

NEW ACTS OF PARLIAMENT AND PARLIAMENTARY RETURNS.

ABSTRACT OF THE WILLS ACT.

1 Victoria, c. 26.

**Operation of the Act.**—The Act does not extend to Scotland; neither does it affect the wills of soldiers or sailors on actual service, nor wills made before the commencement of 1838. But all wills, with the exception of those of soldiers or sailors, made after the commencement of 1838, come under the provisions of the Act.

**What kind of Property may be bequeathed by Will.**—It is lawful for every person to devise, bequeath, or dispose of, by his will executed in the manner directed by the act, all real estate, and all personal estate which he shall be entitled to either at law or in equity, at the time of his death.

All property may thus be bequeathed by will. "Real Estate" extends to manors, advowsons, messuages, lands, tithes, rents, and hereditaments, whether freehold, customary freehold, tenantright, customary or copyhold, or of any other tenure, and whether corporeal, incorporeal, or personal, and to all future and contingent interests therein. Personal estate extends to leasehold estates, and other chattels real, and also to moneys, shares of government and other funds, securities for money (not being real estate) debts, rights, credits, goods, &c.

**How a Will should be made.**—A will can only be made in writing: and it must be signed at the foot and end by the testator himself; or, if he is unable to do it, by some person for him, in his presence, and by his direction; and his testator must either make or acknowledge his signature in the presence of two or more persons, who are to be present at the same time, and who are to sign their names as attesting witnesses in the presence of the testator. No particular form of attestation is necessary.

The above mode must be observed by all persons, male, or female, in making their wills. If any person is drawing up his will, or having it drawn up for him, without legal assistance, the best mode of expression will be the simplest and plainest that can be used. Care must be taken not to bequeath legacies to attesting witnesses, or even to the wife or husband of an attesting witness, as all legacies so bequeathed are void in law. The object of this enactment seems to be to prevent any will from being disputed or nullified on account of any alleged undue interest on the part of an attesting witness. If, therefore, a testator wishes to give anything to an attesting witness, he must do it some other way than by a legacy. But creditors and executors can be attesting witnesses.

**Who cannot make a Valid Will.**—Persons under twenty-one years of age cannot make a valid will. Neither can married women in the lifetime of their husbands, except where they have property settled on them with a power of devising, &c.

**What of itself Revokes a Will.**—Any man or woman, having made a will, and marrying afterwards, the act of marriage revokes the will, "unless made in exercise of a power of appointment, when the estate thereby appointed would not in default pass to his or her heir, customary heir, executor, or administrator, or the person entitled as his or her next of kin, under the statute of distributions."

**How a Will may be Revoked or Altered.**—A will can only be revoked by being destroyed, or by the execution of a new will. Alterations must be made in the same way as a will.

Persons making any alterations in their wills must therefore be careful that the alterations are witnessed and signed in the same way as the wills.

**How a Will is to be hereafter Constructed.**—Wills are to be construed as if made immediately before the death of the testator, unless a contrary intention appears from the terms of a will itself.

A residuary devise shall include the estates bequeathed by lapsed and void devises, unless a contrary intention shall appear.

A general devise of the testator's land shall include copyhold and leasehold, as well as freehold lands, unless a contrary intention shall appear.

A general gift shall include estates over which the testator has a general power of appointment, unless a contrary intention shall appear.

A devise without any words of limitation shall be construed to pass the fee, unless a contrary intention shall appear.

The words "die without issue," or "die without leaving issue," shall be construed to mean die without issue living at the death of the person, and not an indefinite failure of his issue, unless a contrary intention shall appear by the will, by reason of such person having a prior estate tail, or of a preceding gift, being, without any implication arising from such words, a limitation of an estate tail to such person or issue, or otherwise; but this Act shall not extend to cases where such words import if no issue described in a preceding gift shall be born, or if there shall be no issue who shall live to attain the age or otherwise answer the description required for obtaining a vested estate by a preceding gift to such issue.

The preceding abstract gives the main points of this important Act, which tends to simplify the law of wills, and prevent the litigation so often arising from the disposal of property by bequest.

NEW ACT FOR THE GRANTING OF LEASES.

"An act to facilitate the Granting of certain Leases," 8 and 9 Victoria, c. 124, contains eight short provisions, with two schedules. The object of this new law seems to be to shorten leases for lands and tenements. A very short form, indeed, may be used, and it is provided, that in future leases, unless specially excepted, shall be deemed to include all outhouses, buildings, &c., belonging or otherwise appertaining. The remuneration for preparing and executing so short a deed is not to be paid by the length (shortness), but the taxing-master is to consider the skill and labour employed, and responsibility incurred in the preparation thereof. Any deed which shall fail to take effect under this act shall bind the parties as if the act had not been made. The act is not to extend to Scotland. The forms to be used are very concise, and a lease prepared and executed according thereto may be carried about without the slightest inconvenience.

GAMES AND WAGERS.

The Act 8 and 9 Victoria, c. 109, "to amend the Laws concerning Games and Wagers," contains several provisions respecting Gaming-houses. In order to remove the difficulties which have arisen on prosecutions, to prove that the house alleged was a common gaming-house, it is now provided, that in the absence of other evidence it shall be sufficient to show that the place is kept open or used for playing therein at any unlawful game, and that a bank is kept there by one or more of the players exclusively of the others, or that the chances of any game played therein are not alike favourable to all the players, including among the players the banker, or other person by whom the game is managed, or against whom the other players stake, play, or bet, and every such house or place shall be deemed a common gaming-house. In places out of the jurisdiction of the metropolitan police, magistrates may issue warrants to officers to enter houses. Persons keeping gaming-houses, and every person having the care or management of the same, as also bankers, croupiers, &c., may now be summarily convicted, and fined £100 or sent to prison for six months, and on non-payment of penalties, a warrant of distress levied on their goods. It shall not be necessary in future to prove that the persons found playing were playing for any money, wager,

or stake. The Commissioners of Police may authorise a superintendent and constable to enter gaming-houses, and to seize all instruments of gaming, and to take into custody all persons found therein. Search may be made for instruments of gaming. In proceedings to be instituted after the passing of this act, it shall be sufficient evidence to show that there were cards, dice, balls, counters, tables, or other instruments in the room entered, or on the person seized, although no play was actually going on at the time, and all such things shall be destroyed. Witnesses examined on gambling transactions are to receive from the magistrates before whom they are called certificates of indemnification. There are also several provisions respecting the regulations to be enforced as to the keeping of billiard and bagatelle tables. Persons keeping inns, ale-houses, and victualling houses are to apply to the justices at licensing sessions to grant licenses at their discretion to keep billiard and bagatelle boards, or instruments used in any game of the like kind. The licenses are to be annual, for which a sum of 6s. on each is to be charged. With regard to places other than those mentioned, and which abound in the metropolis, licenses in Middlesex and Surrey are to be taken out after the 5th of April last, and elsewhere after the 10th of October next, and during the continuance of such licenses the words "Licensed for billiards" shall be conspicuously exhibited. Persons keeping such places without licenses, are to be considered as keepers of common gaming houses, and proceeded against accordingly; and on conviction, in a summary manner, to pay or be committed to prison. Billiards are not to be played "after one o'clock, and before eight of the clock in the morning of any day," nor on Sundays, or other days appointed to be kept as a public fast or thanksgiving. All constables and officers are empowered to enter places where billiards or bagatelle are played as often as they think proper, and on refusal to be admitted the keepers to be deemed guilty of an offence against their licenses. It is also provided by this Act, that every person who shall by any fraud or unlawful device or ill practice in playing at or with cards, dice, tables, or other games, or in bearing a part in the stakes, wagers, or adventures, or in betting on the sides or hands of them that do play, or in wagering on the event of any game, or sport, pastime or exercise, win from any other person to himself or any other or others, any some of money or valuable thing, shall be deemed guilty of obtaining such money or valuable thing from such other person by a false pretence, with intent to cheat or defraud such person of the same; and, being convicted thereof, shall be punished accordingly. Wagers are not to be recoverable by law, but the enactment is not to apply to any subscription, or contribution, or agreement to be awarded to the winner or winners of any lawful game, sport, pastime, or exercise. In future, proceedings under feigned issues are to be abolished, and matters tried under a writ of summons. Proceedings under this act are not to be commenced without a month's notice, and are to be brought within three months of the alleged offence.

SMALL DEBTS ACT.

The act 8 and 9, Victoria, c. 127, for the better Securing the Payment of Small Debts," gives power to the Courts of Bankruptcy, and a number of inferior courts, on the application of a creditor by a brief note in writing, to issue a summons against any debtor, on balance of account or otherwise, for a sum not exceeding £20; appointing a day in which he is to appear in court. It is not necessary for either party to employ counsel, attorney, or solicitor. The Judge may examine witnesses and documents, and he may also interrogate the parties, and thereupon pronounce a summary judgment. The act empowers him to decide without the intervention of a jury. Where undefined damages are sought, there may be an indirect advantage in saving the Judge from reflections that partisans are sure to make; but in questions of settled accounts, and of bills—in short, in all questions dependent on mere legal skill—the jury is better dispensed with. The Judge may order payment at once, or by instalments; may order execution on the debtor's goods and chattels, tradesmen's tools and other necessities being excepted; and in the case of a contumacious or fraudulent debtor, imprisonment for a term not exceeding forty days.—Provision is made in the act for extending its benefits to the whole of England. One of the clauses empowers the Queen in Council to enlarge the jurisdiction of all inferior courts for the recovery of debts, to demands whether on account or otherwise, or to damage arising out of any express or implied agreement, not exceeding £20. Such an Order in Council is not to take immediate effect in the case of any court not having a Judge qualified as above described; but it is enacted that the persons entitled to appoint a Judge in such court shall, within three months after the issuing of the order nominate a qualified Judge, or that if they fail to do so, the Queen shall appoint one. The same section of the act empowers the Queen in Council to extend the district of any such court, or to contract its district. The act 8 and 9 Victoria, c. 127, therefore enables the Executive Government to give every part of the country the benefit of local courts, with efficient Judges and cheap and expeditious forms of process, for enforcing payment of all debts not exceeding £20. The boon is an important one; as is testified by the eagerness of trade-men in those Metropolitan districts which are not within the jurisdiction of any court specified in the act, to have them annexed to the district of the nearest court.

THE FINANCES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

FROM an important Parliamentary paper recently published, containing an account of the Public Income and Expenditure of the United Kingdom for the years, 1843, 1844, and 1845, the following facts have been collected.

It appears that the national income has been increasing every year, whilst the concurrent expenditure has remained comparatively stationary. In 1842, the income amounted to £51,120,040, and the expenditure to £55,195,159, showing a deficiency of £4,075,119; in 1843 the income amounted to £56,935,022, and the expenditure to £55,501,740, showing a surplus of £1,433,282; and in 1844, the income of the country amounted to £58,590,217, and the expenditure to £55,103,647, leaving a surplus of £3,486,570, which, together with the former surplus of £1,433,282, formed an aggregate surplus of £5,919,852, which more than covered the large deficiency of £4,075,119 noticed in 1842.

The sources whence our enormous revenue is derived chiefly consist of the following items. We select the component parts of the income received in 1844-5 (£58,590,217). Customs and Excise figure for £38,576,684, the relative proportions of each being £23,000,000, and £15,000,000 in round numbers; Stamps for £7,327,803; Assessed and Land Taxes for £4,429,870; the Property and Income Tax for £5,329,601; the Post-office for £1,705,068; Crown-lands for £441,583; ordinary revenues for £394,598; and Chinese ransom money (an extraordinary and special item) for £385,008.

The expenditure is also divided into a variety of items. In 1844, the cost of collecting the Customs' revenue amounted to a sum of £1,466,486, and with the preventive service charges, amounted to £1,967,584. The expenses of collecting the Stamps and Assessed Taxes amounted to £2,860,536. Thus the mere expense of collecting the revenue amounted to nearly five millions sterling, or about 1-12th.

The civil Government costs the country £1,618,265. This includes a sum of

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1846.

£371,800, from which the Queen's privy purse is supplied, and the salaries and expenses of the Royal household are defrayed; a sum of £277,000 for allowances to the Royal Family; £26,440 for the Irish vicereignty; £100,646 for the salaries and expenses of both houses of Parliament, including the printing of the vast mass of papers and documents which now lie accumulated on our tables, the growth of only one session; £538,593 for "civil departments," including superannuation allowances; £277,501 for other annuities; and £6,285 for pensions charged on the civil list. It may be proper to state, for the information of those ignorant of the fact, and especially foreigners, that the Civil List formerly included all the heads of public expenditure, except those of the army, navy, and other military departments, but is confined at present (9th William IV., cap. 25) to "the expenses proper for the maintenance of His Majesty's household." The Queen's privy purse does not exceed, we believe, an annual sum of about £60,000 or £70,000 out of the whole £371,800. Under the expenses of justice is included a sum of £559,782 for courts of justice, £894,312 for police and criminal prosecutions, and £703,111 for houses of correction, &c. The diplomatic expenses amount to £380,609 annually, including £181,186 for the salaries and pensions of foreign Ministers, Plenipotentiaries, and Ambassadors; £129,303 for Consuls' salaries, and superannuation allowances; and £70,120 for expenses of outfits, &c. The above sums are charged on the "Consolidated Fund." Of those raised by annual votes of supply, there are £6,171,714 for the maintenance of the Army, £5,858,219 for that of the Navy, and £1,924,312 for the expenses of the Ordnance.

## REVENUE AND TAXATION.

A VOLUMINOUS account, showing the gross receipt of Revenue derived from duties of Customs, Excise, and Stamps, and from assessed taxes; the amount of all taxes repealed, expired, or reduced, and of new taxes imposed; and the increase or decrease of revenue, with the average price of wheat, &c., has been laid before the House of Commons, and affords a complete synopsis of the subject.

It appears that the gross receipt of revenue on the following articles, in the year 1844, amounted to:—Customs duties, to £24,107,348; Excise, to £14,469,336; Stamps, to £7,327,802; and Assessed Taxes, to £3,266,350; total, £49,170,836. The amount of taxes repealed or reduced in the same year was £458,810, no new ones having been imposed. The increase of the actual produce as compared with the preceding year, was £2,297,266; and the average price of wheat, 51s. 4d. In 1842, the amount of the revenue on the same items of taxation amounted to £46,593,802; the amount of taxation repealed or reduced to £1,596,366, and the new taxes imposed to £529,989. The property-tax is not included in this abstract, the order of the house limiting that branch of revenue to the assessed taxes.

The gross total amount of the taxes repealed, expired, or reduced since January, 1815, amounts to the sum of £34,870,795, and the net amount to £32,132,030. Under the head of Customs, the net amount reduced was £10,962,662; under that of Excise, £14,378,400; Stamps, £1,224,038; and Assessed Taxes, £5,557,930. The gross total amount of taxes imposed during the same period amounted to £8,670,067, and the net amount thereof to £8,587,853; viz., £3,894,041 under the head of Customs; £4,169,300 under that of Excise; £209,501 under that of Stamps; and £315,011 under that of Assessed Taxes. It further appears that the grand total estimated gross produce of the Customs' duties repealed between 1815 and 1841 amounted to £9,190,926, and the grand total estimated net produce to £9,005,766; the grand total estimated gross produce of the Customs' duties imposed or augmented during the same period having amounted to £3,746,864, and the net produce to £3,733,219. The estimated loss by the repeal or reduction of Customs' duties amounted, on the net revenue, in 1842, to £1,498,944; in 1833, to £1,715,521; and in 1844, to £286,431. The concurrent estimated gain, by the imposition or augmentation of duties, amounted in the net revenue to £160,822 (in the year 1842 alone). The gross total amount of stamp duties repealed, expired, or reduced, between 1822 and 1844, amounted to £1,189,997, and the net amount to £1,034,476, whilst the total amount of stamp duties imposed between 1828 and 1844 amounted to £25,321.

The gross produce of the property-tax (repealed in 1816) was £14,617,823, and the net amount £14,318,573. The gross total amount of the assessed taxes repealed or reduced between 1816 and 1840, was £5,148,574, and the net amount, £4,943,196. The gross total amount of the property-tax, land-tax on personal estates, and assessed taxes, thus repealed, was £19,771,611, and the net total amount £19,266,983.

The total estimated amount of the taxes repealed or reduced in Ireland from 1816 to 1841 amounted to £614,734, including the repeal of the house-tax, reductions in outside jaunting cars, and the rates in respect of windows, carriages, servants, horses, and dogs, and the repeal of the hearth money, window light (£200,000), carriage, servant, dog, horse, and coachmaster duties, &c.

The net amount of the additional duty of £10 per cent. on assessed taxes (imposed by Mr. Baring) was, in 1840 (the first year of its imposition) £311,477.

## TRADE AND NAVIGATION.

A PARLIAMENTARY paper has been issued, containing returns relative to Trade and Navigation for the five months, ending June 5, 1845. The whole range of trade is embraced, but we have room for a few articles only. Butter, for instance; in 1843, the quantity imported was 54,604 cwt.; in 1844, the quantity was 69,053 cwt.; in 1845, 93,433 cwt. Cheese has increased in the same proportion. The quantity of wheat imported in 1845 was 71,089 quarters—a very small amount compared with the imports of the preceding two years. Flax also fell off materially. In fruits, the imports increased more than twofold. Silk, skins, spices, rum, and brandy also increased. Sugar imported in 1843 was 1,639,792 cwt.; in 1844, 1,286,470 cwt.; in 1845, 1,926,036 cwt.; and all for home consumption. Tobacco has doubled in the last two years. Wine has also doubled in quantity since 1843, the quantity in 1845 being 2,720,344 gallons. Cotton wool from the British possessions is also on the increase, but foreign has fallen off. Sheep's and lamb's wool has increased from 11,234,621 lb. in 1843, to 18,421,323 lb. in 1845. The exports of coffee from the British possessions in 1843 were 31,246 lb. only; in 1844, 38,802 lb.; in 1845, 263,421 lb. The declared value of exports, coal, cotton manufactures, yarn, cutlery, earthenware, hardware, linens, linen yarn, metals, salt, silk manufactures, refined sugar, sheep's wool, woollen yarn, woollen manufactures, in 1843, was £17,027,190; in 1844, £19,490,719; in 1845, £20,482,579. With regard to shipping, the tonnage entered inwards in the five months ending the 5th of June, 1843, was 1,244,186; in 1844, 1,180,286; in 1845, 1,532,748. Cleared outwards, in the same periods respectively, 1,521,936; 1,412,694; 1,593,008. In the coasting trade the tonnage entered inwards in the same periods was, including the trade with Ireland, 4,174,439; 4,325,334; 5,225,932. Cleared outwards, 4,360,984; 4,507,848; 5,393,419. The number of ships has increased in the ratio of the augmentation of the tonnage.

## THE SLAVE TRADE.

A RETURN of the expenses of liberated Africans, and of the liberated African department in each year, from December, 1838, to December, 1844, including buildings and all contingent expenses, so far as the same can be made out from the records of the Audit Office, comprising maintenance, clothing, medical treat-

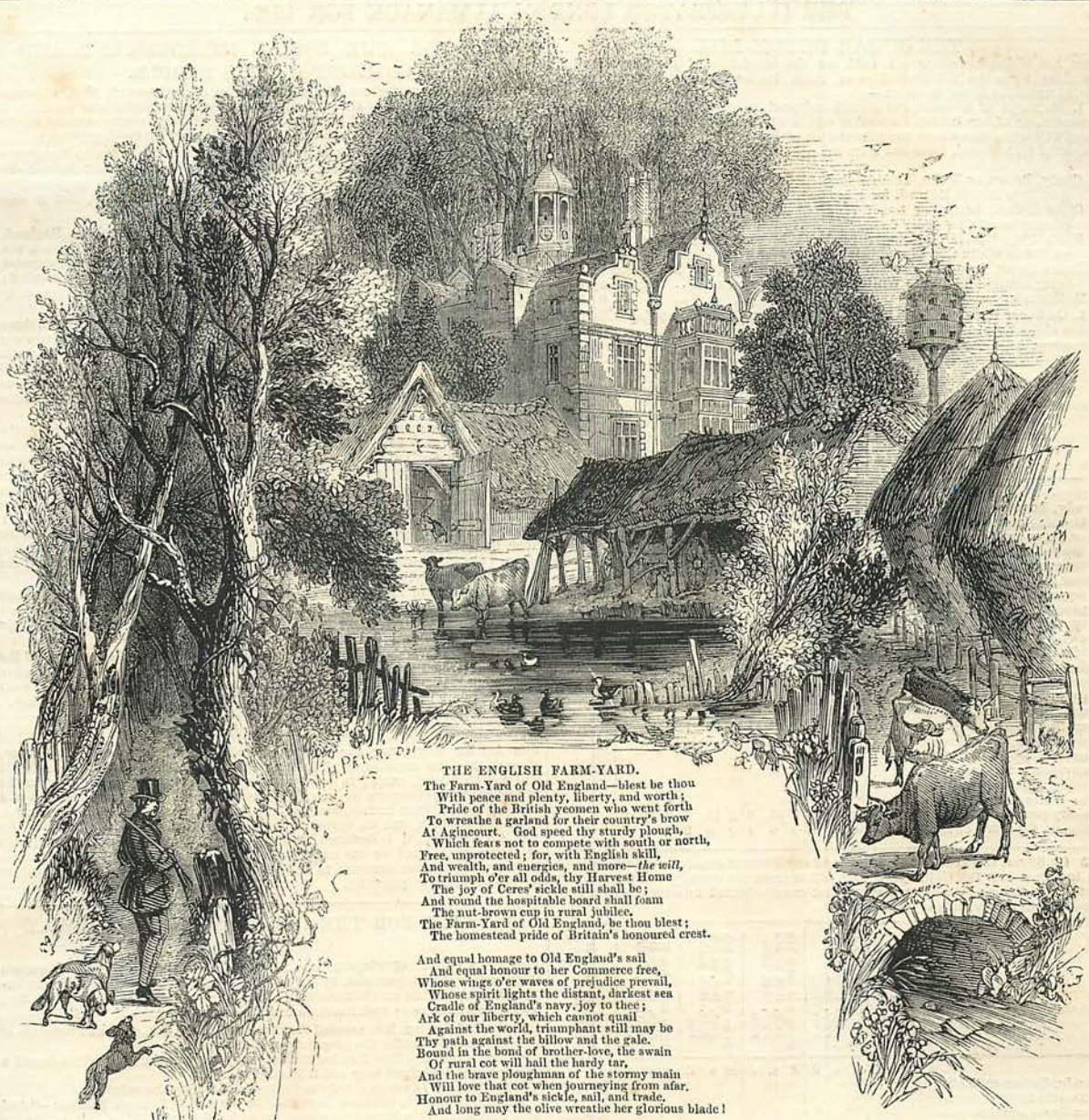
ment, fuel, light, salaries, and incidental expenses generally, has been appended to some returns and documents relative to the Slave Trade, and the treaties between Great Britain and Spain on that subject, lately obtained by Mr. Hunt, M.P. In 1839 the gross total amount of the above expenses was £21,967; in 1840, £16,257; in 1841, 46,025; in 1842, £33,800; in 1843, 18,802; and in 1844, £13,499; making a grand total of £150,354, for those six years. The total annual cost to the country of all the vessels employed in the suppression of the slave trade, including the wear and tear, amounted in 1839 to £80,393; in 1840, to £101,175; in 1841, to £73,954; in 1842, to £94,026; in 1843, to 88,239; and in 1844, to £217,527; of which £86,091 was consumed in wages, £47,263 in victuals, and £84,173 in wear and tear. The number of men and officers who died in 1844, engaged in the slave service on the coast of Africa, amounted to 66; and the number invalided to 83. It further appears, from this return, that between December, 1838, and December, 1844, there were 346 vessels seized and proceeded against either in the English or foreign mixed commission courts, or in the British Vice-Admiralty courts, on the ground of being concerned in the illicit traffic, and that 66 of them were seized with slaves on board, and 280 under the equipment article, or without slaves. That the net proceeds of the vessels, &c., proceeded against in the mixed courts amount to the sum of £67,412, of which one moiety (£33,706) has been paid over to the foreign Government, and the other moiety (£33,629) to the British captors. That the net proceeds of the vessels proceeded against in British Vice-Admiralty Courts amount to the sum of £33,807, the whole of which proceeds were, by the act 5 and 6 Victoria, cap. 91, granted to the captors. That the net proceeds of the vessels, &c., condemned for a breach of the act 5 George IV., cap. 113, amount to the sum of £6,518, which was distributed thus:—£1,911 to captors for seizures at sea; £898 to captors where the vessels were not seized at sea; £898 to the governor of the colony where the seizure was made; and £2,810 to the Crown, being the proportion thereto appertaining. That the sums paid for bounties to the captors for the same period to £114,668; and the compensation paid by her Majesty's Government for illegal captures, during the same period to £1,405. The expenses of the mixed commission courts amounted in the year 1839 to the sum of £15,088; in the year 1840, to £15,881; in 1841, to £14,809; in 1842, to £13,880; in 1843, to £21,787; and in 1844, to £21,757. Various treaties in the French, Portuguese, and Spanish languages, with translations annexed, are given in the return.

## MERCHANT SEAMEN.

THE Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury having had under their consideration a representation of the Commissioners of the Customs, relative to the evasion of the clause in the Merchant Seamen's Act, requiring merchant vessels to take on board and have in store certain quantities and descriptions of medicines, and their Lordships having communicated to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty on the subject, have approved of the suggestion of the Board, that vessels required to carry medicines by the act 7 and 8 Victoria, chap. 112, are to be occasionally boarded or visited by the revenue officers for the purpose of ascertaining the quantities of medicines, &c., shipped for the use of the crew; and directions have been issued to the principal officers of the revenue at the several ports of the United Kingdom, and other places traded to by British vessels, to take care that their Lordships' orders are duly carried into effect from the present time. The 18th section of the act alluded to directs that every ship navigating between the United Kingdom, and any place out of the same, shall have and keep constantly on board a sufficient supply of medicines and medicaments suitable to accidents and diseases arising on sea voyages, in accordance with the scale which shall, from time to time, or at any time, be issued by the Admiralty; and every ship (except those bound to European ports, or to ports in the Mediterranean Sea) is also to have on board a sufficient quantity of lime or lemon-juice, sugar, and vinegar, the same being served out to the crew whenever they shall have been consuming salt provisions for ten days; the lime or lemon-juice and sugar daily, after the rate of half an ounce each per day, and the vinegar weekly, at the rate of half-a-pint per week to each person, so long as the consumption of salt provisions is continued; and in case of default in keeping the articles mentioned in store, the owner of the vessel incurs a penalty in each instance of £20; and in default of serving them out as stated, a penalty in each instance of £5; and in case the master or any seaman receives any hurt or injury in the service of the ship, the expense of providing the necessary surgical and medical advice, with attendance and medicines, and for his subsistence until cured or brought back to some port of the United Kingdom, is, together with the costs of his conveyance home, to be defrayed by the owner of the ship, without any deduction whatever on that account from the wages of the master or seaman.

## PAY OF ARMY OFFICERS.

By a revised warrant of her Majesty, issued in the summer of 1845, regulating the issues of staff and garrison pay, the following are the prescribed rates of Daily Pay allowed for Staff-officers at home and abroad, who hold other military commissions or appointments:—General commanding in chief, if a field-marshal, £16 8s. 9d.; if below that rank, £9 9s. 6d.; general, £5 13s. 9d.; lieutenant-general, £3 15s. 10d.; major-general, £1 17s. 11d.; brigadier-general, £1 8s. 6d.; colonel, £1 2s. 9d.; adjutant-general, if serving at head-quarters, besides allowance of £500 a-year, £3 15s. 10d., if serving elsewhere, £1 17s. 11d.; deputy adjutant-general, if serving at head-quarters, £1 17s. 11d., if serving elsewhere, 19s.; assistant adjutant-general, if at head-quarters, half-pay regimental rank, 19s.; head-quarters, full-pay, ditto, 14s. 3d., if serving elsewhere, 14s. 3d.; deputy assistant, ditto, head-quarters, 14s. 3d., if serving elsewhere, 9s. 6d.; quarter-master-general, head-quarters, besides allowance of £500 a-year, £3 15s. 10d., if serving elsewhere, £1 17s. 11d.; deputy quarter-master-general, head-quarters, £1 17s. 11d., elsewhere, 19s.; assistant quarter-master-general, sums varying from £1 7s. 6d. down to 14s. 3d.; deputy, ditto, 14s. 3d. down to 9s. 6d.; military secretary abroad, 19s.; assistant ditto, 9s. 6d.; aide-de-camp to Sovereign, 10s. 6d.; to general officer, 9s. 6d.; major of brigade, 9s. 6d. Daily rates of pay for staff or garrison officers holding only one military commission or appointment:—Inspector-general of hospitals, under 20 years' service, full pay £1 16s.; under 25, £1 18s.; above 25, £2. Deputy inspector-general, under 20 years' service, £1 4s.; above 20 and under 25, £1 8s.; above 25, £1 10s. Staff surgeon, first class, under 20 years' service, 19s.; under 25, £1 2s.; above 25, £1 4s.; staff surgeon, second class, under 10 years' service, 13s.; under 20, 15s.; under 25, 19s.; above 25, £1 2s. Assistant-surgeon, under 10 years' service, 7s. 6d.; above 10, 10s. Medical clerk, under 15 years' service, 6s.; abroad, 7s.; under 20, 7s.; abroad, 8s.; under 25, 8s.; abroad, 9s.; above 20 years, of which 15 have been abroad, 9s.; above 25, of which less than 15 abroad, 9s. In addition to pay of ranks, officers at head of medical department on foreign stations to receive allowances as under when serving under the following circumstances:—if with army in the field of 10,000 men or upwards, 20s. per day; if with 5,000, 15s. per day; if less number, 10s. per day; and if in colony whose forces consist of 1,500 men, 5s. per day. Chaplain to forces, under 15 years' service, full pay, 16s.; under 20 years' service, £1; above 20, £1 2s. 6d. Deputy judge-advocate, 19s.; provost-marshal, 9s. 6d.; deputy provost-marshal, 4s. 9d.



**THE ENGLISH FARM-YARD.**

The Farm-Yard of Old England—blest be thou  
 With peace and plenty, liberty, and worth;  
 Pride of the British yeomen who went forth  
 To wreath a garland for their country's brow  
 At Agincourt. God speed thy sturdy plough,  
 Which fears not to compete with south or north,  
 Free, unprotected; for, with English skill,  
 And wealth, and energies, and more—the soil,  
 To triumph o'er all odds, thy Harvest Home  
 The joy of Ceres' sickle still shall be;  
 And round the hospitable board shall foam  
 The nut-brown cup in rural jubilee.  
 The Farm-Yard of Old England, be thou blest;  
 The homestead pride of Britain's honoured crest.

And equal homage to Old England's sail  
 And equal honour to her Commerce free,  
 Whose wings o'er waves of prejudice prevail,  
 Whose spirit lights the distant, darkest sea  
 Cradle of England's navy, joy to thee;  
 Ark of our liberty, which cannot quail  
 Against the world, triumphant still may be  
 Thy path against the billow and the sale  
 Bound in the bond of brother-love, the swain  
 Of rural cot will hail the hardy tar,  
 And the brave ploughman of the stormy main  
 Will love that cot when journeying from afar.  
 Honour to England's sickle, sail, and trade,  
 And long may the olive wreath her glorious blade!

**SIR R. PEEL'S NEW CORN BILL OF 1846.**

The important measure brought in by Sir Robert Peel last Session for the gradual repeal of the Corn-laws is a very brief one. It commences by stating, that after the passing of the Act, till the 1st of Feb. 1849, the duties set forth in the schedule shall be payable upon all corn, &c., imported. It then recites, that on and after the 1st Feb. 1849, the following duties only shall be levied:—

Upon all Wheat, Barley, Bear or Bigg, Oats, Rye, Pease, and Beans, for every quarter	s. d.
.. .. .	1 0
And so in proportion, for a less quantity.	
Upon all Wheat Meal and Flour, Barley Meal, Oatmeal, Rye Meal and Flour, Pea Meal, and Bean Meal, for every cwt.	0 4½
And so in proportion for a less quantity.	
The average prices are to be still made up according to the regulations made by 5 and 6 Victoria, cap. 14.	
The following is the schedule above referred to:—	
If imported from any foreign country.	
<b>WHEAT</b> :—Whenever the average price of Wheat made up and published in the manner required by law shall be for every quarter under 48s., the duty shall be	s. d.
48s. and under 49s. .. .. .	10 0
49s. and under 50s. .. .. .	9 0
50s. and under 51s. .. .. .	8 0
51s. and under 52s. .. .. .	7 0
52s. and under 53s. .. .. .	6 0
53s. and upwards .. .. .	5 0
<b>BARLEY, BEAR, OR BIGG</b> :—Whenever the average price of Barley, made up and published in the manner required by law, shall be for every quarter under 26s., the duty shall be for every quarter	s. d.
26s. and under 27s. .. .. .	5 0
27s. and under 28s. .. .. .	4 6
28s. and under 29s. .. .. .	4 0
.. .. .	3 6

29s. and under 30s. .. .. .	3 0
30s. and under 31s. .. .. .	2 6
31s. and upwards .. .. .	2 0

**OATS**:—Whenever the average price of Oats, made up and published in the manner required by law, shall be for every quarter under 18s. the duty shall be for every quarter

.. .. .	4 0
18s. and under 19s. .. .. .	3 6
19s. and under 20s. .. .. .	3 0
20s. and under 21s. .. .. .	2 6
21s. and under 22s. .. .. .	2 0
22s. and upwards .. .. .	1 6

**RYE, PEASE, AND BEANS**:—For every quarter, a duty equal in amount to the duty payable on a quarter of Barley.

**WHEAT MEAL AND FLOUR**:—For every barrel, being one hundred and ninety-six pounds, a duty equal in amount to the duty payable on thirty-eight gallons and a half of Wheat.

**BARLEY MEAL**:—For every quantity of two hundred and seventeen and a half pounds, a duty equal in amount to the duty payable on a quarter of Barley.

**OATMEAL AND GROATS**:—For every quantity of one hundred and eighty-one pounds and a half, a duty equal in amount to the duty payable on a quarter of oats.

**RYE MEAL AND FLOUR**:—For every barrel, being one hundred and ninety-six pounds, a duty equal in amount to the duty payable upon forty gallons of Rye.

**PEA MEAL AND BEAN MEAL**:—For every quantity of two hundred and seventy-two pounds, a duty equal in amount to the duty payable on a quarter of Pease or Beans.

If the produce of and imported from any British Possession out of Europe:

Wheat, Barley, Bear, or Bigg, Oats, Rye, Pease, and Beans, the duty shall be for every quarter	s. d.
.. .. .	1 0
Wheat Meal, Barley Meal, Oatmeal, Rye Meal, Pea Meal, and Bean Meal, the duty shall be for every cwt.	0 4½