

Report to the Registrar General on the International Statistical Congress at Vienna / by William Farr.

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1857.





REPORT

REGISTERED

INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL CONGRESS

HELD AT VIENNA

1895

REPORT

TO THE

REGISTRAR GENERAL on the INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL CONGRESS
at VIENNA, by WILLIAM FARR, M.D., F.R.S., D.C.L.

SIR,

At your instance Her Majesty's Government was pleased to appoint me as one of the two Delegates of England to attend the Third International Statistical Congress in Vienna. I was the colleague of Mr. Fonblanque of the Board of Trade.

I left London on August 22d, and upon arriving at Vienna learnt to my great regret that Mr. Fonblanque had had on the way an attack of illness, at Frankfort, and that his physician forbade his travelling any further.

The Congress met at mid-day on Monday, August 31st, in the Chamber of the Lower Austrian States. Several Ministers of the Imperial Government and official delegates from nearly all the principal States of Europe were present; besides about four hundred other members, chiefly, but not exclusively, Austrians and Germans. As soon as the meeting was opened, the Minister of Commerce, the Chevalier von Toggenburg, on the part of the Government, greeted the Members; and addressed them in a discourse, of which the following is a translation:—

“Gentlemen,

“The capital of Austria had no sooner been selected for the place at which the Third Meeting of the International Statistical Congress should be held, than the Government, having obtained the gracious permission of His Majesty, immediately made the necessary arrangements for furthering to the utmost the object of the meeting. It wishes you success in your labours the more confidently, as it sees here so many representatives of science and of the various branches of administration, who have responded to our invitation.

“We welcome you then, Gentlemen, on the banks of the Danube. But first of all let me thank the Governments who by sending official delegates have shown how desirous they are to maintain for the Statistical Congress its true character, as a means of drawing closer the bonds uniting nations, by establishing the incontestable and uncontested utility of its labours for the weal of the civilized world.

“The idea of such assemblies has from the beginning been favourably entertained in Austria, and I trust that in the course of your investigations you will discover that in our Official Statistics we have not failed to take into account the previous decisions and wishes of the Congress.

“The object of these periodical Congresses is to arrive at uniform principles in conducting Statistical Inquiries, so as to render the comparison of their results possible; for, as one of the most distinguished founders of the Congress justly remarks, ‘without the possibility of comparing observations, progress in the Sciences based on observation is impossible.’*

“In the position which the science of statistics now holds in every State of Europe, this alone is required for its completion. And in fact

* M. Quetelet.

since statistics is no longer viewed as a mere theoretical science for the gratification of the curiosity of the learned ; since, on the contrary, it specially subserves the practical ends of political society, and lends its service to administrations as well in determining the value of existing institutions and laws as in weighing measures not yet carried out; since statistics, I say, has obtained such an important place in our governmental system, your investigations are neither arrested by the fulness of its materials nor by the manifold nature of its subjects. It is, then, above all essential to establish such an order and subdivision of the materials as may render it possible to represent the observations in the several countries under the same point of view, and thus to establish truths and laws which the human mind could never divine by pure speculation.

" This is without doubt a great and difficult problem, and therefore deserving of the zeal with which you have undertaken its solution. If you make your observations the common property of all, if you impress upon them the stamp of a loftier truth, if you place the results deduced from the facts in a clearer light, will you not thereby aid the Governments in accomplishing their special mission, the improvement of the political condition and of the moral and material well-being of the people?

" And if you, through a uniform system of statistical tables and a uniform nomenclature, bring the Statistics of the various states nearer to each other, do you not share my opinion that this uniformity in the form will react on the material, and ultimately bring about an approximation in the laws and institutions? I can therefore safely say that this day, in the midst of us, you resume your labours and devote yourselves to the study of a problem in civilization, the solution of which, rest assured, will obtain the sympathy of all governments and the applause of all nations."

His Excellency then addressed the German members, and congratulated them on this first meeting of the Congress on German ground. He reminded them that the necessity of statistical unity applied with two-fold force to Germany, and suggested that it would be a happy circumstance, if out of the meeting a more intimate connection arose between the Statistical Departments of German States. This would also promote the great end of the Congress. He then thus concluded his address :*

" I conclude, Gentlemen, by assuring you of the entire sympathy of the Imperial Government, which follows your labors with the greatest interest ; and I express its sincere wishes that the third meeting of the Statistical Congress may be as rich in useful results as the two which preceded it."

His Excellency's speech was warmly applauded.

BARON CZERNIG, the President elect, occupied the chair ; supported by the Official Delegates, who were nominated Vice Presidents. M. Quetelet, in a brief statement, described the objects for which the Congress was founded.

REPORTS of DELEGATES from the GOVERNMENTS of the STATES of EUROPE.

All the principal States of Europe, except Naples, have sent delegates to the Congresses. Sardinia and Prussia, however, sent no delegates to Vienna ; Russia, Turkey, and Spain sent delegates to the Congress there for the first time. As is usual the delegates of those States gave an account of the national statistics.

* Translated from the German Report in the Wiener Zeitung, No. 200. The first part of the Address was delivered in French.

DAOUD EFFENDI, the representative of the Sublime Porte, expressed the interest with which the first meeting of the Congress had been regarded in Turkey. And he anticipated the greatest advantage from the results of their deliberations, which would lessen the difficulties of the Government in the establishment of a system of statistics in his country.

As nothing would possess greater interest than correct statistics of this vast and important Empire, connecting Europe and Asia, so nothing probably would be more advantageous to the Sultan's Government.

His speech, characterized by brevity and truth, was well received. Than Daoud Effendi the Turkish Government could scarcely have had an abler representative. He is the author of an excellent classified arrangement of the Anglo-Saxon and other ancient German laws and institutes.

COUNT RIBALDO said that in Spain a central commission had been appointed under the presidency of the Duke of Valencia, which in conjunction with local commissions had been charged to take a census. This great statistical report would speedily be published; it had been drawn up with a special regard to the recommendations of the Congress.

BARON REDEN gave a short account of the statistical operations in Brunswick.

M. VERNADZKY, the Councillor of State who represented Russia, traced the statistical records of the empire from the year 1246 down to the present date; giving an interesting account of the various methods which the Imperial Government employs in procuring information.

Peter the Great and Catherine—like Augustus in Rome, William the First of England, the Emperor Napoleon the First, and all great administrators,—perceived the importance of obtaining information in a statistical form, so as to be able to analyze all the forces and products of their dominions.

A statistical committee, M. Vernadzky said, was founded in 1802, and still exists. It is connected with 33 committees in the provinces; and the Minister of the Interior has since 1852 directed several expeditions for statistical enquiry to be undertaken. The statistical section of the Geographical Society and other bodies devote themselves to particular inquiries.

Russia is at present acting in the spirit which Tegoborski displayed, and is making laudable efforts to place on a sound footing the statistics of the empire—presenting on several accounts unusual difficulties to statistical inquiry. An improved census, which is the basis of statistics, is likely to be soon undertaken.

M. HOFF, Finance Councillor, well known in England as the Manager of the Gotha Insurance Office, gave an account of Saxe-Meiningen, Saxe-Altenburg, and Saxe-Coburg.

M. RATHGEN reported that in Saxe-Weimar, ever since 1816, annual reports of the population, and of the births, deaths, and marriages had been obtained. The summary of the results was published in the State Manuals and the Weimar Zeitung, which contained also statistical reports on the property in land, on mortgages, and on finance; also judicial statistics.

MAYER VON KNONAU reported, that the Swiss Confederation had not, as such, any statistical department; and the absence of this had only been supplied by the unwearied industry of Frascini, the Minister of the Interior, in the contributions to the statistics of Switzerland, which were continued down to the date of his death. In the Cantonal Reports important statistics might be found, but they were of limited extent and view. Cartography had been diligently studied. In fine, both the Confederation and the several Cantons were devoting increased attention to physical statistics.

M. FAUL, Chancery Councillor, said that in Mecklenburg-Schwerin a statistical commission had been constituted of members of the principal

state offices in 1851. The commission had published various reports in the Mecklenburg Archives.

BARON BAUMHAUER mentioned that in Holland medical reform bills had been introduced into the Chambers, and that it had been proposed in a public burial bill to render the grant of medical certificates of the cause of death compulsory. This bill had not yet passed. A grant of 5000 florins would be asked for with a view to establish a central commission of statistics. An essential improvement of the census law is in preparation. The statistics of Holland—it may here be remarked—occupy a high place, from the value of their information, their form of publication, and the able commentaries of Baron Baumhauer.

PROFESSOR WAPPÄUS said that in Hanover a new director of the statistical department had since 1855 introduced great improvements in the statistical publications of that kingdom. The two last publications gave the results of the censuses of population 1852-5, and of the enumeration of the cattle in 1853; also returns of deaths in 1853-5.

BARON SICK stated that in Wurtemberg a central statistical commission had been formed by attaching representatives from the several offices to the Statistical and Topographical Department. The commission could take up any subject and meet at any ministry. Among its labours may be mentioned the summary of the births and deaths in the years 1846-56.

PROFESSOR ASCHEHOUG, of Norway, said that the statistical office there embraced all branches of the administration, except the administration of justice, public education, and certain branches of finance. It is occupied mainly on the census of 1855, the statistics of industry, commerce, shipping, and the returns of births, deaths, and marriages. The land valuation had, on account of its practical bearing, attracted great attention. The statistics of this fine people are full of interest.

Under the regulations the business of the Congress was transacted either in German or in French. At this stage I made the following report on the progress of official statistics in ENGLAND :—

“L'Angleterre dès la première réunion du Congrès International de Statistique a toujours compris son importance et sa grande utilité. C'est ainsi que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine a nommé deux représentants à Vienne comme à Paris. Malheureusement mon collègue, M. Fonblanque, tombé malade en route, ne peut assister à nos réunions. Vous regretterez avec moi, Messieurs, son absence et la cause de cette absence. Il avait préparé une note sur le progrès de la Statistique Commerciale en Angleterre depuis la seconde réunion du Congrès. Avec la permission de l'Assemblée je vous en donnerai tout à l'heure lecture en Anglais. En ce qui me concerne je ne vous entretiendrai que des changemens qui ont eu lieu dans la Statistique Officielle depuis la dernière réunion du Congrès—et dont quelques uns sont dus à vos délibérations.

“L'état des recettes, des dépenses, et de la dette publique est publié annuellement depuis longtemps, et avec beaucoup de détails.

“J'ai l'honneur de mettre sous vos yeux un exemplaire de l'État Financier (Finance Accounts) pour l'année qui a fini le 31 Mars 1857. Vous y verrez que les recettes se sont élevées à 75,350,825*l.*, ou à peu près à 753,508,250 florins. Voilà les revenus énormes que le peuple a voulu voter par ses représentants, et qu'il a pu voter sans gêne, à la chose publique sous l'empire vivifiant de la libre concurrence. Les dépenses n'ont été que de 68,097,287*l.*, ou à peu près de 680,972,870 florins. L'intérêt de la dette publique a été 28,681,177*l.*, ou à peu près à 286,811,770 florins.

“J'ai l'honneur de placer sous vos yeux d'autres documents entièrement nouveaux; ce sont les Rapports raisonnés de l'administration des Douanes, des Recettes perçues à l'intérieur; et du produit de la Poste. On y trouve des explications et des résumés historiques d'un très grand intérêt.

“Je dois reconnaître que la classification des faits n'a pas été inspirée par la statistique; et qu'il y manque notamment le *Tableau de la fortune de*

l'État, dont parle M. le Chevalier Hock dans sa note lumineuse, et dont nous serons, sans doute, unanimes à reconnaître la nécessité. Des comptes communaux sont publiés annuellement par l'administration des pauvres. D'après le dernier de ces comptes les recettes de 1856 pour l'Angleterre et le pays de Galles étaient de 8,496,458*l.*, ou à peu près de 84,964,580 florins ; les dépenses de 8,212,012*l.*, ou à peu près 82,120,120 florins. Cette somme ne comprend pas les dépenses des routes de tout genre, ni quelques autres dépenses locales.

“Pour la rédaction de ces divers états je crois que nous profiterons largement des travaux de la troisième section.

“Il faut constamment se rappeler qu'en ce qui concerne les finances de l'état il ne saurait y avoir de terme moyen entre le silence absolu et la publication franche et loyale de la vérité. Les capitalistes peuvent toujours faire payer cher le silence, et encore plus cher l'imperfection des comptes publics ; ils nous pardonneront, si, dans l'intérêt de la science, nous leur enlevons à jamais cet avantage, qui, vraiment, à la fin, *not enriched them, and makes us poor indeed.*

“En ce qui concerne l'Irlande et l'Ecosse des rapports annuels font connaître les superficies consacrées aux diverses cultures, et contiennent des évaluations plus ou moins exactes sur les produits agricoles, et sur le nombre des animaux domestiques.

“Lord Stanley d'Alderley, Ministre du Commerce, a compris toute l'utilité de l'extension de la statistique agricole à l'Angleterre, proprement dite, et nous espérons que dans l'intérêt de l'agriculture même, la législature adoptera le projet de loi qui lui a été soumis à cet effet par M. Caird, agronome Anglais des plus éclairés. Je mets sous vos yeux un exemplaire du Rapport sur les produits agricoles de l'Irlande en 1855.

“Lord Brougham, prenant en considération particulièrement les recommandations du Congrès de Paris, a soumis un projet de loi sur la statistique judiciaire à la Chambre des Pairs ; et M. Redgrave a inauguré la réforme de cette statistique dans l'Angleterre. Je dépose sur le bureau du Congrès un exemplaire de la première partie de son travail.

“Nous possédons de très bonnes cartes à l'échelle de 1-10560 pour l'Irlande, et de bonnes cartes pour la plus grande partie de l'Angleterre, et pour une partie de l'Ecosse à l'échelle de 1-63360. Conformément aux recommandations du Congrès de Bruxelles le Gouvernement de sa Majesté s'est déterminé à faire dresser des cartes générales à l'échelle de 1-2500, et des cartes des villes à l'échelle de 1-500. Déjà les cartes de plusieurs comtés et de plusieurs villes ont été dressées sur ces échelles. Ce travail a été malheureusement suspendu. Les avantages qu'offrirait une carte de l'Europe à une échelle uniforme sont évidents : ils ont été démontrés à la Chambre par le Vicomte Palmerston ; et nous croyons qu'ils seront appréciés par la commission royale qui est chargée de l'examen de la question. Une grande majorité des savans de l'Angleterre a exprimé des vues qui sont en complet accord avec celles du Congrès. Je dépose sur la table le dernier Rapport du Colonel James : il contient des specimens remarquables des cartes que l'on a déjà exécutées et des réductions à l'aide de la photographie.

“Le Registrar-General vient de publier son 18^{me} Rapport, et il prie le Congrès d'en accepter deux exemplaires.

“Je me suis occupé dernièrement d'une enquête sur laquelle je demanderai au Congrès la permission d'appeler son attention ; c'est l'organisation du travail,—ou plutôt la classification de la population par professions. La quatrième section du Congrès rendra des services des plus importants ; elle a en vue particulièrement les produits de l'industrie : l'enquête dont je parle regarde spécialement la disposition et la condition variable des hommes,—maîtres et ouvriers. Je dépose sur le bureau notre questionnaire. Je dirai seulement que nous avons commencé notre enquête par la profession des mineurs, qui sont en grand nombre chez nous. En 1851 on

en a compté *deux cent cinquante deux mille*, dont 182,180 travaillaient à l'extraction de la houille.

"Je ne dirai rien quant à présent de leur condition économique. Je me bornerai à faire connaître que ces hommes intéressans sous tant de rapports à l'égard de leur santé souffrent beaucoup dans certaines circonstances et en aucune manière dans d'autres. La mortalité sur 1000 dans quelques districts à l'âge de 20-40 est de 19 ; c'est le double de la mortalité de la population mâle générale aux mêmes âges. On croirait d'abord que cette mortalité exceptionnelle est due au travail souterrain : point du tout ; car dans d'autres comtés, où les mines sont sur la plus grande échelle (Durham et Northumberland), la mortalité n'est que de 8 par mille. Nous ferons connaître les causes de l'excès de la mortalité ; et il vous sera évident que ces causes ne sont point du tout inhérentes à ce genre de travail ; qu'elles peuvent au contraire disparaître de l'industrie des mines.

"Nous venons de faire aussi des recherches récentes sur la mortalité de nos armées ; et j'espère que le Congrès voudra bien en prendre connaissance. Il serait vivement à désirer que des recherches semblables fussent faites sur toutes les armées de l'Europe. Le soldat Anglais, comme vous savez, se trouve dans tous les climats ; et la mortalité qu'il a éprouvée pendant les dernières années est de 33 par 1000. La mortalité des troupes en Angleterre est de 18 sur 1000 ; tandis que la mortalité de la population mâle aux âges correspondants (20-40) est de 9 sur 1000. Ainsi la mortalité des troupes est telle que le pays perd *deux hommes* où il ne devrait en perdre qu'*un*, suivant la loi de la mortalité naturelle. Constatons si les faits sont les mêmes dans les autres pays ? C'est à la statistique de répondre. S'il en était ainsi on pourrait croire peut-être que le soldat vivant paisiblement en garnison est soumis inévitablement à une mortalité double de celle des autres hommes. Des recherches faites chez nous démontrent cependant l'existence des causes bien évidentes de la mortalité excessive du soldat ; et quelques unes de ces causes peuvent être éloignées, notamment l'encombrement des casernes. Comme membres du Congrès nous ne saurions être partisans de la paix à tout prix, et encore moins de la guerre à son prix actuel : nous ne devons même pas discuter ces questions ; mais s'il nous appartient d'employer la statistique à l'amélioration de la population civile nous pouvons à plus forte raison l'appliquer à améliorer l'état sanitaire des armées. Dans ce cas nos soldats pourraient bien continuer à mourir sur le champ de bataille, mais il succomberont en moins grand nombre qu' à présent aux maladies qui remplissent les hôpitaux militaires, et dont ils ont été atteints faute de recherches statistiques.

"Avec votre permission, M. le Président, je vais maintenant donner lecture au Rapport de mon ami M. Fonblanque tel qu'il l'a écrit, c'est à dire en bon Anglais, au lieu de le traduire en mauvais Français. Vous verrez que l'Angleterre s'est vraiment associée à vos honorables travaux—ces travaux qui ont commencé à Bruxelles sous les auspices de l'un des premiers statisticiens de l'Europe—qui ont pris un grand développement en France—et qui recevront, je crois, un nouvel élan des lumières et de la coopération du Gouvernement de ce vaste Empire, qui nous a reçus dans sa ville capitale avec tant de bienveillance. Nous apprécions tous le "*Willkommen an den Ufern der Donau*" que M. le Ministre du Commerce a bien voulu nous adresser hier."

REPORT of Statistical Progress in the Department of the BOARD of TRADE,
by A. W. Fonblanque, Esq.

Since the meeting of the second International Congress in Paris the Statistical Department of the Board of Trade has, in addition to its usual serial accounts, published a volume of the general resources and trade of the British Colonies and Dependencies, and also an abstract of the

Statistics of the Hanse Towns; Holland, with Java and Sumatra; France, and Belgium.

The Monthly Accounts of the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom have been completely revised and greatly enlarged and improved since 1856. The most important new feature is the introduction of the principal countries from and to which the chief articles of British Trade are imported and exported; and a Quarterly Account of the Declared Value of the British Exports to *each* Foreign Country and British Possession has been appended during the present year.

In addition to these improvements steps have been taken for ensuring the issue of the Monthly and Annual Trade Publications at the earliest possible period, the Government having authorized several measures in various departments for expediting the collection and compilation of the particulars contained in them.

The most important work published by this Department, "The Annual Statement of the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom," is now issued within ten months after the close of the year to which it relates, but will, in future, most probably be issued at a much earlier date.

The Annual Trade Volume of France is usually published within eight months after the close of the year.

The *Meteorological* Department of the Board of Trade, under Admiral FitzRoy, was established early in 1855.

During so short a period as has since elapsed much production could not be expected, as time has been devoted to the collection and preparation of materials rather than to their publication, yet some advance has been made.

A series of fourteen large wind charts for most parts of the world has been compiled.

A quarto volume of reduced and tabulated observations, with various papers and diagrams, has been published; and a full report of the state and progress of the work undertaken has been laid before Parliament.

More than two hundred ships in the mercantile navy, and nearly all the ships of war in commission, are now supplied with tested and reliable instruments, besides books and charts, at the public cost.

The captains of most of those merchant ships, and some of the men of war, have already returned a large number of well-filled and valuable meteorological registers.

There are in use about sixty collecting books, adapted to the various subjects and parts of the world.

(Papers by Admiral FitzRoy and by J. H. Brown, Esq., Registrar of Merchant Seamen, forwarded through Mr. Fonblanque, were handed in.)

The meeting, at the instance of the President, expressed its regret at the absence of Mr. Fonblanque through illness.

M. HEUSCHLING reported that the Belgian census, placed on a new and better footing, was taken on 31st December 1856. The general results are already published. They were deduced from the returns by a sub-commission under the direction of M. Visschers. An improvement in reporting the causes of death is now in operation. In continuation of the decennial report on the whole statistics of Belgium an annual report is to be published; the first number has recently appeared. Belgium still maintains its eminent position by these publications.

On the *third day* Baron Lasser presented, on the part of the Minister of the Interior (Baron Bach), a work by Dr. Wurzbach, in two volumes, on the statistics of Austrian literature, and expressed a hope that the statistics of literature might figure in the next program.

M. LEGOYT, who is at the head of the statistical department in France, and has greatly contributed to the recent progress of statistics in that empire, then gave a rapid sketch of the official statistics. Napoleon I., who

happily defined statistics—as the complement of the financial budget—the *budget of things* (*budget des choses*), founded an organized statistical department in 1802. Since the peace it has published several remarkable works; some periodical, others occasional. The periodical publications include (1) the finance returns, (2) the conscription reports, (3) the return of French imports and exports, and other foreign commercial returns, (4) the mineral statistics, (5) a return of the Minister of Finance of the tonnage and voyages of vessels upon navigable rivers, (6) colonial statistics, (7) statistics of friendly societies, which through the encouragement of the government have grown up everywhere lately as if by enchantment, (8) criminal statistics (since 1825), (9) the judicial statistics of the civil courts, (10) prison statistics. Among the occasional publications M. Legoyt named the returns of births, deaths, and marriages, as well as the census; which have latterly been greatly extended and improved. The results of the census of 1856 will be published early in 1858. A new series of agricultural statistics is in the press, and will show the progress of agriculture since 1840. The statistics of insanity 1851-3 will speedily appear; so will returns of the charitable institutions, and their results. The railway statistics have been published on the plan laid down in the Paris program. To Count Dubois, who was present, M. Legoyt gave the credit for this admirable work. The valuable educational return is unfortunately only published at rare intervals. The great map of France by the *Corps Impériale d'Etat Major* is nearly completed; reduced lithographic copies will soon be published. The statistics of the charitable institutions, by M. Davenne, as well as the celebrated work on the industrial statistics of the capital, by M. Horace Say, are full of interest, and have a semi-official character.

“J'espère,” M. Legoyt concluded, “que vous y aurez trouvé la preuve que l'intérêt scientifique occupe au moins une part égale, si ce n'est supérieure, à l'intérêt administratif, dans ces enquêtes si nombreuses, si variées. Je crois d'ailleurs ne rappeler qu'un fait généralement admis, en disant que la France ne s'isole jamais dans ses travaux; qu'elle n'y cherche jamais une satisfaction exclusive à des besoins purement nationaux. Je crois, au contraire, qu'il est de la mission providentielle de mon pays d'embrasser toujours le plus vaste horizon possible, et de mettre sans cesse son activité, son intelligence, son ardente initiative au service des intérêts généraux de l'humanité.”* (Applause).

The Scandinavians are by nature statisticians. Sweden has undoubtedly taken the lead of all other countries in its official statistics, which date from the middle of the last century. The tables have from the first been clear and well arranged, the facts well selected. Improvements, however, are required by the progress of statistical science; and the Swedish government has shown every disposition to maintain its position, by establishing a new statistical office on a liberal footing, at the head of which Dr. BERG is placed. The report of the population returns of 1851-5, founded on the old basis, is in several respects new, and shows that Dr. Berg understands and is able to maintain the statistical fame of Sweden; which supplied Dr. Price with data for the construction of life tables at a time when England and France were entirely destitute of such materials. The report on the cholera, the extension of meteorological stations along the telegraph lines, the geological survey at the expense of the state are also noteworthy in Sweden.

Denmark and Norway, like Sweden, have able statisticians. Privy councillor DAVID, of Denmark, stated that the results of the census of 1855,

* M. Legoyt has published his statement, of which I have availed myself in this analysis. For the statements of the other official Delegates, I have relied on the reports in the *Wiener Zeitung*, which though brief are, I believe, substantially correct.

and the commercial and shipping statistics of 1854 would speedily be published; the latter would exhibit the destinations* of vessels, which had so often been desired. The learned Danish statist exhibited a means of expressing the density of population by means of curves.

Dr. ENGEL, the representative of Saxony, has placed the official statistics of that country among the first in Germany; but he unfortunately made no report of the recent progress of Saxon statistics.

Ministerial Councillor DIETZ reported briefly on the state of statistics in the Grand Duchy of Baden, and the encouragements to their study.

Bavaria, by its publications under the direction of State Councillor BARON HERMANN, still maintains in statistics a distinguished place in Germany. It has a grand map of the kingdom in 100 sheets, and a reduced topographical map of 15 sheets. Every proprietor can have for a small sum any of the 26,000 field maps. Among the most interesting recent publications of Bavaria, Baron Hermann enumerated the reports on charities; on the properties of public institutions and communes; on criminal and police statistics (1849-55); on the post offices, railroads, steam navigation; on mines, manufactures, and salt works.

The President BARON CZERNIG concluded these communications by a luminous exposition of the recent progress of statistics in Austria. The question of the nomenclature of fatal diseases was discussed in Paris. The Minister of the Interior referred the nomenclature to the Vienna College of Physicians, who approved of its principles. It figured in the program and would be reported on by the first section. The railway accidents of 1856 are already compiled on the plan laid down at Paris; so are also the statistics of the roads of Carinthia. Since 1853 the reports of the state railways have been most judiciously planned and most comprehensive: they have been applied for by other states. Under actual circumstances it has been held that agricultural statistics could be most satisfactorily collected through the agency of the agricultural societies, which exist in almost all the crown provinces. The Minister of the Interior has taken active steps in the matter, and in consequence many of the societies are already at work. I may cite for instance the returns of Bohemia, which are under collection by 2000 delegates in every part of that kingdom. Similar returns have already been collected in Styria and in Moravia. M. Fleury in an elaborate report lays it down, that in order to render the foreign trade returns really international, four things are necessary. (1.) The publication must immediately follow the close of each period. The Austrian Government has endeavoured to give effect to this principle: within *six weeks* of the end of the year the quantities and values of all exports and imports are published. This is not an easy matter in a monarchy which has to employ six hundred custom-houses on its long boundary line extending from the Bukowina to Lombardy. Each office makes monthly returns to the statistical department where they are grouped and published monthly, with a summary at the end of the year. A more elaborate report showing the countries from and to which goods proceed, with comparisons between the returns of past periods, appears every year within twelve months of its close.

(2.) The annual returns should all date from January 1st. The Austrian returns did date from November 1st, which is the beginning of the official year; but in compliance with the vote of the Paris Congress, the returns of 1855 are for that year, and will continue to be for the civil years dating from January 1st.

(3.) The same weights and measures should be used to express quantities. The Austrian Customs are now levied under the same laws as

* *frachtfahrt*. The return which appears to be here referred to is intended to show the countries from which vessels arrive and to which they are bound.

those of the Zollverein, and the pound weight in use is the half-kilogram. So that the metrical system is recognized in Austria.

(4.) A general summary showing the commerce of state with state should accompany the report. Such a *resumé* is found in the Austrian report.

The subject of judicial statistics is before one of the sections. I merely remark that the formulary for civil cases is completed; it is most comprehensive. The form for criminal statistics, with additions and improvements is in readiness. The judicial registry of criminals and of their crimes in their parishes, with a view to the distinction of recommitments is in operation in Austria as well as in France; and negotiations are in progress to procure the necessary interchanges with France and the German states. The forms in use at lock-up houses and prisons have been improved, so that they show the period of arrest and imprisonment in conformity with the recommendations of the Paris Congress. A return has been called for by the Minister of Commerce of the savings banks and insurance societies in the whole empire.

The statistics of the city of Paris are well known. They are models. The common council of the city of Vienna, to show how highly it appreciates the Congress, and how much it is gratified with its meeting here, determined to undertake a work of the same character; the first part will give the members an idea of the undertaking which the municipality has entered on, and has placed under the guidance of the Burgomaster. When complete it will give as exact an idea of our city as we can at present furnish.

I come now to the last part which occupied the Congress in Paris. I mean the establishment of a central statistical commission in each state. Though this point may not have attracted the greatest attention, its importance becomes every day more evident, whether we consider the difficulties inherent in statistical inquiries, or the practical bearing of their results on the measures of governments. The conviction must ere long be universal, that without the establishment of a central commission or some such institution, the national statistics will reach a point at which they will remain stationary. And, Gentlemen, to stand still, is to retrograde. (Und meine Herren, stationär bleiben ist Rückschritt).

The half of this institution has existed, as far as Austria is concerned, since 1840 in our statistical office; which is so organized that it embraces all branches of the administration, and if all branches have not yet been dealt with, this is due to the inadequacy of the force at our disposal. But it cannot undertake the second and far weightier part of statistical operation. And if statistics are to obtain that influence which they merit in the Government; if they are to draw strength from the practical life of the Government, and from the life of the people; then must statistics enter into integral union with the Government. But a central commission, in which the several branches of the administration are represented, is the sole practical means of rendering this union durable and fruitful. So in Austria the way to the establishment of a central statistical commission is opened, but the final decision has not yet been taken.

Allow me to mention certain measures which also show the estimation in which the Austrian Government holds the Congress. Three ministers have undertaken important works, which, without the stimulus of this meeting in Vienna would probably never have been begun, would not have been begun so soon, or would have been carried out on plans far less comprehensive.

I take first the Home Office. There is probably no operation which will influence the national economy more than the disburthening the land in Austria, the disencumbrance of the soil in so large a portion of Central Europe, where now entirely new principles prevail in commerce and in agriculture. If it is important to ascertain the nature of the incumbrances

of the land, it is also difficult, and indeed next to impossible for anybody but this special department to comprehend all its intricate details. We must thank the Minister therefore for the work, of which you have received the first part, and of which the second will shortly appear. A most comprehensive work on the statistics of companies and societies of every kind in Austria has been prepared by our honourable colleague Professor Von Stubenrauch. A third work on the literary statistics of Austria has already been brought under your notice.

The Finance Minister has also, out of the rich archives of his office, placed before you a mass of valuable documents, which I hesitate not to say, are the most perfect of the kind that have ever appeared. I am not aware that in reference to the finance and the national economy of any state, such detailed information has ever yet been published. You can only understand the full value of this work when it is in print, and you receive the copy which I can venture to promise shall be placed in the hands of every member of the Congress. (Applause).

The Minister of Justice has also directed the criminal statistics of the year 1856 to be compiled and printed for your use.

His Excellency the Minister of the Interior has been pleased to declare that when the first section has reported on the returns of the causes of death, and the Congress has come to a decision, a law shall be immediately promulgated carrying into effect a measure based on that decision (great applause). It is I believe, gentlemen, the first time that one of the results of your labours has been carried into immediate effect in a great and powerful State.

His Excellency the Minister of Justice also announces his intention, if the form for criminal returns receives your sanction, to submit it to His Majesty as the basis of the regulations under which the returns are to be compiled.

I will now pass rapidly in review the works upon which the Statistical Department has been engaged during the two last years. I have first to announce to you the completion,—or, at least, the partial completion,—of a work which has been 16 years in hand; it is the ethnographical map of the monarchy, with a commentary in three quarto volumes, lying on the table.* The map is complete, and is published in two forms. The commentary embraces the eastern lands and the Archduchy of Austria. The German portions of the State are nearly completed. The Southern and the Northern Slavonic States stand over for the present.

To this a work is attached for which I bespeak your attention; as I know you will all take an interest in the progress of this great State, in the midst of which you are assembled. The work, to which I have given the title "*Neugestaltung von Oesterreich*" (Reforms,—or, rather, the New-formation,—of Austria), constitutes an integral part of the Ethnography, but will appear also in a separate volume. Its object is to show in a compressed form all the great reforms, mightily working in the life of the people, as well as in the organization of the State of this kingdom, from the year 1848 down to the present day; also, where it is possible, to exhibit the result of these reforms in Statistical Tables.

I can now only notice the continuation of the great series of tabular returns,—of which *nine* parts are completed,—in which the returns of schools and educational institutions have been subjected to an entire revision. The map of the Danube is on the table, so are several numbers of our statistical memoirs, containing a complete account of the iron manufactures of Carinthia and Carniola, a commencement of the industrial statistics of Austria, with maps and other matters, which, as they are before you, I will not enumerate, for I have already occupied too much of your time.

* "*Ethnographie der Oesterreichischen Monarchie*" von Karl Freiherrn von Czernig. Wien, 1857.

The proofs which the able president's speech contained of the activity of the Imperial Government in carrying on statistical research, and in promoting the objects of the Congress, elicited loud and long continued applause.

In any European scientific association Italy should naturally hold a high place. The learned Professor Nardi of Pavia and the Chevalier Zuccagni Orlandini of Tuscany represented Italy at the Congress. Bertini of Turin, who represented Sardinia in Brussels and Paris, is dead: he was a learned, zealous, sincere, honest man. His place was not supplied by any other representative from a State which has published a valuable series of official statistics.

The absence of the Chevalier Dieterici, the official delegate who represented Prussia at previous Congresses, was greatly regretted, as it deprived the Congress of one of its most estimable members, and left a country which has contributed most essentially to the extension of statistics, without a representative. Professor Schubert and Mr. Otto Hübner of Prussia took an active part in the proceedings.

Count Ribaldo said a few words about the statistics of Chili; and expressed a hope that the Government of that country may be invited to send a representative to the next Congress.

The absence of a representative from the United States of America was remarked and regretted, as some questions in science, particularly in relation to jurisprudence, might be elucidated by the statistics of that country.

It was recommended in the course of the proceedings that the following questions should figure in the program of the next Congress:

- (1.) The Statistics of Literature.
- (2.) The Statistics of Agriculture and Forest-culture.
- (3.) The Statistics of Banks and Credit Institutions.

And an amendment was moved by Privy Councillor Dr. Engel, on a motion of Professor Wolowski, to the effect that the official delegates to the next Congress should constitute a special commission, out of which a committee should be named to draw up a report to be read with the oral statements of the several delegates relative to the execution of the recommendations of the previous Congress. This amendment was carried.

Proceedings of Committees.

The work of the Congress was distributed among six committees, which sat in the mornings, and reported successively to the Congress in its general sittings.

The absence of Mr. Fonblanque was here sensibly felt, as I could not attend the meetings of all the committees and make the necessary preparations for the general sittings of the Congress. Mr. Samuel Brown, the delegate of the Statistical Society, rendered me most important assistance; and Mr. Nassau Senior, who happened to be in Vienna, joined and assisted in the committees.

His Excellency the Chevalier von Toggenburg, Minister of Industry, Commerce, and Public Works was president of the preliminary commission.

Of the Congress as definitively organized, Baron Czœrnig was chosen President; the Official Delegates were elected Vice Presidents; Dr. Ficker and M. Louis Debrauz were secretaries.

SECTION I.—STATISTICS OF MORTALITY.

Presidents: DR. THEODORE HELM, Medical Councillor, Director of the General Hospital, Vienna; DR. WILLIAM FARR. *Secretary:* DR. MAURICE HALLER.

This section discussed in detail the measures necessary to secure accurate returns of the causes of death. It revised the nomenclature,

which is substantially the same as that which has been in use in England for some years. It came to no decision on the question of classification, except that it should be for the present left in the hands of the Statistical Departments. The Section decided:—

(1.) That the cause of every death should be investigated, and that it should be returned by the medical attendant. In Austria the medical attendant is bound by law to return the cause of every death which has happened in his practice; and the body is inspected by a sanitary officer (*tottenbeschauer*).

(2.) Where no such officer exists, the Section laid it down that in the interests of sanitary police and of justice, it should be ascertained through medical agency, if possible, whether death had actually occurred from natural causes, or otherwise; and where the person deceased had not been attended by a medical man, the cause of death should be especially investigated by the sanitary inspector, or a person appointed for the purpose.

(3.) That the several States should adopt the forms of certificate appended to the report.

(4.) That the above measures would be illusory, unless in each State a special medical and statistical department were created for the classification, verification, and discussion of the facts in periodical reports.

The three first decisions of the Section were adopted by the Congress; the fourth, at the suggestion of MM. Legoyt, Farr, and Stubenrauch, and after some remarks by MM. Hopf, Varrentrapp, and Helm, was modified: it assumed this form—that the materials collected in each State should undergo revision by a medical officer specially appointed, and be by him arranged and discussed in reference to their bearings on statistics, medicine, and the public health.

Forms for statistics of societies and institutions for the benefit and relief of the sick were proposed by Dr. Helm—the excellent President of the Section—and by Dr. Stubenrauch. Dr. Seligmann, who is acquainted with English scientific literature, made some excellent general remarks on the statistics of the infirm, and on the statistics of epidemics. Dr. Riedel discussed the statistics of lunatic asylums. Several of the forms which they proposed were approved. I must refer to the official report for details.

II. *The Section of Judicial Statistics* adopted, with some slight modifications, forms of criminal returns which had been prepared by the Austrian Commission. The Austrian Government was requested to put itself in communication with the Governments of other countries, in order to obtain the information necessary to enable the next Congress to discuss and settle forms for the statistics of the civil courts. The Chevalier Hye inserted an interesting note on judicial statistics in the program; Baron Czœrnig, in another note, ably discussed the statistics of the actual distribution of real property and its charges, as well as of the annual changes in its possession and its burthens. The administration of justice on one uniform system in the various provinces of Austria was carried out in 1856; and the judicial statistics of that year were laid before the Congress. Professor Wolowski, of Paris, read the highly interesting report of this committee on the subdivisions of landed property,—its burthens,—and their changes.

III. *Section for Financial Statistics.* *President:* RITTER VON HOCK. *Vice-Presidents:* Governmental Councillor, SCHUBERT of Prussia; M. CABANSKY, Secretary to the Imperial Academy of St. Petersburg. *Secretaries:* Dr. OTTO HÜBNER, of Berlin; M. BUCHATSCHKE, of Vienna.

An able clear note by the President on this great question appeared in the program; with a classification of the various items of income and expenditure. Besides these items a classified tabular view of the public

property and debt, at the beginning and at the end of the year, was declared to be indispensable in the program.

The difficulties of accurate financial statements were discussed in the Section; and the illusions and imperfections of nearly all the current financial statements were discussed with a view to future amendments.

Baron Hermann, of Bavaria, pointed out, in an acute and comprehensive statement, the numerous latent expenses which never figured in the budgets of states. Thus, under the conscription system men are compelled to serve for less than the market price of their labour; which is indicated by the sum required to obtain a substitute. Then consider the amount of taxation which the consumers pay under the various vicious systems of protection.

The report and the forms of this Section deserve to be carefully studied.

IV. Section. Statistics of Industry.—BARON CZERNIG was the President of this Section. He wrote the comprehensive introduction to the subject in the program, embodying the decisions of a preliminary committee, which consisted among others of Baron Czernig, the President and the Secretary of the Vienna Chamber of Commerce, Professor Jonak, and several eminent manufacturers.

The classification in *eight groups and thirty-four classes* of industrial products appears to be practical and well-considered; it is treated in the first part of the notice. In the second part of the paper the means are discussed of determining by a general method the quantity and the value of the industrial products of each class. The method described was tried twelve years ago in Austria; and the results were afterwards confirmed by exact inquiries for fiscal purposes. The first part of a new inquiry, conducted on the same principles, is published. The third point had reference to industrial maps, of which the Austrian Statistical Department exhibited specimens at the Universal Exhibition in Paris. The program contained also a classification of the raw materials of industry into three groups, seventeen classes, and several subordinate sections. This part of the classification, which appears to be excellent, was, as it appears to me, on inadequate grounds, not passed by the Section.

M. Engel and M. Visschers were the reporters of the Fourth Section.

V. Section. Statistics of Education.—The introduction to the proposed comprehensive form was drawn up by Dr. Springer. The sectional report proposed a few amendments, and a condensation of the original proposals. It was written by Dr. Ficker and Professor Nardi. The returns will furnish much valuable information; but the classification may be further improved by a separation of the facts which can be expressed in figures, and recorded in Tables, from the rest of the required information.

VI. Section. Connection of Statistics with the Natural Sciences: Ethnographical Statistics.—His Excellency Baron Baumgartner was the President of this Section, which comprehended among its members some of the most distinguished men of science in Austria, such as Hauslab, Ettingshausen, Kreil, Simony, Unger, Fitzinger, Hauer, and Fritsch, besides M. Quetelet and other foreign members. The work of this Section was in the hands of masters; it was new, and it was full of interest. It enumerated in a classification: (1) The elements with which the natural sciences must furnish statistics to enable that science to represent in the most complete form the various manifestations of social life. I will give here the definition of statistics—so often attempted—by Baron Baumgartner: "Statistics," he says, "embraces the facts having relation to social life, and deduces from them a representation of the condition of a given State; or it compares the analogous political forces of different communities. The facts of which the statistician has need are drawn from the observation either of nature and its forces in action, or of

human action." Baron Hauslab happily adds, "It is a characteristic of statistics that it deals with measures, numbers, comparisons. It may be safely said, that where there are no ratios there is no statistics." (Ohne verhältnisszahlen, könnte man sagen, gibt es keine statistik). He discusses the applications of cartography and of graphic representation to statistical purposes with much ingenuity and method. Baron Czernig treats of ethnography in its statistical bearings.

PROCEEDINGS at the LAST MEETING.

The business of the Committees was brought to a satisfactory close by their reports. The only thing to regret in the arrangements was the late delivery of the program, which was placed in the hands of the members on their arrival in Vienna. By way of compensation, the program was ably drawn up by the members of the Austrian Commission. The principal subject (causes of death) with which the first section dealt, had been discussed before, and had been practically illustrated in England. The other questions were not only discussed in the program by experienced men, but were exemplified by works which the Austrian Government had undertaken and laid before the Congress in a form more or less complete. The notices and the works were substantial contributions to statistical science. The program was not a mere proposal, but a discussion of the general applicability of principles on which great statistical operations in Austria had been conducted.

The first meeting of the Statistical Congress was held in Brussels under the auspices of the Belgian Government. Upon the invitation of the French Government the second Congress was held in Paris under the Presidency of one of the Imperial Ministers. Vienna, the seat of the Austrian empire, had been visited; and here a general feeling prevailed at the close of the proceedings in favour of holding the next meeting in London. Mr. Fonblanque and I had been authorized by the President of the Board of Trade—Lord Stanley of Alderley—to express, if the Congress thought it desirable to meet in London, the readiness of Her Majesty's Government to receive them in the year 1859, the meetings being biennial; at the close of the proceedings on Saturday accordingly I gave the intimation, which was very favourably received. The subjoined extract from the official report of the proceedings shows precisely what took place in reference to this matter:

EXTRAIT du procès verbal de la Cinquième Séance du Troisième Congrès International de Statistique. Samedi, ce 5 Septembre 1857.

M. William Farr, délégué du Gouvernement Anglais, prend la parole en ces termes, "Monsieur le Président, Il nous reste à décider de quelle manière notre quatrième session sera organisée. À ce sujet j'ai une proposition à faire à l'assemblée. Elle est à peu près la même que celle qu'a voté le Congrès de Paris. Elle est ainsi conçue: 'Le Congrès est invité à décider, que la commission Autrichienne d'organisation sera chargée, comme fut la commission Française en 1855, de déterminer dans quel pays et à quel époque se tiendra la quatrième session du Congrès International de Statistique.'"

Le Président met aux voix la proposition de *M. William Farr*; elle est adoptée à l'unanimité.

M. William Farr, prenant de nouveau la parole, ajoute: "Ma proposition étant adoptée, j'ajouterai que *M. Fonblanque* et moi nous sommes chargés de déclarer, que si la commission Autrichienne décide qu'il est dans l'intérêt de la science que le Congrès tienne sa prochaine session à Londres notre Gouvernement veut bien le recevoir.

"Permettez moi d'y ajouter quelques mots de ma part. Je ne vous dirai pas que si vous venez à Londres la réception qui vous sera faite, sera aussi brillante qu'elle a été dans les villes impériales de Paris et de Vienne, mais j'ose dire qu'elle sera aussi cordiale (très bien!). L'Angleterre est

hospitalière. Nos amis MM. Quetelet et Visschers vous diront que la première idée de notre Congrès, inauguré d'abord à Bruxelles, a pris naissance à l'Exposition internationale qui se tenait à Londres en 1851. Croyez bien que la statistique a encore dans cette ville des amis dont l'amour pour cette science et pour ceux qui la cultivent n'est pas refroidi. Londres est un peu loin de Vienne, et elle n'est pas si centrale quant à l'Europe que Paris, mais, messieurs, il faut bien que le Congrès et la statistique élargissent leurs bornes, et s'étendent au monde entier.

"Sur nos îles occidentales, mises en avant dans l'océan, des représentants des divers États de l'Amérique et des Colonies lointaines peuvent facilement se joindre à nous. Mais, dit-on, l'Angleterre est séparée du reste de l'Europe. Eh bien, messieurs, dans des temps déjà reculés, les Italiens, les Français, les Allemands, les peuples du Nord n'ont pas craint de passer les mers, et de fonder des colonies en Angleterre. Venez donc, messieurs, en Angleterre voir les enfants de vos ancêtres (applaudissemens). Et aux races diverses dont nous n'avons pas de représentants en Angleterre, je dirai, Venez nous voir en frères (très bien !); vous êtes certains de trouver l'accueil le plus cordial (très bien ! très bien !)"

Le Président Baron de Czernig.—"Je ne manquerai pas de porter à la connaissance de la commission organisatrice la proposition et le désir exprimés par M. William Farr; et je suis certain que l'accueil que l'une et l'autre ont déjà reçu dans cette enceinte aura de l'écho parmi les membres de la commission internationale."

M. Quetelet then moved votes of thanks to His Imperial Majesty for the gracious reception which he had deigned to give the Congress in Vienna; to His Majesty's Ministers, and particularly to His Excellency Ritter von Toggenburg, Minister of Commerce; and, finally, to the President, Baron Czernig, for the careful and impartial manner in which he had conducted the proceedings.

M. Visschers expressed the thanks of the foreign members for the reception which they had received in Vienna. Two languages had been employed with perfect ease, and without fatigue to any of the members.

After three cheers for the Emperor the third meeting of the Congress was dissolved.

Some INDIRECT RESULTS of the CONGRESS.

Without having for their direct object the promotion of peace or commercial advantages of any kind, the Congresses in Brussels, Vienna, and Paris have not only contributed to the progress of statistical inquiry, but have indirectly produced some beneficial results. Delegates from nearly every state of Europe have been brought together to discuss measures for carrying on inquiries by which their respective countries may be enabled to contribute most effectually to social science, and thus, as nations, become better known to themselves and to the rest of the world. The effect of this must be salutary; for the more people know of each other the more intimately they grow connected in interest and affection; ignorance being undoubtedly the main cause of the prejudices, the hostilities, and the isolation of civilized nations. The Congress, in the spirit illustrated at Vienna, not only tends to increase the friendly relations of governments with each other, but it engages them more or less in the promotion of a great international work,—the completion of the statistics of Europe.

The good effects of the union of the various countries of Europe in promoting a common object were seen at the great Exhibition of 1851; and they have not yet subsided on the continent. "Nobody," the Prince Consort then happily remarked, "who has paid any attention to the peculiar features of our present era will doubt for a moment that we are living at a period of most wonderful transition, which tends rapidly to accomplish that great end, to which, indeed, all history points, the realization of the unity of mankind. Not a unity which breaks down the limits and levels

the peculiar characteristics of the different nations of the earth ; but rather a unity the result and product of those very national varieties and antagonistic qualities." *

AUSTRIAN HOSPITALITY.

After the business of the Congress was over the members were carried along the Vienna and Trieste railway by Neustadt to the Semmering, one of the greatest engineering works in Austria. The train ascends on a rising serpentine line over viaducts, and through many tunnels nearly up to the top of one of the Alps, when it plunges into a long tunnel opening over a valley of Styria on its way to Trieste. The traffic of Trieste is thus put in direct communication with Vienna and the Danube. This railway is also a military road, by which an Austrian army can now be speedily carried into Italy, and marched into Lombardy. At the entrance of the tunnel refreshments were spread under tents. After enjoying the views of the Alps around the Schneeberg and of the fine country extending to Vienna, the members were conveyed back to that city. On Monday the official delegates, with a few of the private members, had the honor to be presented by the Minister of Commerce to His Majesty the Emperor ; who was pleased to express his pleasure at receiving the Congress in Vienna, and his approbation of their labors generally. He then in passing round addressed a few friendly words to each of the delegates. The principal foreign members were honored with invitations to dine with His Excellency the Minister of Commerce on Saturday or Monday. Prince Sapieha, who is well known, and is well acquainted with England, was one of the guests. The hospitality of Austria was not exhausted, for on Tuesday the members of the Congress were borne by a fine steamer of the Danube company (capital £3,000,000) down the magnificent river to Pressburg, in Hungary ; where the members had been invited and were hospitably entertained by the mayor. Here, among other matters upon the tables, were labelled specimens of all the finest Hungarian wines ; which might, I think, compete with any of the other wines in the English market. Besides Tokay there are several wines, cheap in the country, of very fine quality. Hungarian cattle, after having been driven to Vienna, are conveyed by railway to Hamburgh, where some are slaughtered for salting, and some are sent to England. Other commodities of equal value may probably now be transported from Hungary, with a profit, over the same route.

Baron Czœrnig undertook the management of the affairs of the Congress ; and as he is an able administrator, or what in England would be called "a good man of business," the arrangements were admirable. He not only presided in the chair to the general satisfaction, but rendered the foreign members many friendly offices, and by his entire conduct won their esteem.

His Excellency, Sir Hamilton Seymour, in the most obliging manner, rendered me all the assistance which I required.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your very faithful servant,

WILLIAM FARR.

*General Register Office,
December 1857.*

To
The Registrar-General.

* Address at the Mansion House, March 21st, 1850, in "Addresses delivered on different Public Occasions by His Royal Highness the Prince Albert ;" published by the Society of Arts, 1857.

