

The Athlone correspondent of the *Irish Times* of the 17th ult. says:—For many years nothing like the severity of the present weather has been felt here. Rivers and streams are icebound; even the noble Shannon has been unable to withstand the intensity of the cold, and the broad bosom of Lough Rea has been frozen over. Outdoor employment is at a standstill, and the laboring classes are in a lamentable state from want of food and fire. A meeting was held of the resident gentry and traders this afternoon, at which over £100 was collected to meet the present necessities of the poor, and a committee has been formed to distribute meal and coals amongst them. Lord Castlemaize, with his usual liberality, has given a general order to give firing from his woods to all who apply for it.

The Roscommon *Gazette* says.—The last day of the old year was ushered with a heavy fall of snow, and the 1st of January, 1867, presented a covering of spotless white. The snow was succeeded by frost, and quite a number of people were enjoying themselves skating on Lough Key, which is partially frozen over, and if the frost continues a short time longer the entire lake will be frozen. We have not had such severe weather since 1860. There is no appearance of a change, as the snow storm has commenced, and continues still.

A Navan correspondent writing under date Jan. 3 says:—An inquest was held to-day before Hugh Martin, Esq., on view of the body of a woman named Elizabeth Mullen, who was burned to death on the night of the 1st inst. From the evidence adduced at the inquest, it would appear that the deceased, who was a very old woman, and who was subject to fits, was sitting by her fireside when the husband retired to rest, and that, having had an attack, she so overcame that she fell into the fire and was burned to death. The body was charred in a shocking manner, the bones in some parts being perfectly bare. It is believed the husband of the deceased was under the influence of drink when going to bed, otherwise he must have felt the smell which necessarily arose from the body while burning. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

A Thurles correspondent, in a late issue of the *Irish Times*, says:—The tide of emigration still continues to flow from this town and neighborhood. Scarcely a week passes by without nine or ten starry young men and women from the neighboring parishes leaving for America or Australia. There appears to be but one idea now in the breast of every able-bodied man and woman here, and that is how to get to a foreign land. In consequence of the contractor of the Southern Railway suspending the work on that part of the line between this town and Clonmel, there are a large number of the working classes in great distress here at present.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

The Duchess of Leeds and Lady Herbert, of Lea, have each contributed £10,000 towards the purchase for Catholic purposes, of Prior Park; and a Yorkshire gentleman has given £5000 for the completion of the unfinished chapel.

CATHOLICITY IN ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND.—The 'Catholic Directory and Ecclesiastical Register' for 1867, published, as the title page informs us, *per missu superiorem*, has just made its appearance. In the statistical summary of this little volume are given the numbers of the clergy, churches, chapels, convents, &c., of the Catholic Church throughout Great Britain. Under the head of bishops and priests is a total of 1,608 persons officiating in England and Scotland, against 1,569 on the 1st of January, 1866. Of churches, chapels, and missionary stations, there are 1,207, against 1,171 at this time last year. The convents number 220, against 211 twelve months ago. The 'communities of men' or monasteries are now 63 against 58, and the colleges, 12 against 11, for the same period. These figures do not include any statistics of Ireland or of the colonies. The total number of Catholic archbishops and bishops in the British dominions is 108; namely, in England, 1 archbishop and 16 bishops; in Scotland, 4 bishops; in Ireland, 4 archbishops and 24 bishops; in India, Australia, Canada, and the various British colonies, 6 archbishops and 53 bishops.

The Catholic population of Glasgow, Scotland, at the present day, is considerably greater than the aggregate population fifty years ago. At that date, Glasgow could hardly boast of a population of 120,000 individuals, while the Catholic population now exceeds that number.

LONDON, Feb. 5.—The following is the speech made by the Queen at the re-opening of the Imperial Parliament:—

My Lords.—In again recurring to your advice and assistance, I am happy to inform you that my relations with foreign powers are on a friendly and satisfactory footing. I hope that the war in which Prussia, Austria and Italy have been engaged may lead to the establishment of a durable peace in Europe. I have suggested to the Government of the United States a mode by which the questions pending between the two countries, arising out of the civil war, may receive an amicable solution, and which, if met, as I trust it will be, in a corresponding spirit, will remove all grounds of possible misunderstanding, and promote relations of cordial friendship.

The war between Spain and the Republics of Chili and Peru still continues, the good offices of my Government, in conjunction with that of the Emperor of the French, having failed to effect a reconciliation. If, either by agreement between the parties themselves or by the mediation of any other friendly power, peace should be restored, the objects which I have had in view will be equally attained.

The discontent prevailing in some of the provinces of the Turkish Empire has broken out in actual insurrection in Crete. In common with my allies, the Emperor of the French and the Emperor of Russia, I have abstained from any active interference in these internal disturbances, but joint efforts have been directed to bringing about improved relations between the Porte and his Christian subjects not inconsistent with the sovereign rights of the Sultan.

The protracted negotiations which arose out of the acceptance by Prince Charles of Hohen-zollen, of the Governorship of the Danubian Principalities, have been happily terminated, by an arrangement which has been sanctioned by the concurrence of all the Powers, signatories of the treaties of the treaty of 1856.

Resolutions in favour of a more intimate Union of the Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick have been passed by their several Legislatures, and delegates duly authorized and representing all classes of colonial party and opinion have concurred in the conditions upon which such an Union may be best effected. In accordance with their wishes a solidation of colonial interests and resources, will give strength to the sovereign Provinces as members of the same Empire, and animated by feelings of loyalty to the same Sovereign.

I have heard with sorrow that the calamity of famine pressed heavily on my subjects in some parts of India, instructions were issued to my Government in this country to make the utmost exertions to allay the distress which prevailed during the autumn of last year. The blessing of an abundant harvest has since that time improved the condition of the suffering districts.

The persevering efforts and unscrupulous association of treacherable conspirators have, during the last autumn excited the hopes of some disaffected persons in Ireland and the apprehensions of the loyal population; but the firm and temperate exercise of the powers entrusted to the executive, and the hostility manifested against the conspiracy by nearly all classes and creeds have greatly tended to restore public confidence, and have rendered hopeless any attempt to disturb the general tranquillity. I trust that you will consequently be enabled to dispense with the continuance of any exceptional legislation for that part of my dominions.

I acknowledge with deep thankfulness to Almighty God, the great decrease which has taken place in the cholera and in the pest which has attacked our cattle but the continued prevalence of the latter in some foreign countries, and its occasional reappearance in this country will render necessary some special measures of precaution; and I trust that the visitation of the former will lead to increased attention to those sanitary measures which experience has shown to be the best preventative. Estimating, as of the highest importance, an adequate supply of pure and wholesome water, I have directed the issue of a Commission to enquire into the best means of permanently securing such a supply for the Metropolis and for the principal towns in the densely peopled districts of the Kingdom.

## Gentlemen of the House of Commons.

I have directed the Estimates for the ensuing year to be laid before you. They have been prepared with a due regard to economy and the requirements of the public services. You will, I am assured, give a ready assent to a moderate expenditure, calculated to improve the state of my soldiers and to lay the foundation of an efficient army of reserve.

## My Lords and Gentlemen:

Your attention will again be called to the state of the representation of the population in Parliament, and I trust that your deliberations, conducted in a spirit of moderation and mutual forbearance, may lead to the adoption of measures which, without undue disturbance of the balance of political power, shall freely extend the elective franchise.

The frequent occurrence of disagreement between employers of labor and their workmen, causing much private suffering and public loss, occasionally leading, as is alleged, to acts of outrage and violence, has induced me to issue a Commission to enquire into and report upon, the organization of Trades Unions and other societies, whether of workmen or employers, with power to suggest any improvement of the laws for their own benefit. Application will be made to you for Parliamentary powers, which will be necessary to make this enquiry effective.

I have directed bills to be laid before you for the extension to other trades of the beneficial provisions of the Factory Acts, especially reported by the Royal Commission on the employment of children, and for the better regulation, according to the principle of those Acts, of workshops where women and children are largely employed.

The condition of the mercantile marine has attracted my serious attention. Complaints are made that the supply of seamen is deficient, and the provision for the health and discipline on board ship are imperfect. Measures will be submitted to you with a view to increase the efficiency of this important service.

I have observed with satisfaction the relaxation recently introduced into the Navigation laws of France. I have expressed to the Emperor my readiness to submit to Parliament a proposal for the extinction of an equitable terms of the exemption from local charges on shipping which are still enjoyed by a limited number of individuals in British ports, and have in anticipation of this step already admitted British ships to the advantages of the new law. A bill upon this subject will probably be laid before you.

A bill will also be submitted to you for making better provision for the arrangement of the affairs of Railway Companies, which are unable to meet engagements.

Measures will be submitted to you for improving the management of the sick and other poor in the Metropolis, and for a redistribution of some of the charges for the relief therein.

Your attention will also be called to the amendment of the law of Bankruptcy, the consolidation of the Courts of Probate and Divorce and Admiralty, and to the means of disposing with greater despatch and frequency of the increasing business in the superior Courts of Common Law and at the Assizes.

The relations between landlord and tenant in Ireland have engaged my attention. The Bill will be laid before you, which, without interfering with the rights of property will offer direct encouragement to occupiers of land to improve their holdings, and provide a simple mode of obtaining compensation for permanent improvement.

I commend to your careful consideration these and other measures which will be brought before you, and I pray that your labours may under the blessing of Providence, conduce to the prosperity of the country and the happiness of my people.

LONDON, Feb. 6.—During the delivery of the Queen's Speech this morning, the people cried out:—'Reform! Reform!'

SWINDON.—Englishmen had just learnt before the late war to forget the Bonds of Alabama and Mississippi, and had again invested largely in State Securities. The war came, and interest soon ceased to be paid in the South, in consequence of a *force majeure* of which no creditor could complain. But the bondholders of the Northern States found that they did not escape unscathed. Congress passed an Act authorizing the issue of inconvertible paper, and declared it to be legal tender. Every State in the North, with the honorable exception of Massachusetts—faithful it among the faithless found—availed itself promptly of this law, and paid its creditors in a depreciated currency. Thus the English creditor who had lent 1,000 dollars in gold to the State of New York upon the promise of six per cent. interest—that is, of an annual payment of sixty dollars—received sixty dollars in paper, the value of which was at one time no more than twenty-four dollars in gold, and even now is very little more than forty dollars. Worse than this, if the Bond became due, he was paid off with a sum varying from two-fifths to two-thirds of what he had lent. Instead of getting back his thousand gold dollars, he received from four to six hundred. It is true that a protest was raised in America itself. The example of Massachusetts was and is a standing rebuke, and we believe an offer was made to the State of New York by some leading merchants and bankers of New York city to lend whatever sum might be necessary to make up the difference between coin and paper upon receiving a promise of repayment on the termination of the war. Had it been a question of personal honour, the offer would have been accepted; if, indeed, it could in that case have been found necessary; but the morality of a Legislature is determined by its worst members. The offer was declined, and every creditor of New York, of Pennsylvania, of Illinois, of Ohio, and the rest was mulcted of his just claims. If the total sum thus kept back from English creditors were made up it would make a formidable item in any international settlement. —*Times*.

The Pall Mall *Gazette* says that some idea of the value of land in the heart of London may be gathered from an incidental statement made by Mr. P. N. Laurie, Chairman of the Union Bank. The city Corporation, having determined to widen Mansion House street from the bottom of the Poultry, have taken possession of the frontage of the buildings which the Union Bank was about to erect at that spot. For this little strip of ground, measuring fifteen feet the Corporation had to pay £43,000.

EFFECT OF STRIKES.—The inquiry into the state of the Belgian Iron Trade conducted by Messrs. Ored and Williams has elicited several interesting results. It has taught us that our command of foreign markets rests on a more precarious basis than is generally supposed; that our advantage in the proximity of our coasts to our furnaces is compensated to some extent by other advantages on the side of our principal rival, and that our superiority in the quality of manufacture is neutralized, for certain purposes, by the greater cheapness of Belgian iron. Above all, it has brought out the instructive, but not unexpected fact that the difficulties to which English ironmasters are subjected by the constant recurrence of strikes are fully appreciated abroad by our foreign customers, as well as by our foreign competitors. —*Times*.

ARRESTS IN GLASGOW.—On Saturday, the 5th ult., a man who had arrived in Glasgow, in the Iowa, from New York, was arrested in the Saltmarket, for drunkenness. On being taken to the Police office, cartridges and percussion caps were found in his possession. It was subsequently ascertained that the prisoner and two other men, who had crossed the Atlantic with him, were lodging in a hotel in Candleriggs street. The police apprehended the men on Monday morning, and on their persons were found two revolvers, a brace-loading pistol, and a quantity of cartridges and caps. One of them stated that he had come to Scotland in search of work, and the other said he had quarrelled with his wife's relations, and had left New York in consequence. Up to the last advice, these men were still detained on the charge of being concerned in Fenianism.

During the past year, 128 Islington tradesmen have been fined by the local justices for having on their premises false weights, scales, and measures. Publicans head the list with 42; marine-store dealers, 14; green grocers, 13; beer-shop keepers, 12; butchers, 11; grocers, 7; general dealers, 6; oilmen, 5; chesamongers, 4; coaldealers, 2; confectioners, 2; bakers, 2; milkmen, 1; ham and beef dealer, 1; flock-dealer, 1; fishmonger, 1; costermonger, 1; tripe dealer, 1. This number is exclusive of those fined at the Middlesex Quarter Sessions. —*Islington Gazette*.

A Glasgow merchant, on his death-bed, sent for a Free Church clergyman. Having some fears regarding his future prospects, he asked the reverend gentleman, 'Do you think, if I were to leave £15,000 to the Free Kirk, my soul would be saved?' 'Well,' answered the cautious minister, 'I couldn't promise you that, but I think it's an experiment well worth trying.'

A recent English paper says: 'During the last few weeks several ships arriving at Liverpool from the United States have brought over as portions of their cargoes barrels containing turkeys, geese and other birds, sufficiently pickled to enable them to reach the 'old country' in edible condition.'

The Duke of Sutherland has caused notice to be given to his tenants on the Trentham estate in North Staffordshire, that such of them as suffered loss by the cattle plague before the compensation clause of the Cattle Plague Act came into operation, will have half of such losses made good at the expense of his Grace.

## UNITED STATES.

The following is the amendment to the Constitution, which the Southern States in Washington have agreed to, and the President agrees to it:—

Article 14, section 1. No State has a right to secede nor has the Federal Government the right to eject a State or deprive it of representation in Congress.

Section 2. The United States' debt shall be held sacred and inviolable, but the rebel debt shall never be paid by the nation, nor any State.

Section 3. All persons, born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to its jurisdiction, shall be citizens, and shall have the rights and immunities of all States. Life, liberty, and property are guaranteed.

Section 4. Representation shall be based on the numbers, counting all persons, except Indians, not taxed; but when a State excludes any of its population on account of race or color from voting, then those excluded shall not be counted in the basis of representation.

Also the following to be part of the Constitution of each State:—

Every male citizen a year in the State and six months in the county immediately preceding an election, and who can read the Declaration of Independence and United States Constitution in the English language, and the owner of \$250 worth of taxable property, shall be entitled to vote, provided that no person who has heretofore voted shall be excluded from voting.

CHANGE OF POPULATION IN MASSACHUSETTS.—Dr. Allen, of Lowell, has been engaged in an investigation of the changes in the population of Massachusetts. He says that the population in 1850 was 1,231,066, of which number, 893,549 were natives of the State, 163,413 emigrants from other States, and 260,114 emigrants from foreign countries. In the ten years from 1850 to 1860 the births were 110,813, but a considerable portion of these were children of foreigners, though put down as Americans in the table. The increase by foreign immigration in the same period was 93,205, and 21,587 natives had emigrated to other States. Massachusetts had gained in ten years 10,834 by excess of American immigrants over American emigrants. Should the same process continue for thirty or forty years longer, the native born population of Massachusetts will be in the minority. Upon this prospect the Springfield *Republican* comments as follows:—

'Dr. Allen's figures seem to show, not merely that the foreign population of the State increases more rapidly than the native, but that in fact the native population is diminishing year by year, and the increase is altogether foreign. In 1864 the births in the State were 30,449 and the deaths 28,723; in 1865 the births 30,349; deaths 26,152. The births exceeded the deaths in 1864 by only 1,726, and in 1865 by 4,007. But the foreign population have from two to three times as many births as the American deaths actually exceed the births. This is confirmed by the figures from towns where there are few or no foreigners, and the deaths every year exceed the births. The question suggested by these facts and figures is: Is the old Puritan stock losing its vitality and running out? The town records show that in the first generation of settlers the families averaged from eight to ten children; in the next three generations from seven to eight; the fifth about five, and the sixth less than three. The present is less than this. The old physicians all notice this falling off, and it is remarkable that it is quite as large in the country as in the city. Does it come from our more artificial and unnatural life, producing a degenerate physical condition of women, or from a settled purpose with the married to have but few children? These are some of the questions raised by Dr. Allen, which he does not answer. The facts and figures are at least highly suggestive, and deserve the attention not alone of statisticians, but of students of social science and publicists generally.'

RELIGION AND MORALITY IN THE NORTHERN STATES. From a lecture lately delivered in New York, by the Reverend Father Hecker, we make the following extract:—

Christianity was gradually disappearing from the minds of the mass of those outside the Catholic religion. It was notable that those denominations having the least amount of Christianity were increasing in popularity. This was the case with Unitarians, Universalists, and Spiritualists. Spiritualism pretended to be a sort of substitute for revelation. A few weeks ago he heard a leading Spiritualist assert that he knew more than Christ, and hoped to do more for humanity than Christ ever did, and asserted that 'Spiritualism counted its converts by millions.' As another instance of the feeble hold of Christianity on the people, Mr. Hecker mentioned a New England town where there were not people enough to have two churches, though one-half were Unitarians and the other Episcopalians. They resolved to put it to the vote to see whether they should have a Unitarian or an Episcopal Church. If the Unitarians had the majority of Christ, and if the Episcopalians succeeded, the Unitarians, according to their views, would have to become idolaters. One was ready to apostatize and the other to commit idolatry. These people surely did not think of the consequence of their action, because supernatural truth had little hold on their minds. The Episcopalians won and both parties joined in the Episcopal form of worship. Those on whom Christian truth has a firm hold could never have done so. They would have preferred to die. Christian truth has little hold on the minds of our people, and they are fast falling into naturalism. This was acknowledged, too, by their own organs. In the number of the *Christian Examiner* for the current month this was admitted. [Here Mr. Hecker read an extract of some length in support of his hypothesis.] This was the effect of natural principles underlying our American civilization. It tended to dissolve the family by destroying the sacredness of marriage, that relation instituted by God himself, and which is the foundation of all social morality. Among those who are not Catholics in this country the idea of Christian marriage is lost. The Catholic idea is that marriage is divine and indissoluble. What was marriage among our non-Catholic population? It was subject to political legislation; divorce was daily becoming more easy; and at this rate, it would not take long for the American people to go back to Polygamy. In some States the causes for divorce were most trivial. Here Mr. H. read an advertisement from a morning paper of yesterday offering to procure divorce without publicity—'Good everywhere; no fee charged till divorce is obtained.' Now, marriage being the fountain of morality and the stability of the State, where were we drifting to? By and by men and women would think of substituting natural affinity, and by and by there would be as much morality as among the polygamists. Children would be thought an incubum, and families would grow less and less. The truth was that the American population even now could not sustain itself, the number of deaths in the American population exceeding the births. This facility of divorce sapped the very foundations of our system. Dr. Haugh, the Head of the State Census Bureau, informs us that the number of children born of American mothers was not sufficient to replace the losses of population caused by death, and that all the excess of births above deaths in this State was due to women of foreign birth. (21 Annual Rep. Prison Ass'n. N.Y., 1866.) Dr. Allen, of Lowell, Mass., comparing the number of children in families in New England now-a-days with the numbers in former times says that the Yankee race is likely to run out. What may be the probable causes of this disastrous result? He dare not answer it. He is a physician. The cause was not war, was not pestilence nor disease. It was easier to point out the cause than the remedy, but just now it was not opportune. If we wanted in the future to see what a Yankee was, we should have to catch one and enchain him.

New York, Jan. 31.—The *Herald's* Richmond correspondence says: the impeachment is regarded as a fixed fact among the people generally, although some allege that it will certainly lead to another disastrous revolution. Movements are on foot to establish Commissioners to be appointed by the Legislature whose duty it shall be to remain in Washington and bring before the Supreme Court all acts of Congress affecting the interests of the South in order that they may be pronounced unconstitutional. One of the most important cases yet presented to the Court of claims is that for two million dollars damages against the government for the seizure by the War Department in 1852 of a large tract of land in Washington territory since occupied as a military post, the land belonging to George W. Johnson.

It has been decided by the Superior Court of Boston that Jews may legally keep open their shops on the Christian Sabbath.

A HUMAN BATTLE.—It was testified to in the trial of Rev. Joel Lindsey, at Albany, for the murder of his son, that, according to his own confession, about nine o'clock on the night of the boy's death, Lindsey's wife (who was not the child's mother) went to correct the child for something it refused to do; she failed to make him mind, and asked him to do it. Lindsey said he commenced correcting him with a piece of a shingle; he whipped and talked to him alternately for two hours and a half; he reasoned with him and tried to make him mind; at the end of two and a half hours saw a change, stopped whipping him, laid him on a couch and called his wife; she came and said, 'Why, Johnny is dying!' He said he guessed not, and took him off the lounge, and he died in his arms. The post mortem examination of the body showed that in many parts of it were greatly discolored by the whipping, and that the sole of the child's feet had blisters the size of a quarter dollar, and that the blood run from his toes. The whole history of the case proved it one of the most atrocious on record, and that its author was in that and other respects a brutal fellow.

While seated at our desk yesterday morning a lady entered our room with two little Irish girls, one of whom had just found in the street a lady's pocket-book containing over twenty dollars in bills and papers, but no name to indicate the owner. It was left for advertising, if no one called during the day to inquire for it. In ten minutes afterward the lady owner who had missed her treasure called to advertise her loss, and was astonished to learn that the youthful finder had anticipated her. The pocket-book was duly restored with its contents, the lady leaving a guerdon to the little girl, whose name is Katy Magner, for her prompt honesty. Thus 'studies a good deed in a naughty world,' as Shakespeare truly says. —*Waterbury (Conn.) American Jan. 25*.

It is a curious fact, and one which demands serious and immediate attention that at the present time there is not a single new merchant ship or steamer building at any of the numerous shipyards of either New York, Brooklyn or Jersey City, and only two, it is said, in all the yards of the country; and, further, that there is no prospect of any being built until the present condition of affairs is altered. There are thousands of skilled shipwrights and other workmen connected with ship-building now out of employment, who have no present prospect of being able to get work. —*New York paper*.

Quite a number of take offs of the correspondence between Mr. Bennett, Jun., and the Duke of Edinburgh are going the rounds of the United States papers. The Boston *Advertiser* thinks it might have been condensed in this way:—

MR. BENNETT TO PRINCE ALFRED.  
OF COWES, Dec. 21, 1867.  
Your Royal Highness—I'm going to give you my yacht. My regards to your mother and the royal family.—Yours,  
J. G. BENNETT, JUN.

PRINCE ALFRED TO MR. BENNETT.  
Dear Sir—I must decline with thanks. This establishment does not advertise in the New York *Herald*.  
ALFRED.

STEFANS.—Mr. Donoghue has written the annexed statement in support of his former affidavit:—  
Brooklyn, Feb. 24, 1867.—Having seen in some of the New York journals statements going to contradict what I stated on oath, in reference to James Stephens being then at the house of Mr. Dwyer, No. 59 Second Place, Brooklyn, I now assert, as I did then, that, beyond doubt, on Saturday, the 28th of January, at or about half-past four o'clock p.m., I shook hands and spoke with James Stephens, known as the O.O.I.R., amongst Fenians; that I am a Fenian myself, and am now, and was then, positive of his identity. Miss Anna Dwyer's statement' statement to the contrary notwithstanding, and all others in the bargain; that said Stephens seemed very much surprised at my appearing before him, and slamming the door violently after me; that Mrs. Dwyer, as I believe, took me to be a friend of his (Stephens) and stated to me, in a confidential manner, that he was again 'disappointed' through some accident, as he was to have left at two o'clock that morning. She spoke in a tone of regret, stating also that she anticipated annoyance through him (Stephens) on the coming day, Sunday. This is all that occurred on the occasion, and is true in every particular. I felt that I had the right to seek him out, as I was one of the many of my countrymen whom he and his abettors had fled in the name of our unhappy country.

T. J. DONOGHUE.  
Daniel Webster, though he was in many respects a reckless individual, is justly regarded by Northern Americans as one of the ablest men their country has produced. Over twenty-five years ago he uttered this prediction:—

'If these infernal fanatics and abolitionists ever get the power in their hands, they will override the Constitution, set the Supreme Court at defiance, change and make laws to suit themselves, lay violent hands on those who differ with them in opinion and dare question their infallibility, and finally bankrupt the country and deluge it in blood.'

There is nothing wanted to fulfil this prediction to the letter except the bankruptcy of the country, and if Mr. McCulloch, the Secretary of the United States Treasury, is to be regarded as an authority, that is not very far distant.

Much to the same effect was the imprecation, not many years ago, of Mr. Thaddeus Stevens, who now rules the radical Congress for which he largely supplies brains and curses. A Hamilton contemporary calls it to remembrance. In one of those bursts of eagle oratory so peculiarly American, Mr. Stevens exclaimed: 'May he who would lay violent hands on the Constitution meet the same fate as he who of old stretched forth his impious hands to touch the Ark of the Covenant, and was struck unto death by the vengeance of the Almighty! Who is laying violent hands on the Constitution now? This same Mr. Thaddeus Stevens, backed by a fanatical and vindictive majority.

The prediction and the imprecation are strongly suggestive. —*Toronto Leader*.

THE FANATICS AND THE SUPREME COURT.—The decisions of the Supreme Court show us that we must henceforth count two of the three great equal powers of the Government against us. Henceforth Congress fights alone for the nation against the Supreme Court and the President, leagued in the service of rebellion. Of course, therefore, the contest grows keener and more equal, and the South takes courage. The North is not discouraged, because she knows her omnipotence, knows that she can crush all the mere forms of Government when it is necessary so to do in order to secure its great purpose—justice and the preservation of national existence. This the people mean to do, and will do, unless balked by timid, selfish, incompetent and corrupt leaders.

The action of the Supreme Court—its disloyalty—will not surprise Abolitionists.

An effort would have been made early in the war to remodel the Court, but for a general distrust of Mr. Lincoln's policy in filling vacancies there. Thaddeus Stevens, when appealed to in 1862 to neutralize the poison of that Bench by adding two or three trustworthy Judges, replied: 'Add Judges for Abraham to nominate.' I had rather risk the Court as it is. Events have confirmed his sagacity; two of Lincoln's nominees having joined the enemy.

If present appearances may be trusted, that Court, like the President, is henceforth to stand an insurmountable obstacle, as at present constituted, to any efficient and safe reconstruction. Thanks to the Dred Scott and other decisions, the Bench has long ago lost the sympathy and respect of the masses.

It will need but little effort to show the people the true course to be taken in this emergency. The nation must be saved, no matter what or how venerable the foe whose existence goes down before that necessity. The ideal of such a Court, aloof from all political ambition, far above all party spirit, unimpassioned as justice, was a grand conception. Such Court would have been an invaluable element in our system. Until within some twenty years, the masses have regarded it as a Bench basing its decisions on definite, unvarying and easily-understood principles. Of late it is seen to be what it is, a mere appendage to party. Appointed for life, its Judges must, of course, often find themselves appurtenant, by their prejudices and associations, to a defeated party—Such is their present position; and, like all fragments and elements of the old, delusory Democratic Party, its fate is certain. The moment there arises in the Republican ranks a man bold enough to strike, the people will applaud the blow. There will be the same outcry and the same resistance from the same quarters as there was when Anti-Slavery first demanded that the nation should mould its form or its spirit. The outcry and resistance will be just as vain in this case as in that. The instincts of the masses, the consciences of just men, the spirit of the age and God's law all demand that the inspiration and corner-stone of this Government shall be justice. The Constitution, with its time-honoured compromises held up by the strongest of parties, was dust in the balance against such a current. This Court will prove the same. The dry rot of its political subservience has made it an empty form. The wind of the blow that demolished Slavery were enough to scatter this obstacle from our path.

WENDELL PHILLIPS.  
Anti-Slavery Standard, Jan. 19.

THE TRINITY OF LIGHT.—In light we have a most remarkable illustration of the doctrine of the Holy Trinity, which is an article of faith with many, of doubt with some, and of disbelief with others; but if we can prove by ocular demonstration that there exists in nature a trinity in unity and an unity in trinity quite as marvellous, it ought to conform to the faithful, convince the doubtful, and overthrow the sophistry of the unbeliever. An investigation into the laws and properties of light will enable us to do so. Light is easily separated into its component colours, by transmitting it through a glass prism, where it is resolved into red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet, which constitute, when combined, white or ordinary light. This band of colours are called the prismatic spectrum. Now it will be perceived that red, yellow and blue are its primary or essential colours; the others being merely produced by the admixture or overlapping of two adjoining primary colours; thus, orange is found between the red and yellow, green between the yellow and blue; so that, in fact, we have only the three primary colours to deal with, each of which has its peculiar properties and attributes distinct from the others; thus, the red is the calorific or heating principle; the yellow is the luminous or light-giving principle; while it is in the blue ray that the power of actinism, or chemical action, is found. Now it is this trinity of red, yellow, and blue which constitutes, when combined, the unity of ordinary or combined light. When separated, this unity of light is divided into the trinity of colours. Although one and the same, neither can exist without the other; the three are one, the one is three. Thus we have, unity in trinity, and a trinity in unity, exemplified in light itself, and 'God is light.' Plants will live and grow luxuriantly under the influence of the red and yellow rays; but, however promising the appearance, the blossoms die, and no fruit can be produced without the enlivening power of the blue rays. When this invisible action is wanting, the trinity in unity is incomplete; life is unproductive until the three, united in one, bring all things to perfection. Thus each member of the trinity in unity of light has its special duty to perform, and is in constant operation, visibly or invisibly, although only one power.

Thus there is in light an invisible agency always in action; and the more the subject is investigated, the more striking is the illustration between the Spirit of God made manifest, and the wonderful properties of light which have been gradually unfolded by the researches of man.

There is nothing wanted to fulfil this prediction to the letter except the bankruptcy of the country, and if Mr. McCulloch, the Secretary of the United States Treasury, is to be regarded as an authority, that is not very far distant.

Much to the same effect was the imprecation, not many years ago, of Mr. Thaddeus Stevens, who now rules the radical Congress for which he largely supplies brains and curses. A Hamilton contemporary calls it to remembrance. In one of those bursts of eagle oratory so peculiarly American, Mr. Stevens exclaimed: 'May he who would lay violent hands on the Constitution meet the same fate as he who of old stretched forth his impious hands to touch the Ark of the Covenant, and was struck unto death by the vengeance of the Almighty! Who is laying violent hands on the Constitution now? This same Mr. Thaddeus Stevens, backed by a fanatical and vindictive majority.

The prediction and the imprecation are strongly suggestive. —*Toronto Leader*.

THE FANATICS AND THE SUPREME COURT.—The decisions of the Supreme Court show us that we must henceforth count two of the three great equal powers of the Government against us. Henceforth Congress fights alone for the nation against the Supreme Court and the President, leagued in the service of rebellion. Of course, therefore, the contest grows keener and more equal, and the South takes courage. The North is not discouraged, because she knows her omnipotence, knows that she can crush all the mere forms of Government when it is necessary so to do in order to secure its great purpose—justice and the preservation of national existence. This the people mean to do, and will do, unless balked by timid, selfish, incompetent and corrupt leaders.

The action of the Supreme Court—its disloyalty—will not surprise Abolitionists.

An effort would have been made early in the war to remodel the Court, but for a general distrust of Mr. Lincoln's policy in filling vacancies there. Thaddeus Stevens, when appealed to in 1862 to neutralize the poison of that Bench by adding two or three trustworthy Judges, replied: 'Add Judges for Abraham to nominate.' I had rather risk the Court as it is. Events have confirmed his sagacity; two of Lincoln's nominees having joined the enemy.

If present appearances may be trusted, that Court, like the President, is henceforth to stand an insurmountable obstacle, as at present constituted, to any efficient and safe reconstruction. Thanks to the Dred Scott and other decisions, the Bench has long ago lost the sympathy and respect of the masses.

It will need but little effort to show the people the true course to be taken in this emergency. The nation must be saved, no matter what or how venerable the foe whose existence goes down before that necessity. The ideal of such a Court, aloof from all political ambition, far above all party spirit, unimpassioned as justice, was a grand conception. Such Court would have been an invaluable element in our system. Until within some twenty years, the masses have regarded it as a Bench basing its decisions on definite, unvarying and easily-understood principles. Of late it is seen to be what it is, a mere appendage to party. Appointed for life, its Judges must, of course, often find themselves appurtenant, by their prejudices and associations, to a defeated party—Such is their present position; and, like all fragments and elements of the old, delusory Democratic Party, its fate is certain. The moment there arises in the Republican ranks a man bold enough to strike, the people will applaud the blow. There will be the same outcry and the same resistance from the same quarters as there was when Anti-Slavery first demanded that the nation should mould its form or its spirit. The outcry and resistance will be just as vain in this case as in that. The instincts of the masses, the consciences of just men, the spirit of the age and God's law all demand that the inspiration and corner-stone of this Government shall be justice. The Constitution, with its time-honoured compromises held up by the strongest of parties, was dust in the balance against such