The Republic of Costa Rica.

[From the London Times.]

The recent discussions regarding the route to the Pacific through Nicaragua, have drawn attention to the adjoining republic of Costa Rica. Of the five petty States into which Central America is divided, Costa Rica is the only one that has been for any lengthened period exempt from the anarchy by which this region has been devastated. Order has now been well maintained throughout the country for some years, and a steadily increasing commerce has been the consequence. Nevertheless, there is not much popular knowledge of its resources; and as frequent allusion is certain henceforth to be made to it, it may be desirable to mention the leading features by which the State is distinguished. Its territory comprises from 2,500 to 3,000 square leagues, bounded by the republic of New Granada on the south, and the river San Juan and the lake and part of the State of Nicaragua on the north. Its surface, like the other parts of Central America, presents all varieties of climate, extensive valleys, table lands, and mountains, interspersed with several volcanoes and small lakes, occupying the middle portion. Between the foot of the mountains and the shores of the two seas, the lands are low and flat. The soil is singularly productive, and all the articles peculiar to intertropical regions are grown in abundance, excepting cochineal, cotton, and the vine, which are liable to be destroyed by the periodical rains. Coffee is the staple export, and, as well as indigo, tobacco, and cocoa, which are also produced, is remarkable for its quality. Woods, drugs, grain fruits, cattle, poultry, and a variety of miscellaneous articles, likewise form part of the commerce of the republic. Some gold mines exist, and are at present being worked, although without any very extraordinary results. Copper and coal are likewise found, but these, of course, have been neglected. The population amounts to 100,000 inhabitants, of whom only 10,000 are Indians. The trade is now almost exclusively carried on with England, in British bottoms; but the shipments taking place on the Pacific side, the tedious route by Cape Horn is a serious drawback. Last year the exports consisted of 150,000 cwt. of coffee, estimated at $6 on board; about 10,000 ox and cow hides; a considerable quantity of mother of pearl, Nicaragua wood, and sarsaparilla; and a small quantity of pearls; the total value being estimated at $1,000,000. The imports consist of English, American, French, and German manufactures, the former being by far the largest in proportion. San Jose, the capital, is 4,500 feet above the level of the sea; and from this a cart-road of 72 miles forms the communication with Punta Arenas, on the Pacific, which is the principal port. The great want of the republic is a communication with the Atlantic, so as to save the long navigation by Cape Horn; and this communication, which, under proper arrangements, would form a very legitimate undertaking for British capital, might be effected, it is said, for an outlay altogether insignificant—a road of sixty-six miles, from San Jose to a river called the Sarapiqui, which runs into the San Juan, being all that is required. The annual revenue of Costa Rica amounts to $120,000, and is raised by tobacco and spirit monopolies, stamps, land sales, &c. The President is elected for six years, and the Congress, consisting of ten deputies, for three years. The State has no debt, either foreign or domestic.

Lola Montes and Her Husband.

[From the London News.]

It is stated that Mr. Heald has arrived in London. The following account of the continued misunderstanding of this gentleman and his fair companion is given in a letter from Cadiz, dated December 27.—[It will be seen that it differs somewhat from the statement given in our French news]:—"Lola Montes and Mr. Heald have been here for the last ten days. They came from Barcelona. She is much altered, and not so good-looking as when here in 1842. Her temper is not at all improved, and her delight seems to be to keep Heald in the greatest terror and dread of her. Heald made his escape with his English servant from the Hotel Ismenez (where they were staying on Christmas morning), and is supposed to have gone to Gibraltar. Lola was furious. She went in a French steamer that evening with her two friends, foreigners, who are in her party, to Algesiras, and sent Ismenez another man by land; so that if Heald does not succeed in getting on board the Pacha, she hopes to catch him. It is reported on good authority to-day that Heald has embarked this morning on board the Pacha, and he will now be enabled to reach England in safety, and no doubt feel grateful to his aunt for all she has done for him."

The Sovereigns of Europe.

The *General German Gazette* of the 1st, published at Leipsic, has the following article under the title of European Genealogy:—

The number of the sovereigns of Europe, including the Emperor of Brazil, who belongs to a European dynasty, as well as the two princes of Hohenzollern, whose mediation is now under negotiation, but not yet definitively settled, and without reckoning the semi-sovereign Prince of Monaco, amounts to 48, among whom 23 belong to Germany, and 3 of whom are females. The oldest of these sovereigns, the King of Hanover, is 78¾ years of age; the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg Strelitz is more than 70. Among the others, 7 are from 60 to 70; 14 from 50 to 60; 8 from 40 to 50; 9 from 30 to 40; and 5 from 20 to 30. Three have not yet attained their 20th year—viz: the Emperor of Austria, the Queen of Spain, and the Prince of Waldeck, who is still under guardianship, and will complete his 14th year on the 19th inst. The average age is 46 years 3¾ months. The prince who has reigned the longest is the Prince of Schaumburg-Lippe; he has reigned 63 years, and is the only sovereign whose accession dates from the last century; but if we deduct from it the years of his minority, his reign has only been 42 two-thirds years. On the other hand, three princes, the Duke of Parma, the King of Holland, and the King of Sardinia, only commenced to reign during the course of last year (all of them in March), and in all 17 princes only assumed the reigns of their respective governments in the last 10 years. Six sovereigns have never been married, viz: the Pope, the Emperor of Austria, the Duke of Brunswick, the Princes of Reuss-Schleiz and of Waldeck, and the Landgrave of Hesse-Homburg. Four, the King of Hanover, the Grand Duke of Oldenburg, the Duke of Nassau, and the Prince of Hohenzollern-Hechingen are widowers. One, the King of Denmark, has been divorced from two wives; another, the Elector of Hesse, is married morganatically; and a third, the Sultan, lives in polygamy. Among the 35 wives of reigning princes, and issues of sovereign houses, the eldest is the Grand Duchess of Saxe-Weimar, and the youngest the Queen of Bavaria, the former being 64, and the latter 24¾; the Grand Duchess is also the princess who has been the longest married, having been so for 45 years and 5 months. In the number of sovereigns now married, or who have been so, (not including the Elector of Hesse, whose marriage is morganatic), 13 have no children; the 28 others have sons, heirs presumptive. Six of these latter are married, and the eldest is that of Schaumburg Lippe, and the youngest the imperial Prince of Brazil. Among the 20 sovereigns without descendants capable of succeeding them, eleven have brothers, four have for presumptive successors other collateral relations, viz: the King of Denmark and the Duke of Modena an uncle, the Elector of Hesse a cousin, and the Queen of Spain her sister. Four other sovereigns, the Landgrave of Hesse-Homburg, the Prince of Hohenzollern-Hechingen and the Dukes of Anhalt-Bernburg and Brunswick, have not in their line heirs capable of succeeding them."

Theatricals in Europe.

The leading theatrical item brought by the Niagara, is the account of the production of Mrs. Mowatt's comedy of "Fashion," at the Olympic Theatre, London, on the 9th inst., with remarkable success. After describing various scenes, the London *Times* says:—However, the great responsibility of the piece lay on the shoulders of Mr. Davenport, who played the old farmer—a part quite out of his usual line—and introduced his hearty outpourings with a vigor that never failed to excite the audience. A story which he told of his daughter's misfortunes, towards the end of the play, was one of the grand points of the piece. The *mise en scène* is superb. A ball room and a conservatory, with transparent sides, are represented with an elaborate magnificence which proves that Mr. Watts is determined to restore its old character to the Olympic Theatre. At the fall of the curtain, the applause of the audience was tumultuous, and cries for Mrs. Mowatt, who had not acted in the piece, were raised on every side. She was led on by Mr. Davenport, and seemed much overcome by the enthusiastic reception of her work. The house was crowded in every part, and from the novelty of its character, and the evident satisfaction it gave, there is little doubt that "Fashion" will, for some time, prove attractive.

The London *Sun* says:—"Rough and ranting melodramas have formed the staple of what America had hitherto sent us, but last night this reproach was wiped out, and there was represented at this theatre, with the most deserved success, an original American five act comedy, the scene of which is laid in New York, and which delineates American manners after the same fashion as our own Garrick, Colman and Sheridan, were accustomed to delineate English manners, and which, as regards plot, construction, character or dialogue, is worthy to take its place by the side of the best of English comedies. It is from the pen of that most delightful of actresses, Mrs. Mowatt, and is entitled "Fashion, or Life in New York;" and the following is an outline of the plot, or rather of the three plots interwoven with each other, in the most skilful and artistical manner, of this most admirably built comedy. * * *

The comedy was perfectly acted; Mr. Davenport, as Adam Trueman, the old farmer, threw a feeling of warmth and heartiness into the part, which has not been equalled since the days of Fawcett; and Miss F. Vining, as Gertrude, his governess daughter, was most interesting. Mr. Johnstone acted the part of Mr. Tiffany with considerable power, and Mrs. Marston as Mrs. Tiffany was the pink of vulgarity. Scharf, as the roguish clerk, was full of truthfulness, his abashed manner, when threatened with prosecution, contrasting most artistically with his previous vulgar and overbearing insolence. Mr. and Mrs. A. Wigan, acted the French Count and the French waiting-maid as they alone can act such characters. Mr. J. Herbert was excessively humorous as a high minded nigger. All the characters grouped round the Tiffanies were admirably sustained, but, to our thinking, the character of the group, nay, we are almost inclined to think that, as far as English audiences are concerned, the character of the comedy, is that of Prudence, the sister of Mrs. Tiffany, a prim puritanical Yankee old maid, who has not "fairly given the matter up" and who, when not making hot love, is making diabolical mischief. She is the chorus of the piece, reminding every one of their faults, and every *persona* of his or her origin; she is, in fact, "a dreadful woman," and, what is better still, an original character, a specimen of American society, to which we had never before been introduced. This character was admirably acted by Mrs. Parker, who evidently revelled in the part. The comedy was admirably put on the stage; the applause was enthusiastic, and at the conclusion there were loud calls for Mrs. Mowatt, who had taken no part in the performance, but who at length appeared before the curtain to receive that enthusiastic applause which she had so highly merited by the production of this most excellent comedy. The house was crowded to excess.

Mr. Tomlin's tragedy of "Garcia" will be repeated at the Saddler's Wells Theatre.

Mr. Buckstone's new comedy was read on Thursday at the Haymarket. It is to be entitled "Leap Year, or the Ladies' Privilege." The cast, which is unusually strong, includes Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean, Mr. and Mrs. Keeley, Mr. Buckstone, Mrs. Fitzwilliam, Mrs. W. Clifford, Mr. Selby, &c.

Mr. Macready would appear, last week, at the Bath and Bristol theatres; his farewell engagement.

Miss Reynolds was cast for the part that is now played by Miss Fitzwilliam, in the "Ninth Statue," but refused it.

Jenny Lind, we are informed, is about to sing at Brussels, in a series of concerts.

We understand that Mr. Simpson, one of the principal creditors of Mr. Ellis, has become the proprietor of the Cremorne Gardens, having arranged with the assignees.

Miss Helen Faucit is engaged for a limited number of nights, at Sheffield, and will be succeeded by Mr. Macready.

Madame Sontag will sing at Sheffield, on Tuesday next.

Mrs. Nisbett, having recovered from her late indisposition, will make her first appearance at Drury Lane, as Rosalind, in "As You Like It." Mr. Vandenhoff will also make his first appearance as Jaques.

George Wild, the popular comedian, and formerly lessee of the Olympic Theatre, has, with Miss Williams, (Mrs. G. Wild) been engaged at the Marylebone theatre, and were to make their first appearance on Monday, the 14th instant.

Mrs. Fitzwilliam has just concluded a most successful engagement at the Theatre Royal, Liverpool, and her most attractive pieces have been "The Pet of the Petticoats," "The Child of the Regiment," and "Foreign Airs and Native Graces;" her performance in which has on each evening been received with perfect enthusiasm.

St. James's Theatre will commence its season to-morrow, (Monday) under the direction of Mr. Mitchell, the enterprising lessee, when the performance of French operatic pieces will be resumed, by the production, for the first time in this country, of Halevy's new opera of "Le Val d'Andorre," in which Mad'lle Charton and Mad'lle Guichard, the favorites of last season, will make their *rentrée* in the characters of Rose de Mai, and Theresa; besides whom Messrs Lac, Chollet, Rilly Leroy, and Nathan, will make their first appearance in the opera. The popular operas of "Zampa" and "Le Caid," are also in active preparation, and will be speedily produced.

Mr. Henry Betty, the tragedian, has been playing a short engagement at the theatre in Northampton. His performance of "Hamlet" was greatly admired, and spoken very highly of by the critics of the local press.

The representation of "Le Prophete" has been interrupted by the illness of Madame Viardot. She is now recovered, and will shortly appear.

On the morning of Friday se'nnight, Madame Sontag and party left Glasgow for Aberdeen, to attend the morning concert on the following day. All went well till the train reached Glammis, when a greater depth of snow was experienced, and from thence to Laurencekirk, the speed was materially retarded. At Middleton Bridge, about a mile or a mile and a half further on, the engine ran into a cutting filled with snow to the depth of six feet, and then became completely immovable. At this time, five in the afternoon, the blast was most fierce and cutting, carrying the drift from the fields into the hollow of the railway, and rapidly burying the carriages. The situation, as may be imagined, was anything but agreeable to the passengers. A consultation was held with the guard and driver. Mr. Wood determined to leave the train, and endeavor to reach Laurencekirk on foot. This, with the assistance of two guides, he happily accomplished, although the strength of the wind, and the depth of the snow, brought them several times to a stand still. Aid having been procured, and a basket of provisions got ready, the party again started for the embedded train. The wind being now in their faces, the task became more difficult, as well as dangerous, but by avoiding the road, and taking through the fields, from which the snow had been partially dislodged, the train was once more reached at half-past seven. The question was now whether it was possible to remove the ladies from the carriages, and gain the summit of the cutting. Madame Sontag, with undaunted energy, at once determined to attempt it, and descended from the carriage. The men were sent on before to make a track, when Madame Sontag, after great exertion and several falls, reached the level ground. There the blast became quite blinding; but Madame Sontag, having covered her head with a cloak, was soon supported through the fields and over the fences to the house of Mr. Wilson, a most hospitable farmer, where, along with Count Rossi, Mr. F. Labische, Signor Calzolari, and Signor Piatti, she remained all night. Mr. Wood, with some others of the party, again faced the blast, and reached Laurencekirk in safety, although much worn out. Between Drumlithie and Middleton-bridge there were five engines and four trains all fast. Next morning the snow had so completely filled the cutting as to bury the carriages. The railway authorities are using every exertion to clear the line, and they hope to restore the communication during the day.

His Highness the Duke of Saxe Coburg Gotha has just completed a new opera entitled "Die Vergeltung," ("The Reprisals") which was represented some days since at the Court theatre at Gotha, with perfect success. The noble composer is Prince Albert's relative.

The King of Prussia has just bestowed on the *maitre de chapelle*, M. Taubert, the gold medal of the arts and sciences. The Vocal Academy of this city has just executed the oratorio of "Mary and John," by Schultz, a Danish composer, who died in 1800.

Our advices from Berlin are of the 15th of December. At the Konigstadt the Italian company have just performed Weber's "Freyschutz," with the recitatives of M. Hector Berlioz. The Italian libretto of this work is entitled "Il Franco Arciero." Madame Fiorentini, in the part of Agatha, and Madame Penco in that of Annette, sang in so charming a style as to excite general enthusiasm. The duet in the second act by them was encored. The first concert of the Vocal Academy took place the other day, when Handel's "Messiah" was given. The *soirées* of the Society of Music recommenced on the 25th ult. On the evening appointed for quartets by Messrs. Zimmerman, Rounenberger, Bielitzer, and Lotze, there were particularly noticed a quartet of Haydn's, and the 24th quartet of M. Onslow. At one of these sittings, amongst the numerous distinguished musicians and musical characters present, we remarked Messrs. Flotow and Balfe, the well-known composers, and Mlles. Bertrand, sisters, one the *cantatrice*, the other the harpist, and one of the most distinguished, and also M. Schmidt (Smith) from London, the *virtuoso*, on the cornet a piston. At the Theatre Royal of the Grand Opera, they have just put in rehearsal two novelties borrowed from the French stage, viz: "Le Trompette de M. le Prince, a comic opera, in two acts, by Messrs. Melesville and F. Bazin; and "La Jolie Fille de Gand," a ballet in three acts, by M. Albert, set to music by M. Adam. Our two lyrical theatres celebrated the anniversary of the birth of Charles Marie Von Weber, a few days since, on which occasion were performed the "Jubilaire" overture (Jubel ouverture), and the opera of "Oberon," preceded by a prologue written for the occasion.

The German papers announce the death of M. Conradin Kreutzer, at Biga, in the 67th year of his age, in consequence of a fit of apoplexy.

La Societe de la Grand Harmonie has opened in Brussels, the series of its winter fetes. The royal family was present at the first concert.

The approaching novelty, at the Theatre Royal, Stutgard, is to be Halvey's "Val d'Adorre," which the public have expected for a long time, with impatience.

The Court Theatre, Vienna, it would appear, will be the first in Germany to bring out "Le Prophete," the rehearsals of which opera are proceeding with extraordinary activity. The principal parts will be sustained by Mesdames Lagrange and Zerr, and Messrs. Ander, Leithmer, Draxler, &c.

The new opera, by M. Haslinger, entitled "Yolanthe," was performed, for the first time, a few evenings since, with doubtful success, at the Court Theatre. We noticed, on this occasion, the debut of Mlle. Kroll, a young vocalist of great promise.

A very superior concert has just been given in Antwerp; there were executed several choruses of the "Prophete," and Madame Bloes Merti sang the principal *morceaux* in the part of Fides.

The following is an extract of a letter from Naples:—"The affairs of the San Carlo continue anything but brilliant. The king is not at all sellcitous of coming to its aid; but he has furnished very easy means in getting money, in authorising the sale of the *cautionnement*, not that which is given on taking the management, but that of the theatre. It is necessary for me to explain this. When the San Carlo was destroyed by fire, and subsequently rebuilt, there was placed on the great book of the reserved fund a sum of money, which has been annually increasing until it now produces about six thousand ducats yearly interest. The sale of this yearly income has been authorised. Thus you will perceive that the theatre is put on its legs again for a time, and must continue so if it can. The management, having thus got into cash, has commenced by paying Verdi, who would not deliver the score of his new opera until his agreement should be fulfilled; and this contract provides that on the delivery of the first act he should receive one thousand ducats, a thousand more when the *mise en scene* of the second should be completed, and a third thousand after the first performance—in all twelve thousand seven hundred and fifty francs (nearly five hundred pounds). Without the shadow of ill-will, I cannot help recalling to mind that, for a similar sum, Rossini stopped two years at Naples, during which period he wrote, amongst other *chefs d'oeuvre*, his "Otello" and his "Moise." Would to Heaven we may find on the present occasion something similar!"

The name of Mad'lle Nissen makes a great noise at this moment in Leipsic. This *cantatrice* has succeeded not less at the theatre than at the concerts. After the performance of "Lucia," in which she sang with the utmost success, they gave her a serenade.

The German operas is doing well in Amsterdam. The prima donna, Mad'lle Romani, is in great favor.

The forty singers of the Pyrenees have arrived in Bremen. They came from Jerusalem.

On Friday "La Filleule des Fees" was played for *les adieux* of Carlotta Grisi, the distinguished *danseuse*, who leaves Paris before the end of the present month.

Madame Alboni has gone to give some representations at Metz. The celebrated *cantatrice* has just purchased a magnificent hotel, situate in the Champs Elysees—*Paris paper*. Our continental contemporaries are very liberal in bestowing splendid mansions on this lady; the other day only, they stated that she had outbid Prince Metternich in the purchase of a splendid hotel at Brussels.

Michel Beer's "Struensee" has just been produced in Munich, with the music of his distinguished brother; it was received with immense success.

Mad'lle de Roisy, from Paris, was daily expected at Milan, having entered into a liberal engagement at La Scala.

A remarkable event took place at Dijon on the 5th of this month, at the theatre of this city. There was performed for the first time a lyrical drama, in four acts, the libretto and music of which were written and composed by two native Dijonnais. The poem is well written, and the verses well constructed. The composer, M. Delillemont, has evinced in several *morceaux* originality and skill, and promises well for the future.

Mrs. Glover, who had been announced in the list of the company at Drury Lane Theatre, will not, we understand, appear there, as she has rejoined Mr. Farren's little dramatic *corps* at the Strand Theatre.

Mr. Willy gives his third classical concert at St. Martin's Hall, Long Acre, on which occasion we perceive that he will have the assistance of the accomplished violinist, Herr Ernst. The names of Mr. W. Sterndale Bennett, Hill, Zerbini, and Reed also appear amongst those of the instrumental performers, and those of Mr. Land, Mr. Bodda and Miss Cobham in the list of vocalists.

Robert Fitzgerald, well known throughout the provinces as a highly talented delineator of character, after the manner of the late Charles Mathews, is giving his entertainment to excellent houses in Sussex.

Sims Reeves and Miss Lucombe have appeared in Manchester. On Christmas eve "Judas Maccabeus" was performed, in the presence of four thousand persons. Their provincial engagements conclude at the end of February; they will, however, make their appearance at Exeter Hall on Wednesday next, having received a *congé* for that evening.

Mr. Lumley's visit to Paris is, we understand, for the purpose of negotiating for the Italian Opera House in that city. Should he be successful, it will be of great advantage to him, as he will be enabled to offer *artistes* an engagement for the whole year at the London and Paris opera houses.

The following is the two weeks chit-chat of Paris:—The principal musical novelty of the last few days in Paris has been the production, at the Theatre de l'Opera, of Adolphe Adam's new piece, in two acts, entitled "Le Faral" (the Beacon, or Lighthouse), the libretto of which is by that prolific writer M. De Saint Georges. It has been received with only moderate success; without possessing any impressive feature, the music contains here and there some pleasing compositions in this composer's ordinary style. Madame Dameron was the heroine, and looked pretty in her costume of Brittany, but the singing apportioned to her was common-place. This operretta will not, it is thought, have a long run. On the same night Fanny Cerrito and Saint Leon made their re-appearance in "Le Violon du Diable," and were received with the utmost enthusiasm; Fanny was literally covered with bouquets of flowers from all parts of the house. The *fete* given on Tuesday last at the Italian Opera, on the occasion of the exposition of those works of art which had gained medals, passed off with great *eclat*. There is a rumor of some differences having arisen between Ronconi and the committee of shareholders of our Italian theatre, about the allotment of a box, free of charge, to Mr. Lumley, the present director's opponent; but, as the reports are contradictory, and probably greatly exaggerated, I refrain from further noticing them. On Sunday week, they celebrated the 100th performance of the popular opera of "Le Val d'Anderre;" the same piece is very successful at Bordeaux, Rouen, and other provincial cities. Goria has returned from a successfull tour in the southern provinces. It appears certain that Bouffe (who may be termed the Liston of the French stage) is about to retire from the profession. The successful reproduction of "Matilde di Sabran" continues to draw crowded and fashionable houses. Madame Persiani has recovered for this opera the original *fraicheur* of her voice, which is still marvellous, and directed with her accustomed taste. The new tenor, Lucchesi, nightly improves in public favor. I simply, in a few words, announced to you the revival of Rossini's "Matilde di Sibran," at the Royal Italian Opera, for the *debut* of the new Tenor, Lucchesi. Both have proved so successful as to deserve a short notice. It has been remarked (observes a talented musical writer) that when a man of genius arrives at a certain height of fame, his productions, like a family, are divided into two classes, the elder and the younger—the first is composed of select "chefs d'œuvres," bearing with them high repute, fame, and glory; the other compositions are less assuming, less felicitous, and are only illuminated by reflection. Hence it was with Shakspeare, Corneille, and Voltaire; as it also was with Paesiello, Cimarosa, and Rossini. The two distinct branches are perfectly perceptible in the vast collection of their works. As regards Rosini, the eldest branch commences with "Tancredi," and continues with "Le Barbiere," the "Gazza Ladra," "Otello," "Cenerentola," "Mose," "La Donna del Lago," "Semiramide," and "Gillaume Tell." Amongst the younger branch, in which there are still to be found some charming operas; we include the "Torvaldo e Dorliska," the "Aureliano in Palmira," "Ricciardo e Zoeaide," the "Edoardo e Christina," the "Bianco e Faliere," and other illustrious strangers, of which the list would be tedious—"Matilde di Sabran" belongs to this latter branch, of which it was one of the last produced. Rossini wrote it for the Carnival of 1821, at Rome, where it ought to have been played at the Theatre Apollo, but such was the excess of indolence and fatigue of the composer, that he completed his work at a snail's pace, so that it only was produced at the close of the carnival, and performed two nights solely. A remarkable circumstance attended this tardy production, which was that Pelliccia, the usual leader of the orchestra was obliged to beat a retreat before the extraordinary difficulties which this partition presented to him, the veteran of easy compositions, so Rossini solicited on the morning of its production only, the celebrated Paganini to replace Pelliccia at the perilous post of honor. The bad libretto of this piece, wretchedly constructed out of the pleasing materials of "Euphrosine et Coradin," could not inspire the composer's genius; and "Matilde" is the most dull of all his operas that he would wish to be comic. In Paris, years ago, it would not succeed, in spite of the talented support of Mlle. Sontag. After having been shelved for the last fifteen or sixteen years, it has been reproduced within the last few days, strange to say, with the utmost success, and with all the *fraicheur* of a new piece. The new tenor, Lucchesi, chose for his *debut* the part of Coradin. Report asserted this tenor to be the only one of the present day who could sing Rossini's music; his fame has not misled us—Lucchesi is truly a good singer, of a school of which Italy can no longer boast. His voice, without being fully developed, is pleasing and full; it makes up in *agilite* for any deficiency in brilliancy. We may still hear it to greater advantage, for his journey, and a week's incessant rehearsal, have undoubtedly impaired it somewhat in its strength and sonority. In less than eight days, this piece has been rehearsed and fully put on the stage. Madame Persiani sang, in superior style, the part of Matilde, and Mlle. Vera disclosed new abilities in the part of the page, Edoardo. The other parts were well sustained by Ronconi, Novelli, Mademe Gunialdi, and Majeski. We anxiously await the return of Lablache.

Mr. Charles Whitney, the lecturer on the popular oratory of the Neew World, continues to draw crowded houses in England. He was at Leeds at the last accounts.

Fashions for January.

[From the Lady's Newspaper.]

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON FASHION AND DRESS.

Silk and satin are, as usual at the present season, among the most favorite materials for evening costume. For walking-dress, flounces of silk are very suitable, but for evening or dinner costumes a lighter kind of trimming is requisite. Lace flounces and bouillonnees of tulle the color of the dress, are much employed for trimming skirts. Gauze ribbon, quilled in a variety of elegant styles, is also a fashionable trimming for evening dresses. For ball costumes, silk of light colors will, perhaps, be as generally employed as lighter, transparent materials, even for young ladies.

Ball dresses suited to the present season may be composed of tulle. They are made with two or three jupes, looped up with flowers or foliage. Embroidered silk dresses are trimmed with rich lace. Tulle, spotted with gold or silver is very fashionable, and also satin, under jupes of tulle, the edge of the satin skirt being trimmed with bouillonnees and bows of ribbon. Crape is also much employed for ball dresses. We have seen a beautiful dress just completed, composed of pink crape with two jupes, to be worn over a pink slip; the upper jupe trimmed with two rows of narrow pink ruches, and the lower one with three rows of the same. Crape dresses are sometimes made with a great number of narrow flounces of crape, pinked at the edges; these flounces should be so numerous as nearly to cover the skirt of the dress. Some white tulle dresses with two jupes, to be worn over white silk, have been simply made with deep hems at the edge of the jupes, and the hems ornamented with small wreaths of flowers or foliage only. A plainer style for a ball dress consists of white or cerulean-blue silk, edged with scalloping, and finished with two or three rows of silk braid.

EVENING FULL DRESS.

Robe of very rich pink moire antique, trimmed round the edge of the skirt with two bouillonnees of pink tulle. On each of these bouillonnees there are fixed, at regular intervals, small bows of pink satin ribbon.—Above the bouillonnées is a flounce of rich Honiton lace, rather more than a quarter of a yard deep. This flounce is set on in very slight fulness, and it has a heading consisting of a row of lace of the same pattern as the flounce, but about one third narrower. The heading is fixed with the edge of the lace upwards, and therefore, in order to keep it in that position, it must be tacked here and there to the skirt of the dress. Between the flounce and the heading is a bouillon of white tulle, within which is run a broad pink satin ribbon, and upon it are fixed bows similar to those in the trimming at the edge of the skirt. The corsage, which is plain, and pointed at the waist, is rather high at the back and square in front, of the bosom. Along the top of the front is a row of white lace, the edge downwards, and below it are two or three rows run on quite straight, but graduated so as to produce the effect of a stomacher. Over the corsage is worn a berthe of an entirely new pattern. It rises behind a little above the back of the corsage, and, after passing over the shoulders, is terminated in a point at the waist, displaying in front of the corsage the rows of lace above mentioned. This berthe is made on a foundation of tulle, upon which are ran two rows of lace. Sleeves rather short, and edged with lace, corresponding with that on the berthe and the trimming in front of the corsage. Above the lace, at the ends of the sleeves, is a bouillonnee, ornamented with small bows of pink ribbon. Head-dress, a demi-cap of the half handkerchief form, composed of fine Honiton lace, and ornamented on each side with bouquets of roses and foliage. Demi-long gloves of white kid; and on one arm may be worn one or two bracelets, with clasps set with jewels. In front of the corsage, a stomacher brooch, set with diamonds and emeralds. A large Watteau fan, mounted on sticks of mother-o'-pearl, richly inlaid with gold.

BALL DRESS.

Robe of three jupes, composed of white tulle, richly sprigged with gold. Each jupe is scalloped at the edge, and finished with a plain flat row of gold trimming. Corsage low, and pointed at the waist. The front is ornamented with a drapery of plain white tulle, gathered in three drawings—one in the centre of the bosom, and two others, each sloping from the shoulders to the point in front of the waist. The berthe is of the same new pattern as that in the above; but instead of lace, it is made of the materials of the dress (tulle sprigged with gold), and each of the two rows is scalloped and finished with gold trimming like the edges of the jupes. The short sleeves are edged in a corresponding manner. Head dress, a beautiful wreath of bright green foliage and gold berries. A spray of foliage passes over the upper part of the head; and the gold berries hang down in thick clusters at each side. The back hair is simply plaited and fastened rather low; the front hair in full bandeaux. Demi-long white kid gloves, and a bracelet on one arm. Bouquet de corsage of green foliage, and gold berries corresponding with the wreath in the hair. White satin shoes.

COSTUME (SUITED TO A JUVENILE PARTY) FOR A LITTLE GIRL OF FIVE OR SIX YEARS OF AGE.

Dress of pink silk. The skirt short and trimmed with three flounces, pinked at the edges and each headed with a rouleau of silk. The corsage rather high, and edged round the neck with two narrow pinked frills. The sleeves edged with a pinked frill surmounted by a bouillonnée, and on each sleeve, at the outer part of the arm, a large bow, composed either of pink ribbon, or of silk the same as the dress. Under the trimming, at the edges of the sleeves, two rows of lace, set on full, form ruffles, which descend as low as the elbow. White cambric trousers, edged with a double row of scalloped needlework or lace. Pink kid slippers. The hair divided from the back part of the head to the centre of the forehead, and curled in short full curls.

The Revenue of Great Britain.

An abstract of the net produce of the revenue of Great Britain, in quarters ending January 5, 1849 and 1850, showing the increase or decrease thereof:—

	Quarters Ended. Jan. 5, '49.	Quar. End Jan 5, '50.	Incr'se.	Decr'se.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	4,002,895	4,041,630	38,235	—
Excise	5,253,162	5,625,061	371,899	—
Stamps	1,472,598	1,508,860	37,262	—
Taxes	1,921,013	1,897,961	—	23,052
Property-tax	424,424	449,324	24,900	—
Post Office	158,000	154,000	—	46,000
Crown Lands	30,000	60,000	30,000	—
Miscellaneous	21,709	58,408	36,699	—
Total Ord. Revenue	12,003,811	12,473,344	539,095	69,05
China Money	84,284	—	—	84,284
Imprest and other Monies	123,895	125,087	1,192	—
Repayments of Advances	140,695	124,909	—	15,786
Total Income	12,352,185	12,723,340	540,287	169,122
Amount applied to Consolidated Fund	8,974,147	8,236,315	Deduct Decrease	169,122
As Advances on Exchequer Bills	184,380	374,172	increase on the	
As part of the Ways and means of Year	3,193,658	4,112,823	Incr'se on the Qr'ter	371,125
Total	12,352,185	12,723,310		

The income of the year ending January 5, 1849, was £49,931,523; and that for the year ending January 5, 1850, £49,851,342, being a decrease of £80,181.

The Corn Trade of Europe.

[From the London Mercantile Gazette, Jan. 11.]

The most recent advices from the North of Europe inform us of the total close of the principal rivers and harbors by ice; and it is therefore certain that no supplies of grain, except the comparatively insignificant quantity still on passage, can reach us from that quarter for some time to come. This circumstance is certainly in favor of an improvement in the trade here. Still there is a great want of confidence, and a portion of the lately established advance in the price of wheat has again been lost this week. The reaction has, we are disposed to think, been caused by the contraction of the operations of our large millers and dealers, who, having bought rather freely during the last two or three weeks, are not inclined to make further additions to their stocks. Meanwhile an increase has taken place in the deliveries from the farmers, who have apparently been induced, by the recent rise in quotations, to thresh wheat more freely. The excess of supply over demand has not been great, but with a feeling of distrust prevailing as to the future, a very small surplus suffices to depress prices, and until a portion of what has lately been bought shall have passed into consumption, purchasers will probably continue to act on the reserve. The arrival of a considerable quantity of flour from the other side of the Atlantic, from whence few expected supplies, and continued receipts of that article from France, have no doubt assisted to produce the existing calm; indeed, it may be safely affirmed that a greater influence is invariably caused on our markets by the arrival of foreign manufactured flour than by the receipt of an equivalent quantity of wheat. Nor is this in any way surprising. Before the wheat can pass into the hands of the consumer, its manufacture into flour gives employment to British industry, whilst its admission in a perfectly finished state puts the profit which our millers would otherwise receive, into the pocket of the foreigner, which is certainly carrying out the beneficial principles of free trade to the utmost. At most of the large consuming towns in the north, held in the early part of the week, business was inactive, and the value of wheat receded 1s. to 2s. per quarter from the point it had previously attained. The decline at the leading markets in the agricultural districts has been to about the same extent, and there are no symptoms of an immediate rally; regarding it, however, as tolerably certain that no supplies of moment can reach us much before March, from the Baltic, we continue to entertain the opinion that the tendency of prices will be rather upwards during the next month. The arrivals of wheat, coastwise, into London have been moderate since our last, nor has the quantity exhibited at Mark-lane by land carriage samples from the home counties been by any means large. There was some slight increase on Monday, in the show on the Kent stands, but from Essex and Suffolk there was rather less than before. The millers were, however, very cautious in their operations, and only the best qualities of white could be placed at prices similar to those current on that day se'nnight, it being necessary to submit to a decline of 1s. per quarter before any progress could be made in the disposal of the ordinary runs. Since then, very little has come forward; but small as have been the supplies, they have proved amply sufficient to satisfy the demand, and on Wednesday, as well as this morning, considerable difficulty was experienced in effecting sales at the reduced terms. The total arrival of foreign wheat reported up to last evening amounted to only 5,280 quarters; but there has been no want of the article, granaried parcels having been freely offered at former rates. The country inquiry has rather slackened than improved, and local purchasers have confined their operations to as narrow limits as their wants have admitted. In the absence of business of importance, quotations remained nominally the same on Monday as on that day week, but that it would have been necessary to have taken less money to have made sales of any consequence cannot be questioned. Matters have since remained in much the same position, too few bargains having been concluded to warrant alteration in prices; but the disinclination to buy was even greater to-day than in the commencement of the week. The late large arrivals of flour from abroad have interfered with the disposal of that of home manufacture; and though the nominal top price of town-made flour is varied, household and secondary qualities of foreign have been pushed with at lower terms than would have been accepted last week. The supply of English barley has been only moderate, but the inquiry for this grain having been very slow, the tendency of prices has been rather downwards. Choice malting samples were not cheaper on Monday than before, all other descriptions were rather easier to buy, and the inquiry has certainly not improved since then. The very moderate rates at which foreign barley has been offered for some time past has caused it to be taken steadily for feeding purposes, and its value has undergone no further depression. Only a retail business has been done in malt, and quotations have undergone no alteration. The receipts of oats coastwise have been small, and the arrivals from other quarters have been quite trifling. We are unable, however, to notice any improvement in the tone of the trade, the principal dealers having acted in the same cautious manner as before. An attempt has been made to obtain a slight advance for fine corn, and good bright Scotch feed oats have been held a little higher; but other kinds, whether of home or foreign growth, cannot be quoted dearer than on this day se'nnight. Beans have been taken slowly, at former rates, and the demand for peas has not been improved by the continuance of cold weather. Indian corn has been held firmly, in consequence of better accounts from Liverpool.

The Cotton Market.

[From the European Times, Jan. 12.]

The cotton market has this week been unusually active. The transactions have been upon an extended scale, and prices generally are a point dearer. On Monday the market opened with a steady aspect. The demand was to a fair extent, and holders evinced no desire to sell except at very extreme prices. This position was sustained up to the close of Tuesday. On Wednesday the accounts, per Hibernia, from New York, to the 26th December, came to hand, advising reduced estimates of the crop, exports to Great Britain still small, and prices 6¼ to ½ per lb. higher in New York during the last week. The market immediately presented an excited appearance, speculators became very extensive operators, and an advance of ¼d. to ½d. per lb. in the most current qualities of American was established. The day's sales reaching 25,000 bales, of which 12,500 bales were on speculation. Yesterday the demand was again large, sales reaching 25,000 bales, 17,000 on speculation, at an advance of fully ¼d. per lb. in American upon the quotations of Friday last.—To-day we have less business doing, but the market remains steady; sales 6000 bales. The sales for the week are 69,260 bales, of which 39,920 are on speculation, and 770 for export, leaving 28,570 bales, all kinds, for the trade.

The Committee of