NEW EXPANSIVE and FOLDING WIRE FENCE.
VARIETY NO. 34. NEW EXPANSIVE AND FOLDING HARE AND RABBIT FENCE.



A.—The Fence opened and fixed.
B.—The Fence loosely thrown down, from which position it opens out perfectly straight and free from entanglement.



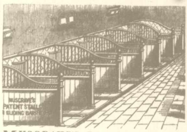
C.—The Fence packed in solid rolls for carriage by rails or boat.
D.—The Fence folded into a flat sheet, which can be laid layer after layer into square cases or bales for export, solidly filling the whole of the space, without breaking the continuousness of the fence.
GREENING and COMPANY have much pleasure in announcing to their customers and friends that they are now prepared to supply the following varieties of their newly-invented WIRE FENCING, which attracted such general attention at the last Smithfield Club Cattle Show.
No. 30. New Expansive and Folding SHEEP FENCE.
No. 31. New Expansive and Folding LAMB FENCE.
No. 32. New Expansive and Folding CATTLE FENCE.
No. 33. New Expansive and Folding POULTRY FENCE.
No. 34. New Expansive and Folding RABBIT FENCE.
No. 35. New Expansive and Folding CROQUET FENCE.
All the varieties possess the peculiar property of folding together like the joints of a lady's fan, and are therefore most convenient for carriage, storage, and removal, easily fixed, and undamageable by rough usage. They can be thrown down or folded together in the arms, without danger of entanglement, divided into short lengths without cutting, and pieced up again at will without tying or knotting. They are all made of galvanised, elastic wire, are very strong, remarkably neat in appearance, and most moderate in price. The following description of the Sheep-folding variety is from the report of the Smithfield Club Cattle Show, in *Bell's Weekly Messenger*, Dec. 12, 1864:
"SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW.—Messrs Greening and Co., of the Victoria Iron Works, Manchester, exhibited, amongst a large collection of Iron Gates and Fences, a perfectly novel Wire Sheep Netting, ingeniously made so as to fold together in the hand. The Fence, when opened out, is neat and even ornamental; and, being made of strong galvanised wire, is doubtless durable. It is at the same time so light, that a considerable length could be carried about by a farm-labourer. It seems likely to come into general use as a substitute for wooden hurdles and hemp nets. The price is only 10d. per yard."
Descriptive circular, with prices of all the varieties, may be obtained on application to the Manufacturers,
GREENING and COMPANY,
Makers of Iron Gates, Hurdles, and Fences,
Victoria Iron Works, 81, Oxford-street; and Central Offices, 4, Warren-street, Manchester.
Or from the following Agents in London:
CHARLES CARTER, Swan-lane, Upper Thames-street.
DRAY, TAYLOR, and Co., London-bridge.
SAMUEL SALKELD, Middle-row, High Holborn.
CLARK and TIMMINS, 10, Soho-square, W.

COTTAM'S PRIZE STABLE FITTINGS and HARNESS BRACKETS.



These FITTINGS, now so generally specified by architects in their specifications, may be seen at the MANUFACTORY, 2, WINSLEY-STREET, OXFORD-STREET, W., where a large supply is always on hand and regular sizes kept in stock, and where full-size Stalls and loose Boxes (variously arranged, with a view to the economy of space) can be examined.
COTTAM and COMPANY,
Manufacturers and Patentees, hold the Prizes of 1851, 1855 (Paris) and 1862, for these Fittings.
*** Apply for No. 3 Catalogue, to be had free of COTTAM and Co., 2, Winsley-street (opposite the Pantheon) Oxford-street, W., London.

EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDAL, 1862.
MEDAL OF ROYAL AGRICL. SOCS. OF ENGLAND AND IRELAND



MUSGRAVE'S PATENT STABLE and HARNESS FITTINGS.
MUSGRAVE'S PATENT HARMLESS LOOSE BOXES.
MUSGRAVE'S PATENT IRON COW STALLS and PIGGERIES.
Architects who have not seen these fittings are requested to write for Engravings, as they are unlike those of any other maker, and were admitted to excel all the work of their class in the Exhibition. They can be seen in first-class stables in almost every county in England; and Musgrave Brothers are now fitting several very large Establishments under directions of London Architects noted for employing only what is the best of its kind.



MUSGRAVE'S PATENT SLOW-COMBUSTION STOVE is the nearest approach to Warming by Hot Water. It will burn in Churches from Saturday till Sunday evening, without attention during the hours of worship. In Halls will burn day and night for weeks with little care. Capable of Warming a large Apartment for twenty-four hours, at a cost of 3*d*.; and deserving of special attention, because of its safety, healthfulness, durability, and extreme simplicity.—For full particulars apply to
MUSGRAVE BROTHERS,
Ann-street Iron Works, Belfast.
This stove may be seen in operation at Messrs Cox and Son's, 28, Southampton-street, Strand.

SAINT PANCRAS IRON WORK COMPANY, Old Saint Pancras-road, London, N.W.



Approval of the ROYAL VETERINARY COLLEGE.
The Medals of England and France. The Medals and high recommendation of the Royal Agricultural Societies of England and Ireland. Secured by Eight separate Patents (latest 1863).
PATENT-WROUGHT-IRON STABLE FITTINGS
Should be adopted for the following reason, viz.: That the breakages in cast-iron fittings are numerous, and that one fracture from a kick or other cause may occasion an injury to a horse, and involve a loss equal to the entire expense of fitting up the stable. The fear of this has led to the use of wood, and, in the case of Cast-Iron Gutters, to the adoption of another and less effective mode of draining.
ENAMELLED TOP PLATE MANGER, WITH RACK AND WATER-TROUGH,
The whole of which, except the rack, being enamelled, can be kept as clean as a dinner-plate. The halter-ball, attached by a new improvement, works noiselessly on the guide-bar, and almost without friction.
PATENT FASTENINGS FOR THE DOORS OF LOOSE BOXES.
These catches and hangings work easily, are self-acting, and cannot be put out of order; by their use all projections by which horses are often blemished are rendered impossible—advantages peculiarly their own.
THE PATENT HARNESS FITTINGS
Keep the harness and saddles in shape, and are constructed so as to admit the air getting to the underside of them when hung up, thereby insuring a quick and perfect airing from any wet or moisture
PROFESSOR VARNELL'S STABLE ARRANGEMENTS.
Illustrated Lists on application.
Inspection of Show Rooms requested.
SAINT PANCRAS IRON WORK COMPANY,
Old St. Pancras-road, London, N.W



BY APPOINTMENT
SIMPSON & Co.,
WHIP MANUFACTURERS TO HER MAJESTY AND H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.
No. 314, Oxford-street, London.
A large assortment of the following goods always in stock; Spurs, Dog Chains, Couples and Collars, Greyhound Slips, Whistles, Ferret Bells and Muzzles, Drinking Flasks, Sandwich Cases, Hunting and Post Horns, Tourist Kegs, Bird Calls, &c.
AGENTS: All Saddlers in every Country Town.

GEORGE MATHER, 109, Great Russell street, Bloomsbury, London, EXECUTES COMMISSIONS (by letter only) to any amount on receipt of cash. A list of the latest betting sent free to any part on receipt of a directed stamped envelope.

"RACING TIMES" Office, 286, Strand, London, W.C.—Mr THOMAS TEMPLE, the proprietor of the *Racing Times*, begs to inform the sporting public that he has commenced business for the season, and will EXECUTE COMMISSIONS on all races to any amount. Winnings guaranteed. P.O. Orders to be made payable at the Strand Post-office, and cheques crossed London and Westminster (Temple Bar Branch).

MADAME VALERY'S NEOLIN HAIR WASH, for infallibly Restoring Grey Hair to its Natural colour in two or three weeks. In proof, Madame V. requires no payment until successful in those cases treated by herself. In bottles, 7s. 6d.; packed for the country, 8s. 6d. See Madame Valery's "Treatise on the Hair," post-free, 1s.—46, Wigmore-street, Cavendish-square, W.

MADAME RACHEL'S Costly Gems of the Season, rich golden tresses, sparkling eyes, soft peach-like complexion, pearly teeth, and ruby lips—all that can enhance and preserve the charms of woman, youth and beauty, grace and elegance, restored and preserved by Madame Rachel's Royal Arabian Toilet Requisites, which can only be obtained at her residence, 47A, New Bond-street. The nobility are cautioned against all persons who are vending spurious and dangerous compounds, which are mere imitations of the beautiful art of which she is the sole possessor.

GIBBINS and Co.'s CREAM of ROSES and ROSEMARY.—This well-known and esteemed article, so effectual for the preservation of the hair, is the invention of GIBBINS and Co. (from Paris), 7, King-street, St. James's-square. It gives a perfect gloss to the hair, and imparts the pleasing fragrance of flowers.—GIBBINS and Co., 7, King-street, St. James's-square.

EUXURON for SHAVING, without the use of brush, soap, or water. This delightfully-perfumed preparation is the perfection of comfort, economy, and dispatch. Price 1s. 6d. and 3s. Invented and manufactured by GIBBINS and Co. (from Paris), Perfumers and Court Hairdressers, 7, King-street, St. James's-square.

GRAY HAIR.—248, High Holborn, London.—ALEX. ROSS'S charges for DYEING the HAIR permanently:—Ladies', from 7s. 6d.; Gentlemen's from 5s.; and Whiskers from 2s. 6d. The dye is sold at 3s. 6d.; sent for 54 stamps. It is most easy of use. Curling Fluid, 3s. 6d.

SPANISH FLY is the acting ingredient in ALEX. ROSS'S CANTHARIDES OIL, which quickly produces whiskers, stops the hair from falling off, and covers bald places upon the head in a few days; price 3s. 6d.; per post 54 stamps.—Essay on Hair, 1d.—248, High Holborn London.

NO MORE TOOTHACHE or DECAYED TEETH.—The EAU DES CORDILLIÈRES, an Indian recipe, cures the most violent toothache instantaneously and radically. It is also an extremely agreeable preservative, arresting the decay of the teeth. Price 2s. 9d. and 4s. 6d. per bottle.—Sold by AUGUSTUS WHITBURN, 174, Regent-street, London, and all chemists.

DR. HUNTER'S CAMPHORATED SOFT SOAP.—Sold in tins containing 7lb. for 5s. 6d., or 8d. per lb. This soap is strongly recommended for the washing of horses, hounds, sheep, and all animals. It produces a most beautiful coat, clean legs, and a healthy invigorating action of skin and blood; cures all cutaneous diseases, prevents mange and every complaint from entering a stable, kennel, &c.; and a perfect preservator from moth for rugs, blankets, saddles, and harness. When used for the washing of mangers, woodwork, &c., in stables, buildings, and houses, a most wonderful effect is produced in the general condition and health both of animals and persons.—Sole Depot, THE LONDON SOAP AND CANDLE COMPANY, 76, New Bond-street. Cash only.

DINNEFORD'S FLUID MAGNESIA. The medical profession for thirty years have approved of this pure Solution of Magnesia as the best remedy for gout and stomachic disorders of every kind; and as a mild aperient it is especially adapted for ladies and children.—Prepared only by DINNEFORD and Co., Chemists, &c., 172, New Bond-street, London; and sold throughout the world by all respectable Chemists.
CAUTION.—See that "Dinneford and Co." is on each bottle and red label over the cork.

INFLUENZA.—CORYZINE, a non-sternutative powder, employed like snuff, affords instantaneous relief in incipient cases of Cold, Influenza, or Coryza; the sense of suffocation, with excessive secretion supervening, being in both cases effectually removed. To all those subject to this distressing complaint it is confidently recommended as a sure remedy.—Sold in boxes at 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d.; post free 1s. 3d. and 3s. 1d. in stamps, by MARSHALL and MELLIN, English and Foreign Chemists, 16, Tichborne-street, Regent-street, W.; opposite the County Fire Office.

FRAMPTON'S PILL of HEALTH.—Of all medicine vendors, at 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. per box. The manifold advantages to the heads of families from the possession of a medicine of known efficacy, that may be resorted to with confidence, and used with success, in cases of temporary sickness, occurring in families more or less every day, are so obvious to all, that no question can be raised of its importance to every housekeeper in the kingdom.
They are an excellent aperient, create appetite, relieve languor, and invigorate the spirits, and if taken after an indulgence at table they quickly restore the system to its natural state of repose.
Persons of a full habit, who are subject to Headache, Giddiness, Drowsiness, and Singing in the Ears, arising from too great a flow of blood to the head, should never be without them, as many dangerous symptoms will be entirely carried off by their timely use.

THE PHOSPHORISED NERVINE TONIC.—The NEW CHEMICAL COMBINATION of PHOSPHATIC SALTS, QUININE, IRON, &c., containing all the essential constituents of the blood, brain, and nerve substance. Great philosophical and chemical research has led to the discovery of this invaluable remedy in its present perfect state, agreeable to the palate and innocent in its action, still preserving its wonderful properties, affording immediate relief, and permanently curing all who suffer from wasting and withering of the nervous and muscular tissues, total and partial prostration, and every other exhaustive derangement of the system. It regenerates all the important elements of the human frame. "As phosphorus in a state of nature illumines the darkness, so the exhausted frame revives when impregnated with its electrical properties." Prices: 11s. per bottle, or four 11s. bottles in one, 33s.; and in cases containing three 33s. bottles, 5l., which saves 1l. 12s., packed securely, and sent to all parts of the world.—London Agents:—NEWBERRY, 45, St. Paul's Churchyard; SANGER, 150, Oxford-street; HOOPER, 43, King William-street, London-bridge; PROUT, 299, Strand.

Earl Russell has graciously favoured J. T. Davenport with the following:—"Extract of a despatch from Mr Webb, H.B.M.'s Consul at Manilla, dated Sept. 17, 1864:
"The remedy most efficacious in its effects (in Epidemic Cholera) has been found to be CHLORODYNE, and with a small quantity, given to me by Dr Burke, I have saved several lives.'"
CONSUMPTION, COUGHS, COLDS, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, SPASMS, &c.
CAUTION.—"IN CHANCERY."
CHLORODYNE.—Vice-Chancellor Wood stated that Dr J. Collis Browne was undoubtedly the Inventor of Chlorodyne. Eminent hospital Physicians of London stated that Dr J. Collis Browne was the discoverer of Chlorodyne; that they prescribe it largely, and mean no other than Dr Browne's.—See *Times*, July 13th, 1864. The public, therefore, are cautioned against using any other than DR J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE.
No home should be without it. Sold in bottles, 2s. 9d. and 4s. 6d.; sent free on receipt of stamps, by J. T. DAVENPORT, 33, Great Russell-street, London, W.C., Sole Manufacturer. Observe particularly, none genuine without the words "DR J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE" on the Government stamp.

EXTRAORDINARY CURE of a COUGH. The following letter has recently been received:
"Nightingale Hall, Edmonton.
"Dear Sir,—I have recently suffered much from a most violent cough, proceeding from a tickling in my chest, which no remedy out of many I resorted to, could allay. My head was constantly aching, and my whole frame entirely shaken. Having seen the good effects of your Balsam of Aniseed in several members of my family, I purchased a small bottle, and when going to bed at night took a teaspoonful in two tablespoonfuls of water, just warm. The effect was immediate; it arrested the tickling in my chest, I slept well, and arose perfectly restored in the morning, with the exception of debility, arising from fatigue by incessant coughing for some days previous. My cough entirely left me, and has never returned. Having since heard of a lady in the neighbourhood who for a long time had laboured under a most distressing cough, and who had resorted to every remedy within her knowledge, I sent the remainder of the bottle to her; and that long-standing, obstinate, and (as she thought) incurable cough was perfectly cured.—I am, my dear sir yours very truly—WM. BOARDS.
"To Mr Thos. Powell."
POWELL'S BALSAM OF ANISEED.
Prepared and sold by THOMAS POWELL, at 16, Blackfriars-road, London. Sold by all chemists and medicine vendors in the kingdom; also in Australia, New Zealand, Cape of Good Hope, North and South America, &c., in bottles at 1s. 1½d. 2s. 3d., and 11s. each.
CAUTION.—Observe the words "Thomas Powell, Blackfriars-road, on the government stamp, without which cannot be genuine. Ask for Powell's Balsam of Aniseed.

STOCK AND THE STUD.

TO be SOLD by AUCTION, by Messrs TATTERSALL, at Hyde-park-corner, on Monday, March 13, without reserve, the following weight-carrying HUNTERS, the property of Charles Hambro, Esq.:

1. BOGTROTTER, 7 years.
2. BOGOAK, by Chitchat, dam by Birdcatcher, 5 years.
3. FALCONER, by Chitchat or Redhart out of Sinecure, 6 years.
4. THE SWEEP, 6 years.
5. VENUS.
6. THE SPOILT CHILD.
7. JEWEL, } have constantly carried a lady.
8. TATUM, 7 years, }

ALDRIDGE'S, London: established 1753.—PUBLIC SALES by AUCTION of HORSES and CARRIAGES every Wednesday and Saturday, commencing at 11 o'clock. Horses should be delivered early on Mondays and Thursdays. Carriages and horses can be inspected two days before either sale. Accounts are paid on Mondays and Thursdays only, from 10 to 4 o'clock. Horses are not received for private sale, and jobbing or dealing by any one connected with the business is strictly prohibited. Prospectus on application. Carriage and phaeton horses from the London jobmasters, with phaetons, broughams, harness, &c., will be sold here on Wednesday next, the sale commencing as usual at 11 o'clock precisely.—WILLIAM FREEMAN.

Re R. J. Webb, Calcot, Reading, Berks.

TO be SOLD by AUCTION, by Mr TOMPKINS, on Feb. 23, that entire thorough-bred horse MOURAVIEFF, by Pyrrhus the First out of Wiasma; got by Hetman Platoff, her dam Mickleton Maid, by Velocipede out of Maid of Lune, by Whisker. Winner of many races at all distances. N.B. A sure foal-getter.
On view on the above premises.

Re R. J. Webb, Calcot, Reading, Berks.

MR. TOMPKINS has received instructions to SELL by AUCTION, on Feb. 23, at the Stud Farm, Calcot, Reading, the entire STUD of HORSES, comprising Hunters, Driving, and Young Riding Horses, weight-carrying Cobs, Stallions, Thorough-bred Brood-mares, Two-year-olds, Yearlings, &c., together with Phaetons, Broughams, Breaks, Dog-carts; also several Lots of Double and Single Brass-mounted and covered HARNESS, Hunting Saddles, Bridles, and Horse-clothing, full particulars of which will appear in catalogues. Calcot Stud Farm is situate within two and a half miles from Reading.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES REPOSITORY, BIRMINGHAM.—STUD SALES.

MESSRS BRETHERTON & HARRISON beg to inform Noblemen and Gentlemen having HUNTERS and other valuable HORSES to DISPOSE OF, that their STUD SALES will take place
On Thursday next, February 23,
On Thursday, March 9,
And on Thursday, March 23, 1865.
Full descriptions of horses intended for these Sales should be forwarded at least one week previously, and the horses sent to the Repository two days prior to Sale. Stalls cannot be retained after Twelve o'clock on Tuesday. Sales by Auction every Thursday; by Private Treaty, daily.

FOR SALE, the thorough-bred entire horse, BRIAN BORU, by Gemma di Vergy out of Allegrette, by St Luke out of Alba, &c.; he is a bright bay, no white; 5 years old; 16 hands, with good action.—Apply to Mr HILL, Stud Groom, Stevenstone, Torrington, North Devon.

TO be SOLD, a promising thorough-bred COLT, with plenty of bone, by Voivode, dam by Gladiator, granddam by Camel, great granddam by Bobadil, &c.—Apply to W. AVERY, King's Norton Screw Works, near Birmingham.

HORSE for SALE.—ISAAC, by Rifleman, dam by Sleight of Hand, brother to Wynnstay.—For price apply to H. COULSON CORNISH, Corndealer, Penzance.

FOR SALE the property of a Gentleman a BAY HUNTER, six years old, sound, in good hunting condition.—For full particulars apply to Mr A. DAVIS, Saddler, 72, Piccadilly, W.

HUNTER for SALE.—To be SOLD, a CHESNUT MARE, up to great weight; has been regularly hunted up to the present time, and is well known with the Ludlow hounds.—Apply to Mr J. E. HARRISON, Saddler, High-street, Shrewsbury.

HUNTERS in work.—To be SOLD, cheap, TWO WEIGHT-CARRIERS, up to 17 stone, very clever and temperate; also TWO BLOOD HUNTERS, fine fencers, good looking, and fast enough to win a steeplechase. Veterinary examination allowed.—Apply to Mr FOWLER, 84, Gillingham street, Eccleston-square.

OLD-FASHIONED HUNTER.—A GOOD HOME for life is WANTED for this horse. Sound and fresh, 16 hands high, dark brown, and up to weight. Any gentleman can have him for a song. Is warranted a perfect hunter, and temperate in every respect.—Apply, in first instance, to Mr WOOTTON, Daybrook Cottage, near Nottingham.

TO be SOLD, a perfect LADY'S HORSE, 15.1½ hands high, 6 years old, black; a thoroughly broken charger, quiet in every way, and sound.—Apply to "G. W.," Post-office, Canterbury.

TO be SOLD, a CHESNUT HORSE, 15.1 high; perfect for a lady's riding; warranted sound. Price 75*l.*—To see the above inquire of "THE GROOM," Truman's Brewery, Brick-lane, Spitalfields.

FOR SALE, a PAIR of handsome GREY COBS, about 14.2; have for two years been driven together in a brougham and pony-chaise; one has been ridden by a lady.—Inquire of "THE GROOM," Truman's Brewery, Brick lane, Spitalfields.

CLEVER HACK.—A DUN COB, 5 years old, warranted sound, and quiet to ride and drive; 14.2½ high; a quick, clever hack, and a wonder with hounds. Price 35*l.*—Apply to Mr WOOTTON, Daybrook Cottage, near Nottingham.

SUFFOLK PUNCH.—To be SOLD, a fine, handsome, bright, chesnut entire horse, NAPOLEON, of this breed, very powerful and perfectly quiet in the stable with other horses, also at all kinds of farm and road work; he is parted with solely because the owner has his stock coming on, which can be seen at the same time and place with Napoleon. His stock have taken prizes at different Agricultural Shows.—Apply to Mr LATHAM, Eastwood Farm, East Hampton, Bristol.

WEEDON BECK, Northamptonshire.—SEVEN first-class Blood HUNTERS for SALE, very forward in condition, all good fencers, and up to weight; any reasonable trial allowed, and veterinary examination. Also, a furnished HUNTING BOX to LET, immediately, with capital stabling (part loose boxes) for eight or ten horses.—Apply to Mr HANAWAY, Weeden Beck, Northamptonshire.

HUNTERS.—WILLIAM COLLINS, of Westminster-bridge-road, begs to inform noblemen and gentlemen that he has a superior selection of first-class HUNTERS ON SHOW at his hunting stables at Watford, where there is every facility for a thorough trial of their capabilities.—Previous application as to appointments to view to be made in Westminster-bridge-road.

HORSES of UNRIVALLED ACTION.—W. CLARK begs to notify the nobility and gentry that a large selection of first-class HORSES for every purpose are always ON VIEW at his stables, 232, Oxford-street (late Bartley's), nearly opposite the Marble Arch. No horse bought or sold without a veterinary surgeon's examination or warranty.

ALDERNEY, Jersey, and Guernsey COWS and HEIFERS.—EDWARD PARSONS FOWLER, of Jersey, sole and only reliable exporter, being a resident in the island, will have on private SALE, at Mr Gower's Repository, Barbican, London, on Monday, Feb. 27, a choice HERD; also several BULLS; warranted perfect, direct from the Islands, and of the purest breeds. Sale days the second and last Mondays in every month throughout the year.

ALDERNEY and GUERNSEY COWS.—L. FOWLER (successor to M. Fowler, sen.), Little Bushey Farm, Bushey, Herts, will have his fresh importation of THIRTY (down calving and newly calved) COWS and HEIFERS on SALE, at the Red Lion Yard, 111, Edgware-road, London, W., on Monday and Tuesday the 20th and 21st inst. Noblemen and gentlemen seeking animals of the choicest quality and colour may insure them warranted. N.B. Regular sale days the first and third Monday in every month.

BRETONNE COWS.—Original Importers.—A gold medal was awarded to Messrs BAKER, by the Royal Agricultural Society, for their Breton bull Prince, bred by themselves, and they beg to inform their customers of the arrival of another handsome HERD of these useful animals, calved and down-calving. Intending purchasers are respectfully invited to view the above, or communicate for particulars. Messrs Baker have now completed their final arrangements for the importation of the above cattle (the same variety as originally imported by them) which, after many years experience, regardless of expense and trouble, has enabled them to offer this pure breed of cattle at prices so low that only the sale of a large number will compensate the importers. The above must not be confounded with the common cows of the country.—The Pheasantry, Beaufort-street, Chelsea.

STUD HORSES.

THE KNIGHT OF KARS, at 15 guineas.—All Birdcatcher and Faugh-a-ballagh mares gratis.
OXFORD.—By Birdcatcher, and Sire of The Student, at 12 guineas.
THE LAWYER.—Winner of 30 races, 17 Queen's plates, and holder of all the cups and whips, at 5 guineas.
Apply to Mr EYKE, Stanton, Shiffnal, Salop.

WILD DAYRELL, 30 mares, besides those of his owner, at 30 guineas each mare.
STAR OF THE WEST, by West Australian out of Hopbine, by Sir Hercules out of Sylph, by Spectre. 20 thorough-bred mares at 10 guineas each, and 20 half-bred at half price.
Apply to the STUD GROOM, Chilton Cottage, Hungerford.

WALLACE will serve mares this season at 10 guineas each, groom's fee included; also a few half-bred ones at half-price. Wallace possesses a fine constitution and temper, is perfectly sound, his action very superior, and was one of the gamest and best horses of his year. He is 7 years old, and combines through his sire and dam the best blood—Muley, Blacklock, Orville, Raynator, and Whalebone. Hay and grass at 10*s.* 6*d.* per week; corn at the usual price. All expenses to be paid on taking the mares away.—Apply to Mr JOHN EVANS, Stud Groom, Oldbury Paddocks, Stockingford, Atherstone.

AT PARK PADDOCKS, Newmarket, for the season 1865:
NEWCASTLE, by Newminster out of Mary Aislabie, by Malcolm; will serve mares at 15 guineas each.
CITADEL, by Stockwell out of Sortie, by Melbourne; winner of the first prize for thorough-bred stallions at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, July, 1864; will serve thorough-bred mares at 10 guineas each; dams of winners of 100 guineas at any one time, gratis. Hay and grass at 10*s.* 6*d.* per week.—Apply to Mr DAWSON, as above.

AT RAWCLIFFE PADDOCKS, near York.

LEAMINGTON, 15*l.* 15*s.*	BROTHER TO BIRD-ON-THE-WING, 10*l.* 10*s.*
CLARET, 15*l.* 15*s.*	UNDERHAND, 10*l.* 10*s.*
RAPPAREE, 10*l.* 10*s.*	

JORDAN, 10*l.* 10*s.*
For further particulars apply to THOS. BAITSON, Stud Groom.

AT SWALCLIFFE STUD FARM, near Banbury, for season 1865.
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