THE COURT.

The Queen, with Princess Beatrice, continues at Osborne House.

Her Majesty received Major-General Sir Henry James on Thursday week. Mr. John Savile Lumley, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Brussels, and Major-General Sir Thomas and the Hon. Lady Biddulph dined with the Queen. Mr. Savile Lumley left Osborne the following day.

On Saturday last Prince Leopold, attended by Mr. Collins, left Osborne for Wykeham House, Oxford, in order to resume his studies at the University.

On Sunday the Queen and Princess Beatrice attended Divine service, performed at Osborne House by the Rév. George Connor, Vicar of Newport.

On Wednesday the Queen held a Privy Council at Osborne, at which her Majesty's Message, delivered by Commission at the opening of Parliament, was read. Mr. Justice Archibald, Mr. Baron Pollock, and Mr. John Cordy Burrows, late Mayor of Brighton, severally had an audience of her Majesty, and received the honour of knighthood. The members of the Burmese Embassy were introduced to the Queen by the Lord Chamberlain, and took leave of her Majesty before their departure from this country.

Lord Charles Fitzroy and Major-General the Hon. Arthur Hardinge, C.B., have succeeded Viscount Bridport and Colonel Lynedoch Gardiner as Equerries in Waiting to her Majesty.

The Court went into mourning on Tuesday for her late Majesty the Dowager Empress of Brazil, and will go out of mourning on the 14th inst.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince and Princess of Wales gave a ball, yesterday (Friday) week, at Sandringham House. The guests staying in the house were the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke and Duchess of Teck, the Prince of Leiningen, the Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor and the Hon. Mrs. Wellesley, Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. H. and Mrs. Byng, Lady Audrey Townshend, Viscount Coke, the Hon. A. F. Fitzmaurice, Sir W. Bagge, M.P., Mr. G. Russell, Mr. H. Chaplin, M.P., Mr. A. H. Sumner, and Mr. J. Delacour. Nearly 500 invitations were also issued for the ball. The Prince and Princess, with the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke and Duchess of Teck, and other guests attended Divine service on Sunday at Sandringham church. The Rev. W. Lake Onslow and the Rev. F. C. Hope Grant, Vicar of Kimbolton, officiated. The party staying at Sandringham House broke up on Tuesday. The Prince and Princess, with their youthful family, arrived at Marlborough House on Wednesday from Sandringham. The Prince and Princess, through Sir William Knollys, have forwarded to the Mayor of Marlborough their reply to the address presented to their Royal Highnesses upon the occasion of their late visit to that borough, in which the Prince and Princess expressed themselves deeply impressed by the manifestations of loyalty and affection evinced towards them.

PRINCE ARTHUR.

Prince Arthur attended, on Wednesday week, a ball at the Quirinal, in Rome. On Sunday last his Royal Highness was present at a military dinner given in his honour, also at the Quirinal. On Monday the Prince was entertained at dinner by Prince Humbert.

Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein have been on a visit to the Duke of Rutland at Belvoir Castle. Their Royal Highnesses will reside at Frogmore House for the next few months, while alterations are being carried out at Cumberland Lodge, their residence in Windsor Great Park.

The Duke of Edinburgh went to the Globe Theatre on Tuesday night.

The Field Marshal Commanding in Chief will hold a Levée at one o'clock on Wednesday, the 12th inst., at the Horse Guards.

The Duke and Duchess of Teck arrived at Kensington Palace on Tuesday from Sandringham House.

The Prince Imperial of France arrived at his private residence on Woolwich-common yesterday week, for the first time since the death of the Emperor Napoleon.

Prince Napoleon and Princess Marie Clotilde have left Claridge's Hotel for Prangins, Nyon, Switzerland.

The Archbishop of Dublin and Miss Trench have left Price's Hotel, Dover-street, for Rome.

The Duke and Duchess of Northumberland have arrived at Northumberland House from Scotland.

The Duke and Duchess of Marlborough have arrived in town from Blenheim Palace, Oxfordshire.

The Duke of Rutland has arrived in town from Belvoir Castle.

The Duke of Richmond arrived in Belgrave-square on Tuesday from Goodwood Park, Sussex.

The Duke of Sutherland has arrived at Stafford House, St. James's, from Lilleshall.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Bristol and Lady Mary Hervey have arrived in town from Ickworth Park, Suffolk.

Maria Marchioness of Ailesbury has arrived in Hertford-street, Mayfair, from Savernake Forest, Marlborough.

The Marquis of Ripon arrived in town on Tuesday from Studley Royal.

Earl and Countess Russell have arrived in South-street from Pembroke Lodge, Richmond Park.

Lord Hatherley underwent an operation for cataract, on Saturday last, at the hands of Mr. Bowman. The result was successful.

The Right Hon. B. Disraeli, M.P., has arrived at Edwards's Hotel from Hughenden Manor.

The Lord Chief Justice of England, having declined a peerage, has accepted the grand cross of the Bath.

The coming of age of Lord Kilmarnock, eldest son of the Earl and Countess of Errol, has been celebrated with great éclat during the week at Slains Castle.

Ministerial banquets were given, on Wednesday, by the Premier, Earl Granville, the Duke of Richmond, and by the Right Hon. Gathorne Hardy. Assemblies were also given, the same evening, by Countess Granville and Mrs. Gladstone. Lord Cairns gave a Parliamentary dinner on Tuesday.

Earl Spencer was entertained at a banquet, on Tuesday night, by the Lord Mayor of Dublin.

Mr. Bessemer says he is prepared to supply guns that shall fire balls of five tons at the rate of one a minute, and to construct a gun to fire a ten-ton ball.

A well-grounded complaint has been laid before the War Office by a deputation from the licensed victuallers of Kingston-on-Thames against the low scale of billeting allowances in force. The complainants averred that for a soldier's meal, which cost them 1s. 6½d., they receive only 10d.; that for forage, which costs them, at the lowest estimate, 2s., they have to accept 1s. 9d.; and that, while soldiers quartered in towns pay 4d. for a bed, when on the march they pay only 2½d.

THE QUEEN'S MESSAGE TO PARLIAMENT.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I greet you cordially on your reassembling for the discharge of your momentous duties.

I have the satisfaction of maintaining relations of friendship with foreign Powers throughout the world.

You were informed, when I last addressed you, that steps had been taken to prepare the way for dealing more effectually with the slave trade on the East Coast of Africa. I have now dispatched an envoy to Zanzibar, furnished with such instructions as appear to me best adapted for the attainment of the object in view. He has recently reached the place of his destination, and has entered into communication with the Sultan.

My ally the German Emperor, who had undertaken to pronounce judgment as arbiter on the line of water-boundary so long in dispute under the terms of the Treaty of 1846, has decided, in conformity with the contention of the Government of the United States, that the Haro Channel presents the line most in accordance with the true interpretation of that treaty.

I have thought it the course most befitting the spirit of international friendship and the dignity of the country to give immediate execution to the award by withdrawing promptly from my partial occupation of the island of San Juan.

The proceedings before the tribunal of arbitration at Geneva, which I was enabled to prosecute in consequence of the exclusion of the indirect claims preferred on behalf of the Government of the United States, terminated in an award which in part established and in part repelled the claims allowed to be relevant. You will in due course be asked to provide for the payment of the sum coming due to the United States under this award.

My acknowledgments are due to the German Emperor, and likewise to the tribunal at Geneva, for the pains and care bestowed by them on the peaceful adjustment of controversies such as could not but impede the full prevalence of national goodwill in a case where it was especially to be cherished.

In further prosecution of a well-understood and established policy, I have concluded a treaty for the extradition of criminals with my ally the King of the Belgians.

The Government of France has during the recess renewed its communications with my Government for the purpose of concluding a commercial treaty to replace that of 1860, which is about to expire. In prosecuting these communications I have kept in view the double object of an equitable regard to existing circumstances and of securing a general provision, more permanent in its character and resting on a reciprocal and equal basis, for the commercial and maritime transactions of the two countries. I hope to be enabled within a short period to announce to you the final result.

It has been for some years felt by the Government of Russia and the United Kingdom respectively that it would be conducive to the tranquillity of Central Asia if the two Governments should arrive at an identity of view regarding the line which describes the northern frontier of the dominions of Afghanistan. Accordingly, a correspondence has passed, of which this is the main subject. Its tenour, no less than its object, will, I trust, be approved by the public opinion of both nations.

Papers will be laid before you with relation to the awards delivered under the Treaty of Washington, to the commercial negotiations with France, and to the northern frontier of the dominions of Afghanistan.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

The Estimates of the coming financial year will be presented to you. They have been framed with a view to the efficiency and moderation of our establishments, under circumstances of inconvenience entailed by variations of an exceptional nature in the prices of some important commodities.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Although the harvest has been to some extent deficient, the condition of the three kingdoms with reference to trade and commerce, to the sufficiency of the revenue for meeting the public charge, to the decrease of pauperism, and to the relative amount of ordinary crime, may be pronounced generally satisfactory.

A measure will be submitted to you on an early day for settling the question of University education in Ireland. It will have for its object the advancement of learning in that portion of my dominions, and will be framed with a careful regard to the rights of conscience.

You will find ample occupation in dealing with other legislative subjects of importance which, for the most part, have already been under your notice in various forms and at different periods. Among these your attention will speedily be asked to the formation of a Supreme Court of Judicature, including provisions for the trial of appeals.

Among the measures which will be brought before you there will also be proposals for facilitating the transfer of land, and for the amendment of our system of local taxation, of certain provisions of the Education Act of 1870, and of the general Acts regulating railways and canals; together with various other bills for the improvement of the law.

I earnestly commend your deliberations to the guidance and favour of Almighty God.

In the Birmingham municipal election petition judgment has been given in favour of Mr. Startin, the respondent, who retains his seat by a majority of three votes.

Mr. Thomas Hughes, M.P., delivered to the members of the Philosophical Institution, Edinburgh, yesterday week, his concluding lecture on "Problems of Civilisation." In the course of his address he expressed the opinion that trade unionism was, on the whole, a benefit to the nation, though he hoped to see the day when trade unions would have played their part, and become things of the past. He had looked for twenty years, and still looked, to "co-operative union" for the solution of the labour question.

The Extra Supplement.

"A LESSON IN CHARITY."

The pleasing incident shown in a picture by Mr. Calderon, R.A., which Messrs. Agnew and Co. have permitted us to choose for the fine Engraving that constitutes our Extra Supplement this week, may be conjectured to have taken place in South Germany, if we judge of the nationality of the figures by their faces and style of dress. The elderly man, with a clarinet under his arm and a satchel hung from his neck, who approaches the door of a rustic abode, hat in hand, to ask some gift of food or money, is one of those wandering musicians whom we often see joined in the so-called "German bands," making the streets of an English town resound with their wind instruments, brazen and wooden, as discordant as the old-world statecraft of the defunct Germanic Diet. In his own country, as may here be observed, this worthy Deutscher goes alone on the tramp, and keeps up a reedy fluting, with his forlorn tube of melodious noise, which gives a kind of melancholy pleasure to the ears of many soft-hearted and rather sentimental Herren and Frauenzimmer. The amiable young mother, in Mr. Calderon's picture, intending that this opportunity of doing a kind action shall be turned to the moral instruction of her child, has loaded a platter with a large piece of brown bread and a slice of German sausage or ham, if we mistake not, something in the nature of "Wurst" or "Schinken." This bounty she has intrusted to the hands of the pretty little girl, who will carry it with a demure grace to the hungry stranger; and we have no doubt he will reward her with one of his best tunes, especially if he be allowed first to wet his whistle, after a long walk along the dusty road, with a glass of Bavarian beer. The picture has lately been exhibited at the Dudley Gallery.

THE LIBRARY AT CAMDEN PLACE.

A month has passed since the death of the Emperor Napoleon III., that Prince of a singular destiny, whose birth and education, with the vicissitudes of his early life, working upon the romantic and enthusiastic ambitiousness of his native temper, prepared him to play with imposing effect the part of an Octavius Augustus to that of Julius Cæsar which his uncle had performed rather in the French classic-theatrical style. The representation being now finished, the curtain has fallen, and the epilogue is already spoken, mixed with no unkindly or ungenerous comments in the English tongue, for his conduct towards this country, at least, was the behaviour of a friend. Long hence, when new dynasties or republics shall have taken their turn of power in France, if the past changes of her political mood and situation be any guide to the future, it may be observed by foreign visitors to England in the reign of Queen Victoria's great-grandchild, that the quiet Kentish village of Chiselhurst saw, in 1873, the closing scene of a greatly adventurous career. We cannot guess whether, in the variable disposal of property and the modern rage for alteration of estates and buildings, more particularly within a short distance of the metropolis, the present mansion of Camden Place is likely to stand till the middle of the twentieth century. But its name has endured since the time of the learned English antiquary, William Camden, who lived on that site, near his friend the Secretary Walsingham, in the days of Queen Elizabeth; and this name, adopted for the title of a peerage by Lord Chief Justice Pratt in 1765, is very familiar to many of our readers as the appellation of a London suburb. Will any French pilgrim or devotee of Imperialist traditions, who may come to pay homage at the shrines of an historic idolatry, after seventy or eighty years, commit the blunder of looking for "Camden Place" in the neighbourhood of Camden Town? When that remote period shall arrive—not much more remote, indeed, than the reign of Napoleon I. in Paris, and the exile of Charles X. at Holyrood—the curious inquirer will be advised to open Vol. LXII. of the Illustrated London News. Here he will find, in No. 1743, and in this week's Number, following our Illustrations of the funeral ceremonies and our Portraits of the late Emperor, the Empress, and the Prince Imperial, several views of Camden Place, Chiselhurst; showing not only the outward aspects of the house and gardens, but the interior of the Emperor's apartments, including the simply-furnished bed-room where he died.

In adding to this series a view of the library, it seems not unfit to remark that one of the many respectable features in his late Majesty's character was his attachment to literary pursuits. He was not a great author; but whoever has perused with an unprejudiced eye his commencement of a biography of Julius Cæsar and his previous works, comprising a treatise on the history of artillery in warfare, a description of the Isthmus of Central America and its projected ship canals, and a variety of short essays composed while in prison or in exile, must perceive that he was an earnest student as well as a correct and forcible writer. During his former residence among us, before the Paris Revolution of 1848, Prince Louis Napoleon was sometimes an attentive listener at the meetings of our scientific societies, and his frequent calls for books at the London Library, in St. James's-square, are well remembered by the officers of that institution. We heartily wish that his Majesty's life had been spared many years longer, with restored health and strength, not indeed, to resume the Imperial government which had broken down in the shock of a national defeat, but to take up again, in the retired leisure of Camden Place, those agreeable tasks of history and other literature which he shared with the brotherhood of educated men. In the library of that house, as in the library at Knebworth, sat one whose fortune, rank, and fame obtained a fairer grace from his love and use of books. But few Princes and Peers follow this example.

SALE OF JOURNALS IN PARIS.

One of the liveliest branches of street traffic in the French capital is the morning and evening circulation of the various printed sheets, by reading which the sociable and excitable Parisian supplies himself with something new to talk about, whether it be a smart hit at the character of a leading public man, a promised duel between hostile editors, a prediction of the fate of the Government, or a bit of scandal and personal gossip. The rush of newsvenders to secure an early batch of all the most popular journals at the hour of publication is an amusing scramble for the indifferent bystander to see; men and women, boys and girls, running off as fast as they can get themselves loaded with damp bundles of newspapers, which they stop to arrange and assort when they have reached a convenient place for the examination. By a system of mutual exchanges, which is easily practised, they contrive to have a few copies of each journal in the stock finally made up for retail business. The official *Moniteur*, the grave and critical *Débats*, the reckless *Figaro*, the declamatory *Presse*, the Democratic *Rappel*, *Cloche*, and *Liberté*, are dispensed with equal promptitude to the buyers of such ware. A man with a few sous in his pocket may soon gather samples of all diversities of French political opinion.



THE LIBRARY, CAMDEN PLACE, CHISELHURST, RESIDENCE OF THE LATE EMPEROR NAPOLEON.