you which will have for its object to improve the system of admission, and thereby to increase the efficiency of the service.

The recent measures of Legal Reform have proved highly beneficial, and the success which has attended them may well encourage you to proceed with further amendments. Bills will be submitted to you for transferring from the ecclesiastical to the civil courts the cognizance of testamentary and of matrimonial causes, and for giving increased efficiency to the superior courts of common law.

The Laws relating to the Relief of the Poor have of late undergone much salutary amendment; but there is one branch to which I earnestly direct your attention. The law of settlement impedes the freedom of labour; and if this restraint can with safety be relaxed, the workman may be enabled to increase the fruits of his industry, and the interests of capital and of labour will be more firmly united.

Measures will be submitted to you for the amendment of the Laws relating to the Representation of the Commons in Parliament.

Recent experience has shown that it is necessary to take more effectual precautions against the Evils of Bribery, and of Corrupt Practices at Elections. It will also be your duty to consider whether more complete effect may not be given to the principles of the Act of the last reign, whereby reforms were made in the representation of the people in Parliament. In recommending this subject to your consideration, my desire is to remove every cause of just complaint, to increase general confidence in the Legislature, and to give additional stability to the settled Institutions of the State.

I submit to your wisdom the consideration of these important subjects; and I pray God to prosper your counsels and to guide your decisions.

BUCKINGHAM-PALACE, January 30, 1854.

This day had audience of the Queen:—

Namik Pacha, accompanied by Monsieur Musurus, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from His Imperial Majesty the Sultan:

To which audience his Excellency was introduced by the Earl of Clarendon, K.G., Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and conducted by Major-General the Honourable Sir Edward Cust, K.C.H., Master of the Ceremonies.

Prince of Wales's Council-Chamber, Somerset-House, January 31, 1854.

Francis Howell, of Ethy House, in the county of Cornwall, Esq. has been appointed Sheriff of the county of Cornwall.

DUCHY OF LANCASTER, February 2, 1854.

The Queen has been this day pleased to appoint Richard Fort, of Read Hall, Esq. to be Sheriff for the county palatine of Lancaster for the year ensuing.

Board of Trade, Whitehall, February 1, 1854.

The Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade and Plantations have received, through the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Lisbon, reporting that the Board of Health at that place has declared Vigo to be infected with Cholera.

Board of Trade, Whitehall, February 1, 1854.

The Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade and Plantations have received, through the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Christiania, enclosing a Notice issued by the Royal Norwegian Marine Department, declaring, that in consequence of Malignant Cholera having ceased to exist in the Country, vessels arriving from Foreign infected ports will be subjected to the Norwegian Regulations in operation before the infection broke out.

Board of Trade, Whitehall, February 2, 1854.

The Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of the Privy Council for Trade and Plantations have received, through the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Chili, enclosing a Translation of a Decree authorizing the Establishment of Bonded Warehouses at the Port of Talcahuano (the Harbour of Concession), of which the following is an extract:—

ART. I. From the 1st of January 1854, Goods may be deposited in the Custom House of the Port of Talcahuano upon the same terms as in that of Valparaiso, according to the Customs Ordinances.

ART. II. The Collector of the Customs of Talcahuano will contract for those Stores belonging to private individuals, which are to be rented for the purposes and deposit of Goods, according to the foregoing Article.

Board of Trade, Whitehall, February 2, 1854.

The Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade and Plantations have received, through the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Warsaw, reporting the prohibition from exportation from Poland of certain articles of food, as follows:—

ART. I. It is prohibited, from and after the 1st January 1854 (20th December 1853, O. S.), until the 13th of August following, to export beyond the frontiers of the Kingdom, rye, barley, oats, every description of flour, all kinds of grits ("kasza") and potatoes.

ART. II. Are exempted from the foregoing prohibition all articles above named, if coming from the Empire of Russia, or passing through the Kingdom of Poland, in transit from other States; and also such and every of the said articles, being the produce of this Kingdom, if intended *bona fide* for the city of Cracow, and as such passing through the Custom-House of Michalowice.

WHITEHALL, January 20, 1854.

The Lord Chancellor has appointed Samuel Lepard, of No. 9, Cloak Lane, City, Gentleman, to be a London Commissioner to administer Oaths in the High Court of Chancery.

WHITEHALL, January 21, 1854.

The Lord Chancellor has appointed John Satchell, of No. 6, Queen Street, Cheapside, Gentleman, to be a London Commissioner to administer Oaths in the High Court of Chancery.