Miscellaneous and General News.

BOOTH'S RIVAL—NEW VERSION OF LINCOLN'S ASSASSINATION—LUNACY AND SUICIDE.

(From the Boston Herald, March 28.)

We published a few days since a despatch from Louisville, Ky., to the effect that a man named Sterling King, an inmate of the jail there, had confessed that he was the person who attempted the life of Secretary Seward. No faith whatever can be placed in the truth of his statements, but as a matter of interest we condense the following details of the confession from the Louisville papers:

"King states that he was the man who killed President Lincoln. At the appointed time he entered the private box in Ford's theatre, Washington, where Mr. Lincoln was, and shot him with a single-barreled pistol, which he let fall at the time he leaped from the box. He gives as his object for using a single-barreled pistol that he was compelled to leave it behind him, and if it had been a revolver those in the box might have used it against him. He further says that after he shot the President and leaped from the box he passed by several persons, but one of whom he knew—Miss Laura Keene—and she did not know him. According to his statement, J. Wilkes Booth, who is said, was the murderer of Lincoln, was in the rear of the theatre awaiting with horses.

From the Ford's Theatre, he states that he went to the residence of Secretary Seward, and, after forcing an entrance, made an attack upon the Secretary himself, cutting him in the throat with a bowie-knife. He says that after young Seward was knocked down, the old man begged not to be murdered, and that he struck the blow to silence him. His only regret seems to be that he did not kill the Secretary. He says that the statement published in the papers that there were two persons in the affair is false, as he is the man who shot the President and made the attack upon Secretary Seward. He says that there was another person in the affair, who has not yet been apprehended, who was to have killed Stanton, but he failed to fulfil his pledge.

He says that Booth had nothing to do with the killing, with the exception of assisting him to make his escape from the city of Washington. He gives in his written statement, which is now in the hands of the military, the route he pursued after leaving Washington. He says that the man killed in the barn and who is said to have been Booth, was a prisoner who escaped from the Ohio prison. He claims to have escaped, in company with Booth, to Canada, and thence to the Island of Cuba. He states that his object in returning to the United States was for the purpose of releasing Jeff. Davis.

In regard to Mrs. Surratt, who was executed as one of the conspirators, he says that she knew nothing of the conspiracy. The parties who planned the affair, three of whom have never been heard of, met regularly at the house of Mrs. Surratt, but she knew nothing of their design. He says that he was stopping at the house of Mrs. Surratt, some ten or twelve days previous to the execution of the plot."

On the 21st inst. the unhappy man—who is likely insane—attempted suicide by severing a blood vessel of his arm. His recovery is doubtful.

HOW MANY FENIANS CONSTITUTE AN "INVASION."

(From the Montreal Transcript.)

"It will take millions of dollars to improvise an army, and place them, with the proper weapons, across the frontier, before a drop of blood can be shed"—*American paper.*

Right this time! To invade Canada with the faintest hope of success, the first contingent must be at least 30,000 men, with field batteries and cavalry. This force must be followed by heavy reserves. Allowing that each soldier would cost $1000 to equip and get ready for marching order, a force of 30,000 Fenians would cost $30,000,000. But this is not all. The cavalry arm and the artillery with all the horses, harness, waggons, caissons, shot and shell, would be enormously expensive. Next would come the camp equipage, then the commissariat, the most arduous and difficult of all to manage effectively in an enemy's country, and in the midst of a hostile population. We may put down the first cost of all these equipments for 30,000 men, and the other matters mentioned above, at from $4,000,000 to $10,000,000. Where is the money to come from? The more the matter is looked into, the more ridiculous does the Fenian invasion project appear.

The Milwaukee *Wisconsin* says that the only really anxious man in Milwaukee on the Fenian matter is a Hollander, who thus expresses himself:—The Finnikan mens is pully py dunder, and I goes fight mit dem. I fights mit Bleuker and mit Sigel, but I goes fights mit the Finnikan mens quicker nor dem. I goes mit Canada to-days, to-morrows—every days, py dunder."

ROMAN CATHOLICISM.—A Roman Catholic publication has the following:—"The Sacred College at the present moment includes 57 cardinals, 6 members of the order of bishops, 43 of that of priests, and 8 of deacons. Of that number 29 reside habitually at Rome and the others abroad; 17 were created by Gregory XVI., and 42 by Pius IX. The most ancient cardinal (Maria Matei) has won the purple for the last 34 years; the eldest (Antonio Tosti) is aged 90, and the youngest (Guiseppe-Milesi-Pironi-Ferretti) only 48. There are 11 hats at present vacant. Throughout the globe are 10 patriarchal sees, 154 archiepiscopal, and 682 episcopal. To these numbers must be added 226 sees *in partibus infidelium* (30 archbishops and 196 bishoprics). Of the patriarchs 5 belong to the Eastern and 7 to the Latin Churches; of the archbishops, 24 to the former and 134 to the latter; and of bishops, 46 are Eastern and 646 Latin. In the five parts of the world are 96 sees which hold their authority directly from Rome. The number of apostolic vicars is 101; of delegations, 5; prefectures, 21; of abbeys and other prelateships of no diocese, 14; Pius IX. has raised 12 cathedrals to the rank of metropolitan churches; has erected 4 archbishoprics and 26 bishoprics, and has created 4 vicarates, a delegation, and 6 prefectures."

The lying correspondent of the New York *Herald* was kicked out of a barber's shop in Toronto on Monday:

While comfortably ensconced in his chair, the barber vigorously applying the brush to his hirsute chin, he talked loudly and boastfully of the designs of the Fenians—that they would certainly invade Canada in force, and "chaw up" us Britishers and "Cannucks." A patriotic individual seated in the next chair, heard his bombast with swelling breast; and finally, unable to restrain himself any longer, he rose from his seat, approached the scribe, lifted him bodily from the chair, carried him to the door, and, with a vigorous application of boot in the rear, sent him flying into the street, his face covered with lather and a towel tucked around his neck. He did not return to the shop.—[Evening Telegraph.

A number of "O'Mahony Fenians," as they are called, arrived at Eastport, in the "New Brunswick," from Portland, on Tuesday. They are described by those who came passengers with them from Portland, as a most ruffianly looking set. They did not bring their arms with them, because, as was at first stated, the steamer could not take them; but it is now alleged that the officers of the boat would not bring them. The following despatch was sent by the editor of the St. Croix *Courier* to the *Evening Globe*:—

EASTPORT, April 19.

I have ascertained the fact that Killian, with his two secretaries, Daley and Davies, arrived here on Friday and put up at Mahees' hotel, attracting unfavorable attention. They erased their names from the hotel books.

They are making free use of the wires, and are constantly receiving despatches.

Popular feeling amongst the better classes is against them and they now observe great secrecy in their movements.

Killian applied at the Frontier Bank for funds and presented a telegram from New York certifying that his bankers held sixty thousand dollars at his credit. The bank would not advance the money and he is expecting the necessarry vouchers by the steamer to-morrow.

An effort is being made to charter transports.

Schooner Sinbad was chartered to leave for Machias this afternoon, but through the influence of the British Consul and prominent citizens charter was revoked.

A small boat of 15 tons however eluded their vigilance and got out.

Revenue cutter Ashuelot is coaling up and preparing for an outward voyage.

Every precaution will be taken to prevent the breach of neutrality laws.

Great excitement here! Much terror prevails in Campobello and several families have removed here.

A BEAUTIFUL FIGURE.

Life is beautifully compared to a fountain fed by a thousand streams, that perish if one be dried. It is a silver cord, twisted with a thousand strings, that part asunder if one be broken. Frail and thoughtless mortals are surrounded by innumerable dangers, which make it more strange that they escape so long, than that they almost all perish suddenly at last. We are encompassed with accidents every day to crush the mouldering tenements we inhabit. The seeds of disease are planted in our constitution by nature. The earth and atmosphere whence we draw the breath of life are impregnated with death; health is made to operate its own destruction: the food that nourishes containing the elements of decay; the soul that animates it by vivifying first, tends to wear it out by its own action; death lurks in ambush along our paths. Notwithstanding this is the truth so palpably confirmed by the daily example before our eyes, how little do we lay it at heart! We see our friends and neighbors taken from among us, but how seldom does it occur to our thought, that our knell shall perhaps give the next fruitless warning to the world!

DESERTION.—Three soldiers of the 16th Regt., deserted from a military post near Halifax. They were followed by a Lieutenant, Sergeant, Corporal and one of the military police, who overtook them, and captured two of them, the third got away into the woods. The captured men were manacled and left in charge of the corporal and military policeman, whilst the Lieutenant and Sergeant went after the other deserter. The policeman fraternized with the captured men and unlocked their handcuffs; they then fell upon the Corporal and beat him badly and all went off taking the Corporal's gun and ammunition. On the road, they met a man named Beamish whom they took into the woods and robbed of $14. Whilst engaged in this act the stage coach passed within fifty yards of them, but the military policeman held his pistol at Beamish's head threatening to shoot him if he gave any alarm. This occurred last Saturday. As the officer and sergeant have not yet been heard from, there is much anxiety as to their safety, for if they were met by this desperate gang, it would likely fare ill with them.

A gentleman residing in the vicinity of Memphis, Tenn., has, it is believed, the largest dog in the United States. It is an imported Siberian bloodhound, seven feet eight inches in length, thirty-three inches in height, sixteen inches across the chest, and weighs one hundred and eighty pounds. He is eleven months old, of pure white color, except the mouth and throat, which is, "inside" of a jet black, and is remarkably efficient as a watch-dog at night, though entirely harmless, even to strangers, by day. Notwithstanding his great size, this beautiful animal is as active as a cat.

The Provincial tug boats, "Lady Head" and "Queen Victoria," will, it is said, be ordered for Fishery protecting duty as soon as navigation opens, and it is expected that the St. Lawrence Tow Boat Company will place their new Steamer, now in course of construction, on the Pictou route in the place of the Lady Head. The only boats left at Quebec, if the Lady Head and Queen Victoria should be sent to the fishing Station will be the paddle-wheel Steamers Advance and the Napoleon.—[Quebec Gazette.

WAR.—War is an ugly thing, but not the ugliest of things; the decayed and degraded state of moral and patriotic feeling which thinks nothing worth a war, is worse. A man who has nothing which he is willing to fight for, nothing which he cares more about than he does about his personal safety, is a miserable creature who has no chance of being free, unless made and kept so by the exertions of better men than himself.

Mr. Baxter, a member of the British Parliament, has given notice that when the ministry bring forward their estimates, he will move that the item of £100,000 for the fortifications of Quebec be struck out of the list.

☞ At a recent great steeple chase near Liverpool, thirty horses started; all the favorites were beaten, and the winner was a gaunt outsider, whose owner quietly pocketed $135,000 by the race.

☞ Joe Cose was asked whether he laid in his coal. "Never," said Joe, emphatically; "I never lay there."

☞ Sheridan being asked what wine he liked best, replied, "The wine of other people."

☞ A man who retires from business and lives on the interest of his money, may be said to be resting on his owers.

The United States Senate has passed the Civil Rights Bill, whereby the negroes of the South are admitted to full citizenship over the veto of the President.

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EDWARD REILLY.

Herald Office, Kent Street,
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