THE COMMITTAL HOP A CATHOLIC PRIST. WE submit that Father M'Lauchlan's case is a hard one. It is true that the particular question which he' refused to answer related, not to anything which had been told kim, but to something which he did. He admitted that the sentence on the slip of paper ac-companying the restutory £1 note was in his handwriting, that, in fact, he sent the letter, but that he gave it to somebody else to post; and he was asked to say who this somebody was. There cannot be much doubt that it was M'Ghee. But it is certain that if he had answered this question the next would bave been - 'Has M'Ghee made any communication to you respecting the abstraction of money from the letter? which would have involved at once a dis-closure of the secret confided to him as a Priest.— Bosides, the despatch of the restitutory letter grew out of the previous confession; it was part and parcel of the same act, and might fairly he held to be inst as sacred. M'Lauchlan behaved with the utmost respect to the Court. There was neither flippancy, nor pertuess, nor obstinacy in his replies. He had evidently no wish to fight a battle with the magistrates, or to evade the law. He spoke just as a man would speak who felt that he was required to do men belonging to one of these families had, on acsomething incompatible with his inmost sense of honor. If anyone shall choose to allege the extreme inconvenience of allowing a distinction to be made in courts of justice between clergymen and laymen as respects their obligation to give evidence, we shall curtainly agree with him in that opinion, but, on the other hand, do we not recognise exceptions to the general rule? A wife is not called upon to give evidence against her husband, and a lawyer is never placed in the witness box to reveal the secrets of his While we send a Priest to prison because his religious scruples will not permit him to give evidence, there are some persons whom we will not allow to give evidence on account of their religious opinions. The testimony of a secularist may be necessary to convict a man of murder, but we allow the culprit to escape rather than permit a man holding secular views to take an oath. While the law recognizes such exceptions, we cannot allege the interest which society has in the detection of offenders as a consideration overriding all that springs from religion and conscience. If any man may be safely allowed some latitude, it is a minister of religion, whose character is a guarantee that the influence he but you cannot coerce a thousand. In the present needed is a little discretion in those who administer the law, and a grain or two of such discretion would have saved the magistrates of Glasgow the prinful task of sending a clergyman to prison because he had too keen a sense of professional honor and Christian duty .- Manchester Examiner.

The Star, commenting upon the above unjust and committed the Roman Catholic priest for refusing to answer a question seem to us singularly wanting in discretion. The case was peculiarly one for a very liberal interpretation in favor of the contumacious witness. Surely, if ever there was a case for lenient and liberal construction on the part of the bench, this was the very instance. Every man of honor and feeling must sympathise with the scruples of the Roman Catholic Priest. Putting the sacerdotal character entirely aside, we should like to ask how any gentleman would have acted in a similar case ? -Suppose any ordinary individual had a servant who came to him, looking up to him as a superior and trusting in him as an adviser, acknowledged having committed a theft, and expressed a wish to make restitution; suppose the master then, at the repentant servant's request, acted as the medium of restoring the stelen property, would that master like to divulge before a criminal court the name of the person who had thus confided in him? Would not five out of every six gentlemen living prefer even a thirty days comittal to such a disclosure? Of course the scruple of a man to whom the confession has been made because of his sacerdotal character is unturally still more sensitive and justly more deserving of respect. But for Mr. M'Lauchlan the robbed party in this case would never have had the restitution ;and we need hardly remark that no thief would ever dream of acknowledging his fault to a clergyman whom he believed likely to hand him over into the custody of the police. It is always important to exhibit a large discretion in dealing with cases which involve the relations of a minister of any creed and | mainlands of North and South America, thus bringing | soldiers whom our rifles have killed .- Times. his flock. It is of the utmost importance not to disconrage, at all events not to destroy, the general feeling of confidence which the classes most hable to pecuniary temptation entertain towards ministers of any denomination. Every minister whose duties bring him much among the poor is frequently made the confident of asknowledgments which it would be very unwise to discourage, and which at the same time he would feel very great hesitation in divulging before a court of justice. We find fault with the Glasgow court because it acted harshly in a case which called for very mild and even generous dealing. Had Mr. M'Lauchlan neglected his duty altogether, had be never concerned himself about the case at all, had he never awakened the conscience of the plunderer, and obtained full restitution for the plundered, he would never have been punished by a criminal court. He succeeded in obtaining an act of practical justice which the Glasgow police and fact in silence The failure of that cable should not court could never have effected, and he received a reward, your encourager les autres, of thirty days' imprisonment. A thief, with an awkward conscience. making prompt, unconstrained, and full restitution, is not a phenomenou likely to be seen very often anywhere, and we suspect will be rare indeed in Glasgow for the future. Justice of course must be helped in her dealings; but is there any more effective way of discouraging robbery than by making the thief deliberately hand back to his victim the sole object for which he committed the theft? Besides, if the habit really became very dangerous, if under the influence of priestly persuasion all the robbers of Glasgow became seized with a mania for restering their spoils, and the magistrates should coneider that condition of things a calamity, they could then exert their power, and punish the sacerdotal delinquents who thus interfered with the regular course of Scottish justice, In all seriousness, the law which awards punishment to a recusant witness would not have been repealed by the dismissal of Mr. M'Lauchlan unpunished. In case of necessity it could always be enforced. This was certainly not a case of necessity, and the indiscreet conduct of the court makes the Roman Catholic Priest seem very like a martyr to conscience and honor.

THE LANCASHIRE FUND .- The Times has informed the public that the working classes of Lancashire have very nearly a sum of four millions of money in the savings' banks, and that the withdrawals from those banks since the commercement of the 'distress' have not amounted to 6 per cent, on the entire investment. So far from reducing their savings any further, if they are not adding to them at present, will soon be able to do so, as immense sums are being contributed to the relief fund, and are being distributed on a very liberal scale among the operatives in England, whose wealth is something passing all comprehension, is contributing liberally; money is coming in from Australia and India, and a very large subscription has already been realised for Lancashire in the Northern States of America. If things continue to go on at this rate, the Lancashire operatives will not know what to do with their money.

M. de Groof, of Bruges, asserts that after eleven years' study he has invented the means of flying in the air in any direction, and only needs money to demonstrate it beyond question. The machine is small, he says, and will enable man to move in the air "with the swiftness of the swallow and the vi-gor of the cagle." He asks for aid from England.— Executive in respect of all matters affecting the Builder.

FALSEHOODS OF THE ENGLISH PRESS. - The French journal La France asserted, some days ago, that Cardinal Mattei, Bishop of Pelletri, had ordered all the Jews out of his diocese. As in days when Scotland was a kingdom, and Scotchmen were men, the fiery Cross was passed from hand to hand through the length and breadth of the land at some special call of patriotism, to summon the people to the defence of their Faith and country-so, upon every single occasion that offers, and even with greater eagerness and more unerring rapidity, does the English press pass on from journal to journal the obscene, lurid torch of slander through the length and breadth of the Three Kingdoms Of course this statement was reproduced everywhere with a simultaneity of spiteful ignorance that but too obviously betrayed the passion that was the prompter. We had intended to meet the statement with a flat denial on our own authority, simply on the strength of its innate impossibility. The Roman correspondent of the Guzette de France, however, enables us to give the facts which form the foundation for this Turinic falschood. At Cori, a small commune near Pelletri, there lived a few Jewish families; and some young count of their scandalous conduct, obliged the authorities of the place to admonish them. These cautious having been several times repeated without producing the smallest effect, they were threatened with being turned out of the commune-particularly one of them, who was laboring to seduce a young Christian lady belonging to one of the most honorable families of Cori. Had this young man been a Christian, he would have received precisely the same treatment. - Northern (Liverpool) Press.

ARRY ESTIMATES .- The Committee of the Cabinet, together with his Royal Highness the General Commanding-in Chief, have had two meetings within the last week for the purpose of seeing what room there is for reduction in the next Army Estimates. Large as is the cost of our military establishments, we fear there is but little room for the judicious use of the pruning knife. Some saving may no doubt be effected in the barrack and recruiting departments, but nothing deserving the name of reduction, unless there be a diminution of the number of men, and this is a question to be decided on political considerations far beyond the ken of War-office administrators. It is at present altogether premature to state what rewields will not be at variance with the interests of ductions are likely to be carried out; but there apmorality. There remains the question of possibility. pears to be a feeling in official quarters that the re-One man may be punished for his religious scruples, cruiting stall may be diminished, and the depots of regiments at home amalgamated with their service case no legislative charge is necessary. All that is companies without any loss of efficiency. We do not expect, however, to see any reduction of the combatant part of the army .- Army and Navy Gazette.

In reply to a communication on this subject, addressed to Earl Russell by the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, the Secretary of the Chamber received the following reply from the Foreign Office, which was read at a council meeting vesterday :- 'Sir .- I unwise act, says : - The magistrates of Glasgow who am directed by Earl Russell to reply to your letter of the 6th inst., respecting the destruction by the Confederate steamer Alabama of British property, embarked in American vessels, captured or burned by that steamer. Earl Russell desires me to state to you, that British property on board a vessel belonging to one of the beligerents must be subject to all the risks and contingencies of war, so far as the capture of the vessel is concerned. The owners of any British property not contraband of war on board a Federal vessel, captured and destroyed by a Confederate vessel of war may claim, in a Confederate prize court, compensation for the destruction of such property. Signed, &c., &c.'

The Atlantic Telegraph. - Periodically, and as

if by necessity, the great question of uniting Europe and America by telegraph surges up and demands a practical solution; and it is quite natural that it should do so. No scientific industry of modern times has been more economically successful than the electric telegraph. There are now at work in the United States of America, 40,000 miles of telegraph, extending from San Francisco, on the Pacific, to Newfoundland, on the verge of the Atlantic Ocean, where, it is again proposed to land which shall have its other end at Valentia Bay There are upwards of 150,000 miles of working telegraph in Europe. A telegraph spanning the Atlantic would unite the electric wires of America with those of Europe as now united with many in Asia and Africa. Establish a telegraphic link between Newfoundland and Ireland, and instantly means would be taken to connect our West Indian colonies and those of other countries with the the whole industrial system of the two Americas into connection with that of nearly all the rest of the world. This question of an Atlantic telegraph is not merely economical and morally interesting to England and the United States, but involves world-wide results. It would not only be the greatest triumph of science, but it would be the means of bestowing a rich inheritance of blessings on mankind. It is a benefit which the statesman, the capitalist, the economical reformer, the philanthropist, and philosopher may heartily join hand in hand to promote. We believe it is possible and practicable; and if the Governments of England and the United States will render legitimate assistance, the great idea may be made a great fact. It may be said that an attempt was made a few years since, and the result is a useless and perishable cable at the bottom of the Atlantic. It would be folly to pass over this significant however, be a rock to discourage, but rather a beacon to guide in the pathway of future efforts. It is almost certain that the Atlantic cable failed from controllable causes. It was manufactured and laid with undue haste. Conditions, moral and scientific, which should have been complied with, were trifled with or neglected. In a second attempt, more care must and will be taken .- Mechanics' Magazine.

THE PERILS OF THE COLLIERY .- During the 10 years ending December 31, 1860, it is officially recorded that 9,090 lives were lost in our collieries, and 605,-154 940 tons of coal raised; so that on the average one person was killed for every 66,573 tons, and there was an annual slaughter of 909 persons. Of accidents which are not fatal no general summary has yet been presented: but it is well known that there is a frightful amount of maining, from slight harts to actual crippling for life. The Times says It is terrible to think that, upon an average, nearly 20 lives are lost in the coal mines of this kingdom every week of every year."

A STEEL MERCHANT SHIP .- Messrs. Jones, Quiggen, and Co., of this town, have just contracted to build of steel, for a Liverpool house, a vessel of 1,200 tons. This will be the first merchant vessel built of that material. The plates will be manufactured at the Mersey Steel and Iron Works. We believe that experiments on Messrs. Jones's angular target are about to be resumed at Shoeouryness, when the Whitworth gun will be employed to test its stability. The target will be the same weight per foot as the Northumberland target, which was so mutilated by the Whitworth shell .- Liverpool Albion.

THE ALABAMA. - The Federal Secretary of the Navy has made formal complaint in his report to Congress of what he appears to consider the complicity of the English Government in the proceedings of the Alabama. He tells the world that before that vessel left England the Government were duly informed of her character and purpose, but that they came too late" to prevent her sailing, and he makes some distant allusion to the possibility our being morally bound to make indemnification for the injuries inflicted on Federal merchantmen by reason of our connivance or negligence in the matter,-Amid the disordered institutions of his own country, the Federal Minister may perhaps be excused for forgetting the character of ours. It may be necessary, therefore, to remind him that we have not martial in liberty or property of those residing in the United made the subject of further proceedings.

Kingdom must be regulated strictly in accordance, with the law. Whether the interests involved be those of the greatest monarch or the meanest subject they must be judged alike, and be regulated by the application of what is recognized as law by our judicial tribunals. The law bearing on the position of vessels such as the Alabama has since proved herself to be is comprised in an Act of Parliament known as the Foreign enlistment Act, which provides that where men are enlisted or vessels fitted out for warlike purposes, other than those of the Sovereign of this country, the Commissioners of Customs are authorized to seize the persons so offending and the vessels, and have the former tried for violating the | manifestly does to unsettle the faith of those who provisions of the Act. But in order to justify the Customs' authorities in taking a step of this nature they must have before them such reasonable and probable evidence of the guilt of the parties as would, prime facie, warrant the expectation of a con- press in sufficiently strong terms our deep grief that viction. We apprehend that the kind of evidence that would fairly justify interference must not be less than that upon which a grand jury would find a steps should be taken by our ecclesiastical rulers to true bill, or a magistrate commit a prisoner for trial. When the Alabama was being fitted out, representa- that if (as we are informed) there is no law under tions were made by the Federal agents of her character and purpose. The Government were asked to interfere, and the law officers of the Customs had to decide whether the case was one coming under the provisions of the Foreign Enlistment Act. We believe we are right in saying that the evidence proffered by the Federal agents, on which they proposed that the Government should act, fell very far short of what the Foreign Enlistment Act prescribed as a justification for intertering. It was mainly hearsay evidence, which we need not say is not evidence at all in an English court. The Federal agents were unable to get information in an authentic and legal shape sufficient to sustain a prima facie case against those engaged in fitting out the vessel. In the absence of such a case the Customs' Commissioners had no more right to institute proceedings than to seize one of the Cunard steamships, and the Alabama sailed. The manner in which the vessel was fitted out was admirably calculated to evade the law, and as a matter of fact we believe she left England without a single gun or munition of war on board. What Mr. Gideon Welles, therefore, would apparently seek to place before the world as a piece of policy on the part of Great Britain, inimical to the North and coverily aiding piracy, is simply a dry question of legal evidence, and the interpretation of an Act of Parliament passed in the last century. It was purely a matter of detail to be dealt with by a particular branch of the Executive in the ordinary way in obedience to the law, and not a ground of political action. No interference with the Alabama took place, because there was no legal authority to justify it, and the Government might as fairly be subjected to political reproaches because of the consequences of a decision of a court of law utterly beyond their influence or control. - Globe.

We are satisfied that we have done nothing and omitted nothing in this matter of the Alabama which could have been otherwise done by the Americans if they had been in our position of neutrals, and it they had intended to act with the best wishes towards us. The Alabama was not "fitted out and armed" within the territory and jurisdiction" of Great Britain. But, if we even grant that she was so fitted ont and armed, our Government could only act upon evidence which was never afforded to them, and which, in fact, did not exist. The question whether she, by becoming a ship of war after she had left our territory and jurisdiction, did un act which related back to her original building, and thus created a constructive violation of neutral territory, never can arise unless she comes back into an English port, when it may be tried in our Prize Courts. It seems to us that there is nothing to be said for such a proposition; but if it were so held, then it would no doubt follow that all her prizes would be illegal when brought within our power and submitted to our Courts. This is all the satisfaction we could ask of America in a similar case, and we are sure it is, all the satisfaction we should get. But, more than this, it is all the satisfaction we have it in our power to offer. In fact, we can no more follow this hall and these cannon, which are said to have gone from our shores in separate instalments, than we can follow the rifles and the gunpowder which have gone to New York or have been smuggled into Charleston; and we can no more recover the cargoes which Captain Semmes has taken, or stop his depredations on American commerce, than we can revive the

The London Times recommends the Labrador Coast as a Penal Settlement for English convicts. It says: - There remain, then, as the fitting spots for Transportation, the colder portions of the two temperate zones, where the climate is healthy but rough, and nature is more sombre and repulsive, more suited to a place of punishment and seclusion than in the bright and beautiful lands which border on the tropics. It does so happen that at a moderate distance from these shores. England possesses a vast territory which exactly fulfils all these conditions In Labrador and the territories of the Hudson's Bay Company we pave a possession of vast extent, by far the larger half of the North American continent-s wilderness in which all the crime of the earth might easily be swallowed up and heard of no more. We would direct the attention of those who really wish for the repression of crime and the protection of society to these territories, for which, though we have possessed them 200 years, we have never been able to find any better use than to hunt the wild animals for their fur. It would be perfectly possible to organize there a penal settlement with which no one would interfere, from which no one would escape, and where severe and constant labour would be al most a necessity of existence. The climate would not be more severe than that of the north of Europe, but it would doubtless powerfully co-operate as a means of deterring from crime. It would be quite possible to create a system by which convicts who who had undergone the prescribed amount of penal labour might be established in small communities in favoured situations, and end their days in homes of heir own raising. A system founded on the condition of exile for life, and of residence in a desolate country under a severe climate, might well dispense with adventitious and vexatious severity.

Chesterrieth.- On Saturday seven men were brought up before the county magistracy, charged with riot and intimidation, at Sheepbridge, near this town, on the previous Tuesday. All the prisoners denied the charge, and were defended by Mr. Cutts, solicitor. The evidence of several Irishmen was taken and according to their statement it appeared that the prisoners ordered all the Irish out of the works. They refused to go, but were forcibly driven away and pursued for upwards of a mile. Several of the men were rather severely beaten, and none have since returned to work. The timekeeper gave evidence which exculpated two of the men, and they were consequently discharged. The evidence was very contradictory, and the magistrates decided to send the remaining 5 prisoners for trial at the ensuing quarter sessions, on the charge of riot. Bail was accepted. The Town Council of Chesterfield have decided to swear in a large number of special constables to preserve order. - Express.

The Birkenhead prisoners have been arraigned, tried, defended, found guilty, and sentenced One was acquitted, and one after the jury's verdict was discharged by the judge upon his own recognizances. The sentences varied. Penal servitude for 15 years was awarded to Henry Lennon. Nine prisoners got 2 years' imprisonment with hard labour, and the rest from 6 to 12 months. Mr. Hennessy, specially retained for the defence, made an able address on the whole case, and on behalf of the two prisoners entrusted to him. The cross-examination of the police witnesses was keen and damaging; and the evidence of Inspector Burgess may, and we think ought, to be

PROTESTS AGAINST BISHOP COLENSO .- A, considerable body of the clergy of the diocess of Winchester have addressed a memorial to their Bishop on Bishop Colenso's recent work, and his Lordship has pro-mised to bring the matter under the notice of his episcopal brethren at the earliest possible opportunity. The memorialists say: 'We desire to record our most decided protest against the book, and to assure your Lordship that we view the attack which it makes upon the Bib'e with the utmost indignation. We feel that the book is calculated to inflict a grievous injury, not only upon our own Church but upon the cause of religion at large; tending as it are feeble or unlearned, and to confirm in error those whose minds are already set against the truth. We have no doubt that the book will receive the most complete refutation, but we know not how to exsuch a book should have been written by a bishop of our Church. We do not presume to suggest what wipe off this stain upon our Church, but we trust which the Bishop of Natal can be proceeded against he may at least receive from those to whose opinion he would naturally attach the gre test weight so strong an expression of their disapproval of his book as may induce him to resign the high office which he now lills in the Church.' The Bishop of Rochester has intimated to Bishop Colenso a desire that he should not, under any circumstances, take part in the religious services of the Church within the limits of the diocess of Rochester.

In the Ecclesiastical suit against Dr. Williams for his share in the Essays and Reviews, the argument on the amended articles has ended, as overy one expected, in a simple reiteration by Dr. Lushington of his former judgment. He added, to the surprise of the Court, that Dr. Williams was prepared to retract the passage impugned by Dr. Lusbington's judgment. Dr. Lushington, however, declared this statement too late, affirmed that it had been his sole object to give such a judgment as the Privy Council would sanction, and finally passed a very mild sentence of suspension ab officio et beneficio for the term of one year, and condemned the defendant in costs. The same sentence was given in Mr. Wilson's case. Notice of appeal to the Privy Council was given. The sentence of Dr. Lushington appears to give about equal satisfaction to the liberal and the literal school. The former thinks it is the best they could hope for, as it leaves a very large margin of liberty to the clergyman; the latter thinks that it is as good as could be expected under the circumstances, though hinting that it would have been much better if God had left us an infallible autograph of his written

Discussion has already done much for the Transportation question; indeed, as far as the establishment of facts goes, it may be said to have done enough. There are not two opinions now about the advantage, or, rather, the necessity, of reforming our present penal system. Punishment has become a mockery, for it is no punishment at all, and consequently cannot be expected to deter from crime. It equally inefficacious as an instrument of reformation; and here, too, the defect of the system is plainly discernible. Sir Joshua Jebb and his friends have succeeded in making, not good characters, but good prison characters; and there is all the difference in he world between the two. A good prison character is easily acquired, and brings its reward far more quickly than a good character out of doors. It is instantly attended by considerate treatment, and very soon followed by liberation; so that there s every inducement to gain it, and no temptation to disregard or lose it. The Ordinary of Newgate has just reported to the authorities of the prison that old returned penal servitude men who have been twice or thrice transported" are among the best characters in the gaol, noted for good conduct and the diligent discharge of their duties. He adds, however, that these exemplary captives are not "reformed," and have not the slightest intention of amending their ways. They have simply adapted themselves to the situation by assuming a demeaner which it costs them nothing to adopt, and which they will drop as soon as they leave the prison. This experienced officer also tells us that the men thus discharged with tokens of merit "become a much worse class of offenders, and almost all the garrotte robberies and crimes with violence proceed either from them or others under their instructions." All this we can easily understand. The radical fault of the system consists in the belief that criminal nature can be changed by a few months lenient discipline, that a man who has behaved well for a short period, when it was his manifest interest to do so, will behave equally well when this inducement is withdrawn and the old temptations to crime are again before him. — Times.

Doctors and Undertakers .- " A day or two ago, a neat little printed circular, headed 'Funeral Depot,' was dropped into our letter-box, and in it we end ;- Mr. F- presents his compliments to Dr. -- and begs to inform him the usual commission will be allowed on all business recommended to the above establishment.' We confess that our feeling was one of acute admiration at the cool impudence of the undertaker who had favoured us with the note; but our admiration was changed into, untimitigated wonder when we subsequently learned that there were not lacking in town medical men who were but too willing to take the oflice of commission agent to an undertaker; and that a well-known ractitioner had but a few weeks previously received for one funeral - one 'piece of business' he had re-commended - no less a commission than £50! 'You see, sir,' suid our informant, 'it was a first case. The maximum commission is usually 20 per cent. but in this instance, anxious to secure the interest of the gentleman, who is rapidly rising in practice, and the job being a good one, 25 per cent was given Shade of Moliere, is not this admirable, and yet again abominable! The doctor enacting the part of commission agent to an undertaker, and fleecing his patients of a huge percentage on the funeral expenses!" - Lancet.

THE ISLAND OF SEYR .- The 20,000 inhabitants of

Skye have a more precarious subsistence than the inhabitants of almost any other part of the United Kingdom. Their soil is barren, except in a few valleys and at the heads of the interior lochs, and from the mountains the traveller may see how scanty is the tillage. There are strips of cultivation in the levels and by the margin of the lakes, and patches here and there on the moorlands; and there are a few scattered farms, very poor and difficult to manage. The climate is such that nothing is attempted beyond oats and potatoes. These and the fishery constitute the maintenance of the country and shore people; and the tradesfolk depend, of course, on the custom of their neighbours. Everything that is imported is dear, and almost everything is imported-even to butchers' meat. Peat from the moorland is the fuel used. The oats have almost altogether failed to ripen this year, and a considerable proportion has never been cut at all. It lies swamped under the snow. The potatoes are the main resource of the people from autumn to midsummer, and the potatoes are this season a mere mass of putridity. The inhabitants are citting amid their hurricanes and hail, and snow, without fire as well as without food, for the continual rains of this year have so flooded the moorland that no peat could be got. The ministers of Skye are in despair about saving the people without immediate help, and already the children are down in measles and their parents wasting away in low fever. The fever is creeping on from house to house and from village to village. Such is the account which lies before me from the hand of the minister of Sleat. The name will call numbers of the Union forces. We lear, the enemy up recollections in the minds of tourists, who may, will be found as full of fight as ever at some chosen perhans, feel that their summer pleasures so far bind spot further inland. The war in the West is not yet them to the place and people as to constitute some over .- New York World.

sort of obligation to help them in their fearful stress. In the absence of a Count Rumford we must use our own with and heart enough to ship off some cargoes of potatoes, meal, and fuel (peat, if possible, to suit the island hearth.) Unless this is done there will be something worse in Skye than we have been dreading in Lancashire. Will some one go and cross that strip of stormy sea, and learn the extent of the need, and show us how to meet it in the quickest and best way? If so, that explorer will look all his life on that winter trip with more satisfaction than on any autumn touring, from the peaks of the Alps to the depths of Mammoth caves .- Once a Weck.

INNOCENT OR GUILTY? - A Street Dislogue. - Brown. -Ah, Jones, how de doo? So Sir George Grey wouldn't hang that sweep, eh? Jones. - No, certainly not. Sir George believed that he didn't kill his wife. Brown .- But he has given him penal servicede for life. Jones. - Well, what then? Brown - Why-if you put it that way - to be sure I am a bachelor, and don't profess to be a judge of such matters - but doesn't it seem to be a good deal to give a fellow for not killing his wife? Jones. -- You must settle that with Sir George Grey. - [Exit.] - Punch

UNITED STATES.

Troy University has been purchased by Archbishop Hughes for a Roman Catholic Theological Seminary. These magnificent buildings were erroted for a Methodist University, and the College has enjoyed uninterrupted prosperity from the commencement .-But, for want of endowment, it was constantly running into debt, until at last the Trustees were compelled to offer it for sale It cost \$125,000, and they sold it to Messrs. Peck and Hillman for less that \$50,000. These gentlemen were offered £65,000 for it, by the Romanisis, but they replied they had bought it for the Methodists; they said, however, if no one offered to buy it for the latter by a certaic time, then the Romanists should have it. The old friends of the College had reason to expect that a gentleman who was intending to found a College would secure it for its original purpose; and they depended on this prospect till it was too late; the time specified arrived, and it was sold to the Romanists according to agreement. Ten men were combining for its purchase, but the time expired before they had completed their plans. No appeal was made to the Methodist community generally; twothirds of the Trustees were not Methodista; and the Board was regarded as a sort of close corporation, having absolute power to enact rules and by-laws. The transactions seem to imply no blame on any parties; but it is a pity such a thing should happen .-Methodist Journal,

Few persons have any idea of the weight of taxation borne by the people of the United States. They are accustomed to regard those levied by Federal authority alone, ignoring the fact that these in time of peace form the smallest part of the whole assessment. The taxation of the State of New York last year, for State, County. Town and School rates, exclusive of incorporated cities, towns and villages was \$21,797,000; and this sum is exclusive also of all Federal taxes .- Commercial Advertiser.

In the Federal House of Representatives, on the 6th instant, Mr. Wilson, of Massachusetts, stated that the Government owed the soldiers \$50,000,000 ;-many had received no pay for several months, and in consequence their families and been reduced at a destitution, and were obliged to seek a home in the poor-house. He attributed the numerous desertions to the non-payment of the men ... Ib. The National Intelligencer, a Washington paper

which publishes the official reports of the debates 19 Congress, and has peculiar facilities for obtaining information, says that President Lincoln does not believe in the efficacy of his Emancipation Proc.amation. It says, in reviewing the document : - Tis only vital part of the document is to be found in the declaration that ' the executive government, including the military and naval authorities, will recognise and maintain the freedom of the persons proclaimed to be free. And this part of the paper derives ad its vitality from the force that stands behind it, not at all from the words that precede it. And all the freedom that shall accrue to the slave under this proclamation will result from the law of force, and not at all from the declaratory portion of the Presidenc's decree. And in this view, which is self evident to every mind, we are not at all surprised to learn, as we do, that the President, in his own private opinion, anticipates little, if any, utility from the proclamation of freedom, considered as a war measure' -War measures depend for their effectiveness on something Stronger than words, and the war measure' which shall actually conancipate a single slave would be just as effective without a proclamation as with one.

THE MAGNITUDE OF STATE POWER. - Why does the citizen of any State, of Pennsylvania for instance, owa obedience to the Constitution ? Simply because the ordinance of a State Convention, adopted seventy years ago, has made that Constitution obligatory upon him. The high and solemn act of State authority is all that binds the citizen to obey that instrument. But for the act of a Convention which in 1787 declared the sovereign voice of Pennsylvania, the citizen of this State would to-day owe no respect to the Federal Constitution. The acts of all other States and their citizens were powerless, to impose upon him the slightest obligation to that instrument. This was illustrated in the case of Rhode Island, a Sinte that was acknowledged as outside of the Union, and entirely independent of the Constitution, even after twelve other States had assented to that instrument, and were effectually associated under the misdiction of the Federal Government. Why were the citizens of Rhode Island entirely exempt from every provision of the Constitution; while in twelve other States the citizens owed to that instrument implicit obedience? Simply because, though the Conventions in those twelve States had assented to the Constitution, the power competent to establish that instrument within Rhode Island had not yet spoken ; the sovereign will of that community had not yet been declared by a State Convention; the Constitu-tion had not yet been sanctioned by the only power competent to give it validity within that State; the collective voice of that community had not yet given consent to that instrument; and until such consent had been given, the individual citizen dare not, without treason to his State, obey the Federal Constitution as a binding law. Did the ordinance of a State Convention impose the Constitution upon the citizens of Rhode Island? Undoubtedly it did; and it is equally clear that in each of the other States that instrument derived its validity from a similar ordinance. - Philadelphia Constitutional Union.

THE BATTLE OF MURFHEESBORO. - Gen. Rosecrags s not as successful with his sword as with his pen. He claims a victory, but the only fight he mentions in his dispatches is the one in which he was unquestionally worsted. All the rebel accounts and the Federal accounts agree in admitting that the battle of Wednesday is a defeat. The right and centre of the Union army was driven back miles, thousands of prisoners were taken and thirty-two cannon captured. The left alone held its own. Yet General Rosecrans in his several dispatches speaks only of this battle. and under date of January 5 says :- Our entire success on the 31st ult. was prevented by a surprise on the right flank.' We are alraid many entire auccesses' like that on the 31st ult, would soon use his army up. Then again be admits that while the enemy was retreating be was withdrawing his left wing from across the river for fear of a surprise. As the facts come to light this battle becomes more and more like that at Perryville, where the enemy gained the advantage in prisoners, guns, and damage inflicted, and then retreated on account of the swelling numbers of the Union forces. We lear, the enemy