

AN INFORMER.—The fifteen young men who were arrested in Mill street on Tuesday night were taken on the information of a man named Patsy Moriarty, a native of the county Kerry. He is a young man of slender build, about five feet eight inches in height, and appears to be gifted with a half-pleasing, reckless sort of manner. When arrested on Tuesday evening he lodged informations implicating over twenty-five persons in the neighborhood of Mill street, who, he alleges, are some of the party who entered and took arms out of Captain Leader's house on Shrove Tuesday night.

The publicans of Waterford are all complaining of slackness in business; their customers are becoming beautifully fewer every day, and those who frequent their accustomed tap drink less than usual. This is partly accounted for by the dearth of provisions and the number out of employment, but we understand the chief reason is that the young men are afraid to get drunk, lest, while in their cups, they should sing a national song, or shout for the green flag, or say something that, in ordinary times, would be unnoticed, but, in the present state of alarm, would get them committed for trial as dangerous and disaffected persons. —Waterford Citizen, April 5.

FENIAN FACTS.—The Fenian storm which swept over the south of Ireland for a week or ten days appears to have vanished as other storms do. The correspondents of the Dublin and London newspapers, writing from the scene of the conflict, say the movement is at an end. We are of opinion that the end is very far off in the future. We suspect, from what we have seen of the movement, and the tactics of its leaders, that another Fenian storm will be soon heard of. When all excitement connected with the recent outbreak is calmed down, and everything is quiet, we think another storm will be heard, perhaps more loud than that which has been brought to a close by the harsh and terrible weather. The Fenians are a cunning force, and it is not likely they will forego their determination to carry out their object. Let no one, therefore, be deceived, by thinking that they have heard the last of the Fenian movement in Ireland. —Waterford Citizen.

The tide of emigration has commenced to flow westward with increased strength. By the Dundalk Steampacket Company's 'Pride of Erin,' Capt. Farrell, master, upwards of 100 emigrants took shipping to Liverpool on April 1, en route to America. The usual heart-rending scenes consequent on the departure of the Irish from their native land, was enacted at the quay on the occasion. —Dundalk Examiner.

Mr. Maguire, M.P., arrived at Queenstown on Sunday by the royal mail steamer Cuba, from New York, having completed a protracted tour of Canada and the United States. Mr. Maguire was conveyed from Queenstown to Glenbrook by the Cunard Company's tender, which was courteously placed at his disposal by Mr. Grierson, manager of the company at this port. —Cork Examiner.

GREAT BRITAIN.

SCOTLAND—CATHOLIC BISHOP AT BARRHEAD—IMPORTANT STATISTICS.

To the Editor of the Weekly Register.

Sir,—Under the above conspicuous heading you published in your columns last week a paragraph taken from the Glasgow Free Press, purporting to be a report of a speech delivered by the Rev. Mr. Keane, of Barrhead, in which the remarkable assertion is made that there are 125,000 apostate Catholics in Scotland, and which assertion is backed up with a series of statistics which are very erroneous indeed, and call for an immediate correction. If Father Keane did make these assertions, I am sorry for it; but I would recommend caution in publishing matter from the Free Press in your columns, after the experience we have had of it not so long ago.—Father Keane says, or is made to say, there are in Scotland, principally in the Lowlands, 200,000 Irish by birth, 200,000 Irish by extraction. He deduces 45,000 for emigrants and Protestant Irish, thus leaving 355,000, to which he adds Highland Catholics, 20,000, in all 375,000 Catholics who should be in the Lowlands. Mark you, he does not say this is the whole Catholic population of Scotland. I ask Father Keane how he makes all this out. He says we are to multiply the 200,000 Irish by birth (I have not the census returns beside me, and I take for granted he is right) by two in order to find the number of Irish by birth and extraction both. Now, although we are a prolific people, I must say, and your readers will agree with me, that this process of arithmetic won't do, and is a great exaggeration. I cannot see how Father Keane could make this out. The fact is his statistics are mere suppositions, and eminently erroneous suppositions also. Let us see what really is the Catholic population of Scotland, not from imaginary statistics, but from those of the Registrar General for Scotland. At the census of 1861 the population of Scotland was 3,062,284 persons. In the last report of the Registrar General for Scotland lately published for the year 1863 (these detailed reports are delayed long after the time, I suppose to be more accurate) we find that the number of marriages in Scotland for that year was 20,115 according to the rites of Protestant Churches, &c., 2,119 according to the rites of the Roman Catholic Church—in all, 22,234, being at the rate of 716 marriages to every 100,000 persons.

Now, if 716 marriages give 100,000 persons, what will 20,115 marriages give? Answer, 2,809,357 persons. Then, if 716 marriages give 100,000 persons, what will the 2,119 Catholic marriages give? Answer, 295,949 persons. These two sums added together make the population of Scotland in 1863, two years after the census, come to 3,104,406 persons.—The difference between that and the census must go for increase of population. Therefore, in all Scotland, Highlands, Islands, and Lowlands, there are only 295,949 Roman Catholics, thus making Father Keane wrong 45,000, even granting that he is right in saying there should be 375,000 Catholics in the Lowlands alone. But I cannot accept that proposition; it is a mere guess, and no better. Thanks therefore to the Registrar General and the inexorable logic of simple proportion. We Catholics of Scotland have wiped off the stain of 125,000 apostates, which would disgrace us for ever if Father Keane's assertion was accurate. Had Father Keane consulted Oliver and Boyd's Almanack, or the Registrar General's report, he would not have been led into such erroneous conclusions. But really even if I had not seen these statistics I could have told him he was wrong in saying that one-third of us have apostatised. One would imagine that everything was going to wreck and ruin in this country from the tone of Father Keane's reported remarks. Now, I maintain that, considering the gigantic difficulties they had to contend with, the bishops, priests, and laymen here have hitherto grappled very successfully with their work. The schools, convents, orphanages, seminaries, and reformatories, demonstrate what has been done, to keep our Catholic people in the fold.

The only people who have fallen away have been principally pauper children, generally belonging to the drunken and criminal classes, and to parents who have made mixed marriages. There will always be a loss of faith from these causes till such time as Catholics hold a better position in Glasgow, and the cause of intemperance decreases among us. We are doing well and continually advancing, and apostasy is not eating into the vitals of Catholicity, as I have abundantly proved. I grant there is a great mass of vice and apathy among the poorer classes in our large cities, but as for apostasy from the Catholic Church on the scale Father Keane makes out as reported, that I emphatically deny.

I am, sir, yours, &c.

A. CATHOLIC LAYMAN.

We deeply regret to learn that the Rev. Father Noble has been suddenly cut off in his active missionary career. On Tuesday morning about six o'clock his body was discovered floating in the bar-

bor of Leith (Scotland) nearly opposite the entrance to the Victoria Dock. The deceased had retired to rest the night before about twelve o'clock, but was seen between one and two o'clock walking in the direction of the east pier—for what purpose is not known, but the general impression is, that being unable to sleep, he rose from his bed intending to take a refreshing walk within the influence of the sea-air, and that during his stroll he slipped into the water and was drowned. It would seem that he had visited the chapel before going out, as the private door from the chapel house was found open. His melancholy fate has created deep and general regret at Leith, where he was greatly esteemed not only by his own flock, but by his Protestant neighbors.—During the prevalence of the cholera last year his devotion to the poor had won for him the special thanks of the magistracy. He was a native of Ireland—had not attained middle age—and had served on the Scottish mission at Leith for six or seven years.—R.L.P.

LONDON, April 23.—Peace between France and Prussia is almost despair of. The Prussians are quietly preparing for the expected check of arms.—The warlike aspect of things has caused considerable alarm on the London Stock Exchange, and the tendency of affairs is towards a financial panic.

The Fenian movement in Ireland is now to all appearance suppressed. A few of its miserable victims may still be skulking in the mountains, and fugitives are here and there arrested in disguise, but the majority have dispersed to their homes or have fallen into the hands of justice. For the trial of the late Special Commission is about to be issued, and the question must soon arise whether the lenient course taken by the Government in 1865 can or ought to be repeated. It is a question fraught with perplexity, awakening, as it does, a certain degree of conflict between feelings of humanity and a sense of public duty, and involving, as it must, considerations which deeply affect the future peace of Ireland. There are Irishmen who know and love their country well, yet are firmly convinced that nothing but inexorable severity against rebels will avail to impress the people with the wickedness of rebellion.—They maintain that in this respect Irish character resembles that of some Oriental races, who mistake clemency for weakness, but cheerfully obey any power which shows itself to be at once just and irresistible. There are others, again, who, pointing to the utter failure of the cruel policy so long pursued by our forefathers, deprecate not only the excesses of martial law, but the infliction of death by judicial sentence upon a single Fenian prisoner. The new Irish Attorney-General, Mr. Chatterton, whose duty it will be to conduct the prosecutions, seems rather inclined to the former alternative; but were it necessary to make our choice between the two—were it impossible to draw a just distinction between the crimes of the ringleaders and those of their followers—we should assuredly prefer an indiscriminate amnesty to an indiscriminate punishment of the Fenians now in custody. Rather than see the horrors of 1793 re-enacted in the present year, we should be prepared to run the risk of seeing the very men who owed their lives to the compassion of the Government renewed, as they assuredly would, their nefarious attempts, and repaying mercy with that black ingratitude which characterises Irish treason. Such, however, is not the issue presented to us. We have not to decide whether the terrible retribution which followed the Indian mutiny and the Jamaica massacre is to serve as a precedent for Ireland, or even whether all the half-starved shop boys who may have been arrested by the police should expiate their folly on the scaffold, but only whether those who have deliberately planned and headed the rising should be rescued, some of them for a second time, from the consequences of their crime. In considering this point it is material to observe that several, if not most, of the Fenian leaders are not 'insurgents' in any proper sense of the term. If they are Irishmen at all, they have long ceased to be Irish subjects of Her Majesty, and instead of being driven into rebellion by oppression, either real or imaginary, they have come over from America on a filibustering errand and with filibustering objects. This makes a very great difference, and entirely deprives them of whatever extenuation may be pleaded on behalf of a 'political offence.' Filibustering is not a political offence, but piracy on a grand scale, and those who practise it are 'hostes humani generis.' In Cuba, the filibustering tendencies of American adventurers were checked once for all by the public execution of Lopez and his principal associates. Let it once be known that a similar fate inevitably awaits foreigners who organize rebellion in Ireland, and officers with an American accent will cease to seduce her credulous youth into acts of which they little realize the enormity. It will be for the Law Officers of the Crown to determine under what statute these prosecutions should be instituted, and for the Judges who act on the Special Commission to apportion the sentence according to the circumstances of each case. It has been said that Fenianism is a species of epidemic lunacy, and it would no doubt save a great deal of trouble if it could be treated in the same manner. Since this is impossible, it only remains to anticipate future appeals to a higher law by enforcing the law of the land. Prevention, and not vengeance, is the object of these proceedings. The fear which has been expressed in some quarters that recourse may be had to obsolete provisions authorizing the infliction of flogging is absolutely unfounded. No one, so far as we are aware, has ever suggested such a measure, and public opinion would be unanimous in its condemnation. More than two generations of time and a much greater interval of settlement divide us from the revolutionary atrocities of 1793 and the succeeding reign of terror. The passions which rendered such events possible exist no longer on either side, and the Fenians themselves, to do them justice, contrast favorably with the Whiteboys and other scourges of Ireland in the last century. The Government will act wisely as well humanely by recognizing this, and by allowing the mere rank and file, after the warning they have received, to be discharged upon their recognizances.—It is the leaders alone who should be visited with condign punishment, and among them it may be judicious to discriminate between those who have and those who have not abused the forbearance already extended to them.—Times.

RUSSIAN AMERICA.—The reported sale of Russian America to the United States has excited a very considerable degree of interest amongst us. There is nothing in it to make any great difference in our own position in America, or in our relations with the United States. Its real importance is in showing us once more what our position in America actually is, and what our relations with the United States are and are likely to be. If we consider what motives probably induced the President's Cabinet to enter upon negotiations for the purchase of Russian territory in America, we shall find nothing that should give us any alarm for the present, nor which should increase that alarm for the future which no Englishman can avoid who looks around him, and then far forward. Let us remember in the first place that the energies and ambition of Russia are all turned out of the course of American ambition. There is no apparent reason why she should care to keep a single foot of territory in America. There are many reasons why she should foster such feelings of friendship in the United States as in due time should constitute a kind of traditional claim to alliance; in short, Russia could make the sale with perfect advantage to herself and without giving reasonable cause of offence to anybody. On the other hand, it is manifestly a great point of foreign policy in the United States also to promote friendly feeling between their own people and the Russian government. It would be too much to say that those powers intend to divide the world between them by-and-by; but there does undoubtedly exist an idea—a belief not yet so sure as to be permitted to speak out—that this is their destiny; and what is more, there is in

both a far-reaching, effort to that end. The ambition of these two powers is nowhere opposed; in each case it is vast and hopeful; it is easy to imagine many contingencies where the prosecution of the one could be made to serve the other; and therefore it is that much sympathy must exist between the two peoples. To have deepened the feeling would have been quite worth the cessation of territory comparatively valueless to one party, and the expenditure by the other party of a few millions of dollars. Russia loses nothing but she gains immensely in a political sense, by seeming to acknowledge readily the pretensions arrayed by the Americans against the rule of any monarch anywhere upon their continent. What the Americans gain is that acknowledgment, and, what is more, the transaction helps to fix still deeper in the mind of the American people a belief in the expediency of the Emperor Napoleon in Mexico. This alone would be a great gain, if there were no other considerations.—But we know that there are. At the present moment, when Russia is again active in pursuit of her own cherished designs, it is not altogether an unimportant thing to exhibit what may seem another proof of good understanding with America. There may not be much in that, but there is something in it; and what there is is clear benefit without any drawback. While as to the United States, the acquisition of the Russian-American territory, lapping down upon our own possessions, serves as a timely move in answer to the confederation of those possessions. It does not amount to a threat. It is a hint, a declaration of feeling more effectual and more politic than anything in the shape of a despatch.—It means, 'You have established your American Provinces in a confederacy, least to establish relations between the Provinces for their own better government, than for the establishment of one great State which in the course of time may be able to resist what you call our rapacity, but which we think of as something different. There is, in short, in this confederacy some vague idea of setting up a strong monarchical State. We do not intend that such State shall exist. The time must come when the British possessions in America shall be ours. You know very well that that question depends more upon what we wish than what you have power to do. Now this purchase of Russian America is to show you that we understand the purpose of a confederacy which we have no reasonable excuse to prevent, and also that we do not find in it a reason for abandoning those ideas of annexation which have hitherto been useful to us.' This we take to be the real significance of the proposed arrangement. That the purchase was ever designed as a necessary or useful move in a military sense it is difficult to believe. The United States are strong enough to overrun our possessions and take them whenever they please. It is absurd to imagine that they want fresh vantage ground for that operation, so that whether they buy Russian America or not, seems a matter of no real importance. What is of importance is the manifestation of intention, and the consideration that as affairs stand, we should find ourselves helpless against any serious attempt to carry the intention into effect.—Pall Mall Gazette.

EFFECT OF DRAINAGE ON HEALTH.—The Metropolitan Sanitary Commission of London compute that for every inch depth of water drained off, and which would otherwise pass into the air as vapor, as much heat is saved per acre as would raise eleven thousand cubic feet of air one degree in temperature. A farmer was asked the effect of some new drainage, when he replied, 'All that I know is, that before it was done I could never get out at night without an overcoat, but now I never put one on.' A physician took one of the Sanitary Commissioners to a hill overlooking his district. 'There,' said he, 'wherever you see those patches of white mist I have frequent illness, and if there is a cess pool, or other nuisance as well, I can reckon on typhus every now and then. Outside of these mists I am rarely wanted.'

PROTESTANT WISDOM.—The Rev. T. Bishop thus describes what he saw in a drinking saloon, in Liverpool, on a Sunday. 'A few are open on the Sunday evenings. I lately looked in at one. The audience was small—mostly intoxicated. I heard the Old Hundred Psalm sung, the Hallelujah Chorus. Bishop Ken's Evening Hymn, and the Jubilate Deo. The organ was a large one. It was a melancholy thing to hear this group singing in such a company. We are His people, and the sheep of His pasture. God's music enlisted in the devil's cause.—The Manchester Statement.

THE MARQUIS OF WESTMOUTH AND THE RITUALISTS.—The following curious notice stands on the order book of the House of Lords for Tuesday next:—The Marquis of Westmouth, to present a petition, and call the attention of the House to it, complaining of ritualistic practices in the church of England, and stating that in the event of a royal commission being appointed to enquire into ritualistic innovations there could be no confidence in the proceedings of such a commission if right reverend prelates were appointed thereto who were themselves compromised by the introduction of usages and practices, which were rejected at the Reformation; the petitioners mentioning the cases of the Lord Bishop of the Diocese of Oxford, who conducted a novel, unauthorized, and superstitious service for the Dedication of a Bell in Eton church, the Lord Bishop of Salisbury who used a similar unauthorized and superstitious ceremonial for a bell in Sherborne church, the Lord Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol who inaugurated by a special service a new order of church ministers other than those authorized in the prayer book, and the Lord Bishop of Chichester who, in addition to novel proceedings in a private chapel, attended a special service in Chichester Cathedral in connexion with the presentation of a pastoral staff having profane Popish emblems engraved thereon, and also held a highly objectionable service for the consecration of a lady warden of a tractarian sisterhood; and praying it to be adopted an address to her Majesty on the subject.

A SCENE IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—A somewhat exciting discussion took place in reference to the recent observations of Judge Keogh at the Tyrone assizes, condemning the magistrates at the Donaghmore Petty Sessions for partizan conduct—the charge against them being that they had sent Catholics only for trial for having participated in a party riot, although six of the Protestant party were identified. Sir John Gray called attention to the matter, and asked Lord Nass whether the Irish Executive had taken any steps to institute an inquiry into the facts of the case? Lord Nass replied that the observation of Judge Keogh had not been officially communicated to the Government. As soon as they were, every facility would be given for an impartial inquiry. In the course of the debate, Sergeant Barry having made some observations reflecting on the Belfast Orangemen, Sir H. Edwards said he rejoiced that he was an Orangeman, and he considered that that body had as much right to be represented in the House as the Fenians. It was well known, he said, that there were Fenians in the House. This statement, of course, produced a storm. The Speaker pronounced Sir H. Edwards out of order, and called on him to withdraw the expression, which, after a conciliatory speech from Mr. Disraeli, he consented to do, and the matter dropped. Before the House adjourned, a vote of £2,000, to be distributed in rewards to the Irish Constabulary engaged in the suppression of the Fenian outbreak, was agreed to.

It appears that the affairs of the Rev. J. L. Lyne—better known as Brother Ignatius—in connexion with the Norwich monastery, are being adjusted by Messrs. J.H. Tillott & Son. Curiously enough, Mr. Tillott is the leader of the Liberation party in and about Norwich.—The monastery scheme appears to be quite at an end. The chapel commenced by Brother Ignatius in 1865 is still far from being completed, and the monastery itself has once more become an ordinary dwelling-house.

There is nothing which so grievously tries English faith in the political morality of American statesmen as the countenance openly given to Fenianism. Persons who advocated the cause and stood by the policy of the North through evil report and good report, who blamed this country for observing neutrality instead of manifesting sympathy and who are hopefully watching the great experiment of reconstruction, had no excuse to make for the reception of the Fenian leaders on the floor of the late House of Representatives.—Times.

THE FENIAN MOVEMENT IN SCOTLAND.—In our impression of Tuesday we reported that a body of Fenians had been discovered drilling on the turnpike road by Sergeant M. Naughton and two constables, who put the troops to flight, and succeeded in capturing six of them. The officers, doubting their authority to take the men into custody, contented themselves with taking a note of their names and reporting the circumstances to the authorities at Airdrie. A special warrant, charging the six men with illegal drilling under the act 60 George III, was issued yesterday, and placed in the hands of Captain Thomas Clark, when that officer proceeded to Mossend, where two of the suspected parties were apprehended and identified by Sergeant M. Naughton as being connected with the movement on Sunday morning. They gave their names as Hugh Murphy and John Brogan, both puddlers, residing at Mossend. A third party was apprehended, and identified by Constable Urquhart, during the day at Orbiston, and conveyed to Bellshill police station. He gave his name as Thomas O'Hara, a labourer, residing at Uthbank, and in the employment of the Mossend Iron Company. The three men were conveyed to Airdrie under an escort of police. On marching to the railway station they were followed by a considerable crowd. The prisoners will be brought before Sheriff Logie to-day (Saturday) for examination. The apprehension of the misguided men has caused great excitement at Mossend, and fifteen men suspected to be connected with the illegal drilling, are reported to have fled during the week from Mossend and the neighbouring works. The detection of the suspected Fenians at midnight drill has been the means of stopping the 'movement,' which may be said to be merely in its infancy in this district, and the energy of the police officers at Mossend on Sunday morning last is highly creditable. The drill-instructor on that occasion has as yet escaped the vigilance of the authorities. Another of the suspected parties is reported to have been apprehended by Constables Murray and Stevenson. He gave his name as Lawrence Flanagan, a labourer, residing at Thaukerton, Holytown.

Another correspondent in the district writes:—A suspicion existing that many Fenians or sympathizers with the Fenian army, are located in the neighbourhood of which is, and has always been a 'centre' for the 'Brotherhood'—much uneasiness is everywhere felt by the respectable portion of the inhabitants, who are kept in a state of unusual activity and alarm. Every train that arrives from the west brings with it mysterious looking characters to the various stations between Coatbridge and Wishaw. These strangers are generally very flush of money, particularly Irish notes.—Scotsman.

INGENUOUS CADDIS.—On Sunday evening, at a well-known ritualistic church, the incumbent being absent, a young man in surplice and violet stole entered the pulpit after the second lesson, and proceeded to read a sermon, which was chiefly remarkable for the depression of manner with which it was delivered. When concluding, he apologized to his hearers if he had wearied them pleading that it was not his fault; that he knew many of them were fit to teach him; that he never preached when he could avoid it; but he dared not send them away sermonless. He added that several of the younger clergy were of opinion that they could do their duties as faithfully without preaching, and invited them to pray that 'the spirit of prayer might be increased in our services, and that we might be delivered from the tyranny of custom.'—Pall Mall Gazette.

The Bishop of London has taken a decided step in connection with the prosecution of the Rev. Albert Heriot Mackonochie, M.A., of Wadham College, Oxford, incumbent of St. Alban's Holborn, by signing the letters of request to the Dean of the Court of Arches. The charges which Dr. Lushington will have to investigate are four—1. The elevation and adoration of the Holy Elements. 2. The placing lights on the communion table. 3. The use of incense. 4. The use of the mixed chalice. The case for the promoter will be conducted by Dr. Stephens and Mr. Coleridge, Q.C., for the Rev. A. H. Mackonochie by Sir R. Phillimore, the Queen's Advocate, and Dr. Deane. The solicitor for the promoter (nominally the Bishop of London, but really the Church Association) is Mr. J. Murray Dale.—The defence will be undertaken by the English Church Union in connexion with which a large subscription is expected to be raised. This body at present numbers about 5,000 members, who are banded together for the defence of the doctrine and discipline of the Church of England.

During the quarter just past there sailed from Liverpool 69 ships under the Act, conveying 13,994 emigrants, of whom 832 were cabin, and 13,162 steerage passengers. Of these 66 ships, with 829 and 12,859 steerage passengers were for the United States, the remainder for Victoria. During the quarter there also sailed 61 short ships, with 1,734 passengers, making the total emigration for the quarter 15,728, which is a decrease of 9,049 on the corresponding quarter of last year. The emigration during March was 6,828.

The grounds on which the magistrates at Market Drayton unanimously dismissed the charges against Ex-Governor Eyns were that the evidence did not raise a probable presumption of guilt, and that they were convinced a jury would not convict. The report states that the announcement was received with applause, with was renewed by crowds outside the when Mr. Eyns left, with his friends.

CURIOSITIES OF FENIANISM.—A London paper says:—Those who are anxious to see specimens of the Irish pike, which has now become, to some degree, a national weapon, inasmuch as it was made the most prominent instrument of war in the insurrection of 1793 and in the risings of 1847 and 1867, may be seen by a visit to the Crystal Palace at Sydenham. There are on exhibition two of these pikes, one taken in '98 and the other in '67. There is little difference between them in construction, except that the one made more recently is, as may be anticipated, more carefully finished than the other. The top of the weapon is of steel, and resembles that of the lance used in the British army. This is fitted on a long pole, to which it is fastened, the arrangement being altogether of the simplest description. The specimens shown at the Palace have neither the battle-axe, which some of the pikes of the last century possessed, nor the hook, which was intended, among other purposes, for cutting the leather bridles of the cavalry horses.

UNITED STATES.

The N. Y. Tribune says.—It is stated on authoritative source that to the last communication from the English Government on the Alabama claims received some days ago, our Government has replied:—'Mr. Adams is instructed to respectfully decline the acceptance of the propositions made by the British Government.' This leaves the 'Alabama' matter where it started, without any proposition from either party pending.

In Boston, New York, and Philadelphia thirty ladies have received medical degrees within a few weeks past, and since this educational movement began in Boston, over two hundred women have graduated in these three cities—the number the present season being larger than in any past year.

The Chicago Tribune says:—The attempt of those who have embarked in all manner of speculative enterprises to realize their investments and hold the same in cash, is but a prudent measure to avert the crushing effects of the storm, should one come.—There is a unhealthy condition of things proceeding from all this. The annual strike between landlord and tenants has an extraordinary intensity in all parts of the country this season. Capital trembles as it looks into the future. Labor is demanding an increase of wages in the face of the impending panic and prostration. Never was there a time when the men of large means should so hesitate and weigh well, the probabilities of the future before embarking in new enterprises, and never was there a time when those who live upon their earnings, be they great or small, should so retrench their expenditures in every possible means to be able better to meet the impending difficulty. It may be that the country will escape a season of financial disruption and disaster, but it may not escape it. Those who are hesitating to embark with their capital in real estate and improvements, may well consider whether they are likely to obtain any compensation return upon that investment during a season of financial disaster, and a consequent return to actual value.

CAUTIONS OR DEMOCRACY.—According to the tenor of charges made in newspapers of New York, the Legislature of that State has been, for several years past, composed of dishonest individuals. A writer upon this subject states boldly that since 1858 one of a million of dollars to insure the stockholders against injurious and aggressive legislation, and to protect its stockholders. In one case specified, the members of a certain committee received twenty thousand dollars each for making a particular report, and were promised each five thousand dollars more when the bill became law. One Senator demanded twenty-five thousand dollars for his vote and got it. This startling statement is received and commented upon without any seeming doubt of its truth, and the company which thus yielded to the supposed necessity is said to be justified in its action, upon the argument that not being able to get justice for the sake of justice, it was forced to buy it. In one year it is stated that \$100,000 was paid by this single company to members of the Legislature. Of nineteen votes finally recorded for a certain bill in the New York Senate, it is said that only six were given upon principle, and without any pecuniary consideration. The constancy and boldness with which these charges are made against the Legislature of New York, ought to cause a general excitement in that State. But it does not. It seems to be received by the people as an actual verity, while the members assailed sit quietly under it, as a matter of no consequence. The evils which thus exist must continue to do so as long as the people are careless. They can control the actions of the political parties, and obtain the nomination of honest men, or if not, they can vote against dishonest nominees. But they do neither. Hence, instead of this monstrous evil and wickedness decreasing, it seems likely to increase.

From the New York World we clip the subjoined expose of the fiscal burthen now imposed upon the citizens of the Empire State. Besides the aggregate of \$100,000,000, or \$25 per head of direct taxation, it must be remembered that the people of New York pay a very large proportion of the indirect revenue raised by the United States Government. We commend the extract from the World to the careful study of those who still hanker after greenbacks and annexation.—'The average rate of taxation during the last ten years was a fraction over four mills; the lowest being 2 1/2, and the highest 5 9/16 mills.—Comptroller Hillhouse appears to be appalled at the rashness with which it is proposed to impose a tax nearly double of that of last year; and in order to impress the importance of the matter upon the legislature, utters the following timely warning:—

'A State tax of one per cent will draw \$15,000,000 from the productive interests of the State, to which must be added not less than \$3,000,000 for local taxes, and at least \$50,000,000 more for our proportion of the taxes imposed by the government of the United States. In 1860 our proportion was \$67,000,000. Whether any community of less than 4,000,000 population can long sustain an annual burden of over \$100,000,000 may well be questioned. Under ordinary circumstances, and in a normal condition of the currency and business of the country, it would absorb the larger proportion of the annual profits of capital and labor, paralyze industry and dry up the sources of wealth. Such a calamity can only be arrested by the practice of a rigid economy on the part of the Legislature and all other bodies having the power to tax, and the future prosperity of the State must in a great measure depend on the degree in which this power is held in the check the next few years.'

These are words that should be heeded. During the period of inflation of the currency, money was squandered by individuals and communities with utter recklessness; but, now that contraction has begun, the people are feeling poor. And they are poor. The prevalence of strikes, the meagre returns as compared with those of the last three years, the large numbers of operatives out of employment, and the dullness of legitimate business, all foreshadow financial disaster. It is, therefore, the duty of the legislature to retrench expenditures, and not appropriate a dollar that can be kept in the treasury without detriment to the State.

WIT IS JEFF DAVIS IMPRISONED.—The Herald's Washington special says:—P. L. N. Bagley, formerly a missionary to India and Japan, a few days since called on Jeff Davis and endeavored to induce him to apply to President Johnson for pardon, believing that, with the names he could get to a petition for a pardon, it would be granted by the President. Mr. Davis declined to make the application, as it would be a confession of his guilt, and would prejudice his case at the trial, which he understood was close at hand. Mr. Bagley, however, went to the President to ascertain if a pardon would be granted on petitions alone, but learned that the President granted no pardons without an application from the culprit.

The Police Commissioners have received a check for \$3,000 from the Trustees of the Riot Relief Committee, consisting of Shepherd Knapp, Leonard Jerome, and others, to be awarded to the policemen who were injured in quelling the riot which occurred in New York on the 18th of March when the birthday of St. Patrick was celebrated.

THE NEGROES IN CHARLESTON.—The colored people of Charleston are in the midst of a religious revival. On Sunday, the 17th ult, some 60, male and female, were publicly immersed. The newspaper account of the scene states that the men wore white shirts and drawers, the women white gowns; and 200 or 300 of the assembly, as if seized with a sudden inspiration, indulged in what is described as 'a series of striking gymnastics.'

POLITICS ON BERRING'S STRAITS.—Now that Russian America is to be a part of the United States, there will, no doubt, be a great scramble for offices among the Equinox of a political turn of mind. Perhaps Congress, remarks the Philadelphia Ledger, may be persuaded to admit it is a new State, and the hospitalities of Congress will be shared by Equinox prepared with long speeches to enlighten the world about fish oil and the fur trade. At any rate, a territorial government will probably be erected at an early day, and the delegate from New Archangel, being given \$5,000 pay and \$20,000 mileage per annum for sitting in the House and listening to the eloquence of the members. '\$25,000 a year is enough to make politics lively among the Equinox, to whom the right of suffrage will at once be extended, and stump oratory and torchlight processions will soon be a premium among the icebergs. Who is the first candidate for Territorial Governor, and who does not want to be postmaster and collector of customs at Sitka?