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Nicaragua:
How Emigrants are Treated by Walker. The Deserter's
Tale. 824

A county in a new State consists, we will say, of a square thirty miles each way—that is, of twenty-five townships, each six miles square, comprising in all 675,000 acres. Deduct the school sections, ponds and streams, and some waste land in bogs and the steep sides of ravines, and there will be left half a million acres of rich, arable soil. Let us suppose an emigrant association were to buy this (with land warrants) at a cost of half a million dollars, and devote half a million more to the opening of roads, construction of mills, cabins, school-houses, &c., and the erection of a courthouse. Let them sell one half in alternate sections to picked settlers at cost, and let them, when this half shall have been fairly taken possession of, put the residue up at auction, after ample advertising, knocking down each

He protested in the name of the Catholic religion against any priest turning himself into a recruiting sergeant, especially when the trains could hardly carry the emigrants away westward who were going there in crowds. The gentleman had forgotten his vocation. He had not been true to him, (the Archbishop), because he had not told him that besides celebrating mass he wished to hold meetings. If he had, he (the Archbishop) would have had nothing to do with him. True, he had told him no untruth, but he had concealed what was the truth as to the relation which they had heard, and to

which he (the Archbishop) had listened with great attention, and in regard to many parts of which he had not a word of contradiction to offer. If his place was healthy, very well. But he had never heard parties interested in the sale of land say that their grounds were not healthy. He did not say the gentleman was the owner of land, but he supposed he knew those who were the owners of it. The gentleman had produced a map and described the country.

In all his life he had never taken upon his soul the responsibility of advising a countryman of his, on his own land, to forsake his home if he could live there, because he had seen too much of the miseries, physical, moral and religious, that followed in the train of emigration from one country to another; nor would he take it upon his soul to-day to advise any man who was doing moderately well—who was, perhaps, rising, little by little, in worldly comfort and estimation of his neighbors, to go out into the country and begin life anew. Oh, it sounded very well in the cities to talk of being "owners of the soil." But there were many people out West who were much poorer and worse off than if they had never gone there and become owners of the soil. He knew himself, from experience, and if he had never learnt it from actual observation, he knew it from those in whom he had unbounded confidence, that it was a risk of no ordinary character; and it was a question of grave responsibility for any man who had a conscience to advise a brother man having a home, to leave it.

His own wish now was, and had ever been, that a man who was not doing well should move westward. But the descriptions the gentleman had given were fallacious. They were unnecessary. The men who had succeeded in the West were men who, because they could not get employment here, or because their families were too many, or for some reason of that kind, felt it to be a duty to themselves to go into the country. But they might have stopped and got work at Albany, or farther still, at Utica—or they might have gone to work on the canals, but on the way they were getting a practical education for a home in the West. Let not the people who had listened to him be deceived by this gentleman's description. An Irish emigrant transported there would hardly know how to fell a tree, because he had gone, by a bound, as it were, from New York to Missouri or Nebraska. And alas, alas, for the priest or bishop who would encourage poor men, who were doing well, or comparatively so, to undertake such an experiment as this, the hardships of which were untold, and could not be foreseen—hardships which were not to be found in a map, but which would soon bring them to their senses. And, if this were carried out, the day would come when these men would be embittered in their hearts against those who had disturbed them from their homes.

The Archbishop then alluded to the failure of certain former projects, similar to that under discussion, and scouted the notion of towns strictly Irish. Talk not to him, he exclaimed, about an Irish town. Five and thirty years ago he heard some of his countrymen buying and selling in the streets of Pittsburgh in the Irish tongue, and he was glad to hear it, for it revived the memory of the few words of that language he had learnt in childhood. But suppose they succeeded in forming settlements exclusively Irish, and speaking Irish. Why, by and by, they would become as distinct as the Mormons. Now, the Mormons were out in the far West. The gentleman had said there was nobody to disturb the settler there. But had that been the fact in Kansas, and was there any reason for them to expect better? Theories were good for nothing. Every man who would settle in this country must trust to his own good conduct, his own sobriety, morality and rectitude. The gentleman had alluded to a remark of his (the Archbishop's) referring to one of his early dreams, by which he imagined that he might associate a number of wealthy gentlemen in an undertaking, from motives of pure philanthropy, motives of Irish patriotism, he might call it, or at least a love of his country—to buy ten or twenty thousand acres of land in what was now precisely called Wisconsin, and that they should dispose of those acres in small lots to emigrants—that is, to those who should know how to use the axe, and even the plough, in this country: to have always cabins in advance for those who might come, and still to keep it working regularly, so as to bear its own expenses. That was the theory, but when he had spoken to gentlemen of means and intelligence, they said it was all nonsense.

The Archbishop then proceeded to speak of the dis-

comforts, the afflictions, the mental and religious evils which were frequently the result of rude Western life, and concluded by disavowing, in the most emphatic terms, any idea of approving this movement, though he begged to be understood as not objecting to individual emigration to the West.

Rev. Mr. Tracy, the lecturer, then rose and disclaimed any intention of giving offence to the Archbishop, denied most positively that he was the agent for any land speculators or agents, or that his mission here had anything to do with such a thing; asserted that he had not got up this meeting at all—that he merely came forward to deliver an address by invitation, and explained that he had not told the Archbishop what his business here was, simply because he was not lead into the subject, nor thought it necessary.

The Archbishop then catechised the gentleman with considerable asperity, declared that he had been guilty of a suppression of the truth, which was sometimes as bad as the spoken falsehood; that no matter what his intentions may have been, his act was culpable, and that, in fact, the explanation did him no good.

REMARKS.

The plan projected by the Archbishop in his early youth may have been what "gentlemen of means and intelligence" pronounce it to be, *i. e.*, all nonsense; but it by no means follows that such a plan as that which we have recommended is open to the same criticism. According to the Archbishop's plan, a number of wealthy gentlemen were, from motives of pure philanthropy, to provide homes for poor Irish agriculturists, in what was then the Far West—far away from civilization and markets. This would have been a colony of poor people, all engaged in the same occupation, *i. e.*, agriculture; all raising agricultural produce, and that in a country where there were no markets to take off the surplus. How were the colonists to get clothing, medicine and education? Well might the Archbishop's friends ridicule his theory. The project advocated by us is of a totally different character. An association purchases, for example, a county, expends a large sum of money in opening roads, constructing mills, cabins, school-houses, a court-house, &c., and then disposes of one half of the land in farms of a suitable size, charging a moderate price, no profit being made at this stage of the business. Here, we have an excellent opportunity offered to settlers, who, instead of going singly into the wilderness, emigrate to a place where reasonable preparations have been made for their reception, and where they are sure to have a good many neighbors at once. Then follows the village, as a matter of course. The settlers avoid two-thirds of the usual hardships, and each emigrant, soon after establishing himself, finds his property worth a great deal more than it was at first—its value being enhanced by the circumstance that the neighborhood has become populous.

The association or company undertaking this enterprise cannot fail to make large profits. It is our deliberate opinion that this business of purchasing the raw material land, and preparing it for sale by retail, is a business which ought to be carried on very extensively. It would be more profitable than almost any other mercantile adventure, and at the same time it would be productive of a vast deal of good to many thousands of people. It is of course essential to select good land in healthy localities. We are, however, of opinion, that none of the slave States should be selected for these operations, and we most earnestly advise all European emigrants to avoid those countries.

Emigration to Canada. Statistics.

The number of emigrants to Canada in the season of 1855 amounted in all to 21,274, showing the large decrease of \$1,909, as compared with the emigrants of 1854. The emigrants from Europe included 4,310 English, 5,691 Irish, 5,848 Scotch, 3,815 Germans, 1,288 Norwegians, 143 Belgians, 99 Swiss, 10 Italians, 8 Danes, and 4 Frenchmen. The foreign emigrants fell off from 18,018 to 5,367. The causes of the great decline of emigration generally are traced to the circumstances adverted to in the last annual report, and apprehensions

are reiterated that the same causes will operate on those, however disposed to emigrate, in 1856. The decline of the foreign emigration is partly attributed to the late war. The number of vessels engaged in the passenger trade from Europe was 188, measuring 101,673 tons, and employing 3,550 seamen. The adult male emigration included 7,309 persons, of whom 1,465 were artisans, 2,007 farmers and farm servants, 89 clerks, 27 servants, and 3,722 unskilled laborers. The number of persons sent out by Poor Law unions was, from England, 108; from Ireland, 208; and from Scotland 395. It is considered that the population of Canada was thus, in 1855, increased by 25,774 souls; for in addition to the 21,274 emigrants who landed at Quebec, 10,000 reached Canada via the United States, making a total of 31,274. From these are to be deducted 5,500 emigrants who proceeded direct to the States. Not more than one-tenth of the emigrants remained in Eastern Canada, at least 23,000 having migrated westward. The amount of emigrant tax realized in the season was £6,010. On the whole, the emigration of the season of 1855 was very favorable, the most remarkable feature having been the large proportion (three-fourths) who went out to their relatives or friends—846,469 emigrants arrived at Quebec between 1829 and 1855, both inclusive,—viz., 235,525 from England, 458,500 from Ireland, 96,714 from Scotland, 43,496 from the continent of Europe, and 12,234 from Lower Ports.—*London Star.*

EMIGRATION TO VIRGINIA.

The North American Homestead Company. Its Proposed Operations in Virginia Criticised.

The New York *Herald* of March 30th publishes a letter from Mr. Eli Thayer, in reference to his scheme for the disposal of lands in Virginia, which have been for a long time unsaleable. Mr. Thayer is a member of Congress elect from Massachusetts, and was a pioneer in the Northern Kansas emigrant aid movement. A bill is before the Legislature of New York for the incorporation of a "Homestead Emigration Company" with a capital of two millions of dollars. The company intend to purchase in Virginia large tracts of waste lands, to give part away to actual settlers, to sell part at cost, and to keep the balance for sale at a future price. The *Herald* commends the project very warmly. We extract the following passages from Mr. Thayer's letter:

"We shall purchase large tracts of land at slave State prices; shall give away to actual settlers about one-fourth; shall sell about one-fourth at cost, and the remainder at free State prices—thus probably doubling our money on each operation.

"There is no chance for such speculation except in slave States, and even in them only in proportion to the extent of slavery. For example: There will be no inducement for us to buy land in Hancock, Brooke, Marshall or Ohio counties, in Western Virginia, for in those counties it is worth from \$20 to \$27 per acre. Those counties, and the bulk of the others in Western Virginia, are essentially free. Our chances would be much better in Dinwiddie, Southampton, Accomac, and other exhausted eastern counties, where we can obtain land for from \$3 to \$5 per acre—such being the average price in those localities where the slaves are a majority of the population. Now these lands are more desirable than those of the counties first named, and by planting on them free white colonies we can make them more valuable."

He adds, that many slaveowners favor the project, but he appears to anticipate opposition from others, for he says, that if the settlers are assailed, and if the laws fail to give protection "popular sovereignty" must be worked as it has been in Kansas—a most unfortunate allusion, seeing that the proslavery ruffians there have usurped the control of the Territory.

Mr. Thayer's letter concludes as follows:

"There is no use, then, in talking about hanging or shooting our colonists, or the members of our company. If half of us were hung or shot, the rest would press on towards the shining dollars, even though they should rush

Into the jaws of death,
Into the mouth of hell,
Like the 'six hundred.'

"Evidence of approaching success in this enterprise is every day accumulating. It is seen in the letters of sympathy from the slave States, and in the numerous applications of colonists from the free, and, more than all, in the readiness of capitalists to invest in the stock of the company. This, however, is *not unaccountable*. Millions of acres of Virginia land, owned by the Merchants and Brokers of New York and Philadelphia, will be made available, at a profit to the present owners, who have heretofore *despaired of selling it at any price*. Our company will therefore prove a very valuable *medium between these landholders and the hardy pioneers*, who can thus be furnished with homesteads on easy terms. This is too good a thing to fail."

It may be a very good thing for the merchants and brokers of New York and Philadelphia, who own millions of acres of Virginia land which they have heretofore despaired of selling at any price. But we do not believe that it is advisable for people from the free States to attempt to establish Colonies in Virginia upon the old worn out and abandoned lands there, and in a neighborhood inimical to the enterprise. The slaveholding oligarchy curse the land, and an attempt to make a settlement under the cold shade of that oligarchy would be like seeking the shelter of the upas tree. Let Mr. Thayer's plan of colonization be tried in some more congenial locality and it will succeed—we are certain that it will fail in Virginia.

The Richmond *Enquirer* of 1st instant, in a leading article entitled "The Abolition Plot against Virginia," denounces Mr. Thayer's project in most violent terms. It says:

"If Dinwiddie, Accomac and Southampton are the selected localities of Mr. Eli Thayer, 'pioneer in the Northern Kansas Emigrant Aid movement,' he is surely determined to beard the lion in his den. It needs no appeal to the people of those gallant counties to prepare them for his reception. But we have no apprehension that the people of Virginia will be subjected to any such disagreeable duty, as to have to buy up cargoes of tar and denude all the geese in the State to decorate the persons of their threatened visitants from Yankeeedom. They have doubtless concocted the plot, but they have *not the boldness to attempt its execution*."

"We would advise Mr. Eli Thayer, 'pioneer in the Northern Kansas Emigrant Aid movement,' to desist from his enterprise, and turn the attention of his colonists elsewhere. The atmosphere in this latitude is hurtful to the constitution of all such bipeds."

NEW YORK CITY.

Misery in New York. Want of Employment for Women.

We have, in a previous number of the *EUROPEAN*, (page 250,) commented on an article which appeared in the *New York Times* of 25th ult., on "the English labor-market," asserting that in New York the demand for labor exceeded the supply, and advising John Bull to "send over to us all his unemployed laborers." We now present to our readers an article published in the *New York Times* of 27th instant, showing the wretched condition of the poor sewing-women of this city. Notwithstanding this testimony, we expect to see our cotemporary within a week or two boasting again of the condition of the working classes here, and expressing his pity for the hapless fate of the poor sewing-women of England. We warn our readers to pay no attention to the effusions of the vanity-mongers on this side of the Atlantic. The following is the article referred to:

Sewing-Women.

"Some time since we had occasion to speak of the sewing-women—their slavish labor and scanty compensation. The theme is a fruitful one, and will continue to be so as long as our people continue to countenance the contemptible fellows who amass fortunes from the proceeds of the nerves and sinews of these poor Helots. There is many a song of the shirt sung in the garrets of our metropolis, with a wilder and deeper pathos than any poet could infuse into mere words. It is a fact proved, that the majority of our sewing-women are working for starvation prices, with a fair chance of being defrauded at that. It is rather interesting to know how

these things are managed. There is a system about it; these fellows do everything by rule. The shrinking timidity of women, of which the poets delight to sing, proves their fruitful source of revenue. A merchant has a quantity of goods to be made up—he tells his sharp clerk to get them done in the cheapest possible manner. They advertise, and women needing work, lured by the advertisement, apply. They are required to leave money as a pledge for their honesty—the thing seems fair enough, for they are strangers to the advertisers, and, besides, they are glad to get work on any terms—so they leave their dollar, make the coarse garments, and return them to the store. The sharp clerk is an acute physiognomist, and he pays the hands (a most suggestive term, by the way) according to their audacity, keeping the pledge of some on the pretense that the work is spoiled; refusing to pay others; and only paying those whose faces show that they are not to be trifled with. In this way the merchant gets his work done cheaply, and can afford to undersell his neighbors—and, as a matter of course, the people buy of him.

"We are aware that this may be regarded as an extreme phase of the subject; but we know it to be far more common than many suppose. But this is not all; the insolence and supercilious treatment to which sewing-women are compelled to submit, are far more crushing to their hearts than are the sixpenny shirts and scanty fare. Among men every laborer is considered worthy of respect; but among women this is not so; the mere fact of her being obliged to earn her own living, seems to break down the barriers of respect, and to entitle her employers to give her a fair share of insult with her wages. We must remember that the ranks of sewing-women are not wholly made up of those women whose sensibilities have been so blunted by poverty and ignorance of better things that they can endure all this calmly. On the contrary, a large proportion of them are refined and sensitive women, who have been forced by reverses, or the misconduct of others, to seek immediate relief in this channel. 'I can work for a trifle,' says one, 'but I cannot bear insolent treatment.' 'I would far rather do the work,' says another, 'than to carry it to the store.' We have taken some pains to inquire into this matter, and find that this wrong is equally common to the Jew-shops in Chatham street and the marble-fronted stores in Broadway.

"These large stores have slavish rules. One day in the week is appointed for giving and receiving work. Let us enter Mr. J.'s store in C— street, on the appointed Monday. No seats are provided; a long file of women are waiting their turn to be served. A single clerk is detached from the large corps of assistants in the store to attend to them. The first in order advances, and tremblingly offers her work for his inspection; he picks up the neatly-made garments, handles them roughly, grumbles at the stupidity of these women in not doing something which he never has told them to do, perhaps swears a little by way of variety, hands the frightened woman another bundle of work and her money, and passes on to the next. He has a chance to exercise his authority, and he improves it to the best of his ability. We must do the employers the justice to believe that they are not always cognizant of the insolence of their clerks. The clock strikes four; no more work can be received, and those who are unfortunate enough to come after that time are forced to trudge home again to wait another week. Neither is any money paid on any other day; else the poor woman over in Williamsburg, who was sent home on the coldest day of last winter, to wait until another pay-day for her week's wages, ten shillings, would not have been forced to expose her destination to the public gaze—to beg or die.

"This is a matter well worthy the consideration of philanthropists. These women do not ask for charity; they only ask leave to earn an honorable living. The dignity of labor is not fully recognised for women. Those who are forced to support themselves are looked upon as occupying an exceptional position in society. And this is carried to such an extent that many who are suddenly thrown upon their own resources, make a pitiful compromise with gentility by using every effort in their power to conceal the fact from the world. This is one cause of the contemptuous treatment which working women receive; another cause is, that every avenue of female labor is so overcrowded that they are obliged to digest all this insolence along with the bread which

they cannot obtain on any other terms. The schools, the only other hope of women, are already filled to overflowing, and unless a woman is backed by powerful influence, she has scarcely a chance of gaining a position in them. The Barnacle family are pretty strongly represented therein.

"The most effectual way of remedying this grievance seems to be to open new channels for the labor of the working women. There are many vocations in which they might be employed with profit to themselves and their employers. In stores, book-keeping, daguerreotyping, engraving, and many other light kinds of business, they might very properly find employment."

The Administration of Justice in Criminal Cases in New York.

The proceedings at the Court of Special Sessions before Judge Russell, on the 27th inst., are thus described by the *Herald*:

In consequence of the absence of Judge Russell on Tuesday, the usual complement of prisoners who were awaiting his adjudication were remanded, so that when his Honor arrived this morning over one hundred cases were ready for his disposal. There could not have been less than six hundred persons present.

Husbands and Wives.

The usual complement of complaints by wives against their husbands were made, one of which was made by a German woman. As the husband was leaving the bar he informed the Court that his "better half" had a remarkably strong predilection for young men; but this ingenious device had no effect with the Judge, and he was sent to the Penitentiary for the fourth time.

New York City Government. The Filthy Streets. How can the Municipal Government be Improved?

No person who has not seen New York can have any adequate conception of the shameful condition of the streets. We have either mud several inches deep, or clouds of dust which make the streets almost unbearable. We have the accumulated filth of the last four months. The *Tribune* accounts for this state of affairs by saying that the Mayor (Wood) had refused to allow payment for the work done last Autumn, wherefore the contractors had refused to do anything more. The *Tribune* adds:

"That the work was not well done is certain; but it was done as well as could have been expected, where the men were employed *ostensibly to clean streets but really electioneer and vote for Fernando Wood*. It was dirty business on either hand; but we think the voting for such a man must have been the dirtier of the two."

The *New York Evening Post* says:

"What were lately piles of mud have become piles of dust since the dry weather has set in, and the dust is ten times more annoying than the mud has been.

"Some scold and some laugh at this predicament of our proud city—the most populous and prosperous of the western hemisphere, and the filthiest in the world—but neither censure nor ridicule is likely to cure the evil. If the dirt could have been scolded or laughed out of the streets, that would have been done long ago; but the administration of our municipal affairs is, for the most part, in the hands of those who regard nothing but the machinery of party nominations, and the votes given at the polls.

"There is only one method of settling the matter right. That large class of our citizens who are so absorbed in their own concerns that they give little thought to the manner in which the city is governed, except to grumble now and then at the prodigious rapidity with which the taxes increase from year to year, must spare a little time from their business for our municipal politics. They must enter the lists against that class who regard the city treasury as their own proper plunder, and the taxes collected from the citizens as their own proper income. They must take the choice of our municipal authorities out of the hands of these men. They must keep themselves constantly informed of what our city authorities are doing, instead of waking up when the tax-gatherer comes round, and wondering what so much money can have been spent for. They must provide in season for the nomination of honest men to all city offices; they must interest themselves in the elections.

"But as things are now managed, we shall

never have a city fit to live in. We shall never get rid of this filth, which makes every street a nuisance to the dwellings built upon it; we shall never have done with wading in mud when the weather is wet, and walking in dense clouds of dust when it is windy; we shall never cease to breathe, in the warm season, an atmosphere compounded of all manner of noisome and unhealthy exhalations, and scented with all manner of horrid smells. Once in three or four months, perhaps, the authorities may be spurred up to make a feeble effort at clearing away the filth in a few of the principal streets, but they will be sure to relapse into their former neglect as soon as the public begin to talk of something else."

We regret to add our conviction, that with direct universal suffrage, and the existing primary assembly system, all the efforts of those classes of citizens who are called upon by the *Post* to enter the lists against the present city government will be unavailing. The whole system is at fault.

The New York Custom-House. Its Character Described.

A gentleman named Sylvester S. Southworth, who was formerly a Measurer in the New York Custom-House, but who resigned his situation last September, writes to the *New York Evening Post* that he regards that "Institution" with unutterable loathing and disgust; that it is the foster-parent of every vice and crime, and a plague-spot to the City of New York.

This is strong language, but it is well known that the Custom-House officials have a great deal to do with the Primary Elections, and it is the management of them which brings so much disgrace on the City.

Mr. Southworth says:

"I never could perceive why it was that any party, in its hour of success, deemed itself called upon to collect from the immediate, remote and questionable quarters of the Union, the very worst men to become the recipients of the spoils of victory.

"In England, a man of dissolute character seldom, if ever, is foisted on the patronage of the government; and you shall travel from the Land's End to John O'Groats, and not find a disorderly, ill-behaved, ill-disposed tide-waiter.

"The New York Custom-House long since became a by-word and a reproach."

Shooting at Rowdies by a Woman.

About nine o'clock on Monday night a gang of young rowdies made an attack upon a lager beer saloon in Battle row, opposite the Catholic Church, in Second street. After several brickbats had been fired, Mrs. Henn, wife of the proprietor, commenced putting up the shutters, when one of the party attempted to kick in the door. She then drew a pistol and fired, the ball grazing the head of one of the assailants. Another attack was made, when Mrs. Henn struck one of them, named John Weeks, with a shutter, and fractured his collar-bone in two places. The assailants bore off their wounded comrade, and the courageous woman was left victor of the field.—*New York Herald*, March 26.

The Police of New York.

We learn that a movement is now on foot whereby a large sum is to be raised by a general levy on the policemen of our city, to be used at Albany for the defeat of the Police bill there pending, and that tomorrow is assigned for taking up the collection. Our opinion may not be much regarded by these gentlemen, but we volunteer an assurance that they could do nothing half so certain to pass the Police bill as to raise money to be used against it. Our police system is bad enough at best—the whole force, with very few exceptions, has become a mere machine for the personal aggrandisement of Fernando Wood and the swelling of his party's vote; there is a very general and natural desire for a change; yet so deep and well grounded is the repugnance of our citizens to the exercise of power at Albany over the appointment of our municipal officers, that the Police bill is very likely to fall if well let alone; but let the policemen enter the field against it, especially by the contribution of money, and they will pass it, to a dead certainty.—*New York Tribune*, March 30.

Destitute Children.

The *Tribune* refers to the recent Report of the Children's Aid Society, which shows that the total number, so far as known, of destitute children, sent to places during the year by various city institutions, is 2,524, and makes the following remark: "Out of all the tens of thousands of destitute children in New York, only some 2,500 provided with homes, and perhaps 5,800 under education."

THE SOUTH—STATE OF SOCIETY.

White Slaves in the South.

In process of time the slaves of the South will hardly be distinguishable from their white masters. As it is now, there are thousands of slaves nearly white. Cases have frequently occurred where Germans and other Europeans have been made slaves under the pretence that they were descendants of negroes.

The *Buffalo Express*, says:

"We have just heard of a circumstance which portrays the beauty of slavery, and affords a caution to all Northern people to beware how they enter a slave State. In December last, a company of strolling play-actors visited Cattaraugus county, in this State, and entertained the people of that locality by performing in the various villages that are growing up there. Among other places they visited Linden, where resides a family named Barnhart, who were among the early settlers, and are Mohawk Dutch. This family had a son who was not celebrated for the delicate whiteness of his complexion, but who had acquired a knowledge of the violin, which was a source of great satisfaction to himself and his friends. When the play-actors came to Linden, young Barnhart visited them, and took with him his violin to show what he could do in the way of music, which is akin to the Drama. He played, was admired by the actors, and after some negotiation was hired to travel with the company and grace their orchestra. They went into Pennsylvania, and the term of the engagement of Barnhart expired, when he was re-engaged for a short time. They then went into Maryland, and so on into Virginia. Since then, until some three weeks since, nothing had been heard of the young and inexperienced fiddler. The first intelligence of him was that the play-actors, when they got into the interior of Virginia, sold him into slavery, where he is now held in bondage under that sale. This could scarcely be credited at first, but enough has since been learned to induce belief on the part of the father of Barnhart that it is even so, and when our informant left Linden, a few weeks since, the old gentleman was making his arrangements to follow his son and extricate him from his servitude. Such is slavery."

The Actual Condition of Plantation Slaves Described by a Slaveowner.

A writer in the *London Daily News* who has recently travelled in the Southern States, furnishes the following information which he obtained there respecting the treatment of slaves on the plantations.

On crossing the Big Black River, I left the sand hills and began to find myself in the rich loam of the valley of the Mississippi. The plantations became larger, the clearings more numerous and extensive, and the roads less hilly, but worse. Along the Yucog river one meets with some of the richest soil in the world, and some of the largest crops of cotton in the Union. My first night in that region was passed at the house of a planter who worked but few hands, was a fast friend of slavery, and yet drew for my benefit one of the most mournful pictures of a slave's life I have ever met with. He said, and I believe truly, that the negroes of small plantations are on the whole well treated, or at least as well as the owners can afford to treat them. Their master not unfrequently works side by side with them in the fields, and even if no good and kindly feeling springs up between them as the result of constant and familiar intercourse, he is too busy or too tired to give himself the trouble of inflicting systematic "larrupings" upon them. His rage generally blows itself off in a few cuffs or kicks, and is forgotten as soon as over. The food of his negroes is pretty much the same as he eats himself, and in a majority of cases consists of what is left at his own table. But on the large plantations, where the business is carried on by an overseer, and

everything is conducted with military strictness and discipline, he described matters as being widely different. The future of the overseer depends altogether on the quantity of cotton he is able to make up for the market. Whether the overseer be resident or non-resident, if the plantation be large, and a great number of hands be employed upon it, the overseer gets credit for a large crop, and blame for a small one. His professional reputation depends in a great measure upon the number of bales or hogsheads he is able to produce, and neither his education nor his habits are such as to render it likely that he would allow consideration for the negroes to stand in the way of his advancing it. His interest is to get as much work out of them as they can possibly perform. His skill consists in knowing exactly how hard they may be driven without incapacitating them for future exertion. Those who have charge of a large number of negroes ride about the plantation on a good horse, and are altogether "got up regardless of expense." As they have drivers under their orders, ready to inflict corporal punishment whenever it may be deemed necessary, and they are thus saved the fatigue of the operation themselves, they are, of course, less chary in condemning a slave to it than if they had to deal out the lashes in person. The rations, too, are weighed out upon the lowest scale consistent with the preservation of average health and strength, the same quantity for the big and little, the abstemious and the voracious. The larger the plantation the less chance there is of course of the owner's softening the rigor of the overseer or the sternness of discipline by personal interference. So, as Mr. H— said, a vast mass of the slaves pass their lives, from the moment they are able to go afield in the picking season till they drop worn out into the grave, in incessant labor, in all sorts of weather, at all seasons of the year, without any other change or relaxation than is furnished by sickness, without the smallest hope of any improvement either in their condition, in their food, or in their clothing, which are of the plainest and coarsest kind, and indebted solely to the forbearance, or good temper of the overseer for exemption from terrible physical suffering. They are rung to bed at nine o'clock, almost immediately after bolting the food, which they often have to cook after coming home from their day's labor, and are rung out of bed at four or five in the morning. The interval is one long round of toil. Life has no sunny spots for them. Their only refuge or consolation in this world is in their own stupidity and grossness. The nearer they are to the beast, the happier they are likely to be. Any mental or moral rise is nearly sure to bring unhappiness with it. An English friend of mine, long resident in the South, told me an anecdote while down there, strongly corroborative of a great portion of the foregoing statement. He was present at a negro funeral, in Southern Alabama, in company with several other whites, and heard a black preacher deliver an address to his brother blacks by way of "improving the occasion," as it is termed in the technical language of the evangelical world. The pith of his discourse, which seemed to tell powerfully upon his audience, was the necessity for laying up for themselves riches and happiness in the next world, because they could have neither one nor the other in this. He drew a picture of the manifold miseries of their condition on earth, their poverty, their weakness, their degradation, the contempt in which they were held, and sought to cheer and encourage them by the reflection that on the other side of the grave, at least, they would find ample compensation for all their sufferings on this.

EXTRACTS FROM THE GERMAN PRESS.

A New Periodical in Germany, Dedicated Exclusively to American Affairs.

We have received the first five numbers of a German periodical, entitled *Mittheilungen von Nord-Amerika*, (Communications from North America,) published by F. B. Aufahrt, in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, and edited by Edward Pelz. According to its programme, it is to contain truthful descriptions of "the life of the population of North America," and, to judge from the numbers before us, it is well calculated to enlighten the Germans on the other side of the Atlantic on many points of interest in regard to American affairs. This publi-

cation displays no superstitious reverence for the existing state of things here, but, on the contrary, it unceremoniously applies a good deal of that criticism for which German literature is justly famous. The style of writing is humorous, lively, and forcible. In speaking of the climate of New York, it says:

"The remarkable dulness and lethargy of the inhabitants of New York is partly, at least, owing to the climate; but the sudden and frequent changes of temperature are not the only climatical reasons. The one hundred and eighty-seven sunny days, (average in each year,) most of which occur during the summer, may contribute their share towards producing the excitement and the reaction on the nervous system. Probably there is too much light for the constitution of our Germanic race, as developed in Europe. The maintenance of our German calmness and gentleness requires probably a more moderate quantum of sunlight."

In advising emigrants it says:

"The emigrant must not rely upon the administration of justice in this country, (United States,) for in a thousand instances there will be hardly one where he will be willing or able to successfully prosecute an action at law, even in the lower tribunals."

Asmodeus is made to characterise the Americans in the following strain:

"According to the propensity of men to adopt rather the bad than the good qualities of others, the Americans have gained from the English an obdurate dogmatism; from the French they have taken their flippancy, frivolity, bragging and swaggering; the Spaniards have given them their stupid pride; the Italians jealousy and cunning; the Jews have contributed to the development of an impudent spirit of cheating; and from the aborigines of this country—the Indians—they have inherited their restlessness, cruelty and relentlessness."

The numbers before us contain valuable remarks on a great variety of subjects.

The fact that a periodical like the "*Mittheilungen*" has been established in Germany, shows that a great and increasing interest is felt on the Continent of Europe in the affairs of the United States. It is a hopeful sign indicating the desire of European nations to learn the truth in regard to this Republic. The happy days when the boastful press of this country could successfully deceive the rest of the world in regard to this alleged paradise are rapidly drawing to a close, and the "*Mittheilungen*" is evidently destined to perform some share in the revolution of opinion on this subject.

Treatment of Lunatics in Iowa.

The Iowa *Staatszeitung*, has the following in its city items:

"In the rotten wood-house which they use here as a jail, a Swiss, named *Troug* has been confined as a lunatic. His body is fastened by a short chain, and the arms of the unfortunate are closed together by hand-cuffs; the pestilential stinking hole in which he is confined is never warmed; wind, rain and snow enter there without hindrance, partly through the cracks of the wall—about one inch and a half in width, and partly by two open holes which are left in the place of windows. All the clothing of this poor fellow consists of a pair of old pants and some rotten rags."

Ill-Treatment of American Sailors.

How shall we Preserve our Character as a Maritime People?

The instructive and sensible paper which appears in another column in reference to seamen is from one who has commanded first-class vessels from this port for more than thirty years, and who, during that period, has sustained a high character not only for skill and judgment as a navigator, but for humanity and tact in his intercourse with his men.

It is possible that in our recent comments upon the brutal treatment to which sailors are frequently exposed now-a-days, we may have done some ships officers injustice; we do not doubt that there are many exceptions to the charge we made, and which our correspondent practically admits to be true of a class growing larger and larger every year. "We constantly hear," he says, "of the outrages perpetrated on sailors, under the system of shipping men through the agency of boarding-

house keepers. That they occur continually there is not the slightest doubt. Hardly a ship goes from our ports that does not carry some victims of this iniquitous trade."

Our correspondent seems disposed to think this brutality is somewhat extenuated by the fact, which he avers upon what he deems good authority, that, taking the average of all sailors shipped from New York, in our coasting as well as foreign trade, *not more than two per cent. are of American birth*, and at least eighty per cent. are of Irish or English origin.

How far his cause may be an effect, and how far, if it were a cause, it would extenuate the fraud and brutality of which the public complains, we will not pause to inquire, for our correspondent agrees with us in the necessity of a speedy and thorough reform; of doing something to restore the nationality, and with it the skill, enterprise and ambition which used to characterize the American merchant marine.

The remedy to which our correspondent attaches most importance is the legalization of a system of apprenticeship, by which every captain, sailing from this port, should take with him say five lads, who should have the best opportunities the ship could afford of learning practical navigation.—*N. Y. Evening Post.*

[From the European Times.]

Seamen in American Ships.

The following letter from a friend of the Rev. Mr. Fielden, of Bebbington, on the above subject, will be read with interest. The gentleman who wrote the letter is now in the United States:

"New York, February 16, 1857.

"To the Rev. R. M. Fielden,
Magistrate, Birkenhead Police Court.

"Sir: Allow me, as a traveller and merchant, making frequent trips across the Atlantic in the different Liverpool packet-ships, to corroborate, in some particulars, the brutal and tyrannical treatment of the crews (as set forth in the case of the *J. L. Bogart*) by nearly all the officers engaged in that traffic. Indeed, so shameful has the cruelty on board become, that in this port of New York it is not without the utmost difficulty they can procure crews to man the ships sailing between here and Liverpool. Every artifice is resorted to by the agents to decoy men on board; and but too often the betrayed ones, particularly if young and inexperienced, on proceeding to sea, pay for their temerity with their lives. I will only relate to you one instance out of the many that have come under my notice, and I should not presume, as a stranger to you, to take that liberty, but I view with alarm the increasing tyrannical and blood-thirsty disposition of these petty officers of the packet-ships to all whose unlucky stars place them within their power.

"I went home in the summer of 1856, on board the American ship —, Captain —, and we had not been one day at sea before the chief mate struck a fatal blow, with a marling-spike, on the head of a sailor, for going into the second cabin amongst the passengers, where he had been sent by the second mate, and alleged against him by the first that he went thither to rob. Another man was kicked in the stomach and side in a savage manner by the third mate, for some trifling neglect, which had the effect of breaking a rib, besides rupturing the intestines, placing him for the remainder of the voyage under the hands of the surgeon. Numerous and sickening were the maulings and assaultings of the men all the voyage over, as if really for sport and pastime, till one humane passenger attempted to remonstrate with the captain, when he was quickly silenced by a threat to place him in irons! When we arrived in the *Marsee*, there were in the fore-castle, unfit for anything but the hospital, four poor wretches more or less mutilated for life.

"I hope and trust in God that the magistrates of Liverpool will punish, to the utmost extent that the law allows, every crime of this nature that comes under their cognizance; for it is a monstrous incongruity that a nation like the Americans, professing so much philanthropy, and boasting of their equality and liberty, should be the acknowledged tyrants and scoundrels of the universe. Be assured that all those serious cases that have been resigned into the hands of the American Consul at Liverpool, and sent home here for adjudication, have ended in a profound farce and acquittal of the delinquents. Yours, faithfully and obediently,
—, Merchant, Nassau street."

Want of Occupation for Women in the United States.

A European correspondent of the New York *Times* says that in England the business of keeping and serving shops is almost entirely in the hands of women. He says:

"Not only the lares and head-gear, but also the more extensive establishments of the grocer, the bookseller, the dyer, the upholsterer, the China and hardware dealer, are managed by them. The younger women stand behind the counters, or keep the books, while their mothers, or other matrons, make the wholesale purchases, and transact, often with great success, the out-door part of the business. This calls to my mind the reply of one of your countrywomen, whom I attended many years ago on a shopping excursion in Broadway. 'Why do you go so far down town to a shop which does not seem better than the others?' I asked. 'It is not better,' she answered, 'but there I shall be served by a woman.' It appears, therefore, that the ladies of New York prefer, when making their purchases, to be served by women. Let their wishes be followed out, therefore, and let the thousands of stout young men whom I then saw standing behind the counters of retail shops, leave their effeminate employments of measuring silks or weighing sugar, or handing down the last new publication to those whom nature has intended for such light tasks, and let them betake themselves to the more dignified and manly occupations of reclaiming the wildernesses of Kansas and California."

He also suggests that the entire charge of the education of girls should be in the hands of women, and adds:

"The care and cure of the sick among themselves, and among children, is another task for which nature has clearly destined them. A change in your social organization, which would place these last functions in their hands, would, doubtless, be a welcome relief to that refined delicacy which distinguishes your countrymen. The American ladies will be rejoiced to hear that in Paris the initiative has been already taken in this branch of reform, and that the names of women are quoted there as highly respectable medical authorities. Would it not be strange if the land of priestly and military despotism should, on a point so important to half the human race, take the lead of a country where freedom of thought and fearlessness of action are the order of the day?"

A Correction. The Bad Example Set by American Statesmen not followed.

We learn from the *St. John's Leader* the particulars of the assault on the Editor of that paper. It seems it was not the Speaker of the House of Assembly, but the Speaker's son, who went with a horse-whip to the Editor's office, had the whip wrenched from him, was ignominiously turned out of doors, and was afterwards fined £5 in the Police Court for the assault he had intended to make.

REMARKS.

The American papers which published a long report of the case stating that the Speaker of the House of Assembly was the delinquent, have not corrected that report. We are glad to find that we were mistaken in supposing that the bad example set by men in high office in the United States had been followed in one case in a British Province.

Killing No Murder.

Human life at the National Capitol is not held at a high value. Unfortunately, there have been too many evidences of this during the past year or two, and killing a fellow-being for a slight provocation is not there regarded as a punishable offence. To provoke an attack by wanton and gross abuse, and then commit a murder in self-defence, does not subject one to any punishment in Washington.

The last exemplification of this was in the acquittal of Colonel Lee, who coolly and deliberately shot Mr. Hume, the latter having been provoked by the grossest insult to strike the former with his cane. The conduct of Mr. Hume was not to be defended, but some allowance should be made for infirmity of temper; and, when a man is exasperated by a disgraceful accusation, perfect self-restraint is not to be always expected. The recent acquittals in Washington of Herbert and Colonel Lee show that, while you may not strike an adversary in

self-defence, you may shoot him with impunity. The lesson, we imagine, will not be lost, and hereafter it will not be a word and a blow, but a blow and a bullet. To kill is less dangerous than to strike.—*New York Times*, March 31.

THE EUROPEAN.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 1857.

Travelling Agent for the *EUROPEAN* in Canada, Mr. ANGELO MICHOSALIS.
Gen. Agents in New York, Messrs. ROSS & TOLSON, 121 Nassau Street.
Gen. Agents in London, Messrs. SMITH & CO., 157 Strand.

SUMMARY.

Our article on Systematic Emigration and Colonization will, we trust, be carefully examined. The time has at last arrived when we hope to see a proper system adopted. We have explained the proposed operations in Virginia by the North American Homestead Company, and have stated our reasons for holding that their project will be a failure, entailing misery upon the poor settlers. If that Company will direct its efforts to the settlement of the North-western States and Territories, we shall feel much pleasure in making their operations known to the people of Europe. We hope that the plan commended by us, or something similar, will be put in operation in the British American Provinces. Charters of incorporation will be required, as well as some alteration in the laws respecting the disposal of the public lands.

We have exposed the false assumption of the *London Times*, that in all the thinly-populated parts of this continent British workmen and workwomen can easily obtain employment, with ample remuneration. A grosser and more mischievous fallacy was never propagated.

To those who read our remarks on California, we need not add the caution to avoid emigrating to that country.

Important information will be found in our columns respecting wages in the United States. There is a wide-spread delusion on this subject which we shall endeavor to dispel.

The ill-treatment of sailors on board of American ships has rendered the service so odious that it is very difficult to obtain men. It appears that not more than two per cent. of the so-called American sailors (*i.e.* the common sailors) are of American birth. The question now with the American merchants is, "How shall we preserve our character as a maritime people?"

The general want of employment for women in the United States, is fully recognised by our American contemporaries as will be seen by our extracts.

The municipal Government of this city is a disgrace to modern times and it shows conclusively what a wretched electoral system is that which prevails here.

There is a greater amount of immorality, crime and misery in this city, in proportion to the population, than can be found in any capital in Europe.

The actual condition of the plantation slaves in the South is truthfully depicted in the description given by a slaveowner, which will be found on page 516 of this number.

The favorite mode of swindling in America is by the sale of stocks, which represents in many instances nothing of value. The English have heretofore been victimized to a great extent by these swindles, but we hope to be able to prevent hereafter, in a great measure, the success of similar operations, so far, at all events, as the British people are concerned.

We understand that the Government of the United States will not co-operate with France and England in any warlike operations in China. In our opinion, this Government is far more likely to

co-operate with Russia. We have given our reasons for this opinion, and beg to assure our English readers that the foreign policy of the United States is of such a character as to render an *entente cordiale* with Russia a matter of prime necessity. If the people of England will persist in shutting their eyes, and refusing to see what is the true character of the Government of the United States, a series of blunders in English diplomacy will be the result, and great disasters may follow.

The Slavery Propaganda are preparing for two grand efforts, viz.: the seizure of the Isthmus of Panama at once, and the conquest of Cuba in the event of war between Spain and Mexico. The popular theory is, that the United States must have conquered provinces—the "Democratic" papers like to talk about "our future Indian Empire," and assume that the whole continent is to be subjugated.

WANT OF EMPLOYMENT IN THINLY POPULATED COUNTRIES.

Exposure of the Fallacies of the *London Times*.

There are some people who are actually so silly as to suppose that in a new and thinly populated country there must always be a great demand for laborers. For the edification of those who may entertain that idea, we extract the following passage from the Colonization Circular for April, 1856, issued by the British Emigration Commissioners, from which it will be seen that, although a country may be thinly populated, its agricultural resources at the same time being very great, it by no means follows that employment can be found in that country by Emigrants.

"NEW BRUNSWICK."

"The Immigration Agent at St. John, M. H. Perley, Esquire, in his Annual Report, dated 14th January, 1856, states, 'that there has been a considerable stream of Emigration from this Province during the past year,' and 'it appears to me that the existing population is sufficient for the amount of labor to be performed; and until material changes take place in the business and affairs of the Province, I can hold out little or no encouragement to Emigrants of the laboring class.'"

New Brunswick is a country very thinly peopled, but enjoying a fertile soil and a comparatively healthy climate, and it is capable of supporting many millions of people. And yet, "until material changes take place in the business and affairs of the Province," it will not be a proper country for laborers to emigrate to. On the contrary, we see that the laborers emigrate from New Brunswick.

It is ridiculous to imagine that the proper country for a poor laboring man to emigrate to is one where there is no foreign commerce, scarcely any manufactures, and where the land is owned in small parcels by a considerable number of persons, who, by reason of the superabundance of agricultural produce, cannot afford to pay wages in money. Of what use would it be for a Manchester or Birmingham operative to go into such a community? Even a skilled agricultural laborer would be unable to earn enough to support himself and his wife and family. There is, for example, no demand for such persons in Lower Canada amongst the poor farmers there, nor in Virginia, nor in Iowa. At the best employment can be had, for a part of the year only, at very low wages. Besides, any English agricultural laborer coming to the United States is pretty sure to become sick, the climate being very unhealthy.

The fact is, that, in the thinly-populated parts of the West, the laborers have to seek employment in the towns, or upon public works. And it is a common thing throughout the United States for the laborers to flock into the towns in winter time. On this subject the *New York Tribune* of December 29, 1856, says: "Our farmers near the great cities displace one half their laborers on the approach of winter, whereupon these rush into the cities and large villages in quest of employment."

The advocates of the working classes in England appear to be aware of some of the difficulties which

surround emigrants to the Western States. Thus we find Mr. Ernest Jones saying:

"Send the British emigrant landless and moneyless to the United States, and what will be his fate? You cannot let him alight in the Far West from a balloon, and if he did, whence shall he get the stock, the seed, the materials for commencing—what shall he live on until his farm is ready, his hut built, his seed sown, and his harvest gathered?"

The *London Times*, of 26th February, in an article on Mr. Ernest Jones's proposal, to place the poor on the "waste lands" of England, says:

"Nothing can show the blindness of the old Chartist more than that, with the explored and ascertained earth's surface before him, and the known fact that the whole waste continents are eagerly demanding and will amply repay the workman—that with Australia, Canada and the United States inviting labor from the overstocked market in the Old World to fill up the vast void in the New one, he should still obstinately persist in dissuading the working classes from emigration. Yet such is the case, and there is no bugbear he will not raise in order to prevent men from going to the New World, and to keep them at home.

"Think of the boldness of a man actually asserting that the New World is overstocked, that it is fuller than the Old one, and appealing to the pauperism of New York as a proof of it, as if a city now rapidly advancing to the population of a million afforded any criterion of the demand for labor in the uncultivated immensities of the back woods of Canada, or Australia? New York is, of course, overstocked with mechanics for the same reason that London is; besides that, it is the principal landing port for emigrants, a crowded population will produce exactly the same effects in the New World that it does in the Old; the New World is not recommended because it is new, but because it is not as yet full, and for the very reason that people are told to go the New World at all, they are told to go to the empty parts of the New World, and not to the full ones."

The *New York Times* commends this passage to our notice, saying:

"We commend to the *EUROPEAN*, which is devoting its energies to demonstrating that the poor of Europe will only make their condition worse by coming to the United States, the following from the *London Times*."

The *London Times* is altogether wrong in assuming that it is a "known fact" that in the United States there is a great demand for laborers. We deny the statement altogether, and challenge the *Times* to dispute the facts presented by the *EUROPEAN*, or to gainsay our conclusions therefrom.

The *Times* has fallen into a very vulgar error. If one of the editors of that paper had in the course of his flying tour in the Western States taken the trouble to inquire whether the small farmers of Ohio, Indiana or Illinois, were in a condition to hire laborers the year round, he would have discovered that English agricultural laborers would be disappointed on emigrating to those countries. As to their becoming farmers that is totally out of the question. Not one man in six is a farmer in that part of the world. As to mechanics, there is no demand for them beyond the present supply, and throughout the United States women are unable to find profitable employment. In a word, the notion that mechanics and laborers have nothing to do but present themselves amongst a set of poor farmers, who live in log huts, eat coarse food and wear mean clothing, is a sheer fallacy, as every body who reflects on the subject must perceive at once.

The argument of the *London Times* that although "New York is of course overstocked with mechanics for the same reason that London is," yet that English mechanics should rush for employment to the United States, assumes that when these shall arrive at New York, they will be better informed and have a better chance of advancing their fortunes than the native American mechanics who are already here. We assume, on the contrary, that being nearer than London to the Imaginary clydeum of the *Times*, "the empty parts," they (the American mechanics) know how useless it

would be for them to go out with their families "to fill up the vast void" into which the *Times* would consign the mechanics and laborers of England.

The General Election in England. The War in China. Policy of the United States.

Some of the Whig members of Parliament who voted against ministers on the China question, have been forced by their constituencies to retract, but the popular voice condemns the proceedings of the British at Canton, and it is quite probable that the Radicals in most parts of the Kingdom will desert the Whig party altogether.

The London *Star*, a leading organ of the Radicals, advises the electors to vote for Tories who are in favor of peace and retrenchment, although they may be opposed to reform, when the choice lies between them and Palmerstonians who are opposed to peace and retrenchment as well as reform. We doubt, however, whether a Tory administration would be more peaceful in its policy than the present ministry.

It is understood here that the British minister at Washington is endeavoring to persuade the Government to co-operate with England and France in an effort to compel China to trade with the rest of the world. We do not anticipate that the United States will act with England and France in this matter. Russia is the natural ally of the United States, and Russia has a policy to pursue in China which the government of the United States is not at all likely to thwart. On the contrary, we expect to see Americans and Russians actively engaged together in teaching the Chinese how to make themselves formidable to their enemies.

The oligarchy of the South is not to be pacified by any assurances respecting the policy of the present administration in England towards the United States. The slaveowners know full well that England, with her anti-slavery sentiments and free institutions, is, and must be, the deadly enemy of the slavery propaganda, whatever may be said to the contrary by those who may happen for the time being to control the foreign office in London.

The policy of the United States, as directed by the slaveocracy, is to subjugate this continent and the neighboring islands—to have vast provinces filled with aristocrats and slaves; and in the pursuit of this policy Russia will be the great conqueror of the slaveowners, for Russia will keep England and France from interfering in American affairs, and the United States will reciprocate this kindness by aiding and abetting Russia, Austria and Prussia in any conflict between them and England.

This may appear strange to those who are not aware of the great and controlling fact that the Senate is the Government of the United States, that the slaveowners are absolute masters in that body, and that it is their determination to conquer Cuba, Mexico and Central America.

The Slavery Propaganda in London. Novel Enterprise.

We learn from the *Journal of Commerce*, of this city, that the slavery propaganda intend to establish an organ in London. With a little teaching that philosophical journal, the London *Times*, will come up to the South Carolina standard. The *Times* already holds that slavery is not opposed either to humanity or religion, and that the blacks ought to be made to produce as much cotton as the world requires. To be consistent with itself the organ of the few brokers of London should advocate the policy of the American Government, which is to conquer Mexico, Central America and Cuba, in order to extend and establish slavery, and compel the blacks to produce the requisite quantity of cotton.

If the enterprise referred to in the following paragraph be undertaken we may soon expect to see the *Times* advocating the propriety of a cession of the British West Indies to the United States, in order that slavery may be re-established there.

Novel Enterprise.

"A correspondent of the Charleston *News*, writing from Washington, states that a project is on foot to start a 'Southern State Rights Pro-Slavery Journal at London.' Mr. Slocom, of Mississippi, has initiated this singular enterprise. The editor to be is Professor Alexander Dimitry, at present the translator in the State Department, a native of Louisiana, a man of rare accomplishments and an unsurpassed linguist. The friends of this movement are sanguine of its success, and allege that it has already received sufficient encouragement to justify its commencement. They propose that it shall be a true representative of Southern sentiment at the English metropolis, and a defender of Southern Rights, devoted to the idea of direct trade with the South, and appreciative of the cotton interest generally. It is urged that this paper published at London could speak more potently to America than a Southern paper printed in America. The peculiar interest, which on account of its location it would excite, would procure it a large circulation, and a more general reading in the United States than any paper published in the South. There is something in this reasoning, for a paper published in London, containing an American view of European affairs, would naturally attract attention to its columns. It is to be delivered free of all other expense to the American subscriber at \$10 per annum, and is to be published weekly."

WAGES IN THE UNITED STATES.

A Great Illusion Dispelled.

We find, on referring to the seventh census, that the wages of males and females employed in cotton manufactories were as follows:

	Males.	Females.
Massachusetts, -	\$22.90	\$13.60 per month.
New York, -	18.32	9.68 "
Alabama, -	11.71	7.98 "
Tennessee, -	10.94	6.42 "

In the manufacture of pig-iron the wages were as follows:

	Males.	Females.
Massachusetts, -	\$27.52	per month.
New York, -	25.00	"
Pennsylvania, -	21.68	\$6.11 "
North Carolina, -	8.00	4.40 "
Tennessee, -	12.81	5.11 "

In the manufacture of wrought-iron the wages were:

	Males.	Females.
Massachusetts, -	\$22.50	per month.
Pennsylvania, -	27.00	\$7.00 "
North Carolina, -	10.87	5.28 "
Georgia, -	11.88	5.00 "

Our readers will observe the difference between the wages in the free and slave States. Thus, a female in Massachusetts, employed in a cotton manufactory, earns \$13.60 (thirteen dollars and sixty cents) a month, or about fourteen shillings a week, whilst in Tennessee a female's earnings, in the same department of industry, are only about half that amount.

In the State of New York the wages of a skilled agriculturist are seldom more than ten dollars per month and board, with employment for a little over half the year. At this rate of wages what must be the condition of the laborer with a wife and family? Rent is usually very high, fuel in most places is dear, sickness is common, and clothing is much dearer than in England. The condition of the laboring classes, even in the State of New York, is inferior to that of the same classes in England. And it must not be supposed that the mere laborers are but few in number; on the contrary, they, with their families, constitute more than nine-tenths of the population of this State.

As to the wages of men working on railroads and canals, we are informed that, in the West, such wages are frequently only ten or twelve dollars a month, with board.

The wages paid to Irish laborers on a canal in Indiana, in the year 1842, were eight dollars a month and board, costing about sixty cents a week. At that time the men employed in making railroads in England (the excavators) were earning over five dollars a week.

Men employed in cleaning the streets of New York are paid a dollar a day, but do not earn many dollars in a year, as street-cleaning is carried on here only at irregular intervals.

We have received various communications respecting the rate of wages in the different departments of industry in the United States, from which we give the following:

A master bricklayer on Long Island, about seven miles from New York, has paid his men, during the past Winter, wages at the rate of four dollars per month, (with board,) and they considered themselves to be very fortunate.

The wages paid at one of the India-rubber factories in New Jersey, (the Ford Rubber Factory in New Brunswick,) are twelve dollars per month, without board.

We shall be happy to receive information from our correspondents on the subject of wages throughout the United States.

THE UNITED STATES AND NEW GRANADA.

Threatened Invasion of the Isthmus of Panama by the United States.

The Government of the United States is about to despatch a force to take possession of the Isthmus of Panama. The pretext is, that the Government of New Granada ought to have complied with the American demands in relation to the disturbance which took place on the Isthmus on the 15th and 16th of April of last year. That disturbance was occasioned by the disorderly conduct of some American rowdies, which led to a collision between the Americans and the natives. The Isthmus is always infested with a gang of brutal villains going to or coming from California; and these fellows are constantly perpetrating outrages on the natives. Of course there will occasionally be some resistance. It is evident that the American Government is determined to conquer and annex the Central American States, in order to extend the area of slavery, and to consolidate the power of the slaveholding oligarchy of the South. It would be useless, therefore, for the Government of New Granada to comply with the demands now made, even if it were possible to do so, for at any time another disturbance can be excited by the Americans, and new demands based thereon. The people of New Granada should never have allowed the Americans to gain a foothold in Panama.

The Conquest of Cuba by the Americans in the event of War between Spain and Mexico.

There is very little reason to doubt that an alliance will take place between the United States and Mexico, if the latter country be invaded by the Spaniards. It is said that Spain has applied to England and France to keep the United States neutral, and that the application has been refused. The United States, as the ally of Mexico and the enemy of Spain, will invade Cuba, and we apprehend that very little opposition will be made by the Cubans or by the Spanish army there. The American fleet can easily blockade the island and deprive it of all its commerce. The principal slaveowners have of late been taught to believe that the only way to prevent the emancipation of the slaves is to get the island annexed to the United States. We expect, therefore, to see the planters exerting their influence with the Spanish authorities and the army in favor of the Americans, whenever the port of Havana shall have fallen into their hands.

The popular feeling in the United States is decidedly in favor of the acquisition of Cuba. Even the Republicans, or "moderate anti-slavery men," are advocates of that measure. Thus the New York *Times* of 9th March says:

"It appears to be the settled determination of Mr. Buchanan's administration to acquire possession of Cuba peacefully and by purchase. The animus of the nation is in favor of its annexation, and the expenditure of a large sum of money to attain the desired result will not be grudged. The war between Spain and Mexico, however, may give a turn to things which

one year ago was deemed impossible. The absurd, unjust and cowardly demand which the Spanish government have made upon England and France, to protect it in the possession of Cuba, will not be forgotten, either in Mexico or here. It is understood that both the Palmerston ministry and Louis Napoleon have rejected it. They have done wisely; but its influence will not end with that rejection."

The *New York Herald* of March 31, intimates that if a war springs up between Spain and Mexico, the democracy may declare in favor of war with Spain.

"The whole cabinet sympathize with Mexico. General Cass, ever since the Mexican paper, has suggested that it did not include the Gulf of California and the contiguous territories; and if Mr. Buchanan has a weak side, it lies in the belief of Cuba. Accordingly, before we can venture to predict the result of the election of 1860, we must wait the full development of Mr. Buchanan's foreign policy and measures in reference to the pending warlike relations between Spain and Mexico."

"We may yet see in 1860 a sensation of the democratic war against the South, through a foreign war for the South."

The Appointment of General Cass as Secretary of State. Whether it is of any importance.

The *London Times*, in an article on the appointment of General Cass as Secretary of State, says:

"Perhaps we shall be suspected of wishing to make out of a bad business, but we cannot refrain from saying that in dealing with a Democratic community like the United States, it may, perhaps, be as well to treat through politicians who have a reputation for a strong national and Anti-English spirit. It is quite possible that men like Mr. Buchanan and General Cass can afford to be more embellished in action than others, simply because, in profession, they have always been distinguished and hostile. A President who has the reputation for spirit to make, may not immediately shrink from concluding a treaty, or joining in diplomatic action with this country, well knowing that he is likely to be represented in hundreds of newspapers as having been intimidated or overruled. But a man who can point to his former speeches, and ask if it is likely that he would do an act derogatory to his country's dignity, may be able to withstand international business in a manly spirit. Much, we trust, will be the man with Mr. Buchanan and his lieutenant. They will have it in their power to remove the only cause of difference between the two countries by the publication of the Central American Treaty; and we do not think that they will lose the opportunity."

The only way to remove causes of difference between England and the United States is for the former to give up all opposition to the slavery propaganda, and retire from this continent and the West India Islands. Mr. Buchanan will do as he is told by the South, and more and more. Mr. Cass could ill afford to approach against England when his Southern masters gave him orders to do so, and left off as soon as he discovered that they would be pleased by his shutting his mouth. But our British statesman teaches themselves about Mr. Cass, or Mr. Buchanan, or any other individual. There is but one single question to be regarded in American affairs, viz., what is the policy, for the time being, of the Southern oligarchy as represented by the Senate.

Ministry in Oregon. The Policy that Ministry cannot be maintained in Northern States.

The *New York Herald*, in an article on the proposed establishment of slavery in Oregon, says:

"The laws of nature forbid the establishment of slavery wherever there is a white man, by making such labor to such intestine insupportable. And yet these laws are for a time to be treated as mere suggestions, the potential purposes, but in the end they will show themselves. Slavery in Oregon is as absurd as imperial despotism in New York."

We do not mean that the cold sciences at Russia have presented slavery in that country. As for the

talk about slave-labor being dearer than free, it is without any force. Whether free labor be dear or cheap the owner of laborers is the possessor of a valuable property, and enjoys, moreover, social distinction. We expect to see slavery in Oregon, and should not be in the least degree surprised to witness "imperial despotism in New York."

BRITISH AFFAIRS.

Improved Condition of Ireland.

The time had arrived when, instead of emigration from Ireland to the United States, there should be a great exodus from the United States to Ireland.

The *London Times* says:

"The thousand-phased phrase of 'poor old Ireland' may be considered as representing something which has now ceased to exist. On this 1st of January, at the commencement of a new year, we may venture to predict that 'rich young Ireland' will soon become the more appropriate denomination. On all sides we hear of increasing agriculture, decreasing poor rates, cessation of political agitation, good feeling between landlord and tenant, and other unimpeachable evidence of rising prosperity."

The *Tyrone Herald* gives the following gratifying sketch of the condition of the rural population in Cavanagh at the close of the year 1856:

"No part of our past history can bear comparison with the present time. On every side are evidences of improvement—progressive improvement. . . . The commutation and appearance of the country cottages have been sensibly improved. No longer—except, perhaps, in an exceptional case—is the mud hut, raised in the oblation of the ditch which sets as its side wall, in its own. Even the pig in many places is now provided with a paddock distinct from that of its proprietor. The people are now to be seen comfortably and respectably, if not luxuriously, clad. . . . Their anxiety has not been confined to the amelioration of the outer man or exterior improvements. Our working countrymen have not been indifferent to the state of the inner person—to the importance of providing themselves with the agreeable and substantial food which their strenuous labors permit them to obtain. They no longer subsist on the potato; and with exuberant, but increased their relief for that excellent and highly-favored vegetable by using with it meat, fish, &c."

The *London Morning Post* says that since the beginning of the present century Ireland has never been so prosperous or so tranquil as at this time.

Irish natives will fetch, generally, very nearly as many years purchase in the land market as English property.

If we turn from Ireland to this country we shall find indications of prosperity and content fully as apparent as on the other side of St. George's Channel. The population of the country is steadily increasing, and notwithstanding the commutation in the price of several articles of home-made necessity, the working man is better provided and fed now than at any time since the beginning of the present century. The wealth of the country is increasing, too, in a still greater ratio than its population. Our luxuries and comforts, notwithstanding the demands made on the national resources during the last three years, have largely increased. Every kind of industrial enterprise, such as railways, electric telegraphs, has received a new impulse, and hence a higher value in the market. In the agricultural branch, which it was predicted a few years ago would be ruined by the commutation of the tithes, deep drainage and improved cultivation are pursued on a larger scale than at any former period, and there is altogether more encouragement in, and a greater amount of capital and skill applied to, the cultivation of the land. While the agricultural and the home industries are thus increasing, the poor rates are steadily diminishing, as well as the whole expenditure which falls chiefly on the soil, such as the administration of justice, county rates, the prosecution of criminals, &c.

The *Dublin Correspondent* of the *Anti-Slavery Standard* (New York) gives a gratifying description of the improvement of Ireland from the time of the

Lord Lieutenant, at the feast given on 19th February by the Lord Mayor of Dublin.

"The Lord Lieutenant made a speech, which contained some particulars very cheering to us Irish who live at home at ease. The principal flowers of eloquence consisted of certain statistical returns, of which I will give you the cream. As a proof of the improvement of Dublin, he said that in 1838 the number of persons arrested in this city for manslaughter or assault with intent to murder was 86; in 1856 they amounted to but 1. In 1838 all the arrests for all sorts of offences were 10,000; in 1856, 18,000. Within the last year the decline in the number of inmates in the poor-houses was considerable, and the pauper rates have fallen from 2s. 11d. to 1s. 6d. in the parish. In 1831 there were 1801 sentenced in penal servitude or transportation for various crimes in all Ireland; in 1854, 1855; in 1856, 1013; in 1857, 892; in 1858, 821; and in 1859, 878—a gratifying descent from 1838 to 878. Of 400 convicts sent from an debtors' prison in Ireland, but seven of the 400 have been received. I think these particulars are most interesting, as they give the best possible proof of the country in the march of moral improvement, without which there is really no true civilization. On all hands I hear on other accounts that the progress of Ireland is onward in the best sense. From what I read of the *United States*, I cannot think that the Irish who emigrate make a change, on the whole, for the better. The extremes of heat and cold are tremendous on your side of the Atlantic; the security of life much less; the political excitement and corruption very much greater; and, as far as I can judge, the substantial enjoyment of existence not so great, though more money may be made, and the merely material progress more remarkable."

"I think the *Kurrier* an admirably conducted, truth-telling paper. If it be truly established, and should it continue under the same auspices, it may do great good by the promulgation of truths which it has hitherto not been considered patriotic for an American to utter. I can't help thinking it is bad for any people to be hood-winked by their guides, social, religious or political. It is bad for a nation, as well as an individual, to have an over-weening opinion of its own enlightenment, strength, goodness or greatness. Any one would look on the man as a fool for boasting of himself in the style which we over here and talk of their country. The *Kurrier* is a manly, outspoken, many-sided paper, which is dedicated to Truth above all other objects; and its results cannot fail to react beneficially on your public opinion. I refer particularly to this paper because the facts about Ireland I have given you above are just the kind which it likes to offer respecting all other countries as well as its own; and which, where read, might serve to correct the prevalent Chinese idea, which is also so common in the United States, that your side is the Flowery Month is familiarly known."

London. Decrease of Pauperism.

A correspondent of the *London Times* writes that the number of persons receiving relief in the metropolis in the year 1856, was about 1 to every 88 persons, and that this was a smaller number than that of the year before.

Motel of Blackened Criminals.

The Committee of the London Reformatory for adult male criminals, in advertising for subscriptions, make the following statement:

The criminal, on his discharge from prison, however anxious he may be to return to an honest course of life, finds himself friendless and without a character, and is almost necessarily driven back to crime.

This institution receives him, affords him protection, instruction, and employment; and ultimately, in most instances, emigration.

The Committee have sent out as emigrants 174, and otherwise provided for 180.

There are now 40 in the institution, and the Committee are anxious to do the same for them if the public will assist them.

The annual cost for maintaining and instructing each inmate is about £40, and of each emigrant about £14.

Debate.

In the Bill, in March 9 remarks.

Before just while more of The time country power which believe, was known of 1750, Napoleon covers up commerce.

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His man a large su great meet ready to b that we sh that power by the Uni blacked—that ny no pass through the late was in the Black farming to your mark other parts great injur

Debate on Mr. Murray's Proposition as to the Rights of Neutral in Time of War.

In the course of a speech on the Income Tax Bill, in the House of Commons, on the evening of March 6th, Lord John Russell made the following remarks:

Before I sit down I wish to say a few words on a subject which, though it bears on our foreign relations, is more especially connected with the affairs of our navy. The House is aware that the naval superiority of this country has rested in a great degree upon a certain power which we made use of, in entire conformity, I believe, with the law of nations, (here,) upon which was based what was called in the last century the rule of 1756, and also during our tremendous contest with Napoleon, those Orders in Council, which, however severe upon neutrals, were absolutely destructive to the commerce of belligerents. (Here.)

During the late war, acting in connexion with France, which had always taken a different view of these subjects we were naturally obliged to adopt the measure of France, and the principles upon which we had usually acted were for a time abandoned. Her Majesty's Government, however, thought proper at the Conference of Paris to enter into a general engagement, by which the views of France and Russia, and the neutral powers sharing in that conference, were confirmed, and the measures upon which we had always acted were given up. That convention was not the subject of any discussion in this House. If there had been any discussion, I dare say the Government would have been able to show that the state of things was such that they had no other course than to agree to the proposal made to them; but, however that may be, it is to be observed that in all bodies upon this subject it is stated that the rule—"Free bottoms make free goods," and "The goods of a belligerent are safe in neutral vessels, and the goods of a neutral safe in belligerent vessels," have always been regarded as ligatures to the supremacy of maritime countries, and especially to the maritime power of England. Every one who has looked at the arguments on this subject will see that the rules were laid down as a law to the maritime supremacy of this country.

Since that time the Secretary of State of the United States has proposed to go a step further than this treaty—that Great Britain should agree that all merchant vessels should be free from capture during time of war. It appears to me, I own, that, although the proposed carries with it an air of philanthropy, it is one which would not tend to prevent war, would greatly cripple the energies of this country in time of war. (Here, hear.)

It is obvious, in the first place, that one reason why foreign nations are now unwilling to go to war with this country is, that they find that their commerce is sure to be seized, and that all the valuable property which they may have at sea is sure to fall into the hands of our cruisers as soon as they are declared. If, on the contrary, they were sure that all their merchant vessels would be allowed to pass in safety, one great reason for remaining at peace would be taken away.

But look also at the difference there would be in carrying on a war. Suppose the United States were to go to war with us. There would be no impediment in the way of their marching an army into Canada, but we should have no means of carrying on offensive operations against them. They would have no fleet to send out, they would not attempt to send one out, and there would be no war, therefore, upon the high seas. We should have no means of hurting our enemy.

But more than this—the power which has used not a large commercial navy to sea must always have a great number of men fitted for the purpose of war, and ready to take their place in vessels at sea. It is said that we should still retain the power of blockade; but that power of blockade has been limited and restricted by the Convention of Paris. It must be an effective blockade—that is to say, it must be such a blockade that no merchant vessel could with safety attempt to pass through. This is an difficult to attain; that during the late war we were for some months without a blockade in the Black Sea in consequence of the necessity of conforming to the French rule. The effect, therefore, of your maritime law to blockade our port and to leave other ports unblockaded—that is to say, you might do great injury to New York in Russia, but all the other

ports along the coast would be able to carry on their commercial operations as usual. (Here, hear.)

My opinion is that if we were to agree to that proposal, our being a great naval power would be of no use to us in time of war. A stipulation not to use our naval force against a commercial vessel would be a great provocation to war. (Here, hear.) You would be exposed to more frequent wars, and the cause of humanity would not be promoted, and in case of war you would be almost helpless upon the sea, so that the power of Great Britain would be very much weakened. I hope no minister will not his head to a treaty containing any stipulations of this kind without the most cautious deliberation, and after consulting with naval officers and others who have had practical experience in those matters. (Here, hear.)

Mr. J. C. Phillips could not believe that the noble lord at the head of the government, who had always shown such anxiety to protect the honor and the interests of England, could entertain the opinions upon this subject which had been attributed to him by the noble lord who had just spoken. Napoleon had advanced the notion that a war should support itself, and in pursuance of that doctrine he had always levied contributions largely on the enemy. The only way in his (Mr. Phillips's) opinion that a maritime power could carry out that maxim and levy contributions, was by intercepting the property of its enemy on the high seas. (Here, hear.) The same authority that he had quoted had said that to deprive England of this power would be to strike the heaviest blow at her prosperity. The humanity lay rather in crippling the resources of the enemy as soon as possible than in making concessions which tended to protect the contents. (Here, hear.)

Mr. C. Napier trusted we would never give up our maritime rights and allow nations with which we were at war to carry on their commerce when and how they chose. If we were at war with France, was it to be said that she should be permitted to send whatever merchant ships she pleased to sea? and as to blockade, in talk of a blockade of all the ports of France, was perfect nonsense. It was the fear of the British navy which prevented other nations from going to sea with us, and such a proposal as that referred to by the noble lord was calculated to destroy our naval power. (Here, hear.)

Mr. Colclough—the question really was not whether they were called upon to abandon an ancient right—that was already signed away in the treaty of Paris—but whether they should go a step further and surrender private property from capture, in matters where it was found; that was Mr. Murray's proposition. (Here, hear.)

Mr. Newington was anxious to read himself of this opportunity to express his deep regret at the Treaty of Paris, which prevented us from exercising the power we had always possessed of using privateers and letters of marque, which, he contended, had always been used in the most legitimate manner. There was no humanity in allowing free intercourse of trade in time of war; there was nothing so beneficial as to restrict the commerce of the enemy, for it acted immediately, and brought down to reason men who could be influenced by no other means. He was very glad that the noble lord had called attention to the subject, and he did trust that it would prove true that "governments may make what agreements upon what subject they please, but are bound to act on the other side of the Atlantic will never be permitted by such fatal provisions—these provisions will be unstable; there will remain among the shades of bearing abundant the great masses of France, and when the time comes England will free herself from such unworthy shackles."

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said that, with regard to the Convention of Paris, compensations had been made to the United States, asking about in regard to the proposition which was then made. The answer made to our Government was, that provided certain alterations were made, the United States of America would be prepared to become a party to the arrangement. Those alterations suggested in the correspondence from papers of the hands of its enemy carried in an enemy's merchant vessel. The matter was very serious, and no answer had yet been given to the proposal by the Government, which was fully acquainted with its importance, and would not come to a decision before full consideration was given to it.

REMARKS.

Mr. Murray's proposition was not that merchant

vessels should be absolutely exempt from seizure in time of war, for he proposed to leave the law of blockades as it now stands. We have heretofore shown that his reasoning was founded on misrepresentations and fallacies, and also that the acceptance of his proposition would be prejudicial to the interests of the United States, because in case of war with England the ports of the United States would be blockaded by the superior fleets of England, whilst the commerce of the latter power would be carried on without any hindrance whatsoever on the part of American ships of war. It is true, as stated by Lord John Russell, that American commerce would continue with such ports as might not be in a state of blockade; but it appears to us that if the principal ports were blockaded, a death-blow would be struck at American commerce.

CALIFORNIA.

Falling off in the Export of Gold, Decrease of Population, Depreciation of the Value of the Miner.

The export of gold from California has fallen off two millions this year, as compared with last year. The population is diminishing, rather than increasing.

The Supreme Court of California has decided that the Legislature has no power to authorize the payment of the debt which has been contracted in the name of the State unconstitutionally. The Court, in pronouncing its decision, suggested that the indebtedness might be legalized by the people.

A correspondent of the New York Tribune, writing from Sacramento, March 1, says:

"That the Legislature will pass a bill submitting the whole matter to the voters, I have no doubt; but what will the people do? That is now the whole question. If the matter had been submitted to them shortly after the first of December decision was rendered, they would have said, by a large majority, 'pay the debt.' But since that time many things have intervened to disquiet them of their first generous impulse. The official village which is being brought to light has had a powerful effect to make their action on this subject very questionable. They say, 'What is the use of taxing ourselves to pay this debt? For, if we do, our own officers appointed to receive and disburse the money will spend it all themselves, and the bondholders will be no better off than they now are, while we will be much worse.' This, or something like it, is in the mouth of every man. And even the very process, which two months ago were brought in their assertions that the people would almost unanimously vote in favor of it, have, time and again, previous to the rendition of this latter decision, advised the Legislature to avoid, if possible, submitting it to the people, for it would create a fearful issue, and the people might not approve the debt. But now that it must be submitted to the popular decision, they say not one word about it. Indeed, they fear the popular vote on this State Debt question; and so do I, for, if it were to be decided in favor, I am fully of the opinion, after consulting with well-informed persons from almost every portion of the State, that a large majority would be against paying the debt. Many of the men who, two months or six weeks since, were decidedly in favor of paying, are now as decidedly against it. The matter has been discussed in the Legislature, and that body was almost wholly of the opinion that it ought not to be submitted to the people, but they would repudiate."

The indebtedness of the State is nearly four millions, all of which is illegal, excepting three hundred thousand dollars.

Another correspondent of the Tribune, after stating the facts, says:

"Now, after all this, who supposes the men whom that the voters of the State—most of whom have no interest in the advancement or prosperity of the State—are going to vote to legalize an enormous debt created under such circumstances? I know that a considerable portion of the voters are highly prejudiced against the officers and politicians, and will do everything in their power to make them, and consequently the State, unpopular."

The same paper which says California will not repudiate, in the next paragraph subjoins the City and

County of San Francisco for repudiating over \$1,000,000 of her indebtedness equally as honest and binding upon honorable men. Mark that! There are many who believe that there is a large amount of fraudulent bonds about along with the genuine, and who is unprepared to believe this even, after the recent astounding developments."

Justice in California. Indiscriminate Vengeance.

The correspondent of the New York Herald in a letter published in that paper last instant, speaking of Lynch Law as compared with the "regular" administration of justice, says:

"In the southern counties there have been at various times popular exhibitions of feeling, and offenders have been very summarily punished. It would be much better, however, if the accused were left to the courts, for there no chance exists for a prisoner to escape punishment. The juries are not over scrupulous, particularly if the culprit happens to be a 'genuine,' a name bestowed on native Californians by our people, and even used in acts of the Legislature when referring to that class of the population. In the San Francisco courts a man charged with crime never escapes. For eight or nine months past an indictment amounts to conviction before a jury. It would appear that every one brought up before the criminal tribunals, is now pronounced guilty on general principles, a system that has as many popular features as a big administration of law would assume."

We understand that the native Californians are frequently accused of crimes in order that their property may fall into the hands of some scheming Americans. A total expulsion or extermination of the native Californians will soon be effected. Let this be a warning to Mexico and Central America.

Human to be a Slave State.

The election of delegates to the Kansas Constitutional Convention will be held on the third Monday in June, when all who were not citizens prior to the 1st of March will be excluded from voting. All the inspectors of election will be pro-slavery men, and the Convention then chosen will undoubtedly frame a Constitution establishing slavery. N. Y. Rev. Post, March 28.

The New York Tribune of April 2, referring to the proposed measures of the Government in Kansas, says:

"The fact that the majority of the inhabitants of Kansas have in hope from such a Government is, that it will not allow them to be shot down to the atoms, or to have their houses burned over their heads, in attempts to drive them out of the Territory. The fact that they can expect to be treated as the free negroes are southern States—allowed to live there, but required of the same time to all sorts of humiliations and oppressions."

The Tribune should not have recommended the removal of the North to emigrate to Kansas.

NOTES.

On the 20th of March, 1857, at New York, N. Y.

The 20th of March, 1857.

The following deplorable tale we heard promulgated from a large number of slaves upon the same subject which now rows our table, and we trust this will be sufficient to satisfy the wit of the ablest of our countrymen at length.

The tale of wrongs are indeed pitiable, and we need not say that the day is not distant when the great perpetrators of our many wrongs will be called upon to atone for their heinous crimes.

Mark this, February 23, 1857.

During a late visit to New York, while travelling through my native land, I happened to fall in with a man by the name of Jones who was acting as an agent for Walker, in New York. He told me such great falsehoods to me that I, like thousands of other young men, soon made up my mind to get to New York—but on a sudden, but as a powerful agent.

I was told by this man Jones that if I would go to New Orleans I should have a free passage from New Orleans, and that when I arrived in New Orleans I should receive \$100 per month, which I could either use if I chose, or if I preferred working for wages, that he

would insure me \$75 per month at any kind of labor I chose. He also said "that I could join the army if I wished, but not without, for there was no fighting to be done, and that Walker had as large a standing army as he desired!"

There were about 280 of us left New Orleans on the 20th day of November last for New York, and arrived at New York on the 6th of December. When we landed at New York the sight that I there saw is too horrible to relate. God forbid that I should ever witness such another scene! The sick and wounded had been brought down from Grand by the steamer which had arrived early that morning, when they were carried ashore and laid down upon the sandy beach, without blankets, or any other kind of covering—some not having clothing enough to cover half their person.

It was late in the evening when I saw them, and they had been lying there ever since early in the morning, and had been without food for about three days. Some were dead, others were dying, while the host of them could scarcely move a hand or a foot! My God! thought I, is this the way that Walker treats his sick and wounded? Bitter experience has since taught me that it is too true that when a man is taken sick, or gets wounded in battle, that he is treated no better by Walker than if he were a dog.

We were not born in New York six hours before we were all given a blanket and a change of clothes, and told to get to bed. The company was even sent off to Grand to fight before we had been in the country six hours. Such is the way that the great Walker gets his men. They are persuaded to come out as volunteers, with the promise of getting land when they get there; but instead of that they are forced into the army to fight! To fight, too, against an invincible people—a people who have given them no cause for bloodshed. Thus, it is plain to be seen, that it is not a voluntary act on the part of the men to fight these innocent people—but they are compelled to fight them against their own will and conscience.

The generally appointed officers that are like himself—without conscience. Men that would do anything for money. He has an officer in the army above the grade of lieutenant, who is not a drunkard or a gambler! I have seen almost a dozen of them drunk at a time—quarrelling and fighting among themselves.

During the two months that I was in his service, I never received an order or any pleasure for the hard duty which I had to perform. Instead of receiving pay for my services, I had the intention to lose everything that I had, but I had the one suit of clothes which I have now, and I am fortunate enough to reach my home in safety. I shall not be thankful to that man who holds the destiny of all men in his hands; that I did not lose my life in an unnecessary cause as that of Walker's in New York.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,

Yours W. A. Adams

Slavery in the West.

We would not be through capable of settling in the settlement of our neighbors, but we will confess to something approaching satisfaction in reading in the Philadelphia papers accounts of the daily condition of the slaves of that city. We had supposed that our own cities were not so bad as Philadelphia. But it is now clear that we are better off in Philadelphia than of the papers in the city of Philadelphia, says:

"Philadelphia continues to be made in relation to the daily condition of the slaves of Philadelphia, and again the authorities back to them at once, claiming to be terrible. The authorities provided by the deplorable condition of affairs at the National Hotel, Washington, should not be lost sight of. It is known, too, that many of the citizens of Philadelphia are worse than slaves."

We fear that Democracy and dirt will be regarded as synonymous terms in the future, when there is a real change in our great municipal corporation. N. Y. Times, March 31.

The Wreck of the Potomac at the Great Hotel at Washington.

Among the numerous guests of the National Hotel, Washington, during the late cholera outbreak of this city, and who were suffering in common with Mr. Buchanan and hosts of others, were William W. Bacon and wife from New Haven, Connecticut, who left home in January, on a visit to New Orleans, Havana, &c. On

their arrival at Washington they stopped at the National, and on the second day after their arrival, both were taken suddenly and violently sick. Mr. Bacon soon partially recovered, although occasionally afflicted ever since, and although Mrs. Bacon was sick the entire time, they, with much effort, succeeded in reaching Mobile, Alabama, where Mrs. Bacon has been confined to her bed for more than a month at the Battle House. She was visited twice daily by two of the most skillful physicians in that city, who pronounce her recovery as exceedingly doubtful.

Still more.—The attempt to attribute the several deaths and many sicknesses among the guests of the National Hotel, at Washington, to cholera, seems not to be borne out by the symptoms of those who have suffered.

Among these are the Rev. Charles H. Mason and wife, of Newport, Rhode Island. Their symptoms indicate dysentery, viz.: intense thirst and burning in the stomach, inveterate diarrhea, vomiting after taking food, red spots on the surface of the abdomen, &c. Much, too, are said to have been the symptoms of those who have died. It does not appear that the rain-water in the tank near the roof was used except to supply the sleeping apartments. The water for cooking, &c., seems to have come from a reservoir under ground. N. Y. Tribune, April 1.

The Washington Herald.—It seems certain that Col. Berkeley Lane, the nephew of the President, died of the disease which so many persons contracted at the National Hotel at Washington. Other persons have died of the malady, and several of the most distinguished men in the country are now suffering from the same cause.

We think the Mayor and Board of Health of Washington have shown that they were very anxious to get rid of the subject, and put an end to inquiry when they got up their report about cholera, and declared that the disease grew out of natural causes. For, and undoubtedly, the facts elicited do not confirm the miserable theory. We find, in almost all the cases, evidence of a malarial poison introduced into the body of the sufferers; and we find an evidence of putrid or bilious diseases, such as might be expected to follow the inhalation of malarial vapor. Moreover, we have some experience of cholera in this city. Thanks to Commissioner Billing and his able subordinates, we are quite judges of cholera; we know whence they arise, and how they affect people; we can distinguish the various kinds, for we have tried them all in turn. We know, for instance, precisely what the effect of a single drop in a sewer would be in the month of March. And it is quite certain that we have never known of a cholera arising from that cause which could under any circumstances destroy life.

An impression therefore gains ground in this city and elsewhere that the disease generated at the National Hotel was not, as the Washington authorities desire to make out, the fruit of malarial poison from the sewers, but arose plainly and simply from a cholera attack to which some one, on the part of a person in position unknown. We do not say that the whole evidence indicates this undoubtedly; but we do think that there is enough presumptive evidence to warrant some further and more searching inquiry into this unfortunate occurrence.

The Washington hotels have long been proverbial for carelessness, dirt, filth, sanitation and general discomfort. The hotelkeepers, as a general rule, have been perfect villains, who have preyed upon the unfortunate purpose of the travellers sent to that direction, without regard to decency or humanity. And this poisoning affair is a fit return to the sum of their scandalous intrigues and infamous conduct. Let it be well remembered. N. Y. Herald, April 3.

A Russian Prince and the Ticket-swindlers.

A gentleman, understood to be "Prince Michel Nikoff," of Russia, just arrived in this city from Europe, was put to a great deal of trouble on Saturday by a ticket-swindler, who sold him a ticket for Washington, and charged him about double the proper rate. The Prince, learning this, had the ticket-broker arrested, and made to disgorge, but as he did not wish to remain and prosecute it, the vagabond was again set at liberty. The Russian left the city for the South in a few hours afterward.

THE WAR IN CHINA. The Proposed Co-operation of the United States with England.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Herald writes from Washington, March 30th, as follows:

"The intelligence received by the last two steamers from Europe is very interesting, as affecting our relations with England and France, but especially with the latter; and also as affecting the relations between the three great maritime Powers and China. It seems that the war which has just broken out between the Chinese and English, and in which the Americans have taken a small part, is thought to be the beginning of a very serious struggle in the East, very different from that of 1840, because Russia stands in the background in support of China against the pretensions of the maritime Powers.

"I understand that Lord Napier, the New British Minister, has already had two interviews with General Cass on this subject, and that England expresses the greatest solicitude for the United States to take part in the struggle, which is considered the great contest of commerce and civilization in that quarter of the world. It is understood that England and France being united on the China question, are willing that the United States should have full swing on this continent—that they should have their bellying of the Monroe doctrine, down even to Cape Horn—provided we appreciated our proper position on the China question.

"Lord Napier has earnestly urged upon the President and his Cabinet the selection of Mr. Walker as a Plenipotentiary of the United States, and that he be dispatched forthwith, and has brought Mr. W. as a friend to peace, free trade, civilization, &c., to consent to go."

The same correspondent writes the following day, and says that he has "ascertained some of the particulars of the British Minister's recent diplomatic movements."

After pretending to relate the conversation between Lord Napier and General Cass and the President, to the effect that the Government declined to join France and England, the correspondent says:

"The Russian embassy watch Lord Napier and Count Schichel closely; and the course adopted by Baron Stichel, when developed, will, you may rely upon it, display his characteristic tact, prudence and ability. Russia has an immense inland trade with China; has a Minister who is allowed to reside at Peking, and has free ingress and egress to Chinese ports. These are great advantages, and the two last privileges not possessed by any other nation. As the friendly aid of Russia it is anticipated to come that we may obtain the privileges accorded to her by the Chinese, if we do not meddle in the quarrel between them and the English and French, and the result of which, it is predicted, will be adverse to the latter, even if they start a treaty from China such as they wish.

"Why should we become the ally of England and France, to enable them to obtain their ends with reference to Russia, and especially if, by adhering to neutrality, we may, with the friendly help of Russia, in a peaceful way obtain equal advantages as if we became involved in the war, which cannot but engender the most bitter feelings in the part of the Chinese.

"I do not believe Mr. Buchanan will enter into any 'outstanding alliance' with Great Britain, which may be sought by Lord Palmerston, chiefly to enable him to defeat the filibuster in the coming election. But our interest in the China war will probably be suggested forthwith, in most any contingencies that may occur, and a representative of talent, and in whom the country has confidence, and that cannot be used by England or France, will be dispatched to the Court of Peking to protect our interests there; and you must not be surprised if H. J. Walker does not after all go to Kansas, but his agent will be the 'Celestial Flower Kingdom.'"

The same correspondent writes again:

"I have learned some further important facts with reference to Lord Napier's application to have Mr. Walker or some other distinguished statesman sent to China, as United States Minister. The determination of the English and French governments is to compel China to throw open all her ports and rivers to the commerce of the world, and to secure protection to travellers

through that kingdom—in a word, to compel her to come into the great family of civilized States.

"They do not desire or ask the military co-operation of the United States to effect this purpose, but they suggest the name of Mr. Walker as the proper person to act as ampler between the Western Powers and China, so as more speedily to bring about a peace."

Very little reliance can be placed upon the statements made by the correspondents of the American Press, but some of the remarks quoted above are worthy of attention.

The New York Herald of March 31, in a leading article on this subject, says:

"We have reason to believe that Lord Napier is instructed to consider the co-operation of the United States in the war the most important object to be gained by his embassy to the United States. To what extent he has endeavored to achieve this end, and how far he has succeeded, will soon be known.

"Were the war conducted solely against the Chinese, the English would not deem it so important. But they are well aware now that behind the Chinese government stands the Emperor of Russia, bending to avenge the losses he has suffered during the war. From Russia—which has always been more of an Asiatic than European Power—the Chinese can obtain what has always been wanting to their armies—discipline and discipline; and like the Persians with the same advantages, may, under these conditions, make their enormous numbers tell with terrible effect against their assailants. We hear already that the Russian Plenipotentiaries have succeeded in effecting a temporary reconciliation between the rebels and the Imperialists; the consequences of which will of course be to gather the united strength of the empire against the common enemy. Let a few officers, modern weapons, and a general notion of modern military discipline, be added to the troops already presented to China by the Russians, and the war may become very serious indeed. The Chinese have fought well in the Canton River, under Russian leaders, and after proper training, they might almost defy any attack. Their numbers alone would laugh to scorn any European armament. They could easily send into the field several armies of a million men each, and could paralyze them."

Humanity Designs to China.

A Berlin correspondent of the Frankfurt Post Zeitung writes, in February last, to the following effect:

"That Russia is likely to give Europe but little trouble in the West but much more in the East, as she is at present greatly occupied with plans of aggression on the other side of the great wall of China. In St. Petersburg people are beginning to agitate themselves in the idea of a Russian intervention in favor of the ruler of the Celestial Empire, in case the Anglo-French invasion should assume more formidable dimensions, and the rebellion continue to spread."

The Fictitious Means of Revolving by Whales in America. "Fancy Stocks."

The History of a Swindle.

The Parker Vein Company was organized in the Fall of 1854, and its works introduced on the Stock Exchange in November of that year. It was a company of capitalists and not a company of swindlers. It was organized with a capital of \$1,000,000, and then down to \$500,000, when it collapsed, and its very name was stricken from the list on the 21st of June, 1857. The swindle of the company which followed was in amount and daring anything of the sort ever developed in Wall street. The only means by which the fraud was hidden on the public, passed into prominence, and made its account, from first to last, a value wholly fictitious, are before the reader in the narrative which we copy from the New York Herald. It had in other public exposure more than that made in the journal. An eloquent paper could afford to give the stock more than a passing notice as one of the vagrant "fancies" of the Stock Exchange. The Daily Times, from day to day, warned the public to be on their guard against it. Its original management was responsible. The swindle of the company was a virtual fraud; for it was never paid for, and its magnificent line of "fancy stocks" which the public had been led to believe, were in fact, were never the property, in any

honest sense, of the Parker Vein Company. As for practical cost-adding, there was scarcely sufficient to secure the specimen block which the conspirators at one time paraded before the Merchants' Exchange, after every other means had been exhausted to deceive the stockholders and the public into the belief that mining was, and not the manufacture of fraudulent certificates of stock, was the immediate or ultimate aim of the chief managers. The real purpose of the fraud was the more easily consummated, as the capital was an expensive one, first a million, then two, and afterwards three millions of dollars, with no obligation to report upon the accounts, transfer books or general management of the company, either at long or short intervals.

There was never a formal report or balance-sheet made to the stockholders. When more capital was wanted, a circular of magnificent promises was put forth, and the new stock sold at the best price it would command in the market, on the strength of these promises and the daily puff of the Herald. In this way the first million was taken from the hopeful party of speculators, who put it on the public at from \$55 to \$61 the share. The proceeds pocketed could not have been less than \$500,000. The subsequent sales of the so-called genuine stock were at various rates from \$7 to \$15 the share. Nearly or quite \$1,000,000 must have been realized in this operation. As the bubble neared its end in June, '57, a fourth million was introduced, though admitted to be a fraud upon the stockholders. The hard cash from this was probably \$250,000 or \$300,000, carrying the stock down to about \$10 the share. From this comparatively moderate point down to ten dollars a share, the swindle continued, and no less than one hundred and ten thousand shares of the nominal value of eleven million dollars. These were put upon the public and the Wall street commission brokers, who purchased and held for their customers; and with the previous million, made an average of twelve millions of stock, or 120,000 shares, for the authorized and avowed capital! Down to the very day before the final explosion, the Herald, it will be seen, recommended the stock as a "cheap purchase," which would assuredly be followed by a great reaction "one of these days."

The cause of the denouement, after all, was partly accidental. The probability is, that the swindlers who knew their game and its reliability to induce the fraud in any extent required, would have succeeded, through the aid of the daily puff of the Herald, in creating a sufficient stock of reaction to palm off another hundred thousand shares at from two to five dollars, or even higher prices, but for the intervention of several respectable merchants at the yearly election of Directors in 1856. These gentlemen and their friends had been sorely victimized. They suspected the genuineness of the fraud, and lent the use of their names to shut the whole nest of swindlers from the Herald of Mismanagement. A death struggle was made to defeat this purpose. New certificates of stock were rapidly created in the amount of millions, sold in the market for delivery ahead, and in the meantime to be raised upon a guarantee. The scheme was badly planned and played with desperation, but failed. The story is partially told in the Herald. The President of the company might easily in flight to Europe. The election then revealed the fraud in all its hideousness. The swindlers were meted from the direction, and would have been quickly followed by indictment and prosecution in connection in the Court of Sessions, had the vindictive stockholders, as a body, backed up one or two of the new directors who recommended this course as the only means left, and as a duty which they owed to the public morals of the country. As for the assets or products of the company, they found next to nothing to stimulate upon. Even the phony currency was indignantly claimed as his own by one of the chief conspirators, the confidential confederate of the Herald, by virtue of a confession of judgment for money lent at advantage!

What finally became of these dry bones may even now be traced in the daily list of stock sales at the Highgate's Board, under the name of Ward Cash, which occasionally, we believe, finds favor in the leading puff of the New York Herald. This company may have agreed to pay a few thousand dollars for the debts of the Parker Vein, but even these, it is rumored, were tricked in the title.

As much for the rise, progress, decline and fall of our "fancy stocks." In the case of such a gigantic fraud, the furies of Huntington and the overdone

