Law Intelligence.

NOTICES—THIS DAY.

COURT OF BANKRUPTCY, BASINGHALL-STREET.

BEFORE MR. COMMISSIONER HOLROYD.—For release: W. Dawson, at 11—W. Brown, at 11—W. Knights, at 11—Fisher Dawson, at 11—W. Brown, at 11. Adjourned examinations and discharge: C. Fair, at 11—W. Walker, at 11—A. Gurney, at 11—R. Hunter, at 11. Last E. Walker, at 11—A. Gurney, at 11—R. Hunter, at 11. Last examination and discharge: J. Baker, at 11—E. C. Cockayne, at 11—E. Wade, at 11—Anglo-French Wine Company, at 11—E. Wade, at 11—Anglo-French Wine Company, lists, at 12. Last examinations and discharge: F. Rebenpany, lists, at 12. Last examinations and discharge: F. Rebenridge, at 12—J. De Plattrier, at 12—A. W. Fox, at 12. Cohen, adjourned examination and discharge, at 12—T. Desborough, at 12—J. Elkington, at 1—J. Rawlings, at 1—T. Amos, at 1—F. Bonnar, at 11—B. Adjourned examinations: J. Aldritt, at 1—T. Fenn, at 1—W. Knight, at 1—B. Marks, at 1—W. Sanderson, at 1—J. Jackson, at 1—W. Wood, at 1—A. Wood, at 1—H. Cole, order of discharge, at 1—W. Moules, at 1—J. Cockney, jun., at 1—J. Hand, at 1. Last examinations and discharge: R. Cooper, at 2—C. K. Kendall, at 2—H. Toft, at 2—W. Bedford, at 2—G. Frost, at 2—J. Hunt, at 2—S. Collis, at 2—A. Cattle, at 2—H. N. Frost, at 2—J. Thompson, at 2—J. Foster, at 2.

BEFORE MR. REGISTRAR MILLER.—Sowerby and Tatton, dividend at 11—J. S. Harvey, creditors at 11—C. Mooney, adjourned first meeting, at 11. First meetings: J. Lawn, at 11—J. L. Savory, at 11—Bernard and Brenner, at 12. Divisions: S. Fewell, at 12—J. Smith, at 12—White and Simmons, at 12, E. Fewer, at 12—H. Atkins, at 12—E. M. Brant, at 1—W. Spinks, First meetings: H. Atkins, at 12—E. M. Brant, at 1—W. Spinks, at 1—E. Sheppard, at 1—C. Gorey, at 1—J. G. Goulding, at 1—E. Sheppard, at 1—G. Gorey, at 1—J. G. Goulding, at 1. Adjourned first meeting. First meetings: G. H. Moore, at 2—A. Gander, at 2—S. Moore, at 2—G. Merrett, at 2—J. Crockford, at 2—P. Sawney, at 2—T. Martin, at 2.

BEFORE MR. REGISTRAR WINSLOW.—Dividends: R. Dickens, at 11—J. Sumpton, at 11—J. Stevens, at 11. First meetings: J. Evans, at 11—W. Wilson, at 12—F. A. Wickham, at 12—W. Woolley, at 12—W. G. Sickles, at 12—E. M. Rashley, at 12—H. Spark, at 1—A. Masterton, at 1—G. H. Hurst, at 1—C. Jones, at 2—J. Thompson, at 2.

BEFORE MR. REGISTRAR HIGGINS.—First meetings: D. Britton, at 11—B. Wright, at 11—G. Batchelor, at 11—M. L. Harris, at 11—C. Clarke, at 11—J. G. Ulrich, at 11—W. V. Empson, at 11—G. B. Bond, at 12—R. H. Bray, at 12—G. F. Biggans, at 12—E. R. Palmer, at 12.

Mr. Commissioner Holroyd is the commissioner of the day. Mr. Registrar Brougham is the registrar of the day.

COURT OF BANKRUPTCY.—JAN. 5.

(Before Mr. Commissioner Goulburn.)

IN RE SAMS.—NOVEL APPLICATION.

Mr. Child applied to the court under the 114th section of the act of 1861 for an order to sanction a sale of certain property. The bankrupt, a trader, a foolish young man, had gone to California, leaving a considerable property behind him, and many debts unpaid. The copyhold property had been sold for an amount which had paid all the creditors in full, and an order was now asked to vest the property in question in the purchaser.

His Honour said the application was a novel one, and wished to know if there was any precedent for such an order.

Mr. Registrar Winslow said there was such a precedent in Mr. Commissioner Holroyd's court. He believed the 114th section of the new act had been introduced for the purpose of enabling the court to give a title, and thus save the expenses of conveyance.

His Honour said that under those circumstances he would make the order, on the requisite preliminaries being complied with.

IN RE DE CASTRO.

The bankrupt was a merchant, of Fenchurch-street. This was the sitting for order of discharge. The liabilities are 13,000*l.*; assets sufficient for a dividend of about 1s. in the pound.

Mr. Bagley opposed for the assignees on the ground that the bankrupt had embarked in rash and hazardous speculation, and had contracted debts without probable means of payment. He had made large consignments to a brother in Rio Janeiro; the case had been adjourned to ascertain what those consignments would realise, but the result had not been of any advantage to the estate. After hearing Mr. Lawrance for the bankrupt,

His Honour said there were circumstances in the case which involved important principles in the administration of commercial law. The bankrupt, who had kept his books with tolerable accuracy, had contracted debts of 13,000*l.*, and all that had been realised was 150*l.* The creditors might well ask how this had happened. The bankrupt's account was not truthful; he represented that 300*l.* or 400*l.* was due from his brother, but it turned out that the bankrupt was in reality a debtor to his brother. He had begun business at the early age of 18, he had rushed into rash and hazardous speculations, having lost above 5,000*l.* by speculations in corn. He represented his profits in the last year to have been 1,700*l.*, but he gave no satisfactory account of the disposal of this money. He had no right to go on ordering goods up to the last moment. The least reflection might have told him that he could not pay without probable means of paying them; and the order of discharge must be suspended for six months from that date, with protection.

IN RE WATT AND LONG.

The bankrupts were described as shipping merchants, of Broken-wharf, Upper Thames-street. It was their second pass examination, and for his order of discharge; the other bankrupt has absconded. The debts are 15,982*l.*; property held by secured creditors, 11,529*l.*

Mr. Linklater opposed for the assignees. The transactions of the bankrupts had been to a very large amount. They had obtained large quantities of goods on credit, but could not tell what had become of them. Watt attributed this to Long having absconded and taking with him the materials necessary for a proper account. The bankrupts had been in the habit of buying goods and immediately obtaining advances on them, sometimes even before they were bought.

The Commissioner—Are there any assets?

Mr. Graham, the official assignee, said he had only 35*l.* in hand.

Mr. Linklater said that it was very convenient for Watt to lay the blame on Long; probably Long, if present, would blame Watt. Their partner, Ralph, in the department above, the lithographic department, had been 16,800*l.*; of those goods they had sold over the counter 5,000*l.*, and had pledged others to the extent of 11,500*l.*, leaving a deficiency of upwards of 2,000*l.*

The Commissioner—Have any steps been taken to find Long?

Mr. Linklater said the assignees had no funds.

The Commissioner—He ought to have been prosecuted.

Mr. Linklater said they were given to understand by Watt that South America was his destination. Long had been in the habit of obtaining advances from a Mr. Joseph Davison, in Cheapside, on the deposit of goods, some of which were shipped to the Confederate States. Davison admitted that he had charged the bankrupt interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per month, or 60 per cent. per annum. He had sometimes charged 1*l.* or 2*l.* for the loan of 100*l.* for a day. Watt knew of these advances. He admitted that they had begun business without capital. It was asked that the examination should be adjourned for three months.

Mr. Watson opposed for creditors, and also asked for an adjournment.

Mr. Sargood was willing, if the bankrupt was allowed to pass, that the sitting for discharge should be adjourned. The bankrupt had begun business as agent for a Nottingham house, Messrs. Simons, who assisted him to commence on his own account. Having to travel a great deal, he had taken Long into partnership, who brought in 80*l.* Their original business was that of importers of lithographic stones and materials, and colour merchants, and there were only liabilities of 200*l.* in respect of that legitimate business. But during Watt's absence his partner had incurred immense liabilities with wholesale houses in the soft goods trade, which had no connection whatever with their own business. Long took care that no records of these transactions should appear in the books of the firm; and it was impossible for Watt to render any better account.

Watt, being examined, stated that they began business in February, 1862. Long had been a salesman in a lace warehouse. He knew nothing of the lithographic business, but had only to keep the books and exercise orders. Mr. Simons, of Nottingham, sold witness the business for 300*l.* Long brought in 70*l.*; witness nothing. None of the purchases of the wholesale houses had been made by witness. He only knew of them afterwards from a ledger which Long left behind him. Only 200*l.* of their debts was in respect of the lithographic business. He first saw Davison at his office in Cheapside, where he went to look for Long. They were drinking brandy. (A laugh.) Long was not in a fit state for business, and he sent him home in a cab. He had gone to look for Long, because there was no money to pay the wages of the man and boy whom they employed. He could give no further information than he had done of the transactions of his partner. No single shilling's worth of the goods ever passed through his hands, or came to the partnership premises. He was not in the habit of looking at the cash-book of the firm. He knew that Long was doing business with Davison, buying goods from wholesale houses, and shipping them through Davison. This had been going on for five or six months before the bankruptcy. He never formed any idea as to the amount, but he should have been surprised and frightened if he had known that it was 1,000*l.* He believed that Long had got advances, but did not know of any transactions of that kind. There were frequent entries in the cash-book of advances from Davison—as much as 500*l.* in one week; but he sometimes did not see the cash-book for four months; he was very loose in looking at it. He knew of money being received by Long from Brown and Son, whom he had since found were auctioneers.

Ultimately the sitting was adjourned.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

The January session of the Central Criminal Court was opened yesterday before the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, the Recorder, Alderman Challis, Alderman Finnis, Mr. Alderman and Sheriff J. C. Lawrence, Mr. Sheriff Jones, Mr. Under Sheriff Mackrell, and Mr. Under Sheriff Farrer, &c.

The first edition of the calendar contains the names of 93 prisoners.

The Recorder, in his charge to the grand jury, said that although only a short period had elapsed since the last session, there was a very considerable number of prisoners for trial, and some of the cases were of a very serious character. There was only one case charge of wilful murder, and this was of rather a peculiar character. It being alleged that the prisoner had caused the death of her child in an endeavour to destroy herself with it. This in law amounted to the crime of wilful murder, and the only question for the grand jury was, whether the act was a deliberate one on the part of the prisoner, or whether at the time she had no intention to cause the death of her infant. There were three cases of manslaughter, but they appeared all of a similar character, and had been caused by reckless driving. There was one very serious charge against a man for wounding with intent to murder. The prosecutrix in the case was the wife of the prisoner, and it appeared by her statement, which was taken at a time that she was not expected to live, that the injury was inflicted by the prisoner. This appeared the only evidence there was, and the prisoner's statement was that he was in bed when he saw his wife take up a razor and cut her throat, and he got out of bed and called out "Murder." That was certainly the cry which attracted attention, but the prosecutrix, who was not able to articulate at the time when the prisoner made this statement, shook her head and pointed to the prisoner. The police-constable who was called in, however, remarked that the bed had not been lain in that night, as it was a feather bed, and there was no impression on it. There would be, however, evidence that the prosecutrix had on a previous occasion attempted to destroy herself by cutting her throat, and it would be for the grand jury to say whether the evidence would satisfy them that the act was committed by the prisoner. There was one case which would require careful consideration, to which he should advert, but he did not think it his duty, or he should not have thought it best to call their attention, though he should not go into the details of the evidence. There were a series of parties before them on a charge of having possession of a quantity of paper which had been manufactured at the mills of Messrs. Portal, for the purpose of printing Bank of England notes, without lawful excuse. The principal evidence was that of a lad named Brown, who was employed at the mills where the paper was manufactured, and who himself admitted that he had taken the paper from time to time, and had been afterwards led to take it, and that he was in the habit of taking the paper from time to time, and had been induced to do so by the conduct of one of the prisoners. He then called the attention of the grand jury to the portions of the evidence of the other witnesses, which, he said tended to confirm the statement of Brown, and the question for them to consider was whether the facts proved were sufficient to justify them in returning a true bill. These were the only cases to which he thought it necessary to call the attention of the grand jury. They then retired to the grand jury room.

Horace Tyler, 39, pleaded guilty to two indictments, charging him with embezzling various sums of money, the property of the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway Company.

Mr. Lilley, who appeared for the prosecution, informed the court that the prisoner was employed as clerk at the goods station of the company at the Bricklayers' Arms, and the mode in which he had committed the offences to which he had pleaded guilty was by falsifying the accounts of the carmen who were sent out with goods, or rather by neglecting to give them the proper bills of charges, and then receiving the amounts himself, which he had no business to do.

The Recorder inquired the total amount of the prisoner's defalcations.

Mr. Lilley said he believed they amounted to about 20*l.* altogether.

The prisoner was sentenced to twelve months' hard labour.

John Hornby, 19, porter, and *James Merritt*, 27, labourer, were charged with burglariously breaking into the dwelling-house of William Earl and another, and stealing 1,300 yards of silk, value 200*l.*, their property.

Mr. Pater conducted the prosecution; the prisoners were defended by Mr. Daly.

The prosecutors, in this case, carry on business as umbrella manufacturers in Monkwell-street, City, and on the night of the 29th of November the warehouse was locked up as usual, no person being left upon the premises. The place was entered during the night by some persons clambering over the roofs of the adjoining houses and forcing open a skylight, and then obtaining access to the warehouse by means of a rope ladder, which they left behind them, and a large quantity of silk was stolen. On the morning of the 30th, about eight o'clock, a cab was seen to draw up close to the warehouse of the prosecutors, and the prisoner Hornby, who was in their service as porter, and two other men, were represented to have got out of the vehicle, and they were seen to place several large parcels in it, and the cab was then driven off. The principal evidence against the prisoner Hornby was that of a young woman living in the neighbourhood, who swore positively to his being one of the men who were engaged in the robbery; and when the prisoners were taken into custody, Merritt admitted that he was in company with Hornby during the whole of the night of the 30th of November, and they both gave contradictory statements with regard to the manner in which they had been engaged on the night in question, and one statement, that they had slept at their lodgings, was clearly proved to be false. On the part of the prisoners an attempt was made to set up an alibi, and several witnesses were examined whose evidence went to show that during the evening of the 29th of November, and until half-past twelve o'clock at night, they were at a public-house called the Prince Regent, and that they went from this public-house to a coffee-shop in the City-road, where they remained until half-past eight o'clock on the morning of the 30th.

The Recorder having summed up, the jury, after a short deliberation, found both the prisoners *Not Guilty*.

THE BANK PAPER ROBBERY.

It is expected that the trial of the six prisoners, George Buncher, Robert Cummings, William Burnett, Richard Brewer, James Griffiths, and Henry Williams, who are charged with stealing a quantity of Bank of England note paper from the mills at which it is manufactured at Laverstoke, in Hampshire, and also with having endeavoured to carry out an extensive system of forging Bank of England notes, will take place to-morrow morning. Sir Fitzroy Kelly and Mr. Bovill, Q.C., are specially retained, with Mr. Giffard and Mr. Matthew, to conduct the prosecution on behalf of the Bank of England. Serjeant Ballantine is specially retained, with Mr. F. H. Lewis and Mr. D. D. Keane, to defend the prisoner Brewer; Mr. Pater and Mr. Greenock are retained to defend Buncher; and Mr. E. T. Smith will defend Cummings. The other prisoners are undefended. Among the charges that will be preferred against the prisoners are that of feloniously forging certain notes of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, with having feloniously and without lawful excuse in their custody in their possession divers sheets of paper, the words "Bank of England" being visible in the substance of such paper. They will also be charged with feloniously having in their possession divers sheets of paper upon which there was an impression of certain words, figures, numbers and ornaments resembling a Bank of England note. The prisoners will also be charged with having forged Bank of England notes feloniously in their possession, and likewise with being feloniously in possession of plates upon which portions of the contents of a Bank of England note were engraved. There are more than sixty witnesses to be examined for the prosecution, and the trial will last two, if not three days.

NEW COURT.

(Before T. Chambers, Esq., Q.C., Common Serjeant.)

Louis Gover, 40, electro-plater, was indicted for feloniously having in his possession certain instruments for the manufacture of counterfeit coin.

Mr. Clerk, with whom was Mr. Poland (instructed by the Solicitor to the Mint), conducted the prosecution, and the prisoner was defended by Mr. Lilley.

It appeared from the evidence of Mr. Brennan, inspecting officer to the Mint authorities, that on the 6th December last he went, accompanied by several police-officers, to a house occupied by the prisoner in a retired place known as Leslie's-gardens, Bermondsey, about 9 o'clock in the morning. The house consisted of three rooms, one above another, and on Mr. Brennan reaching the top room he found two galvanic batteries, properly charged with acids, ladles with white metal recently fused, plaster of Paris, antimony, sand, files, and all the usual implements used by the makers of counterfeit coin. The prisoner was himself apprehended while attempting to escape from the window of the second-floor room, by Sergeant Leathers, of the P division, to whom he said, "Oh, dear, I thought I had got out of the old —— (meaning Brennan) way. I never thought he would have found me out here. So help me God, I have not been making for two or three days; my trade is a fortunate job that you came so early, for had you come a little later you would have had me all to rights; but you will find enough to get me committed for trial, but I shall be 'turned up'"—a slang term for acquitted.

The jury found the prisoner *Guilty*, but the Common Serjeant deferred sentence, in order that the opinion of the Court for Crown Cases Reserved might be taken as to whether the galvanic batteries found on the prisoner's premises came within the 24th section of the 24th and 25th Victoria, viz., a machine for the making of counterfeit coin.

Elizabeth Pike, 26, married, was found *Guilty* on an indictment charging her with feloniously uttering counterfeit coin.

Mr. Craufurd and Mr. Poland prosecuted; and Mr. F. N. Lewis defended.

In reply to the court, Mr. Brennan stated that he had known the prisoner ever since the year 1858, and had frequently seen her in custody for uttering base coin, and that she had several times been convicted, and on the last she had undergone a sentence of 18 months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

The Common Serjeant, in passing sentence, told the prisoner that she was an incorrigible offender who would not take warning from what she had already undergone. From the document before him it was manifest that since the year 1858 her whole time had been taken up in the commission of crime and its expiation in prison. Under such circumstances he should fail in his duty to the public if he did not pass a sentence of severity, and that sentence was that she be kept in penal servitude for the term of five years.

The remainder of the cases tried in this court presented no features of importance meriting a report.

THIRD COURT.

(Before Mr. Commissioner Kerr.)

Frederick Wood, meat salesman, surrendered to take his trial on an indictment charging him with exposing for sale certain meat which was unfit for human food.

Mr. Sleigh and Mr. Edward Besley appeared for the prosecution, which was instituted by the Commissioners of Sewers for the City of London, and Mr. Serjeant Ballantine (specially retained) attended with Mr. F. H. Lewis for the defence.

It appeared from the opening statement of Mr. Sleigh that the prisoner, a meat salesman carrying on business in Tyler's-market, adjoining Newgate-market, had directed that a cow should be sent to a slaughter-house in Holloway, for to there slaughtered and dressed for market. The cow, on its way to Holloway, became ill, but still was able to reach the slaughter-house, where the animal was killed. Afterwards the appearances which the carcase presented were such that the meat was greased previous to being sent up to market. The carcase arrived at the defendant's shop on the following day, where it was seen and seized by one of the inspectors of nuisances, as being unfit for human food.

The evidence adduced to support the prosecution established the fact that the defendant had an opportunity of seeing the carcase at Holloway, but not after it reached the market, where it arrived before he (defendant) came to business, and was found hanging amongst some good meat.

Mr. Commissioner Kerr stopped the case, and the jury immediately returned a verdict of *Acquittal*, and the defendant was discharged.

MIDDLESEX SESSIONS.

The January quarter sessions of the peace for the county of Middlesex commenced yesterday, before Mr. Bodkin, Assistant-Judge, and a full bench of magistrates. The calendar is unusually heavy, there being no less than 133 prisoners committed for trial. The state of education of the prisoners was reported to be as follows:—Could neither read nor write, 29; can read only, 29; can read and write imperfectly, 71; and read and write well, 4.

The Assistant-Judge, in addressing the grand jury on the duties that would devolve upon them, said that, although the calendar was numerically heavy, he thought that might be accounted for from the fact that a week more than usual had elapsed since the termination of the last session, and therefore the large number of prisoners was rather to be attributed to that fact than to an increase of crime. The cases that would be brought before them would involve no difficulty; but if they required any information in the performance of their duties, he would be happy to render it.

The grand jury then retired.

James Crooks, 38, ivory-worker, was indicted for stealing a purse and the sum of 7s. 6d., the property and monies of James Beaton, from the person of Mary Beaton.

This was an ordinary street robbery and the prisoner pleaded guilty.

Lockyer, the officer of the House of Correction, Coldbath-fields, said the prisoner was an old offender, and had been six times convicted. He was sentenced to six months' imprisonment on the 18th February, 1851; three months on the 16th of September, 1851; two months on the 20th of May, 1852; twelve months on the 13th of September, 1852; four years' penal servitude on the 24th of July, 1854; and since then for two months at Marlborough-street, on the 14th of August, 1862.

The Assistant-Judge commented with some severity on this prisoner being sentenced to two months' imprisonment at Marlborough-street for larceny with all these previous convictions, and following a sentence of four years' penal servitude. The sentence on the prisoner now was, that he be kept in penal servitude for five years.

Henry Hearne, 33, shoemaker, was indicted for feloniously breaking and entering the dwelling-house of George Dalziel, and stealing two cloaks, and other articles, value 4*l.*, his property.

The prisoner pleaded guilty. The particulars of the case have already appeared.

The Assistant-Judge said the prisoner was a most dangerous person to be at large. He had been guilty of a most determined burglary, and when an honest man interfered and tried to prevent him from escaping, he had tried to garotte him, a crime of which they had heard a good deal lately as having taken place in the metropolis. The sentence upon him was that he be kept in penal servitude for four years.

Two witnesses who had assisted in capturing the prisoner, and in preventing him from pillaging the house, received from the court 2*l.* each, as an acknowledgment of their conduct.

THE POLICE COURTS.

MANSION HOUSE.

William Grimmitt, a well-dressed, respectable-looking man, about 35 years of age, was brought up on a charge of forging two bills of exchange for 300*l.* and 68*l.*, purporting to be accepted by Joseph Beach, of Worcestershire, with intent to defraud Messrs. Spooner and Co.

Mr. Lewis, jun., appeared to prosecute, and Mr. Wontner attended on behalf of the prisoner.

The evidence went to show that he carried on business as a Josh. Beach stated that he carried on business as a miller at Dudley, in Worcestershire. He was a customer of Mr. Turner, by whom the prisoner was employed, and he always transacted business through the prisoner. The two bills produced were very much like his handwriting, but they were not accepted by him, nor by his authority. He owed Mr. Turner 368*l.* 4s. on the 12th Nov., and on the 12th December he gave the prisoner a cheque for 303*l.* 13s. 4d., which was that sum less the discount, and he produced his receipt.

The prisoner was remanded.

CLERKENWELL.

Michael Bowler, a bricklayer's labourer, residing at 6, Adelaide-square, South-street, Lower-road, was charged before Mr. D'Eyncourt with attempting to murder Mary Anne Connor, a single woman, residing at 12, Frog-lane, Lower-road, Islington.

Mr. Thomas Wakeling appeared for the defendant.

The complainant, who appeared in the witness box with her head enveloped in surgical bandages, said that about eight o'clock on Boxing-night she was passing through Adelaide-square, when she met the prisoner and asked him where he meant by beating her aged father and mother. In the course of the afternoon the prisoner had assaulted her father and mother and had done them a great deal of injury. The prisoner made use of very bad language and said, "You——, I will murder you;" and at the same moment he took from under his arm a large fire poker, and after striking her on the body hit her on the top of the head with such force that it felled her to the ground and rendered her insensible. The prisoner made his escape at that time, and when he was taken into custody some hours afterwards and told the charge, he said he knew nothing about the matter; but on the way to the police station the prisoner dropped a poker, which had blood on the end of it. She (witness) had been attended by a doctor ever since the occurrence, and was now far from well. This was not the first time that the prisoner had been in custody, as he was charged at the court with biting a piece out of a man's face. Witness was very weak from loss of blood, and her shawl and dress were saturated with blood.

In answer to Mr. Wakeling, the witness stated that she had not charged a man of the name of Fitzgerald with committing the assault of which she now complained.

Dr. James Greenwood, of York-place, Upper-street, Islington, said that the complainant, Mary Ann Connor, was brought to his surgery on the night in question, suffering from a large wound in the scalp, laying bare the bone to the extent of three inches. She suffered greatly from loss of blood. She was in danger for some time, and had it not been that she was a strong young woman she might have lost her life. She was now out of danger.

Mr. Wakeling said he was instructed to deny the charge in toto, and said that the complainant was mistaken in the identity of the prisoner.

Witnesses were called, but they failed to prove the defence, one of them stating that the prisoner took the poker out for self-protection.

Mr. D'Eyncourt said that had there not been a disturbance before this affair happened he should have sent the prisoner for trial to the sessions. As it was he should send him to the House of Correction, with hard labour, for three calendar months.

The prisoner, who said he was not guilty, was then removed.

Dr. Greenwood applied for his costs of attendance on two occasions at this court. He had attended the complainant ever since the assault, and had not been paid a single farthing.

Mr. D'Eyncourt said he could not allow any expenses, as he had no fund at his disposal for that purpose.

Dr. Greenwood thought it was very hard that medical men should be called up at all hours of the night to attend to cases for which they got no fee, and then be compelled to attend the police-court and give evidence, and not then be paid for their loss of time. If medical gentlemen refused to get up and attend to such cases, they would be thought very hard-hearted, and public indignation would be raised against them.

Mr. D'Eyncourt said that Dr. Greenwood had better write to the Home-office, and he would certify that it was a proper case for the costs to be allowed.

Dr. Greenwood said he would do so, and, having thanked his worship, left the court.

MARLBOROUGH-STREET.

Two fellows, named *Wm. Spencer* and *Thomas Leonard*, were charged before Mr. Tyrwhitt with burglary.

Richard Wolf, 106 F, said—At a quarter past 3 on Sunday morning I was on duty in Denmark-place, St. Giles's, and from some footmarks on a wall at the rear of No. 27, Denmark-street, a beer-shop, kept by a Mr. Rowland, I was led to believe that some persons had been over the wall. I then went round to the front door and listened and heard persons moving about in the bar. I remained a few minutes till another constable came up, when I placed him at the back of the house to watch, and then rang the bell to rouse the landlord. The constable then called out to me and said, "Here they are." I went to the back of the house, and heard some one trying to unfasten the back door. I then put my shoulder to the door and forced it, and found Spencer in the yard. I asked him what he did there, and he replied, "Nothing, sir." I then took him into custody, and handed him over to the other constable; and on searching the yard I found a pair of steps against the wall and leading to a back window. I entered through the window, which was unfastened, and on the taproom table I found a quantity of knives and forks, boxes, and other articles, all packed up ready for removal. I examined the premises, and found that an inner door, leading from the taproom to the bar, had been forced open, and the premises were in great confusion. The constable I had left at the back then gave an alarm that some one was going over the wall at the back, and Leonard was taken into custody by another constable.

William Baldwin, 133 E, said—I was placed at the back of the house in Denmark-place on Sunday morning, and went up a passage, and having heard a noise, went and saw Spencer there and took him into custody, and afterwards saw Leonard go over the tiles towards some leads. I called out, and another constable went after him. I searched Spencer, and found some keys on him, a latch key, and a pocket handkerchief on him, all of which were identified by prosecutor.

Charles Shave, 125 E, proved finding Leonard secreted in the yard of a neighbouring house.

Sergeant Hill, 5 F, said—I took Leonard to the Bow-street station on Sunday morning. On the way Leonard said to Spencer, "I told you we were making a sight too much noise, and that the slop (constable) was at the door listening. It was a glass of very good old ale, wasn't it? (Laughter.) He keeps a glass of good ale, don't he? For that I shall have to go to Australia. I tried hard for it in 1859, but if he don't send me this time I'll boot the — old judge. I'll have my boot ready unlaced for him." A knife was found in the taproom, a strange one to the landlord.

Mr. John Rowland, of 27, Denmark-street, beer-shop keeper, identified the articles produced as his property, and said the place was safe when he went to bed.

George Gray, superannuated from the police owing to injuries inflicted on him by a ruffian, said Leonard received 12 months' imprisonment in 1858, and in 1859 three years' penal servitude, 13 convictions being then proved against him.

Committed for trial.

WESTMINSTER.

Catherine Harrington, a dirty, diminutive woman, was brought before the magistrate charged with being drunk, and begging in Onslow-square.

Police-constable William Kemp, 238 B, stated that on the previous afternoon he was attracted by an outcry from Onslow-square, and on going there found the prisoner following a lady, who was going to church. Prisoner as she walked after the lady was swearing at her.

Mr. Arnold—Did you hear what for? What did she say?

Constable—She was swearing at her for refusing to give her a penny to buy bread. The prisoner was drunk, and I immediately took her from the lady. On her way to the station-house the prisoner said that she had come from Hammersmith that morning, and had got no money. The lady she was following and swearing at was a lady who, the prisoner was accompanied by another woman with a child without shoes or stockings, but she went away directly I came up.

Mr. Arnold—Did you see the accused beg of any one else?

Witness—I did not; but I was, after she was in custody, informed that she had been annoying a gentleman at his house in Onslow-square, and had created a disturbance there.

Mr. Arnold—What was her conduct in going to the station-house?

Witness—She made a great disturbance as she went through the streets. She was altogether very noisy and troublesome.

Mr. Arnold (to prisoner)—What have you to say to the charge?

Prisoner—I have got nothing to say.

Mr. Arnold—Your conduct is very bad; it is a very scandalous case. Had the charge of begging been the only one, I would have given you the severest punishment; but as it is not, I commit you for seven days for being drunk and riotous.

SOUTHWARK.

A smart-looking young fellow, who gave the name of *John Perry*, was brought before Mr. Burcham charged with stealing a watch from the person of Robert Thompson, at the entrance of the Surrey Theatre.

The prosecutor said that on Saturday evening last he came from Brixton with a friend to witness the performance at the Surrey Theatre. There was a great crowd waiting outside at the time for the doors to open, and while witness was standing among the people a young man came up to him and pointed to a board, on which was set forth that persons could enter that way to avoid the crowd on the payment of a small extra sum. Witness put his hand in his pocket for the purpose of taking out the money to pay for his admission, when the prisoner came forcibly in front of him, and snatched his watch, and passed something to the other. He turned round to the prisoner and seized him, and charged him with stealing his watch. He replied that he did not steal the watch, but if he came with him outside the crowd he would show him the chap who stole it. Witness told him he should not let him go as he saw him steal it, and he had no doubt he passed it to the other man who ran off. A police-constable then came up, and he gave him into custody.

Police-constable 186 L said he saw a disturbance among the crowd at the Surrey Theatre, and on arriving there the prosecutor gave the prisoner into custody for stealing his watch. He searched the prisoner, but nothing was found on him. He asked for a remand, to enable him to apprehend the man who made his escape.

The prisoner denied all knowledge of the robbery, or having any connexion with the other man.

Mr. Burcham remanded him until Thursday next.

THAMES.

Captain Rundall Stone, the master, *Louis Lau*, a foreigner, the mate, and *Henry Francis*, boatswain, of the ship Martha Pope, from Honduras, were brought up on a writ of habeas corpus from Newgate, charged with manslaughter in causing the death of a youth named William Curtis by ill-usage and neglect on the high seas, and the depositions being completed were committed for trial.

DR. LANKESTER ON INFANTICIDE.

At an inquest held at the Wellington Tavern, University-street, respecting the murder of a child by cruel exposure, Dr. Lankester took occasion to call the public attention to the important subject of the great frequency of unpunished child murder. The learned coroner said that the most alarming feature was that the police, seeing that cases of infanticide had become so common, no longer exerted themselves to discover the perpetrators of such murders. It was much to be feared that the public, finding that infanticide was constantly attended with impunity, would cease to regard it as a crime. The result, of course, would be a sacrifice of infant life to an extent that would be dreadful to contemplate. He was aware that there was a general disposition to shrink from regarding this crime in its proper light, and an unfortunate tendency to ignore its prevalence, but from his experience he had no hesitation in saying that such a course was erroneous and mischievous, and that the proper remedy was to be found in facing the evil boldly. Already the partial ventilation of the subject in the columns of the press had caused a sensible diminution in the numbers of such cases—at all events, in the populous district of Central Middlesex. When he first became coroner, he found that in 73 inquests in which there were 1,000 cases of infanticide, they had been as many as 73 inquests had been held. Owing partly to the manner in which the juries did their duty, by returning verdicts of wilful murder against the criminals, even though they were unknown, so that the police could not or did not try to follow up the matter, and partly owing to the publicity given to the proceedings in the newspapers, the numbers had become gradually reduced until they were now about 62 inquests. He would earnestly urge upon the authorities the necessity of infusing more energy into the police arrangements. The appointment of female searchers, and the careful watching or stopping of young women at night when carrying suspicious parcels, he considered would be measures likely to deter intending criminals.

A police-sergeant present said that the police did what they could in the matter. The Victoria arches were so frequently used to deposit bodies that special watches were set, but upon one occasion, within two hours after a search had been made, the body of a murdered child was deposited there.

In the case immediately under consideration it was proved that the deceased had been placed naked on the ground near the arches of the Metropolitan Railway, and that it had died from the cold.

The jury returned a verdict of "Wilful murder against some person or persons unknown."

SINGULAR CASE OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY.

A most remarkable case of mistaken identity has occurred at Kingsclere, in Hampshire, in which it was supposed that a tailor at Trowbridge, named Jacob Long, had been drowned in a mill dam, a dead body having been found there. It appears that a man who gave the name of Jacob Long, and who stated that he came from Trowbridge, Wilts, applied for relief at the Kingsclere workhouse, and was placed in the casual wards. After breakfast on the following day he left, and beyond being seen in Kingsclere nothing more was heard of him. However, on Christmas morning it was stated that a baker in Kingsclere, named Martin Palmer, had disappeared, and could not be found. Inquiries were made, and it was ascertained that Palmer had, on the day immediately before his disappearance, been to the workhouse and left a loaf as a sample of a tender for supplying the union. It appears that there was a great resemblance between the men—Palmer, of Kingsclere, and Long, of Trowbridge—and when the body was taken from the mill dam it was believed to be that of the latter. At the inquest evidence was taken in the name of Jacob Long, the person who had seen the body in the dam, and the jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased, Jacob Long, was found drowned, but how he got into the water there was no evidence to show. The coroner's warrant for the burial of the body was made out, but just before it was removed a juryman thought he would take a last look at the body, as he was not altogether satisfied it was that of Jacob Long. The result of his inspection was a perfect conviction that the coroner and jury had been mistaken in the identity of the deceased, and that the body before him was not that of Long, of Trowbridge. In order, however, to be thoroughly satisfied of the accuracy of his surmise, the wife of Palmer was sent for, and she at once identified the body of her husband. Palmer's body was removed to his native village for burial, but it was thought that a second inquest would have to be held.

FIRES IN THE METROPOLIS.—At an early hour yesterday morning the top part of the premises belonging to Messrs. Stebbing and Co., cabinet-makers, was consumed, and the roof of No. 68, Brewer-street, Somers-town, was destroyed and part of the roof burned off. Another fire happened in the premises of Mr. H. Goodall and Sons, boot and shoe manufacturers, No. 166, Great Portland-street, Marylebone. Much damage was done to the building and the stock in trade, and unfortunately the occupiers were uninsured.

DEATH FROM STRYCHNINE.—Last night an adjourned inquest was held before Dr. Lankester, at the Middlesex Hospital, relative to the death of George Helmett, in the service of Messrs. Hopkins and Williams, wholesale druggists, New Cavendish-street, whose death was caused by strychnine. The evidence showed that on Christmas eve the deceased and some workmen partook of some beer on the premises, though its admission was prohibited by the premises. On Friday morning deceased expressed a wish for some beer, when a youth named Collis pointed to a bottle from which the beer had been taken, and which bottle was in a room where strychnine was kept. Each of them drank some of it, when Collis left. In a few minutes afterwards a heavy fall was heard in the room; and upon an assistant named Brown going there, deceased was found on the floor. He was taken to the Middlesex Hospital, and seen by Mr. Devereux, the resident surgeon, who at once saw that he was suffering from the effects of strychnine. He died in a few hours. Collis, who accompanied deceased to the hospital, was suffering from similar symptoms to the deceased, but recovered. Mr. Devereux deposed that on analysis of the contents of the stomach he discovered appearances such as would be the result of strychnine, and in this opinion he was confirmed by Professor Taylor, who found strychnine. He gave a portion of the beer to guinea pigs, each of which died in a few minutes. The jury returned a verdict "that death was caused by strychnine, but how it was administered there was no sufficient evidence to show."

ANOTHER ACCIDENT IN A LIVERPOOL CIRCUS.—An accident occurred in Hengler's *Cirque Variété* on Friday night. The Nicolo troupe were going through the "perch feats," and whilst they were so engaged, one performer having gained the summit of the pole, and another having made a partial ascent, the man whose duty it was to keep the pole in a perpendicular position from his belt allowed it to lose its perpendicular, and the performers were thrown to the ring. Fortunately no serious injury resulted, but the men were very much bruised.

FOUR CHILDREN SUFFOCATED AT GREENOCK.

It is our painful duty to chronicle a very harrowing occurrence which took place on Saturday morning at Greenock, by which four children of one family have been suffocated. The following are the particulars:—William Wood, belonging to Paisley, but for the last eleven years residing in Greenock, a caulker, in the employ of Messrs. Robert Steele and Co., shipbuilders, resided with his wife and five children at 3, Shaw-street, a few doors west from the Rue-end, south side. While he follows his occupation Mrs. Wood carries on a small green-grocery business. The premises consist of the shop to the front, a kitchen behind, and an intermediate apartment, where Mr. and Mrs. Wood slept, the children sleeping in a tent-bed in the kitchen. On Friday night, between eight and nine o'clock, Mr. and Mrs. Wood went out to a party, to the house of Mr. Robert Simpson, spirit merchant, Suttie's Land, Cathcart-street, within a few hundred yards of their shop, taking with them George, aged 14 years, their eldest child. They left their four younger children at home in charge of the house, the shop being shut up. These children were—James, aged 12, William, 9, Lillias, 5, and Grace, 3 years; Sarah M'Geoch, aged 12, a cousin, who had come from Paisley on the previous day to visit them, was also in the house, making five children in all. They were amusing themselves in the absence of their parents, and that to an extent that was noisy, inducing a neighbour to call them to be quiet. It appeared, however, to have been the ordinary amusement in which children will indulge when left alone under similar circumstances. About one o'clock in the morning George was despatched from Mr. Simpson's, to see that all was right with the children at home, and on going down he found that Grace, the youngest, had been put to bed, the girl M'Geoch was stripping Lillias to put her to bed also, and they were all on the eve of retiring to rest, and the fire in the grate was quite out; and this was the condition of the house when he left to return to Mr. Simpson's, after remaining only a short time. Being the holiday season the party sat long, and Mr. Wood returning to his house about five o'clock in the morning, he knocked, but could not obtain admission. He went to the back window, which was unshuttered. On getting the sash up a little he felt the woodwork inside quite warm, and the kitchen densely filled with smoke. Aided by some neighbours he soon obtained admission by forcing in the front door. Nothing was burning in the shop, or in the intermediate apartment, where lay the girl, M'Geoch, in bed unharmed. The girl had the door leading from that apartment into the kitchen shut, and on forcing it in, he found the kitchen filled with smoke. The gas had been screwed out, but fire had been smouldering on the floor, a little to the right side, and in front of the fire-place, and this fire had communicated to and charred all the front of a chest of drawers, on the top of which stood a bookcase filled with books. The floor was burned through, forming a cavity of about thirty inches in diameter, and this seems to have been the seat of the fire. The introduction of fresh air into the apartment caused the hitherto smouldering fire to blaze up, but a neighbour pulled down the bookcase and drawers, and a few buckets of water soon arrested any danger. Opposite to the fireplace stood the bed in which lay the four children of Mr. Wood, and on rushing to ascertain their condition he found them rigid and dead, having every appearance of having died convulsively from suffocation by the smoke. The four bodies were then removed to the house of Mr. Simpson. Drs. M'Fee and Lochhead were soon on the spot, but though a slight pulsation was discernible in the boy James, he was past recovery. The feelings of the bereaved parents, who are industrious, well-doing people, may be better imagined than described. The origin of the fire may have been a match thrown on the floor among some clothing, but this is merely conjectural. The circumstance has thrown a deep gloom over the whole town. This is not the time to moralise on the subject, but we may say that the awful occurrence affords a solemn lesson to parents. The Procurator-Fiscal was immediately put in possession of the facts, and will make the usual examination which devolves on him.—*North British Daily Mail.*

THE NEWCASTLE MURDER.

The remains of the murdered woman, Margaret Docherty, were interred in All Saints Cemetery, Newcastle, on Sunday morning. The hearse arrived at the dead-house at 11 o'clock, and the corpse was followed to the grave by the husband and two sons of the deceased. The deceased woman was a native of Ireland, and her maiden name was Kennedy, but prior to her marriage, which took place in 1832, she lived in Glasgow. On the 18th day of that year her husband, who is a tailor, left home to go to his work at nine a.m., leaving his wife in the house. At 6 o'clock she took him his tea to the workshop, and at seven o'clock she called again, and to them gave him a few shillings. He left his work at 8 p.m., and went and drank a pint or two of ale at the Adelaide Hotel, in Newgate-street, where he remained until nearly 12 o'clock. His wife called at the same house at half-past 11 o'clock, and she was then under the influence of liquor. She left the house with her husband, and on the way towards home they remonstrated with her for not having spent the three shillings to greater advantage than in getting drunk. As they walked up Gallowgate she said she would have more drink, and in order to carry out her intention she went into Freeman's public-house. Her husband took hold of her in order to pull her back again, but he was knocked down by one of three men whom he could not identify. He then went home, and he saw her no more until he saw her dead at the Dead-house on Friday afternoon, the 2nd of January. It will be seen, therefore, that the only time during which she is unaccounted for, is between the hours of 12 o'clock p.m. and 2 a.m. The man George Vass was again brought before the borough magistrates yesterday. A large crowd surrounded the police-office in expectation of catching a glimpse of the prisoner as he was being conveyed from the prison to the office; and in a minute or two after the opening of the doors every part of the court itself was filled, most of those present being of the lowest class, by whom the disgusting details were received with avidity. The proceedings resulted in the prisoner being committed for trial on the charge of "Wilful murder."

THE SUSPECTED POISONINGS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

The inquiry was concluded at Revesby, a few miles from Horncastle, Lincolnshire, on Friday evening, into the circumstances attending the death of an elderly woman named Jemima Garner. The inquest, which has been several times adjourned, took place at the Red Lion Inn, before Mr. Walter Clegg, coroner for the district. The deceased died many months since, and found there. It appears that she was the mother of Jemima Garner, and the rumours having been prevalent as to her death, she came to her end, her remains were exhumed about six weeks ago, and a *post-mortem* examination made by Mr. Bolton, of Horncastle, and Mr. George, of Revesby. The stomach, intestines, heart, liver, and a portion of the spine were sent in sealed jars to Professor Taylor, who, having reported that he had discovered a large quantity of arsenic, John Garner, of Marsham-le-Fen, son of the deceased woman, and Elizabeth Whitaker, who had lived with the parties as servant, and who since the death of the old woman had married Garner, were apprehended by Superintendent Thoresby, of the Lincolnshire constabulary, on a charge of wilful murder. The evidence adduced at the various sittings of the coroner's jury showed that the prisoners had behaved cruelly to the old woman before her death. Other evidence having been adduced, the jury returned a verdict of "Wilful murder" against both prisoners, and they were committed for trial at the next assizes at Lincoln. The facts ascertained in the course of the inquiry have been submitted to the Home Secretary, accompanied by a memorial from the magistrates, a warrant was received for the course of last week by the chief constable, authorising the exhumation of the remains of Hannah Garner, the first wife of the prisoner John Garner, who died early last March. The corpse was accordingly disinterred, and a *post-mortem* examination made by Mr. Bolton, of Horncastle, and Mr. Clegg, of Boston. The result was, that portions of the stomach, intestines, &c., have been forwarded in this case also to Professor Taylor, the local analysis having been attended with the same dreadful results as in the preceding case. On Professor Taylor's report being received, an official inquiry will be instituted into this matter also. It is but fair to add, that the prisoners sustain the terrible charge brought against them with calmness. When John Garner was taken into custody, he said, "I am innocent. If she had been poisoned, it was between my wife and Mrs. Jenkinson. If I had thought my wife would have done such a thing, you think I should have married her? I should have thought she'd be serving me the same." The female prisoner also observed, on her apprehension, "Thank God, I am innocent, the Lord be praised for it!"

THE MURDER NEAR WIGAN.—There appears to be some doubt whether the coroner can hold an inquest, as no one can say that the bones found in the furnace are those of Barton, and there is no body of which the jury can "have the view." The direct way from the cabin to the furnace is through a small doorway half a dozen yards away, and across a plank on to the boilers, the way by which the murderers threw Barton down into the fire-hole from the boilers, after the plank just mentioned, and, unless they did so, it is certainly possible that he was then alive and was living as he was put into the furnace, as finger-marks have been noticed upon the very wall of the boiler-house near this spot, on the begrimed wall of the boiler-house near this spot, and other indications that a living person had fallen from the platform. The police have not yet obtained any clue to the miscreants implicated in the shocking affair.

EXTRAORDINARY ESCAPE FROM CHOKING.—On Saturday last, at the Peebles Freemasons' dinner, John Somerville, shoemaker, was observed to be choked by a piece of meat lodging in his throat. It is supposed to have been caused by his speaking while eating. He was carried out apparently dead, and medical aid was immediately procured, when Dr. Riddell promptly performed the operation of tracheotomy, or opening the windpipe—keeping up artificial respiration—by which the man's life was saved. The piece of meat was afterwards extracted, and we understand the man, though confined to bed, is doing well.—*Border Advertiser.*

A touching proof of the depth of woman's love was witnessed at Canterbury, Connecticut, recently, at the funeral of Sergeant Charles Lewis, who was killed at Antietam. A young lady, Miss Hyde, to whom he was engaged, upon hearing of his death, was taken fatally sick, and died in a few days, and was buried at the same time as her lover.—*Missouri paper.*

LEDGERS AND ACCOUNT BOOKS FOR 1863.—Before ordering any new ledgers or account books you are particularly requested to inspect the Patent Ready Index Ledger.—W. S. Smith and Co., manufacturers, 134, Fenchurch-street, London.—[Advertisement.]

ANNUAL TRADE CIRCULARS.

OILS AND SEEDS.

In forming a retrospect of the transactions in our markets during the past year, it is gratifying to observe that general prosperity has attended all those branches of commerce with which we are connected, and this notwithstanding the pernicious effects of the cotton famine on trade in Lancashire. We began the year with deficient stocks of all our leading commodities, and subsequently a very sparse supply, caused in some instances by American convulsions, in others by natural causes, coupled with a good demand for home trade and exportation, has produced an almost continuous advance in prices, to which speculators and the trade have largely benefited. We again arrive at the beginning of another year with very limited stocks, and should the present prosperity of the country continue, the close of the American blockade be protracted, we look for a heightened period of high prices.

Linseed.—The year commenced with a steady market, but rather a slack demand. Bombay on the spot worth 66*s.*; and Calcutta 61*s.* to 62*s.* per qr.; which prices were, however, not maintained, during January 63*s.* being accepted for the former, and 60*s.* for the latter description. Supplies getting scarce, and crushers buying more freely, stiffened the market, and prices steadily advanced till the beginning of April, when sales of Bombay were made at 66*s.* per qr.; large arrivals, however, caused prices to tend slightly in buyers' favour for a short time. In July prices again took an upward tendency, caused by a very short supply, and consumers coming forward freely; large sales of Calcutta for forward shipment were made at increased rates, and prices continued rising, till in October 72*s.* 6d. to 73*s.* was obtainable for Bombay. The wants of the crushers being supplied, and arrivals becoming more plentiful, prices receded, and by the end of October Bombay and Calcutta had declined to 69*s.* and 64*s.* respectively. Most of the arrivals of Calcutta and Azoff seed being of a very inferior quality, sales were made with difficulty made, whilst good seed met with ready buyers. During the latter part of the year prices ruled in sellers' favour, and fine seed being in demand at very scarce, the market again advanced. During November Bombay was saleable at 71*s.* 6d. to 72*s.*, and Calcutta at 65*s.* 6d. to 66*s.* per quarter delivered. Since then the market has remained steady at a slight decline on the last-reported prices. We quote the present price of Bombay on spot 69*s.* to 70*s.*; Calcutta 63*s.* to 64*s.*; and for the latter September shipment, 62*s.* 6d. c.f.i. and bags, in observable. The importation into London last year was about 20,000 qrs. less than 1861. The quantity afloat from the East Indies to the United Kingdom per last advices shows an excess of 95,000 qrs. as compared with the quantity afloat same time last year, viz.—1863, 211,654; 1862, 117,646.

Linseed Oil.—During the past year considerable animation was shown in the market for this article, with a wide range of prices. The year commenced with a steady market at 33*l.* 15*s.* to 34*l.* per ton, and in consequence of great scarcity and good home and export demand, prices gradually rose (with the exception of a slight decline in April and June) to 43*l.* to 43*l.* 5*s.* here, and 43*l.* in Hull, which prices were reached in September, being the extreme during the year. A large speculative business was then done in the market, and a falling off taking place in the demand, prices ruled again inbuyers' favour. In the beginning of October 42*l.* 15*s.* realised, but by the end of the month 41*l.* 5*s.* was the nearest value. During November prices declined to 38*l.* 15*s.*, and continued with but slight variation to the middle of December, when, in consequence of the price of linseed ruling high, and the demand for cake being slack, crushers were unable to work at a profit, and an advance took place, the quotation being 39*l.* on spot, and 38*l.* 5*s.* in Hull. At the end of the month purchases were made to fulfil contracts, and 40*l.* was paid; the market closing steady at this price on spot and 39*l.* in Hull. The quantity exported from Hull was 14,300 tons, against 10,100 tons in 1861.

Linseed Cakes have been of comparatively slow sale during the year. Mild weather, combined with a large supply of green food, and abundance of grain, had the effect of decreasing the demand. We have but slight variations in prices to notice. The year commenced with New York bags at 11*l.* 10*s.*, and barrels at 12*l.*; by the end of May the value was 10*l.* for the former, and 10*l.* 5*s.* for barrels. An improved demand then took place, with rather higher prices, which have been maintained without material alteration. We quote New York barrels 11*l.*; bags 10*l.* 10*s.*; town made, 10*l.* 10*s.* to 11*l.*; Westerns, 10*l.* The importation into the United Kingdom was 85,650 tons against 111,000 tons in 1861. The present stock here is about 5,560 tons.

Rape cakes have also been in slack demand. The present price is 5*l.* 15*s.* to 6*l.* 5*s.* for English, and 6*l.* 5*s.* per ton foreign.

Rape and Oil Seeds.—The transactions in all descriptions have been very limited, consequent upon an exceedingly short supply. The year opened with a firm market for East India, with a firm market. Calcutta rape met a ready sale at 64*s.*, and Bombay Guzerat at 68*s.* to 70*s.* per quarter. Nearly the whole of the arrivals having been sold previously, the market continued very firm, and prices steadily increased until April, when Calcutta realised 68*s.*, and Bombay Guzerat 73*s.* per quarter; a better supply taking place, combined with a tempting profit inducing holders to realise, had the effect of easing prices, and in June 64*s.* was accepted for the former and 70*s.* to 71*s.* for the latter. News then arrived of the bad harvesting of the continental crop, which was attended with an increased demand more moneyed, and at the beginning of July 67*s.* was paid for Calcutta and 73*s.* for Bombay; finer weather setting in and more favourable news from the Continent, prices drooped 1*s.* to 2*s.* per quarter, but in consequence of the extremely short supply, the market recovered its former firmness, and in September 68*s.* was paid for Calcutta. The quotations varied but slightly during the remainder of the year, the market closing firm at 69*s.* 6d. for Calcutta, 74*s.* to 75*s.* Bombay Guzerat, 67*s.* to 71*s.* Ferozepore, and 68*s.* to 73*s.* for yellow Scinde. Other seeds have been in short supply during the year, and supplies inadequate to the demand. We quote Teel or Gingelly seed 69*s.* to 71*s.* for white and 67*s.* to 69*s.* for brown or mixed; poppy, 60*s.*; and Niger, 50*s.* to 54*s.* per quarter.

Rape and Seed Oils.—Rape oil, notwithstanding the introduction and very general use of rock, or petroleum oils, and an abundant crop of olive, maintains its position as a leading illuminating oil in this country. At the beginning of 1862 the price of brown rape was 43*l.* 10*s.* to 44*l.* per ton, which gradually stiffened, and 46*l.* to 46*l.* 10*s.* paid in March, the market then became quieter, and 44*l.* 15*s.* to 45*l.* was accepted, but in May a large speculative demand set in and 46*l.* again realised. In July, when the report of the failure of the rape crop became confirmed, prices still further advanced until September, when 49*l.* to 50*l.* was reached. The market remained steady until the middle of October; a decline of 25*s.* per ton then took place, the severest quotation being 48*l.*, and a little later 47*l.* to 47*l.* 10*s.*, which prices ruled, with but trifling fluctuations, to the end of December, when, in consequence of a demand springing up for export to France, 48*l.* 10*s.* to 49*l.* was realised, closing firm at the latter quotation. Cotton seed oil is coming into general use both for the home trade and for exportation. Crude has ruled from 27*l.* to 34*l.*, and refined 36*l.* to 42*l.* per ton. A considerable quantity of sunflower oil was imported from Russia during the year, and it has been largely used in the cloth trade, being of a very remarkable character for purposes of a refined nature, but would not be suitable adapted to general purposes, its intrinsic value as compared with other oils was not obtained. A good deal of Cocoanut oil has been imported from France, 44*l.* to 44*l.* 10*s.* and 42*l.* to 43*l.* per ton. The stocks of Madras ground nut and Gingelly oil were low at the commencement of the year, and the quantity imported small; high prices were consequently realised, Madras ranging from 44*l.* to 51*l.*, and Gingelly 42*l.* to 50*l.* per ton.

Olive Oils.—The olive crops of last year were unusually abundant and fine in quality in all the Neapolitan provinces, as well as in some of the Ionian Islands, but very deficient in Spain and some parts of Africa. Early in the year very large sales were made of Neapolitan oil at 47*l.* to 49*l.* f.o.b. in anticipation of a large crop and its reduced duty in the duty; the latter, however, was not realised. As the first for shipment arrived it was found difficult to get rid of at any time, and a strong speculation setting in there, assisted by the very large inquiry for Russia, several hundred tons were bought for export to complete the consumption consequent upon the price of France and these markets. Gallipoli, for cost, freight, and insurance cargoes, Gallipoli very fine, brought 56*l.* to 62*l.* delivered during the year, the highest price being 62*l.* in September.

Cocoanut Oil.—We commenced the year with a stock of 2,400 tons in London, and with a deficient importation in 1860; during last year there was again a small importation and an active export demand throughout the year, which induced importers to realise only at advancing rates.

Palm Oil has been inactive throughout the year, and in fluenced by tallow has gradually receded in price from 43*l.* 10*s.* in January to 41*l.* to 41*l.* 10*s.* in April, but a speculative demand springing up, it advanced to 43*l.*; fine and in August 44*l.* 10*s.* to 45*l.* was the value of fine Lagos: this price has, however, not been maintained, and the market gradually declined to 41*l.*, and is now dull of sale at this quotation.

Fish Oils.—The stoppage of trade in Lancashire has had a marked influence on the sperm oil trade. The want of an outlet has caused the fish oils to be a dull article, and prices have further depressed crude oil and headmatter. The importation was 2,005 tons, and the price has varied from 86*l.* in January to 94*l.* in March, since which it has again declined to 90*l.* The supply of common fish oils has not been large, and there has been considerable scarcity of Northern whale, seal and cod. Prices now ruling: Southern 43*l.* 10*s.*; seal, 48*l.*; cod, 47*l.* to 48*l.* per ton.

Whalefins.—The market opened this year with very small stocks, and the price then ruling was 360*l.* per ton for Davis Straits's Whalebone. Subsequent reports of the ill success of the fishing, and of the capture by the Confederates of numerous American whalers, caused much excitement and speculation in the trade, prices rising rapidly to 600*l.* per ton. The excitement has since somewhat subsided, and prices have declined to 550*l.* for Davis Straits; 525*l.* Polar; 430*l.* Southern. The import for the year was 85 tons. Present stock 40 tons.

Naval Stores.—Till the present year our chief supplies of turpentine have been from the Confederate states of America, but the high prices arising from the blockade of those ports have now so stimulated production in the south of France that our principal trade is from Bordeaux. The demand of American lately has chiefly been for some specific purposes, and for re-shipment to North America. The fluctuations in price have been considerable (the highest point being reached in September). There seems little prospect of prices declining for a long time to come, and in case of a cessation of hostilities in America it will take a much higher price would have been in consequence of the extensive substitution of petroleum spirit for turpentine in the manufacture of paints, a much higher price would have been obtained. Tar has been also largely in the price in January being for Stockholm 23*s.* 6d.; Archangel, 22*s.* per barrel. In June the price had declined to 20*s.* 6d. for the former, 20*s.* for the latter. In the month of September the prospect of short supplies and speculation had driven the market up to 34*s.* for Stockholm

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