

BISHOP JULIUS.—We (Weekly Register) have more than once noticed the person who is pleased to call himself Julius, Bishop of Iona. We may remind our readers of his history. He is a French Priest, and was a member of the Dominican Order. For some reasons, which we doubt not the French Dominicans could explain, he left them and joined the American Presbyterian Missionaries in Syria. There he says that he was consecrated a bishop by a bishop of the heretical Jacobite sect, by whom (or by himself) he was appointed Bishop of Iona, in Scotland, and has come to England to found a new Church. Last week there appeared in the Guardian a statement 'on the best authority' that of the 'Bishop' himself, to the effect that 'Julius, Metropolitan of the World, who is Peter the Humble, otherwise styled 'Metropolitan of the Sea of the Syrians,' and 'the Most Reverend Julius, Archbishop of the East,' (the Orthodox Syrian) and Metropolitan of Syria, resident in Homs (Hemes), has thought good to direct his attention to the state of the English Church; and he makes it known that on the 2nd of June, 1866, in the divinely preserved city of Hemes, the servant of God the Presbyter Julius Ferret has been ordained Bishop by the imposition of our hands, and has been appointed, to the island of Iona and its dependencies.' The authenticity of the document which certifies this and which purports to be in the hand-writing and under the seal of the Metropolitan, is said to be guaranteed by the attestation of the British Consul at Damascus, on the 2nd of July following. On this point, however (says the Guardian) we commend our readers to a letter published in another column from Mr. Pellet, the Secretary of the Eastern Church Association, who is authorised by the Rev. George Williams, of King's who was at Hemes only last September, to deny that there is any such Metropolitan of the World in existence there. The Ritualists and Unionists have been at loggerheads among themselves about him. Mr. Lee, editor of the Union Review, acknowledges him, and inserted in that review a letter from him setting forth his claims and views. Mr. Skinner refuses to admit his pretended consecration. One of the difficulties of his case is, that the Oriental Jacobites deny the validity of consecration by a single bishop, and it seems he does not pretend to have been consecrated by more. His last appearance is described as follows by the Pall Mall Gazette:—'Bishop Julius,' of Iona, the Jacobite Ecclesiastic who has come to this country to promote the unity of Christendom, met a number of clergymen and laymen interested in that object the night before last at the British Hotel, in Cockspur street. He laid before them his letters of orders, but declined positively to say whether he had been consecrated by three bishops, as the Greek Church requires. Nevertheless so well satisfied was one clergyman (the report does not give his name) with the credentials produced that he declared the Eastern prelate's orders were more satisfactory than those of the Archbishop of Canterbury. In the course of a speech in reply to some questions put to him, the Bishop said that it was his intention to found a Church, in the hope that it might be the means, sooner or later, of opening a channel for the healing of ancient wounds, or the closing of long existing divisions. He had prepared a Liturgy which, while admitting no essential truth, was yet free from unnecessary elements of discord; a Liturgy which both the Greek Church and the Bible Missionary Society would be able to adopt. He did not suppose that his Church would ever be a large one; but it would be a safe thing for the Church of England to have by her side a little community friendly to it, and able to give it as needed orders of undoubted apostolical succession. He would be prepared to confirm the orders of any priest in the English Church who applied to him, and this without requiring him to leave the Anglican community. As he had said, his hope was to found a little community side by side with the English Church, which would possess within itself orders of undoubted apostolical succession (like the communion of Jansenists in Utrecht, to which the Church of England would be able to resort for validating and receiving undoubted her own orders in the hour of need). How must a man, with the education of a French priest, laugh in his sleeve at the absurdity of people who swallow all this nonsense about a new Church. In fact, the only sensible thing that seems to have been said at all was by the anonymous clergyman, who thought the orders of the Eastern heretic more satisfactory than those of the Archbishop of Canterbury. Whether the Frenchman ever was consecrated Bishop or not is very doubtful. But, at least, he is certainly a priest, while it is almost as certain that Dr. Longley is not.

CUMING AGAIN; AND YET AGAIN.—Dr. Cuming is not extinguished after all; and his teaching appears to have produced a somewhat novel effect. According to the London Review, 'prophesying seers' have taken the place of religious tea-parties. A chapter from Daniel on the Revelation of St. John is read, and each person present gives his opinion as to the meaning. To such lengths are these proceedings carried that one of the initiated—a Captain Barker—fires the day and hour of certain events. Thus, the Translation of the Saints is to take place on the 25th January, 1867, at one p.m., while the second coming of our Lord is to be at sunset on the 20th September, 1873. The Pall Mall Gazette says, as Dr. Cuming persists that he never fixed any specific period for the end of the world, those who are interested in the matter—if anybody is interested—may like to read the testimony of the author of 'The End of All Things,' who is known to be a brother Scotchman, Mr. James Grant, of the Morning Advertiser. This gentleman declares that he himself heard Dr. Cuming say what he now denies. Dr. Cuming, with his great variety of information and fascinating style, would have done much more to advance the Millennium cause, but for certain injudicious statements he has, on various occasions, made. To give only one example, I myself heard him, as far back as twenty years ago, affirm as a matter of fact—not advance as a matter of opinion—that in four years, possibly in a shorter time than that, the world would come to an end, in the literal acceptance of the words. This was stated on a Sunday morning in Exeter-hall, not in my hearing only, but in the presence of about 5,000 people, among whom, as may well be imagined, the absolute, unconditional assertion produced no ordinary excitement.

THINGS HAVE CHANGED.—Just about one hundred years ago 'the great Dr. Dodd' was hung at Tyburn, for forging the name of his pupil—Lord Ochesterfield—to a bond for 4,700l., although he made immediate restitution of the money. At the same time, on the same scaffold, was hung a young man by the name of Harris, who, by some trick in metallurgy, had committed a fraud to the extent of 24, 10s. About the same epoch a young woman was hung, with her infant at her breast, for attempting to steal a piece of cloth, which she took up from the counter of a shopkeeper, but, from fear of detection, put it immediately down again. To-day, we see City swells rolling in carriages, who have deliberately, and without the excuse of want, swindled widows and orphans out of millions, reducing thousands from affluence to beggary. And the only punishment they get is to be pilloried in Punch. Surely times have changed, and the present is the golden age for swindlers.

By a parliamentary paper recently issued in England we learn that the passage from Liverpool to New York by the Cunard steamers occupies 12 days 11 hours, at an average speed of 10.58 knots per hour. The homeward passage is usually performed in 11.40 knots. In the year 1861 the Persia made seven voyages out and home at an average speed respectively of 18.15 and 12.91 knots per hour, thus performing the journey in little over ten days each way. The Cunard mail ships between Liverpool and Boston attain a less rate of speed, of 9.77 knots per hour on the outward, and 11 days, at the rate of 10.3 knots, on the home-ward passage.

A FENIAN RIOT IN THE COUNTY OF DURHAM.—About midnight, on Saturday, a horseman dashed through the streets of West Hartlepool, at an alarming rate, and pulled up at the police station. His errand was to inform the police that there was a riot with Fenians at Seaton Carew, a small and fashionable watering-place, about two miles from West Hartlepool. He stated that about 30 Irishmen, who boasted of being Fenians, had taken possession of the Seven Stars public-house, Seaton, and were helping themselves from the casks in the cellar.—They had also gone to the hotel and demanded a supply of refreshments there. They were armed with pikes and other formidable looking weapons. The only policeman there was in the village, named Baines, had been called out, and he, with several of the inhabitants, had endeavored all they could to persuade the Irishmen to leave the house. On their interference a regular riot took place. The village was thrown into the greatest state of alarm, and during the melee policeman Baines managed to secure one of the pikes which the men were armed with. An ex-policeman named Oliver also knocked one out of another man's hand and secured it. A Coast-guard man, who was assisting the police, was wounded, but not seriously, and a man named Dobing had his face cut. Several others were more or less injured, but the principal injuries were said to be received amongst the so-called Fenians themselves, inasmuch as they were the worse for drink, and in the dark were fighting 'promiscuously.' The shouts and cries and yells of those engaged in the combat were most alarming. The inhabitants generally, instead of force, used 'moral suasion,' and the rioters cooled down and decamped. When the West Hartlepool police were informed of the affair, the superintendent, sergeant, and nine officers, all armed, went off in conveyances, but on their arrival at Seaton the rioters had dispersed. The force remained for some hours at the inn where the disturbance first commenced. Some of the principals in the riot can be identified, and they all belong to West Hartlepool. At day-break Superintendent Davidson found another pike near to the scene of the riot. The three pikes are at the West Hartlepool police station, and are most formidable looking weapons—being nine feet long, and headed by a cast steel spike a foot in length, graduating from an inch square to a sharp point. The inhabitants of West Hartlepool are naturally alarmed at having Fenianism in their midst, and more so from the fact that nearly one-third of the population is Irish. We may add that although this 'rising' was certainly more pot-valiant than political, there can be no doubt that in the North there is plenty of sympathy for Fenianism. We happen to know that during the past few days Irishmen have thrown up their employment, and left this district for Ireland, with the avowed object of taking part in the threatened outbreak.—Northern Daily Express.

REMOVED FROM THE CABINET.—The Herald refers to the rumour in a Liberal paper that there have been differences in the Cabinet. It is a little surprising to find that men who, according to the report in which all the journals concur, were present on the occasion of the dispute in question, are wholly unaware that any Reform scheme has been laid before the Cabinet, and Cabinet Ministers first learnt the resignation of Mr. Disraeli, and the existence of grave misunderstandings among his colleagues, from the columns of Tuesday's papers. The Herald believes the whole story arose out of two very simple facts—the recent frequency of Cabinet Councils, and the absence of Mr. Disraeli from one of them. The Herald questions whether a Reform Bill has been discussed among them. Among the many Cabinet Councils held some must have been occupied with purely formal or merely trivial business and from one of these Mr. Disraeli could without difficulty absent himself, whether from need of a brief rest or from motives of simple convenience.

The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol preached in Bristol Cathedral on Sunday upon the Second Advent, and administered a severe rebuke to those divines who, like Dr. Cumming, pretend to foretell the end of the world. Dr. Elliott expressed his opinion that much of the latent disbelief which he feared now existed as to the reality of the Lord's literal and visible advent was to be attributed to a coarse and over-bold curiosity, that had not hesitated to speculate, and to record its speculation with a circumstantiality of detail that belonged rather to the annals of current history than to the issues of a mysterious and silently unfolding future. No doubt the advance of so-called scientific views, the increasing repugnance to the definitely revealed, the deepening disbelief in the supernatural, the evident bias to what are now called uniformitarian theories, were all influences consciously or unconsciously tending greatly to cloud this holiest hope of Christian life; and to those much of the latent doubt on the subject might be fairly attributed. But it must also not be disguised that the coarse and material statements with which of late they had been sadly too familiar had had a very disastrous share in bringing about a revulsion that had often ended in plain doubt and denial of the literal nature and reality of the Lord's second coming. Man might never presume (the Bishop proceeded) to specify the 'when,' but the general signs of that 'when' might ever be observed with the deepest spiritual profit. Surely they might observe them with profit now, as they saw and marked all that was around them—nations rising against nations, mysteriously coming pestilences, silently increasing unrest, runnings to and fro, increased knowledge, consciously felt anxiety as to their general and national future, and, most serious sign of all, a plainly and steadily deepening disbelief in the supernatural—they might well muse with solemn earnestness on the declaration which had formed the text to those grave thoughts, 'The light is far spent.' While speaking to them on such a subject, he could not have unnoticed that further sign which seemed to many a meditative Christian so full of mystery—the increasing feeling, often not expressed in words, sometimes not even shaped into definite thoughts, but still the increasing, deepening, inexpressible feeling shared in now by thousands of faithful men and women—that their redemption was verily drawing nigh.

The Glowworm says:—Lord Straithairn is of opinion that, so long as an adequate force is kept in Ireland, the Fenians will not proceed to extremities, but in the event of the removal of the troops, that an immediate outbreak would take place.

M. LOUIS VEUILLOT.—The Pall Mall Gazette has the following:—M. Louis Veillot, the famous Ultramontane writer, no longer reduced to enforced silence in Paris, is about, we understand, to express his views as to the present religious and political state of France, and on the relations of the Emperor with the Papacy, in the pages of the Westminster Gazette; under which title one of the Catholic journals lately noticed by us is about to be published in London.

The London Court Journal announces that the Imperial Parliament will open on the 4th February.

UNITED STATES.

LECTURE BY CAPT. SEMMES, LATE COMMANDER OF CONFEDERATE WAR STEAMER 'ALABAMA.'—Fellow-Citizens—As you have been told by my friend, I have been invited to deliver one of a course of lectures. It is to be put on record some facts regarding the Alabama that I speak to-night. I propose to show to you that she was not a pirate, a privateer or a buccaner, but the recognised ship, wearing the colors of a state, by the laws of nations. On the land an enemy might overrun a country without destroying private property. Destroying private property on land is forbidden. Not so on the sea. The destruction of commerce in ancient times was a slow process. The war between the Confederate and the United States was the first between maritime powers since the introduction of steam. The Alabama had

warrant for what she did both in the laws of nations and of the United States. She was built abroad.—The United States have made the British origin of the Alabama a constant source of complaint. She was built by the Lairds. The United States government endeavored to contract with this same firm to build ships for them. (Mr. Semmes here read extracts from Mr. Lord's speech in the House of Commons, already published and well known.) From this speech it appears that before they undertook to build the Alabama, the United States Government had been in treaty with the Messrs. Laird to build gunboats and monitors. We offered better terms—hence the Alabama became a Confederate ship instead of a federal vessel. She left England as a merchant vessel. Her Confederate commission was read, and her proper flag unfurled on the high seas, where the Confederate had as much authority as the Federal Government. It is the commission a sovereign puts on board a vessel that makes her a personification of the sovereign. Even if a ship be built in a neutral territory she is purged of that wrong as soon as she is commissioned. If the Alabama was built in violation of the Neutrality Law, that was a question between the United States and England. From the moment the confederates were recognised as belligerents they had a full right to make war in every particular. The United States acknowledged this in the first months of the war.—In support of this proposition the speaker quoted 'Vattel, third book,' and argued that if the United States could buy ships the Confederate States could do the same. The speaker then quoted Justice Grier's decision in the prize cases, reported in 'Seaside Black Reports,' laying great stress on the passage, 'It is not necessary that the state should be recognised.' Mr. Semmes entered largely into the history of the South American States, claiming that their cruisers captured prizes and carried them into American ports. In illustration of the fact that the Confederate States were recognised and entitled to all the sovereign rights of war. Generals Grant and Sherman treated Generals Lee and Johnson as generals of an army. Allusion was here made to the circumstances of the speaker's parole, and to the fact that he was described both as an admiral and general. Johnson and Sherman treated with one another as equals. We laid down our arms in consideration that the safety of our persons should be guaranteed. When General Grant wrote his letter to General Lee he recognised us as soldiers under a de facto government. The speaker here drew a parallel between the revolution and the Confederate States. If what the Colonies did was right when they did it, what the Confederate States did was right when they did it. The acknowledgment of American independence by England made no difference, because whatever rights they had, they received because of their Governments de facto and not de jure. The speaker here quoted from Fenimore Cooper's Naval History the exploits of Paul Jones and other American privateers, asserted that the colonial privateers destroyed their prizes at sea, and arguing that they had less warrant than he had.—The whole coast was blockaded, and the burning of prizes was a necessity that he could not avoid. The colonies, less than a century ago, did those very things which they now charge on us as crimes.—Passing to the commissioners appointed by the colonies—Silas Dean, Dr. Franklin, and John Adams—the speaker drew a parallel between them and Messrs. Slidell and Mason. The career of the Surprise, Captain Cunningham, a colonial cruiser, was then quoted as a precedent of the Alabama. Chas. Francis Adams complained that the Confederate States had commissioners in England, carrying on a naval bureau. The Colonial Commissioners had a naval bureau in France. In this manner were the Revenge, Reprisal, Lexington and Dolphin obtained. But it has been charged that the Alabama had for-signers on board—asserting that this was no valid objection, since Paul Jones had a motley crew on board the Bon Homme Richard, the speaker concluded thus:—'The Alabama was not a new construction, save that she was a steam vessel. Dr. Franklin and his companions constructed and manned a good many Alabamas in their day. What our sires did their sons may do. In other generations the history of the North will be the history of the South. By the philosophy of history I am willing to be judged. If the philosophy of history embalm the struggles of the Confederate States. If it records approvingly the exploits of the Surprise and Revenge, so will it record the exploits of the Alabama.'

THE FENIANS CLOSING UP.—It is evident from the lull in the Fenian excitement that the Fenians are closing up, not in order of battle, but in business. For some time past the news from Europe has contained nothing but indefinite rumors concerning the expected insurrection in Ireland, and they do not point to action. More arrests of Fenian leaders, seizures of Fenian depots of arms, increased vigilance of the Government authorities, more troops for Ireland, and so forth, form the burden of the news; but no word of armed insurrection. There are many who believe that there is no intention of an outbreak on the part of the leaders, and a great many who think that Stephens, the head of the 'head centres,' whose whereabouts in Europe has been variously stated, is, in fact, still in this country, and that, having obtained all the money he wanted, is neither going to fight in Ireland nor to disburse the funds for any more revolutionary purpose than changing his nomadic life into one of quiet comfort in a nice brown stone house of his own. Certain it is that the year which he so repeatedly promised was to see Ireland in arms has but a few days longer of life, and not a hostile gun has been fired on that soil.

As for the Congress movements in this country, since it became a public question it never was much more than a noisy mystery and money-gathering operation. We have been treated to mock republics, senates, houses of representatives, bombastic proclamations by 'presidents,' and all the other paraphernalia which could make a cause ridiculous, by a few selfish men, laboring for their own ends, and with the exception of one or two, not possessing a spark of patriotism. We do not regret to observe, then, that with the close of the year the Fenian business is likely to be closed up, for the sake of the poor Irish laborers and chambermaids, who, we trust, will in future keep their little earnings for their own use, instead of giving them to rapacious head centres, 'presidents' and other vampires.—N. Y. Herald.

HELPS FOR CONGRESS.—The following article, taken from the Round Table, shows how some of the extra pay (\$2,000) voted to themselves, by our members of Congress, is likely to be expended.—We have received a letter from a high quarter in Washington which states that arrangements are progressing of a very complete character, to provide for the amusement of Congress during its approaching session, in a manner which must be immensely gratifying to constituents and flattering to the pride of the country at large. These arrangements are for the equipment and establishment of gambling halls, with large capital, and upon a scale of unprecedented splendor, so as to afford those legislators who are most successful in plucking the country the finest opportunity to be plucked in their turn.

THE YANKEE PURITANS.—They sold the negroes to the South, having a monopoly in the slave trade, and finding the South had prospered, envied them, and commenced a hypocritical crusade to deprive them of the property they had sold them. Such is Puritan honesty and justice. Their social system is based, as they claim, on education; schools are instituted ostensibly of teachers, preachers, missionaries, &c., not to convert the unenlightened heathen, but the preachers to collect in South and West the spare dime, and the poor widows mite for a mission to Rhama-poo-to-yoncoo, Sandwich Islands; and for

these laudable purposes millions have been contributed and are now annually contributed, to find their way into the pocket of some sounding Yankee.—Like the gambler, they have studied their profession, and know all its tricks. During the embargo and non intercourse of Mr. Jefferson, Virginia was flooded with Yankee pedlars with a capital of from five hundred to one thousand dollars. They made it pay by a general system of swindling, and a little rough strategy. It became such a nuisance the Legislature passed a law making peddling license one thousand dollars. This rid the country of the pests. The wooden nutmeg story is often considered a myth. Not so at that time. The price of everything was enormous. Nutmegs retailed at seventy five cents each. These are a few of the operations of his prolific brain. The late war gave him a wide field for his operations and report says he has not neglected his opportunity.—They have generally stole themselves rich—we might suppose they had become above such tricks, and could afford to be generous: but not so. The leopard cannot change his spots, and the Yankee must keep his hand in, as it has become a second nature. Some are enemies from long ill treatment, but the Yankee for revenge ill treats you. Like Butler, many have stole themselves rich, and now look with hatred on their victims. They are spread over the world seeking whom they may devour. Let them be where they may, they exhibit their characteristic Puritan principles. They never affiliate with the country or society they live in, and have no friends but of their order now among the people where they make their money.

All have some knowledge of their swindling manufactures, such as pewter gimblets, nutmegs, artificial pickles, wooden hams, sausages of flannel, and Irish potatoes. Nearly all their manufactures were cheap. Who can say this is exaggerated?—Missouri Watchman.

MORMONISM IS MAINLY, if not exclusively composed of converts from Protestantism. The writer in the Galaxy evidently thinks that the feature of polygamy should not cause the Methodists to disown their offspring, or disavow their own posterity. Polygamy among Mormons is simultaneous, among Protestants, who allow divorce, it is successive—a little difference, not worth the mentioning.

WHEN THE MORMONS COME FROM.—A Mormon Elder, in a long and well-written article in the Galaxy for October 15, clearly announces as follows the source of the Mormon body:

The Mormons are Wesleyans. We differ very little, excepting in a few peculiarities—such as polygamy—from the ancient Wesleyans. Most of us are from that body—from Wesleyan parents, Sunday schools and churches. The writers grandfather was an early Methodist, and a member of the connection fifty-two years. Thus it is with many more of our body, many of whom have been Wesleyan local preachers. Brigham Young and his brothers were Methodists, and in spite of our few outward differences, there are no people so much like John Wesley and his followers in spirit, faith and missionary energy, and almost every other distinctive feature, as the Mormons. It is true, we are Baptists, but it is Wesleyan Baptists.

It is notorious that purity of election is not always attained under the American system. The ballot box can be 'stuffed,' and the inspectors are not alone acting in the interest of party. At Baltimore the judges of the late election are accused of acting with gross partiality. A despatch to the Philadelphia Evening Telegraph says that the Grand Jury in session at Baltimore has indicted several judges of the recent election for violation of the election law refusing voters whom they considered rebel, and also for destroying ballots received from supposed conservators and putting radical votes in the ballot-box in their places.

DECLINED.—'President' Roberts having published an 'appeal' to his friends of Fenianism in New York to provide means to furnish a Christmas dinner for the prisoners in Toronto, Colonel Bloss Lynch, at the request of his fellow-prisoners, and with the endorsement of the Rev. Mr. McMahon, has written a letter to the Fenian Brotherhood declining the proffered 'feed.' He says:—'This appeal might, with propriety, be made for paupers and convicts on Blackwell's Island, or some institution of the kind, but it is a gross insult to the Irishmen held as political prisoners in Canada. Never having received any aid or assistance from the Fenian headquarters during their long confinement in the Toronto jail, they consider this last appeal of President Roberts as adding insult to injury. They earnestly entreat their friends not now to outrage their feelings, and that they may be spared this cruel humiliation.'

THE GAMBLING MANIA.—The insidious crime of gambling is spreading itself, like a blight, throughout nearly all classes of society with alarming rapidity. It is not to be wondered at that the vice has become so common in view of its strong hold in high places. Rumor told us, two or three days since, that an ex-Congressman had won \$140,000 from a Congressman elect. Spacious and elegant saloons for gambling have been fitted up in Washington, wherein the law makers of the country may enjoy their hours of recreation. The descent made last week on the lottery and policy dealers of this city involved some persons holding high positions in society. The more recent raid on a professional gambling house on Broadway resulted in the capture of a recent candidate for Alderman, besides many others of good standing in the public estimation. The vice is not only popular, but fashionable sins are of all others the most difficult to remedy. But gambling proper, with cards or dice is only one form of this dangerous moral disease. The principle of gambling has come to be associated with almost everything in which the public are expected to take an interest. An ocean yacht race is very well and very innocent in itself, but the fact that \$90,000 depends upon it renders it simply a piece of attractive gambling. Horse racing has a universal popularity, but a large share of its zest is due to the gambling and betting always attached to it. Not even a billiard match or a game at base ball can be played now-a-days without a bet of a thousand dollars or so to spur on the contestants; and so these games become an excuse for pure and simple gambling. The public taste thus becomes morbid and vitiated. The desire to gain by gambling grows after the first indulgence, and becomes ruinous to all mental and moral discipline. It causes an impatience of all wholesome industry, and is subversive of the best qualities and the highest aspirations. Yet this gigantic evil is spreading surely, and if unchecked and unrestrained by public opinion, the state of our national morality will soon become terrible to contemplate.—N. Y. Sun.

Last week, a brief item chronicling the sale of the Steele Farm, on Oil Creek, for taxes due the Government, started on its voyage on the sea of newspaperdom. The paragraph will doubtless be read by many without a second thought; but those few lines might easily form the text for a discourse as lengthy as the moral law. It is hardly an exaggeration to state that wherever petroleum is known, the name of 'Johnny Steele,' the young prince of Venango county, has been heard, while the accounts of his apparently boundless wealth and reckless expenditures, were told in hundreds of papers, from the New York Herald down or up. Soon after the sale of the farm, the closing act, a brief history of the same may not be entirely without interest, which the Crawford Journal thus narrates—

This farm, more generally known 'on the creek,' as the widow McClintock farm, is immediately opposite the flourishing little town of Roseville, and was among the first of the oil producing farms of the valley. Early in 1864, the Van Slyke well on this farm was struck, and flowed for some time at the rate of 2,500 barrels per day, and several wells yielding from 200 to 800 barrels were struck at subsequent periods. Besides these, there were many smaller wells, and the territory, though badly managed, is still regarded as among the best in the oil region. In 1864 widow

McClintock died from the effects of burns received while kindling a fire with crude oil. At this time the average daily income from the landed interest of the farm was \$2,000, and, by her will, the property, with all her possessions in money, was left to her adopted son, John W. Steele, then about twenty years of age. In the iron safe was \$150,000, two thirds of the amount in greenbacks and the balance in gold. Mrs. McClintock was hardly laid in her coffin before young Steele, who appears to have had nothing naturally vicious in his composition, was surrounded by a set of ruffians, who clung to him as long as he had a dollar remaining. The young millionaire's head was evidently turned by his good fortune, as had been that of many an older man who made his 'pile on oil,' and he was of the impression that his money would accumulate too rapidly unless it was actually thrown away, and throw it away he did. Many of the stories concerning his career in New York and Philadelphia, favor of fiction, and would not be credited were they not so well authenticated. Wine, women, horses, faro and general debauchery, soon made a wreck of that princely fortune, and in twenty months Johnny Steele squandered two millions of dollars. Hon. John Morrissey, M. C., went through him at faro to the amount of \$100,000 in two nights; he bought high priced turnouts, and after driving them an hour or two, gave them away; equipped a large minstrel troupe and presented each member with a diamond pin and ring, and kept about him besides two or three men who were robbing him day after day. He is now filling the honorable position of doorkeeper for Skill & Gaylord's manufactory, the company he organized, and is, to use a very expressive but not strictly classical phrase, completely 'played out.'

The wealth obtained by those who worked so assiduously to effect Steele's ruin, gave little permanent benefit to its possessors. The person most brazen and chiefly instrumental in bringing about the present condition of affairs, was the notorious Seth Slocum, who hung around this city several weeks last summer. He was worth at one time over \$100,000, which he had 'captured' from Steele and laid aside for a rainy day, but when the latter's money vanished, this amount soon took into itself wings, and he is at present known among his old associates as a 'dead beat.' At last accounts, Slocum was incarcerated in the goal of a neighbouring county for various breaches of the peace, and was unable to obtain bail in the sum of \$500. Exemplifications these of the old adage, 'easy come, easy go,' or the other 'fools and their money are soon parted.'

A Sheriff on taking possession of a canal boat lying directly under the bows of the Cunard steamship Scotia, lying at her pier in Jersey City on Tuesday last, discovered stowed away in the hold of the boat one hundred and twenty-five kegs of gunpowder, enough to have blown up the steamer and all the buildings in the neighbourhood. The ownership of the powder or what particular purpose it was designed to subserve remain a mystery, though persons of Fenian proclivities are quite certain that it was intended to destroy the British steamer.

There is a volume of truth in the following which we find in the Boston Commercial:—'That class of persons called by courtesy clergymen, but who are neither more nor less than politicians using the pulpit for a stump have been particularly foul-mouthed in their allusions to the President. Outside of the Catholic and Episcopal Churches the clerical profession may be said to have ceased to exist in this country, the clergyman having merged himself into the politician. No wonder that the profession is at a low ebb, and attracts but a few young men of ability into the rank.'

There are some honorable exceptions in other denominations than those named above, but they are few and far between.—Dayton Empire.

The continued dullness of trade, the general decline in prices, and the curtailment of manufacturing are beginning to have a depressing influence upon the standard of wages. Merchants, manufacturers, and other employers are discouraged by the business prospect, and, as usual each such circumstance, they are inclined to seek for relief in a reduction of wages. This disposition is strengthened, too, by a belief, or perhaps rather a fear, that stormy times in the financial world are not far ahead.—N. Y. Sun.

BUFFALO, Dec. 24.—The Express says:—The special despatch to the Express on Saturday morning was read with great interest by Fenians here, and the letter of Col. Lynch and Father McMahon has created much indignation. Col. Lynch is denounced as a poltroon, who ran away at the first sound of the bugle, and was captured while drunk. The regret of Col. Roberts that Lynch is not to be hanged finds a ready echo on all sides in Fenian circles. The feeling against Lynch is intense.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26th.—The Government is said to be in possession of advice which are regarded as entirely satisfactory with reference to the claims of this country against England for depredations committed by the Confederate privateer. These claims, there is every reason to believe, will be fully recognized by the British Cabinet, while our own Cabinet will in turn recognize those of England against this country. A case is soon to be made before the Supreme Court of the United States, which will involve the question whether Alabama is a state in the Federal Union or what her present Statute is if she is not a State.

ALBANY, Dec. 28.—The storm of yesterday and last night was the most severe since 1835. Snow fell to the depth of 20 inches and drifts in some places are 8 and 10 feet deep. Gale continues this morning. Railroad communication is entirely suspended.

VICKSBURG, Miss., 27th.—The steamer 'Fashion' was burned this evening about twelve miles above Baton Rouge. Twenty lives were lost. The cargo, 2,000 bales of cotton is a total loss.

TROY, Dec. 28th.—The severest snow storm since 1836 occurred last night. About 2 feet of snow has fallen and no railroad train has reached this city or left since yesterday at 4 p.m. The storm still continues and the weather is intensely cold.

WASHINGTON, 28th.—Advises received last evening from a number of prominent politicians of the South are unanimous in stating that it is the fixed determination of the Southern States to continue in their present passive political condition, rejecting not only the constitutional amendments of last session of Congress, but also all other amendments that would deprive them of or deny them their rights as members of the Union.

To show the wonderful rapidity with which Texas is settling we quote from one of our exchanges the following description of Sherman, a town judging from its name which has evidently sprung up since the war: 'Sherman can boast of as good a site as any town in Northern Texas. It is situated near the centre of Grayson county, and in the richest portion of the state. It contains as many, or more business houses than any town of its size in the state; ten dry goods houses, one large church, one hotel, one boarding-house, one restaurant, three groceries, four blacksmith shops, four wood shops, and the finest brick buildings in Northern Texas.'

Mining on the Pacific Coast.—We learn from the San Francisco Mercantile Gazette that the mining interests upon the Pacific coast have never been in a more hopeful condition than now. The yield of the placers has quite equalled the average of former years. To this result the heavy spring rains have contributed in no slight degree. An important improvement has been introduced into the system of artificial water supply, in the employment of iron pipes; and this is but one instance of the 'gradual' but constant improvement in the methods of mining. These improvements have caused many abandoned claims to be re-occupied, and have given a value to vast quantities of auriferous earth, with which the early miners could do nothing.