

The curers wish Government to make an effort for the introduction of the produce of those fisheries into Belgium and France, the duty at present in the former, being 16s. 8d. per barrel, while in the latter it is prohibitory. Negotiations have taken place with respect to fishings in many parts of the world, and they have been carried on with assiduity; and surely some endeavour might be made to open the ports of France to the reception of our herring and cod barrels. France gains nothing by the restriction she now maintains in making use of the produce of her own fisheries. Large bounties are annually given by their government for the support and encouragement of the trade, under certain conditions, in reference to the taking and curing of the produce. About a thousand large decked luggers, each manned by from fifteen to twenty fishermen, fully arranged and registered by officials, are annually fitted out in France, appearing off the eastern coast of Scotland in July and August. Instead of pursuing the fishery themselves, as the Dutch do, the luggers are found snugly stowed away in the different coves along the shore, were purchases are made of the Scotch fishermen, and with their full cargoes they return home, and claim and enjoy the prize money as the reward of their industry. The steps taken by France to prevent this, are almost altogether useless, yet this plan has been going on for the last ten years. For all this the French people pay, both by the high price the fishermen charge to maintain their large and expensive boats, and also through the Government for the support of the fishery. The average price of herrings in Paris is about 30s. per barrel. As a natural result, the fishermen are lazy, pampered, and insufficient as seamen. The active Hollander is ever alert, on the other hand, and carries on his trade in open and successful competition with the English fishermen.

FUNERAL OF A TEETOTALLER.—On Sunday last the remains of Richard Turner, originator of the name teetotaler as applied to abstainers from intoxicating drink, whose death we noticed in our last week's paper, were interred in St. Peter's church yard, ground having been purchased for that purpose through the exertions of a few zealous friends of the temperance cause. A very large number of teetotalers attended the funeral, and in addition to those residing in Preston, there were several from Wigan, Hindley, Bolton, Blackburn, Burley, Paetham, Lancaster, &c. The deceased had been upwards of fourteen years a member of the Temperance Society, having signed the pledge at the request of Mr. Swindlehurst, and Mr. Dearden, in the St. Peter's School, in October, 1832, while in a state of intoxication. It may not be generally known how the term "teetotalers," became first adopted by the members of the Total Abstinence Society, but we may inform our readers that Dickey, (that being the name by which Mr. Turner was familiarly called,) in one of his speeches, which were generally characterised by an equal mixture of wit and blunders, being at a loss for a word which would convey to the audience that he was an out-and-out total abstinence man, said, "I have signed the tee-tee-total pledge." This speech was delivered in the Cockpit, at the latter end of the year 1833. The word being short and expressive, was immediately adopted by the abstainers of Lancashire, and ultimately throughout England.

INTERESTING ATMOSPHERIC PHENOMENA.—On Tuesday night, the 24th of November, there was a very beautiful and rather uncommon display of the aurora borealis. About eight o'clock it formed two very distinct arches across the sky; one, as usual, low down in the magnetic north, the other so far south as to obscure the stars near the ecliptic. The whole northern part of the sky between these two arches was covered by a luminous haze, through which only the brighter stars were visible. The light of the aurora was almost equal to that of the moon at the first quarter. Later in the evening the southern arch broke up into clouds and disappeared, but the northern arch was visible till after midnight. On the same evening shooting stars were more than usually numerous, being probably part of that shower of asteroids which has been frequently seen about this season (from the 9th to the 14th of November). One very bright meteor fell about half past eight, and seemed to be within the auroral haze, and consequently lower in the atmosphere. A correspondent in Brechin informs us, that similar displays of arches in the sky have been observed occasionally in that quarter for some weeks.—*Scotsman*.

REWARD OF SCIENTIFIC MERIT.—*Marsh's Test.*—Mr. J. Marsh, the celebrated chemist, whose well-known test for the detection of arsenic is so extensively known in medical jurisprudence, died some short time since, leaving a widow and family in very needy circumstances. Mr. Marsh, for about forty years, held appointments in the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, in his latter years as surgery-man, and though he was frequently deputed by the government to inquire into scientific matters, the salary he received amounted only to 30s. a week, his rating being that of a foreman. On his death, his widow memorialized the Board of Ordnance for a pension; the Board in reply have just sent her the munificent donation of £50, which is all they deem the services of her husband entitle her to. Few names associated with chemistry are so widely known as that of Marsh. Doubtful cases of poisoning by arsenic have been for some years past resolved by the application of Marsh's test, both here and abroad. It figured prominently in the French trial of Madame Laffarge, at which the evidence of M. Arago, respecting his experiments with Marsh's test, materially influenced the conviction.

ASCENT OF THE NIGER.—Unfavourable intelligence has been received of the *Ethiopia Steamer*, and of the consequent relinquishment of her attempt to re-ascend the Niger, which must prove a heavy blow and great discouragement to Mr. Robert Jamieson, who has worked long and made large pecuniary sacrifices for the accomplishment of this important object. Mr. Jamieson, in a circular addressed to the gentlemen who aided him in fitting out the last expedition, states that he has received from Captain Becroft, and Dr. King, the information, that when the Steamer was upon the Gaboon river, her boilers suddenly gave way, and that, although the engineer succeeded in repairing them so as to complete the exploration of that river, they afterwards burst so frequently as to render it altogether unsafe to hazard another ascent of the Niger with them. The vessel has accordingly been laid up at Fernando Po, under the care of Captain Becroft, and Dr. King is on his way to England. The Gaboon River was found to be of no importance as a highway to the interior, not being navigable farther than the tide ascended, that is, to the extent of fifty or sixty miles.—*Manchester Examiner*.

SUBMARINE EXPLOSIONS IN THE THAMES.—The Harbour Master, Captain Fisher, has within the last few days, completed the removal of three sunken wrecks, which have for some considerable time greatly impeded the navigation of the river in the Lower Hope. Their removal was effected by submarine explosions, of various charges, averaging from 50 to 500 lbs., fired by means of galvanic battery. In the case of the larger explosion, a remarkable incident occurred at the moment of firing. An immense shoal of fish was passing the spot, and nearly the whole of them were blown out of the water to the extent of nearly 80 feet, the circumstance being followed by the raising of a huge column of water to about as great an altitude, which emitted a large portion of the destroyed wreck as if from the force of a volcano. The River from London Bridge to the Nore, is now perfectly free from all obstructions. The dangerous shoal of hard shingle off Limehouse-reach, which stopped the navigation of vessels of a large draught at low water, has recently been entirely removed by the same means. The depth of water has been increased from 4 to 17 feet at low water.

THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.—It is said that the Government have recently taken into consideration a series of improvements for effecting an immediate communication with the royal palaces, government offices, dock-yards, garrisons, and fortresses, throughout the kingdom, by means of the Electric Telegraph. It is proposed to conduct the wires under ground instead of on poles. According to Act of Parliament, the Government have the power of seizing all Electric Telegraphs on Railways.

INTERESTING ANECDOTE OF THE HORSE.—After General R. R. Gillespie fell at the storming of Kalunga, his favorite black charger, bred at the Cape of Good Hope, and carried by him to India, was (at the sale of his effects,) competed for by several officers of his division, and finally knocked down to the privates of the 8th Dragoons, who contributed their prize money to the amount of £500 to retain the horse of their late commander. Thus the charger was always led at the head of the regiment on a march, and at the station of Cawnpore, was usually indulged with taking his ancient post at the colour stand, where the salute of passing squadrons was given at drill and on review. When the regiment was ordered home, the funds of the privates running low, he was bought for the same sum by a relative of ours, who provided funds and a paddock for him where he might end his days in comfort; but when the corps had marched, and the sound of the trumpet had departed, he refused to eat, and upon the first opportunity, being led out to exercise, he broke from his groom, and galloping to his ancient stand on the parade, after neighing aloud, dropped down dead.—*Col. Hamilton's Naturalist's Library*.

FROM THE SOCIETY ISLANDS.—The New York Journal of Commerce publishes the following extract of a letter from Tahiti:—
Valparaiso, July 28, 1846.

I left Tahiti on the 9th of June. On the 5th a severe engagement took place at Bonavia, between the French and Natives, in which the French were defeated with the loss of the Commander in Chief of the troops, one captain and three or four ensigns, &c., and some fifty men, and as many more wounded. The French force numbered some 1,200 men, opposed to which were some 100 Natives who had fortified a difficult pass in the Bonavia Valley, when the French attacked them.

Martial law still prevails in the town, and no person is allowed to go out of his house after six o'clock in the evening.

The French have expended immense sums of money on the Island, and they are now determined to carry on a war of extermination.

A ROYAL SENTINEL.—A letter from Munich states that, a few days ago, Prince Adalbert, son of the King of Bavaria, performed duty in front of the barracks occupied by the Regiment of Cuirassiers, in which he serves in the capacity of a private soldier. A great number of persons were thus attracted to see a Prince stand sentinel. The King and several members of the Royal Family drove past in their carriages, and received the ordinary military salute from the Prince.

BANKING IN INDIA.—The gross capital employed in banking operations in India is £9,452,903, and upwards of £4,000,000 belong to the chartered Banks of Bengal, Bombay, and Madras, which are established under the sanction of the Court of Directors of the East India Company, with the approbation of the Board of