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## THE EUROPEAN.

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## THE BRITISH PRESS ON U. S. AFFAIRS.

### Proposed Increase of the American Navy.

[From the *London Times*, January 20.]

The condition and progress of the American navy form a subject replete with interest to the people of this country. It is very true that in one respect we may be considered rather as teachers than learners in this matter, but if the Americans represent a far younger State than ourselves, and if their policy up to the present time has not aimed so directly at the establishment of a powerful navy, they have always bestowed extraordinary pains on the construction and equipment of individual vessels. Comparatively speaking, they have few ships; but their desire has always been to make every ship a model of its kind for efficiency and strength. They are entitled, in fact, to the credit of having carried ships of every rate to the utmost limits of their respective capacities—of having made frigates equal to ships of the line, and corvettes equal to frigates. At this very moment, too, they are launching a new class of steam-vessels, with batteries of prodigious power, so that in their marine, though much smaller than our own, we may look for the latest inventions in the science of naval architecture or the arts of destruction.

On the 1st of December last, the Secretary of the American Navy made his annual report to the President of the United States on the state and prospects of that department, explaining in a lucid description the duties discharged by the several squadrons afloat, the actual condition of the service, and the changes or improvements which it was thought proper to recommend. From this document we collect much valuable intelligence, but its most striking feature, perhaps, is contained in the general view which it exhibits when regarded as a whole. As if under the influence of some irresistible law of things, the Americans are steadily treading in our own footsteps, and advancing gradually to the formation of a larger regular marine. The key-note of the report in almost every section is "extension." The traditional policy of throwing the utmost skill and pains into the construction of single ships is not forgotten, but by the side of this principle appears that of expanding the whole naval force. Hitherto there has been only one American squadron in the Pacific—it is now recommended that there should be two. Measures are suggested for insuring the supply of seamen, and American seamen especially, for the national service; additional officers are spoken of, and the forests on the western coasts of the continent are to be searched for ship timber. The spirit in which these and other recommenda-

tions are made is explained in one of the paragraphs of the report so clearly as to leave no room for misconception. "The arguments and considerations," says the Secretary, "for a steady and gradual enlargement of our navy have lost none of their force. Our extended coast, our multiplied commerce, the maintenance of our rank among the great Powers of the earth, all speak loudly in favor of this policy." We believe the impulse here indicated to be both natural and inevitable in the growth of a great nation, and sincerely do we rejoice over the reflection that the power to be thus developed must necessarily, by the laws of political gravitation, be carried to the side of liberty and progress.

### REMARKS.

We cannot rejoice with the *Times*, because we believe that the power of the Government of the United States will "necessarily, by the laws of political gravitation," be devoted to the establishment of slavery in America, and the destruction of liberty in Europe.

### How Information is given by the Government to the Legislative Body in the United States. How in England. Reform suggested.

[From the *Morning Post*, January 23.]

A suggestion has recently been made by a cotemporary which we concur in thinking, in many respects, is well worthy of consideration. It has been proposed that each of the principal officers of State should, at the commencement of every session, present to Parliament a report or paper containing a detailed account of the administration of his department, and pointing out such alterations and amendments as he may deem advantageous to the public service. This proposal has been borrowed from a practice which prevails in the United States, and it would seem that a recent report made by the American Secretary of the Navy has, at the present time, directed the attention of our cotemporary to the subject. But, in dealing with a question of this kind, it must be borne in mind that ministerial functions, and, we may add, Ministerial responsibility, are interpreted in the United States in a sense which is not likely to find much favor or acceptance in this country. The Ministers in the United States are not members of the Legislature. They consequently have no opportunity of explaining by word of mouth the reasons and grounds of their policy. They may be unpopular, and entirely without the confidence of the representatives of the people, and yet the President, if he thinks fit, may continue them in office, subject, no doubt, to the penalty of his own impeachment before the Supreme Court—a penalty which has never yet been attempted to be enforced. Written communications from the President and his advisers to Congress form the only means by which the machinery of Parliamentary Government in that country can be kept in motion; hence the Presidential messages are long argumentative documents, which contrast very forcibly with the attenuated information which English Royal speeches are usually, if not uniformly made the means of conveying. But English Ministers, as members of the Legislature, are always in their places to explain and justify their conduct, as well as to supply answers to those innumerable questions which, night after night, sometimes worthily, and sometimes without even a shadow of excuse, consume much of the time of Parliament. Want of information as to the details of policy, or of departmental administration, in England, there is none. We do not suppose, if the American practice were imported into the British Legislature, that questions and answers would diminish in amount or in importance, or increase in unimportance and triviality. A Secretary of State, like a self-satisfied author, who tells everybody he meets—"Read my book"—could not curtly reply to all inquisitive members by saying—"Read my general report, or my annual departmental summary." Things in these respects, we suspect, must remain much as they are, so long as direct Ministerial

responsibility forms a leading principle of our Constitution.

But would it not be an advantage if the Government were induced to attempt to supply Parliament, at the very commencement of its labors, with that information which everybody knows is in the pigeon-holes of the different Departments, nicely tied with green silk, or bound in white books, and which everybody also knows will be called for during the session?

## GERMAN PRESS IN THE UNITED STATES.

### The Position of the Working-Classes in the United States.

Under this heading, the *Hochwächter* (of Cincinnati) contains an ably written review of the report of the Committee of the House of Representatives of that State, on the condition of the poor-houses (asylums of the poor) and on the poverty prevailing amongst the sewing women of New York City, as shown by recent statistics.

In commenting on the position of the working-classes here, the *Hochwächter* says:

"Whether the laborer lose his means of livelihood, whether he starve or freeze to death, what cares the State or the politician? The theory that governments are created to secure to the citizen the means of existence, and to sustain him in his pursuit of happiness, has long since gone out of fashion. *Selfishness has driven humanity from the throne, and freedom has been conquered by slavery.* As the mere entertaining of the idea of the abolition of slavery is considered high treason, so is the proposition of a social reform for bettering the condition of the working-classes treated as crazy fanaticism. This immensely retrograding stride has been made by the people of the United States in the short time of eighty years!

"The consequence of this heartlessness and inhumanity are perceptible everywhere—in the cruel treatment of the aboriginal Indians—in the filibustering expeditions against peaceable neighbors—in the barbarous treatment of the slave—and in the cruel neglect of the poor whites. Whoever has visited an American poor house can judge how the sympathy for human misfortune has been deadened in the hearts of the people and its officers.

"It is an every day occurrence to be informed that a man has frozen to death in the midst of a populous city, or that another has died in consequence of hunger and want. If such cases occurred in England, the respective poor-house officers would be punished as murderers; here their conduct is scarcely thought worthy of a passing comment."

### Movement for Emancipation in Missouri.

The *Anzeiger des Westens*, (St. Louis, Missouri,) reviews the recent movements in favor of the emancipation of the slaves in that State. From this it appears that the organs of the so-called "National Democracy" in Missouri are utterly opposed to any scheme of that kind. One of the leading journals of that party says: "*The Democratic party will struggle against all plans of emancipation, by whomsoever they may be proposed.*" It ridicules, moreover, the audacity of the Germans in Missouri, who are charged by that journal with the desire of "selling their own negro children, if they had any," and are admonished not to meddle with slavery under pain of violence and expulsion.

The *Anzeiger des Westens*, in answer to these threats, states (on behalf of the Germans) that there are only 18,000 slaveholders in Missouri, and that such an insignificant minority ought not to indulge in threatenings of violence; and that moreover the Germans are not alone in their advocacy of gradual emancipation.

#### REMARKS.

Our sympathies are of course with the *Anzeiger des Westens*, in its well-meant efforts in behalf of the abolition of slavery in that State. But we do not believe that they can be successful. It is true that the number of those interested in the existence of slavery in Missouri is insignificant, but the slave-owners are the rich and influential part of the community, and being upheld and sustained by the leading politicians and by the powerful arm of the General Government at Washington, they will successfully resist all efforts in behalf of emancipation,

and the interests of the great mass of the people will be sacrificed to those of the ruling oligarchy. When the Government of the United States considered slavery as an evil, and deemed its abolition desirable, there was a chance for the general emancipation of slaves in the separate States. But now that the governing power of the United States is absolutely vested in the slave oligarchy, and its main policy consists in upholding and spreading the "peculiar institution," there is no prospect of the abolition of slavery in Missouri.

### German Pro-Slavery Logic upon the Ill-treatment of the Poor in this State. Refutation of the same.

The New York *Staats Zeitung*, the only German pro-slavery paper in New York, of the 10th instant, in commenting upon the state of the poor-houses in New York and the condition of their inmates, recommends the Report of the Senate Committee, (the substance of which we have laid before our readers,) to the consideration of the "Republican" papers which contain such frequent exposures of the South. "For," says the *Staats Zeitung*, "it is really ridiculous to grumble continually about the filth before a neighbor's house, without having cleaned it off from before one's own door. These pictures of the free North are no fancy sketches, but naked truth, in the shape of an official report. It would be absurd to attribute these facts to the circumstance that there is no involuntary servitude in the State of New York; but we would ask our Republicans whether this is the happy destiny which they have in view for the poor laborer? The slaveowner is at least obliged by the laws to take care of those of his people who are cripples or incapable of work; and cases where this is not done are very rare, for it is natural for him to regard his people as more nearly related to him than does the rich citizen of the North his poorer brethren. We would ask whether this is the destiny which the rich "republican" manufacturer keeps for those of his poor workmen, whose strength is broken by disease, age or poverty?"

#### REMARKS.

Why does not the *Staats Zeitung*, instead of looking with such longing eyes upon the blessings of slavery in the South, propose something to avert "the destiny" of these poor workmen? The *Staats Zeitung* has not a word to say in favor of the propositions of the Senate Committee for a thorough reform of the laws relating to the relief of the poor. Is this because talk about a reform of social evils in the North would not be pleasing to pro-slavery ears?

As to the notion of the *Staats Zeitung* that the slaveowners are obliged to support the aged and sick slaves, does not the editor of that paper know that the slaveowner can sell his slave to a beggar, and thus get rid of any obligation? Besides, what law is there regulating the treatment of slaves? Cannot the owner lodge, feed and provide for them as he pleases? And if the slaveowner be unable to provide for them at all, by reason of a failure of crops, or if he be hardhearted, what is the remedy of the slave—how are his complaints and his testimony to be made available against his master? The slave can neither sue nor give testimony.

The reasoning of the *Staats Zeitung* on this subject is utterly fallacious and absurd. The poor, broken-down laborer of the North is, even under the present miserable system of poor laws, in a far better plight than the broken-down slave of the South: and were the laws here properly amended, as they might and would be if an effort were made to that end, the evils depicted by the Report of the Senate Committee would be effectually abolished.

### Causes of Crime in New York. Why so few of the Criminals are Germans.

The *Criminal Zeitung*, commenting on the statement of the New York *Herald* to the effect that the prevalence of crime in this city is mainly chargeable to the neglect of the clergy, says:

"The fault is elsewhere. It may be traced to the defective intelligence of the people, to neglected domestic education, to the early independence accorded

to children, to the want of ennobling enjoyments, and lastly to the fact that the State does not fulfil its duties towards its poorer members. If all these causes were removed, and if the temptation to crime engendered by poverty, should be obviated by laws acknowledging the duty of the State to provide for those, who, without any fault on their part, are bereft of the means of subsistence, even then, New York would not be a paradise—but it would at least cease to be a Sodom.

"Why are so few Germans to be found here in the lists of criminals? Not because each of them keeps a father confessor, but because they are more intelligent, better educated, more moral, and because they know how to indulge in pleasures of an innocent and harmless character."

## SOUTHERN ITEMS.

### Free Negroes in Virginia. The Law.

[From the Staunton Vindicator.]

We have been requested to call the attention of the people to the necessity of keeping a stricter watch over the free negro population in this community—a class of all others the most prejudicial to the interest of both master and slave—and also to the evil practice of permitting slaves to hire their time, and go about trafficking as free men. We do not know that we could better answer this purpose than by referring to the law, and to urge upon all the necessity of enforcing it in every case where it may be violated.

By sec. 6, ch. 7 of the Code, no negro who has been emancipated since the year 1806 shall, after being twenty-one years of age, remain in this State more than one year, without lawful permission. Such permission can only be granted by the Court of the County or Corporation, all the magistrates being summoned for the purpose, and a majority of them present and voting on the question—notice of such application to remain must be posted at the Court House door for two months previous. The negro must also produce evidence of his good character, &c. The Commissioner of the Revenue is required annually to return a complete list of all free negroes in his district over twelve years of age, of both sexes. Every free negro shall, every five years, be registered in a book kept by the Court, giving an accurate description. The negro shall keep an attested copy of his register, with the seal of the Court annexed. Any free negro above twelve years of age, not having such register, may be committed to jail by a justice. Any person employing any free negro who has not such attested copy of his register shall forfeit five dollars to any person who will warrant therefor.

These are some of the general provisions of the law with regard to free negroes.

By sec. 8, ch. 104 of the Code, any person permitting a slave under his control to go at large, trade as a free man, or hire himself out for the benefit of any person whatever, shall forfeit not less than ten, nor more than thirty dollars.

The attention of the people in town and country is requested to a more rigid enforcement of these laws, not from fear of servile insurrection, but for the promotion of the general good.

## EXTRACTS FROM THE NORTHERN PRESS.

### General Scott's Bills for Confidential Expenses in Mexico. How Mexico was subjugated.

[From the New York Herald, February 9.]

General Scott and the Secretary of War.

We have received from Washington a part (160 pages) of the printed document of the salt and pepper, or rather saltpetre, correspondence between General Scott and the War Office, "relating to the payments and allowances which have been made, and to the claims which have been disallowed to Brevet Lieutenant General Scott, from the time when he joined the army serving in Mexico up to December 1, 1856." In these 160 printed pages received, we discover nothing very remarkable or interesting, except the bills of Gen. Scott's confidential expenses in Mexico, which we give elsewhere in these columns. These items show the importance of the hard cash in clearing the way for the operations of armies. The item of ten thousand dollars to "— and —," two distinguished Mexican officers no doubt, is particularly suggestive of the patriotism, honor and utility of bribery in some cases, as con-

trusted with other cases. *Between bribing a member of our own government and a member of a government with which we are war, there is, in fact, as wide a distinction as between throat-cutting on public and on private account.*

### THE POOR.

#### Relief of the Poor. Case illustrating the English System.

The following is an abstract of a report which appeared in the *London Times*, January 15:

GUILDHALL.—Abraham Lock, a lad about fifteen years of age, was placed at the bar before Sir R. W. Carden, charged under the following circumstances:

On Monday the lad applied at this office for relief, and Sir R. W. Carden having inquired into his condition, and finding him destitute and without any means of existence, directed him to apply at the West London Union, and gave him a letter to the relieving officer in order that he might be sure of being taken care of. After these precautions Sir R. W. Carden was greatly surprised on Tuesday to find among the list of prisoners the unfortunate lad whom he believed at the time to be comfortably housed at the West London Union. The lad accounted with the most ingenuous candor for his appearance in that position, by stating that he went to the West London Union, and the relieving officer, after reading the letter, and ascertaining that the lad slept on the previous night at the Refuge in Playhouse Yard, referred him to the parish of St. Luke's, in which the Refuge is situated; the poor boy then turned from the Union in despair, and with starvation staring him in the face, he, unperceived stole a skittle-ball from a shop in Long Lane, and proceeding in the same direction, he gave himself into custody for the offence he had so committed.

Sir R. W. Carden, on hearing the lad's statement, remanded him till the following day, and ordered a summons to be served upon the relieving officer, requiring him to attend and explain his conduct.

The lad was accordingly brought up yesterday, when Mr Webb, the relieving officer of the West London Union, appeared in obedience to the summons.

Sir R. W. Carden (addressing the relieving officer) said: *This is a case of some importance to the public.* This poor boy applied to me for relief, and as he appeared destitute and without friends, I sent him to you for relief, and, not getting it, he has stolen a skittle-ball and given himself up, evidently for the purpose of obtaining that food and shelter I sent him to you for.

Mr Webb.—The letter was directed to the City of London Union.

Sir R. W. Carden.—But you opened it.

Mr Webb.—Yes, sir. I opened and read it, but as he said he had slept last in St. Luke's, I told him to go there, and he went quietly away without saying another word. When he was gone I found the letter was not directed to me, and I ran after him, but he was gone.

Mr Webb.—I should have attended to the case had he resided in our district, but I am bound to make the inquiries I did, and to act upon them.

Sir R. W. Carden.—Then, let me tell you, *you are bound to relieve all cases of necessity when application is made to you.* This is only a part of that system of sending the poor from place to place to avoid relieving them. I would recommend you to be more careful in future, and remember that your predecessor always attended to a request from the magistrates.

Mr Webb.—I will attend to any communication for the future that I may receive from you.

Sir R. W. Carden.—It was most providential that the boy was brought before me, as I recognised him immediately. Had he been taken before any other magistrate he would have been sent to gaol and probably have become a thief for the remainder of his life. It is a very serious consequence to contemplate, and such might have been the result of your neglect of this boy.

Mr Webb.—The wording of the summons is for not relieving the boy, being in my district, when he really belongs to St. Luke's.

Mr Martin (the chief clerk).—You are in error; for the summons states, "that the Poor Law Commissioners did, by an order, rule, or regulation, dated the 24th of July, 1847, and duly issued to the West London Union, and being still in force in the said Union, order and direct that the relieving officer should receive all applications for relief made to him within his district, and

*in every case of urgent necessity, afford such relief to the destitute person as may be requisite, whether such destitute person be settled in any parish comprised in the Union or not."*

Sir R. W. Carden.—Now, boy, there is no imputation upon your character for what you have done, for it was evidently an act of necessity; but, at the same time, the offence you have committed is still a theft, and I recommend you not to repeat it, because, if you are destitute and cannot get relief from the proper place, (the Union,) you should apply to the magistrate, who will see that you obtain that relief which every destitute person is entitled to. You may go now, and the relieving-officer will take you into the house.

Mr Webb having expressed his readiness to take care of the boy, the complaint was dismissed, and both left the office together.

#### Employment for Women. Injustice of Men towards Women. Necessity for additional Occupations for Women.

The *London Morning Post* of January 20, says:

Excepting domestic service, there is no remunerative employment for young women of the humbler classes. Slop-work leads to slavery, starvation and death. What else is there? Few girls are taught book-keeping, and, consequently, few find employment in shops and offices. Even lace, ribbons, and all the leading articles of female attire are sold in our shops chiefly by men. Is not this a gross injustice to women? If the only alternative be, on the one hand, idleness and alluring vice, and on the other slop-work and starvation, can we wonder that many, who are by nature loving, sweet, tender, beautiful and good, fall before the cruel and corrupting influences which are made to bear upon them.

The injustice of men towards women is real; but it is not intentional. In ruder times, the business of life required a strong arm, and capacity for physical endurance. All this is now changed; but, nevertheless, profitable occupations requiring no bodily strength, and which are peculiarly suited to women, continue, from custom and routine, to be monopolised by men. Reformatories and missionaries for outcast women do only an infinitesimal amount of good; still, far be it from us to discourage them. Of this, however, we are firmly convinced, that so long as women are not trained and educated so as to be able to exercise those remunerative employments to which they are specially fitted, so long will they be actually coerced into crime and misery. If we cannot rescue many of the present race from their evil ways, we can, at least, take measures to save those who are now children from being forced, on reaching maturity, to select the dread alternative of starvation or infamy.

FROZEN TO DEATH.—On the 19th ultimo, some of the residents of Cedar Swamp, near Hempstead, Long Island, perceiving no signs of life about a hut inhabited by a colored family, entered the wretched hovel, and found a colored woman and three children in bed, frozen to death. They had perished during the terrific storm of the previous day and night.—*Philadelphia Ledger*, February 7.

#### Wages of Agricultural Laborers in England—Conflicting Statements.

[From the *London Daily News*, January 20.]

It seems a strange thing that in these days of unlimited communication there is no learning what the wages of agricultural laborers are. One meets with people who pretend to know; but they contradict one another in all directions. Each probably speaks of his own neighborhood; and we are thus led to suspect a wide variation in the different quarters of the kingdom—a much wider variation than there would be if laborers of that class had means of knowing the condition of their order, like those of factory operatives, or the mechanics of our towns. As it is, we all actually know more about the rate of rural laborers' wages in Ireland, in Australia, and in the Western world, than we do about the same thing in half our English counties. Last week, the unemployed operatives in Smithfield said, and the newspapers said after them, that the present wages of rural laborers in England are eight or nine shillings a week: whereas at the present time there are broad districts in the old-fashioned north of England where no farm laborer of average qualifications has less than fourteen to sixteen shillings a week. It is true that where the nominal rate is the highest of these, or a higher still, there are deductions for wet days when weather pre-

vents all work; but, taking one village or one estate with another, a farm laborer in the north of England would not, as a general rule, engage himself for less than twelve shillings and a cottage, or fourteen without, long and short days, wet and dry weather. Now, if it is true that wages for the same work are anywhere in the kingdom so little as eight shillings without a cottage or other advantages, there is something very wrong which improved knowledge would set right. In the manufacturing districts, every farthing per hank or yard added or taken off in any place is known, as if by magic, over all the settlements where the same business goes forward. In the mining districts, every change of terms between the miners and the owners is made known as a fact of public interest. But in the case of agriculture, if a northern farmer tells his men that in the southern counties they would get only eight or nine shillings, he must submit to be supposed to be only trying to prevent his people leaving him. As for the poor fellows in Wiltshire or Dorsetshire, or wherever the low wages are, they can hardly have been told that there are places in England where they might get double pay for the same work; or, spite of all the obstacles of the parochial settlement laws, they would hardly stay where they are. The equalization that would be brought about by due publicity—by a regular promulgation of the statistics of agriculture—would be an incalculable blessing. There would be an end to the absurd expectation and requisition that, at the present price of provisions, a family should live on nine shillings a week; and, if the south country farmers are sincere (as we believe they are) in saying that they cannot afford to pay more, they might learn from some of their own order how it is that they can not only afford to pay more, but would consider it bad economy to give so little.

Thus much we have been taught by farming experience in Ireland. When the farmers there really believed that sixpence a day was as much as they could afford to give, the bargain was as poor a one for them as for their laborers. They called their men idle; and it was true that they threw themselves down on their backs as soon as their employer's back was turned. They were hungry, in fact, and could not get through a proper day's work. Now that wages in Ireland have risen to eightpence and even two shillings a day, the farmers can afford such pay. They are surprised to see how much their laborers can do when well fed, cheerful and comfortable. There can be no doubt that a similar change would take place in any part of the country where wages are now eight shillings, and where a due equalization would bring them up to twelve. Meantime, while the farmer is no richer, (for he probably pays as much as the work is worth,) how do the laborers exist?

#### SPECIMEN OF AMERICAN DIGNITARIES.

##### Correspondence between General Scott and Jefferson Davis.

The correspondence between General Scott and Secretary Davis, recently communicated to Congress, and about which considerable curiosity has been expressed, has been partially made public, and to judge from the specimens we give below, is bitter and personal to an unusual degree on both sides. It opens with a letter from General Scott, dated July 30, 1855, in which he says:

"Certainly, as Secretary of War, you have done enough to warrant more than a suspicion that, from the first, you had considered it your special mission, by repeated aggression on my rights and feelings, to goad me into some perilous attitude of official opposition."

Then follows a long communication, setting forth official acts of the Secretary of War, such as issuing orders, &c., to frontier posts, done without his (General Scott's) approbation.

At the request of General Scott, this document was referred to the President, and referred without comment.

*The Secretary tells the General that he is a basely malevolent liar.*

In reply, Secretary Davis sent the following unofficial note, dated—

"WASHINGTON, August 2, 1855.

"Sir: Your letter of the 30th July was received yesterday, and, as you requested, was referred to the President. When returned to me it will be answered. You have taken the occasion of an official correspondence to make unfounded imputations upon my motives,

and to use such language as my idea of the requirements of official courtesy does not permit me to notice in my official character, and I therefore adopt this unofficial mode. You ascribe to partisan hostility my opposition to conferring on you the title of Lieutenant General, but that opposition was actively and publicly made when I was a member of the United States Senate, and chairman of the Committee of Military Affairs. You were then known to the country as a distinguished soldier, but had not been forced upon public attention as a partisan politician, nor as such been judged by the people or approved by me. You certainly had better opportunity to know of my opposition then than when it was merely that of a well-settled and long-entertained opinion held by me in a position which separated me from a participation in the active business in Congress. My views were publicly given as a senator to a sufficient extent to show on what my judgment rested, and your present accusation, which charges me with usurpation for the most unworthy ends, and imputes to me motives inconsistent with official integrity, is considered *basely malevolent and pronounced utterly false.*

"Your obedient servant,

"JEFF. DAVIS."

This note, though unofficial, is replied to by General Scott officially, who insists upon spreading it upon the files of the Department. This reply is dated August 6, and Secretary Davis rejoins again September 7, at great length, and reviews the specifications in General Scott's indictment against him.

The General next grants leave of absence to Colonel Hitchcock, under circumstances not approved by the Department, and is ordered to countermand or revoke the leave of absence. This he refused to do, assigning his reason therefor. This reason was referred to the President, who endorsed the reason assigned as unsatisfactory. The Secretary of War will report his views as to the means best calculated to secure promptitude in the execution of orders relative to the movements of the army.

Secretary Davis recommends that the headquarters of the army be removed from New York to the seat of government.

*The General charges the Secretary with a Felonious Intent.*

The following letter from General Scott is in answer to this suggestion:

"HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,  
New York, September 29, 1856.

"Sir: With all the records of the army and every compulsory assistance at hand, you have, by a toil of more than five weeks on what to your nature must have been a labor of love, poured only upon me in twenty-seven compact foolscap pages, this *full measure of your spleen and vengeance.* Its precursor was *savage and scurrilous*, but the slowly concocted venom now vented is no doubt fondly relied upon to kill at once. The *felo-cious intent* is clear enough. Nevertheless, you may be forced to borrow the exclamation, "Tis not done; and the attempt, and not the deed; confounds us."

This is followed by a long defence of his cause, couched in rather strong language.

*The Secretary charges the General with Meanness in paying himself the whole Percentage of the Money paid by the City of Mexico.*

The Secretary of War replies again December 20, reviewing the matters in controversy at great length, and exposing many matters of General Scott's money dealings with the government; referring to one item, the Secretary says:

"The law did not allow you what you paid to yourself. That *payment to yourself—what meanness does it display!* What could have been less consistent with the generosity and magnanimity which should have graced the first in rank among a band of gallant soldiers? You awarded to yourself the whole percentage of the money paid by the City of Mexico when subjugated by their victorious arm."

*The General retorts that his Address is a review of Clarendon, and "Our whole Law Abolition is based upon the title of 'The Parrot.'"* The General quotes Poetry.

The General, under date of January 31, 1856, replies to this insinuation:

"Such continued *recklessness of character could only proceed from one whose low ambition is flattered with the title of 'The Parrot.'*"

He is again lengthy, and referring to some old matters called up by Secretary Davis, says:

"For revenge, the slanders respecting the trial of 1810 was disinterred by your letter of September, which, being refuted in the same month, is now reproduced with variations:

"Who shames a scribble? Break one cobweb through,  
He spins the slight self-plesing thread anew;  
Destroy his web of sophistry: in vain—  
The creature's at his dirty work again."

*The Secretary replies that the General is a Coward. Also that he is "an enraged imbecile, who lays about him blows which hurt only himself." The Secretary declines further exposing the General's "vulgarity and depravity."*

"WAR DEPARTMENT, February 29, 1856.

"Sir: I received your letter dated January 31, and proceed to notice its contents.

"You have persisted in making your letters official, and I have thus forced upon me the obligation to receive them, and reply, in such terms as seem to me appropriate, to the baseless accusations which derive their only importance from the high standing you occupy.

"Another instance of your capacity, in the same breath, to beg for sympathy and utter slander, is your accusation that I have endeavored to provoke a duel with an old soldier, known to be so lame in both arms as to write with difficulty and pain.

"Those ignorant of the fact that the great disability of which you complain was the result of a fall upon the pavement in New York, would naturally infer from the introduction of the phrase 'old soldier,' that you were, by wounds received in battle, disqualified for self-defence, and every generous heart that believed your assertion would visit with indignant censure the unmanly attempt to involve a wounded veteran in personal combat. But no such purpose was entertained. You had given notice to the world that you would not act upon the sentiment which makes a gentleman responsible to any one whom he assails when in the vigor of manhood. You pleaded a sense of religion and patriotic scruples, as reasons for not answering to the personal defiance of an aggrieved officer, General Jackson, your superior in military rank, and infinitely above you in every other respect—and it was not to be supposed that you would, at this time, take different ground. But no disability, no age, no plea of conscientious scruples can be admitted, to shield a slanderer from rebuke; and when you gratuitously imputed to me motives injurious and offensive to me as a man, I addressed to you an unofficial note, and *flung on you the brand of falsehood*, which you vainly endeavor to wash away with your unfeeling flood of abusive epithets.

Your obedient servant,

"JEFFERSON DAVIS.

"To Brevet Lieut.-Gen. WINFIELD SCOTT, U. S. ARMY."

To this communication General Scott replies as follows, under date of March 20:

"Again you recur to my past history and my court-martial of 1810. Now, your 'triple-told tale,' again and again refuted and put to shame, but which, with Caliban malice, that needs must curse, you are likely to reproduce to the end of the chapter, if only to give me the advantage, as you say, of referring to a particular passage of my history. This, to such a spirit, if not victory, is yet revenge."

To this the Secretary of War returns a lengthy reply, and General Scott again retorts:

"My silence, under the new provocation, has been the result first of pity, and next of forgetfulness. Compassion is always due to an enraged imbecile who lays about him blows which hurt only himself, or who, at worst, seeks to smite his opponent by the dint of naughty words."

The following is the concluding letter of the correspondence.

"WAR DEPARTMENT, May 27, 1856.

"Sir: I have received your letter of the 20th inst. The delay for which you make a hypocritical apology has strengthened you to resume the labor of vituperation, but having only in this correspondence stamped you with falsehood, and, whenever you have presented a tangible point, convicted you by conclusive proof, I have ceased to regard your abuse, and as you present nothing in this letter which requires remark, I am gratified to be released from the necessity of further exposing your malignity and depravity.

"Your obedient servant,

"JEFFERSON DAVIS.

"Brevet Lieut.-Gen. WINFIELD SCOTT."

SWINDLING, FRAUD AND CRIME.

[From the New York Tribune.]

**Swindling in New York. Is there no Law?**  
To the Editor of the New York Tribune:

Sir: I have just returned from your city, where I was so shamefully imposed upon myself, and where I saw others so outrageously treated, that I cannot hold my peace. My friends advise me to tell my story to you. It is briefly this: I went to New York last week with my sister, who was going to California. We put up at the "Jersey House," at the foot of Cortlandt street. We had been directed there by a respectable looking young man whom we met on the ferry-boat. He proved to be a runner for the house. He saw by my sister's baggage that she was going to California. He kept near us all the time we were at the house, and when we were about to leave he offered to help me get a ticket. I went with him to a respectable looking office, with a sign over the door, "Office of the California Steamship Company." I asked for a second cabin ticket, and laid down the price, \$150. After some delay a ticket was handed to my, which, without examination and without suspicion, I put into my pocket. I took my sister to the vessel, and, on presenting her ticket she was directed down into the steerage. I objected; my sister was delicate, and I had paid, I said, for a second cabin ticket. They answered that my ticket was for the steerage. I told them where and how I had got it. They said that I had been imposed upon; that that was a "bogus" office. I hastened back to this office and remonstrated. They said that if I didn't be quiet they would kill me. I went out for an officer, and finding one near, I told him my story. He said that he could do nothing for me; that fifty cases like mine had come to his knowledge that day. I asked him to come into the office and protect me while I appealed to the men who had wronged me. He went with me, and I renewed my remonstrances. They at once seized me and violently forced me out of the house. The policeman looked on and laughed. I went to the Mayor's office; the Mayor was engaged. I related my case to his chief clerk, and he told me to go down to the police office below stairs. I did so. They heard my story, and sent me to a "Captain Hollins"—a Captain, I believe, of the Police. He gave me no satisfaction, and did nothing for me. "My God," I thought, "is this a sample of the country of my adoption?" As I was coming away, I saw a man and woman and a child, apparently in great grief. Inquiring into the cause, I was told that they were country people who had come to the city to embark for California: that they had purchased tickets and paid \$800 for them—all the money they had in the world—but that those tickets were "bogus" tickets and were worth nothing. Here these people were, strangers and penniless, the most pitiable objects I ever saw in my life. I could stand it no longer. I resolved that if the Mayor would not hear me the public should. If I can have no redress for myself, I can at least put others on their guard against these cruel impositions. I call on you to help me in this matter. If there is no law nor police in New York to protect unsuspecting strangers, in Heaven's name let it be known, that people may be on their guard. O, the misery I saw during the short stay I made in New York! My own case was bad enough, but it was nothing to those of others that came to my knowledge. I call on you, respectfully but earnestly, to raise your voice against these infamous practices. I am a stranger to you, but I give you my name and address, and hold myself ready to substantiate all the statements I have herein made.

Respectfully yours,

JAMES GLEASON.

MOUNT AIREY, Germantown, January 12, 1857.

**Three Cases of Garroting in Philadelphia.**

[From the Evening Bulletin, February 8.]

A few nights since, while a stranger—a merchant from New York—was passing along Market, in the vicinity of Seventh street, he was attacked by two men, who threw the noose of a rope over his neck, and drawing it tight, brought him to the ground on his back. While in that condition, he was robbed of a small amount of money he carried in his pocket. The police did not make their appearance during this outrage—not a star twinkled. The victim remained insensible for some time after the attack.

Another individual has been attacked in nearly the same way within a short time. This gentleman was

passing along the street rather late, when a fellow seized him by the throat and attempted to choke him, but without success, for the gentleman seized the rascal and gave him a complete thrashing. It would not take a Kentucky jury to bring in a verdict in this case of "Served him right."

A man named John Rink was arrested in the western part of Callowhill street, on Saturday night, on the charge of attempting the garroting experiment on a citizen. The accused had a hearing yesterday afternoon, when it was in evidence that Rink and a companion came up to complainant, and, seizing him by the throat attempted to steal his watch. The citizen defended himself, and roared lustily, bringing a policeman to his assistance. The companion of Rink took to his heels, but the party attacked held on to the latter, and he was finally secured and lodged in the Fifteenth Ward Station-house. The accused was committed to answer. Garroting, thus far, does not seem to thrive well in Philadelphia. The Gothamites are welcome to keep such peculiar institutions as the garrote, mock auctions, &c., all to themselves.

#### Insecurity of Life in New York.

The New York *Evening Mirror* says: "So long as the authorities refuse to offer a reward for the heads of these midnight assassins—brought in dead or alive—this garroting business is likely to increase rather than diminish. In the meantime, self-defence 'Clubs' are being formed; and already 4000 members are enrolled; and we believe there are not less than ten thousand men with concealed weapons in their pockets in the streets after dark. And they not only carry them in their pockets, but in their hands, ready for instant use."

[From the Liverpool Courier.]

#### Cruelty on Board of American Ships.

*Killing is evidently considered "no murder" on board American ships. We have a fresh proof of this, on an average, about every other week. Last week we had the case of a man beaten, kicked, cuffed, or flogged to death during a voyage across the Atlantic in the Guy Monnering, simply because the poor fellow, though on board a ship professedly as a seaman, did not happen to be a thorough sailor. This week we have a "mutiny" on board the James L. Bogart, while lying in the river, and half a dozen men shot, stabbed, hacked, cut, or beaten, if not to death, at least to such a condition that it may well be denominated "death's door." From all this it will be seen what is the fearful condition of life on board American vessels, for the sailors at least. In the American service tyranny and brutality appear to have become the rule; in the British service we know it is the exception. Now, how is this? American seamen have proved themselves to be as brave, and American officers, when they are among us, are quite as courteous, polite, well educated, and apparently amiable, as Englishmen. Our own sailors are just as reckless on shore, as fond of rollicking, as heedless of crimps, and as much addicted to going on board drunk at the very moment the vessel is leaving dock, as the Americans are; yet we seldom hear of such outbreaks among them on shipboard, or of our officers finding it necessary to fly to such dread resorts as their American brethren are notoriously in the habit of doing. There must be a reason for this difference, and there is. The American ships are undermanned, compared with British ships; hence, the attempt to get more work out of the crews than they can reasonably accomplish, tends to all these deplorable doings. This is no mere theory—it is an absolute fact, proved by American official documents. From the figures two facts are apparent—first, that although the tonnage of the American ships almost exactly divides that of the English vessels, their crews altogether number not quite one-third more than the whole of the crews of the English ships; and secondly, that the American commercial marine is not recruited from the same trustworthy source as our own—namely, from apprentices, or "boys," as they are denominated in the returns. Now, this undermanning of American vessels is a most important question, and should engage the serious attention of statesmen both in England and America. Nationally, we have the greatest interest in securing efficient discipline and good order on board American ships, for how many thousands of our countrymen and countrywomen annually intrust themselves to their care as a means of conveyance to what they anticipate will be to them a happier and a better country? The underwriters, we may be sure, will look after the matter so*

far as they are concerned, for they know well enough that ships short-handed are not so seaworthy, however well built, as ships with full and able crews. The Americans will no doubt look after it for the credit of their country, as the present disgraceful state of things must be, we feel assured, as much deplored on the other side of the Atlantic as it is on this.

#### Brutal Treatment of Seamen on Board of American Ships.

The London correspondent of the New York *Tribune*, in his letter dated London, January 23, 1857, says:

"In the American merchant service tyranny and brutality appear to have become the rule; in the British service we know it is the exception." Such is the deliberate conclusion to which the Liverpool *Courier* of last week has come in consequence of some cases which have recently occupied the Liverpool magistrates. "Killing is evidently considered *no murder* on board American ships; we have a fresh proof of this, on an average, about every other week." Such is the language of the Liverpool paper, which tries to explain this sad experience by the fact that "American ships are undermanned compared with British ships; hence, the attempt to get more work out of the crews than they can reasonably accomplish, tends to all these deplorable doings." The article winds up with the following words: "The Americans will no doubt look after it for the credit of their country, as the present disgraceful state of things must be, we feel assured, as much deplored on the other side of the Atlantic as it is on this." We wish to direct your attention to these facts, as it is certain that the brutality against seamen on American ships, mostly foreigners or colored people, which has often come before the public in connection with the Liverpool Police Court, cannot fail to lower the respect in which Americans are usually held in Europe. English Abolitionists connect these facts with the brutalizing effects of slavery on slaveowners, and are therefore ready to believe even the stupid hoax of Mr. Arrowsmith, since they have so often witnessed scenes of stabbing, shooting and flogging in the port of Liverpool, exclusively, or at least mostly, on board of the American merchant vessels. The recent mutiny on board of the *James L. Bogart* gave an opportunity for these remarks.

REMARKS.

It is no new thing to complain about the treatment of sailors in American ships. The subject was taken up with great vigor by the New York press in the summer of 1853, especially by the New York *Times* and New York *Tribune*, in which journals very able leading articles appeared, denouncing the treatment to which sailors, as well as emigrants, were subjected on board of American ships.

The following is an extract from the New York *Times* of June 9, 1853:

UNREMARKED STATEMENT.

The records of the sea are fast becoming the most painful portions of our daily intelligence. Hardships and cruelty seem to go hand in hand, and the packet service constantly furnishes new causes of complaint. The reports of our courts teem with statements of wrongs inflicted upon seamen and passengers; the condition of so many of our emigrant packet-ships is repulsive in the extreme; the civility of captains, mates and agents is nothing to boast of; and the system of emigrant transportation is altogether in need of a reform.

Extract from a letter dated July 18, 1853, published in the New York *Tribune*:

PROFANE OF SEAMEN.

In the *Tribune* of the New York *Tribune*:

Sir: In your journal of Wednesday last, the writer of the article on the Merchant Seamen of New York, states, "That outrages the most barbarous, wanton and uncalculated for are daily practised (on seamen) at sea, by those invested with a little temporary authority."

The truth of the above statement I can fully corroborate by what came under my own observation in a voyage from the Old Country to New York. The ship was one of a regular line of packets. Its officers and men consisted of the captain, three mates, eighteen able seamen and two boys. The treatment which these men and boys received at the hands of the first and third

mates was the theme of universal reprehension among the passengers. Scarcely a day elapsed but some of them were subject to blows and buffetings, and cuffed and kicked about for no apparent reason but sheer wantonness. So far as my limited nautical knowledge extended, the men appeared to me to perform their duty in a proper manner, and did nothing to merit the brutal usage they received. Their provisions were stinted, and not half cooked; and if any remonstrance was made on the latter point, it was met with the response—prefaced, 'as usual, with a blasphemous oath—"If they did not like it they could leave it." Many a time have I seen them take their tubs of meat, pork, beans, &c., and throw them into the cooking galley at the cooks' heads, their contents being totally unfit for human food, caused by carelessness and neglect in its preparation.

#### Crime in Brooklyn. 2,180 Arrests in One Quarter.

REPORTS OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE.—The report for the quarter ending December 31, 1856, shows the 2,180 arrests were made—being a decrease of 333 from the number embraced in the previous report. During the quarter 2,001 persons were accommodated with lodgings at the different station-houses; 98 lost children were found by the police and restored to their parents. The yearly report ending December 31, 1856, shows a total of 9,691 arrests for various offences, being 2,194 less than the year previous; 6,143 persons were accommodated with lodgings; 675 lost children were found and restored to their parents.

[Continued from page 201.]

#### THE SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE UNITED STATES.

#### The Testimony of European Tourists Examined, and its general Worthlessness Exposed.

BY AN ENGLISH RESIDENT.

Mr. Buckingham, in his description of the slave States, shows how, in the thinly settled parts, a village is constituted—he says it is composed of a blacksmith's shop, a few log huts, and a groggery—for forty miles he saw only one instance of a store where anything but liquor could be procured. The apparent indifference of the American people to comforts, and their habit of rapid and silent eating in public, our author thus accounts for: "The most easy solution I have been able to offer of this to my own mind is, that the great bulk of American travellers are insensible to the distinctions between clean apartments and dirty ones, privacy or publicity, good food or bad." (*Slave States*, vol. i., p. 451.)

During his stay in the South all that he had seen tended to confirm him in the opinion that slavery as a system indisposed the free whites in slave States to labor. (*Slave States*, vol. i., p. 533.)

At Columbia, the capital of South Carolina, our author found that the heat prostrated the strength and destroyed all energy and all capacity for action; and yet the houses were not provided with the modes of evading or subduing the heat which are common in India—in the East and West Indies, and in South America—ice was to be had at only one place in Columbia—a druggist's shop. (*Slave States*, vol. ii., p. 17.)

Even in what our author describes as the coolest, most beautiful and most healthy portion of the South, Buncombe county, North Carolina, a well-peopled district, this is what he saw: "Though there were some few decent houses, the greatest number of them were miserable looking dwellings, rude and dirty without and bare and comfortless within; the broken panes of glass being more numerous than those that were whole, and every thing bespeaking indolence and dirty habits of the occupants. Industry, in the sense in which we understand that term, as implying a love of active bodily exertion, is rarely seen among the white inhabitants of the South." (*Slave States*, vol. ii., pp. 198, 199.) The white women are seen, he tells us, in groups, "rocking in their chairs, with their loose cotton bonnets and deep blind curtains hanging over their shoulders, wasting their time in the merest gossiping; their clothes dirty, their hair loose and their whole persons most untidy; the children without shoes or stockings, filthy apparel, uncombed silvery hair, and unwashed pale faces."

In the South the cattle pick up a scanty subsistence

in the woods and along the wayside. The hogs are abundant, and as pork is almost the only animal food of nineteen out of twenty Americans, let us see our author's description of the hogs, for the purpose of testing the consistency of his assertion that the Americans are so vastly superior to all the rest of the world in the possession of "creature comforts." "These (the hogs) are among the ugliest of their species, with long thin heads, long legs, arched backs, large leaping ears, lank bodies, and long thin tails, and they are among the filthiest of the filthy." He says the flesh of the hog is the universal food of all classes of the interior, and he had never sat down to any meal where pork or bacon did not form the principal, and often the only dish of animal food on the table; though it is generally so rank, coarse and generally served up, that it requires the stimulus of great hunger to partake of it. (*Slave States*, vol. II, p. 384.)

In some parts of Virginia he found that the country people used little or no wheaten flour—some towns were mere wretched assemblages of log houses. The people in this region he describes thus: "The men seemed as if they did not shave more than once a month, or wash more than once a year; the women looked as though a comb never went through their hair, or soap and water over their skirts; and the children, though they were all clothed, never had their garments mended, and were as ragged as they were dirty. Yet they were all of the white race; and no negroes, Indians or savages among the wildest tribes of Africa or Australia could possibly be dirtier, or apparently more indolent than they were. It is, indeed, to this latter vice that all their defects are to be traced." (*Slave States*, vol. II, p. 306.) He supposed that these poor wretches owned negro slaves; but in that he was mistaken.

After all this, we find our author again on the other tack. He says that in English churches there are persons poorly dressed. "No such class is seen in American churches, and from the general aspect of the congregation, you can hardly fail to be convinced that want of food, raiment, or comfortable dwellings is unknown among them." (*Slave States*, vol. II, p. 481.)

This was written in Virginia, where, however, he discovered that there were 3,600 paupers. This extent of pauperism he attributes to the idleness of the people. Mental labor, says he, is degrading, and therefore disagreeable to the whites, who are indisposed to manual exertion and industry. (*Slave States*, vol. II, pp. 461-467.)

Notwithstanding the outward aspect of wealth and prosperity, he found in many places trade stagnant and balance the order of the day, whilst incendiary fires and columns of all sorts abounded everywhere. (*Third Series*, vol. I, pp. 180-186.)

In the towns of Ohio, he says, he found more of substantial neatness and cleanliness than he had observed in any towns of similar size in the country. A love of flowers and an attempt to adorn the fronts of their dwellings with flowering shrubs and espaliers was more prevalent in Ohio than he had observed it elsewhere; and the dress and persons of the people he now were lighter and cleaner than he usual among the same class generally. (*Third Series*, vol. I, pp. 270, 277, 440.)

He asserts that the boarders at the principal hotels in some of the principal towns in Ohio, are not superior in appearance not equal in manners to the householders included in England—the fare is coarse and common—the house dirty—the habits of the people repulsive. (*Third Series*, vol. II, pp. 284-5.) He complains of the want of shade for the highways—of hedges, instead of the rugged and unpretentious fence and sky and hills. "At present nothing can be more unwholesome than the robe of cotton, with the mass of filthy frunks of trees around them, and the total absence of all cleanliness, neatness or taste in the habitations of the the people." (*Third Series*, vol. II, p. 291.)

In Kentucky he was struck by the general absence of neatness and cleanliness in the farm houses, cottages and villages near which he passed. (*Third Series*, vol. II, p. 448.)

[To be continued.]

NIUANUA.

Dreadful Sufferings of White Soldiers, Number of the Sick.

[From the New York Tribune, January 1.]

We have never read or heard of anything more painful than the sufferings of Walker's soldiers; and

we are sure that the pencil of Fuseli might, were it still wielded, find in the lazar houses of Virgin Bay fouler and more grotesquely frightful subjects than it ever painted. Here, lips blue with cholera are heard to say: "I am almost dead; I have eaten nothing for six days;" there, after amputation, rests a naked soldier, crying for water. There are those so harassed that they could not eat food if they had it, and those who have been huddled in wagons, without a cup of water, for four days; there are corpses which can find no Christian burial; there is a mother, who, with her two infants, has stretched herself upon the pavement to die of cholera; a poor man staggers up to a table where others are eating, blind with starvation and gaunt with approaching dissolution, and being pressed to eat, cannot swallow, and is dead before morning; and here, "with the flies swarming about eyes and mouth," another succumbs to fever. All is noboneness and filth, disease, desperation and death. And this is the glory to which the turgid proclamations of a law adventurer invited the young men of the United States! It was for this that so many of them evaded the laws of their country and forsook their homes! Of the seven thousand men who have left the Union to engage in Walker's service, six thousand are dead, some of them having fallen in battle, but most of them perished miserably by disease. And yet, under some hideous delusion, and seduced by we know not what insidious arts, men are still demented enough to seek this Golgotha.

It seems very hard that one bad man—and we believe Walker to be an exceedingly bad man—should have it in his power to inflict all this wretchedness. War, at best, is almost insufferable; but this war, so mean in its objects, and so mighty in its misery, is absolutely intolerable. Is it not in the power of a Government which should be paternal to protect its citizens, and to restrain them, even by force, from rushing headlong into such misery?

REMARKS.

Notwithstanding these revelations, the *Irish News* of February 7th asserts:

"That by this time the San Juan is in complete possession by General Walker's army, the Costa Ricans, together with the murderers and renegades, aiding and abetting them, having been flung to the alligators in the river, or to the wild hogs in the forests overlooking either bank."

"The reinforcements at Punta Arenas under Colonel Lockridge—those that sailed on Thursday last from here—those again under Colonel Tins, not including, or mentioning 2000, the 400 who sailed from New Orleans last week—these facts justify us in the statement we have made. All the reinforcements were well armed. Physically, they were in the best condition. Their stores were abundant. Adequate means for foraging the river were on hand. The coolness, intrepidity and experience of General Walker, the military genius and accomplished means of General Huntington, the fidelity and courage of the officers and men under their command, these are the elements which, in combination with the substantial superiority we have referred to, will retrieve whatever has been lost. Not merely so this, but irreparably consolidate in that noble region the republican—the enlightened system of laws, equity and freedom—the seeds of which, generously sown by William Walker, and nurtured by the blood of his brave soldiers, would have ripened by this time into a perfect growth, but for the senseless cowardly of such men as Mr. Vanderbilt, and the illiterate intolerance of such enthusiasts as Garcon."

It is by such teaching as this that the poor Irish are induced to go in thousands to meet the hirelings, who that awaits them in Nicaragua. We are sorry to add, that as the efforts of Walker to establish slavery are very popular with the masses of this hemisphere, (the slaveholders,) we may expect to witness a continuation of these human sacrifices to their odious policy.

News at Punta Arenas, Nicaragua, of the British, who were detained and forced against their will to serve in Walker's Army.

On the morning of the 15th of January, while some were engaged in building cottages for the common, others in getting the abundant in readiness, others working, and the remainder either cleaning their arms or lying at their ease upon the lumber stored between Capt. Scott's buildings and Mr. Craig's Spinning Hall, a

boat was lowered from Her Majesty's ship *Cornack*, bearing the Cross of St. George astern, and soon afterwards she was filled with men. The flag attracted the attention of those on Punta Arenas, and an impression prevailed that there was something unusual about to occur.

The boat was watched carefully; and she was soon seen moving towards the quarters of Walker's men, with an officer at the helm. A few minutes brought her to the quarters, and the officer, stepping ashore, inquired for the officer in command. Colonel Lockridge met him, and was informed that he (the British officer) had landed in consequence of having received an order from his superior officer to inform all who were stationed at Punta Arenas, that, if they desired, those who had a right to it should have the protection of Her Majesty's flag, to leave where they were and go wherever they pleased.

For the purpose of informing the men of his business, Capt. Cockburn (who held the Commodore's order) asked that the men should be formed into line, that he might read the communication to them. The camp was alive with interest, although none but Colonel Lockridge knew the nature of Capt. Cockburn's business. They left their different positions, and moved nearer to where the British officer stood, but were even then unable to gain any satisfactory information.

After a few moments' consideration, Colonel Lockridge asked one hour's time, in which to decide upon what course he would pursue, and it was granted. The Colonel then went in search of other officers, and while in consultation with them, Her Majesty's officers and sailors talked with the "emigrants," informing them of the privations and dangers they would have to encounter if they attempted to proceed up the San Juan River, and of the numbers, position and determination of the allied army.

The hour's time expired, and Colonel Lockridge, having required longer time to get his fellow officers together than he had anticipated, was not ready to give a decision. Captain Cockburn said he had waited the time, and could wait no longer. The Colonel asked an extension of ten minutes, which was refused. The Colonel then said he would allow Captain Cockburn to read his communication to the men, and take all who had a right to claim British protection. At the same time protesting against his doing so, and giving him to understand that it was only because of the presence of the British fleet in the harbor that he was allowed to proceed. The emigrants were then paraded on the beach, and Captain Cockburn, taking his stand in front of the line, read the following:

OFFER OF BRITISH PROTECTION.

"By John Stephenson Keckine, Esq., Captain of Her Majesty's Ship *Orion*, and Senior Officer of Her Majesty's Ships and Vessels Employed on the Coast of Central America.

"Representation having been made to me that there are at present at Punta Arenas, among a body of armed men landed from the American steamer *Teas*, (which had been represented to me as emigrants waiting an opportunity to proceed to their destination, but whom Mr. Joseph N. Scott has since stated to the United States Commercial Agent, to have employed to protect his property, and who have not been recognized as citizens of the United States), several British subjects who are detained, and forced to bear arms against their will; you will peruse to the place where these men are at present quartered; and having ascertained who is the officer commanding the party, you will require from him a list of all the men under his nominal command, and in the event of your obtaining such a list, you will call the men together, and read to them this my order to you. Should any of the party in question claim protection as British subjects, and their claims appear to you to be well founded, you will request the officer commanding that these men must be permitted to withdraw from their present position; and you will (in the event of his acquiescence) either give these men a passage to their town, or take them on board Her Majesty's ship under your command, to await my decision as to their disposal, as they may desire. In the event of the aforesaid officer resisting such a course as I have pointed out, you will inform him that in the first place no person whatever under his command will be permitted to leave their present position to proceed up the river or elsewhere, until my demands shall be complied with; and, secondly, that I will adopt such measures to enforce the rights of

British subjects as I may think best adapted to the purpose.

"Given on board the *Orion*, off Greytown, this 16th day of January, 1857.

"To JAMES H. COOKBURN, Esq., Captain of Her Majesty's ship *Cochburn*.

"P. S.—The number of men at Punta Arenas composing the party in question, was stated to be about 176, of whom 150 or thereabouts are fit for duty, the remainder being sick."

The correspondent of the New York *Times* adds: "You can imagine the feeling the reading of the above created. Ten men stepped from the line and claimed protection. Many were indignant at such interference, and others did not very well know how to regard it. The sight of those who claimed it to British protection appearing sufficient to Captain Cookburn, the men were moved down to the boat, and the others were further informed of the perils that awaited them, should they remain in their present position."

"Not knowing what the effect of the statements of the English to the men might be, General Wheel— a volunteer, and well known in New York—mounted the deck of a craft, lying near by, and addressed the 'emigrants.'

"As soon as he had reached a position where he could be heard, the General called upon them to remember that they were Americans, and to do nothing to sully that name. Although they were but a handful, with the guns of a British fleet pointed towards them, they must stand firm and unyielding, preferring death to dishonor. The conduct of the British was an outrage upon the rights of American citizens, and one which was in perfect keeping with the conduct of the English whenever an opportunity of insulting Americans offered itself. Under the plea of seeking for British subjects they had again and again asserted 'the right of search,' and when accident gave them the power they detained and searched American vessels on the high seas. Their act that day was similar in character, but although the men thus insulted and outraged were not in a position to resent it successfully, they must not forget that when the same enemy came upon New Orleans, crying 'Crooks, women and booty,' a mere handful of hardy yeomanry, under Andrew Jackson, sent the British lion howling back to his lair, with his tail between his legs. [Cheers.] What a few Americans did then they could do again, when it became necessary to teach England another lesson. British officers and British soldiers were the same then that they are now. American spirit and American bravery were the same now as then, and no American citizen need fear that the outrage that had just been put upon them would not be resented at the proper time, if he believed as we believe in American.

"With the above remarks the General descended from his elevated position, in a perfect rage, and drove from those who decided to remain 'emigrants for Nicaragua.'

"Those from Her Majesty's ship *Cochburn* remained standing with seeming composure, until the allusion to the battle of New Orleans, when, with those who had claimed their protection, they moved towards their boat."

"After the excitement had partially subsided, Colonel Lockridge drew up and presented the following reply, in writing, to the communication of Commodore Cookburn."

"PUNTA ARENAS, January 16, 1857.  
"Sir: Your communication of this date has been received. I yield to your demands, because I know you have the means of enforcing them, but had I exercised your force I would not yield."

"Yours respectfully, B. A. LOCKRIDGE,  
"Agent of Emigration for Nicaragua."  
"To JOHN B. BRINKIN, H. B. M. Ship *Orion*."

THE PROTEST.  
In this attack was enclosed the following protest:  
"PUNTA ARENAS, January 16, 1857."

"Sir: Your communication of this date has been received, requesting the immediate surrender of such British subjects as may be found at this Emigrant Depot, accompanied by a threat in substance your orders unless complied with. In answer, I have to say that your officers shall be allowed to take such subjects as they find, at the same time reserving to myself, as Emigrant Agent for the Republic of Nicaragua, the right to pro-

test, as I now solemnly do, against no high-handed an interference in the affairs of Nicaragua.

"Very respectfully, B. A. LOCKRIDGE.  
"To JOHN B. BRINKIN, H. B. M. Ship *Orion*."

REMARKS.

Colonel Lockridge's letter contains a misrepresentation. It asserts that Captain Briskin had requested "the immediate surrender of such British subjects as may be found at this Emigrant depot," whereas, the Captain's communication was to the effect that several British subjects were detained and forced to bear arms against their will, and it intimates that should any of them claim protection as British subjects, and their claims should appear to be well founded they must be permitted to withdraw.

The fact is, that many persons have been deluded into the belief, that if they emigrated to Nicaragua they could engage themselves at once in peaceful pursuits; but, upon their arrival they have been compelled by Walker to serve under him as soldiers.

The New York *Evening Post* of February 6, has the following comments on this transaction.

"We have some further news from Nicaragua, by which it appears that Walker is still shut up in the interior, with four hundred and fifty or five hundred men. At Punta Arenas a handful of adventurers from the United States, under one Lockridge, are employed in getting ready a steamer to go up the river to Walker's assistance, destroying the Costa Mans and their strongholds as they go; but their preparations are executed with so little despatch that there is no reason to hope much from the energy of this party after they shall have set out on their expedition. In the meantime a British naval officer has been giving Lockridge some trouble. Captain Cookburn had heard, it seems, that there were a number of British subjects at Punta Arenas who were anxious to get away, and were prevented by force. He caused it to be proclaimed that the protection of the British fleet was offered to these men, and required Lockridge to set them at liberty. After some delay and blustering, Lockridge submitted, and several of his men were allowed to leave the service. The act of Cookburn is called British interference, but inasmuch as it was an interference in favor of personal liberty, it was honorable to the officer who exercised it. We only hope that whenever American citizens find themselves in the same predicament, sick of a lawless expedition in which they may have thoughtlessly engaged, anxious to leave it, and held in it by force, they will be so fortunate as to experience the same humane interference in their favor from the American Government."

RESOLUTION OF THE UNION.  
It will be seen by the following that the Abolitionists of Ohio are taking measures with reference to petitioning the Legislature for the withdrawal of that State from the Union, for the reasons set forth:

"Petition to the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Ohio.

"The memorial of the undersigned, citizens of \_\_\_\_\_ County, Ohio, respectfully represents: That from the nature of the case, and from all our great experience, it is manifest that the existing Union between the Free and Slave States involves all the supporters of our national Government in the support of American slavery; that the Union, instead of securing to us and our posterity the blessings of liberty, has been and still is the most efficient means of enabling and the perpetual and spreading slavery; and as there is no possibility of amending or altering the Federal Constitution while the present Union lasts, and as the advantage which, as citizens of Ohio, we can derive from the General Government, can be more certainly and abundantly secured outside of the Federal Union, therefore we request that you will take the necessary preliminary measures for the withdrawal of Ohio from the present Union, and the establishment of a government which shall be unambiguously the friend and supporter of liberty for all its inhabitants."

Cost of Government in England and the United States.

The Manchester *Observer* of 14th January quotes from the New York *Times* the following: "The ordinary returns for 1856 show the outstanding

public debt of the Federal Government to be \$30,727,000, and the public debt of the States \$160,718,000—together, only \$191,000,000. The public debt of Great Britain before the late war was \$797,000,000, to which \$21,000,000 new loans were added during the war—together, \$818,000,000 sterling, or about \$4,090,000,000. The indirect taxation paid by the people of the United States for the support of the Federal Government in the shape of impost duties amounts to \$64,000,000. The direct and indirect taxation paid by the people of Great Britain for the support of the crown, in the way of customs and excise duties, stamps, income tax and property tax, amounts to \$84,000,000 sterling, or about five-fold the burden of the people of the United States."

A comparison between the expenses of the Federal Government and those of the General Government in England is illusory. Each State in this Confederacy has a separate Government with a separate military force and civil administration.

Liberty of the Press in America.  
Important Decisions in a Libel Suit.  
[From the Cincinnati *Times*, January 31.]

In the case of *Timberlake vs. Cassette Company*, the jury yesterday brought in a verdict for plaintiff for \$500. The charge of the Court, in connection with this verdict, will attract the attention of the press and of the public. However strange it may appear to persons not versed in the law, it is nevertheless true that we are liable to be punished under laws that were enacted in England in the dark ages, when there was neither freedom of opinion nor freedom of the press. In those days there was not, in fact, intelligence enough to support, or tolerance sufficient to permit, the publication of newspapers. As regards the laws of libel, therefore, no progress has been made. Judges in some cases think and act as judges did in the dark and bloody ages. What nonsense to talk about our superior intelligence, and the progress of the age, under such circumstances.

We wish the public to understand that the offense for which we are required to pay \$500 was the publication of a transcript of the record at the station-house, which gave printed without note or comment. The result of this case, in itself, is of small importance, but the principles laid down is one that interests the press and the community generally. If to publish the fact that a man has been charged with crime and arrested renders a newspaper liable for damages, an individual is also liable for communicating such information to another. There is, therefore, no newspaper, and there are but few individuals, who are not liable to be prosecuted for libel every day in the week.

But the main question connected with this case is, whether preliminary proceedings before magistrates are public or private. If public, then the press has a right to publish the same; if private, they are not authorized by the Constitution. This is a point which we shall discuss more at length hereafter.

Although the press is not even yet sufficiently protected in England, it is allowable there to publish reports of proceedings before magistrates.

Statistical Report and Annals by the Chinese.  
[From the Baltimore *Sun*, January 30.]

CHINESE IN CALIFORNIA.—The Chinese population of California is organized into five great companies, each of which has its hotels, agents, and all the arrangements of an American corporation. These companies embrace all the Chinese emigrants except about one thousand. The following authentic statement shows the number of arrivals in and departures from the State of members of these companies, the deaths and present strength.

Companies.	Arrivals.	Departures.	Dead.	Present.
Young Men	1,100	1,000	100	1,000
Old Men	1,000	900	100	1,000
Chinese	1,000	900	100	1,000
King's Men	1,000	900	100	1,000
Total	4,000	3,800	400	4,000

This is a peculiar feature of Chinese civilization, and not imperfectly understood in the United States. The companies are admirable arrangements, serving in each after the safety, property, health and morals of large numbers of persons. An one who belongs to a company of this kind can be without friends in California. The company looks after him wherever he may be.



interested in it? How long may it be before he himself, or his parents, his brothers, sisters and other relatives may be in a condition to require the aid of the public?

The amount expended for out-door relief in Philadelphia, ought to be nearer a million of dollars than \$40,000 per annum, and yet we find a disposition in the Common Council to cut down even the latter sum.

We notice the remark of Mr. Parker that "there was an army of *able-bodied men* in the Philadelphia Almshouse." He says, "it should be known as an asylum for foreign paupers." He appears to be one of the men who suppose that although a large majority of the laboring population of the city of Philadelphia may be foreigners, yet, that is not sufficient to account for the fact that the majority of the paupers are foreigners also. Doubtless, he thinks that laborers after a life of toil ought to die quietly, and give no trouble and cause no expense to those whom their labors have enriched, and that poor widows and orphans ought to be left to shift for themselves.

As to the "able-bodied men" in the Philadelphia Almshouse, they ought to be assisted in getting employment.

Mr. Northrop in effect tells us that if any general and comprehensive effort is made to alleviate the sufferings of the sick and unemployed, and the widows and orphans of Philadelphia, that city will "not only be compelled to support *all the poor* of the city, but eventually *find work* for them to do." And pray why should not the city be compelled to support all the poor and find work for them to do? The city can well afford to keep its poor, and is fully able to find employment for them.

We protest against niggard economy in the relief of the poor. We believe that there never yet has been sufficient liberality in the aid furnished by the public to the needy in any part of the world. There is no real occasion for stinting, for an abundance of all the necessaries and comforts of life can now be produced with perfect ease, and if the poor consume twice as much as they now do, production will be made to keep pace with the increased demand, and all classes will be benefited by it in the end.

**Crime in New York and London Compared.**

The New York Times having recently propagated the opinion that crime is far more prevalent in England than here, we extract the following passage from an editorial article in that paper of June 18, 1853, which, it will be seen, tells a very different story, and no one pretends that there has been any improvement here since that time.

"It is a literal fact, which statistics will demonstrate, that there is not this day on the face of the earth another city where life is so insecure, where crimes and outrages are so prevalent and aggravated, as in the city of New York. London, with five times its population, will not compare with it for a moment. One of our contemporaries has stated, doubtless upon good authority, that the number of arrests in the city of New York alone for offenses upon the person during the last year was 5,400; whereas, in all England and Wales, including all the large cities of both, the number of commitments for the same class of offenses was only 2,000. The arrests for murder in New York alone during 1852 numbered thirty-three—in all England and Wales the convictions were but sixteen. The records of our courts, the pulpit columns of the daily press, the most of criminal justice—everything that we see or hear—preclaims the existence of a state of things in this city which need be remedied, unless we are willing to abandon all our interests to the merciless domination of crime."

**Commercial Failures in the United States for 1856.**

(From the Baltimore Sun.)

The number of failures in the United States in 1856 was 2,706. The average liabilities is estimated at \$20,000, which would give an aggregate of \$54,100,000. The probability is, creditors have received about 25 per cent. of their claims, leaving a clear loss of near

\$40,000,000. The great majority of failures occur in the dry goods trade, owing to the fact that this business is transacted almost wholly upon credit.

**REMARKS.**

These statistics are worthless. Private failures are very numerous. In this State of New York, as well as in most of the other States, a man in failing circumstances may make an assignment and direct one or more favored creditors to be paid in full. The consequence is, that thousands of failures are of a fraudulent character, and the victims have no remedy. Under such a system as this, it is very difficult for the honest tradesman to compete with his fellows. We would not recommend any one from Great Britain or any other part of Europe to come here to try the experiment.

**False Statistics as to the Unemployed in London Exposed. Comparison between London and New York.**

"In London there is one-fourth part of all the work higgens out of employment. This is something for the Europeans."—*Phonix*.

The *Phonix* gets its statistics from a round and general assertion made by one of the speakers at a meeting recently held by unemployed operatives at Smithfield, London. The person making that statement (one of the unemployed) did not adduce any thing to show the accuracy of his estimate. The London press state that the want of employment is almost entirely confined to the trades necessary to building, which has been greatly checked this winter in London. We apprehend, however, that more persons engaged in the same trades in this city have been deprived of employment by the approach of winter here—having due regard to the difference in the population. Moreover, the winters here are longer and more severe than those of London. How strange it is that our contemporaries are so constantly on the look out for social evils and derangements in England, and yet be stone blind to all such in their very midst. Is this because it is easy and popular to throw dirt at England, and very difficult to treat the great social question here, and show how the evils in question are to be corrected?

**THE BURDELL MURDER CASE.**

**Example of the Administration of Justice in New York. The *Globe* and the Press of this City. Review of the Case and of the Conduct of the Inquisition.**

Dr. Harvey Burdell, a dentist, was found murdered in his operating room to the second story of the house 31 Bond street, New York, on the morning of Saturday, 31st January last. The body was first discovered by his office boy about half-past eight o'clock, and it was found on examination that there were fifteen wounds made by a dirk or some similar weapon.

The gas was found burning in the room which communicated with the deceased's bed room in front of the house, and *one of the windows of that front room was seen open.*

The time when the murder was committed is fixed by the evidence of a neighbor living in a house adjacent, for he heard the cry of murder once and immediately went to his window, looked in the direction of this house, but saw nothing to attract his attention, and heard nothing more.

This was at half-past two or a quarter to eleven o'clock. The witness was just going to bed when he heard the cry.

The deceased was found fully dressed, with his boots on, but had taken off his hat or cap, neck coat and rubber shoes.

Mr. David Christie, one of the boarders in the house, came home at a little after twelve o'clock the same night, and when he went to bed found it was half-past twelve. He slept on the floor above that where the murder was committed, and heard no noise in the night.

At the time when the murder was committed the inmates of the house, Mrs. Burdell, the wife of the deceased, her two daughters, and two boarders, Mr. Eckel and Mr. Snodgrass, according to their

evidence, were sitting in Mrs. Burdell's bed-room on the third story. Eckel and Snodgrass left to go to bed at eleven o'clock. Eckel had been sitting there with his boots off, and had fallen asleep. They heard no noise, nor did the servant girl who had gone to bed some time after ten o'clock.

No traces of blood are found, except from the room where the murder was committed down to the hall door opening into the street.

When the intelligence was communicated to Mrs. Burdell and her family in the morning, they had breakfasted, and Mr. Snodgrass was with them, playing on the banjo. A scene of great excitement ensued, and the youngest daughter fainted. Mr. Eckel had gone to his business, having had an appointment at eight o'clock to adjust some accounts. A message was sent to him that a man was dead in his house, and he went home to learn all about it. On his arrival the servant girl told him that Dr. Burdell was murdered, and he replied that it was far more likely that he had killed himself. He soon returned to his office, and transacted his business as usual.

The Coroner held an inquest on the day the murder was discovered, and as he suspected that Mrs. Burdell (then known as Mrs. Cunningham) and Mr. Eckel were guilty parties, he caused a most rigid search to be made throughout the house. He has been assisted by scientific chemists and others; powerful microscopes have been used to examine the marks of blood; and Mrs. Burdell, Mr. Eckel and the elder Miss Cunningham have had their persons examined to see whether they bore any marks which might have been occasioned in a struggle with the deceased. No such marks were found. The widow was allowed to see the body of her husband, wept over him bitterly, kissed him, and cut off a lock of his hair.

Mr. Eckel and Mrs. Burdell were examined by the Coroner as witnesses. Mrs. Burdell stated that she was married to the Doctor on 28th October, and produced a marriage certificate. It was agreed between her and the Doctor that the marriage should be kept secret until June next.

The witness to the marriage was Mrs. Burdell's eldest daughter. She was examined by the Coroner, and proved the fact. The clergyman who performed the ceremony could not recognise Mrs. Burdell, but identified the daughter as the witness. He could not identify the Doctor, but thought he was like the man who married Mrs. Cunningham, although that man had more hair than the corpse.

It has been stated that the Doctor has recently had his hair cut and dyed; but the Coroner did not think fit to examine the barber on that point.

The Clergyman (Mr. Marvin) saw the Doctor three times—first when he made an appointment for the wedding, and the third time the day after the wedding, when he got the certificate. When Mr. Marvin first saw him he thought the Doctor had false whiskers, but on examining him carefully on the subsequent occasion, could not discover that to be the case. The Doctor told Mr. Marvin not to publish the marriage. It having been suggested that Mr. Eckel had persecuted Dr. Burdell on that occasion, Mr. Marvin went to the prison to see him, and then testified that he did not believe him to be the man who was married to Mrs. Cunningham. Mr. Eckel wore the wig which he had purchased on January 19th, and had worn ever since. Two of Mr. Marvin's servants witnessed the ceremony. One of them has been examined; she could not identify the deceased, but thought he resembled the man who was married.

It appears that on 15th October Mrs. Cunningham had the Doctor arrested in an action for breach of promise of marriage. This action was discontinued on the 23d of the same month, and the lawyers engaged by Mrs. Cunningham were informed that the Doctor intended to marry her. The marriage took place on the 28th. At that time Mrs. Cunningham was in the family way by the Doctor. She had a miscarriage the following month. The Doctor had

previously let his house to her, and lived there himself occupying a bed-room, operating room, &c.

The Doctor made a declaration in writing on 18th October, just after the commencement of the action, and before the date of its discontinuance, in which he says, "that he has not up to the present day, October 18, 1886, made or executed any will or testament, disposing of his property or his death or any portion of it." This is in the Doctor's own hand writing, and it may be asked what interest Mrs. Cunningham could have in the question about the will, except upon the hypothesis that she was about to be married to the Doctor.

It is suggested that Mrs. Cunningham instead of writing to see whether the Doctor would marry her, managed at once to get up a sham marriage with Mr. Bickel or somebody else personating the Doctor, and that this was effected six days after the discontinuance of the suit. Mr. Marvick knew that he was marrying a man calling himself Doctor Harvey Hurdell, the dentist, and consequently having seen that the name on the Doctor's door-plate was Hurdell, he went home and corrected his entry in his book, so as to make it read "Burdell" instead of "Hurdell." Of course if he had suspected anything to be wrong, he would have given the Doctor information on the subject. The Doctor was a well known citizen and of good repute in his profession.

Miss Cunningham, the daughter who witnessed the marriage, testifies that the Doctor imperatively forbade her revealing the fact. Nevertheless she says Mr. Sanderson understood, without telling him positively, that her mother was married to Doctor Hurdell.

The Doctor was very uneasy in his conduct, but appeared to exercise a good deal of authority over the Cunningham family. It appears to have been arranged that the Doctor and Mrs. Cunningham should go to Europe in June, and that the marriage should be kept secret until that time. And that in accordance with this arrangement, an agreement and a release were drawn up and signed by Mrs. Hurdell after the marriage, as if the marriage had not taken place. These papers were shown round by the Doctor amongst his friends, who might have heard of the matter for the benefit of justice. And Mrs. Hurdell in meeting one of her lawyers about a month after the marriage, instead of evincing her engagement to keep the marriage a secret, and telling him that the Doctor had fulfilled his promise, intimated that it was likely she would have to re-commence proceedings. It is highly improbable that she would have made any such remark if she had just got up a fictitious marriage, in that case she would have taken care to say nothing on the subject. In order to end suspicion upon Mrs. Hurdell, a great deal of evidence has been taken to show that the Doctor quarrelled with her before and after 18th October. I said that he was not married, and indeed about getting the Cunningham family out of his house, and letting it on 1st May. Assuming that the Doctor and his wife were to go to Europe in June, the house would have to be let out in May, and taking the time for letting in this city.

The Doctor's relations with whom he was most intimate, Mrs. Denton, says that the Doctor, by his own admission, had quarrelled with every body except himself. Dr. Hurdell, an intimate friend, says, "Dr. Hurdell was a very peculiar man; one found he was in very bad humor, while he was quite placid in the next. He had many quarrels with Mrs. Cunningham, and as often had settled them." According to this witness, the Doctor told him on the very day of the marriage that he had had a row and a fight with Mrs. Cunningham on the Saturday previous, and yet we find that on the following Monday the witness, Mrs. Denton, was at his house, and that he then behaved very courteously to his wife, discharging most of his correspondence to her, and that she called him Harvey according to her usual custom. Mrs. Denton states that the Doctor was always trying to find out whether Mrs. Cunningham

had told her any secret. Mrs. Cunningham and, in fact, told her some time before the marriage took place that they were engaged, but Mrs. Denton would not reveal anything to satisfy the Doctor's curiosity.

Mrs. Denton says that the Doctor always spoke to her very highly of Mrs. Cunningham. The witness was very particular as to whom she became acquainted with, and the Doctor had made her acquainted with Mrs. Cunningham. He told Mrs. Denton that Mrs. Cunningham was rich, had retained some of the best offices in New York, and that he would consider her her than either of her daughters.

Notwithstanding all this, he charged her in the month of September with having stolen a note from him, and he sent for a policeman. She denied the charge, declared that she was his wife "by every law that could be," and struck him—and shortly after brought the action for breach of promise, and an action for slander. The note said to be stolen appears to have been a note given by Mrs. Cunningham to Dr. Hurdell for the amount of a judgment against his creditor, which he had caused to be assigned to her, but which she was to hold for his (the Doctor's) benefit, so that the note was given by her to prevent her taking advantage of the judgment being assigned to her.

Several witnesses depose that the Doctor spoke ill of Mrs. Cunningham, and said he was in fear of his life. To other persons, with whom he was on the most intimate terms, he never said any thing of the kind. He was eccentric, nervous, occasionally irritable and suspicious, and troubled with a rash of blood to the head, and he behaved in a most erratic manner, so that his wife told some of her friends that she would call in a policeman to take care of him if he disturbed the party she was going to have on the 14th of January.

He had many enemies, and expressed his fears that a man whom he had charged with robbery would, on coming out of the Penitentiary, take his revenge, as he had threatened to do.

An attempt has been made to show that there was an ill-will connection between Mrs. Hurdell and Mr. Bickel; but although leading questions have been put to the servants, and they have been openly attacked by the Counselor when they said any thing against their mistress, the charge stands unsupported.

Great importance has been attached to the evidence of a man named John Farrell, who saw her and testified on the 10th instant that on the Friday night in question he sat on a door step in front of her house, and when a person went into the house, (assumed to be Dr. Hurdell.) Witness says he remembered on the steps, and that about half a minute afterwards he distinctly heard the cry of murder—the cry was loud enough to be heard up at the window of the block. The cry that I heard was like as if a man were being choked; but I remarked that especially I thought that the man who had gone to bed caught hold of some person and choked him badly. He says that about ten minutes afterwards a man came to the door, and put his head and shoulders out, and asked witness what he was doing there. Witness says he saw him distinctly. The manner and tone would make me remember him twenty years from now; the circumstances under which I saw him made a deep impression on my mind, that I would not easily forget.

The witness says he soon directly found, and arrested there at eleven o'clock, and that he did not mention the circumstances to his family next morning, or to them or any body before February 10th, although his mind had been so deeply impressed.

Mr. Bickel being brought into a room to be identified by this witness, who was assisted by him as the man who opened the door. If witness had eyes were directed to Bickel when the witness was high the door of the man, and Bickel alone would have the hearing of a policeman and the transportation in

silent to a proceeding of the nature of which he alone amongst all the parties present, was ignorant.

The witness says, "The first time I knew of the murder was a week after it had been committed. I learned it first from reading the papers." (He there saw the statement about the cry of murder, &c.)

He says he did not hear of the murder until a week after it had been committed, i. e., not until Friday, 6th February, and yet in answer to a question put by a juror, "When did you first relate this story?" he says, "I cannot tell the time exactly; about Tuesday or Wednesday last week (i. e., 31st or 4th February) I went to a man who keeps a pattern house at No. 31 Marlon street, named Thomas Farrell; I said, 'Thomas, there is some excitement about a murder in Bond street,' and he replied, 'Yes? I think,' said I, 'that I can give some evidence in that case, but as I am not sure that it was at the house I stopped, I will take a walk round that way;' then I came round and looked at it, and it struck me that this must have been the place."

Thomas does not appear to have implied what his namesake meant by his giving some evidence, and alluding to the house he had stopped at, for witness afterwards says he had not mentioned the matter to any body but Mr. Wiley "up to last night," which was February 9th. So that he told nobody his story, even after he had visited the house. Witness could not say whether this conversation with Thomas Farrell was in the morning or the evening. He came up in the evening (of the same day, Tuesday or Wednesday) about eight o'clock to look at the house. Previous to this the witness said that he did not come to look until Thursday night, (February 6th.)

The witness began his testimony by saying that he had been in the house in question, and had seen Dr. Hurdell there when he was alive, and yet when he heard the cry of murder, and thought some one had been choked, and afterwards a man came to the door, whose manner and look would make the witness remember him twenty years afterwards; he did not notice the door-plate but only looked at the number of the house, and afterwards being in doubt whether it was 18 or 21, concluded to come and see, and whether he did this on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, we cannot tell from his contradictory statements; but whichever of those days may be fixed upon, it was, according to his own statement, before he had heard of the murder.

The witness is a journeyman shoemaker. He testified that he could drink thirty glasses of assented liquor, and would not be so drunk as another man who had drunk fifteen. It may be doubted whether he was sitting upon anybody's door steps on the night in question, drunk or sober; but, however that may be, it is clear that his testimony is not only absurd and contradictory to itself, but that it is wholly antagonistic to the other evidence in the case. Mr. Hurdell did not see anybody sitting on the door-step, and yet he looked over to the house to discover whence the cry of murder proceeded.

Two other witnesses, who would have seen Farrell if he had been on the steps, failed to recognize his presence. One of these looked up at the door plate as he passed.

That the Doctor, who was a very remarkably attractive and fluid man, should, without health, and without feeling any pain, pass a man on the steps and make his remark, is surprising. The idea, moreover, that the Doctor entered the house, went up stairs, took off his spectacles, was murdered, receiving fifteen wounds, and that the murderer came down to the front door, all while the shoemaker was finishing the act of tying his shoe string, which he had begun to finish before the Doctor came up to the house, requires a stretch of the imagination to be attained only by drinking a good portion of the thirty glasses of assented liquor which this extraordinary shoemaker states he could handle with impunity. It is proved by Sanderson and other witnesses, that at the time referred to by Farrell, Mr. Bickel was up stairs in Mrs. Cunningham

man's room with her family, having enjoyed a comfortable nap there sitting before the fire.

The theory of the Governor and of the gentleman who acts for him on the inquest, Mr. Capron, the lawyer for the Burdell family now claiming his estate, is, that Beckel married Mrs. Cunningham, intending afterwards to murder the Doctor; that the time chosen for that purpose was half-past ten to a quarter to eleven o'clock, when the family were all awake, and when Mr. Utman might be coming in; that the place selected by them was a room lighted up with gas, communicating with another room having a window open to the street. If the object had been to give the Doctor a chance in the combat, and to invite the aid of the neighbors, who could hear a cry through the open window which could not be heard in the floor above, then the time and place were most judiciously selected. If the parties selected had resolved to murder the Doctor, they might have killed him as he lay in bed. Robbers have used this ruse, so that the use of that would not have excited suspicion. Moreover, there might have been simulated marks of burglary and robbery, or both.

Mr. Capron's theory, moreover, demands the rejection of the testimony of Mr. Amalgam and the young ladies, showing where Beckel and Mrs. Cunningham were up to eleven o'clock.

The inquest has been conducted under Mr. Capron's influence; evidence leading to direct suspicion to other quarters has not been followed up, the press of this city has, for the most part, conducted itself with gross indelicacy and displayed profound ignorance, a thousand lying rumors have been circulated about the inmates of the house, and popular opinion has been directed against them without any hesitation or restraint.

The preposterous story told by the veteran paper *Paradise*, was at once swallowed by the gossamer press of this city, and the unfortunate widow was sent off to jail.

A theory much more probable than that of Mr. Capron's, is that some one of the Doctor's numerous enemies has revenged himself. It appears possible that a robbery was committed at the same time, as it is said that the Doctor was in possession of money collected for rent that day, which has not been found. Some person might have got into the house by stealth, by the basement, or having obtained one of the keys of the front door. He could conceal himself in one of the adjoining rooms or closets until the Doctor had taken his seat. After committing the murder he would go straight to the front door. There are marks of bloody fingers, as if one grasping his way down by that door, and there are in other rooms of the blood of his deceased. At all events, there is no evidence against the accused, but this inference is conclusively established if the murder was committed at half past ten in a quarter to eleven, as would appear to be the fact.

This case is admirably instructive as exemplifying certain defects in the administration of justice in this city. If a case of this kind were to arise in London, an experienced and intelligent Police Magistrate would sift it thoroughly, and would not institute an inquiry which would result only to the advantage of one of two sets of claimants to the property of the deceased. Neither would he deprive the witnesses of their liberty, nor put leading questions to them, and urge them to say something strong against the accused.

The Governor nominated several witnesses to act on their future life give good security for their appearance - witnesses not suspected of any complicity in the murder. This, although in accordance with what is to be seen the practice with justice of the Peace in this city, especially where common actions are concerned, is repugnant to every principle of the English law. In England, it is held to be illegal to commit witnesses under any duress for their appearance, whilst free, it is less when the prisoner, and only in certain cases witnesses, but

to put them amongst criminals. It was formerly the practice in Italy to increase witnesses, but what was the consequence? When assassinations and the most atrocious crimes were openly committed in their streets, persons present, and eye-witnesses, instead of preventing or appearing against the criminals, ran away and hid themselves, because in that country the witnesses were sent to prison together with the accused to assure their attendance at the trials. We shall have a similar state of affairs here, if the liberty of the citizen is to be trampled upon with impunity by ignorant Governors or other officials.

The remarks of the correspondent of the *New York Evening Post* upon the permission given by the Governor to Mr. Capron, "the employed Counsel of those most interested in the conviction of Mrs. Cunningham to occupy the place of Governor, and examine the witnesses produced," deserve consideration. It is a matter in which the public at large is interested.

THE GOVERNOR'S EXERCISE OF HIS POWER.

(From the *New York Evening Post*, Feb. 11.)

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EVENING POST:

Has the least intimation of all the proceedings before the Governor, in the investigation of the murder of Burdell, in the permission given to Judge Capron, the employed counsel of those most interested in the conviction of Mrs. Cunningham, to occupy the place of Governor, and examine the witnesses produced. It was held enough when the Governor presided on the hypothesis of the certain guilt of Mrs. Cunningham and Mr. Beckel, but it has now reached a fearful pass, when a lawyer of the best ability and experience of Mr. Capron has been introduced to give a bias to the testimony in that direction, and when he is permitted to throw in his ready comments on the testimony, to make short but effective speeches to the jury, and to exercise a vote over what shall and what shall not be suffered to go to the jury as evidence. Is it really fair, either, to ask little children, like the Cunningham lady, "What time was it when you heard the noise that night?" evidently for the purpose of tricking them into an implied admission of a noise having been heard, when noise had been proved, and when all the witnesses swore positively that noise was heard?

This is a matter in which we are all, as good citizens, interested. Whichever we may think, believe, or even suspect, in regard to the murderer, we are all bound to see that justice is done decently and in good order. The administration of justice is sacred, let enough already, and we should indignantly frown down every act which may result in opposing the foundations of what ever this party it may still have left.

THE NEW YORK LEGISLATURE AGAINST FREEDOM OF RELIGIOUS OPINIONS.

Article 13 of the Constitution of New York, (last edition,) vol. II, p. 224, sec. 117. "Every person believing in the existence of a Supreme Being, who will perjure himself swearing, shall be admitted to be sworn, if otherwise competent."

In the case of *The People vs. Edward McGarron*, 17 *Wendell's Reports*, p. 480, it was decided by the Supreme Court of the State of New York, that "if a person not believing in the existence of a Supreme Being, who will perjure himself swearing, is not a competent witness, but the objection to his competency must be taken before he is sworn. After he has testified, the disqualification may be shown to affect his credibility."

According to this law, an atheist who witnesses a murder, cannot be allowed to give the fact, and the murderer must be acquitted. And an atheist evildoer, being disqualified from taking the oath required by law, may be deprived of his debt.

The existing law on this subject seems to present upon the subject a dilemma, which gives evidence in a court of law is a privilege, of which a person may be justly deprived, as a punishment for his wicked and evil opinions, instead of being a duty which every man is bound to render to society; and which society should always accept for its own benefit. Indeed, it seems to us that all disqualifications of

this kind are erroneous in principle and injurious in their consequences. If the want of religious belief weakens the credibility of a man's testimony, let the jury of the court take that into consideration; in respect it entirely may, in some cases, be fraught with very serious injury to the public weal.

THE LATE HAPPIEST CONSUL, AT THE PORT.

The *New York Correspondent of the London Standard*, "The *New York Standard* of Cape Cod," "A *Standard* and Intelligence of the Standard," "Standard and Intelligence of the Standard" on the Standard of the Standard.

The *New York Correspondent of the London Standard*, in his letter, dated New York, December 29, speaking of Mr. Matthew, the late British Consul at Philadelphia, takes occasion to have a fling at the late British Consul at this port. "The correspondent says of Mr. Matthew:

"There was an 'Alley' 'Alley' 'Alley' in his way, and the Philadelphia Board of Commerce, as far from being disposed to make representations to the Government for the withdrawal of the consul, as here, was his personal friend."

The facts in relation to the *Irish Maury* are simply these:

According to the deposition of a city policeman, the *Irish Maury* had taken on board a large quantity of military stores, and eighteen to twenty cannon, which were in the hold covered with coal. Other depositions were made showing that there was ground to suspect that the vessel was being fitted out in the Port of New York for the purpose of cruising as a Russian privateer in the Chinese and Indian seas.

This vessel was not advertised as the *Irish Maury*, but by another name, until one day after departure was made for putting the information into the shape of affidavits. Under these circumstances, the *District Attorney* stated, "that he thought there was enough to seize the vessel," and it was seized accordingly. But the owners having made affidavit that she had "no guns or materials of war under her coat," and having given other explanations, the vessel was discharged, and Mr. Barclay published a card in the *New York Herald*, exonerating the owners from all suspicion.

Mr. Barclay treated the Consul as a delinquent, because the policeman's affidavit was incorrect.

The Committee of the Chamber of Commerce of New York recommended to the Chamber the adoption of resolutions to the effect that no proper amount of apology had been made to the owners of the *Irish Maury*, "nor to the merchants of this city and country, who had been incited by the charges brought against one of their members, the owner of the vessel in question."

They effected great indignation at the late idea that any merchant of New York should be charged with a violation of the Neutrality Laws, and refused to treat the British Consul's published declaration as a sufficient plea for their wounded honor.

This special Committee refer to the Neutrality Laws, and say, "No laws are more widely or more fully known among public men. They forbid any citizen to accept any commission to serve against any people in peace with the United States. They forbid his residence, transiently within the United States, or to land any vessel within its jurisdiction, to assist it to go abroad to be engaged in the service of any nation at war with any such people. These laws are the well known expression of public opinion, and the common sentiment of the country. They have been enforced, in various instances, against and in favor of all nations alike."

In the first place, we would observe, that although the Committee assert that "no laws are more widely or generally known among public men," they the Committee have wholly misstated the purpose and object of the laws in question. They do not forbid any citizen to accept any commission to serve against any people in peace with the United States; the contrary, any citizen may accept such a commission, and may still accept such commissions from Russia during the late war between that

power and France, England and Turkey. The Act of Congress only provides that citizens of the United States shall not, "within the territory or jurisdiction thereof," accept such a commission. It may be accepted abroad without violating any law of this country.

Again, the law does not "hold foreigners hostile against the United States," as is alleged in the United States by foreign writers, and the taking of citizenship is another in no way of the United States with intent to be excluded. Any person in the United States, whether a citizen or a native, has a right "to go abroad to be excluded," and indeed the Committee of the Chamber of Deputies have taken leave of their country, when they asserted that foreigners transiently here could not of their own accord, return to fight the battles of their native country.

As to the assertion that the laws have been interpreted "as a restriction against and by favor of all nations alike," we have only to say that it does not appear that the "restriction" proposed in the Convention in the case of France and in the case of England and Wales. The Committee do not seem disposed to share with France the published statement, representing the names of the high clergy should not be changed arbitrarily, nor why the French should have come to a resolution different from that of the British clergy, and treated the papal bulls as inoperative.

The impudence, weakness and stupidity which have been such ingredients are sufficient to justify the history of their life. The various journals of the London press have, by inadvertently repeating their absurd reports, done justice to an individual, and contributed one of the most important and valuable acts in regard.

COMMUNICATIONS.

To Francis A. Pickens, Esq., Secy. of the Westchester Chamber and Board of Education in Westchester Co., N. Y., in the letter of the European.

Mr. Pickens: Your statement that hundreds of persons are annually committed to the city as vagrants can be proved by statistical tables.

In reading your no paper, I find a statement published in the City journals in January last year, signed Henry Vandewater, Clerk, showing that within three days there had been 1000 and fifty five vagrants sent to jail in the city alone in the year 1865. How was it a vagrant?

The Revised Statutes of this State provide that "All able persons who are having visible signs of intemperance, and without employment, all persons who, being abroad and lodging in taverns, inns, hotels, houses, and houses, without license, shall, in the open air, and not being a good subject of the nation, all persons wandering abroad and lodging, or who go about from door to door, or place themselves in the streets, highways, passages or other public places to beg or receive alms shall be deemed vagrants."

That is to say, all poor persons, who having no home, are compelled to sleep in the open air, or who, being in a homeless condition, beg for a mouthful of bread, are to be treated as criminals.

And this in a Republic with universal suffrage! The case is the question in my mind whether the working classes really have any influence over the law making of this State, or whether their interests would not be just as well, or even better attended to if they had no voice at all, the voting being confined to the middle classes. When we see such laws as this, and find, moreover, that there is no adequate provision for the relief of the poor, and scarcely any attempt made to elevate and to improve the condition of the mass of the people, there seems good ground to conclude that the voteless and the abject are completely under the control of the classes in social position above the ignorant.

Is it not possible, Mr. Pickens, to give this class of things, so that the millions may be treated with care instead of merely retained political power, and be enabled to direct legislation in their own favor, or as to

secure an improvement in their condition, which, in the present aspect of affairs, threatens to become every year worse and worse?

IRISH AFFAIRS.

Interpretation to be made of the new statement, in the London Daily News of January 14th.

The following letter is published in the London Daily News of January 14th.

To the Editor of the Daily News: Sir: After having resided in this country a certain number of years I was desirous of becoming naturalized. The publication of the law which I mentioned told me that all I had to do was to have my present domicile, to be a witness of my own free will, to be a native-born subject, and to give an oath of allegiance to the Queen. Having done this, I received a certificate of naturalization from the Home-office. My intention, however, was not of my being obliged to have protection from the Government of my native country.

Last month I got a document from the Home-office, wherein it is stated that my certificate does not entitle me to any claim of protection from the British Government in any other country. I am consequently now compelled myself to be under the power of another Government, though I was made in order to be a British and natural subject of Queen Victoria. When we can see upon two matters, how and I understand this anomaly to be a British subject, and at the same time to be that an alien? Well, was not that originally granted and taken granting the certificate of naturalization?

A naturalized subject can obtain from the foreign office a passport for travelling in any country he chooses; the Minister of Foreign Affairs requires all passports to be issued to the bearer both and protection. With a passport thus and other from that of a native British subject, cannot be being granted for any year only, as well as by being established with the subject, a naturalized subject, regarding the laws in the situation of the foreign subject.

I have in my native country, and the matter, when I have not seen for the last fifteen years; as this is not all, she is desirous to see me before she dies. How can I do this? I have this that says: "I cannot see you here a right to obtain a passport from the Government of my native country, but the simple reason of my having obtained myself a passport of my own nation, whether that passport be my own or otherwise by the Queen. It would be dangerous for me to go home with a British passport, on account of having acquired a naturalized subject as soon as I should approach the frontier of my native country. And when which was my native country, how could I deny the truth? The consequence may well be imagined, and a few years' imprisonment or a worse, without having committed any crime.

As there is in this country a large body similarly situated as I am, I hope they will be able to give some man of the law a number of the cases, will bring this matter before Parliament. I am, &c.

The London Daily News the following article on the subject.

There has been a good deal of discussion lately respecting the nature and working of the English law of naturalization, the conditions it requires, the duties it imposes, the privileges it confers. It is interesting to us that foreigners should feel an anxiety to acquire for themselves the advantages of British citizenship, and it is reasonable that we should show with an dignified regard. We know the number of those who have sought protection of this country can be directed than to provide that you will should be an irretrievable asylum for the sake of every nation and the unqualified opponents of every form of Government, that however many their persons may have been heretofore—however perfidious to themselves, or ferocious to their antagonists, they are safe within the limits of this four-walled island, safe, at least, as long as they comply with the easy conditions of abstaining from all disturbance of the public peace and from every act of rebellion against the Government from whose commitment they have sought a refuge. Once arrived here, the career of a British citizen is open to them. They are at once put into the possession of the advantages that belong to our countrymen, and they are, as to the immunities and the honors which

allegiance confer. While they doubt how they are safe, and if the heat of their indignation in their hearts, they may be justly useful, and may rise to great heights.

And are a few of the rights which the naturalization in this country of an alien confers. We freely grant, they are no more than all foreigners are entitled to who are admitted under the protection of our laws, so long as they remain within us. But there is a clear law made to protect the rights of British citizenship still further, and to invest the alien with the advantages they import, not only while he resides among us, but after he has chosen to leave the nation here mentioned for him. Parliament have made it a matter of complaint that our citizenship will only grant them the benefits of our own laws while they reside in our soil. While the subject of England's power follows a British born subject in the parts of the earth, a foreigner, whatever his mode of calculation he may have gone through, is abandoned to the laws of the country as such as he visits by Napoleon's judgment. In England, and in England and Ireland, and in all himself and treated as an Englishman. And in a foreign country the English subject, though he is an alien and a foreigner again, and if he has not taken to him the citizenship of another state, this country will take no account of him; his appeal his protection passes unheeded. This kind of naturalization a class of foreigners among us, a class of individuals practical upon them, a practical, unchangeable of benefits which have no real substance, a naturalization which is no worth having.

It was soon found to be a mistake in a full naturalization of the alien, and the Government seems to us to have decided wisely in making conditions in this respect a condition of acquiring naturalization, and that foreigners have no real reason to complain. We accept, of course, those cases where a foreigner has first of all, with the full consent of the original Government, obtained himself of all the rights of citizenship by acquiring the land of his birth; regarding that there must be complete is made. But it is obvious, the laws of foreigners residing here have not, and probably would not be allowed to go through, a double naturalization process; and to those only the law applies. Sir: It is a well known and a fundamental principle in English law that a British-born subject cannot, under any circumstances, divest himself of his allegiance; he may die where he pleases, he may acquire citizenship of another nation from every country on the face of the earth; but he is still a citizen of the realm, and a subject of the Crown of England, and if found in arms against her, on behalf of some other power of foreign allegiance would still be sent him from a traitor's doom. Such is the law of England. Could we with consistency plead any other law against a foreign country who should seize upon one of her subjects whom we had naturalized? With what face could we tell them that they had been right in the allegiance of their subjects than we demand from ours? How could a British Minister tell France, or Prussia, or Austria, that while an Englishman remained an Englishman, whether he might go or however long he might absent himself, yet a Frenchman, or a Russian, or an Austrian was held by his allegiance by these lands had acquired rights and privileges which enabled him to set his native country's laws at defiance. The truth is, the adoption and still more the enforcement of such a principle would lead us into serious immobility. Let us imagine a case.

The European convulsions of 1848 have thrown upon our shores refugees from all the continental States—men for whose character, talents and patriotism we have a profound respect, but who unquestionably are regarded by their own governments as the insurgents of anarchy and rebellion. We have thousands from Hungary, thousands from Italy, tens of thousands from France. We shudder to contemplate the probable fate of these men if by any chance they were found within the reach of their native governments. Here they live quietly, peacefully, we hope comfortably, at all events securely. But now let us imagine that they were to take out letters of naturalization, and that this step was undertaken to secure them in all the rights and immunities of the natural-born subjects of the Crown. This first step they would make of their privilege would naturally be to return to their own homes, and enjoy once again the society of their friends, necessarily to plot new risings



efforts are on foot, sustained mainly by benevolence, for bringing them within the reach of instruction, and enabling them to participate in the advantages which are freely shared by all.

These movements have enlisted the hearty and zealous cooperation of all classes of our people, with a single exception—that, namely, of the Irish Catholics. They are needed, by all the organs of that class, with the utmost violence, and that mainly upon the ground that the children, if brought under such influences, are in danger of becoming Protestants. "Voluntary man-traps," "sundewers," "pimps and crimps," are among the epithets applied by some of these papers to those who are exerting themselves for the public good in this direction. "Better the docks, the streets, the station, and dirt, than exert, downright sale and delivery of immortal souls," says one of these prints, with special reference to the Children's Aid Society. "The docks and the streets" mean simply suffering, vice, revolting procreancy in crime, and ultimately the doom of the felon and the thief; better all this, is the doctrine of the *American Celt*, than education, with the possibility of leading to be nominally a Roman Catholic!

It is a discouraging feature of these reformatory movements, that they should encounter the most virulent and relentless hostility from that class which need them, and is to be benefited by them, most.

REMARKS.

We have read the article in the *Celt* referred to by the *Times*, and find in it the following passage on the scheme advocated by the *Times*: "Our main objection to it is, that it entirely ignores parental rights." We consider the *Celt's* objection to be a very strong one. We hold that the State, instead of taking the children of poor parents away from them on account of their poverty ought to assist the parents, and that with great liberality. We are aware that this would cost a great deal more money than the support of the poor children in asylums, but that circumstance we look upon as of no material consequence, in view of the benefits to be derived from the adoption of a proper system.

Grandeur of New York Houses.

[From the New York Times, February 7.]

New York Interiors.

The New York correspondent of the London *Times* appears to have entered into the spirit of New Year's day, and to have made a good many calls in Fifth Avenue. The custom was new to him, and it afforded him a sight of our interior life in holiday attire. He thinks that "the palaces of Europe would seem plain and unadorned, after looking at the elegant apartments of the houses of New York." Honorable Miss Murray, who must have been familiar with fine houses, seeing that she was maid of honor to the Queen, said nearly the same thing. Fifth Avenue, therefore, may plume itself upon its successful attempts to be gorgeous.

REMARKS.

No just comparison can be drawn between things so dissimilar as a European palace and a New York trader or broker's residence in the Fifth Avenue of this city. The New Yorker's parlors may be handsomely furnished, but the whole establishment might be stowed away in the corner of a palace and lost.

The letter of the New York correspondent of the London *Times* above referred to appears in the London *Times* of January 20th. He says:

"A round of New York interiors on New Year's day leaves a very distinct impression of the luxury and love of decoration which the wealth of this commercial community has produced. Many of the palaces of Europe must look meagre and bare to any one accustomed to the rich and lavish comfort of most of the fashionable mansions. Those of the Fifth Avenue have the most celebrity, but there are others in older quarters superior in many respects, though not so striking externally. The attempt to make the most of small space in the grand street has compelled some contrivances that contrast disadvantageously with the outside splendor. The palatial facade is obtained at the expense of room within, and the attempt to produce the effect of a mansion on sixteen feet of frontage results in something which justifies the application of the American adjective 'bovux,'

otherwise than. The older houses on Hudson square, and some of the wide streets, are far nobler in their interior proportions; but they are all admirably warmed, and fully, softly and richly furnished—very Charles of Indiana. The modern republic has nothing to learn from any empire, French or Roman; and now and then a great may be heard from some ancient, commending the general tendency to extravagance; but the age of republican simplicity has departed for New York. It is commercial, wealthy, showy and brazen; those who are 'mounting ladders on their native farms' are in the Far West."

The Indians. Their capacity for civilization. Why they have not become civilized.

The Secretary of the Interior thus speaks of our Indians in his last report:

It is the universal testimony of those who, from long intercourse with them, are the most competent, to form an accurate judgment of their character, that, as a race, in mental and moral capacity, they are inferior to no other, dwelling, as they are, of the means and opportunities of higher culture. Their passions, unbridled by the mild influences of Christianity, frequently hurry them into the wildest excesses, sometimes accompanied with acts of frightful cruelty. Accidents of these, alone, meet the general eye, and excite in the public mind sentiments of loathing and horror. But of the strength of their domestic and social affections, the depth of their gratitude and attachment to those from whom they have received benefits, and by whom they have been treated with kindness and humanity, the public hear little or nothing.

Hence it is that they have been heretofore left comparatively unprotected from violence and wrong, inflicted by unprincipled white men, under the influence of unbridled passion, or in the pursuit of their own vain ends. By such men, unworthy of the name, they are often cruelly beaten when unprotected, and not infrequently shot down, when defenseless, in mere wantonness. The bloody revenge, which sometimes follows, becomes the general theme, unaccompanied with the circumstances of cruel provocation which gave it birth. A border warfare springs up between the pioneer settlers (who are really trespassers on their lands) and the tribe, and the strong arm of the government being invoked for their protection, wars take place, which are carried on at much expense, and at the cost of many valuable lives, retarding the progress of our people, by rendering the condition of the settler insecure, and closing, perhaps, with the annihilation of almost entire tribes.

This process of the destruction of a people, of whom Providence has given us the guardianship, originating in such causes, is unworthy of the civilization of the age in which we live, and revolting to every sentiment of humanity.

Considerations like these, based upon extensive observation and long experience, cannot fail to impress the absolute necessity of a perseverance in the system of colonization, which, by isolating the respective tribes within limits suitable to their numbers and their wants, under the care of agents, and the immediate protection of the Government, will alike prevent them from committing and suffering wrong. So situated, it is already shown that the arts of civilization may be acceptably introduced among them, and the enlightening and elevating precepts of Christianity, by their influence upon their character and habits, transform the savage into the industrious and useful citizen, and ever commend us, as a nation, to the approbation of the just and humane.

To effect so desirable an end, the faith of the nation, for the integrity of those colonial reservations, should be maintained inviolate; manual labor schools should be introduced, in which the mechanic arts may be taught, and agricultural science, with its practical application, perseveringly inculcated, by precept and example.

The Indian regards the white man as his superior, and the idea of the derogatory character of manual labor, which he entertains, will readily give way to the influence of his example, and a realization of the benefit derived therefrom.

But above all, should Christian instruction be introduced and sedulously prosecuted, by teachers devoted to the cause in the true spirit of their Divine mission. Without this, all subordinate means will be in vain, and the great duty which humanity imposes upon us, to

rescue this unhappy race from entire degeneration and speedy destruction, will be but a delusive dream of impracticable philanthropy.

REMARKS.

Maritime disturbances are taking place in Grenada, and in several localities bloody conflicts have been the result. The cause of all this is the law which was recently published by the government, which imposes a new tax instead of the former tithes, which were payable in kind.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.—Dr. Jones delivered a lecture on 24th ultimo, at the Tabernacle in New York, in which he said that "Protestantism, with its myriad institutions, is but the usurper of rights and duties which legitimately belong to the Church. The common school is one of these institutions, adopted in this country during its infancy, and ought to be managed by the Church. The State has no right to usurp duties not legitimately its own. In all countries where the education had been secular and provided for by the State, criminals stand as one to nine of the population. Men in this city start to hear of the crimes daily committed at our doors, and just such a state of things might be expected so long as the education of the poor is placed in the hands of men apostate to the faith, and reckless of honor and morals. Our Public Schools are for the education of the children of the rich, and not for those of the poor. This being the case, they have not, to this day, justified by their practical results the effect which was successful in securing their establishment."

FUTILITY OF THE ATTEMPT TO TAX PERSONAL PROPERTY.—The message of Mayor Vaux, of Philadelphia, shows that, while Philadelphia possesses real estate assessed at \$150,000,000, the total amount of personal property is assessed at only about \$20,000,000. Boston, with a taxable real estate, assessed at \$136,000,000, possesses personal property assessed at \$108,500,000.—*Piscayune*, January 20.

KOSSUTH ON THE PAPAL POWER.—M. Kossuth in a lecture delivered at Croydon, (near London,) recently, concluded thus: "Unless steps were adopted to avert its influence, the papal power would have most alarming effect upon the best interests of England. The great object of the Pope was to crush religious freedom, because it was well known religion made men to think, and thinking men would dream of freedom."—*Report in London Morning Star*, January 9.

THE PAINE CELEBRATION.—One hundred and twentieth anniversary of the birthday of Thomas Paine.—This annual commemoration came off on Thursday night, January 29, at the City Assembly Rooms, New York. The President, Mr. Hull, in the course of his speech complained of the existing laws affecting religious liberty. He said, "But though our government is baptized by the name of Republic, it has yet to be baptized with its spirit. In North Carolina men are not permitted to sit in the jury-box if they be heterodox, and the same is true with regard to Massachusetts. But I cherish the hope that a good time is coming, and that we shall soon glory in the supremacy of the age of reason, not merely in this country, but over the entire world."

POWER OF THE PRESIDENT.—Mr. Buchanan is about to visit Washington for a few days. His purpose in so doing is to consult the magnates of Democracy in regard to the east of his Cabinet.

REMARKS.—The Cabinet is ostensibly nominated by the President, but really by the dominant party, which, in the Senate, can veto any appointment by the President. Hence, if Fremont had been elected he could have done nothing effectual in opposition to the slaveocracy.

DOMINATION OF THE SOUTH.—According to the best information, the Cabinet will be composed of four Southern and three Northern men. Among the former there will be at least one man who will satisfy the exactions of that section, and all those from the latter which have been any way indicated, conform to t

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