Our London Correspondence.

MUSICAL ENTERPRISE IN LONDON.

LONDON, May 2, 1856.

Decline of the Drama—Flourishing State of the Sister Art—A Third Italian Opera about to be Opened at the Surrey Theatre—The New Musical Entertainments at the Surrey Gardens—The New Philharmonic Concerts—Cramer, Beale & Co. the Mainsprings of Musical Art in England—Jullien's Grand Musical and Military Fêtes—Italian Tour in the Provinces—New Music Hall in London, &c., &c.

Whatever may be said about the "decline of the drama" in England, (and if report has spoken truly it has been so long on the decline that it ought by this time to have fallen altogether,) there can be no doubt that the sister art has never been in a more healthy or hopeful condition than at the present moment.

We have already two Italian Operas—at the Lyceum and her Majesty's, (*par excellence* the Opera,) and are shortly to have a third, at the Surrey theatre, where, under the auspices of Messrs. Cramer, Beale & Co., the well known music sellers, a company of vocalists are about to be congregated, whose position before the public is sufficient to guarantee performances of the highest character. Amongst the names we find those of Madame Gassier, Madame Caradoni, Madame Rudersdorff, M'lle Ledlatzek, Madame Jonini, Mons. Gassier, Herr Reichart, Signor Jonini, Signor Baraldi, Mr. Swift and (peradventure) Mr. Sims Reeves. The undertaking is thought to be a wise one, and properly so, for we generally find that, whatever the locality may be, public entertainments, if well done, are not very likely to be allowed to die for want of sustenance.

In speaking of Cramer, Beale & Co., I cannot but remark that they are peculiarly deserving of success, for amongst our musical purveyors there are none who have contributed more largely than they have done to the cultivation of an increased taste for the "charms of song." It may not be uninteresting to detail, as briefly as possible some of the "doings" of this enterprising firm in their efforts to scatter the seeds of music in those places where, without such culture as their skill and experience enable them to bestow, the soil might be considered little calculated to yield fruitful results.

It is of course by this time known amongst your readers that the very successful entertainment which is now being presented daily at the Gallery of Illustration, Regent street, by Miss P. Horton (Mrs. T. G. Reed), owes, not its origin, but its *locus stands*, to the capital and enterprise of Cramer & Beale, who, having witnessed Mrs. Reed's "Popular Illustrations," at St. Martin's Hall, Long Acre, where they did not receive due attention from the British public, very wisely conceived that the undertaking required only the aid of such resources as they were able to supply to secure for it the patronage it deserved. Hence the entertainment became their property, in the commercial sense of the term; and by judiciously combining their power of advertising and their skill in the management of the executive, with the recognized ability possessed by the lady, they have obtained a result which has not been surpassed even by Albert Smith in his "Ascent of Mont Blanc." I will not here stop to descant upon the peculiar merits of the entertainment, as they are, doubtless, tolerably familiar to you already, through the newspaper criticisms; but I may observe *en passant* that, as a display of genuine humor, extraordinary power of personation, great discrimination of character and vocal abilities of the highest order, this performance of Mrs. Reed, (aided, as it is, by the musical exertions of her very clever husband,) is quite unrivalled in the present day; and that this opinion is universally endorsed is amply proved by the testimony of admiring thousands.

The new scheme just projected at the Surrey Gardens is also an emanation from the firm of Cramer Beale, under whose superintendence that very popular place of resort is being converted into an area for musical entertainments and fashionable promenades, such as will give to it a character for taste and elegance which the roar of the wild beasts (now removed to a more fitting locality) has hitherto prevented its enjoying. Much credit is due to Mr. Beale, the prime mover in this speculation, for the arrangements he is making, and for the class of artists—pictorial, musical and otherwise—he has already associated with him. Mr. Dawson (the best hand we have at scene painting on a gigantic scale) is to have the control of that department, in which he has so greatly distinguished himself; and Mons. Jullien, beyond doubt the most renowned master of the *bâton* that France or any other country has produced, is to be the conductor of the music, the directors of the Gardens (called, by consent of her Majesty, the Royal Gardens) having determined to provide concerts of such a character as will satisfy the taste of the most hypercritical. It cannot be doubted that this undertaking will prove a successful one, and (started as it is under the immediate auspices of a public company, called the Royal Surrey Gardens Company) that it will yield a large return to the shareholders, who, it seems, by the statement made the other day at the first annual meeting, have paid up their "calls" with a degree of good humored readiness which speaks well for their confidence in the enterprise.

Another occasion seized upon by the firm whose movements in the musical world I am now recording, for the exercise of their "governmental" powers, was the establishment of the new Philharmonic Concerts, which were brought to a state of perfection by their liberality, zeal and knowledge of the musical art and its professors.

That the Royal Italian Opera, at unfortunate Covent Garden, was commenced by Mr. Beale is almost as well known as the fact that young Mr. Delafield, who succeeded him, was ruined by the want of skill and experience to carry out that which money alone could not accomplish, and which, without such assistance as Mr. Beale was capable of rendering, could not be otherwise than a doubtful speculation. Fortune, however, turned to the favorable side, and the fact evinced by Mr. Delafield's successor, aided as it was by the downfall of Mr. Lumley, at Her Majesty's, sufficiently vindicated the judgment of Mr. Beale in having originated a second Italian Opera. Having retired from the directorship of the establishment, he has since given encouragement to the most popular singers and musicians, through other means, and is now busily occupied in organizing a series of grand musical and military fêtes which are to take place in different parts of the country during the summer, under the management of Mons. Jullien, who intends to conduct them in a manner worthy of his well earned reputation. He has already secured the assistance of Koenig, Winterbottom, Lavigne and other members of his orchestral corps; and whenever the sphere of operations is sufficient to accommodate an unusually large number of persons, the services of Mons. and Mme. Gassier, Mr. Swift, the new English tenor, and other eminent vocalists will be employed to give increased attraction to the entertainment.

Messrs. Cramer & Beale are also engaged in conducting an operatic tour through the provinces, where, under their guidance, some of the most distinguished Italian and French singers are now exercising their abilities with the most successful results in Liverpool, Manchester, &c. In the former town Monsieur and Madame Gassier have been gaining a profusion of laurels, in conjunction with Mr. Swift, by the admirable manner in which they have performed the opera of "La Sonnambula," "Don Pasquale," &c.; and it appears that they are likely to continue their efforts in the country, at intervals, until the arrangements which are now pending for the production of Italian opera at the Surrey theatre are matured.

Here I have accidentally touched upon another project which Messrs. Cramer & Co. are actively promoting; and judging from the engagements already effected with many of the greatest favorites of the Italian stage, it is quite clear that the company at the Surrey is to be formed of such ingredients as will render it a formidable rival to the *troupe* at her Majesty's and the Lyceum. Here is a list of names already enrolled:—M'me Caradoni, M'me Gassier, M'me Rudersdorff, M'me Lorini, M'lle Sedlatzek, Signor Baraldi, Mr. Swift, Herr Reichart, Signor Lorini, Monsieur Gassier and other equally distinguished artists—not, I believe, including Mr. Sims Reeves, a fact, however, which is not a very material drawback, for that gentleman, like Mario, seems to be "afflicted" with a voice of such extremely delicate texture, that it will not always discharge its functions when called upon. But the names that I have given will, at least, be amply sufficient to afford an earnest of the style of performers who are to plant the "standard" of Italian music on the southern shore of the Thames, where, up to this period, the patrons of the stage have heard few vocal sounds beyond the "woodnotes wild" of a village *soubrette*, or the occasional outpourings of a mere English opera company.

Add to the facts I have related that Messrs. Cramer & Beale are the active promoters of a new undertaking for the construction of a Music Hall upon a grand and comprehensive scale, between Regent street and Piccadilly, and that they are the sole agents in London for the disposal of Alexandre's improved "Harmonium," (an instrument which is at once capable of yielding the sonorous tones of an organ, and the more delicate sounds of a pianoforte,) and I think sufficient will have been said to show that they are amongst the most prominent of those enterprising capitalists who have given to music a "local habitation," where, hitherto, its name was never mentioned, and its sounds never heard.

Our Berlin Correspondence.

BERLIN, April 29, 1856.

Exultation of the Russian Party at the Easy Terms of the Paris Treaty—Grand Banquet to Baron Manteuffel on His Return to Berlin—The Vis Inertia of the Prussian Premier's Policy the Grand Topic of Congratulation—The Italian Question and its Complications—Coronation of the Emperor Alexander—German Emigration to America, &c., &c.

The conditions of the treaty of peace, as published by the *Independance Belge* and confirmed (according to a telegraphic message received this morning) by the *Moniteur*, have excited no little surprise here, the rhodomontades of the English papers having led people to expect that the allies had insisted on more stringent terms, and that Russia had made greater concessions. Not a word is mentioned about Nicolaieff and North Sebastopol, or about the Circassian fortresses; the Sea of Azoff, too, is passed over *sub silentio*, and the neutralization of the Euxine will therefore be a mere fiction. Even the "rectification" of the frontier on the Danube has, thanks to the egregious blunders of the Austrian generals and diplomatists, been reduced to the smallest possible proportions, and as the exact line of demarcation is to be drawn by a military commission composed of delegates of all the contracting Powers, the crafty Muscovites will have still further opportunities of making it grow "small by degrees and beautifully less." It seems to have been scarcely worth while to sacrifice so many hundred thousands of lives and so many millions of treasure to conclude a peace which virtually leaves everything as it was before, and I am mistaken if the British nation will not ask Lord Palmerston a question or two about it which he may find it difficult to answer. Meanwhile, the Russian party here are in high spirits, and look forward to a close alliance between the Czar and Louis Napoleon, directed more especially against England, which, by its immense naval armaments, appears to be already preparing for such a conjuncture.

Our Premier has been received with great ovations on his return from Paris. The First Chamber, or *soi-disant* House of Lords, gave him a grand banquet, and his health was drunk with tremendous enthusiasm after an eloquent address by Professor Stahl, the most distinguished orator of the Conservative party, thanking him for his successful exertions in carrying out a line of policy which had not only preserved Prussia from the evils of war, but prevented a derangement of that balance of power on which the political system of Europe is founded. The Second Chamber, or House of Representatives, followed on the same tack, the chairman, Count Eulenburg, making a flaming speech, in which he rather astonished his auditors by applying to Baron Manteuffel the old adage of "*Fortuna audacem juvat.*" In sober truth, the *vis inertiæ* which enabled the Prussian statesman to resist all temptations to take an active part in the great conflict that has just terminated, has had all the effect of the most skilful diplomacy, and even their antagonists cannot but admit that they have thus avoided entanglements dangerous to the safety, and, perhaps, even to the existence, of the monarchy. If, yielding to the importunities and menaces of the Western Powers, and to the wishes of a great part of the nation, they had taken up arms against Russia, they would undoubtedly have been left in the lurch by Louis Napoleon, the same as England is now, with the difference that Prussia has no wooden walls to protect her, but would be exposed to the bitter resentment of her nearest neighbor, converted from a steady ally into an implacable enemy. She would be at present in much the same predicament as Austria, which is by no means an agreeable one. The Court of Vienna has been so excessively clever that it has outwitted itself, and has shown such anxiety to keep in with all parties that it is disliked and distrusted by every one of them. Louis Napoleon is bent upon obtaining Savoy, for which Sardinia is to receive Lombardy in exchange. Austria refused to agree to this project and to take the Danubian Principalities as a set-off against her Italian provinces, and the consequence will be that she will lose the latter and have to go without the indemnity. This is why Count Walewski brought the Italian question on the tapis at the Conferences, and why the agitation now brewing in that country is tacitly encouraged. The "chivalrous Emperor" is said to be frightened out of his wits and to rest all his hopes of safety on the clergy, whom he has conciliated by his famous concordat, and through whose influence he expects to counteract that spirit of revolution which is again about to knock at his palace door, after he had fondly imagined it exorcised and extinguished forever.

The Prussian Chambers will be prorouged early in May, and not meet again till late in November. They have done little but vote a new municipal law, by which the civic and rural communities are rendered still more dependent upon government than they were previously. A motion relative to the famous affair of the despatches, which was brought forward by the extreme right and supported by the extreme left, who are both, though for various reasons, opposed to the Prime Minister, will probably be abandoned or suffered to drop quietly into oblivion, in order not to compromise M. de Manteuffel, who must be whitewashed, at all hazards. The man Techen, who purloined the despatches, or bribed the servants of MM. Gerlach and Nichola to do so, is very ill in prison; he is upwards of seventy years of age, and if anything should happen to him it would be impossible to proceed with the affair for want of evidence.

The Dowager Empress of Russia is expected here by the 13th of next month, and after a short stay at Sansouci, will proceed to Wildbad, where she is to drink the waters and meet her daughter, the Princess Royal of Wirtemberg, better known as the Grand Duchess Olga. It is thought the King will accompany her and take the opportunity of paying a visit to his brother monarch of Wirtemberg, with whom he has been on bad terms ever since the year 1849, when the latter refused to acknowledge him as Emperor of Germany in case of his being elected. The Czar is not likely to come to Berlin this summer, as he is busily engaged travelling about his dominions to redress grievances and suggest improvements, and preparing for his coronation, which is to come off with extraordinary splendor on the 11th of September, the *fête* of his patron, Saint Alexander Nevsky. Quite a mob of German princes will be crowding to Moscow about that time to pay their homage to the great Eastern potentate, whose star they evidently imagine to be he once more emerging with renewed brilliancy from the temporary cloud that obscured it. Austria will probably send an Archduke, Prussia either Prince Charles, or his son, Charles, junior, and the other German sovereigns their sons and nephews; but it is shrewdly conjectured that none of these scions of royalty will be received in Russia with so much cordiality and *empressement* as the French Ambassador, Count Morny, who, indeed, if rumor is to be trusted, has as much royal blood in his veins as any of them.

The emigration to America, which has fallen off considerably for the last year or so, owing to the exaggerated reports received on this side of the water about the goings on of the Know Nothings and the persecutions foreigners had to suffer from them, is again on the increase, and unless peace should lead to a reduction in the price of provisions and a general improvement in the condition of the laboring classes, it appears likely this year to attain, or even exceed, the proportions it had reached at former periods. Upwards of a thousand emigrants passed through Berlin a few weeks since, chiefly agriculturists, bound to Wisconsin. They came from Pomerania, a thinly inhabited province on the coast of the Baltic, whose soil, though rather poor and arid, could easily support twice its present population if it were not under the dominion of an aristocracy more haughty and grasping than that of any other part of the kingdom. Altogether, the returns of the last triennial seasons bear witness that the continued emigration is beginning to tell upon the population of Germany, and account for the endeavors of the various German governments to put a stop to it and to deter their subjects from venturing across the ocean, by doleful narations published from time to time, of the ferocious cruelties practised upon Europeans by the Yankee anthropophagi. Thus, in the Grand Duchy of Hesse otherwise called Hesse Darmstadt, the difference between the two censuses of the years 1852 and 1855, amounted to 18,000 souls deficiency of the latter against the former. This is not an isolated phenomenon, the same having been experienced in other States, as in Baden, Electoral Hesse, Nassau, and even in Prussia. The district of Breslaw, province of Silisia, for instance, returned at the census of 1852 a population of 1,215,020 souls, which in 1855 was reduced to 1,212,555, showing a diminution of 52,465. The circle of Gumbinnen, in Eastern Prussia, presented, in 1852, a total of 639,864 inhabitants, which in 1855 had decreased to 638,285, a loss of 1,579 persons, which is the more extraordinary as this is a part of the country from whence, comparatively speaking, very little emigration takes place. Of course, there are some provinces that have increased their population during the period alluded to, but this is chiefly observable in the large towns, which are continually draining the rural districts of their inhabitants to add to the dense masses of *prolétaires* that are the curse of every European capital.

Texas Items—Terrible Hurricane.

We glean the following news from the Galveston papers:—

The weather has been extremely windy and hurricanish lately in many parts of Texas. A terrible tornado occurred in Dallas county. It destroyed the entire premises of Mr. Miller, a merchant of Pleasant Run, killing his partner, his clerk, a woman and two children. There were also four other persons killed in the immediate neighborhood—making nine in all—and six or eight wounded. This tornado extended about sixteen miles north and south, being from two hundred to three hundred yards in width. Over this tract the tornado swept, carrying away or prostrating everything in its course, killing horses, cattle, hogs, and other animals.

The Dallas *Herald*, of the 10th inst., gives the following account of the storm:—

There has not yet been time to trace the desolating track. At Cedar Hill, a small village, fifteen miles west of this place, it seems to have attained its greatest power, and its destruction was terrible. Nine persons were killed almost instantly in this small village, and a great many wounded. Every house in the village was levelled with the ground, and some of the houses were blown entirely away. Wm. Horne, Esq., who was at the scene of the calamity on Wednesday morning, furnishes us with the following particulars, which may be relied on:—

LIST OF KILLED.—John Hart, his wife and child; J. Berry, (merchant), his wife and child; Mrs. Dickson, (residing at Berry's); Mrs. Allen, and a negro girl.

Among the wounded we have only learned the names of old man Hart, Henderson Hart (skull fractured).

Miller & Berry's storehouse was torn to pieces, the goods all blown off except a few heavy articles, and the timbers scattered a great distance over the prairie. The money chest, containing some $800 or $900, was blown off and not found.

The heartrending scene which presented itself at this ruined village, when our informant reached there the next morning, beggars description. The damage in the neighborhood was quite considerable. Many horses, cattle and other stock were killed on the prairie by the storm.

The injuries sustained in the neighborhood are as follows, so far as heard from:—

Milton Merrifield's house blown down.

Stephens' house blown down.

Church near Parson Crawford's blown down.

H. K. Brotherton's house, in which he lived, several miles east of Cedar Hill, blown down—a perfect wreck. His family escaped uninjured.

Mr. Hall, who was at Brotherton's at the time, was slightly injured.

The Methodist church, near Brotherton's, and another house of Brotherton's, near his residence, were blown down.

On Ten Mile—Mr. Steward's house, stables and fences blown down, and scattered in every direction.

Mrs. Vaugh's (daughter of Col. Geo. Wilson) house blown down, and Mrs. V. slightly injured.

The storm commenced after 4 o'clock in the evening, blowing from a southwesterly direction. Before night it had calmed, and the sun was shining. It was accompanied by much thunder and lightning.

At this place it prevailed in a much milder degree, doing no damage.

The papers from the interior give favorable accounts of the wheat, cotton and corn crops. Rather more rain than necessary has fallen in some sections, and planters will have trouble in keeping down the grass; yet, all things considered, their prospects are highly flattering.

Mr. R. P. Williams, farmer to the Tonawhaw Indians, on their reservation, was killed in the latter end of April, by a soldier of Colonel Johnson's regiment, near Fort Belknap.

Two men, says the Dallas *Herald*, were killed in a street fight at Leona last week. Pistols were the weapons used. We have not learned the names or particulars.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

MONEY MARKET.

SUNDAY, May 25—6 P. M.

During the past week the stock market has been steady, with about the usual extent of operations. Money has been gradually getting easier, and all apprehensions regarding the shipment of specie have disappeared. The exportation of precious metals this week has been unusually limited, and the reduction in rates for sterling exchange, with the daily increasing supply, has put to rest all fears of a serious drain. The impetus which has been given to our export trade by the favorable advices from Europe regarding breadstuffs and other staple products, will keep up the supply of exchange, and keep down rates. Official returns from Washington, of our foreign trade for the past quarter of the present calendar year, show results little anticipated. They show an excess of exports over imports in that time of more than *seven millions of dollars*. When it is considered that this is the result of the most active importing season of the year, the prosperous condition of our foreign trade will be realized. In the face of this fact there can be no apprehensions of large specie shipments. Everything in financial affairs on this side of the Atlantic points to an easier money market. The banks cannot contract much in their discount line. The specie reserve is likely, during the month of June, to be larger than ever before known, and the country bank balances will increase as produce comes to market. The political bugbears have no longer any influence even upon the weakest minded and most timid business men. All the capital it can possibly afford has already been made out of it by bear operators in the stock market, and there is likely to be, for a length of time, a great want of raw material for the manufacture of panics in Wall street. The dismissal of Mr. Crampton will do away entirely with political agitation. We look upon it, under existing circumstances, as a movement fraught with the most favorable consequences. It will put to rest a great many questions which have, during the past year, been a source of much annoyance and irritation. The future is full of promise, and a long period of prosperity is likely to follow the satisfactory adjustment of our foreign relations. The dismissal of Mr. Crampton will, without doubt, bring about a change of ministry in Great Britain; and that is just what we want. It is too well known that the Palmerston Ministry is not all well disposed towards the United States, and any change is therefore desirable. We have everything to gain and nothing to lose by any step that may be taken by our government calculated to bring about a change of ministry in Great Britain, and we know of none more likely to produce such a result than the dismissal of Mr. Crampton.

The business at the office of the Assistant Treasurer of the United States for the port of New York, on Saturday, May 24, 1856, was as follows:—

Paid on Treasury account	$127,027 12
Received " "	123,004 50
Balance " "	9,705,995 06
Paid for Assay office	13,025 61
Paid on disbursing checks	30,304 68
Balance credit all accounts	13,360,304 68

The total exports of cotton to foreign ports for twelve months, ending August 31, 1854, was 2,319,148
Of which Great Britain took 1,603,750
For the twelve months ending August 31, 1855,
the total export to foreign ports was 2,244,209
Of which Great Britain took 1,549,716
The total export thus far, is 2,497,000
Of which Great Britain has taken 1,587,000

—or 403,000 bales more than to same dates last year. The consumption of cotton taken from the ports has averaged 620,000 bales in this country for the past four years; and for the four years immediately preceding that they averaged 485,000 bales. It is, therefore, quite improbable that, just recovering from the pressure of the past season's operations, they will take 650,000 bales the present year, to August 31, as the new crop is forward, and at present prices cotton does not present itself as a speculation to justify carrying extra stock. Beyond this consumption, all the growth must be exported, and if the Continental and French ports are overstocked now, inasmuch as they have taken already 225,000 bales out of the crop more than last season, it is evident that Great Britain will yet take 400,000 to 450,000 bales, swelling her receipts to 2,000,000 bales. Supposing that the Continental ports take 50,000 more, it is the same, as Great Britain is cut off her exports to those ports that quantity. In any contingency we have yet about 450,000 bales to export, which at $45 per bale—the present average price—gives $20,250,000. The excess of value in quantity and prices on the amount of our foreign export for the year ending August 31, say 700,000 bales, at $45, is $31,500,000—to which add difference in commissions, steamboating, shipping, bagging, rope and carting, gives all of $8,000,000 or $9,000,000 more—being a grand total of fully $40,000,000 which will be realized by the 31st August this season more than last year, by this excessive growth of cotton. There being less speculation than usual this year, the proportion that the South retains is full three-quarters, or $30,000,000 more than last year. The effect of this is already shown at New Orleans and Mobile, where auction sales for cash, of estates and negroes, realize higher prices and a better attendance of buyers than the former two to four years' credit sales.

The report of the engineer of the Racine and Mississippi Railroad Company contains the following four reasons for the great productiveness of railroads in the northern parts of Illinois and southern part of Wisconsin. Railroads running in a westerly direction from Lake Michigan, have paid better, far better, than any other even in the West. There are five of these, although two of them are owned by the Chicago and Galena company, viz:—The Milwaukie and Mississippi, running one hundred miles west from Milwaukie to Madison, the Chicago and Galena main line, from Chicago to Freeport, one hundred and twenty-one miles, and Air Line to Fulton, one hundred and thirty-four miles; the Rock Island, one hundred and ninety miles, and the Chicago and Burlington, one hundred and ninety miles. Each of these roads was eminently successful before it reached fifty miles into the country. The Milwaukie and Mississippi earned in 1855 $650,000, and divided 17 per cent; the Chicago and Galena earned $2,200,000, and divided 22 per cent.; the Chicago and Burlington made the same dividends, and the Rock Island 10 per cent. Besides paying the above dividends, each of the companies named had in hand a large surplus:—

1. They run precisely in the direction and by the shortest routes in which not only passengers but both heavy and light freights want to go. Lake Michigan is the end of navigation coming West. The heavy products of the country will always be transported by the lakes instead of by railroad. A bushel of wheat is carried from Milwaukie or Chicago to Buffalo, 1,000 miles, for eight cents, at a good profit, while more than that is charged for carrying it 100 miles by rail. These roads, then, run right for heavy freights; and as they are on the shortest and most direct routes for the Eastern cities, they run right also for light freights and passengers. This is not the case with roads running southerly from Chicago or Lake Erie. These latter roads will carry the heavy freights to the lakes, but passengers and more valuable freights will seek shorter routes to the East. On the other hand, the roads running east and west in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois are not running in the right direction to carry off the heavy products of the country.

2. These roads have an immense lumber business, which is peculiar to them. The roads in Ohio and Indiana do not have this business. The prairie country is not really reached until you come as far west as Illinois. This gives these roads freight from the lake to the interior almost equal in amount to the freights from the interior to the lake. The teamster can take a load to market for half price, when he can get a load in return, and through the lumber business these roads have the same advantage. The lumber business, over this vast prairie country of unequalled fertility, but destitute of timber, not only for building purposes but to a great extent for fencing, will be enough of itself to support several railroads.

3. These roads come in competition with no water communications. The roads running south from Chicago compete with the Illinois canal; those south from Toledo with the Wabash canal; south from Cleveland with the Ohio canal; east from Chicago with the lakes; the New York Central with the Erie canal; many of the roads in the Atlantic States with the ocean, and many elsewhere with rivers. Indeed, there is no other locality so entirely free from water communication as the country west of Lake Michigan. This is an immense advantage which might not at once be appreciated. When the citizens of New York State, some two years since, were about voting upon the enlargement of the Erie canal, it was officially stated that the canal carried to tidewater during the preceding year twenty times as many tons of freight as both the New York Central and the New York and Erie Railroads. The lakes doubtless carry to Buffalo a hundred times as many tons as all the railroads from the West. Our railroads have to do the whole of that bulky business which is done elsewhere by canals, rivers and lakes.

4. No other section in the United States has such a vast region beyond it, depending upon it for railroad facilities, as the country between Lake Michigan and the Mississippi. The country west of Lake Michigan, and east of the base of the Rocky Mountains, is greater in extent, and three times as fertile, as all the country between Lake Michigan and the Atlantic. Nearly the whole surplus products of this vast country must pass over our roads on their way to market. Our roads extending to the Mississippi, say 150 miles, will be but short links in roads extending indefinitely west. It is 300 miles across Iowa alone. Lake Michigan is not in the west, it is in the east. Its western shore is, as it were, a seacoast for all the country west of it. Our roads are upon the last end of the routes, upon which there will be the accumulation of all the business of the roads west of them. The roads east of us would have an advantage over us in this respect, were it not that they lose all the heavy freight which pass by the lakes and canal. This country west of the Mississippi gives to our roads a magnificent future, and that, too, at no distant day. Already settlements have been made as far as the western limits of Iowa.

These four causes are not only all permanent in their nature, but they must operate in a greatly increased ratio every year.

The trade and navigation returns of Canada have just been laid before Parliament. From these documents it appears that the total tonnage and property of vessels on the St. Lawrence, Burlington Bay, Chambly and Welland canals, and St. Ann's Lock, shows an increase of 1855 over 1854 of 8.3 per cent; there being a slight decrease on the St. Lawrence and Welland canals, which is counterbalanced by a considerable increase on the Burlington Bay canal. The value of articles entered for consumption in Canada was, in 1854, £10,132,331; in 1855, $0,021,542; showing a decrease of £1,110,781. The amount of duties collected was £881,445 in 1855, or £343,306 less than in 1854—a result attributable to the effects of reciprocity, as is proved by the return of £2,895,330, value of free goods imported in 1855, against £793,635 in 1854. The imports by sea, via the St. Lawrence, amounted in 1854 to £5,292,938; in 1855 they were but £2,419,431, or nearly one-half. The imports from the United States amounted, in 1854, to £3,833,274; and in 1855 to £5,207,159—showing an increase of £1,323,895; or about one-third. The imports from the United States of free goods, under the reciprocity treaty, were valued, in 1855, at £1,331,393. The total exports from Canada amounted, in 1854, to £5,754,797; in 1855 they were £7,047,115; showing an increase of £1,292,218. Toronto is the only important port which shows an increase, in 1855, on both exports and imports. The total increase of the commerce of Canada in 1855 over 1854 is £181,528, or 1.14 per cent.

The Washington *Union* gives the following particulars of the grants of land to railroads in Iowa, by a recent act of Congress:—

The act passed by Congress granting lands to Iowa for railroad purposes, and recently approved by the President, sets apart lands for four different railroads, about forty miles apart, running from the Mississippi to the Missouri river, thus crossing the whole State four times from east to west, and averaging nearly three hundred miles each in length. The following is an estimate showing the quantity granted which would accrue for each road to the State, allowing that there would be unsold lands enough without the prescribed limits of fifteen miles on each side of the road to satisfy the grants:—

Routes.	Estimated length in miles.	Acres granted.
Dubuque, via Fort Dodge, to Sioux City	295	1,132,800
Lyons City, via Maquoketa, due west to the Missouri river	325	1,248,000
Davenport, via Iowa City and Fort Desmoines, to Council Bluffs	290	1,116,600
Burlington, west to the mouth of the La Platte river	255	979,200
Total	1,165	4,478,600
Deduct for the Desmoines river grant, which crosses four times 10x4	40	153,660
Total	1,125	4,320,000

In order to protect the lands granted from sale and location, the Commissioner of the General Land Office has withdrawn, as we heretofore stated, all the lands in this State south of the Dacorrah district, south of the line between townships 92 and 93 in the Fort Dodge district, and south of the line between townships 91 and 92 of the Sioux City district. It is designed to adjust the several grants with as little delay as practicable, in order that the lands not needed for these grants may be restored to market.

The annexed statement exhibits the quantity and value of certain articles exported from this port during the week ending and including Friday, May 23, 1856, distinguishing the destination and extent of shipments to each place:—

COMMERCE OF THE PORT OF NEW YORK—WEEKLY EXPORTS.

LIVERPOOL.

	Quan.	Value.		Quan.	Value.
Cotton, bas	1,711	$186,636	Clocks, bxs	125	$1,401
Flour, bbls	4,559	62,868	Sperm oil, gal	1,629	2,464
Wheat, bus	71,167	124,133	C. ore, bbls	200	2,800
Corn	60,332	40 605	Tobacco, hhds	13	2,600
Beef, trs	38	7,860	Tobacco, lbs	3,320	400
Pork, bbls	20	2,040	Enl'd cloth, cs	4	428
Bacon, lbs	777,245	75,326	Drugs	11	900
Hams	5,110	570	Rags, bas	21	425
Lard	4,00	421	Peas, bus	2,026	2,500
Cheese	120 29	9,722	Old metal, cks	8	1,121
Rosin, bbls	2,59	5,233	Staves	6,000	300
Fustic, tons	26	3,336			
Total					$534,138

LONDON.

Flour, bbls	4,852	$35,914	Straw goods, cs	5	$2,006
Beef, tcs	233	6,303	Life boat	1	200
Pork, bbls	781	21,279	Drugs, cs	151	898
Bacon, lbs	308,002	29,400	Lea cloth, cs	28	3,328
Cheese	86,099	5,895	Oil cake, tons	427	14,483
Rice, tcs	201	5,025	Turpen'e bbls	357	12,178
Wh'bne, lbs	15,567	8,512	Furs, cs	99	40,758
Tobacco	73,653	13,712	Wool, bales	25	3,137
Hardware, cs	30	7,500	Liquor, casks	25	770
Clocks	35	650	Oars	360	304
Rosin, bbls	1,650	4,834	Staves	11,730	856
Mahogany, pcl	129	2,941			
Total					$219,933

GLASGOW.

Cotton, bas	251	$21,153	Rice, tcs	29	$900
Flour, bbls	7,933	55,519	Bark, bags	187	394
Beef, tcs	45	1,000	Staves	7,600	700
Pork, bbls	208	3,644	Wheat, bus	1,990	2,600
Bacon, lbs	54,238	17,437	Corn	12,200	7,300
Lard	51,800	5,700	Rosin, bbls	308	508
Cheese	76,000	5,760			
Dry goods, bs	12	179	Total		$122,794

HAVRE.

Cotton, bas	812	$47,920	Fishroes, bbls	213	$500
Flour, bbls	3,245	19,955	Potash	20	690
Wheat, bus	19,195	32,400	Skins, bales	14	2,200
Beef, bbls	75	863	Pearlash, bbls	73	2,477
Pork	25	387	Rosin	150	277
Bacon, lbs	22,249	2,117	Wine, cs	48	150
Kentucky, tcs	143	2,860	I. R. goods	78	3,450
Emb'ries, cs	1	300	Bocks	3	800
Tobacco	42	1,390	Spars	6	750
Wbone, lbs	33,220	20,905			
Total					$140,391

BREMEN.

Tobacco, bales	99	$4,065	Jewelry, box	1	$200
Furs&skins, cs	82	58,142	Segars, cs	1	200
Engravings	3	2 156			
Total					$64,753

ANTWERP.

Cotton, bs	126	$9 353	Potash, bbls	85	$2,853
Rye, bush	24,493	25,642	Oilcloth, cs	7	579
Bacon, lbs	26,900	2,655	Wax, lbs	721	200
Tobacco, hhd	50	3,843	Staves	6,300	530
Rosin, bbls	534	904			
Fustic, tons	133	2,137	Total		$48,696

ROTTERDAM.

Rye, bush	10,800	$12,490	Rosin, bbls	1,000	$1,658
Rye flour, bbl	100	299	Lumber, ft	7,539	365
Beef	10	135	Staves	10,600	896
Pork	10	156			
Tea, chests	430	2,850	Total		$18,849

AMSTERDAM.

Rye, bush	16,782	$15 522	Clothing, cs	2	$460
Sturp'e, bbls	75	1 247	Cedar, pcs	92	1,715
Rosin	1,300	2,201			
Total					$11,145

HAYTI.

Flour, bbls	600	$4,214	Codfish, lbs	39,370	$1,386
Beef	25	251	Rice, bbls	100	1 090
Pork	175	3,828	Tobacco, bales	67	893
Butter, lbs	679	136	Fish, bbls	70	375
Lard	5,509	630	Cordage, coils	9	605
Candles, bxs	62	423	Copper, bxs	7	1,284
Soap	1,800	2,250			
Sugar	35	600	Total		$17,646

BRAZIL.

Flour, bbls	3,469	$34,678	Domestics, bs	128	$6,772
Lard, lbs	5,490	695	Hardware, cs	1	333
Bread, bbls	200	245	Paper, reams	384	138
Candles, boxes	20	268	Hats, cases	10	120
Tea, cases	9	135	Powder, kegs	146	788
Hardware	70	1,452	Wine, cases	159	3,850
I. R. goods	1	167	Coal, tons	300	1,500
Rosin, bbls	100	165			
Total					$51,306

CHINA.

Flour, bbls	50	$540	Anchs&chains	24	$800
Meat	37	156	Hardware, cs	10	1,000
Beef	42	420	Boots	7	250
Hams, lbs	1,200	120	Stationery	1	300
Butter	3,390	980	Oakum, bales	260	775
Clocks, boxes	12	235	Domestics	250	12,435
Sugar, bbls	10	210	Lead, case	1	800
Clothing, cs	5	745	Carpeting	1	1,500
Champagne	76	890	Brandy	160	2,975
Soap, boxes	150	270	Tar, bbls	100	215
Candles	13	110	Rosin	150	200
Crockery, cs	1	200	Coal, tons	100	496
Perfumery	1	1,145	Lumber, ft	20,000	200
Pistols	1	190			