

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1884.

AN ACCOUNT of the PUBLIC INCOME and EXPENDITURE of the UNITED KINGDOM for the YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1883, distinguishing the several amounts raised by taxation and those received from other sources of revenue, and specifying what portion of the Charge for Debt has been applied to the Redemption of Debt.

INCOME.		EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
TAXATION:—				
Customs	19,657,000	0 0	PUBLIC DEBT:—	
Excise	26,930,000	0 0	Interest (except as below) and Management of Debt	21,364,888 0 0
	£	s. d.	Interest of Exchequer Bills	124,150 0 0
Land Tax	1,045,000	0 0	Interest of Bank Advances for Deficiency	10,927 0 0
House Duty	1,755,000	0 0	Terminable Annuities	7,206,247 0 0
			New Sinking Fund	213,793 0 0
		2,800,000 0 0		23,920,000 0 0
Property and Income Tax	11,900,000	0 0	Trustee Savings Banks, Deficiency Annuity	83,673 0 0
Stamps:—				29,003,673 0 0
Probate	3,759,400	0 0	Interest, &c., of Loans for Local Purposes	475,515 0 0
Legacy and Succession	3,536,500	0 0	Interest, &c., of Exchequer Bonds, Suez	199,910 0 0
Various (less Stamps in lieu of Fees and Duties on Bank Issues, and Stamps for Patents for Inventions and District Audit)	4,413,684	0 0		29,679,098 0 0
		11,709,584 0 0	Less Sundry Receipts	1,355,915 0 0
				28,323,183 0 0
Total Taxation	£72,996,584	0 0	ARMY (including Army Purchase Commission)	
SERVICES UNDERTAKEN BY THE CROWN:—				
Postal Receipts and Telegraph	9,341,604	0 0	Army Charges for India	1,100,000 0 0
Less Postal, Telegraph, and Packet Service Expenditure	6,058,125	0 0		16,602,351 0 0
		3,283,479 0 0	Less Contributions from Indian Revenues, &c.	1,468,674 0 0
CROWN RIGHTS:—				
Mint—Profit on Silver and Bronze coined, &c., less Expenses of Mint	25,060	0 0	Navy	10,408,904 0 0
Bank of England—Profits on Issue	153,279	0 0	Less Contributions from Indian Revenues, &c.	166,223 0 0
Bank Issues (sundry), Duties on	131,416	0 0		10,242,681 0 0
		259,635 0 0	GRANT TO INDIA (Afghan War)	500,000 0 0
CROWN LANDS:—				
Net Rents	890,000	0 0	WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA	400,396 0 0
			TRANSVAAL, Expenses connected with the FORCES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN (Vote of Credit)	4,641 0 0
			EGYPTIAN EXPEDITION:—	2,300,000 0 0
			Army Supplementary	728,000 0 0
			Navy Supplementary	350,000 0 0
			Contribution to India	500,000 0 0
			Civil Charges	17,500 0 0
			MISCELLANEOUS CIVIL SERVICES (including Consolidated Fund Charges, but deducting expenses of Mint)	18,795,945 0 0
			Less savings refunded, Stamps, &c.	2,463,943 0 0
				16,332,002 0 0
			CUSTOMS	998,727 0 0
			Less Miscellaneous Receipts	52,092 0 0
				946,635 0 0
			INLAND REVENUE	1,871,574 0 0
			Less Miscellaneous Receipts	27,977 0 0
				1,843,597 0 0
				76,821,520 0 0
			Excess of Income over Expenditure in the Year ended March 31, 1883	98,178 0 0
				£76,919,698 0 0

GREAT STORMS IN ENGLAND.

In July of 1883 a violent storm of hail and rain did considerable damage in London and in other parts of the country, although it by no means equalled in violence that of Oct. 24, 1882, which was one of the most violent we have experienced of late years. During the last twenty years or so, England has been visited by several very violent gales, mostly accompanied with heavy rain. Famous storms occurred in the Januaries of 1865, 1866, and 1868; also in February, 1868; November, 1872; December, 1873; November, 1875; March and December, 1876; while in 1877 the months of January, October, and November were marked by very violent gales. The violent, and, as it may be called, unseasonable, storm of wind which occurred on April 29 of the present year will long be remembered. But these storms are not to be compared for violence to some which have visited this country at an earlier date. For instance, it is on record that in 944 no less than 1500 houses were blown down in London alone, and as many as 500 over 200 colliers and coasters were lost, with most of their crews. The Great Storm occurred in 1703. Famous storms occurred also in December, 1814, in August, 1816, in November, 1828, and in January, 1839, when great damage was done by land and sea in the west of England, but especially in Ireland, when Dublin suffered most severely. It was in the historical storm of Oct. 31 and Nov. 1, 1859, that the Royal Charter was totally lost; and in the great gale of February, 1861, that part of the Crystal Palace was blown down, and the steeple of Chichester Cathedral fell. But of all the storms which have affected this country none can compare in violence or for the loss of life and property occasioned with that of 1703. It occurred on Nov. 26-27, and may be said to have been the only tempest which in our latitude has equalled the rage of a tropical hurricane. It is, too, the only tempest in this country which has been made the occasion of a Parliamentary address, or of a public fast. It commenced on the morning of the 26th, but did not reach its height till the afternoon of the following day. A huge "bore" swept up the Thames, and crushed, as if they had been so many walnut-shells more than 1000 craft of all sizes, and the loss sustained in London alone was calculated at about two millions sterling, the City presenting the appearance of a place recently sacked. Bristol was in a similar plight, and throughout the country grand mansions were laid prostrate. The Bishop of Bath and Wells and his wife were killed in their beds as their palace fell. The number of lives lost was appalling. In London nearly 150 persons were killed, and the wonder is that there were no more, as 800 houses were blown

down, and no less than 2000 chimney stacks fell. Altogether, 8000 persons were said to have perished, partly in the storm and partly in the floods, especially along the courses of the Thames and Severn. In the Downs the fleet, which had just returned from the Mediterranean, experienced the full fury of the tempest, and nearly a dozen men-of-war were driven on shore, and 1800 men and officers were drowned. It was in this tempest the first Eddystone Lighthouse disappeared, with its ingenious architect Winstanley, who is said to have expressed a wish that he might be in it during the wildest storm that ever blew. Trees were blown down in all directions by tens of thousands; in Kent alone 17,000 being torn up by the roots. Cattle perished in multitudes, on one level on the banks of the Severn no less than 15,000 sheep being drowned. Extraordinary stories are told of the violence of this wind, Dr. Andrew Giffard relating that a large stable with five horses and the man who was in charge of them was lifted clean off the ground and deposited many yards from the place where it originally stood. So serious was the impression made on the public mind by this visitation that a day of fasting and humiliation was appointed by the Government; and in commemoration of it Joseph Taylor, a bookseller in Paternoster-row, left £40 for an annual service to be preached on the subject, which has now been done every November for more than a century and a half. The year 1883 will be memorable for the violence of its storms and destruction of life and property throughout Europe. The earthquakes in Ischia and Java occasioned a loss of life of between sixty and seventy thousand.

RAILWAY EXTENSION OF LONDON.

The passing by a Committee of the House of Commons, Session 1883, of the bill for the extension of the Oxted and Groombridge Railway from Croydon to Dulwich, from which point the Chatham and Dover Railway will take its traffic to Holborn-viaduct, Ludgate-hill, Moorgate-street, King's-cross, and Victoria, will, no doubt, have an important effect on the fortunes of the Chatham and Dover Company, hitherto excluded from the whole of the territory embraced by the counties of Surrey and Sussex, including Eastbourne, Hastings, Newhaven, Brighton, Shoreham, Worthing, and Bognor; the Chatham Company will, by means of the new line, obtain a position at Tunbridge Wells, and, in addition, secure access to all the rapidly-growing suburban districts between Croydon and Dulwich. To the whole of this country the new line is not merely a line competing with an existing railway; it forms a new route from Ludgate-hill and Holborn, Moorgate-street and King's-cross, where none existed belonging to the London, Chatham, and Dover.