

**A SKETCH OF HENRY GRATTAN.**—By *A Man on the Study Side of Fifty.*—As a school-boy of twelve years old, I had been taken by my father to visit the great patriot and Irish orator, Grattan. I well remember that the impression made on the minds of those who were supposed to be competent to comprehend his powers, was one of reverence not unmixed with awe. There was about him a simple, gentle dignity; a courtesy and elaborate politeness, which remind me of what I had read of the *vicé de cour*. He was dressed in a blue coat and buff waistcoat, with knee breeches and silk stockings. He had not abandoned the old pig-tail; and the studied politeness and elegant elaboration of his manner produced on me an impression which time cannot efface. He had the look and bearing of a thorough gentleman. His enunciation in private life was slow, and his pronunciation seemed, to my child-like ears, somewhat quaint and foreign. 'James,' he pronounced *Jeams*; 'oblige,' *obleege*; and he used the words, 'a dish of tea,' and 'a dish of coffee'; but this was a fashion in his early day, and to that fashion he adhered to the last. It has been written by the late Charles Phillips, in his 'Curran and his Contemporaries,' that Grattan was short in stature, and unprepossessing in appearance. He was rather over than under the middle height, being about five feet nine; and so far from being unprepossessing, his features were regular and full of expression. The first time I ever heard Grattan speak was at a dinner of about twenty persons, given in his honor by an attached friend and admirer, and at which his health was proposed by the host. For the first minute or two he faltered and hesitated; but his nervousness soon disappeared, and, once fairly started, he riveted and charmed attention. I subsequently heard him at a public meeting, where he spoke for about ten or fifteen minutes. He was then seventy-two years of age, and his voice, never in his best days powerful, was thin and somewhat reedy. A critic might have observed that the gesture was somewhat theatrical, and that antithesis and epigram were too frequently resorted to; but the impression produced on me, as a whole, by this great speaker in his decline was, that in boldness of thought, in grandeur and gorgousness of language, in intensity of feeling and imagination, he was unequalled. The private life of Grattan was as pure as his public life. His affections centered in his family; and, after country and family, his dominant passions were literature and the pleasures of country life. On one occasion while in his company he recited long passages from Cowley, Dryden, and Pope—among others, the 'Elegy on the Death of an Unfortunate Lady'; and I was amazed not more at his powers of memory than at his powers of elocution. The late Mr. Justice Davy informed me that Grattan could repeat all the finest passages in Dryden and Pope without missing a line. In truth, and private life Grattan was universally respected and beloved.

There is no doubt at all that the growth of flax will be of great service to the Irish farmer, who is willing to work. But to the lazy farmer, who likes to move about doing nothing, except minding other people's business, flax is an abomination. He does not want to grow it, for 'there is too much trouble connected with it. Well, this sort of farmer need not expect to live in Ireland. In vain will he strive to do so, because no man can now hold his ground in this country, except a thrifty, hardy, and industrious person. During the last year enormous flax crops have been grown in all parts of the country, and farmers have received from 20l to 45l for the produce of an acre. These men will grow still more this year, because they find that it will pay better than any other crop. A couple of acres of it will pay more than the rent of a large farm, and leave a handsome sum besides for the payment of a labour and other things. We therefore advise all our friends not to neglect sowing some flax. There are complaints made that sufficient scutching machinery has not been put up in this district, and we believe they are well founded. But we hope that some energetic men will make it their business to supply this public want, in order that the requisite accommodation may be given to a most useful branch of husbandry. If flax be grown in this district, we have every hope that on no distant day men will be found to erect spinning mills in Dundalk, which will give great employment, and materially assist in improving the commerce of the town. — *Dundalk Democrat*.

The *Cork Examiner* reports the total wreck of the brig Ellen Sophia, of Newport, near Smerwick harbor, north-west of Dingle. (The vessel, which was first seen scudding before a high cliff and immediately struck against a high cliff and abandoned, as no person was seen on board. Her cargo of rum and sugar was totally destroyed. — *Times Cor*.

**GREAT BRITAIN.**

**CATHOLIC CHAPLAINS AND COUNTY MAGISTRATES.**—We have a very sincere respect for the English clergy, as a class, and earnestly desire that by all fair and honorable means their credit may be increased and their usefulness extended. Having this feeling we often wish that something could be done which would prevent them from talking publicly about theological or quasi-theological matters, at any rate when out of the pulpit. When discussing other questions they are as shrewd and sensible, as clear sighted, able, and well-informed as other men. But for certain reasons, which we think we understand but which we cannot now stay to explain and illustrate, whenever they are brought into a discussion connected, however distantly or slightly, with theological matters, their judgment seems to become warped, their intellectual eye grows dim, their reasoning powers collapse, and even their common sense too often seems for a time to desert them.

Look, for example, at the remarks of the respected and venerable Archbishop Blosse, at the late county sessions, upon Mr. Bagshawe's motion for the appointment of Roman Catholic chaplains for the county gaols. Mr. Blosse actually seemed to fancy that religious instruction is a thing, the appetite for which comes upon a man at regular intervals, in a natural way, whenever he really needs it, like the appetite for food for example; so that it may be safely concluded that if he really wants religious advice, or reproff or consolation, as the case may be, he is sure to ask for it, and that on the other hand if he does not ask for it, it is proof positive that he does not need it. And so he opposed the motion on the ground that the Catholic prisoners did not seem to care much about the instructions of the Priest who came to the goal once a week on the Friday—and that consequently they could not be much in need of his instructions. Any layman would at once see that, as Mr. E. A. Bruce very truly remarked, instead of this presumption in such cases being as Mr. Blosse seemed to suppose, it was the very contrary, —that just those persons who had least desire for spiritual instruction and advice, were the very persons who were most in need of it, and that, supposing religious instruction were to be given at all, it was upon such persons that it ought to be brought to bear most carefully and persistently. A man of tender conscience, who had unfortunately fallen into crime, and who was longing for the consolation and advice of a religious teacher, might be debarred the privilege for a time without injury, and probably to his actual advantage. But the more hardened and careless class of criminals, who would never dream of asking for the visit and advice of a religious teacher, are the very persons (if any) for whom the Government ought to provide. To the lay mind this is clear enough; if it were a matter of law, or agriculture, or abstract science, it would be equally clear to the clerical. But as it touches slightly upon theological grounds, it is a great mystery—a profound and dark metaphysical riddle.

Listen again to the Rev. Mr. Knight. Nobody can talk better sense than he can when he likes—or rather when he keeps clear of theology. But only

hearken to his reasons for opposing Mr. Bagshawe's motion. He does so on the ground that the doctrines of the Church of England are the true doctrines; that the nation stands in the place of a parent; that as it is the duty of a parent to give a child, not what the child thinks best but what the parent knows to be best, so it is the duty of the nation to cram the doctrines of the Church of England down the throats of all the prisoners in the gaols—Catholic and Protestant alike—or if they won't stand this, to leave them untried altogether. It is no wonder that such an astonishing argument should have quite converted at least one wavering magistrate to a contrary decision to that which Mr. Knight advocated. A man must, indeed, be callous who would not shrink with nervous apprehension from the slightest possible danger of being supposed to be influenced [except in the opposite direction] by any such argument, as these.

Compare this with the calm and common-sense manner in which the lay magistrates, with perhaps one exception, debated the question *pro* and *con*. The argument for the motion may be put briefly as follows:—"It is the duty of those in authority to provide religious instruction which shall, as far as possible, be efficacious to its end, for all persons whom it holds under restraint. But such religious instruction can only be offered to Roman Catholics by teachers of their own persuasion. Therefore it is their duty to provide Roman Catholic chaplains for the Roman Catholic prisoners in the gaols of this county." Granting the major of this syllogism, the conclusion follows irresistibly—as a general rule. But while admitting it as a general rule, its opponents—we mean its lay opponents—resisted its application on a special ground. It was obviously impossible, they said, to carry the rule out absolutely otherwise they might be called upon to put the county to the expense of a Roman Catholic chapel for the benefit of a single Roman Catholic prisoner who had been sent to goal for a fortnight. It was their duty therefore to consider carefully whether the number of Catholic prisoners in the Glanmorganshire gaols was so large and the terms of imprisonment so long as to make such an appointment desirable and expedient; and having done so they decided the point in the negative.

These are fair grounds of difference. For our own part if the vote had been one that would have decided the question permanently, we should regret that Mr. Bagshawe's motion had been rejected. But as it can be renewed at any moment perhaps it is just as well that it should not have been agreed to at the first time of asking. — *Swansea and Glamorgan Herald*.

Mr. W. E. Forster addressed a meeting of his constituents at Bradford on Tuesday night. The hon. gentleman touched upon most of the leading questions, and towards the close of his speech, in speaking of Ireland, said—The Irish question was fastening itself on us more and more. The fact was that Ireland was still a weakness and a disgrace to England; that though we did not misgovern her to that extent we formerly did, we still did misgovern her in two of the most vital points in which misgovernment was possible. Those points were the laws which we upheld in relation to the cultivation of land (which was, after all, the most important of all material interests in every country, and in no country more so than in Ireland), and what the law attempted to do with regard to Ireland's religious faith. He could not go into the land question; but he would say that the laws we upheld, and the customs to which we gave the force of law tempted the landlords of Ireland, by putting in operation the power of eviction and distress, to fill their estates with impoverished tenants, and to keep those tenants impoverished, by not allowing them to receive the benefit of any exertion they might use upon the land. Then what was the Irish Church? It was a sign of conquest, a memorial of oppression, a legacy of injustice [hear, hear]. Could they wonder that the Irish farmer hastened to leave the land when he was insulted by such a church? Could they wonder that in fleeing from the land he carried with him a hatred of the country which fastened that church upon it, and which upheld such laws? He believed that the House of Commons would be forced to entertain the Irish question more seriously than they had, but he had little hope of the result unless two conditions were fulfilled. One depended upon the Irish people and members of parliament, and the other upon ourselves. The initiative in measures for the advantage of Ireland must come from Ireland. It was up-hill work for an English member to attempt to introduce reforms in Irish matters, because the remark was immediately made, 'If those reforms are so necessary, why don't those men bring them forward whose constituents would be so affected by them?' [hear, hear]. He thought that the Irish members could do much to settle this question, but a reform in parliament would be the most effective mode of settling it. — *Dundalk Democrat*.

The death of the Hon. Joseph Cunard, which occurred at his residence, Upper-Parliament street, Liverpool, on Monday, has caused general regret among all classes of the community. Mr. Cunard, though not what is known as a public man, was engaged in extensive mercantile business in Liverpool for many years, and enjoyed the confidence and respect not only of his own immediate friends, but of every one on 'Change. His presence will therefore be greatly missed among commercial men. Mr. Cunard was the younger brother of Sir Samuel Cunard, founder of the world-famous Cunard line of American steamers, and, like his brother, resided for a considerable time in North America. In New Brunswick Mr. Cunard took a prominent part in public affairs, and much of the present prosperity of that colony is attributable to his energetic exertions. He was a member of the Legislative Council of New Brunswick. During the 14 years of his residence in Liverpool he has carried on an extensive business. He was a member of the firm of Cunard, Wilson, and Co., the well-known ship-brokers of Liverpool, and was justly esteemed for his good business qualities and uprightness of character. It may be worth while to state that it was Mr. Cunard who sold at auction the leviathan steamship *Great Eastern*, when the pecuniary misfortune of the company brought that vessel into the market. On 'Change Mr. Cunard was extremely popular, his genial disposition, invariable courtesy, and goodness of heart making him a universal favorite. At the time of his death he was 67 years of age. — *Liverpool Courier*.

The *London Times* recently contained an article on the capture of Savannah, and the rumored but unfounded proposition to place the Confederacy under a protectorate of the European powers, which embodies some truths which cannot be too often repeated. 'To any scheme of emancipation effected by the South itself England as a nation would certainly offer no word of opposition; on the contrary, we should rejoice in the change, and wish it every success. But we know well that slavery is not the only cause of the secession of the Southern States; nor is emancipation the real object of the North in carrying on the war so persistently. The negro and his condition were only among many causes of the rupture. The tendency of the Republic to separate existed from the day it was constituted, was seen, dreaded and under certain conditions predicted by its first founders. These conditions have been brought about, and a fierce Civil War is the consequence. The negro was introduced into the quarrel by an afterthought. Let the Southerners offer to emancipate their slaves immediately, and propose it to the North as the sacrifice by which they are ready to purchase its recognition of Southern independence. The offer would be rejected as valueless, and submission and return to the Union would be insisted on as the only condition of peace. Every State of Europe acknowledged the Republic when it was governed by a Constitution permitting slavery as fully as the Southern States permitted it now. Why should its abandonment by the Confederacy bring a recognition that is withheld for many other reasons?'

**THE FIRM AT ROXBURG.**—We understand that a judicial recognition is in course of being taken by the Sheriff and Procurator-Fiscal of the county in reference to the calamitous fire at the Theatre Royal. The committee appointed at the public meeting are engaged investigating the circumstances of the fire, with a view of affording relief. Statements by persons who escaped the fall of the north wall continue to be published. It is stated that one of the Roman Catholic clergymen learning that a man was half buried in the rubbish and could not be got out went up to the pile, notwithstanding the danger of the moment, and offered prayer with him. On going in one bystander warned him of the danger, and remarked, "He is not of your persuasion." His answer was, "I must go to him, whatever be his persuasion." The poor man was calling, "Oh take me out of this," and while using his own arms when it got free to help his extraction he cried to those around. "Make haste, make haste." A big stone lying between his shoulders pressed him with his face to the wall, and on his being partially removed he called out from pain. On a false alarm being spread and every one running away, he called them back to help him, and urged them to be quick. The alarm of those outside and the entreaties of the imprisoned man alternately retarded and hastened the work, but while they had for their lives, six or eight people still huddled in the rubble. On Wednesday the remains of Mr. George Lorimer, Lord Dean of Guild of the city of Edinburgh who was killed at the Theatre Royal fire on Friday evening last, were interred with the honours of a public funeral, in the West Church burying ground there. About 700 gentlemen belonging to the different public bodies of the city attended the funeral, of whom about 250 were in carriage.

A paragraph went the round of the newspapers a short time ago concerning the honours paid in Australia to Robson and other convicts by their fellow-prisoners. It is remarkable that the same spirit manifests itself at Portland towards Mr. Roupell, the late member for Lambeth. Roupell some time ago was sent from Millbank Prison to the works at Portland, and his uniform good conduct in prison entitled him to receive, as early as the convict regulations allowed, a first class certificate, with its attendant privileges. But Roupell is set to the usual task work on the fortifications. He tells, however his friends who visit him that his fellow workmen, whenever they have got a chance, are eager to help him get through his task in order that he may leave work before them on the days on which visitors are allowed among the convicts. Roupell is to be seen as well in person, in his prison garb, as he used to be while he was a member of the House of Commons. On the men breaking off work for the day a number of pails of water and nephews are placed for them with which they are to wash and clean themselves; and two or three prisoners use a pail among them; but however pressed they may be for time they set aside one of the pails, declining to use it until Roupell has washed in it, and they always reserve for him a clean napkin. Many of Roupell's old friends go down at stated times from London to see him, and they describe him to wear the same cheerful, serious look which marked him in the house. He never speaks to them of the past, but discusses the questions of the day, showing still the master passion for politics. — *Sherborne Journal*.

It is more than three years since it became evident that the disruption of the United States would seriously affect the supply of cotton to this country. For some months even after the actual commencement of hostilities the general belief in the resources of the Union and the great interests involved in its preservation made England slow to anticipate the impending downfall of commerce and cultivation. But by the autumn of 1861 cotton had risen to such a price that the mill-began to work short time, or even to close, and November of that year saw a large and rapidly increasing addition to the numbers thrown on the Rates. Early in 1862, that is three years ago, the Relief Committees began to act, and once afoot soon found their work growing on their hands. Ever since that "Lancashire Distress" and "Central Relief Fund" have been familiar headings in these columns, and the subject has been invested with a national importance. There was a time indeed when the dimensions of the calamity were most formidable, and when it required some faith in the national character to think that we should ever see the end of it. But we have seen the flood at its height, and we have seen it recede, first by inches, then by feet, till even so far back as half a year ago, last August, there was a talk of closing the accounts of the Funds, or, at least, suspending operations, except in extraordinary cases, or with a view to some future occasion. Just then, however, in the face of a good harvest, there came a new distress, not in the shape of an aggravated cotton famine, but a commercial collapse, caused by the very contrary. The material fell, and so did the manufactured article, till it became cheaper to buy than to make. The weaker class of millowners, if they did not stop altogether, had to economize in wages, and the Relief Lists rose accordingly. A month ago this new return of the tide ebbed again, and at this moment the numbers thrown on public benevolence are fifty thousand less than they were a year ago, only a third of the vast mass, then at its greatest, two years ago, but still near a hundred thousand more than in the days before the cotton famine. — *Times*.

**STRIVINGS.**—In 1806 Mr. Mason and one son were drowned at sea; his remaining eight children went to law, some of them against the others; because if the father died before the son 25,000 would be divided equally among the other eight children, whereas if the son died before the father the brothers only would get it, the sisters being shut out. A few years afterwards Job Taylor and his wife were lost in a ship wrecked at sea; they had not much to leave behind them, but what little there was was made less by the struggles of two sets of relatives, each striving to show that one or other of the two hapless persons might possibly have survived the other by a few minutes. In 1819, Major Colclough, his wife, and four children were drowned during a voyage from Bristol to Cork; the husband and wife had both made wills, and there arose a pretty picking for the lawyers in relation to survivorships and next-of-kin, and trying to prove whether the husband died first, or both together. Two brothers, James and Charles Corbet, left Denbarr on a certain day in 1823, in a vessel of which one was master and the other mate; the vessel was seen five days afterwards, but from that time no news of her fate was ever received. Their father died about a month after the vessel was last seen. The ultimate disposal of his property depended very much on the question whether he survived his two sons, or if they survived him. Many curious arguments were used in court. Two or three captains stated that from August to January are hurricane months in the West Indian seas, and that the ship was very likely to have been wrecked quite early in her voyage. There were, in addition, certain relations interested in James's dying before Charles, and they urged that, if the ship was wrecked, Charles was likely to have outlived by a little space his brother James, because he was a stronger and more experienced man. As for the 'glorious uncertainty'! One bigwig decided that the sons survived the father, and another that the father survived the sons. About the beginning of the present reign three persons—father, mother, and child—were drowned on a voyage from Dublin to Quebec; the husband had made a will, leaving all his property to his wife; hence arose a contest between the next-of-kin and the wife's relations, each catching at any small fact that would (theoretically) keep one poor soul alive a few minutes longer than the other. About ten years ago a gentleman embarked

with his wife and three children for Australia; the ship was lost soon after leaving England; the mate, the only person who was saved among the whole of the crew and passengers, deposed that he saw the hapless husband and wife locked in each other's arms at the moment when the waves closed over them. There would seem to be no question of survivorship here; yet a question really arose, for there were two wills to be proved, the terms of which would render the relatives much interested in knowing whether husband or wife died really survive the other by ever so small a portion of time. — *Dickens's All the Year Round*.

**GARBALDI AND THE ORANGEMEN OF LIVERPOOL.**—The *Liverpool Mercury* publishes the following copy of an address presented to Garibaldi, with his reply thereto:—

**TO GENERAL JOSEPH GARBALDI.**

**ILLUSTRIOUS GENERAL.**—We, the undersigned, forming the Liverpool Orange and Protestant working men's committee for the purchase of the yacht which is now being presented to you, take this opportunity of expressing our sympathy for you in your recent afflictions, and towards you for those chivalrous deeds performed, which are already engraved on the tablets of our hearts, and immortalised on the pages of history. We feel, noble patriot, that we are addressing one of ourselves, a working man, and indeed rejoice to think that we have such a name as yours associated with the true, honest sons of toil. We were glad when you arrived in this country and accepted the invitation of our worthy mayor to visit our town, but we were hurt in our inmost soul when for special reasons, never satisfactorily known to us, that promise could not be fulfilled.

But now, noble hearted of all patriots, in the name of the Protestant working men of Liverpool, we do cordially invite you to come among us at an early day. Yes, General, leave your island home for a short season, and cross the briny deep in your own yacht, which we, the working men of Liverpool, will arise as the heart of one man, and give you a reception quite as hearty as was accorded you by our London brethren. We rejoice to think that Providence has so bountifully blessed you in again restoring you to a measure of health and strength, and our fervent prayer to the Almighty God is that he may give you strength to go on and prosecute the great work in which hitherto you have been engaged, namely, in knocking off the shackles of the slave and opening the prison doors of them which were bound. Go on, General, in your noble work; rest not, we beseech you, until the Italian nation is united and free, and we pray that Providence, 'which moves in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform,' will remove all enemies of truth and progress, and that ere long the standard of liberty may be erected upon the walls of the imperial city, and the flag of truth will proudly flutter in the wind of high heaven, over the Vatican itself.

Remember, General, that this can be accomplished; that there is an Omnipotent Eye which can penetrate all clouds, and see those who on earth, under His guidance, are striving to beat down the kingdom of Satan, the kingdom of ignorance, and the kingdom of oppression, and are endeavoring, by the light of their example, to fill the earth with the light of truth and power, and glories of a never-dying intelligence.

We now conclude our short address, praying that the work of your hands may be prosperous; and when the time shall arrive for the present Italian nation to arm and free their brethren in Rome and Venetia, may they be led again to battle and to victory by the working man's friend, Joseph Garibaldi. Amen.

(Signed)—D C Faulkner, Chairman; Evan Rodgers, Deputy; Thomas Roberts, Treasurer; W H Paine, Secretary; and about 24 names of the Committee.

The General replied as follows:—  
Caperna, 20th Dec, 1864.  
"Gentlemen,—I thank you from my heart for your earnest wishes for the promotion of civil and religious liberty, and for the union of the Italian people, which I trust may be speedily accomplished;—also for the affectionate sentiments so kindly expressed towards myself.

"Very faithfully yours,  
"GARIBALDI."

**THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.**—On Monday the first instalment of the Atlantic telegraph was despatched on its way, and thus a most important step forward was taken in the means of providing a telegraphic communication between England and America. Her Majesty's ship *Amaryth*, an old sailing corvette, which for some years past has lain at Moorings in the Medway, had received in the iron tank which has been constructed in her hold a coil of 270 miles of the cable, and was duly towed down to the Medway, where she will be laid alongside the *Great Eastern* to deliver up this first instalment of the Atlantic cable. — *Express*.

**A VERY 'FREE' (AND EASY) KIRK IN SCOTLAND.**—The Aberdeen Correspondent of the *Banffshire Journal* writes:—"For a long, long period there has been regular Sunday evening service at the East Church, the six city pastors, or their assistants and substitutes, performing the duties. This was last week brought to an end, and certainly, as things were conducted, not before time. It is not too much to say that the scenes enacted and the behaviour of certain of those who went to these evening services were a scandal to any body of Christian worshippers. The majority of the attenders were young men and young women, who made the church a place of resort for the sole purpose, apparently, of having 'a lark' and meeting afterwards. Laughing, shouting, and whole sentences of abuse and laziness, from opposite sides of the church, walking out in dozens by precooled signals, were common occurrences. So bad, in fact, did things become latterly that the male and female portion of the gathering were kept separate, by the one sex being only allowed to the galleries of the church, while the other were confined below. Even this did not cure the evil, and so on Sabbath night the church was by resolution of the city clergyman, shut; and very probably the services will be discontinued altogether."

**UNITED STATES.**

It is a fact, that when the traffic in slaves from the coast of Africa to the United States was forever prohibited by Act of Congress in 1808, this measure was carried by Southern against Northern votes; for the reason, that all the vessels engaged in the trade were fitted out from Yankee sea-ports, manned by Yankee seamen, and commanded by Yankee captains so that the abolition of the traffic was in point of fact, the destruction of the Yankee interest. New Bedford, Newburyport, and Nantucket, all in Massachusetts, were the principal ports from which these vessels were fitted out.

It is worthy of remark that, no act of absolute emancipation ever was adopted by any Northern State. When it became evident that slave labor was no longer profitable in the North, acts were passed at different times by the legislatures of the Northern States, naming a date in the future from and after which all negroes born within the limits of the respective States should be free; but care was taken to place the date at a sufficiently remote period, to enable the masters to dispose of able bodied and valuable slaves to purchasers in the South, where their labor would be profitable. This was invariably done, and the superannuated and helpless alone remained to enjoy the benefit of this spurious philanthropy. — *Blackwood*.

Governor Smith, of Va., calls a meeting to respond to Lincoln's answer to the rebel commissioners. The Sentinel endorses the call and says: "Let us put our heel on Lincoln's insolent insult and return defiance to his menaces."

The Richmond *Wig* of the 7th instant says the following documents were laid before Congress this a.m.:—

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Confederate States of America.—Having recently read a written notification, which notified me that the President of the United States was disposed to confer informally, with unofficial agents that might be sent by me, with a view to the restoration of peace, I requested the Hon. A. H. Stephens, Hon. R. M. T. Hunter and Hon. J. A. Campbell to proceed through our lines to hold a conference with Mr. Lincoln, to such persons as he might depute to represent him. I herewith submit, for the information of Congress, the reports of the eminent citizens above named, showing that the enemy wishes to enter into negotiations with the Confederate States, or any of them separately, or to give our people any other terms or guarantees than those which a conqueror may grant, or to permit us to have peace on any other basis than our unconditional submission to their rule, coupled with the acceptance of their recent legislation, including an amendment to the constitution for the emancipation of negro slaves, and with the right on the part of the Federal Congress to legislate on the subject of the relations between the white and black population of each State. Such is, I understand, the effect of the amendment to the Constitution, which has been adopted by the Congress of the United States.

[Signed,] JEFF. DAVIS.

Richmond, Feb. 5th.—To the President of the Confederate States:—Sir: Under your letter of appointment of the 20th ult., we proceeded to seek an informal conference with Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, upon the subject mentioned in your letter. The Conference was granted and took place on the 30th ult., on board a steamer anchored in Hampton roads, where we met President Lincoln and the Hon. Mr. Seward Secretary of State of the United States. It continued for several hours, and was both full and explicit. We learn from them that the message of President Lincoln to the Congress of the United States in December last, explains clearly and distinctly his sentiments as to the terms, conditions and method of proceeding by which peace can be secured to the people, and we were not informed that they would be modified or altered to obtain that, and we understood from him that no terms or proposals of any agreement looking to an ultimate settlement would be entertained or made by him with the authorities of the Confederate States, because that would be a recognition of their existence as a separate power, which under no circumstances, would be done, and, for like reasons, that no such terms would be entertained by him from States separately; that no extended truce or armistice, as at present advised, would be granted or allowed without satisfactory assurances, in advance, of a complete restoration of the authority of the Constitution and laws of the United States over all the places within the States of the Confederacy; that whatever consequences may follow from the re-establishment of that authority must be accepted, but that the individuals subject to pains and penalties under the laws of the United States might rely upon a very liberal use of the powers confided to him to remit those pains and penalties if peace be restored. During the Conference he pressed an amendment to the constitution of the United States, adopted by Congress on the 31st of January, was brought to our notice. This amendment provides that neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except for crime, should exist within the United States or any part of their jurisdiction, and that Congress should have the power to enforce this amendment by appropriate legislation. Of all the Conference herein mentioned, and leading to the same, you have heretofore been informed.

Very respectfully,  
Your obedient servants,  
ALEX. H. STEPHENS,  
R. M. T. HUNTER,  
JOHN A. CAMPBELL.

New York, 9th.—The Richmond *Enquirer* of the 6th says.—Submission, abolition and reconciliation were the only terms that could be got out of Lincoln and Seward by the commissioners. Hence the South has only to fight. The result will have the effect to unite the people more closely and strongly than ever. If defeated and destroyed, those who survive will have nothing worse to submit to than is now demanded by the enemy.

The *Sentinel* says the South has been insulted. It regards the passage of the constitutional amendment as an outrage and an upturning of the social institutions of the South and robbing its citizens. Lincoln's propositions were that the South should lay down their arms and disperse to their homes and he would appoint for the Confederate States marshals, district attorneys and judges from U. S. Courts; that in executing the confiscation law he would do it as leniently as possible; that he would treat neither with Confederate States nor any state separately, nor will he listen to nothing short of unconditional submission to the constitution and laws passed under it. That the slavery question was disposed of and not now to be discussed.

MURRAY & LANMAN'S FLORIDA WATER.—If the price of an article were always the measure of its value, we might suppose that this exquisite perfume and cosmetic was inferior to some foreign scents of which a fourth of the quantity contained in one of the Florida Water bottles, is sold at four times the price. But as we have an independent way of forming opinions from the evidences of our own senses, our conclusion in this instance is a very different one. We have tested the preparation in various ways, and unhesitatingly pronounce its fragrance as indelible, as fresh and flower like, and in all respects as agreeable as that of any toilet water with which Cologne, Paris, or London has ever furnished us. This is the verdict of all Spanish America, and to it we say amen.

Agents for Montreal:—Devins & Bolton, Lamplough & Campbell, A. G. Davidson, K. Campbell & Co., J. Gardner, J. A. Harle, Picault & Son, and H. R. Gray.

**SOME CURED TO THE SUFFERING, LIVER COMPLAINT**—The most remarkable facts in relation to the unparalleled efficacy of BRISTOL'S SUGAR-COATED PILLS in Liver complaints have recently come to light. Adoniram Sedgwick, Esq., of Hartford, announces that they cured him of congestion of the liver (preventing jaundice) in three days. Richard M. Phelps, the well-known machinist of Pittsburgh, Ohio, writes: "The physicians considered me a hopeless case when I commenced taking Bristol's invaluable Antibilious and Alternative Pills. They call my complaint degeneracy of the liver, and I suffered great pain in the right side, which was swelled accompanied with severe constipation and utter loss of appetite. A course of the pills has made me a well man, and I recommend them to all who suffer from similar complaints." Miss Sarah Jane Deming of Jersey City concludes a letter to Dr. Bristol, thus: "To your medicine (BRISTOL'S SUGAR COATED PILLS) alone, owe the re-establishment of my health, after having suffered most severely from bilious remittent fever for more than three months." These authentic statements the sick should consider as addressed directly to themselves, and act accordingly. They are put up in glass vials, and will keep in any climate. In all cases arising from, or aggravated by, impure blood, BRISTOL'S SARSAPARILLA should be used in connection with the Pills.

J. F. Henry & Co. Montreal, General agents for Canada. For sale in Montreal by Devins & Bolton, Lamplough & Campbell, A. G. Davidson, K. Campbell & Co., J. Gardner, J. A. Harle, Picault & Son, H. R. Gray and by all prominent Druggists.