that it affords a dangerous precedent for measures adopted on the spur of the moment by a sole popular Assembly, even in defiance of the civil laws of the country. It has, in fact, been so judged in Paris, and has considerably lowered the character of the Assembly for discretion and forbearance.—Like all questions of privilege, it has of course fired the powerful body which claims to be judge as well as party in the case; but it has excited the suspicion and alarm of those who look to Courts of Justice and the independent administration of the law as a barrier which even the sovereignty of Republican Assemblies is bound to respect.

The Magistracy of France, a most dignified and influential body, is justly offended by such an invasion of its undoubted rights, and by a curious course of events it is led to rely more and more, like the Church, on the protection of the Executive Government. In short, in these transactions the National Assembly has committed faults of the same nature as those imputed to Louis Napoleon; and in the shape of "privilege" it is raising exclusive pretensions at variance with the coëxisting powers of the State, and unsupported by the bulk of the nation. The contest between the two sovereign powers which the Constitution of 1848 called into being is therefore continued with somewhat increased activity, and the present aspect of the struggle is more favorable to the President of the Republic than to the Assembly.

The commercial treaty between France and Piedmont has been renewed, with no essential change in its provisions.

A miracle is alleged to have recently taken place in the church of Saturnin, canton and arrondissement of Apt, department of the Vaucluse, consisting in the flowing of blood from a picture representing the descent of Jesus Christ from the cross. The occasion was the fervent praying of a girl named Rosette Tamisier. The flux of blood from the painting has been observed and testified to by several witnesses, including an Arch-Bishop and Clergyman, officer of gen d' armes, and a sub-Prefect. Rosette on being interrogated by the sub-Prefect, said: "God had effected this miracle for the conversion of sinners, and He had specially chosen St. Saturnin, because, four years ago, this locality was the witness of a great scandal. Her conduct" she added, "had been outrageously calumniated, as also that of a priest; but she had not demanded reparation from God."

The blood which oozes from the painting is said to have been analysed by two medical men, who have declared that its chemical composition exactly corresponds with that of human blood.

From GERMANY we hear of the opening of the Dresden Free Conferences with all due ceremony.

The German papers publish the text of the opening speeches of the Austrian and Prussian Ministers.

Prince Schwarzenburg said:

"GENTLEMEN: I trust that it is not only the common and great object of this meeting which unites us here, but that every one of us is impressed with a desire to see that object attained in the shortest possible time, and to contribute to such attainment.

"The readiness which those who sent you showed in answering to the invitations of Austria and Prussia, and the choice which they made of their Representatives, are a guarantee for the harmony and the successful issue of our endeavors.

"The Germanic Confederation, which was produced by a necessity which was inculcated by the teachings of a most eventful period, has for 33 years been the guardian of the general peace, to the preservation of which it has materially contributed.

"In the interior of Germany, too, that Confederation has wrought great benefits, although there are many who would not or could not understand and acknowledge thus much, because the Confederation did not act according to the leanings of their minds, or because it did not at once realize all those benefits, the germs of which had most providentially been deposited in its Constitution.

"This latter reproach, although possibly founded on truth, may still be met by the consideration that absolute perfection is a stranger to all human things and undertakings.

"But the incontestable advantages of the Confederation are apparent from a review of the great blessings which Germany enjoyed under its protection, and of the present state of things, of which the development is owing to a time in which that protection could no longer be effectual, and sufficient.

"That time, too, has become a lesson to us, and it has again served to warn us to make use of our dearly bought experience.

"That experience has shown the futility of all attempts to create an absolute novelty. It has shown that the foundations on which the Confederation reclines are not only good and serviceable, but that they are the ones which are suitable for a fabric in which a community of States—such as Germany includes—can be expected to live in harmony, and in a state of general prosperity.—But that experience has likewise shown the shortcomings of the Federal Constitution such as it hitherto has been; and it has pointed out the spots where remedies ought to be applied. Among these I mention the strengthening of the chief organ of the Confederation by arrangements which will enable it for the future to stem the tide of revolution, and to protect the principle of monarchy.

"Gentlemen, their recognition of this truth suggests our obligations and our duties at this place, viz: the revision of the Federal Act, and of the laws which emanated therefrom.

"Let us make the original Federal Constitution the basis and the starting point of our negotiations; let it be our object to complete that Constitution by the lessons of experience, and with a consideration to the real desires and the welfare of our common country; let us create a supreme federal board, which shall be sufficiently strong to protect the individual Governments against the enemies of order, and to preserve the most sacred blessings of society.

"We shall thus answer to the claims of justice, of equity, and to the suggestions of sound policy, and of the duties to which those who sent us are bound by sacred treaties and engagements among themselves and to their peoples. I have not the least doubt, gentlemen, that your Governments, as well as yourselves, concur with this view of the situation, which I am instructed to submit to you on the part of His Majesty the Emperor, my gracious master.

"If we are agreed as to the starting point, the direction and the object of our endeavors, we are certain of success.

"Let us then honestly and confidently, and with the blessing of God, begin the work, and success will be ours.

"The country, whose prosperity has been shaken by the storms of late years, and which still suffers from the pressure of existing circumstances—the country, gentlemen, watches our proceedings with expectant interest, and its hopes of a better future are bound up with their results.

"These results only can secure order, legality and peace, and consequently true liberty and prosperity to all the parts of our beautiful German Fatherland; they alone can again establish its influence in foreign countries. Gentlemen, since I am convinced that I have met your views, I believe I give but an expression to your feelings if I express our thanks for our reception, and those of our mandataires (*vollmachtgeber*) to the Saxon Government, and especially to its generous and magnificent King."

Baron Manteuffel's speech is to the following purport:

"Gentlemen: Grant me, too, leave to express to you my thanks for the readiness with which our invitations to this Congress have been accepted, and in such a way, too, that after more than two years, and after various scissions and dissensions, the Plenipotentiaries of all the German States are here assembled in harmony, and intent upon coöperation. I may well be allowed to salute this fact with a word of confidence and of hope. If we wish to avoid a return of those sad experiences, we ought to prove to the countries of Germany that their Governments do not want the will, the intelligence, and the energy, to remove existing grievances, and to create things good, true, and stable."

The *Deutsche Reforme* states from Dresden, that the Congress was, on the 27th ult. divided into five committees on the fundamental laws of the Germanic Confederation. The first Committee will deliberate on the organization of the Chief Federal Board and the extent of the Federal territory. It will deliberate and probably modify articles 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, of the old Federal Act, and articles 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, of the Vienna Concluding Act.

Austria will preside in this Committee, which will be formed by Prussia, Bavaria, Saxony Wurtemburg, Hanover, Grand Duchy and Electorate of Hesse, Frankfort, and Saxe-Weimar. The object of the second Committee is to trace out the sphere of action of the chief Federal organ, and to establish the relations between the Confederation and the individual States. It will inquire into articles 7, 10, 11, 13 of the Federal Act, and articles 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 65, of the Closing Act, as well as the decree of the 3d of August, 1820.

Prussia will preside in this Committee with Austria, Bavaria, Saxony, Wurtemberg, Baden, Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Holstein, and Anhalt-Beraburg. The third Committee will sit on commercial affairs, such as trade, customs, navigation, and internal communication, according to articles 6 and 19 of the Federal Act, and article 66 of the Closing Act; Bavaria will have the presidency, and Austria, Prussia, Saxony, Hanover, Wurtemberg, Baden, Coburg, Hamburgh and Oldenburgh take part in this Committee. The fourth section will debate on the Federal Court of Arbitration according to articles 20 to 24 of the Closing Act, and according to articles 29 to 32 of that act, and in consideration of the decree fixing the practice of the Austregal Court (16th of June, 1817.) Saxony will preside in this Committee, and Hanover, Nassau, Brunswick, Bremen, and Schaumburg-Lippe will sit in it.—The fifth Committee will be occupied with the protocols.

Concerning the doings of the wire pullers, a Berlin correspondent of the *Kolnische Zeitung* writes on Dec. 28:

Prince Schwarzenberg and Baron Manteuffel arrived here from Dresden to-day at 1½ o'clock.—They were received at the railway station by several general and superior officers. Prince Schwarzenberg repaired at once to the royal palace, where apartments had been prepared for him. At 3 o'clock all the Ministers dined with the King and his Austrian guest at Charlottenberg.

To-morrow Baron Manteuffel gives a grand diplomatic banquet. This visit is intended to be a public demonstration of the agreement of the two powers. Meanwhile we are assured that the chief difficulties of the situation are by no means overcome.. The Dresden correspondent of the *National Zeitung* writes: "Prussia requires such an enlargement of the right to form alliances as shall enable her to construct a narrower union within the limits of the confederation, into which Austria is to enter with all her provinces. Austria refuses to permit such an extension of the right of union, declaring that such a right would cause the destruction of the wider confederation, leaving a sonderbund (party league) in its stead. Negotiations are proceeding on this head at the present moment."

The Elector of Hesse Cassel has returned to his capital. The troops which preceded that Prince entered Cassel on the 26th, and were received at the Frankfort gate by the military bands of the Prussian and federal troops which are now in the capital of Hesse. Their march was opened by a picket of Electoral Hussars, with their carbines unslung. They were followed by the Commander-in-Chief and his staff, and when these had passed the Austrian bands took their places in the procession, and marched with it.

The next in the order of march were the trumpeters of the Hussars, followed by the body of that regiment and by the Prussian bands, a battery of Hessian artillery, and the band and the regiment of Hessian foot guards. A large crowd had assembled to witness the entrance of the troops. The populace was moody and silent while the Electoral Hussars passed them, but when the artillery passed they were greeted with enthusiastic cheers, and accompanied to the Friedrichs Platz, where the troops formed a square previously to their being marched to their respective barricks.

The return of the Elector, which took place on the following day, was attended with all the pomp, pride, and circumstance of military ceremonies, but the transaction, to quote the words of the *Deutsche Zeitung*, "was pervaded by an indescribable gloom and discomfort. The populace was silent and indifferent; the troops were discontented and moody, for they had been marched to the Friedrichs Platz at a very early hour in the morning, where they were kept drawn up in columns and exposed to all the inclemency of a snow storm, mixed with drizzling rain. The streets of Cassel presented by no means a lively aspect, and the crowd which surrounded the troops was composed partly of the rising generation, and partly of the very lowest classes of the capital. The regiment of Hessian Foot Guards lined the road from the palace to the terminus of the Frankfort Railway."

At half-past 9 o'clock, A. M. the Elector arrived by special train from Frankfort. He entered a carriage and drove into the town. The silence which prevailed was most profound. Not a shout was mixed with the peal of the trumpeters who preceded the Elector. His carriage was also preceded and followed by two squadrons of the Electoral Hussars. As the procession entered the gates there were a few feeble cheers and a large allowance of hissing.

Most of the higher functionaries were assembled in the Palace to receive the Elector. The Generals Peucker, Leiningen, Prince Thurn and Taxis, and General Heilbronner, had likewise assembled to pay their respects to the Sovereign of Hesse on his return to his capital. When he arrived at the Palace, and after he had left his carriage, the Austrian, Prussian, and Bavarian troops marched past him in quick succession, with their standards flying.

After them came the Hessian Foot Guards and the Electoral Hussars. This ceremonial, too, was witnessed by the populace in the deepest silence. But when the artillery and the guards defiled they were cheered with great enthusiasm. The Prussian troops, too, received some cheers. The functionaries were greeted with great condescension by the Elector, who shortly afterwards allowed them to depart.

M. Hassenpflug and General Haynau, attended by a strong military escort, have arrived at Cassel.

At Munich, the Government has, by its blind zeal against the press, incurred a serious defeat. The editor of the *Eilboten*, who was prosecuted for an attack on the Diet, which was construed into contempt of the Bavarian Government, has been acquitted. The Jury who acquitted the accused was composed of the high tax-paying and conservative class. The King of Wurtemburg has issued a royal ordinance against the abuse of the press. The chief clauses of this ordinance are: Every paper or publication must be signed by the editor, who must be a citizen, of 25 years of age at least, and have his permanent residence in the country. Any one who has been condemned to any punishment cannot be an editor. And, after any penal sentence has been passed on an editor as such, he cannot again assume editorial functions before the expiration of six months.

Preparations for the pacification of SCHLESWIG HOLSTIEN are actively going on.

The Austrian Gen. Mensdorf Pouilly has been appointed as Federal Commissary, charged to proceed, with General Thurmer, the Commissary appointed for Prussia, to Holstein, in order to endeavor to persuade the Staathalterschaft to disarm, before recurring to coercive measures. Looking at the national enthusiasm, says a correspondent of *The Times*, which reigns among the troops, and of the enterprising spirit of their Generals, it is not easy to see how a disarmament can take place without provoking a bloody and even a desperate resistance on the part of the Holstein army.

Another correspondent of the same paper says: A settlement of the Holstein question is, I fear, impossible without an armed intervention. The Austrians, 25,000 men, are in all likelihood already on their route. They will, of course, be joined by a like number of Prussians. The King of Denmark, as Duke and sovereign of the Duchies of Holstein and Lauenburg, and a member of the Germanic Confederation, has been officially invited to send a Plenipotentiary to Dresden.—Baron Pechlin, who has been selected by the King to this post, has left Copenhagen to take part in the conferences.

The Naples correspondent of the *Daily News* writes as follows on the 24th ult.:

The Neapolitan Government at the present moment is in a state of alarm, knowing that a considerable number of "addresses" have entered the Kingdom, which papers are supposed to emanate from Mazzini. I have not seen a copy of the "address," but from what I gathered from a gentleman who has read it, the paper appears to be similar to that circulated at Leghorn, Genoa and Rome. Some arrests have taken place on this account, and the activity of the Police is, if possible, greater than ever. The State trials have occupied much public attention during the last few days. The Court has presented a scene of excitement hitherto unknown, owing to the dignified tone of the lawyers who are now defending the prisoners, and placing the narrative of the Government anti-Constitutional intrigue in categorical form, which presents a picture of immorality on the part of the Executive which is truly deplorable.

From SWEDEN we hear of the Reform movements. We take the following from *The Times*:

The intelligence from Sweden is important.—Our dates go to the 17th of December. The project of a reform in the representative system, which has for a long time past been a subject of much and very general interest throughout the country, had that day been rejected by the clergy, and the question may, therefore, now be considered as definitely settled, because, according to the terms of the Constitution of Sweden, any proposal relating to a change in the fundamental law requires the sanction of each of the four States which comprise the Diet—the nobles, the clergy, the burghers, and the peasantry—before it can be adopted.

The nobles and the peasantry will, it is expected, also reject the bill. The result to which the burghers may come is uncertain; but it is supposed that they will adopt it.

The conduct of the King with reference to this important subject has been much admired by all parties, from his firm adherence to the terms of the Constitution; for although the projet originally emanated from the Government, his Majesty has never interfered to influence the decision of his subjects. It was during the sittings of the last Diet in 1848, and when the excitement caused by the serious events which were taking place at that period in so many parts of Europe was at its hight, that his Majesty submitted to the assembled States a project for the reform of the Constitution. This proposal had the desired effect of conciliating conflicting opinions, and it was received by the representatives of the people; and in conformity with the fundamental law, which requires that any proposal for a change in the Constitution must lie over until the next session, the question was adjourned to the Diet which is now in session.

During the recess His Majesty caused a carefully compiled statement of the results of the Electoral Law, as contained in this project, to be distributed throughout the kingdom, in order that the people might have an opportunity of forming for themselves a correct and decided opinion of its merits.

His Majesty, in his speech from the throne on opening the session recommended the assembled States to give to this important question their full consideration, and to decide upon it according to their own judgment.

True to his invariable policy never to attempt to influence their determination, His Majesty maintained his constitutional position by thus leaving to the representatives of his people the fullest liberty of action, and although the proposal has been rejected by the Diet, no reproach can attach to the Government for its conduct with reference to this matter.

Experience seems to prove that the new ideas which at one period had assumed such an ascendancy in the minds of the people in many parts of Europe have not found much sympathy in Sweden, and it appears that the attachment of the nobility, the clergy, and the peasantry to their ancient constitutional form of government is sincere, and that they are unwilling to abandon it in order to launch into the difficulties and intricacies of an entirely new system.

The Radical party is not numerous in Sweden, and the number of representatives at the present Diet who entertain ultra opinions is very insignificant. They will probably give their votes against the project, as not affording, in their opinion, sufficiently extensive concessiens.

Another correspondent of the same paper says:

The representatives of the different orders discussed the proposed measures separately, and, according to the Swedish Constitution, their separate decisions can only acquire the force of law by the agreement of the majority of the four assemblies. The Chamber of the Clergy and that of the nobility have rejected the reforms by great majorities; the deliberations of the two other chambers have thus become useless, and Sweden thus preserves for an indefinite term her representative system of four chambers—of the clergy, nobility, citizens and peasants.

About HUNGARY, the Vienna correspondent of *The Times* writes as follows:

I have recently had opportunities of hearing several well-informed Hungarians discuss the policy of Ministers toward their native country. They are unanimous in their opinion that things cannot be carried on as they now are for any length of time, it being next to impossible to Germanize the Magyars, who are perhaps more the willing slaves of ancient forms and customs than any other European race. Whenever an opportunity presents itself the national feeling is shown.

Not long since the Hungarian airs played by a renowned Gipsey band at Presburg, led to such stormy demonstrations that the authorities considered it necessary to order the Gipsies to quit the city. A violoncellist, a Pole, not long since played a *concerto* in the Hungarian Theater at Pesth, and his melancholy appearance, combined with the peculiar rhythm of the music, produced such an effect upon the public that there was a general cry of "*Eljen a lengyel*" (God save the Pole). The consequence was that the musician received orders not to play any more in the Theater. These occurrences would hardly be worthy of mention did they not serve to show that the national spirit, far from being crushed, is not even partially subdued.

In the Austrian provinces of ITALY there is a trouble. The writer last quoted above says:

The news from the Italian provinces are anything but favorable. Conspiracies having been discovered, and numerous arrests having baen made in consequence, it is feared that the publication of the new organic laws will be delayed.—Whether all those who are executed are simply highway robbers and murderers, or whether they are guerillas, it is out of my power to say; but it cannot be denied that powder and ball and the hangman's rope are committing fearful ravages in Lombardy and Venice. Up to the 18th instant 2,340,692 lira had been paid in on account of the forced loan, of which 23,966 were in gold, 1,745,993 in silver, and 570,934 in exchequer bills.

A Leghorn letter of Dec. 24 announces the arrival there of a large number of Swiss recruits, on their way to Naples. Upward of 2,000 are said to have passed in the course of the last month.

Letters from Bologna state that on the 18th December a party of Austrian soldiers had a skirmish with nine banditti, headed by Il Passatore himself. A soldier was killed, and another wounded in the contest; the banditti were, however, put to flight, after the loss of one man, named Lami, on whose body articles of value were found.

FOREIGN MARKETS.

Liverpool Cotton Market....JAN. 1.

To-day was observed as a close holiday in the Liverpool Share and Cotton markets. The annexed tables afford a full detail of the imports, consumption, and exports of Cotton during the past year.

IMPORTS.—The course of events has made this trade, for many years past, mainly dependent upon the United States for its supply; and any circumstance, either of season or other casualty, which shall tend to limit that supply, or to direct it into other channels, must act injuriously. With the single exception of 1847, the growth of the last season was less than that of any preceding year since 1844: and high as prices have consequently ruled during all the past year, and greatly as the consumption, as well in Europe as in the United States, has been diminished, the consequence must have been much more prejudicial, had not the growth of the preceding year been so excessive, as partially to supply the deficiency. The crop of 1850 was only 1,096,706 bales, against 2,728,596, the crop of the preceding year, and against 2,269,984 the average growth of five preceding years. From India the import had exceeded that of 1849 by 128,717 bales, and its has exceeded the import of the five preceding years by 132,608 bales. From other places of growth the import has not materially varied from that of preceding years; and has certainly been in no such excess as to meet the large deficiency from the United States.

CONSUMPTION.—That there should have been some decrease in the home consumption during the past year, is solely attributable to the increase of prices, amounting on the average of the whole year to 35 per cent. as compared with the cost of Cotton in 1849. This diminution has arisen less from the quantity of yarn produced, and consequently of labor employed, than from the quality of the manufactures, which have been found profitable in their productions; for while the coarser fabrics, from their relative cost, have been in only limited request, the finer goods, produced in increased quantities proportioned to the diminished manufacture of heavier fabrics, have been always salable, and on almost uniformly remunerating terms to their manufacturers.

	Bales.
The total stock remaining in the ports at the close of 1849 was	554,390
The total import of 1850 has been	1,742,140
The decrease of stocks now held by the trade, as compared with those held by them at the close of 1849	50,000
Total	2,356,530
Deduct the stock remaining at the close of 1850	521,120
Deduct quantity exported	272,400
	793,520
Total quantity taken for home consumption in 1850	1,563,010

REVIEW OF THE MARKET.—The experience of the past year has shown the extending trade of this country, and has also proved that although her exports have been more extensive and varied than in any previous year, yet that the consuming power of foreign countries has been equal to the large supplies she has afforded them, the stocks in nearly every foreign market being such, that shipments are now invited, under circumstances promising a favorable result. That this extensive trade should have prevailed, in the presence of a rapid and progressive increase in the cost of goods so exported, amounting in many instances to 50 per cent. is an evidence of the elasticity of the foreign trade, and of the great competing powers of the manufacturers of this country. During the whole of 1850 the home trade has been good, the home consumption of manufactures, influenced by abundant labor and cheap food, having been large beyond all precedent. The uniform abundance and low value of money have facilitated commercial enterprise; and there has been a total absence of all interruption to the home consumption of cotton, from disputes between the spinners and their hands. With trifling and short interruptions the prices of cotton have steadily advanced during all the year, under the influence of advices successively received of the deficiency of supply to be expected from the United States; and the quotations of American generality are now about 1¼d; of Brazil, 1¼d; of Egyptian, 1¼d; and Surats about 1d per lb. higher than at the close of 1849.

SUPPLY.—Although the stocks of Cotton now remaining in the ports of this country exceed the estimate previously formed of them by 66,000 bales, the excess being exclusively here, yet the total amount is only 521,119 bales, and is less by 101,437 bales than the average of stocks so held at the close of five preceding years, while the estimated decrease of stocks in the hands of consumers is 50,000 bales, the supply remaining in the Continental ports having experienced a still greater relative diminution; and this deficiency derives an anxious importance from the unfavorable promise of the present crop of the United States, of which the general estimates now formed do not exceed 2,150,000 bales. Whatever productive power our own Indian possessions may hereafter develop, at present they do not afford any supply commensurate with such a deficiency as may occur; and this subject will command the anxious consideration of all who are interested in the trade or in the welfare of those for whom it provides useful and valuable employment.

The export has been larger than in any previous year; it has amounted to 272,400 bales, against 256,300 in 1849; and 169,500 in 1848; of these 199,650 bales have been exported from Liverpool, 69,250 bales from London, and 3,500 bales from other ports, of the following descriptions: American, 159,910; Brazil, 24,200; East India, 96,290; Egyptian 900; and West India, 100 bales. The political disturbances which have so long limited or interrupted commercial intercourse with the European Continent are happily at an end, and the present year opens under circumstances of great encouragement. Money is abundant, and food of every kind is cheap; general trade is active and remunerative, finding ample employment for the industry of the country; and the commercial position of Great Britain has never been more eminent than now.

LIVERPOOL, Tuesday Dec. 31

The announcement of stock this morning has not produced any important change in the tone of the Cotton market, though the buying has been small; prices are firmly maintained. To-day's business amounts to 4,000 bales—500 export.

The following is an account of the stocks of Cotton held in Liverpool, as declared by the committee of brokers this morning: American, 261,234 bales; Brazil, 88,613 bales; Egyptian, 32,182 bales; West Indian, 903 bales; Surats, 91,947 bales: total, 454,879 bales—showing an excess of 30,000 bales over the estimated stock previously published.

LIVERPOOL, Tuesday, Dec. 31.

The arrivals from Ireland and coastwise during the past week have been pretty liberal of Oats and Oatmeal, but small of other articles. From foreign ports we have received 21,336 quarters of Wheat; 3,117 quarters of Indian Corn; 3,893 sacks and 43,612 bbls of Flour. The exports in the same time include 3,469 quarters of Wheat; 1,241 quarters of Barley; 2,532 quarters of Indian Corn; 652 sacks and 1,747 bbls of Flour.

The trade has been extremely quiet, and, with the exception of a few transactions in barrel flour, there has been little or nothing doing, and no material alteration in the value of any article.

The weather continues unusually mild for the season.

At this day's market there was a limited attendance of the town and country trade, whose transactions were confined to a few small purchases for the supply of their immediate wants.

Wheat and flour nominally maintained their value in the sales made.

Oats and Oatmeal were offered on rather easier terms, without leading to much business.

Barley, Beans, and Peas without change in value or demand.

Indian Corn met with little attention, but fine yellow could not be bought under 31s. per quarter.

London Corn Market....JAN. 1.

There was little English Wheat at market, and its value underwent no change. The arrivals of foreign Wheat and Flour were again large, and kept the market in an active state. The trade was confined to a few retail sales at Monday's rates.

DUBLIN, Dec. 31.

Our Corn market to-day was extremely dull for all denominations of Corn. Wheat barely supported the currency of Friday, and Barley and Oats were sold at a reduction of 3d to 6d ℔ bbl. Indian Corn partakes of the general dullness without change in price. White Wheat, 21s to 25s; red do, 19s to 23s; Barley, 12s to 14s; Oats, 8s 6d to 10s 3d ℔ bbl; Rapeseed, 18s to 20s; Oatmeal, 10 6d to 11s 6d; Bakers' Flour, 13s to 16s ℔ cwt. Indian Corn, 29s to 33s ℔ 480 lbs.

London Produce Market...MINCING-LANE, Jan. 1

The public market will open to-morrow, (Thursday) but the public sales declared are not large.

COFFEE—We are without transactions to report to-day. Good ordinary native, 56@57s.

COTTON—About 600 bales sold at the full prices of yesterday.

TALLOW remains at 36s 9d@37s.

PARIS, Tuesday, Dec. 1—5 P.M.

The adjourned adjudication of the 2,900,000 Rentes, Five and Three, took place to-day at the Ministry of Finance.—The course of proceeding was precisely similar to that witnessed last week. At 12 o'clock, M. Fould, the Minister, having taken his seat, and the decree of the President of the Republic and the conditions of the sale having been read by the Secretary-General, the following tenders were presented:

	Five per Cents.	Three per Cents.
Receivers-General	94f 65c	56f 60c
Messrs Rothschild	94f 50c	56f 50c
National Disc't. office	93f 25c	None.

The tenders of the Receivers-General for both kinds of Rentes being the highest, and superior to the *minimum* of the Minister, which was not mentioned, was declared to be accepted.

WHO COMMANDED AT BUNKER HILL?—It has long been a mattter of dispute whether Gen. Putnam or Gen. Warren commanded the Americans at Bunker Hill. An English engraving of the portrait of Gen. Putnam has been discovered at Salem, Mass. with an inscription which seems to throw some light on the matter. That inscription is as follows: "J. Wilkinson Pinxit. Israel Putnam, Esq. Major General of the Connecticut Forces and Commander-in-Chief at the engagement on Bunker's-Hill, near Boston, 17 June, 1775. Published as the Act directs, by C. Shepherd, 9 Sept'r, 1775."

BROOKLYN ITEMS.

THE LAW OF ASSESSMENTS.—Judge Barculo of the Supreme Court, in conjunction with the other Judges of that Court, has decided in two recent cases, brought in Brooklyn, to test the Law of Assessment, that,

1st. The property of individuals cannot be taken away from them except by a tax which must be levied equally on all citizens, according to the value of taxable property; or for the public use, by a just compensation. 2d. That an assessment of particular individuals, supposed to be specially benefited by any public improvement, has none of the qualities of a tax. 3d. The laws do not allow "local taxation for a limited purpose;" "the tax must be coëxtensive with the district;" a park cannot be laid out and the expense collected from the owners; this is not taxation, but robbery. 4th. That if not a tax, it is a violation of Sec. 6, Art. 1, of the State Constitution. 5th. That it is a violation of the same section which provides that no property shall be taken for public use without just compensation being made therefor. 6th. That the compensation must be made in money, and not in supposed benefits. 7th. That money is property, and that to coërce its payment and apply it to the construction of a public work, is to take private property and apply it to the public use.

These decisions are of great importance, and threaten to overthrow the present assessment system. They certainly militate against the system by which streets have been opened, parks laid out, sewers built, and other public works prosecuied in our city since 1807.

We observe by the Annual Report of the Counsel to the Corporation, that a case is now pending in the Court of Appeals, between the Corporation and one of our citizens, to test the constitutionality of our present assessment laws. The Counsel states that he is sparing no efforts to have the case argued at the present term of the Court, as it is of equal importance to the Corporation and to the citizen that this question should be speedily put to rest.

NEW MILITARY COMPANIES.—It is proposed to form a Rifle Corps in this city. A roll has been in circulation for some days, and it already embraces many good names.

—A new Company of Irish-Americans has lately been organized in South Brooklyn. They have adopted the name of a gallant Irish General, the last of his country, and are known as the Second to Sarsfield Guard, and are attached to the Thirteenth Regiment Grenadiers. The following are their officers: Captain, Thomas Griffen; First Lieutenant, —— Fitzpatrick; Second Lieutenant, —— McGee. Their uniform is green.

GROSS OUTRAGE.—On Tuesday evening last Mr. James Dooley, accompanied by a female acquaintance of the name of Ellen McDonald, was attacked by ten or twelve ruffians while walking in Fulton-av.; the female was torn from his arm and carried away into a vacant lot, and there most brutally outraged. Mr. Dooley immediately proceeded to the Fourth District Station House, and officer Stewart was dispatched in pursuit and succeeded in arresting a fellow by the name of George Higbee, who was recognized as one of the assailants. The woman had been released upon the arrival of the police and taken to her residence. Wednesday six more of the gang were arrested by Capt. Wright and the force under his command. Their names are as follows: John McCluskey, Patrick Murray, John Combs, Wm. Hendrickson, Peter Smith and John Hammond.

CITY ITEMS.

STRAKOSCH'S OPERA AND BENEFIT.—Strakosch's star is now beaming brightly in the ascendant, where we hope it will long continue to shine. To-night *Giovanna di Napoli* is given at the Opera House for the fourth time; and to-morrow night Strakosch's Grand Benefit comes off at Tripler Hall. This, we understand, will be his last public performance in this City for some time to come. He will leave shortly, probably on a visit to Mexico and South America. Let us enjoy his sweet sounds while we may. Spring will brig the blue birds, but no more Strakosches!

COMPLIMENTARY CONCERT.—The friends of Mr. BROUGH will give that gentleman a Complimentary Benefit at Niblo's Garden, on Thursday evening next. A brilliant array of talent has volunteered for the occasion, and we cannot doubt that the Concert will surpass anything of the kind that has taken place in this City lately.

UNSAFE BUILDINGS.—The Captain of Police in the Sixteenth Ward reports that there are about 600 buildings in process of erection in that Ward, and that, though many of them are well and substantially built, it is to be feared that a large portion are no more safe than the miserable shells which fell to the ground on Wednesday last. Of the truth of the report there cannot be a doubt, and we would again call the attention of the authorities to it. There are persons in this City whose duty it is to look to these things, and they should be forced to do so. It is but a short time since the Fire Wardens obtained a heavy verdict against a builder for improperly erecting a block of buildings. Were those structures less safe than hundreds of others in our city? Should not our Fire Wardens deal out equal and exact justice to all—and if they do their duty thoroughly and with a due regard for the safety of the brave Firemen who may at any moment be called upon to peril their lives in them, would not a stop be put to the operations of the reckless speculators who are running up these shells?

THE MORTAR.—A friend has left at our office a quantity of the mortar taken from the ruins in Twenty-first-st. It consists of pieces that have evidently come from between the bricks, and appears to be nothing but a compound of poor lime and a dirty, loamy sand—in fact the loam appears to predominate, and a transient glance would fail to discover any lime. The Coroner has specimens of this mortar in his possession, taken from each of the six buildings, and will have it examined and tested by competent judges, before the jury called to investigate the catastrophe.

THE COMMON COUNCIL AND THE GOVERNORS.—On Saturday last Assistant Alderman J. B. Webb offered in the Board of Assistants, a resolution, the preamble to which intimated in pretty strong terms that the demands of the Governors upon the City Treasury were not only enormous and extraordinary, but very extravagant—and the resolution itself instructed the Counsel to the Corporation to see if there was not some way in which the City could legally resist these demands. On Tuesday the Governors held a meeting, and after recapitulating the assertions embodied in the preamble, they adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Conference of the Board, be and are instructed to convey to the Common Council, the denial of this Board of these assertions, and to invite a Committee of the Common Council to examine the books and proceedings of this Department, and otherwise make due inquiry relative to the subject, in order to disabuse the public mind; and instructed also to adopt such other measures as they shall deem expedient.

DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY.—N. Bowditch Blunt, Esq. the new District Attorney, has appointed as his Deputy, A. OAKLEY HALL, Esq Mr. Hall is favorably known as a gentleman well qualified for the position to which he has been appointed.

LAUNCHES.—Mr. Wm. H. Webb will, on Monday, launch three vessels from his yard at the foot of Seventh-st. East River. It will be worth seeing.

THE IRISH BRIGADE.—Judge McGrath, Captain of the Emmet Guards, has been appointed Colonel of the new Regiment of Irish Volunteers John G. Fay has been appointed Major, and Geo G. Dowling, Quartermaster. Five new companies are in progress of formation, of which Captains Dowling, John Manix, James Manix, James D. Foley and Thomas Finnegan have been appointed commandants. The Regiment is to consist in a great measure of recruits.

ARREST OF SPENCER AND FLEMMING.—Coroner Geer yesterday caused George Spencer and Mr. Flemming to be arrested, to await the result of the investigation to be commenced to-day, as to the cause of the fall of the buildings in Twenty-first-st. Spencer gave bonds in the sum of $5,000, but Flemming being unable to give bonds, was committed to the City Prison.

LECTRES ON THE DECLINE OF POPERY.—Dr. Nicholas Murray, better known as "Kirwan," delivered a discourse at the Tabernacle on Wednesday night, on the "Deline of Popery." At the conclusion, on motion of Dr. Ferris, a large collection was at once taken to secure the printing and wide circulation of the discourse.

Last night, Rev. J. F. Berg of Philadelphia, delivered another lecture in the same place and on the same subject. The Lecture has already appeared in our columns, and been read by all who are interested in the subject. We therefore deem it unnecessary to give any abstract of it. Mr. "Kirwin's" lecture is already printed, and will no doubt be scattered far and wide.

TEMPERANCE AT THE FIVE POINTS.—John B. Gough and Rev. Dr. Kenneday, of Brooklyn, are to address a public meeting at the Tabernacle on Friday evening next, in behalf of the Mission at the Five Points, and we take pleasure in calling the attention of our readers to the advertisement in our paper to-day. The efforts connected with said Mission have been eminently successful in reclaiming a large number from courses of vice and crime, and from habits of degraded intemperance. Several hundred of intemperate men and women have joined the Society, most of whom, after a trial of months, now seem well established in their purposes to lead a life of sobriety and usefulness.

GAS.—The Committee appointed to take measures for procuring an appropriate testimonial to ex Mayor Woodhull for his veto of the Gas Contract, meet at 4 o'clock this afternoon at the Broadway House.

☞ The PRINTERS' BANQUET comes off to-night at Niblo's. See the programme, in our advertising columns, for the interesting exercies of the evening.

SOLICITING EMIGRANT PASSENGERS WITHOUT LICENSE.—A man named James O'Brien was yesterday arrested on a Bench warrant, charging him with soliciting emigrant passengers without license. He was taken before the Court of General Sessions, and committed to prison for trial.

CHARGE OF GRAND LARCENY.—A man named Cornelius Driscoll was yesterday arrested by officer Way of the Seventh Ward, charged with stealing $36 from James Fitzgerald, a boarder at the house of Mr. Gardé, 3 Catharine-slip. The accused was committed by Justice Mountfort for trial.

COMFORT FOR BACHELORS.—A new invention in the way of domestic luxury has just been introduced at the warerooms of the Patent Merchandise Company, 141 Broadway, adding to the rich and beautiful collection of unique articles of furniture which have already made that establishment a place of such general fashionable resort. This is a Portable Bed, forming a soft and delightful couch, requiring no trouble to take care of it, occupying a small space in a room, and in the morning shutting up like an umbrella into so compact a form that it may be stowed away in a band-box or valise, if not in the coat pocket. For gentlemen who sleep in their offices or counting rooms, for travelers who who wish to be always sure of a good bed, or for families who desire to economise room, this must be regarded as one of the most convenient and useful discoveries of the age. No person proposing a trip to California should fail to secure this indispensable traveling companion.—The luxurious Spring Chair, sold exclusively by the same Company, still continues to be in great demand, and is enthusiastically recommended by those who have experienced its admirable qualities. A Spring Bed of a similar construction has just been added to their stock of novelties. Every one in pursuit of beautiful inventions for human comfort should make a point of visiting their curious and tempting establishment.

☞ Cogswell's new Panorama of California and the Isthmus of Darien, at Minerva Rooms, will be open hereafter on every Saturday and Wednesday afternoon—commencing at 3 o'clock, P. M. precsely.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TRIBUNE:

ARCHITECTS.—We beg respectfully to inform the public that Mr. Thomas, who was the Architect for the buildings that fell down on Wednesday, January 15th, in Twenty-first-st. has no connection with the firm of Thomas Thomas & Son, Architects of 37 Canal-st.

THOMAS THOMAS & SON,
Architects, 37 Canal-st.

STRANGE.—Not three hours before the fall of the buildings in Twenty first st. on Wednesday, the following letter was received by Thomas Addis Emmet, Esq. from the architect who was superintending their construction:

NEW-YORK, Wednesday, Jan. 15, 1851.

THOMAS A. EMMET, Esq.: In reply to your note of yesterday, I have to inform you that I have given my personal attention and superintendence from the foundation to this present condition of the six houses on the south side of Twenty-first-street, between Fifth and Sixth avenues, building by you, and I have no hesitation in sa