

Aug. 6. The Maori war in New Zealand brought to a conclusion by the unconditional submission of most of the tribes: the revolt was punished only by the forfeiture of a small portion of their lands.

Aug. 8. The statue of Daniel O'Connell installed in Dublin; on the same day his effigy was burnt by the Orangemen in Belfast, and the ashes were buried with mock solemnity on the following day. The Roman Catholics assembled and attacked the procession, and from this day to the 19th the rioting was almost incessant. The two factions fought in large bands. The police were powerless; they were pelted with stones and driven away. Additional policemen and a military force were sent for, but 3000 soldiers and 1000 policemen were unable to suppress the rioting. Chapels and houses were wrecked; and the windows were broken throughout whole streets. The military had to fire on the crowd, and many of the ringleaders on both sides were captured. Before the riots were ended there were nine persons killed, and 176 wounded were attended to in the General Hospital, besides many who received surgical assistance in their own houses.

Sept. 4. General Sherman, the commander of the Federal army of the Potomac, having beaten the Confederates in several encounters, had at length cut off the communications of general Hood with the South; and on this day took possession of Atlanta in Georgia, which general Hood had felt himself compelled to abandon. This was a most serious loss to the Confederates as it contained the arsenals, the foundries, and the manufactories, which had chiefly supplied the Confederate armies during the contest. General Hood retreated towards Virginia.

Sept. 15. A treaty concluded between France and Italy, by which it was agreed that the French troops should be withdrawn from Rome within two years, the Italian government undertaking to protect the Pope against any attacks from without, and that Florence should be the seat of the Italian government. On this arrangement becoming known at Turin, a riot broke out, which was promptly quelled by the military, but an immediate change of ministry was the consequence.

Oct. 30. A treaty of peace between Denmark, Prussia, and Austria, signed at Vienna, by which Denmark consented to surrender the Duchies to the two powers, to pay a large sum of money, and to submit to a rectification of the frontiers of Jutland.

Nov. 1. A violent cyclone in the Bay of Bengal, which extended along the coast from Calcutta to very near Madras. The waters of the Ganges were driven back by the wind, and submerged a large portion of the Sunderbunds; the island of Saugor was inundated, and 7000 persons out of a population of 8500 were drowned. At Masulipatam the sea broke into the land, along a distance of more than 80 miles, and in some instances penetrated inland for 17 miles, destroying villages, their inhabitants, crops, and cattle, and filling up the wells. The total loss of life during this terrible night was estimated at not less than from 70,000 to 80,000 souls. On the flood returning the number of bodies of men and animals left behind was so great, that but for the exertions of the English authorities in burying and burning them, and providing food and shelter for the unfortunate survivors, an infectious fever would have followed close on the previous calamity.

Dec. 6. Abraham Lincoln elected President of the United States for a second time, and Andrew Johnson elected Vice-President.

Dec. 21. General Sherman, having marched from Atlanta in Georgia to Savannah in South Carolina, took possession of that town without any resistance being made, general Hardee, the commander of the Confederates, retreating, as not being strong enough to resist.

Dec. 24, 25. The Federal fleet attacked Wilmington in North Carolina, which had been the great depôt for the blockade-running vessels from the Bahamas. After having ineffectually exploded on the 24th a vessel with 215 tons of gunpowder under the walls of Fort Fisher, the outer fort which guarded the harbour, and bombarding it on the 25th, a party of men were landed to storm it, but they were repulsed with considerable loss, and the fleet retired.

#### LEGISLATION. SESSION 27 & 28 VICTORIA.

Cap. 44. *To amend the Act relating to Divorce and Matrimonial Causes, 20 & 21 Vict. cap. 85.* Where a wife has obtained a protecting order from one magistrate, and the husband or a creditor may have applied for the discharge of such order, the cause may be heard, and the order discharged, by the successor of the magistrate who made the order, should he have died or been removed.

Cap. 47. *To amend the Penal Servitude Act.* No convict to be sentenced to a less period than five years, and where any previous conviction has taken place, for not less than seven years. Corporal punishment may be inflicted for offences within the prison. Licences are to be granted in a prescribed form; the holder must report himself within three days to the police of the locality where he intends to reside, and once in every three months afterwards the licence to be produced whenever called for by a magistrate or police-officer. Any constable or police-officer may apprehend, without a warrant, any

licensed holder reasonably suspected of a breach of the conditions endorsed on the licence, and the breach forfeits the licence.

Cap. 48. *For the extension of the Factory Acts.* With some modifications, the provisions of previous Acts are extended to the manufacture of earthenware (except bricks and tiles, not being ornamental tiles), lucifer matches, percussion caps and cartridges, the employments of paper-staining and fustiar-cutting.

Cap. 108. *To explain the Statutes of her present Majesty for amending the Laws relating to the Removal of the Poor.* The period of settlement within which a person likely to become chargeable to the parish or union may be removed, is altered from five years to three.

Cap. 113. *To amend the Laws relating to the Conservancy of the River Thames, and for the Purposes relating thereto.* Six additional conservators are to be elected. The right of taking ballast from the Thames is taken from the Trinity House, and given to the Conservators. The privileges of the Watermen's Company are restricted, and certificates are to be granted by the Conservators to persons above twenty years of age, who upon examination are found capable of navigating lighters or steam-boats. Barges navigated from above Teddington Lock, and not descending below London Bridge, are exempt from having a licensed waterman on board. The Conservators are empowered to regulate the tolls for steam-boats, and to provide rules for fishing-boats as to their nets and lines. No gravel, stones, mud, or earth, or other refuse may be thrown, or so placed as to be carried by floods, into the Thames, nor any substance produced in making gas, nor any other offensive matter, is to flow into the Thames, under a penalty not exceeding 20*l.* for each offence.

Cap. 116. *For making provision for distributing the Charge of Relief of certain classes of Poor Persons over the whole of the Metropolis.* The expense of providing a refuge for the houseless poor is by this Act ordered to be divided in certain proportions among all the unions and parishes within the metropolitan district; and proper wards, or places of reception, are to be provided, to be approved of by the Poor-Law Board, at the mutual expense.

Cap. 117. *To render permissive the use of the Metric System of Weights and Measures.* Legalises contracts made under the French decimal system.

Revenue, 70,208,964*l.*; Expenditure — Army, 14,723,976*l.*; Navy, 10,851,596*l.*; for all objects, 67,056,286*l.*; National Debt, 813,230,152*l.*

Exports of British and Irish Produce, 160,449,053*l.*; total of exports, 212,619,614*l.*

Imports, 274,952,172*l.*

Emigration—to North American Colonies, 12,721; to United States, 147,042; to the Australian Colonies and New Zealand, 40,942; to all other places, 8,195: total, 208,900.

Amount of Gold imported from Australia, 2,656,971*l.*; total imported, 16,900,951*l.*; exported, 13,279,739*l.*

Railway Traffic: Miles open, 12,789; number of passengers, 229,348,664; traffic receipts, 33,911,547*l.*

Number of Paupers, 1,198,129.

#### 1865.

Jan. 13. On this day the attack on Fort Fisher, the advanced fort of Wilmington Harbour, was renewed, and a bombardment continued until Sunday, the 15th, when the works were stormed, and the garrison, amounting to 1200 men, were compelled to surrender. The resistance was obstinate, and the Federal loss severe. Within a day or two of the capture, the powder magazine of the fort exploded, and 300 of the Federal troops perished.

Feb. 15. The emperor of the French opened the session of the Legislature with a speech, in which he congratulated them on the increased probability of a continued peace, with its accompanying prosperity; spoke of the withdrawal of the French troops from Rome; promised further progress in free trade by a removal of the French navigation laws; an extension of the powers of communes and departments to manage their local affairs without the intervention of the State; to give the right of provisional release, even in criminal cases, with or without bail; and to suppress altogether personal arrest in civil or commercial matters.

Feb. 17. The Confederates were forced to evacuate Charleston. Preparations had been made for several days preceding; all the wealthy inhabitants had removed; the guns were spiked, military stores destroyed, and the troops, about 14,000, retreated northwards. The Federals on entering the town found about 200 pieces of cannon, and the fortifications uninjured. After they had obtained possession, a fire broke out, which de-



stroyed 5000 bales of cotton, and the explosion of a depôt occurred, by which several hundred lives were lost.

March 11. A strike of the iron-workers in North Staffordshire against a reduction of wages, rendered necessary by a fall in the price of iron, had taken place. An endeavour was made to obtain the means of resistance by those on strike by allowing the workers in other districts to accept the terms of the masters on condition of subscribing to their support; upon which the ironmasters throughout the kingdom agreed to lock-out all the men unless those of North Staffordshire accepted the offered terms. They were refused, and on this day the lock-out commenced. It continued till April 5, when the men of South Staffordshire submitted to the condition of not subscribing, and the works were opened. It was calculated that the total weekly wages amounted to 120,000*l.*, the withdrawal of which occasioned extreme general distress, while the foreign trade was interrupted, and to some extent thrown into other channels.

March 13. The president of Paraguay, F. S. Lopez, addressing his council and deputies, stated that Brazil and the Argentine Confederation, by their armed interference in the domestic affairs of Uruguay and their claims as to the right of navigation on the Parana and the Paraguay, justified the commencement of hostilities against them. He had been preparing an army and a fleet for some time, and he had fortified Humaytá on the Parana river. Early in April he invaded the province of San Pedro in Brazil and Corrientes, a State of the Argentine Confederation. As the attack was unexpected, he carried all before him for a time.

March 20. On the appeal of Dr. Colenso, bishop of Natal, against the sentence of Dr. Grey, the bishop of Cape Town, who had deposed him from his bishopric, the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council decided that the bishop of Cape Town had no jurisdiction over the bishop of Natal, and had, therefore, no power to remove him from his office, and that the proceedings against Dr. Colenso were null and void in law.

April 2. The Federals under general Grant having broken through the Confederate defences around Petersburg, general Lee evacuated both Petersburg and Richmond, retreating northwards towards Lynchburg. Thus ended a siege, which with some interruptions, had lasted for three years. On the 9th, general Lee, with his army, surrendered to general Grant.

April 14. President Lincoln was shot through the head by an assassin while sitting in his private box in the theatre at Washington. The murderer leaped upon the stage, exclaiming, "Sic semper tyrannis," and succeeded for the time in making his escape. President Lincoln died early on the following morning. On the same evening a murderous attack was made on Mr. Seward in his own house, the assassin stabbing him in several places, killing one of his servants, and fracturing the skull of Mr. Frederic Seward, who endeavoured to save his father. Andrew Johnson, the Vice-President, succeeded to Mr. Lincoln's office.

April 26. Wilkes Booth, the assassin of President Lincoln, having been tracked to a barn near Port-Royal, on the Rappahannock, Maryland, was summoned to surrender by a troop of horse; he refused, fired at the sergeant of the troop, who returned the fire, and shot him through the head, of which wound he died in about three hours. His companion named Harrold was taken prisoner.

May 1. Addresses of condolence for and of horror at the crime of the assassination of President Lincoln, voted in the Houses of Lords and Commons. On the immediately following days similar addresses were voted in public meetings in every considerable town in the United Kingdom.

May 10. Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States, with his wife, sister, brother and some members of his staff, captured at Irwinstown, in Georgia, by a detachment of Federal cavalry. The troops were divided into two parties, the more effectually to surround the place, and prevent the escape of Davis; but when meeting they mistook each other for hostile troops, and before the mistake was rectified two men were killed and several wounded. Mr. Davis was placed in close confinement.

May 22. President Johnson issued a proclamation for opening the blockaded ports of the United States from and after July 1, except those in the State of Texas; and on June 2, earl Russell, in a letter to the Admiralty Board, announced that the Confederates would no longer be recognised as belligerents in British ports.

June 11. War having been declared against Paraguay by Brazil and the Argentine Confederation, an army and a fleet had been despatched to repel the attack of the Paraguayans, and to carry the war into their own country. The fleet ascended the Parana river, and on this day were attacked by the Paraguayan steamers. They were repulsed, five out of eight were destroyed, and five heavily-armed gun-boats were taken.

June 17. The Prussian Parliament was prorogued. During the sitting the financial and military proposals of the government had been rejected, and in dismissing them, the minister, Von Bismark, accused them of placing difficulties in the way of the ministry, which were detrimental to the welfare of the country; told them that the government

would be carried on in the way indicated by itself, and trusted that ultimately the house and the nation would approve and thank the king for the course pursued. The President of the House, Von Grabow, addressing the assembled representatives, said that the effort had been carried to the utmost limit, and would be wrecked on the loyalty of the people, manifested by their choice of constitutional representatives.

July 7. Mrs. Surratt, Messrs. Payne, Azteroth, and Harrold, were hung at New York, after a trial before a court-martial which lasted for many days, as guilty accomplices and conspirators with Booth in the murder of the late President Lincoln.

July 22. Instructions were issued by the Privy Council for taking precautions against the introduction of cholera at the seaports. Hospitals were formed at several of them, to which seamen suffering from the disorder might be immediately removed on their arrival.

August 2. An order was issued by the Privy Council, including regulations for guarding against the cattle plague, which had begun to spread rapidly and fatally, in consequence of which another order was issued on the 11th, commanding the destruction of infected beasts, and imposing a penalty of 20*l.* for infractions of the regulations. This was followed by other orders appointing inspectors at the ports to examine foreign cattle, and in country districts, to insure the carrying out of the orders in Council. On Sept. 22, in consequence of the plague having extended widely to sheep, a new order was issued, by which the previous orders were made to apply to all infected animals, the word animal to include "any cow, heifer, bull, bullock, ox, calf, sheep, lamb, goat, or swine." In October a Government Commission was appointed to investigate the cause and the means of repressing the disease.

Aug. 11. An insurrection of the negroes in Jamaica broke out in the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East, near Morant Bay. The outbreak was accompanied by some atrocious murders, burning of property, and plunder. Military force was rapidly forwarded. Governor Eyre took very decided steps for its repression, and the insurrection was extinguished, but accompanied by some circumstances that excited much discussion in England. The negro troops behaved with great faithfulness and courage.

August 16. A navigation treaty with Prussia was signed.

August 26. Austria and Prussia communicate to the Diet at Frankfort the results of the interview at Gastein; they were—that the duke of Augustenburg-Holstein had no right to the Duchies of Schleswig-Holstein; that the King of Denmark was the legal possessor; and that he had resigned his claim to the two Powers by the treaty of Vienna. They would therefore hold them jointly for the present.

August 29. The French fleet arrived at Portsmouth in return for the visit of the English fleet to Cherbourg, and the officers were magnificently entertained by the English officers and the mayor and corporation of the town.

Sept. 2. A deputation of upwards of 2000 inhabitants of Schleswig-Holstein visited Copenhagen, and were received with great enthusiasm by the Danes.

Sept. 15. The Dublin police took possession of the office of the *Irish People* newspaper, and seized the persons found on the premises, charged with being members of the Fenian Brotherhood and engaged in treasonable attempts against the Government. On the same day numerous arrests were made in Cork, the persons arrested being charged with the like offence; but in their cases bail was taken for their appearance at a subsequent investigation, while at Dublin the persons charged were remanded to prison till another hearing. Other arrests followed, and on Sept. 20 some persons were apprehended in Manchester and Sheffield and conveyed to Dublin charged with complicity in the conspiracy. On Nov. 10, Stephens, *alias* Power, the reputed Chief Centre for Ireland, was apprehended, examined, and committed for trial.

Sept. 21. Valparaiso and other ports of Chili blockaded by a Spanish fleet under Admiral Pareja, upon the refusal of the Chilean Government to consent to the claims of the Spanish Government, on a summons of only four days; the said claims having been previously arranged by the Spanish ambassador, but who had been withdrawn and his arrangements repudiated.

Oct. 18. Viscount Palmerston, First Lord of the Treasury, died, aged 81. His lordship had been at the head of the Cabinet from February, 1855, with the exception of the short interval of the Derby-Disraeli Ministry in 1858, until his death. He was buried in Westminster Abbey. Earl Russell was his successor as chief of the Cabinet.

Nov. 6. The *Shenandoah*, Confederate frigate, which had been active and successful in inflicting damage on the commercial vessels of the United States, arrived in the Mersey, and was surrendered to the British Government on the 9th. The captain and crew having been set at large, the ship was delivered over to the consul of the United States.

Nov. 9. The Irish International Exhibition, which the prince of Wales had opened, was closed on this day.



Nov. 23. Stephens, the head-centre of the Fenians, who had been committed for trial to Richmond jail, made his escape. On the 28th, the trial of the other conspirators commenced in Dublin; and on Dec. 1, Luby, the first tried, was convicted, and sentenced to twenty years penal servitude. Other trials followed with similar results.

LEGISLATION. SESSION 28 & 29 VICTORIÆ.

Cap. 18. *For amending the Law of Evidence and Practice on Criminal Trials.* In trials for felony or misdemeanor, if evidence on the part of the accused be not called, the accused or his counsel have the right of addressing the jury last. If witnesses are called, and are adverse, it may be proved that they had made other statements previously.

Cap. 75. *For facilitating the more useful application of Sewage in Great Britain and Ireland.* Enables places not governed under the Public Health Act, or the Local Government Act, to form themselves into districts, levy rates, construct works for draining and cleansing, prevent the pollution of streams within their limits, and make contracts for the use of the sewage.

Cap. 79. *To provide for the better distribution of the Charge for the Relief of the Poor in Unions.* The burial of the poor by the guardians, and all charges of vaccination and registration fees, are to be charged on the common fund of the union, and not on the parish; and the period of residence required for a settlement is further reduced from three years to one year.

Cap. 83. *For regulating the use of Locomotives on Turnpike and other Roads for agricultural and other purposes.* When a locomotive is passing along any road, one person must precede it on foot, displaying a red flag, to warn drivers of carriages of its approach; it is not to go at a greater rate than four miles an hour along a highway, or than two miles through any town or village; towns of above 5000 inhabitants may regulate the speed and the hours at which locomotives may pass along the highways under their jurisdiction.

Cap. 90. *For the establishment of a Fire Brigade within the Metropolis.* Under the Metropolitan Board of Works a Fire Brigade is established, to be supported by a rate, to which the Fire Insurance offices also contribute.

Cap. 99. *To confer on the County Courts a limited jurisdiction in Equity.* To the County Courts are given the powers and jurisdiction of the higher Chancery Courts in suits which do not involve an amount in value above £500. Evidence to be taken by word of mouth, and plaints to be heard in open court.

Revenue, 70,313,437*l.* Expenditure—Army, 14,382,672*l.*; Navy, 10,898,253*l.*; for all objects, 66,462,207*l.*; National Debt, 808,289,398*l.*

Exports of British and Irish produce, 165,835,725*l.*; total exports, 218,831,576*l.*

Imports, 271,072,285*l.*

Emigration to North American Colonies, 17,211; to the United States, 147,258; to the Australian Colonies and New Zealand, 37,283; to all other places, 8,049; total, 209,801.

Amount of Gold imported from Australia, 5,051,170*l.*; total imported, 14,485,570*l.*; exported, 8,493,332*l.*

Railway Traffic: Miles open, 13,289; number of passengers, 251,959,862; traffic receipts, 35,751,655*l.*

Number of Paupers, 1,157,884.

1866.

Jan. 2. The Gazette appointment appeared of sir H. R. Storks, and a Commission to inquire into the disturbances in Jamaica and the means taken for their suppression.

Jan. 16. The county and city of Dublin, in consequence of the discovery of quantities of concealed arms, came under the operation of a Government proclamation, by which no person was allowed to appear with fire-arms, and empowering the police to search for arms in houses where they have reason to think they are concealed.

Jan. 23. General Prim, who had headed an abortive insurrection in Spain on the 3rd of January, on this day crossed the frontier into Portugal. He had been pursued by several columns of Spanish troops, but all failed either to intercept him or bring him to action.

Jan. 29. Mr. George Peabody, the American merchant, in addition to the 150,000*l.* previously given, makes a second magnificent donation of 100,000*l.* for the relief of the

poor in London. The trustees of the former gift had expended 80,000*l.* in erecting dwellings for the poor, in which very superior accommodation was afforded at rents below what they usually paid, but which gave an interest of 3 per cent. on the capital sunk. In four blocks of buildings accommodation had been provided for 850 persons. The Queen wrote a letter of thanks to Mr. Peabody, and regretted that he had not deemed it compatible with his position as an American citizen to accept the honours which she would have been glad to bestow.

Feb. 2. The Special commission appointed to try the Fenian conspirators in Ireland finished its task this day. Forty-one persons had been tried, either in Dublin or in Cork, and of these, thirty-six had been convicted or pleaded guilty, three were acquitted, and in one case the jury disagreed and were discharged. The sentences were for various terms and in of penal imprisonment.

Feb. 20. Prince Couza, the Hospodar of the Danubian Principalities, deposed, and the throne offered to the Count of Flanders, who at once declined.

March 31. The Spanish fleet, under admiral Mendez Nunez, in spite of the remonstrances of the European consuls and the commanders of the English, French, and United States vessels, bombarded the unprotected Chilean port of Valparaiso. For seven hours the ships fired upon the town without a shot in opposition. At the end of that time they withdrew, leaving the town in flames. The inhabitants, of whom only three lost their lives, were then at liberty to extinguish the fire, in which they were assisted by the fire-engines and crews of the foreign vessels. The damage done by this useless and barbarous attack was estimated at 20,000 dollars.

April 7. Mr. Johnson, the President of the United States, having passed his veto on the Civil Rights Bill, for conferring on the coloured population equal rights with the whites, the Senate by 33 votes to 15 overruled his veto.

April 16. Alexander II., Emperor of Russia, while entering his carriage at St. Petersburg, was shot at by a Russian named Karakosoff. The pistol was fortunately turned aside by a workman named Kommissaroff, who was ennobled for the act; the assassin was seized, and a military commission appointed to try the criminal and investigate the cause of the attempt. It was found that there was a secret society who had been conspiring against the safety of the state: and numerous arrests were made. Karakosoff was hung on the 16th of September; and 34 persons were convicted of having belonged to the secret society, of whom one was sentenced to be hung, and the others to imprisonment for life or for definite periods; but the emperor commuted the punishment of death for that of imprisonment, and reduced the terms of imprisonment of the rest.

May 10. The old-established discount house of Gurney, Overend, and Co. (limited) suspended payment, with liabilities to the amount of 10,000,000*l.* This was followed on the 11th by the suspension of several other great firms, among them Peto, Betts, and Co., the railway contractors, the English Joint Stock Bank, and a number of minor ones. This was what became known as the Black Friday, and produced a panic which lasted (although the Bank of England discounted securities to the amount of 4,000,000*l.* at advanced rates of discount) until the Bank was authorized by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to increase the issue of bank-notes at a minimum rate of 10 per cent. for discount. This to some extent allayed the panic, but the consequences, immediate and remote, were long felt in all the commercial relations of the country.

May 31. An armed party of Fenians crossed the Niagara river from near Buffalo, possessed themselves of an empty mill called Fort Erie, and cut the telegraph wires. As soon as the fact became known, the Canadian volunteers were marched against them, attacked them on the 2nd of June, but were not successful in capturing them. In the meantime, the Government of the United States had given directions to General Grant to employ military force to prevent reinforcements crossing, as it was known a large number of Fenians had assembled on the United States frontier, and this was effectually done. The Canadian force having been strengthened, again advanced on Fort Erie, which the Fenians abandoned, leaving 32 men as a piquet, who were captured, and six of them were tried by drum-head court-martial and shot. The main body, about 400, in a few days' confinement, discharged on recognizances to appear when called on. On the 7th of June President Johnson issued a proclamation against the Fenians, forbidding any assistance being given to them; on the previous day General Sweeney, the organizer of the raid, had been arrested at St. Alban's; on the 7th, Roberts, the Fenian civil chief, was arrested in New York; and warrants were issued for the arrest of some of the prominent members of the party.

June 5. The proposed Conference at Paris abandoned in consequence of the refusal of Austria to assent to the programme for the settlement of disputes without hostilities, she demanding as a previous stipulation that no territorial addition should be made to any of the contending states.

June 15. The Prussian armies enter Saxony and Hanover, after a proclamation of war against Austria, and all states allied with her, had been issued by the King of Prus-



sia. On the 17th, one division took possession of Stade, in Hanover, and on the 18th, the other entered Dresden.

June 18. Earl Russell's ministry were beaten by a majority of 315, against 304, on the rating clause of the Franchise Bill. On the 26th it was announced to the two Houses that they had resigned, and that the Earl of Derby was to form a new ministry.

June 22. A military insurrection broke out in Madrid, but was repressed after 200 of the insurgents had been killed. Order was not restored until the next day with a total loss of 1000 lives, and 1750 prisoners thrown into gaol, many of whom were subsequently executed.

June 23. The Italian army numbering between 80,000 and 90,000 men, crossed the Mincio, advancing against the Austrians; they were met at Custozza, defeated after a battle of many hours, and forced to retreat across the Mincio with great loss.

June 27 and 28. The Austrians were defeated by the Prussians at Nachod, in Bohemia.

July 3. The main army of the Austrians defeated at Sadowa, near Königgrätz, with great loss. On the 4th, the Emperor of Austria applied to the Prussians for an armistice, which was refused. He immediately ceded Venice and the dependent Italian territory to the Emperor of the French; and desired his mediation for the conclusion of a peace with all the belligerents.

July 5. The princess Helena married to his royal highness prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderburg-Augustenburg.

July 7. The shore end of the new Atlantic Cable was fixed at Foilhummer Bay, near Valencia, and paid out for thirty miles to be spliced on to the main cable on board the Great Eastern, lying ready to receive it. On the 15th it was successfully spliced, and the steamer proceeded to deposit the main cable. On the 27th, the shore end was safely landed in Newfoundland, messages were sent, and the cable to connect it with the American continent, about seventy miles, was at once commenced. Messages passed between Queen Victoria and President Johnson on the 29th and 30th.

July 23. A popular meeting in Hyde Park, London, having been forbidden by Sir R. Mayne, an immense crowd gathered in the evening, and, the gates being closed, the railings were torn down and the crowd entered, greatly damaging the flower-beds and shrubberies. Some forty or fifty persons were captured for rioting and assaults on the police, and on the following days were fined or sentenced to short terms of imprisonment by the police magistrate.

July 26. An armistice and preliminaries of peace agreed upon between Austria and Prussia, and on Aug. 2, an armistice between Prussia and Bavaria. A truce was also agreed upon between Austria and Italy on July 25.

Aug. 2. Peace signed at Prague between Austria and Prussia; it contained also a provision for the cession of Venetia to Italy. On the 30th, the treaty was ratified. Austria consented to be entirely excluded from the German Confederation, and to pay 20,000,000 Prussian thalers towards the expenses of the war.

Sept. 2. The sunken end of the Atlantic Cable of 1865 recovered by the Great Eastern, spliced, and found to be in good working order. Communications were made to Valencia, and eventually was continued on to Newfoundland.

Sept. 6. The King of Prussia announces to the Legislature the annexation of Hanover, Hesse Cassel, Nassau, and Frankfort, with a part of Hesse-Darmstadt, which has also to pay 300,000*l.* towards the expenses of the war. Schleswig-Holstein had been previously appropriated.

Sept. 21. Treaty between Saxony and Prussia signed, by which Saxony enters the Northern Confederation. On the 26th, the king and queen of Saxony returned to Pillnitz.

Oct. 21. After much opposition and a long negotiation, prince Charles of Hohenzolern, who had been elected Hospodar of the Danubian Provinces, now united under the name of Roumania, was received at Constantinople by the Sultan on this day with distinguished honours; a palace was assigned for his residence, he paid homage, and received the investiture.

Nov. 13. A remarkable shower of meteors occurred, lasting from 11 p.m. to 3 or 4 a.m. of the following morning.

Dec. 3. President Johnson, in his message to Congress, recommended conciliation towards the Southern states, and their re-admission into the Union; stated that the differences with Great Britain respecting the Alabama were not settled; that he had caused the prosecution of the Fenians to be abandoned, considering their offence political; adding that strict neutrality must be preserved and raids prevented; that the French had consented to withdraw from Mexico; and that the finances were entirely satisfactory.

Dec. 11. The French troops evacuated Rome according to the convention of Sept. 18, and the Papal standard replaced that of France on the castle of St. Angelo.

## LEGISLATION. SESSION 29 &amp; 30 VICTORIÆ.

Cap. 19. *To amend the Law relating to Parliamentary Oaths.* The oath now prescribed only contains a declaration of allegiance to the reigning sovereign, with an engagement to maintain the succession, and the rights and liberties of the subject.

Cap. 28. *To enable the Public Works Loan Commissioners to make advances towards the erection of Dwellings for the Labouring Classes.* Loans may be made for this purpose, with the approval of the Treasury Commissioners, to any local or other authority invested with town or local government; to any Railway, Dock, or Harbour Company, or to a society or association established for the like purpose. Where such bodies are authorized to purchase lands, if not already a corporate body they are to be deemed such for the purposes of this Act. A similar Act (cap. 44) was passed for Ireland.

Cap. 32. *To amend the Procedure and Powers of the Court for Divorce and Matrimonial Causes.* On a decree for dissolution of marriage, if the husband has no property on which a gross annual payment can be secured, the Court may order a weekly or monthly payment.

Cap. 37. *To amend an Act of the 51 Geo. III. cap. 123, to prevent Frauds and Abuses in the trade of Hops.* Heavy fines are imposed for not marking correctly the weight; for mixing hops with the name of the grower, the place where grown, the date, and the British marked bags; or for wilfully defacing or altering the marks or symbols on any packages. Vendors, if required, are to give full information from whom the hops were received.

Cap. 65. *To enable her Majesty to declare Gold Coins to be issued from her Majesty's Colonial Branch Mints as legal tender for payments.* The title explains itself, and the coinage of the Australian mints has been declared a legal tender. A charge for coining may be made.

Cap. 67. *For the union of the colony of Vancouver Island with the colony of British Columbia.* The separate government of Vancouver Island is abolished, and it is to send representatives to the legislature of British Columbia.

Cap. 69. *For the amendment of the Law with respect to the Carriage and Deposit of Dangerous Goods.* Nitro-glycerine or Glonoino oil, and other substances as may be determined by an Order in Council, are to be distinctly marked "specially dangerous" on the outside of each package, under heavy penalties for omission; and no warehouse owner or carrier is bound to receive any such package.

Cap. 85. *To facilitate the establishment, improvement, and maintenance of Oyster and Mussel Fisheries in Great Britain.* Under the sanction of the Board of Trade owners or occupiers of the sea or river shores may lay down an oyster-bed, within prescribed limits, supply it with oysters or spawn from any natural public oyster-bed, which are then to become private property. Within the limits no one to fish except with a line or a net fitted to catch floating fish only.

Cap. 89. *For vesting in the Conservators of the River Thames the Conservancy of the Thames and Isis, from Slaines in Middlesex to Cricklade in Wiltshire.* This Act abolishes the powers of the Upper Navigation Commissioners, transfers all their rights and property in locks, canals, &c., to the Thames Conservators, to whom five new members were added, and to them is given the power to make regulations for the navigation, to collect tolls, to repair and maintain the banks, weirs, and locks, to prevent the pollution of the water, and to receive payment for water taken within their limits for the supply of the public.

Cap. 90. *To amend the Law relating to the Public Health.* This important Act is divided into four parts. Part I. empowers the formation in any district of a committee for the formation and due management of the sewers, with power to levy a rate for that purpose; to compel persons to drain into the public sewer or to form a cesspool; to furnish the district with water; to take charge of all wells, pumps, or fountains from which the public supply is furnished; and to dispose of the sewerage. Part II. is for the prevention of nuisances arising from over-crowded or ill-ventilated houses; to prevent the local authorities to provide a carriage for the conveyance of persons suffering from contagious disease to the hospital or elsewhere (who may not ride in a public conveyance without notice to the driver). Ships in harbour are subjected to the like regulations. Part III. is miscellaneous, and contains a number of regulations for the purpose of securing or procuring cleanliness, a supply of water, and other details. Part IV. extends the Act to Ireland, with certain modifications.

Cap. 114. *To amend the Public Libraries Act.* A library or museum may now be established in any town or parish, without taking proceedings under the former Acts. A majority of assents at a meeting duly called being sufficient.



Cap. 122. To make provision for the Improvement, Protection, and Management of Commons near the Metropolis. All commons within the Metropolitan District are no longer liable to inclosure; and, providing compensation for pecuniary rights, a scheme may be furnished to the Inclosure Commissioners for transferring their care to the local authorities or to the Metropolitan Board of Works.

Revenue, 67,812,202*l.*; Expenditure—Army, 14,569,279*l.*; Navy, 10,259,788*l.*; for all objects, 65,914,357*l.*; National Debt, 802,842,949*l.*

Exports of English and Irish Produce, 188,917,536*l.*: total of exports, 238,905,082*l.*

Imports, 295,290,274*l.*

Emigration—to the North American Colonies, 13,225; to the United States, 161,000; to the Australian Colonies and New Zealand, 24,097; to all other places, 6530: total, 204,882.

Amount of Gold imported from Australia, 6,839,674*l.*; total imported, 23,509,641*l.*; exported, 12,742,639*l.*

Railways: Miles open, 13,854; number of passengers, 274,403,895; traffic receipts, 38,164,354*l.*

Number of paupers, 1,111,009.

1867.

Feb. 11. Alarm of an attempt of the Fenians to attack the Castle of Chester. The plot had been disclosed by an accomplice, and prompt measures were taken for its defeat, which were effectual. Some 1400 or 1500 suspected persons assembled in the streets of Chester, but the swearing in of special constables, and the arrival of 500 of the Scotch Fusiliers, compelled them to disperse in scattered groups, without disturbing the public peace.

Feb. 13. On this day another party of Fenians, about 800 in number, assembled at Cahirciveen, in the county of Kerry. They sacked a coastguard station at Kells, seized the arms, and shot a mounted policeman bearing despatches, robbing him of his horse and arms. They then cut the telegraph wires, interrupting the messages by the Atlantic cable for about five hours, by which time they were restored. Troops were immediately sent from Cork to Killarney, and on the 14th the insurgents withdrew into the Toomes mountains by the Gap of Dunloe, whither they were pursued by a strong military force on the 15th. A large number of arrests was made in the next few days, at Dublin and elsewhere, of persons coming by sea, chiefly from the United States.

Feb. 17. The first ship, the *Primo*, a vessel of eighty tons burthen, passed through the Suez Canal, and by a temporary freshwater canal from the Mediterranean into the Red Sea.

Feb. 24. The first Parliament of the North German Confederation was opened at Berlin.

March 5. The Fenians again commenced a rising in several parts of Ireland. The mail-train from Cork to Dublin was sent off the line, and the telegraph wires were cut, destroying the communication with all Munster. The Government had been informed of the intention and were fully prepared. At Tallaght, near Dublin, a party of twelve policemen met about 200 Fenians, and summoned them to surrender, but they fired on the police, who returned the fire, wounding five, and ultimately capturing eighty-three. At Drogheda 1000 Fenians had a combat with the police for the possession of the market-house, and here forty prisoners were taken. At Kilmallock a party attacked the police-station, which was defended; three of the assailants were killed, and fourteen taken prisoners. Dromore police-barrack was burnt down, a coastguard station near Kilrush was plundered of the arms, as also were the police-barracks and several houses at Holy Cross, by different parties of Fenians.

March 23. A secret treaty was laid before the different legislatures, between Prussia and the Southern States of Germany, by which the military contingents of Bavaria, Würtemberg, Baden, &c., are placed at the disposal of Prussia, thus, in fact, incorporating all Germany into one entire empire for defensive military purposes. The treaty had been concluded in the previous July.

April 1. The French great International Exhibition opened in a very incomplete state. By the early part of May, it was most effectively completed.

April 10. Commencement of the trial, at the Central Criminal Court, of colonel Nelson and lieutenant Brand for the murder of Mr. Gordon, in Jamaica. The charge of the Lord Chief Justice to the grand jury occupied six hours, in which he laid it down as a principle that martial law could not override civil law. The grand jury threw out both the bills of indictment on the following day.

April 27. The trial of general Burke and Patrick Doran, the first two of the Fenians accused of being concerned in the late outbreak, commenced at Dublin. Both were found guilty of high treason on May 1, and sentenced to be executed on the 29th. The sitting of the commission terminated on May 24. A number of prisoners had been found guilty of treason-felony, and sentenced to various periods of imprisonment. Doran, after some delay, had his sentence commuted to penal servitude; Burke was left for execution until the 27th, when, in compliance with numerous petitions, his sentence was also commuted.

May 6. A popular demonstration in Hyde Park in favour of reform, which had been at first forbidden by the Government, but at the last moment permitted, was held without the slightest disturbance of the public peace.

June 6. Attempt made by a young Pole in Paris to assassinate the Emperor of Russia, while seated in a carriage with his two sons and the Emperor of the French. The pistol burst, blew off the hand of the assassin, without damaging any of the persons in the carriage. He was subsequently tried and sentenced to death, but not executed, in compliance with a desire of the Emperor of Russia.

June 7. The Conference for the settlement of the Luxemburg question met in London; it consisted of the representatives of England, Russia, Austria, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium, France, and Prussia. On the 11th, the terms were agreed upon: Luxemburg to remain subject to the King of the Netherlands; the fortress to be evacuated and to be demolished as quickly as possible; the neutrality of the whole territory to be guaranteed by the subscribing powers.

June 8. The emperor of Austria crowned King of Hungary, with great ceremony, swearing to preserve the old Hungarian constitution, which had been a source of contest between the nation and the sovereign for many years.

June 13. Jefferson Davis, late President of the Southern Confederacy, was admitted to bail at Richmond, U.S., and took his departure a few days afterwards, for Montreal, in Canada.

June 19. On this day the Commission sitting to inquire into the outrages committed against non-union men at Sheffield, were first able to obtain any evidence directly implicating any individual. A man named Hallam, who had been committed to prison for refusing to answer, declared himself willing to disclose all he knew. He then acknowledged the crimes of having been a party to the blowing-up of several places, and to the shooting, wilful murder had been found. His evidence was confirmed by a confederate named Crookes, and they said they were hired and paid by one Broadhead, the secretary of the Saw Grinders' Union, and the treasurer of the Amalgamated Unions. On a subsequent day this man acknowledged the truth of these accusations, and stated that for nineteen years he had been the instigator and the rewarder of most of the offences of rattening and nothing about this: they only knew they were committed, and purposely left the whole management in his hands, and never examined his accounts. These discoveries were made after the announcement that truthful avowal would absolve even the most guilty participants from all personal punishment. On July 8 the investigation closed, and certificates of indemnity were granted to Broadhead, Crookes, and the other witnesses who had made the disclosures.

July 6. The Viceroy of Egypt arrived in London on a visit; and on the 12th the Sultan of Turkey. Both were received by the Queen, and entertained with great hospitality by the corporation of London and other public bodies and private persons. The Lord was lodged in Buckingham Palace, the Viceroy at Dudley House, the residence of Lord Ward.

July 10. On an invitation to attend the rifle-shooting at Wimbledon, 2000 Belgian volunteers were brought over in the Government steamer *Serapis*, and were warmly welcomed by the British riflemen, the London corporation, &c.

July 17. A grand naval review at Spithead took place, in the presence of the Sultan of Turkey and Viceroy of Egypt, who were received by the Queen on board her yacht. She decorated the Sultan with the Order of the Garter, but the review was somewhat marred by stormy weather.

Aug. 17. An insurrection broke out in Spain; the provinces of Catalonia and Aragon were entered from France by a few armed men, under generals Contreras and Pierrad, but did not. Madrid, and nearly the whole of Spain, were in a few days declared to be under martial law. It was suppressed with little difficulty.

Aug. 26. The first engine and train passed over the Mont Cenis Railway, the summit elevation being 6700 feet above the sea level. The train was worked on the centre-rail system, and the trip was completely successful.

Sept. 10. The sitting of the North German parliament was opened with a speech from



the King of Prussia, in which a variety of measures were promised to be introduced, most of them tending to a closer unity of the various states.

Sept. 14. Some of the transports sailed from London and Liverpool, conveying stores and ammunition for the Abyssinian expedition, for the purpose of coercing the Emperor Theodore to deliver the British captives. The military force was to be forwarded from India.

Sept. 18. A most daring attack made at Manchester on the police van which was conveying to jail two men, named Kelly and Deasy, charged with being Fenians. Between forty and fifty men had assembled, armed with revolvers and other weapons. They intercepted the van, shot the horses, knocked the driver from his seat, dispersed the few policemen who guarded it, with much difficulty broke it open, and shot the policeman inside, who refused to give up the keys of the separate cells. Ultimately the two Fenians were liberated, and although handcuffed made their escape, with fifteen other prisoners who were being conveyed to prison. This was about 4 p.m. Before the following morning, William O'Meara Allen, the man who shot the policeman in the van, and Michael Larkin, were in custody, charged with wilful murder, and several others charged with riot and murder, who were examined before the magistrate, and remanded. On the 26th the examination was resumed, and on the 5th of October twenty-three were committed for trial. On Oct. 29 a special commission was opened at Manchester, before which W. O'Meara Allen, M. Larkin, W. Gould, T. Maguire, and E. Shore, were indicted for the murder of Charles Brett. On Nov. 1 they were all found guilty, and sentenced to death. On Nov. 23, Allen, Gould, and Larkin were hung. Shore's punishment was commuted, and Maguire was pardoned, as there seemed to have been a mistake as to his identity.

Sept. 23. General Garibaldi was arrested at Sinigaglia, in order to prevent his heading an intended insurrection at Rome, and placed in confinement at Alessandria. A number of persons were also apprehended at Rome as participators in the projected revolt. He was sent, a few days later, to his island of Caprera in a Government vessel.

Oct. 20. From the time of the arrest of Garibaldi to this date continual irruptions of insurgents into the Papal States were made with varying success; anarchy was prevailing, and it seemed that the Italian Government could not prevent the hostilities. France threatened to interfere, and troops were embarked at Toulon; but on the 19th Rattazzi, the Italian minister, resigned, and general Cialdini was nominated in his place. He announced that stringent measures would be adopted. The insurgents, headed by Menotti Garibaldi, withdrew from the Papal territories, and the French preparations for intervention were abandoned.

Oct. 28. General Garibaldi having escaped from Caprera, joined the insurgents in attacking the Papal troops, and closely approached Rome; the attempt of Victor Emmanuel to form a ministry under Cialdini having likewise failed, although another under general Menabrea had been named, the emperor of the French had despatched an expedition from Toulon to support the Pope, and on this day the first division landed at Civita Vecchia. On Oct. 30 a portion of the French troops entered Rome; on the same day a part of the Italian royal army crossed the Papal frontier for the purpose of preserving order; and Garibaldi, with his volunteers, retired from the immediate neighbourhood of Rome to Monte Rotondo.

Nov. 1. After a trial at Dublin, colonel John Warren, the first Fenian prisoner indicted at this Commission was found guilty. He had come from the United States, and with several others, landed near Youghal. He claimed to be a citizen of the United States, but, born in Ireland, the claim was disallowed; and his counsel by his direction, withdrew. He had other counsel assigned, and was convicted partly on the evidence of an accomplice.

Nov. 3. Garibaldi was attacked by the Papal and French troops at Mentana. After a sharp fight his band was scattered, and he fled to Terni, within the Italian territory, where he was arrested by the royal authorities, and, with his two sons, who had also been taken, was placed in confinement.

Nov. 4. A part of the expedition against Abyssinia arrived at Suez from India.

Dec. 13. A daring attempt made to effect the escape of two prisoners, remanded on a charge of having been parties to the murder of Brett, the police constable, at Manchester, by blowing up the wall of the House of Detention, in Clerkenwell, London. A barrel of gunpowder was placed against the wall, and exploded. About 60 feet of the wall were thrown down between 3 and 4 o'clock p.m., the usual time for exercising the prisoners; but the hour had been changed and the prisoners were in their cells. The effect, however, was terrible. Six persons were killed, and nearly 50 men, women, and children, were more or less injured. Several persons were apprehended on suspicion of having been engaged in the crime. Six were tried at the Criminal Court in April, but only one named Barrett, was found guilty, and he was hung on May 26.

## LEGISLATION. SESSION 30 &amp; 31 VICTORIA.

Cap. 3. *For the Union of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, and the government thereof, and for purposes connected therewith.* The governments are united into one, under a Viceroy, with a general parliament held at Ottawa, now the seat of government. Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, have each a Lieutenant-Governor, with a Provincial Legislature.

Cap. 6. *For the establishment in the Metropolis of Asylums for the Sick, Insane and other classes of the Poor, and of Dispensaries; and for the Distribution over the Metropolis of portions of the Charge for Poor Relief; and for other purposes relating to the Poor Relief in the Metropolis.*

Cap. 20. *To amend the Law in respect of the Sale and Purchase of Shares in Joint Stock Banking Companies.* Contracts for sale or purchase of such shares are declared to be void, unless the shares to be sold are clearly designated in writing, either by their number or by the name of the holder.

Cap. 35. *To remove some defects in the Administration of the Criminal Law.* Persons acquitted, in certain cases may be allowed their costs; persons accused are allowed to summon witnesses, who may have their expenses allowed by the Court. Additional powers are given for taking the depositions of persons dangerously ill; and jailers are to bring up persons indicted, without a writ of *habeas corpus*, upon an order of the Court.

Cap. 48. *For amending the Law of Auction of Estates.* In sales of land by auction it is to be stated in the conditions of sale whether it is to be sold with or without reserve; if it be sold without reserve no one is allowed to bid on behalf of the owner; in sales under orders from the Court of Chancery, the practice of opening biddings after a sale is to be discontinued.

Cap. 75. *To remove certain Religious Disabilities affecting some of her Majesty's Subjects, and to amend the Law relating to Oaths of Office.* The restriction as to the religion of the Lord Chancellor of Ireland is removed; judicial or corporate officers may attend their places of worship in their official robes without incurring any penalty; and a form of oath is provided to supersede the former ones of allegiance, supremacy, and abjuration.

Cap. 102. *Further to amend the Laws relating to the Representation of the People in England and Wales.* This is the Reform Act of 1867. The act is long, but its details have been made widely known.

Cap. 103. *For the Extension of the Factory Acts.* The provisions of previous Acts are extended to females and young persons employed in blast-furnaces, copper-mills, forges, foundries, or in the manufacture of machinery, of any article of metal, or of India-rubber, or gutta-percha; and to any premises in which is carried on the manufacture of paper, glass, tobacco, letter-press printing, bookbinding, and any other premises in which fifty or more persons are employed, with exceptions as to nightwork in blast-furnaces, iron-mills, and printing-offices; but so as no one is to be employed more than sixty hours in any one week.

Cap. 105. *To establish equitable Councils of Conciliation to adjust Differences between Masters and Workmen.* Masters and workmen, in any locality, may call a meeting, and agree to form a council of conciliation, and petition the Secretary of State for a licence; the council may not consist of less than two nor more than ten masters and workmen; they have power to determine questions submitted to them and to enforce their awards; a rate of wages or price of labour may not be established by them; no counsel or attorneys to be heard before the courts unless by consent of both parties.

Cap. 127. *To amend the Law relating to Railway Companies.* The rolling stock of a railway is protected from seizure by creditors by this Act; the remedy is by petition to the Court of Chancery, who may appoint a receiver or manager of the railway.

Cap. 130. *For the regulation of Agricultural Gangs.* No child under eight years of age to be employed; licences to gang-masters are to be granted by magistrates: no female to be employed in the same gang with males, or without a female licenced as gang-master being present; and the magistrates are to fix the distances within which children are to be allowed to travel to their work.

Cap. 134. *For regulating the Traffic in the Metropolis, and for making provision for the greater security of persons passing through the streets.* This is the Act now in operation.

Cap. 141. *To amend the Statute Law as between Master and Servant.* Compensation for breach of contract may be awarded on either side, which, with any fines imposed, are to be recovered by distress, and in default of payment to be punished by imprisonment.

Cap. 146. *For regulating the Hours of Labour for Children, Young Persons and Women employed in Workshops.* No child under eight is to be employed in any handicraft; no child to be employed more than six hours and a half on any one day, and such



employment to be between 6 a.m. and 8 p.m.; no young person or female to be so employed for more than twelve hours, with time for meals; no person to be employed in any handicraft on Sunday or after two o'clock on Saturday afternoon. There are also regulations for the children attending schools.

Revenue, 69,434,508*l.*; Expenditure—Army, 14,675,540*l.*; Navy, 10,676,101*l.*; for all objects, 66,780,396*l.*; National Debt, 800,848,847*l.*

Exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures, 181,183,971*l.*; total exports, 226,057,136*l.*

Imports, 275,249,853*l.*

Emigration—To the North American Colonies, 15,503; to the United States, 159,275; to the Australian Colonies and New Zealand, 14,466; to all other places, 6,709; total, 195,953.

Amount of Gold imported from Australia, 5,801,207*l.*; total imported, 15,800,159*l.*; exported, 7,880,030*l.*

Number of paupers, 1,148,643.

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