

Theatrical Gossip.

Miss Copeland, daughter of the late Liverpool manager has undertaken the management of two Liverpool theatres, vacant by the retirement of Mr Byron.

Mr Henderson, the ex-manager of Liverpool, has opened a dramatic agency in Coventry Street.

The Bouffé Parisiens has three new pieces in preparation, *Madame Beauchamp*, *Les Coiffeurs de St Catherine*, and *Le Cousin Champagn.*

The *Grande Duchesse* is to be revived at Easter, with Mrs Howard Paul and Mr Harrison in the principal parts.

The music in Mr Gilbert's forthcoming burlesque at the New Royalty is in great part taken from Offenbach's *Robinson Crusoe*, for the privilege of using which, it is said, he has had to pay a considerable sum.

The Théâtre Comique offers to the public of New York the entertainment of ballet only, and which, moreover, is a great success.

Miss Julia Matthews and Miss Caroline Parkes have accepted an engagement at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Liverpool, at Easter.

Barnum's celebrated museum situated in the Broadway, New York, has been burned to the ground.

A new one-act "proverb" for two persons, entitled *Deux de Jeu*, is in preparation at the Comédie, the author of which is M. Ernest Legouvé.

Mlle Zellner, pianist, and pupil of Kullak, of Berlin, will shortly arrive in London for the season.

La Revanche d Tris, a one-act comedy in verse by M. Ferrier, is in rehearsal at the Comédie.

The American stage has lost an actress of considerable talent in the death of Miss Mary Gannon.

Rubinstein has produced an immense sensation at Brussels. *Keun de Faverne*, a parody on the *Crime de Faverne*, now playing at the Ambigu, has been produced at the Dejazet.

The Archduke Henry, recently married to an actress, has been, through the personal intervention of the Empress of Austria, allowed to return to Vienna with his bride. The Emperor has recognised the marriage and promised to confer the title of Baroness on the Archduke's wife.

Miss Lydia Thompson will appear at the Strand Theatre at Easter, being engaged to play in a new burlesque by Mr W. Brough.

Signor Arditi has left for Paris in company with Mr Jarrett.

The Holborn Theatre will open with Mr Craven's drama of the *Post Boy* and Mr Burnand's extravaganza of *The White Flown*.

Mr and Mrs Dion Boucicault will in all probability visit the United States next year.

A farce on the co-operative movement is, we hear, in preparation at the Haymarket.

Hermann Sternberg, a first-rate solo violinist, has arrived in London for the season.

The coming boat-race is the subject of the "lightest of pieces" about to be produced at the Adelphi by the author of *Up for the Cattle Show*.

Mr John S. Clarke has in contemplation a tour of Liverpool and other provincial towns. We understand that Mr T. W. Robertson has written a new domestic drama, and Mr John Brougham a new comedy which will be produced for his appearance at Liverpool.

Signor Schira, the eminent composer, has entirely recovered from the effects of his recent accident.

Signor Bottesini has appeared at the Teatro Real, Madrid, and produced a most favourable impression.

Herr Schebor, the conductor at Prague, is engaged on the composition of a new opera called *Die Husitenbrant*.

WAR TAXATION IN TIME OF PEACE.

A public meeting of electors and non-electors of the borough of Finsbury was held on Wednesday evening at the Myddelton Hall, Islington, for the purpose of advocating a large reduction of expenditure and remission of taxation. Mr Alderman Lusk, M.P., presided.

Mr A. Walker moved "That in the opinion of this meeting the national taxation has for many years past been greatly in excess of the real requirements of the State; that it is extravagantly expended, inadequately accounted for, and might be most materially reduced without impairing the efficiency of the public service; and that, considering the distress now prevalent in many districts, it is a serious evil requiring the immediate attention of Parliament, with a view to secure a large remission of the taxation which now presses so heavily upon the people."

Mr C. H. Elt seconded the resolution, which was supported by Mr John Noble, and passed unanimously.

Mr McCullagh Torrens, M.P., proposed a resolution approving of the formation of the Financial Reform Association, and recommending the formation of a local association to co-operate with it in attempting to reduce national expenditure. Excessive expenditure and unjust taxation were knit together in unholy wedlock, and he agreed with the late Mr Cobden in thinking that the way to cut down expenditure was to put an end to excessive taxation, for so long as the money was there, they might be sure means would be found to spend it. One item of expenditure which might be abolished was incurred by sending to Canada troops which could not defend the colony against an enemy. New Zealand and Australia did not want our troops to defend them, and the army in Canada was merely a provocation. The true policy of the Ministry in the new Parliament would be to make a provision for the neutralisation of Canada in case of future war, and disband the army in that colony, so as to save 5,000,000*l.* of taxation. The motion was seconded and carried.—A petition was then adopted, praying Parliament to take immediate measures to effect a large reduction in the public expenditure, to institute a searching inquiry into the management of every department of the public service, to secure a more perfect audit of the national expenditure, and to obtain a remission of many taxes which now press heavily upon the resources of the country, and that are an impediment to the increase of trade, manufacture, and employment. A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE BOAT RACE.—The Oxford and Cambridge crews have been out for practice almost daily. The Oxford crew went out on Thursday for a quarter of an hour's paddle, and at one time reached forty-one strokes per minute. The Cambridge crew also turned out and had a sharp spin to Chiswick. The Oxford crew went out afterwards, accompanied by large numbers of horsemen. They began at thirty-five strokes at the Aqueduct, and rowed the whole course, doing as many as thirty-eight to thirty-nine between Hammersmith and Barnes Bridges. They rowed well at the finish, and did the distance—Putney to Mortlake—in 21 min. 9 secs. A good tide and no wind. The crews' weights are at present:—

OXFORD.		CAMBRIDGE.	
	st. lb.		st. lb.
1. W. D. Benson, Balliol	11 2	1. W. H. Anderson, Trin.	11 2
2. A. C. Yarborough, Lin.	11 10	2. J. P. Nicholls, Trinity	11 1
3. R. Ross, Exeter	11 11	3. J. G. Wood, Emmanuel	12 3
4. R. G. Marsden, Merton	12 0	4. W. H. Lowe, Christ's	12 1
5. J. C. Tinné, University	13 11	5. H. T. Nadin, Pembroke	12 12
6. F. Willan, Exeter	12 10	6. W. F. M. Michael, Down	11 11
7. E. S. Carter, Worcester	11 10	7. J. Hills, Caius	12 0
8. D. Darbishire, Balliol	11 4	8. W. J. Pinckney, Trin.	10 10
C. R. W. Tottenham,		T. D. Warner, Trinity	
Ch. Ch. (cox)	8 8	Hall (cox)	8 2

The crews were out between 3 and 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, and will be probably an hour later to-day. Next week their work will be done in the mornings.

MONETARY REVIEW.

Friday Evening.

The Consol Market has been adversely influenced during the week by political considerations. These, together with the absence of speculation, have caused the stock markets to show a decided tendency towards heaviness. Consols, which closed on Saturday last at 93½ to 93¼ for money and the account with a strong market, have drooped, and the last quotations this evening are 93 to 93½ for money and the account; New and Reduced Three per Cents., 91½ to 92; and Exchequer Bills, 9s. to 14s. prem.

In Indian Securities the Five per Cent. Stock is at 113½ to 114¼; the Four per Cent., 100½ to 101¼ ex div.; the Bonds, 28s. to 33s. prem.; the Four per Cent. Enfaced Paper, 87½ to 88; the Five per Cent., 103¼ to 103½; and the Five-and-a-Half per Cent. 108¼ to 108½.

The Bank return for the week ending the 25th March shows the influence of the revenue and other payments at the end of the quarter. The amount of notes in circulation has increased 307,240*l.*, the aggregate now being 23,334,865*l.*, and the stock of bullion in both departments is 21,438,083*l.*, showing an increase of 156,656*l.*, when compared with the preceding return.

The other Securities have increased 1,262,398*l.*, the amount now exhibiting a total of 19,039,838*l.* The Government balances have also increased by 1,360,252*l.*, the aggregate representing 7,287,746*l.* The private deposits stand at 19,502,226*l.*, which is a decrease on the previous week of 235,488*l.* In the reserve of notes there is also a decrease of 202,035*l.*, the total being 11,764,940*l.*

The *Gazette* return of the total real value of coin and bullion exported in the week ended the 25th inst. states it to have been 358,444*l.*

The return of the Bank of France, although indicating by the continued accession to its stock of bullion a further accumulation of unemployed resources, is slightly more favourable than the previous return. The bullion has increased 360,000*l.*, raising the total held to 46,770,000*l.*, while the private accounts exhibit an augmentation of 533,320*l.* and the Treasury balances of 32,000*l.* The bills under discount show an increase of 26,640*l.*

Foreign Securities, although without much change, have upon the average preserved their previous rates, the tendency, however, has been towards dulness. The following are the final quotations on the Official list: Brazilian Fives marked 72¼ to 72½; Chilean Six per Cents., 89¼ to 89½; Ditto Seven per Cents., 97¼ to 97½; Egyptian Seven per Cents., 1864, 87 to 87½; Ditto, 1862, 82½ to 83½; Ditto Railway Debentures, 90¼ to 90½; Ditto Nine per Cents., 89 to 89½; Italian Fives, 47¼ to 47½; Ditto State Domain, 73½ to 74½; Mexican, 15½ to 15¾; Peruvian Five per Cents. (1865), 78½ to 79; Russian, 1822, 83¼ to 83½; Ditto Four-and-a-Half per Cents., 84¼ to 85¼; Ditto Fives, 1862, 84¼ to 84½; Ditto Anglo-Dutch, 87¼ to 87½; Spanish New Threes, 35½ to 35¾; and Turkish Fives, 33¼ to 33½.

In American Securities United States 5-20 Bonds are at 72 1-16 to 72 3-16; Erie Shares, 46 to 46½; Illinois Centrals, 89¼ to 89½; Atlantic and Great Western Debentures, 27 to 28; and Ditto Consolidated Mortgage Bonds, 29 to 29¼.

In the Railway Market prices have been adversely influenced by the issue of the Caledonian report. The diminished dividend and the rumour that an injunction will be sought to restrain any payment at all, have combined in prejudicing prices. Caledonians were last quoted at 76 to 76¼. Great Eastern are very firm, at 32½ to 33, being a fresh rise of 5s. Metropolitan are at 113½ to 114¼; London and North Western, 114½ to 115; Great Northern A Stock, 99½ to 100; Great Western, 47 to 47½; London and Brighton, 49¼ to 49½; South Western, 85 to 86; South Eastern, 72½ to 73; London, Chatham, and Dover, 18¼ to 18½; and North Eastern (Berwick), 100 to 101. Indian and Canadian Railways are steady, with the exception of a decline of ½ per cent. in Great Indian Peninsula, which are at 108 to 109.

The Metropolitan District Debentures closed 3 to 4 prem. It is expected that the letters of allotment will be issued this evening.

Bank Shares are without material change. London and County are at 51½ to 52½; London Joint Stock, 30 to 32; London and Westminster, 67 to 68; Ditto New, 46½ to 47½; and Union of London, 31½ to 32½.

In Miscellaneous Securities, Anglo-American Telegraph are at 21½ to 22½; Atlantic Telegraph, 5½ to 5¼; General Credit, 2½ to 2¼ dis.; and International Financial, 1½ to 1½ dis.

The transactions in the Certificates of the Foreign and Colonial Government Trust were at about 1 prem.; and the final quotation was 1¼ to 1½ prem. The principal of the subscriptions have been for the paid-up certificates.

It is satisfactory that the shareholders of the Lombardo-