

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.—The statement made by some of our contemporaries as to the embodiment of a number of regiments of English militia for service in Ireland is altogether without foundation.

The regular forces in Ireland now number over 23,000, and are amply sufficient for any purpose for which their services may be required.

A memorial has been forwarded to the Lord Lieutenant, by the Gaelic magistrates, praying for a garrison for that town.

The military and naval arrangements of the authorities are on the largest scale. The 1st Highlanders are under orders for Limerick, and preparations are making for their accommodation in garrisons. Four companies are to be detached to country towns, including Newcastle West. Within the last few days an additional troop of the Carrieffs has come in from Galib, about three heavy field pieces and a half battery of the Royal Artillery.

The 7th ult., a full company of the 59th Regiment arrived in Galway by the 1.45 o'clock train.—There are now three companies stationed there.—The police, too, are constantly on the alert under Sub-Inspector O'Neil.

Under date Dec. 6, a correspondent from Gort, Galway, writes:—In consequence of the late rains the lowlands in this district are very much flooded, and the rivers overflowing their banks.

The whole of the military barracks at Arklow has been delivered over to the constabulary stationed there. The gates are locked at an early hour in the evening, and no strangers are permitted to enter during any part of the day. All the warlike stores, which for some time past have been kept in barracks, have been transmitted under an escort to Dublin.

The Town Commissioners of Loughrea, in their own names and those of Lord Clanricarde's tenantry in the county of Galway, it is said, have presented him with an address. They affirm that the wild and wicked views of the American Fenians have found no favour with the order-loving people of Loughrea. They declare, also, that they are prepared to give every assistance in their power to strengthen the hands of those charged with maintaining order and the Queen's authority in the county. Lord Clanricarde in reply, affirms that in no part of the county of Galway are reasonable conspiracies now at work.

The Clare Journal says of the peaceful state of the town:—It affords us much satisfaction to state that Ennis, and in fact the country, up to the present has enjoyed immunity from any disturbing influence. The local police have been actively engaged of late, and have taken measures of precaution, which the condition of the country generally prudently dictated. The new arms have been supplied to every member of the force, and each man has been instructed in their use. The revolvers are six chambered, and are light and handy.

The Irish Times says:—Our Monasterian correspondent writes:—I have seen on the banks of the garden here this week, several primroses in full bloom, while several other plants and flowers look as if Spring and the Winter were already upon us. This is rather unusual in December.

The new Marquis of Waterford has a splendid career in the future. Before his twenty-second year has closed over his head he finds himself the head of a noble family with an unnumbered property of nearly £80,000 a year.

Saunders' News-Letter, of Dec. 10, says: Alderman Casey, a member of the Cork Corporation, has given the following notice of motion, to be considered at the meeting of that body on Monday:—That we, the Corporation of Cork, do call on all the various Corporations and Commissioners of Ireland to unite with us in forming such a fund (additional to the award offered by government for the apprehension of the rebel James Stephens), as will, by its amount, be likely to obtain such information as would lead to his arrest; and, further, that we do at once vote the sum of one hundred pounds towards that fund.

O'Donoghue.—The Dublin correspondent of the New York Tribune thus describes the O'Donoghue, that representative Irishman:—His age is about thirty-four years; he is tall, finely proportioned, and of very handsome features. There is much of boyishness in his countenance, and his face is so smooth that his soft, wavy whiskers do not mar the smoothness of his cheeks, and his small mouth is such as would, if a girl were its owner, be called pretty. Then his high character, his polished manner, his proven courage, and his ancient lineage, are points that tell in his favor everywhere, and more especially with an Irish audience, whose regard for him is still further increased by the fact of his near relationship to O'Connell. In addition to this, he has many of the best qualities necessary for a great orator:—graceful action, great self-possession, a ready flow of words, and a voice clear, powerful and distinct, though somewhat delicate in some of its intonations.

Lord Bellew, Lord Lieutenant of Louth, died on the 10th ult., at his seat, Sarmath. It is supposed John McOintock, Esq., late M.P. for the county, will be his successor.—The deceased peer, who was the eldest son of Sir Edward Bellew, Bart., was born the 27th of January, 1798, and was married in January, 1829, to Anna Fermia (who died in 1857), only daughter of the late Don Jose Maria De Mendez y Rios, of Seville, and leaves issue Hon. Edward Joseph (the present peer), Hon. Francis Mary, Hon. Arabella Mary, Hon. Ismay Louisa Ursula, and Hon. Fermia Maria Magdalena. He was created an Irish peer in 1848.

Saunders' News-Letter says: It was our painful duty a few days since, to announce the death of Mr. Maunsell, at his seat, Oakly Park, county Kildare, suddenly and unexpectedly, although in the fullness of years and of honor. The late Richard Maunsell was great-grandson of Richard Maunsell, of Ashfort, in the county of Limerick, who for twenty years represented the city of Limerick in the Irish Parliament.

In consequence of a communication by the police authorities of Clondalkin, Dr. Harty, county coroner, proceeded yesterday morning to hold an inquest on the body of Mr. Oliver Irwin, a gentleman 72 years of age, holding the commission of the peace for the county of Roscommon, and residing with his sister, Mrs. A. S. Lyster, of Moyle park, Clondalkin. It had been alleged that the deceased gentleman came by his death in consequence of ill-treatment and total insufficiency of food. The inquest was held in the drawing-room of Moyle park-house. The body was laid out in an ante-room, and was viewed by the jury previous to the inquiry. It presented a most melancholy appearance, being so attenuated that it was little more than a mere skeleton. The evidence showed that he had been treated with cruel neglect—obliged to sit with the servants in the kitchen, and to drink stiff cold tea which they had left; and that he was left in such a filthy state that he was almost devoured by vermin. The servants alleged that they repeatedly appealed to his sister, Mrs. Lyster, an old woman tottering on the brink of the grave, and that she always answered that he had got enough. The old woman was examined, and denied these statements; but the jury found that the said Oliver Irwin died from want of proper nourishment and medical attendance.

BELFAST, Jan. 2.—Nine arrests yesterday of persons engaged in manufacturing ammunition.

GREAT BRITAIN.

PROTESTANT CONVERTS IN LIVERPOOL.—A Protestant Clergyman writes to the Editor of the Liverpool Daily Courier:—I can add another to the instances of begging which seems so frequent in this town. A person familiar with my name called last week and asked to see me. As he entered my room with what appeared to be a Bible under his arm, and dressed in a clerical coat, buttoned up, and rather the worse for wear, I saw in a moment what his errand was. He said he had been to the Rev. Mr. Dandy, and was a friend of Dr. Taylor's. He had some letters from clergymen which I did not read. His story was that he was a liberal Italian, had been a priest twenty years, but had, at a great pecuniary sacrifice to himself, left the Church of Rome. I asked him his reason for leaving, and he replied that he met a nun carrying a baby, so he came to the conclusion that they were not all infallible, and left the Church. I pointed out to him that supposing the nun had been unfaithful to her vow, of which there was no evidence, it was a very poor reason for leaving the Church, and asked him if he was married. He said yes, he had a wife and four children. To which I responded, 'Then what has become of your vow of celibacy? You have broken your own vows.' He coloured to the roots of his hair, but could make no reply. I expressed great sorrow at his state, and asked what would become of him when he died. He said Christ's mercy was great. After some further conversation I said, 'What religion has Garavani now?' He laughed, and said, 'None.' 'And what religion, then, are you?' He answered he was a Catholic, and hoped for the rites of the Church at his death, although at first his story was that he left the Church of Rome because he did not agree with her. He further informed me his brothers were, one a rector and the other a vicar in Rome, and that since he left the Church they would not correspond with him. I did not argue the question whether we are bound to keep vows once made—his own conscience seemed to settle that point; but he was glad to go, and left without asking for money to take him back to Italy, which was the object of his visit. It is impossible to believe in the sincerity of the conversion of such unhappy men, who, complex of others while they break their own vows without remorse. I may add I have had several visits from Italians, but this is the last specimen.

The Countess of Clare, a Catholic convert, has just built and endowed a convent at Carisbrook, in the Isle of Wight. On Tuesday the community of cloistered nuns of the Dominican Order, 18 in number, of Whitley, in Lancashire, took possession of Carisbrook Convent. They were accompanied from Southampton to Cowes by the Rev. Father Mount and Mrs. Potheringham, a Catholic lady. At Cowes the nuns were mobbed owing to some defective police arrangements. The Countess of Clare has built and richly endowed a Catholic church and schools at Ryde, where she resides. Her ladyship has apartments in the convent whenever she chooses to reside there. The nuns are Englishwomen, and appear to have been well educated.—Daily News.

We hear that an undergraduate of Balliol has gone over to the Catholic Church.—Pall Mall Gazette.

FENIANISM IN SALTOOTS.—When James Stephens escaped from Richmond prison there were few places in these kingdoms which were not subjected to the most rigid search for the arch-conspirator. No doubt Dublin and the chief Irish ports received an extra share of governmental attention at that period, while such insignificant places as Ardrossan were all but passed over. Subsequent events, however, showed that Stephens was alive to all this, and when he landed safely in America, the mocking intelligence reached us that he had honoured Ardrossan with a visit during the time of his peculiar escape.

Such being the case, that part of us late been continually guarded, now that he is to be shortly arrive in Ireland. As James Stephens landed at Ardrossan in his flight from his English jailers, therefore he is sure to pass from that place on his way to Ireland from America. This is the logic of our detectives and police officials, and accordingly Ardrossan is honoured with the presence of a parcel of the biggest bloodhounds to be found anywhere.

On Saturday last the argus-eyed hunters after the £2,000 blood money were very watchful, indeed, after the Belfast steamer had arrived at Ardrossan. The morning was dark and rainy—just such weather as when Stephens escaped—and the faces of the passengers underwent a scrutiny of the most searching kind. All was of no avail. Head Centre Stephens would not comply with the friendly desires and intentions of the hungry detectives. What was best to be done then? watch the exit of the cargo, no well the contents, lest cases or arms might be smuggled into the place—and who knows? probably Stephens himself, alive and kicking, although booked as a parcel of luggage, and marked 'his side up with care.' The baulked detectives feeling somewhat displeased with themselves, saw a wooden box some seven feet long—just the size for pike shafts—and addressed to a Catholic Irishman in Saltoots. He had here was a discovery. The address was properly noted, and forthwith the tidings were conveyed to the Ouston-authorities. After due deliberation on the importance which the case demanded, and the compensation which the other case required to be broached, a posse of police made their way to the premises of the above-mentioned gentleman, and entering his place of business in military fashion, demanded the right of inspecting the contents of the suspicious 'box.' The person addressed courteously gave the required permission, and the 'box,' when opened, displayed neither pike shafts nor pike heads, guns, bayonets, nor pistols, but that which the above-named detectives require very badly, viz., a quantity of clean linen.—Glasgow Free Press.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 18.—At the Liverpool assizes before Judge Smith, true bills were found against three supposed Fenian agents for the illegal possession of public stores and arms, the property of the government. The arms consisted of 47 rifles belonging to the London Irish Volunteers.

SEARCH FOR STEPHENS IN LIVERPOOL.—Some people have got a notion into their heads that Stephens, the noted Fenian leader, is in Liverpool or its neighborhood. The police are consequently daily deluged with letters containing advice or 'information,' which zealous persons send with the view of bringing about the arrest of the arch-conspirator. Some of these individuals would seem to be entirely in Mr. Stephens's confidence. They appear to be fully aware of his intentions; speak confidently of his future movements; and without hesitation or circumspection indicate the very house where he has taken up his abode, and where he sits daily, surrounded by his generals and advisers, elaborating his plans for the coming campaign, and the governing of Ireland upon Republican principles. Some days ago 'positive' information was communicated to the authorities as to Stephens's whereabouts. He was undoubtedly in Liverpool and a search must be made. Several nights were spent in a hunt after him, but without result. However, the authenticity of the communication could not be questioned; and on the house where he was living being pointed out, what else could the police do but visit it? But where would Stephens take up his abode? In some gloomy, out-of-the-way mansion, whose grated windows and high wall would render its defence practicable and retreat from it easy? Of course; he would be in a locality within an easy distance of the rendezvous where his adherents are known to meet. This, no doubt, is what a common-place, every-day plotter would choose to do. But Mr. Stephens is no common conspirator, and disregards such vulgar precautions. His safety lies in his boldness; and as he walked through the streets of Dublin when the Government were offering thousands for his apprehension, he might do the same thing with impunity in Liverpool. He disclaimed exclusion when he came among us, and openly and boldly took apartments in one of the principal thoroughfares in Toxtethpark—the stronghold of Liverpool Orangemen.—When this came to the knowledge of the police they must move in the matter. They might be sceptical, but a period of danger is not the time for indulging in doubts. Stephens and his adherents might seize the North Fort, or take possession of the Onward steamers, fill them with 'troops,' and sail proudly down the river with the green flag flying, on an expedition for the liberation of his country. What a responsibility would then rest on the heads of the police force. After such a dereliction of duty the public could not be appeased, and the active superintendent of the detectives would be unable to justify his remissness. This result was to be averred at all hazards, and therefore Stephens must be caught. Accordingly, on Thursday night a large force of officers was mustered at the central station, and it was resolved to pay a visit to Stephens in Toxtethpark. Each man got instructions how to act—'Stephens must be taken dead or alive. The body of police, on reaching one of the leading thoroughfares of the park, were told off into parties, and a number of officers were appointed to surround the house where Stephens was concealed, while another party was to enter the place and seize the traitor. At last all the arrangements were completed. The word was given for the operations to commence. Every avenue leading to the house was watched, and a party of constables went to the door and asked to be admitted. What a moment of anxiety that must have been! At length the door was opened, and admission was obtained. The house was searched, and would it be believed?—Stephens was not there. How provoking! But there was one consolation—there could be no doubt about the information being correct. He had been there, that was certain, but he had eluded the police. But the detectives were not at all disheartened at their want of success.—Better luck may attend them the next time, and they may yet arrest the chief of the Fenians. However, the authorities are not to be blamed in the matter. They were bound to act on the information they received, and that it was not quite correct was their misfortune and not their fault. Police duty at any time is not a sure one, but at present it is unexceptionally harassing, and the members of the police force—from the worthy head-constable downward—will thank their stars when they cease to hear of Stephens and Fenian plots.—Liverpool Mercury.

CAPTURE OF A WAR SLOOP WITH POWDER, GUNS, &c.—A large three-masted screw steamer, pierced for four guns, and passing by the name of the Bolivia, has just been captured in the Medway, under suspicion of being intended as a Fenian vessel of war. Her crew consists of 20 men, mostly Irish.—On the vessel being searched, she was found to be laden with coal, blakely rifled guns, swords, rifles and 30 tons of gunpowder, which latter she had received on board from a barge. Since her arrival in the Medway, beneath her coals, a large quantity of shot and shell was concealed. The captain had not joined, and the second officer, who was in charge of the ship, has escaped. The ship is without papers. The crew state that the vessel had been purchased for a war steamer by the Republic of Columbia, and was on her way to South America. The Bolivia appears to have sailed from Shields on Wednesday last. A party of Royal Marines has been placed on board by Admiral Sir Baldwin Walker, and her Majesty's steamer Lizard has taken up a position to prevent communication with the shore. The Bolivia was built by Palmer and Co., of Jarrow. The Bolivia, the vessel seized on Tuesday by the Government in the Medway, is moored near the flagship Formidable, and the paddle-wheel steamer Lizard is lying alongside for the purpose of acting as a guard over her. A number of metropolitan police are also rowing round her, in order to prevent any communication from the shore with those on board. The Bolivia is a handsome and entirely new three-masted iron screw steamer, of about 1,600 tons burthen.—Nothing further has transpired respecting the destination of the Bolivia. The ship is without papers, and in the absence of her captain and chief officer, the crew only repeat that they understood the vessel was intended for the Republic of Columbia, and was to sail for her destination after taking in her stores.

ALLEGED SEIZURE OF AMMUNITION.—Considerable excitement was occasioned in town on Friday by the circulation of a report that a large quantity of ammunition intended for shipment to Ireland, had been seized by the authorities at the Huskisson Dock. Of course it was concluded that the ammunition was being sent to the Fenians and the circumstance was taken as an indication of the likelihood of a rising soon taking place in Ireland. Fortunately, on investigation, it turned out that the story so far as regards the intentions of war being a Fenian shipment, was without foundation. It seems that on Tuesday the police received information to the effect that a large quantity of ammunition had been placed in a shed at the Huskisson Dock for shipment. Inquiries were immediately set on foot and it was discovered that twenty cases of ball cartridge, each case containing 1,000 rounds, had been deposited at the place indicated. As the cases were described as containing 'hardware,' the authorities took possession of them until such time as the ammunition and for what purpose it was intended it was, we believe, consigned to a highly respectable house, and was to be conveyed to Smyrna. How the parties engaged in the transaction could have been guilty of so reprehensible an error as to describe cases containing gunpowder as 'hardware' yet remains to be explained; but there is no doubt the authorities will cause a rigid investigation to be made. The only reason we have heard assigned for so extraordinary a proceeding is this steamship owners are unwilling to take gunpowder in their vessels, and that sometimes it is wrongly described in order to escape detection.—Liverpool Mercury.

It was said in England that the Derby Cabinet has been engaged considering a new plan for the frustration of Reform in the next session. This plan is to adopt the policy which is gracefully termed—'proceeding by resolution.' The whole question will be practically shelved for the session, so that if the ministry gained nothing else by it they could gain the quiet manipulation of the registrations for 1867, as well as another year of office.

RITUALISM IN THE CHURCH.—The following protest is being circulated in the diocese of London; it has already received numerous signatures.—'We, the undersigned, being clergymen in the diocese of London, desire to make our public and emphatic protest against the introduction, under cover of an elaborate ritualism, of some of the fundamental and most pernicious errors of the Church of Rome into the Protestant and Reformed Church of this realm. We are not insensible to the objections which may be urged against such voluntary declarations on the part of clergymen who have already made the subscriptions legally imposed on them. But we are convinced in our consciences that the time is fully come when, for the satisfaction of the great majority of the lay members of the Church of England and for the vindication of our Church in the eyes of others, some authoritative check should be given to practices which are confessedly introduced and maintained as symbolical of doctrines against which many of 'the noble army of martyrs' loved not their lives unto the death. Having waited for the effective application of any such check by lawful authority, we now make public this our solemn protest against all doctrine and ritual the tendency of which is to assimilate the teaching and worship of the United Church of England and Ireland to the teaching and worship of a Church which we have declared to be 'idolrous,' and whose 'sacrifice of masses' we have been called on to renounce as 'blasphemous fables and dangerous deceits.' And we declare our conviction that the claim of our Church to be the established Church of this realm rests mainly upon her fidelity to the principles of the Reformation.'

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UNITED STATES.

A PROTESTANT ON THE LATE COUNCIL.—In an article in the Elmira Weekly Advertiser, which has been attributed to a brother of Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, we find the following:

'This Third Time, we have something to say about the Roman Catholic Council, of which we have spoken already. The Pastoral Letter of this second Pious Council is before us as we write.—We have read it—parts of it three times over—and are moved to say that it is the pastoral letter, and no sham. Whether the people will be as sheep-like in obedience as the bishops are shepherd like in their authority, we cannot say. But the shepherds have made full proof of their ministry as Christian bishops.'

After giving the titles of the sub-divisions of the Pastoral, the writer says:—'Under each of these heads, the bishops have spoken plain words as to wisdom and duty. Their trumpet gives a certain sound. We have read many Pastoral Letters in our time, uttered by Christian ecclesiastics of every name, but we have never read any one that seemed so clear, flat-footed and unmistakable as this one from the Catholic prelates.—Another striking feature of the letter is its abundant citations of Scripture, apt authoritative. Many persons suppose that Roman Catholics make little or no use of Scripture. But here in this letter to their people, the clergy cite more Scripture than can be found in the official deliberances of all the Protestant assemblies, councils, conferences, associations, classes and conventions of this last year in all the land.'

Extracts are then given from the Pastoral, in regard to matrimony and education, and the article closes as follows:

'Fathers and brethren of the Roman Catholic Pious Council, we thank you for your pastoral letter. May God Himself by His spirit give you access to the consciences of your multitudinous people, and reward your labors and answer your prayers according as you have truly learned to work and pray in Him who is Head over all things to His Church, even Jesus Christ whom we preach. Amen.'

Our 'Northern brethren' have a terrible sympathy with all the oppressed people of the world except those that they oppress themselves! They sympathize tremendously with Ireland and Mexico, and until lately they used to sympathize with Poland. Ye hypocrites! 'The Greeks are at your door!' You have aided an Ireland—think of it—Virginia!—Charlottesville Chronicle.

NEW USE FOR CALOMEL.—DOCTORING FRUIT TREES.—A gentleman of this city, who is both inquisitive and acquisitive when he thinks he can acquire knowledge that will benefit mankind, was lately in Saratoga county, and was there shown an apple tree in fine healthy condition which had been ill, subjected to treatment with calomel and thoroughly cured. This tree was afflicted with insects, which were destroying it and rendering it unproductive. A hole was bored into the body of the tree nearly through the sap, and two grains of calomel inserted. As soon as this calomel was taken up by the sap, the vermin on the tree died, and it began to bear fruit and has done so for three years, to the entire satisfaction of the owner.

We are told that sulphur may be mixed with the calomel and produce a good effect. This is a fact worth knowing, and the fruit growers of western New York may profit by it.

A Washington telegram to the Times says: Prominent politicians of Illinois intend to meet to-morrow at Springfield, to consider a proposition to nominate Gen. Grant for next President, and have invited leading Democrats of other States to join them. Mr. Ashley will introduce a bill on Monday, in Congress, for the impeachment of President Johnson.

THE SPIRITS RECEIVE A COAT OF LAMBLACK.—The Eddy Mediums (said to be brother and sister) have been holding a series of seances in the Old High School rooms in the Pike block, for the past week, and the astonishing so-called spiritual manifestations have attracted quite a number of our citizens there every evening. What the aid of a few 'stool pigeons' who proclaim the wonders of the mediums they manage to draw crowds of people together to witness the farcical performances of these jugglers. On Tuesday evening several of our friends attended the seance of the Eddys, determined to know by fair investigation whether they were humbugging the people or not. During the day one of these gentlemen procured a mixture of lard and lampblack in a small box, and took it with him to this seance and gave it to one of the committee on whom he could rely to carry out the programme, which he did most effectively and satisfactorily. This committee man managed, while placing musical instruments inside the cabinet, to take a portion of the lampblack and rub it on the inside of a small bell used by the 'spirits' in their grand concerts in the cabinet. The doors were fastened as usual, the concert began with the tuning of violins, the jingling of bells and the thumping of tambourines, making most wretched music, while now and then the hand or face of some healthy looking 'spirit' could be seen at the top of the doors. However, this concert, like all others had an end, the doors opened, and there the mediums sat before the audience with hands and feet tied as when the show commenced, they looking as innocent as a couple of turtle doves. The people were astonished at what they had seen and heard, but not more so than they were in a few minutes after, when the gentleman who had coated the bell handle with blacking reported the lady medium's hand nicely painted on the inside with lampblack. The audience was completely bewildered with these manifestations which were, however, explained by the mediums, who said that the spirits cut up many funny tricks, and probably this was one of them. The doors were again closed on the mediums, and after a few more demonstrations of the 'spirit,' were once more opened, and there the man medium sat, with a mark of lampblack, of about the length of the bell handle, on one side of his face. The gentleman who caused the bell to be dabbed with the mixture finally reported that he had done it for the purpose of detecting the hands that were seen at the opening at the top of the cabinet, and all, of course, were satisfied that the hand used to ring the bell could be used for other purposes as well. The audience were disgusted, and left the hall as soon as the humbug was exposed.—Rochester Union and Advertiser.

DIVERS WOUNDS.—The Hartford Times has the following:—Congress.—A Sample.—It seems the Republicans have one set of principles for one time and place, and another and totally opposite set for another time and place. They voted in the Connecticut Legislature to disfranchise all white men who could not read. But in passing the bill yesterday to force negro suffrage on the people of the District of Columbia, (the people having twice voted it down, and the last time by one thousand to one!) the Senate, by almost a party vote, expressly refused to apply any such test to negroes! Mr. Dixon's amendment requiring of negroes (as well as whites) that they should be able to read and to write their own names, was voted down, thirteen to thirty-two. Wilson and Sumner opposed it: the former (who has lately become very pious on the claim that he has ability to read and write) was 'no great aid to the vote,' and that if the test were imposed in Washington it would greatly retard the cause of education! Sumner based his opposition on the ground that the Radical party 'needed all the votes of the black loyalists that they could possibly get; and that as

this question should be decided for Washington, so it would be likely to be decided for the Southern States! So it is right to disfranchise white men who cannot read, but wrong to disfranchise negroes for the same reason!

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—It is generally conceded that the test case as to whether Alabama is a State in the Union, will be decided by the Supreme Court in the affirmative, and this decision will upset entirely, and perhaps advance the project for turning that and the other States into territories. The Committee on reconstruction will if it is understood report against the proposition, offering to the Southern States admission without further conditions on the adoption of the amendment.

The late decision by the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of the Hon. P. L. Milligan, of Indiana, the victim of an illegal and arbitrary military commission, revives in our memory an incident connected with his imprisonment in the Ohio Penitentiary, which has not been published hitherto. The partisan officers in the care of the Columbus Penitentiary at first treated Mr. Milligan, who was as innocent of any offence as they were, with great brutality. Among other things they compelled him, although he was a lawyer by profession, and knew nothing about dentistry, to draw the teeth of such of the prisoners as had the toothache. Upon one occasion, after he had protested his ignorance of the art of teeth extraction, he was compelled, under threat of punishment, to put the forceps upon a tooth of one of the convicts. In his inexperience he put them upon roots that he connected with two teeth, and drew them both at once, frightfully increasing the poor prisoner's jaw and inflicting a terrible amount of pain upon him. Mr. Milligan states that when he saw what he had done, he had a mental anguish only inferior to that of the prisoner, and all was owing to the cruel cruelty of the keeper in putting such a task upon him.

Mr. Milligan was first taken to the file-shop, one of the noisiest places in the prison, and given a kind of work that soon entirely prostrated him and sent him to the hospital. All sorts of such indignities and outrages were inflicted upon this gentleman, who is a prominent citizen of Indiana, simply because he was a Democrat, and had been cruelly treated by a military commission. There ought to be, somewhere, a legal remedy for such wrongs.—Cincinnati Inquirer.

MORRISSEY VS. BUTLER.—John Morrissey was recently in Washington, and they tell a good anecdote of him. In the interview with the President, Morrissey said: 'You, no doubt, Mr. President, have heard that I was a gambler—that is to say, I have gambled at cards and made money by it, but I always played fair, and never cheated, and I have never been accused of it. You also, no doubt, have heard that I was connected with the ring, and was a pugilist. This is true also, and I always beat my opponent. Now, this is more than Ben Butler can say. He played and gambled after this fashion at New Orleans, but he did not play fair, but cheated everybody, and no one can say he ever whipped an opponent. So I am at least ahead of him on both points. Pretty fair that for Morrissey. If occasion Morrissey will not hesitate to say the same thing to Butler on the floor of the House.'

THE COST OF LIVING IN NEW YORK.—It may be asserted, without fear of contradiction, that in no city in the world is the cost of living so great as in New York; and it was not only so during the war of the rebellion, when high rates were to be expected, but prices have rather increased since its close.—Although the premium on gold has declined 170 per cent, (from its highest war figure from 295 in June, 1864, to 125 in April, 1866), there has been no corresponding fall in the prices of articles necessary to sustain life. Some goods, especially at retail, are higher than in 1864; and it has become at least an impossibility for thousands with limited incomes to maintain themselves here, even with the most rigid economy. During the war, a reasonable excuse for these extreme prices seemed to be the high rates to which gold had advanced. An era of unparalleled extravagance commenced in 1862, which swept away in its wasteful current all former ideas of economy, and the mania of speculation upon the nation with New York as its centre of action.

The population of New York was largely augmented during the war, and to this influx may be attributed the rise in rents and living at that time. But multitudes of Southerners and adventurers found their way to the South and West with the return of peace, thus swelling the productive industry of the country; but war prices are still maintained in New York. With a million of people crowded together upon a small island, a decline in rents, however, is not to be expected, from the fact that the value of real estate is continually enhanced with the increase of inhabitants.

The month of the Amazon is large enough to take in the States of Massachusetts and Rhode Island.—'Sagopito' should do it, kindly suggests a Richmond paper.

A Western editor once wrote:—A Correspondent asks whether the battle of Waterloo occurred before or after the commencement of the Christian era. We answer it did.

Travel has been resumed on all roads leading to and from Buffalo, except on the Lake Shore road.—A Syracuse despatch says that the New York Central Railroad is clear of snow the entire length, and that trains are running on time.

A terrible massacre occurred on the 22nd near Fort Phil. Kearney. Brevet Colonel Fetterman, Captain Brown and Lieutenant Grammond, of the 13th infantry, were surrounded by Indians and every officer and man killed.

The Newburyport (Mass.) Herald, in speaking of the efforts making at Salem to reacquire the fishing interest, says it is of no use; the fisheries must pass from Massachusetts as a permanent business, and probably commerce in that State will not keep pace with the increase of population. Manufactures, it says, is the only hope for the future.

'MYTHS OF THE MIDDLE AGES.'—A Protestant writer, a Mr. Baring Gould, has written a book bearing the above title. It is remarkable that he does not treat some of the stories he mentions as 'myths.' He actually very nearly believes in the Wandering Jew. The well-known story of the Wandering Jew is as follows:—When the mob of Jews were dragging our Blessed Lord to the place of crucifixion, Christ tried to rest a moment and stood still, but a certain shoemaker by name Cartaphilus, drove him forward in approbrious terms. Upon this our Saviour looked at him and said, 'I shall stand and rest, but thou shalt go till the last day.' Afterwards Cartaphilus was converted to Christianity and was baptized by the name of Joseph, and he has continued to wander over the face of the earth till this hour, and so he will continue to the end. And this story, Mr. B. Gould says, may possibly be true. He will not stickle for the actual Cartaphilus and the other details, but looking to a well-known passage in St. Luke, he thus writes, 'There can be, I think, no doubt in the mind of an unprejudiced person that the words of our Lord do imply that some one or more of those then living should not die till he come again. I do not mean to insist on the literal signification, but I plead that there is no improbability in our Lord's words being fulfilled to the letter.'

A very devout and pious deacon, who sold coal, told his servant girl in early fall to hang a wet dish cloth out of the window, and the first morning she found it frozen to report to him. A snapping November morning the cloth was found frozen; and the girl entered the breakfast room and reported to the deacon, who was just ready to enter into his family devotions. He immediately replied, raising his eyes skyward, 'I must raise on coal to-day. Lord help the poor! Let us pray!'