£127 2s. 6d. ; April and three months, £127 15s., £126 12s. 6d., and £127 5s. Closing values.—Cash, £126 12s. 6d., and three months, £127 7s. 6d. Settlement price £126 12s. 6d. English ingots, £129 to £131.

PIG-IRON firm, but inactive. Official quotations :—Cleveland, cash, 42s. 4½d. ; month, 42s. 6½d. Settlement prices, Scotch, 49s. 9d. ; Cleveland, 42s. 4½d., and hematite, 52s. 9d.

LEAD quiet. Soft foreign sold at £11 10s. English, £12.

SPELTER firm. G.O.B., January, £22, buyers ; February £21 17s. 6d. ; May sold at £21 7s. 6d. Special brands, £22 5s.

OFFICIAL CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

	To-day.	Prev. day.
	£ s. d. £ s. d.	£ s. d. £ s. d.
COPPER—		
Standard, cash ...	56 10 0 to 56 15 0	56 12 6 to 56 17 6
Three months ...	56 10 0 — 56 15 0	56 10 0 — 56 15 0
TIN—		
Fine foreign, cash	126 5 0 — 126 15 0	128 0 0 — 128 10 0
Three months ...	126 15 0 — 127 5 0	128 10 0 — 129 0 0

GLASGOW, Jan. 28.—Business was very quiet on the pig iron market to-day, and sellers continued very scarce, and prices again moved upwards. Cleveland changed hands at 42s. 5d., and 42s. 4½d. cash, and closed 1½d. up on the day, at former figures. There was no month business, but sellers were quoted 1½d. up at 42s. 7½d. ; hematite nominally unchanged. Turnover about 4,000 tons, and makers have rather stiffened their quotations in sympathy with warrants.

QUOTATIONS.

	Highest.	Lowest.	Close.	Prev. close.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Middlesbrough, cash ...	42 5	42 4½	42 4½	42 3
Ditto, one month ...	—	—	42 6½	42 5

Public stores stocks, in tons :—	Wednesday.	Tuesday.
Connal's at Glasgow ...	9,095	9,035
Ditto, at Middlesbrough ...	103,199	103,737
Ditto, ditto, Hematite ...	300	300
Hematite—West Coast ...	24,491	24,491

BIRMINGHAM, Jan. 28.—A slightly improved tone was apparent at to-day's market, but only a small business was transacted. Consumers continue to restrict their orders to the narrowest possible limits. The accountants' certificate as to the sales and prices of iron by the 11 selected firms during the two closing months of last year showed that the total output had been 25,849 tons, compared with 31,356 in the previous two months and 26,625 in the months of November and December of 1902. In accordance with the resolution passed in July, 1902, which was to the effect that wages in the Midlands should be maintained at a level of 6d. per ton above those in the North of England, it was decided that the rate for puddling should remain unaltered at 8s. 9d. per ton. Since the reduction of 10s. per ton in marked bars there has been an improvement in demand, and producers have not now much to complain of. Common iron is not so much inquired for, and prices are uneven at £6 to £6 5s. Galvanizers have some fair orders on their books, but new orders are not very plentiful. Corrugated sheets delivered in Liverpool at £10 10s. The black sheet makers complain of the want of orders, but a great deal of this is due to the fact that some of the galvanizers have begun to roll their own sheets. The depression in the northern shipbuilding yards is adversely affecting the demand for iron sections. Not much change is to be recorded in the steel trade. Pig iron continues without much animation in any department. Staffordshire cinder qualities are 47s. 6d. ; part mine, 47s. 6d. to 48s. 6d. ; all mine, 60s. to 65s. ; and cold blast, 95s. to 100s. Northamptonshire forge sorts ranged from 45s. to 47s. 6d. ; Derbyshire, 47s. to 48s. ; North Staffordshire, 48s. to 49s. The house coal trade is unusually quiet, and manufacturing fuel is only in moderate sale.

FOREIGN PRODUCE.

LONDON, Jan. 28.—SUGAR.—REFINED.—British cubes in fairly good demand, pieces and crystals moderate, with all quotations steady. FOREIGN.—Granulated steady. Ready, best marks, 10s. ; first marks, March, sold at 9s. 10½d. ; May, 10s., sellers ; July-August, 10s. 1½d., paid and buyers, f.o.b. Hamburg. Cubes unchanged. Crushed dull. Crystals quiet. No. 3 crystals in Paris dull at decline. January, 24f. 50c. ; May-August, 25f. 62½c. Cane sorts remain inactive.

BEETROOT opened with a poor demand and ¼d. to ½d. lower ; trade was, however, still dull. Towards the close there was a little more inquiry, and prices left off at about last night's values. Sales—February at 7s. 9d. to 9½d. ; May, 8s. 0½d., ¼d. to ¾d. ; and August, 8s. 3¾d. ; closing sellers and buyers of January at 7s. 9¾d. and 9¼d. ; February, 7s. 9¾d. and 9¼d. ; March, 7s. 10½d. and 10½d. ; April-June, 8s. 0½d. and ¼d. ; April, 8s. and 7s. 11½d. ; May, 8s. 1d. and ¾d. ; June, 8s. 2d. and 1½d. ; July, 8s. 3d. and 2½d. ; August, 8s. 4d. and 3¾d. ; September, 8s. 5d. and 4½d. ; and October-December at 8s. 6¾d. and 6¼d. Contracts registered, 22,000 bags. Mr. C. Czarnikow gives the visible supply as 3,755,597, against 3,749,293 last week. For the corresponding period of last year the totals were 3,614,135 and 3,601,520 respectively.

GLUCOSE remains unchanged.

RUM continues extremely dull.

COFFEE.—At auctions the fair supply of 3,950 bags offered, meeting a good demand at firm prices. Costa Rica, middling to good greenish, 54s. to 81s. 6d. ; good middling to fine bold blue, 74s. to 101s. 6d. ; smalls, 43s. to 47s. ; peaberry, 63s. 6d. to 85s. ; Guatamala, middling to bold dark colour, 62s. 6d. to 83s. 6d. ; smalls, 40s. 6d. to 44s. ; peas, 68s. to 76s. ; Colombian, middling greenish to bold brownish, 47s. to 56s. 6d. ; low middling to bold palish, 39s. 6d. to 50s. ; smalls, 32s. to 37s. ; peas, 42s. to 51s. ; Venezuela, middling to bold blue, 62s. to 77s. ; smalls, 51s. 6d. ; peas, 69s. ; Nyassaland, middling colour to bold blue, 45s. to 58s. 6d. ; peas, 52s. ; Jamaica, middling greenish to bold brownish greenish 66s. to 91s. 6d. ; smalls 37s. ; peas 58s. Savanilla, middling to bold brownish green, 48s. to 61s. ; smalls, 34s. to 39s. ; peas, 53s. to 56s. 6d. East Indian, bold colour, 61s. ; Santos and Mocha bought in. Futures opened firm, and with considerable buying orders from Liverpool induced by the rumour that a large New York cotton operator was turning his attention to coffee, prices advanced to the extent of 1s., and with some fluctuation a considerable business was done, again estimated at nearly 100,000 bales. Some realization gave a rather easier tone and the close was steady with sellers at 1½d. off the best. Sales include March at 38s. 7½d. to 39s. now 39s. 4½d. and value ; May, 39s. 4½d., 39s. 3d., up to 40s. 3d. then 40s., and value July at 40s., 39s. 10½d., 40s. 9d., and sellers ; September, 40s. 9d. ; 41s. 1½d., 41s. 6d., 41s. 3d., value ; December, 41s. 6d. to 42s. 6d., and sellers ; registered contracts, 80,500 bags.

COCOA steady but very small business passing. Ceylon, sold at 66s. The crop is reported to be generally poor.

TEA.—At auctions 3,000 Indian and 4,000 packages Java sold at generally unchanged prices. There was a good general inquiry for Java at last week's decline. The market on the whole closes quiet.

RICE firm. A cargo, 5,000 tons Bassein, March steamer, sold at 6s. 4½d., O.C. Quotations for steamer cargoes are :—Rangoon, 6s. 3d. to 6s. 4½d. ; Bassein, 6s. 3d. to 6s. 4½d. ; Moulmein, 6s. 4½d. to 6s. 7½d. ; Necranzie, 6s. to 6s. 3d., open charter E No. 2 terms. The arrivals since January 1st are 13,764 tons, against same period last year 16,479. Afloat, 16,654 tons, against 8,387 last year.

SPICES.—Pepper dull. January-March shipment Singapore black quoted 6¼d. Cloves.—A fairly good business passed at slight fluctuations. Zanzibar, January-March delivery sold at 8¾d. to 8⅞d., and value ; March-May, at 8⅞d., 8⅞d., to 8¼d., and buyers ; June-August, 8¼d., and value. Sales estimated at about 2,000 bales.

INDIGO futures quoted January 2s. 8d. February, 2s. 9½d. ; March to December, 2s. 8d.

INDIA RUBBER very firm. Fine hard Para, March-April, sold at 4s. 3½d. ; soft fine, ditto, at 4s. 3d. ; Bolivian, fine, March-April, 4s. 3½d. ; and Peruvian ball, February and March-April, at 3s. 3d.

SHELLAC dull and easier. March T N, orange, quoted 194s. ; May, 189s.

HEMP firm for high grades ; fair current and lower barely steady. Fair current, January-March, quoted £38 15s.

JUTE.—Market steady though rather more desire to sell. Sales, 1,000 bales J M N, 3 January-February, London, £15 17s. 6d. ; 1,000 Duffus-Daccas, January-February, Hamburg, at £14 7s. 6d. ; 500 first marks, ditto, £13 10s. ; 500 first marks, December-January, Hamburg, at £13 12s. 6d. ; 500 first marks, 15 January, London, £13 8s. 9d. ; 500 ditto, January-February, London, £13 7s. 6d. ; 1,000 Duffus, No. 1, January-February, Hamburg, at £14 15s. ; 500 first marks, December-January, Dundee, £13 11s. 3d. ; 1,000 green, R F D in circle, December-January, Hamburg, at £14 15s.

GUM.—Animi Zanzibar steady ; 80 packages sold good to fine strong sorts at £10, £12 12s. 6d. ; strong bean and pea £7 5s. at £8 17s. 6d. ; weakish bean and pea at 86s. to 102s. 6d. ; red sorts, 27 10s. to £8 2s. 6d. Copal sorts, 81s. ; pickings, 15s., 35s. ; pale scraped Demerara sold at 92s., 100s. Copal.—Manila-Macassar were in excess of requirements ; 9,040 packages offered and 2,050 sold ; pale and pinky scraped, 57s. 6d. to 62s. 6d. ; dark amber, 50s. ; medium and bold and part scraped, 45s. ; ordinary to good nibbles, 15s., 30s. ; chips, 18s., 23s. ; Obi, clean amber, scraped, 40s., 45s. ; yellow, 25s., 32s. ; rough sorts, 14s., 20s. 6d. ; block, 10s., 15s. 6d. ; siftings, 14s., 17s. Pontianac medium and bold clean scraped, 72s. 6d. ; dark brown, 65s. ; mixed colours, 62s. 6d. ; Borneo yellow and amber scraped, 32s. 6d., 42s. 6d. ; pickings, 12s. ; chips, ordinary to good, 11s. to 21s. ; dust, 8s. Angola medium and bold clean pale, 76s. to 85s. ; coated sorts, 32s., 40s. ; Brazil bold clean drop, 100s. ; small and medium blocky, 50s.

GOATSKINS.—At to-day's auctions Madras tannages of good quality, first selections are about unchanged on the average, heavy weights selling well while medium and light show a slight decline. "Seconds" are rather easier and "thirds" are 1d. to 1½d. per lb. lower. Fair tannages are mostly 1d. lower, though heavy weights sold well. Ordinary tannages are fully 1d. cheaper.

IVORY.—These auctions closed to-day, and Messrs. Hale and Son report that demand was good and prices firm except for large soft tusks, which were irregular and in some cases £2 to £3 per cwt. lower. Hard was well competed for at £1 to £3 advance. Home trade bought freely. East Indian soft large tusks were irregular, good sound in some cases £2 to £3 lower defective firm. Billiard ball pieces advanced £2 to £5. Bagatelle points firm ; cut points for balls steady to £1 to £2 higher ; undersized and defective points firm. Cut hollows generally £2 dearer. Ball scrivelloes firm to £3 dearer. Scrivelloes steady. Abyssinian large tusks irregular, being steady to £3 lower ; but medium were firm to rather dearer. Ball scrivelloes steady to £3 higher. Scrivelloes steady. Egyptian-Alexandrian description in large supply and sold well ; soft at firm prices, and hard steady to £2 dearer. West Coast African in better supply, and all kinds sold at full prices to £3 dearer for large tusks ; medium firm to £2 dearer ; bangles steady ; scrivelloes steady to £1 easier. Lisbon in small supply and sold as other soft and hard. Sea-horse teeth scare and very little sold. Walrus tusks rather dearer. Stock 90 tons against 117 tons a year ago. Next auctions April 26.

FURS.—At the current sales values are frequently in buyers' favour, but of the quantity offered there is only a small proportion withdrawn, the demand being fairly good. North-West Coast seals are the turn easier. Beaver are 15 per cent. down from October prices, and lynx show a similar decline from the March sales. Australian opossum have this week realized full October prices, while wallaby made 10 to 15 per cent. advance. American opossum steady at yesterday's figures. Grey fox are 35 per cent. below March, and raccoon 10 per cent. down. Skunk have to-day gone down 10 per cent. for best and fully 20 per cent. for common. Mink are 10 to 15 per cent. lower, and marten show a similar decline. Real and bastard chinchilla sold at last prices. Mole were mostly of inferior quality, and made very poor prices.

LINSEED steady. Calcutta, spot, 34s., buyers ; near sold at 34s. ; January-February sold at 32s. 6d. ; April-June, 32s. 4½d. paid, 32s. 6d. sellers ; Bombay, January, 34s., Continent ; February and February-March, 33s. 9d., sellers ; March-May (new crop), 33s. 6d., sellers, Continent. La Plata, Hull, spot, 32s. 6d. ; January, 29s. 6d., Hull ; January-February, 29s., buyers ; February-March, 29s., paid, Hull and London ; March-April, 29s., paid, London and Hull ; cargoes, loading, 30s., sellers. RAPESEED quiet, but steady. Brown Calcutta, February-March, 31s. 6d., o.t. Hamburg ; brown Cawnpore, prompt, 31s. 9d., o.t., sellers ; new crop, 32s. o.t. ; yellow Cawnpore, prompt, 33s. 9d., France ; yellow Gujarat, 34s. 9d., Antwerp ; Firozpur, February-March, sold at 31s. 6d. ; March-April, 31s. 6d., o.t., Hamburg ; Danube-Kustendji, ravison, March-April, 21s. 3d., Hull. COTTONSEED steady. Spot, £6 2s. 6d. ; prompt, £5 17s. 6d. accepted late yesterday, £6 asked ; Hull steady ; spot sold at £5 16s. 3d. ; afloat, £5 15s. ; January, £5 16s. 3d. ; cargo sailing by February 25 sold late yesterday at £5 17s. 6d. ; Bombay, spot, £4 12s. 6d. ; February, £4 16s. 3d., sellers, London. POPPYSEED dull. Bombay, Calcutta options, February-March, 33s. ; March-May, 33s. 6d. sellers, 33s. 3d. buyers.

LINSEED OIL steady. RAPE OIL quiet. COTTON OIL dull ; crude spot, 17s. 4½d. ; January-April, 17s. 7½d. TURPENTINE dull. Spot, 46s. ; month, 46s. 3d. ; February-April, 46s. 3d. ; July-December, 40s. 6d. PETROLEUM inactive. TALLOW quiet and unchanged.

LIVERPOOL, Jan. 28.—SUGAR.—Cane unaltered. Beet opened dull at ½d. to 1d. down, and closed steadier and unchanged to ½d. decline on the day. COFFEE firm and in fair request. COCOA.—African River kinds firm and scarce, with a moderate demand for good quality. RICE steady for cleaned on the spot, with a fair trade. Yesterday's imports, 250 tons. RICE MEAL unchanged. Yesterday's imports, 100 tons. SAGO FLOUR firm at late values. TAPIOCA FLOUR continues dull, with little inquiry. COTTON MEAL steady at unaltered rates. Yesterday's imports, 2,246 bags. COTTONSEED dull and easier. Yesterday's imports, 114 tons. CANARYSEED in poor request at steady rates. LINSEED firmer. PALM OIL continues strong, but business was again restricted by the very limited supplies available. Retail sales of Forcados on the spot at £25 15s. quay terms. Yesterday's imports, 430 casks. OLIVE OIL spot steady but quiet. Forward unchanged. Yesterday's imports, 24 packages. LINSEED OIL remains dull. COTTON OIL quiet. TALLOW quiet, and values continued against sellers. Yesterday's imports, 619 casks. PETROLEUM steady with a moderate trade at unchanged quotations. ROSIN firm, and low grades continue in sellers' favour owing to scarcity. TURPENTINE easier.

PROVISIONS.

LIVERPOOL, Jan. 28.—Bacon.—American meats continue inactive. Clear bellies are freely offered on spot, but Cumberland and all Irish are steady. Canadian values are barely maintained, but Continental and Waterford sell at late rates. Shoulders.—Squares and New Yorks are unchanged, but picnics favour buyers. In hams long and short cuts are unaltered. Lard is slow at 3d. decline, Prime Western being quoted at 38s. 6d. and American refined pails at 37s. 3d. to 38s. 3d. Cheese is steady for finest at recent values. Butter steady. Beef and pork quiet.

CATTLE.

ISLINGTON, Jan. 28.—The supply of beasts compared with Thursday last showed a decrease of 50, but about 20 more were held back. A few fat beasts (Norfolks and Herefords) were difficult to sell. Butchering cows and bulls were slow at late rates. Fat cows, 3s. 6d. ; fat bulls, 3s. to 3s. 3d. Sheep were 140 in excess of last Thursday's supply, and half-bred met a slow trade, and late rates were with difficulty upheld. For ewes there was a slack demand at a decline of 2d. A few lambs met with little inquiry, and rates are unquotable, best pens made :—7½st. to 8st. Downs, 5s. 10d. ; 9st. Downs, 5s. 8d. ; 10st. Downs, 5s. 4d. ; 10st. halfbreds, 5s. 4d. ; 10st. ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d. ; 11st. Hampshires, 5s. 4d. ; 12st. Lincolns, 5s., offal given in. Calf trade nominal. No pigs on offer.

—	Supply.	Per 8lb., offal given in.		
		Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	50	2s. 8d.	3s. 6d.	—
Sheep and lambs ...	600	3s. 4d.	5s. 0d.	5s. 10d.

BRISTOL, Jan. 28.—A fair amount of business was transacted at to-day's market, and fat cattle were in moderate supply, but prices were tending lower. Best quality beasts were obtainable at 56s. to 57s. per cwt. A limited number of sheep penned met with a fair sale, light wethers making 8d. to 8½d. per lb. Pigs were in good demand at last week's prices, while for store cattle, trade ruled slow at late rates.

DUBLIN, Jan. 28.—The market was fairly active, and exceptionally good bullocks and heifers commenced steady at last week's prices, but afterwards values were barely sustained. Coarser beasts were difficult of sale, and a considerable proportion remained unsold. The best fat qualities of home trade were in more active request, and choice Cheviot and similar grades made up to 8¼d. per lb., while the general run of Dublin wethers were 1s. to 2s. per head higher. Coarse sheep unchanged. Veal calves scarce and dearer. Prime heifer and ox beef, 52s. 6d. to 56s. per cwt. ; 56s. 6d. to 57s. 6d. for extra quality ; and 47s. to 50s. for second quality. Prime wether mutton, 7½d. to 8¼d. ; prime ewe, 7d. to 7½d. ; hoggets, heavy sorts, 48s. to 60s. ; medium and small, 30s. to 44s. ; lambs (house), 40s. ; veal, choice, 8d. to 9d. per lb.

MISCELLANEOUS.

LONDON, Jan. 28.—BOROUGH HOPS.—Trade on this market is quieter as is usual at this time of the year, but chiefly in consequence of scarcity of suitable hops. The demand is mainly for grades under £7, which are in extremely short supply, and the tendency of values generally keeps very firm in spite of the slowness of business. There has been a good trade put through during the past few days in old Bavarian and other Continental growths, several thousand pockets having changed hands at 30s. to 50s. according to quality and age.

BOROUGH POTATOES.—Supplies continue fair but trade rules slow and prices have a slightly lower tendency. Dunbars, up-to-date, 120s. to 130s. ; main crop, 120s. ; English, up-to-dates, 110s. to 120s. ; maincrop, 100s. to 110s. ; German, 85s. to 100s. ; Dutch, 80s. to 100s. ; French, 90s. to 95s. ; and Belgian, 85s. to 90s.

HAY AND STRAW (WHITECHAPEL).—Trade at to-day's market ruled rather dull and supplies were short. Hay, specially picked, 85s. ; best, 72s. 6d. to 80s. ; inferior, 60s. to 70s. ; mixed and sainfoin, 75s. to 85s. ; best clover, 85s. to 90s. ; inferior, 70s. to 80s. ; straw, 30s. to 40s.

COVENT GARDEN.—Fairly good supplies on offer, business being quiet. American and Nova Scotian apples, 13s. to 22s. 6d. per barrel ; Californian, Newtowns, 7s. 6d. to 10s. per case ; English grapes, 1s. 3d. to 7s. 6d. ; Belgian, 10d. to 1s. 4d. per lb. ; Almeria, 12s. to 20s. per barrel ; bananas, 6s. 6d. to 13s. 6d. per bunch ; pineapples, 2s. to 4s. 6d. each ; lemons, 9s. to 20s. per case ; Valencia oranges, 7s. 6d. to 12s. 6d. ; Denia, 10s. to 21s. ; Jaffa, 8s. to 9s. ; Navels, 10s. to 12s. per case ; Canary tomatoes, 12s. to 18s. per package ; parsley, 4s. to 5s. ; carrots, 2s. to 3s. ; turnips, 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. per dozen bunches ; cucumbers, 10s. to 15s. per dozen ; savoys, 3s. 6d. to 5s. per tally ; English onions, 5s. to 6s. per cwt. ; Valencia, 5s. to 6s. per case ; mushrooms, 8s. to 10s. per 12lb. ; forced rhubarb, 1s. to 1s. 3d. per dozen bundles ; celery, 8s. to 15s. per dozen rolls ; Italian cauliflowers, 3s. to 4s. per hamper ; parsnips, 2s. 6d. to 3s. per cwt. ; potatoes, 90s. to 140s. per ton.

CENTRAL POULTRY AND GAME (Wholesale).—Game of all kinds was in constant request, but there was very little activity in the poultry trade. Turkeys, English, cocks, 12s. to 15s. ; do., hens, 6s. to 9s. ; Irish, cocks, 7s. 6d. to 10s. ; do., hens, 4s. to 6s. each ; French, cocks, 8d. to 9½d. ; do. hens, 7d. to 8d. per lb. ; Italian cocks, 7½d. to 8½d. per lb. ; do., hens, 3s. to 4s. each ; Hungarian, cocks, 8d. to 9d. per lb. ; do., hens, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d. ; geese, English, 6s. to 9s. 6d. ; Irish, 4s. to 6s. each ; ducks, English, 4s. to 5s. 6d. ; Irish, 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. ; capons, 3s. 6d. to 6s. ; chickens, Surrey, 2s. 9d. to 4s. 6d. ; Sussex, 2s. 3d. to 4s. ; West of England, 2s. 3d. to 3s. ; fowls, old, 1s. to 2s. ; Guinea fowls, 2s. 6d. to 3s. ; Pheasants, 2s. 6d. to 3s. ; partridges, young, 2s. 3d. to 2s. 9d. ; black game, Russian, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d. ; pigeons, Bordeaux, 9d. to 1s. 3d. ; Italian, 9d. ; hares, English, 2s. to 4s. ; Scotch, blue, 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. ; foreign, 1s. 9d. to 2s. 6d. ; rabbits, tame, 1s. to 1s. 9d. ; wild, 8d. to 1s. 2d. each ; venison, hindquarters, 6½d. to 8½d. ; forequarters, 3d. to 3½d. per lb.

From The Times of 1804.

MONDAY, JANUARY 30.

. . . The letters in the French Papers, detailing the exploits of their batteries against our cruizers, are not worth extracting : neither is there any thing of consequence on the subject of invasion.

It is said that a camp is about to be formed at *Toulon*, of which General REGNIER is to have the command.

A weak attempt is made to misrepresent the speech of ROBERT EMMET previous to his death ; and instead of that detestation of French invasion which he expressed, it is insisted that he looked to France for the restoration of the liberties of his country.

It appears that the conscripts are now taken at so early an age as eleven and twelve years ; and the Prefect of the Department of the Scheldt has announced, that if boys of that age do not attend when called upon, that their parents shall be compelled to pay a fine of 1500 francs.

LAW REPORT, Jan. 28.

SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE.

COURT OF APPEAL.

(*Before the* LORD CHIEF JUSTICE *of* ENGLAND, *the* MASTER *of the* ROLLS, *and* LORD JUSTICE ROMER.)

VYNER V. NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY COMPANY.

This was an appeal from the judgment of Mr. Justice Kekewich, sitting in the King's Bench Division, on the trial of an action without a jury. The case is reported in 19 *The Times* Law Reports, 265. The action raised a question upon the construction of certain Acts of Parliament passed in 1767 and 1820 (7 Geo. III., c. xciii. and 1 Geo. IV., c. xxxv.), for the purpose of improving, extending, and maintaining the navigation of the river Ure, the question being whether the defendants, as the successors of the Navigation Commissioners appointed by the Act of 1767, were liable to keep in repair, not merely the natural banks of the river, but also certain flood banks, which, according to a practice which is not uncommon in Yorkshire, had been erected behind the natural banks to prevent the river from overflowing the surrounding land. It did not appear when or by whom these flood banks were erected ; but it was proved that they existed before the passing of the Act of 1820, upon the construction of which the question of the defendants' liability primarily depended. The Act of 1767 empowered the Commissioners to canalize the river, and, for that purpose, to dig, cut, and raise the banks ; and by section 50, if the Commissioners, by making or raising any dam or otherwise, raised the water of the river above the ancient or usual height of such water, whereby the adjacent lands and grounds might be more liable to be overflowed or damaged than they had anciently or usually been, the Commissioners were required to cause the banks to be proportionally raised and strengthened, so that the new banks should be able to contain the water at such their raised height as the old banks were to contain the water at their ancient and usual height ; and also to maintain and repair the said raised banks when necessary. By the Act of 1820 the proprietors of the River Ure Navigation were formed into a company, and by section 88 the company were "required from time to time and at all times to maintain and keep the banks of the said river Ure and cuts or canals in good and sufficient repair ; and from time to time to strengthen and support the same when necessary for containing all the waters of the said river Ure, so that the adjacent lands and grounds may not be subjected to be overflowed or damaged by water, except in cases of flood and during the continuance thereof." The plaintiff, who was a riparian owner on the river Ure, alleged that the defendants, in breach of the obligation imposed on them by this section, had neglected to repair certain flood banks, and that in consequence of such neglect some fields belonging to the plaintiff were in danger of being damaged by water ; that he had given particulars to the defendants of the work required to put the flood banks in repair ; and that, on the refusal of the defendants to do the work, he had done it himself. He accordingly brought this action against the defendants for damages. The defendants denied that they were bound to maintain and keep the flood banks or any of them in good and sufficient repair, or to strengthen and support the same or any of them, as alleged, or at all. They said that the flood banks were not "banks," nor was any of them a bank of the River Ure, or cuts or canals within the meaning of the enactment. Mr. Justice Kekewich was of opinion that the flood banks were not banks of the River Ure within the meaning of the statute, and on that ground he gave judgment for the defendants. The plaintiff appealed.

Mr. Lawson Walton, K.C., Mr. Astbury, K.C., and Mr. Lowenthal appeared for the plaintiff ; Mr. A. T. Lawrence, K.C., and Mr. A. R. Butterworth for the defendants.

The COURT dismissed the appeal.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that, in his opinion, Mr. Justice Kekewich had come to a right conclusion in this case. The question was whether the defendants were liable to repair and keep in repair the flood banks under the two Acts. The House of Lords had already decided that the defendants were bound to repair and keep in repair the natural banks of the river. These banks along rivers and cuts were well-known in the East of England. Section 50 of the Act of 1767 imposed upon the Commissioners the statutory obligation, if the water of the river was raised above the ancient or usual height, of raising the banks of the river to a corresponding height, so that the difference between the top of the water and the top of the banks should remain as before, and the water would not be more liable to escape than before. Section 88 of the Act of 1820 imposed on the company, who were the proprietors of the River Ure navigation, the obligation of maintaining and keeping in repair the banks of the river, so that the adjacent lands might not be subjected to be overflowed or damaged by water, except in cases of flood, and during the continuance thereof. Both those sections, in the clearest possible language, indicated that the obligation of the company was to raise the banks of the river, if necessary, so that the water should be contained in the channel as before, and to maintain and keep in repair the banks. There was a clear liability to maintain and keep in repair the banks of the river, and there was no liability to maintain and keep in repair the flood banks, which were not constructed or used for the purpose of keeping the water of the river in its channel. If it could have been shown that the flood banks were the banks of the river the matter might have been different. There was abundant evidence upon which the learned Judge could come to the conclusion that the flood banks were not the banks of the River Ure. He (the Lord Chief Justice) agreed with the conclusion arrived at by the learned Judge. The flood banks were not constructed to keep the water within the *alveus* of the river, and the defendants were not bound under the Acts to maintain them and keep them in repair.

The MASTER of the ROLLS and LORD JUSTICE ROMER agreed.

WEBSTER AND WADDINGTON (LIMITED) V. DARRELL.

This was an appeal by the plaintiffs from the judgment of Mr. Justice Wright on the trial of an action without a jury. The action was brought to recover a sum of money which had been paid by the plaintiffs to the defendant in respect of the letting of two rooms to view the Coronation procession on June 27, 1902. The agreement between the parties was contained in the following letter, which was written on behalf of the defendant and addressed to the plaintiffs :—"415, Strand, London, W.C., April 14, 1902.—I agree to let two rooms on third floor at above address to view procession on June 27, 1902, the Coronation of King Edward VII., or on such day as it may take place, for the sum of £80