The Treaty in the Mouse of Lords-Baronet or Butcher !- Our National Defenses-Wanted, a United States Legation House-Recollections of Philadelphia-The Race to the Bar-Tourists in Paris, Etc., Etc. Brom Our Own Correspondent.

OUR LONDON LETTER.

LONDON, June 13, 1871. Earl Russell's motion, condemnatory of the retrospective liability clause in the Treaty of Washingum, was discussed in the House of Lords la night, and after a most animated debate, was negatived without a division. One service at least the motion has done us: we have heard the assailable points of the treaty sharply criticized and had all the pros and cons of the matter brought into the light of day. Lord Russell devoted most of his speech (as had been anticipated) to a detailed narrative of all the circumstances connected with the Alabama's escape. But his attack was definitely made-the Government has agreed to be judged by rules that it declares did not exist at the time when the acts complained of were done; and Lord Salisbury pressed the point with acrimomous force, pointing out with some truth the new burden that neutrals will henceforward have to bear, if they have to consider not only what international law is, but what this or that belligerent may think it ought to be. Earl Granville admitted his regret and disappointment-which, I may say parenthetically, are widely felt in the country-that our commissioners failed to obtain a recognition of the Fenian claims: "but," said he, "we did not press these claims, because, knowing that in the present state of parties it would be impossible to obtain from the United States a recognition of them, we had to consider whether we ought P. M. to destroy all the fruits of the High Commission, and allow a third failure to be the result of the negotiation." He ended with a few words in praise of the part taken in the treaty by General Schenck, who was present during the debate. All who spoke agreed that the fisheries clauses must be left to the Dominion Parlia-

Serious political discussion claims precedence in my letter, but you must not suppose that it is in fact the leading topic of conversation this week. No: "Baronet or Butcher?" is the one absorbing question that is debated daily in every place where men and women meet, from Notting Hill to Bloomsbury, and from Highgate to Belgravia. The claimant himself-for it is of course to the famous Tichborne Baronetcy claim that I allude-has now been for some days in the witness-box, where he is tried in the furnace of a cross-examination as penetrating, probably, as ever mortal had to bear. He has been accommodated with an easy-chair in the box in consideration of his six-and-twenty-stone weight, but the indulgence has not preveated his health from giving way so seriously as to have rendered frequent adjournments of the court necessary. The public interest in the case seems to grow with every day that it is prolonged. Never was a better subject for people to take sides 'upon, the issue being so simple:- Is the claimant Sir Roger Tiehborne, or is he not?-and the arguments on both sides being, in appearance at any rate, pretty equally overwhelming. The only peaceable course seems to be to suspend one's judgment till all the evidence has been heard and the jurymen have given their verdict on it.

ment's judgment.

A great deal of grave talk about our national defenses has been excited by that able magazine article, "The Battle of Dorking," to which I have already called your attention. The author has preserved his incog. as yet with unusual success. Rumor hints him a young artillery officer, but his writing is surely that of a man who has seen a little service. Not a few military experts have promulgated the uncomfortable doctrine that 10,000 men, landed on our coast by surprise, might entrench themselves in three hours sufficiently to cover the disembarkation of the main body of an invading army. If this be so, it is at least advisable that we should assure ourselves without delay that any such landing by surprise is an impossibility, even though we may have good reason for holding that the discipline and shooting powers of our volunteers might be trusted against any enemy meeting them at Dorking or elsewhere.

Although we are shivering in overcoats and sealskins through the coldest and most windy June that has been known in England for many a long year, London is full to overflowing, and lodging-room in good hotels is almost as difficult to get as a seat in Parliament. The huge Langham, which, after going through the usual stage of driving its first owners into insolvency, seems to be paying its present proprietary fairly well, is making itself still huger by the erection of a new wing; and General Schenck has had to take refuge in the South Kensington Hotel, far away on the very outposts of Belgravia. Why does not Congress establish the American Legation in some permanent "local habitation" worthy of the great nation which it represents? It may be irrational, but it is none the less true, that we should all realize the presence and importance of the United Statees Minister among us much more vividly than we do if he had some well-known official headquarters in London.

In a lecture on his late visit to the States, delivered on Saturday, Tom Hughes spoke with enthusiasm of Philadelphia. The beauties of contrasted color afforded by the red brick and white marble houses and the lines and clumps of bright-foliaged trees in street and square have clearly taken a strong hold upon his recollection, and he talked of them with an appreciation that doubtless made the New Yorkers and Bostonites among his audience a trifle jealous. The railway system of the West, the general interest in newspapers, and freedom at the same time from slavery to leading articles, and the Massachusetts liquor laws, formed the principal topics of the lecture.

The legal papers are aghast and melanchely at the contemplation of the sanguine crowds of educated young men that are thronging into both branches of the profession. For every morsel of work that wants doing there are a dozen competent heads disengaged and ready. What reasonable chance, then, can any average man be taken to have who is called to the bar or admitted an attorney nowadays? The real answer to this is that a great majority of our young barristers, at any rate, do not, as a matter of fact, look to making their bread by their profession. They are "called" either because they are destined to be country gentlemen and J. P.'s, and think a little law may be useful to them in that position, or because they want the excuse of a nominal profession to dignify a butterfly existence, or because they like the social stamp which is still supposed to be set on every one who can call himself barrister-at-law, or, pour passer le temps, before they have really fixed on their life-work. Barely a tithe, probably, of those who figure in our law list are actual practitioners of law. Still, among the workers there is admittedly an amount of overcrowding which is every day sending the weakest to the wall. But the evil, if it be one, is an evil which must in

the na ure of things cure itself. It is not unnatural that such of the Parisians

as are not hotel-keepers should look with eyes of disfavor upon the swarms of foreigners who are every day crowding curiously into the mutilated city. But the morbid feeling which delights in those horribly graphic narratives which special correspondents have lately made so common is not to be checked by any fears of inflicting mere sentimental wounds, and thousands will take long journeys to Paris to see the traces of a barricade and peer into the gutted Tuileries. We are no worse and no better than our neighbors in this matter, I take it; but it is not every nation that has its Messrs. Look and Gaze to proclaim the ruins of Paris as a new and attractive field for gaping tourists, and to enlarge methodically upon the safety and desirability of the trip.

The author of "Dame Europa" has committed literary suicide by publishing a novel, "Tom Pippin's Wedding," which for self-complacent silliness will not soon be matched.

TEMPLAR.

SPECIAL NOTICES. PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY, TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT.

PHILADELPHIA, May 2, 1871. The Board of Directors have this day declared a semi-annual dividend of FIVE PER CENT. on the capital stock of the Company, clear of National and State taxes, payable in eash, on and after May

Blank powers of attorney for collecting dividends can be had at the office of the company.

The office will be open at 8 A. M., and close at 3 P. M., from May 30 to June 2, for the payment or dividends, and after that date from 9 A. M. to 8 THOMAS T. FIRTH.

TO HOLDERS OF OBIO STATE STOCKS. Blod" -Notice is hereby given that the Interest due July 1, 1871, on the Funded Debt of the State of Ohlo, will be paid at the American Exchange National Bank, in the City of New York, from the 1st to the 16th proximo, and thereafter at our office in this city.

The transfer books will be closed for one month

from the 15th inst.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, June 12, 1871. [6 17 Im
JAMES H. GODMAN, Auditor of State.
ISAAC B. SHERWOOD, Sec. of State. FRANCIS B. BOND, Attorney-General. Commissioners of Sinking Fund of State of Ohio.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TREA-SURY DEPARTMENT.

COLUMBIA, S. C., June 1, 1871.

The Interest maturing July 1, 1871, upon the Bonds of the State of South Carolina, will be paid in gold on and after July 1, at the Banking House of H. H. Kimpton, Financial Agent of the State, No. 9 Nassau street, New York, and at the South Carolina Bank and Trust Company, in Columbia.

The Interest maturing upon Registered Stock at that time will be paid at the Treasury Office only.

6 17 30t NILES G. PARKER, State Treasurer.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, TREASURER'S OF-STATE OF ILLINOIS, TREASURER'S OFFICE, SPRINGFIELD, May 25, 1871.

The interest which will become due upon stock of
the State of Illinois on the first Monday of July,
1871, will be paid at the American Exchange National Bank, in the City of New York, from the 3d to
the 17th days, inclusive of July, proximo.

ERASTUS N. BATES,
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Begs to call the attention of the trade and customers to the annexed letter:-

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