

## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

## FRANCE.

The London *Times* contains the following financial statements of the Empire:—

We have looked in vain through M. Fould's statement for details as to the actual state of the unfunded debt of France; and, for reasons to be explained presently, we must regard any statement that may be put forward with the very greatest jealousy.

Of this much, however, we are informed, on M. Fould's authority—that between 1841 and 1858 extraordinary credits have been opened to the amount of 2,800,000,000, or about £112,000,000 sterling; and that the deficit for the present year amounts to no less than £40,000,000 sterling, the largest deficit, we apprehend, of which the history of mankind furnishes us with an example. We do not know how these sums were raised, but assuredly it has not been by taxation.

Such is the disastrous, the disgraceful state of French Finance, after ten years of brilliant and successful Imperialism. All this has been done amid constant professions of financial prosperity, and it is only when it is actually without money to discharge its current obligations that the French Government has taken the nation in some degree into its confidence and shown it a little of the reality that has lain hid behind the financial prosperity of which it has been so often assured; nay, at this very moment the *Revue des Deux Mondes* is undergoing a specimen of persecution for making statements with regard to the financial position of France, the only fault of which is their utter inadequacy to describe the real position of the national balance-sheet.—What, then, are the causes which have led to a crash so disgraceful and so disastrous, a calamity far worse than the loss of a battle or even a campaign, full of the most grievous regrets for the past and the most gloomy anticipations for the future?

Alas! the question is only too easily answered. It has been the pleasure of the present Emperor to constitute the himself the arbiter of Europe to revive the dormant spirit of territorial ambition, and to encourage France to contend once more with England for the supremacy of the seas—to her a matter of distinction and glory, to us a question of life and death. For these purposes the youth of France has been withdrawn from the pursuits of labour and industry to live in idleness and discontent, at the expense of the community whose wealth it ought to increase, in the listless routine of garrison life.—An army of 600,000 men has given to France the barren satisfaction of shaking the repose of every nation in Europe; and, besides military glory, of which she had already enough, she has gained the western slopes of the Alps of Savoy. Her enormous exertions in shipbuilding have called forth corresponding exertions on our part most unwillingly made, and have probably placed her further than ever from the object she desires besides creating a spirit of diffidence most injurious to the commerce of the country. Another cause has been the duty which the French Government has taken upon itself of finding employment for the masses, and regulating the price of food. Hence an expenditure on public works utterly disproportionate to the wants of the community, the only effect of which has been to rivet the conviction that the duty of the Government is not so much to govern as to feed and support one part of the nation at the expense of the rest.

But all this is insufficient to account for this frightful deficit. Aggressive naval and military armaments, public works, and occasional wars would still, we believe, have left the public resources in a state of actual exhaustion, had it not been for a system of public pillage more searching, more shameless, and more universal than we could have believed possible in a country where the sense of justice is so strong and the jealousy of unmerited fortune so keen as in France. A shower of gold has descended upon the Empire and its supporters. The enormous fortunes unaccountably accumulated by public men have been the cause of scandal and wonder till scandal grew dumb and wonder weak from the frequency, almost the universality, of the phenomenon. Modern France has taught us better to understand those passages of the Roman satirist in which he seems to treat suddenly acquired private wealth as a sort of crime against the public. The splendid mansions, the brilliant equipages, the enormous expenditure of men who till the *coup d'état* were notoriously poor, have been in every one's mouth. The Court has been conducted on a scale of expense almost incredible. New palaces have arisen as by the wand of an enchanter, and the splendours of the *ancien régime* have been emulated and surpassed. Extravagance has had no limits but public money and public credit; the one is gone and the other shattered.

This is what ten years of Imperialism have done for France; let those who chafe at the slow and cumbrous machinery of limited monarchies look and learn.

The following is an article, signed by L. Veron, in the *Constitutionnel*:—

"If we are rightly informed, His Excellency the Minister of the Interior has submitted to the Emperor a project which we may style 'a political and financial project'; a disengagement, the maintenance of the regimental organisation. This project would be a supplement to the new financial measures the execution of which is entrusted to M. Fould.

"The disarmament would not only be a new and happy guarantee of confidence and prosperity for France, but also a new and powerful guarantee to Europe. It would be general peace crowning the glory acquired by our army on the field of battle.

"If we are rightly informed, the Emperor will pay a visit to Her Majesty the Queen of England during the Universal Exhibition of London. The project of M. de Persigny submitted to the Emperor would, therefore, be at the same time a new and great political and financial measure."

The *Constitutionnel* also publishes the following:—

"False reports are circulating respecting the proposed taxes that are to be submitted to the Legislative body next session.

"We have reason to believe that the only projects under consideration are a very small tax on coffee, matches, which is assuredly justified by the many deplorable accidents that have occurred, and which it is time Government should look to; and a tax on pianos, which will not weigh upon the working classes."

The *Journal des Débats* observes upon the above announcement:—

"We sincerely hope that M. Fould has something else to count upon than this warfare against domestic music to redeem our finances. Moreover, the *Constitutionnel* is wrong when it hazards the insinuation that a tax on pianos would not weigh upon the 'working classes.' It would be an additional burden imposed on the *petite bourgeoisie* of our country, which follows the opulent classes in its taste for the arts, but has not revenues large enough, nor leads a life of sufficient leisure, to allow a distinction to be drawn between it and the working classes."

The Prefect of Police has addressed the following circular to the Superior Council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul:—

"Monsieur le Président.—In order to leave to the Council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, over which you preside, time to terminate its labours regularly, His Excellency the Minister of the Interior has been pleased to delay, up to the present time, the enforcement of the stipulations in his circular of the 16th of October. But now, in conformity with the orders of His Excellency, I have the honour to make known to you that the moment has arrived at which those stipulations must receive their entire execution. In consequence you will be good enough to inform the members of the Central Council that their meetings are henceforward prohibited. I have no need to remind you that, in conformity with the terms of the circular, if the different conferences of St. Vincent de Paul, through their presidents or delegates, should express the desire to have at Paris a central representation, and should give sufficient reasons for it, the Minister of the Interior will take the Emperor's orders in deciding on what bases and according to what principles that representation can be organised."

## ITALY.

The correspondent of the London *Times* admits that we are still a long way off from a "Kingdom of Italy":—

"The unification of Italy is very far from being an accomplished fact; nay, it seems to many yet an anxious, arduous, dangerous undertaking. The infinite wisdom of Providence, which meditated it for so many centuries, only brought it now to maturity, now that, although still as difficult as ever, railways have made it just possible.

The same authority recognises the fact that, owing to the "Conscription and the harshness of Piedmontese officials, the people of the annexed Provinces are heartily disgusted with the rule of Victor Emmanuel:—

"All good subjects of the Marches feel that Italy has sore need of soldiers, and are sorry to see so many sturdy youths of their rural population set themselves against the law. With all their hearts they would wish the runaways to join their standards, and would most eagerly lend a hand towards bringing them to their duty. But they think that, in order to attain that object, it is necessary to mitigate the extreme severity of the law. The military regulations of old Piedmont were issued for a people long trained to obedience, strongly impressed with a sense of duty, and made by habit by no means disinclined to martial services. The instances of young men attempting to shirk the conscription were extremely rare in Piedmont itself, and in 18 cases out of 20 a 'refractory' was a bad character."

But in these newly annexed Roman provinces, which the Papal Government had freed from conscription, the *refrattarii* are simply good, ignorant, harmless peasant lads, who shun military service from an instinctive dread of restraint, from a blind animal attachment to their homes and families, or, else, who are set up by the priests to resist the law from sheer spirit of contradiction, and with perfidious suggestions as to the instability of the present order of things, and a certainty of the restoration of the Pontifical Government. These clerical mischief-makers play on the imagination of simple rustics, describing the chances of their being marched off to Piedmont as something more awful than exile to Siberia; they draw the direct picture of the strictness of Piedmontese discipline; they fore-shadow the fate of the poor conscript in the event of a downfall of the Kingdom of Italy, and of a reinstatement of the Papal authorities, when all who had served Victor Emmanuel would find themselves involved in the miseries of perpetual banishment. With these erring, but scarcely responsible fugitives, the most patriotic citizens here think Government could never deal with too much leniency. As a proof of the mild and inoffensive nature of these *refrattarii*, they point to the fact that out of thousands of them, scattered all over the country, exposed to want and all its temptations, struggling with the hardships of the weather, which begins to be severe in the mountains, hardly an instance of any outrage is ever heard of. That these men in the bush may turn out brigands in the Marches, as they have done in Naples, no man in his senses seems here to entertain the least apprehension; nay, everybody feels that all, or most of them, would be brought to reason, and deliver themselves up on the first approach of winter, were it not for the dread prospect of the prison staring them in the face. Six months' or a year's confinement in the present state of Italian jails, and association with the desperate characters making up the majority of their inmates, are rather awkward preliminaries to fit a young man for the honourable duties of a civilized soldier. These four or five thousand conscripts would be lost to the country and not gained to the army. They may be, if hard driven, not easy to catch, and would be found worse than useless when caught.

Already, by quartering soldiers on the families of the runaways, Government has succeeded in bringing 500 or 600 of them to deliver themselves up, and the population have been sorely distressed at seeing these poor deluded wretches conveyed to jail with handcuffs round their wrists; others come in at the rate of 50 or 60 a-day. No one entertains a doubt that the whole of the wanderers will equally be picked up; and great is the anxiety to see some steps taken that their return may be turned to the best advantage of the State by allowing them a chance of rehabilitating themselves, granting them remission of the degrading punishment.

Of another grievance in this part of the country I have been told. At the time of the invasion of the Marches under Fanti and Cialdini, ending in the victory of Castelfidardo and the taking of Ancona, some unavoidable sufferings were inflicted on the willing population, and both private persons and the communes underwent considerable sacrifices. The question of indemnity is now put forward, and the Government, I am told, boggles and cavils at the bills that are presented for payment. The whole sum demanded is, I am given to understand, a mere trifling of 50,000,000, or 60,000,000, and the Marchesans, who really behaved with heroic disinterestedness and generosity, would much rather lose every penny

of what they conceive to be their due than see the Government, of which they entertained so high an opinion, and which they contrasted in their fond imagination with the mean and grasping minions of Papal sovereignty, display such a peddling, biggish spirit. No doubt, the Italian Government is at the present time anything but flush of money; but this was, perhaps, an occasion in which the utmost liberality might turn out to be the wisest economy.

This and a certain harshness on the part of some of the Piedmontese officials, and the sweeping disregard of local institutions to which the people are strongly attached, and which they are apt to think more provident than the new-fangled notions which are being substituted in their stead, and the disorder inseparable from too hasty and general a reform, constitute all the grievances which have somewhat impaired the popularity of the new rulers.

Rome, Nov. 15.—It is said that the Pontifical Government is secretly preparing an expedition against Umbria.

NAPLES, Nov. 16.—Chiavone, after having been driven from San Giovanni, fled successively to Monte Leoluca and Rocca Guglielma, and has been unsuccessfully endeavoring to regain the Papal States. He is being pursued by the Italian troops. Twenty-seven brigands, who formed part of his band, have been killed, and among their number, Belga de Sugar, who commanded the attack on Castelluccio. Borges has appeared in the provinces of Basilicata with 200 brigands, and has sacked Tivignio and Sanahdra. He was repulsed at several other places.—A deputation from Basilicata has demanded from General Della Marmora the adoption of energetic measures for the suppression of brigandage in that province. It is rumored that the disembarkation of small numbers of brigands coming from Malta has taken place in Parulio and the Calabrias.

On the occasion of Cialdini's departure, several thousand copies of the following distich were spread about the city:—

Di sangue, sol, non di sudore, tinto,  
Il vincitore se ne andato vinto.

"With blood only, not with sweat, imbued,  
The conqueror went away conquered."

GENERAL BORGES.—The Regeneration of Madrid gives us the following particulars relative to the Commander-in-Chief of the Royalist forces in the Kingdom of Naples. Don Joseph Borges was born in 1813, in a village called Vernot, in Catalonia.—His father was a captain in the army, and was one of the first to rise in defence of the rights of Don Carlos. His father was shortly after taken prisoner at Villanueva de Moya, and shot at Cervera. Joseph was then a captain in the Carlist army, and was immediately called to the command of the battalion left vacant by his father's untimely end. In 1846 he was one of the oldest colonels in the Carlist service. His brother, Anthony, had about that time lost his life in that cause. When the remains of the Carlist army, after Moroto's treason, took refuge in France, Borges was stationed in Bourg, where he learnt the trade of book-binding; which he exercised till 1847, when he again re-entered Spain to fight for the Carlist cause. He remained so engaged until 1849, during which period he was promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General. In 1855 he was the only Carlist chief who distinguished himself. Borges is of middle height, of a dark complexion, with dark and remarkably intelligent eyes. Although only forty-nine years old, he is already grey. He is of distinguished manners, and very capable in conversation, speaking with ease, and engaging the sympathy of all who have to deal with him. In everything relating to the military service he is severe and inflexible, which secures him the love and respect of his soldiers. Incapable of punishing the innocent, he never allowed a vanquished enemy to be molested. His honesty is undoubted; and, during his residence in France, he has lived entirely by his work, refusing to enter the Queen's service, although the offer was made to him to do so in the same rank as that which he held in the Carlist army. Borges' defect may be that of being too daring, or even rash. He is a skillful organizer and courageous warrior. He will give to his soldiers the example of heroic valour and the cause of Legitimate Royalty has not a more intrepid or faithful defender.

## AUSTRIA.

The Austrian Government has addressed a circular to its representatives at all foreign Courts to be communicated by the respective Governments to which they are accredited, that the measures taken towards Hungary are essentially provisional until that country consents to accept the privileges granted to it by the Crown, instead of claiming those which belonged to it before the revolution of 1849.

A letter from Pesth dated the 12th of November, says:—  
"The provisional regime is now in force, but no disturbances have taken place. Yesterday, the editors of all the newspapers were sent for by the head of police, when a letter from the new Lieutenant-Governor was read to them, in which he expresses his high esteem for public opinion, but at the same time admonishes them not to oppose the Government measures."

The *Ost-Deutsche Post* publishes the Imperial edict by which the Croatian Diet is dissolved.

## POLAND.

BRZESLAW, Nov. 19.—The Administrator of the Archbishopric of Warsaw has been arrested in pursuance of orders from St. Petersburg. The Prelate, who is ill, has been conducted to the citadel, and will be tried before a court-martial. The Government demands from the Chapter the election of another administrator. The Chapter, however, refuses to comply with this demand, and has appealed to Rome.

## SPAIN.

The Madrid journals of the 14th mention that the Staff of General Prim, as commander of the expedition to Mexico, has been formed; its chief is Major-General Torres Jurado, and it consists of not fewer than 17 other persons, military and civil. Orders had been given to the Generals and the Staff to hold themselves in readiness to leave for Mexico without delay, instead of at the end of the month, as originally intended. The *Espana* says:—  
"In political circles the project of forming in America a confederation of all the Republics of Spanish origin, with Spain at the head of it, is now being discussed. Such a measure, it is affirmed, would possess great advantages, both for Spain and for those little States."

## UNITED STATES.

The difference of opinion between Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Cameron, Secretary of War, has become painfully apparent. The Secretary's Report issued with a long diatribe against the South, urging the confiscation of property in States of "rebels and traitors." The value of this kind of property in the "rebel States," he says, is from \$700,000,000 to \$1,000,000,000; and there is no good reason, he contends, why it should not be confiscated. The report containing this argument had been circulated among the press before the President determined to use his authority to suppress its publication. Circulars were sent round to the papers to which the report had been sent to stop its appearance; but failed to reach some three or four in time. So it appeared, and of course other papers copied with explanations; thus more intense and general publicity is given to the obnoxious passages by reason of the attempt at suppression. General attention is also, of course, called to the difference between the President and Secretary.—*Montreal Gazette*.

THE CAPTURE OF SLODOLSK AND MASON APPROPRIATE CONGRESS.—In the House of Representatives at Washington, on Monday 2nd inst., the following motion was adopted:—

"Mr. Lovejoy, of Illinois, (Rep.) offered a joint resolution tendering the thanks of Congress to Govt. Wilkes for his arrest of the traitors Slidell and Mason."

"Mr. Edgerton, of Ohio, (Rep.) moved as an substitute that the President be requested, to present Capt. Wilkes a gold medal, with suitable emblems and devices expressive of the high sense of confidence entertained for him by Congress, and his prompt arrest of the rebels, Mason and Slidell."

"The substitute was rejected, and the original resolution adopted."

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—Mr. Gurley gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill to confiscate all property belonging to persons in rebellion against the Government of the United States, including persons recognized as slaves, who shall be made free men, to provide for their employment during the present war, their subsequent apprenticeship to loyal masters, and their final colonization.

Mr. Cox introduced the following, which was referred to the committee on the Judiciary:—

"Whereas the exchange of prisoners in the present war has already been practised indirectly, and as such exchange would not only increase the enlistments and vigor of our army, but subserve the highest interests of humanity, and as such exchange does not involve the recognition of the Rebels as a Government, therefore resolved, that the President of the United States be requested to inaugurate the exchange of prisoners in the present war."

Mr. Holman introduced a preamble reiterating the sentiments contained in the Crittenden resolutions, adopted at the last session, in effect that the war was forced upon us by the disunionists, and that the only object in carrying it on by the United States is to re-establish obedience to the Constitution and Union, and that when these objects are accomplished the war shall cease, &c. Mr. Holman's proposition concluded with a resolution re-affirming these sentiments.

On motion of Mr. Stevens, of Penn., it was laid on the table by a vote of 71 against 65.

Mr. Dunn offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Foreign Affairs to inquire into the practicability and expediency of procuring the rights and privileges of settlement and citizenship on any part of this continent, or on the adjacent island south of the United States, for the habitation of free persons of African descent, who may choose to emigrate thereto from the United States, for the formation of independent colonies, to be protected from foreign molestation. Adopted.

Mr. Lovejoy and Mr. Conway severally introduced propositions on questions of Slavery, the consideration of which were postponed.

Mr. Watts, delegate from New Mexico, introduced a preamble concluding with a resolution requesting the Secretary of War to report to the House what measures have been, or ought to be taken to expose and punish Major Lynde and other army officers who may have been guilty of treason or cowardice in surrendering a larger and superior force of United States soldiers to Texas troops. Adopted.

Mr. Hutchins asked leave to introduce a bill to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia. Mr. Cox objected.

CONGRESSIONAL PROSPECTS.—Of the Message, now being read to the House. The heavy silence with which it is received was just broken by that quiet laughter with which respect struggling with derision greets ill-timed jesting. The solitary passage in this anxiously-expected document which produces a sensation in the House, is that which, unnecessarily seeking in a time of revolution to harmonize the Constitution to an impossible scheme of colonizing the emancipated slaves of the rebels, remarks:—"If it be said that the only legitimate object of acquiring territory is to furnish homes for white men, this measure effects that object: for the emigration of coloured men leaves additional room for white men remaining or coming here." These concentric areas of grave and seemingly oppressed law-givers, facing this Reporter's Gallery—they go through with a form now. But how evident it is to all beholders that there is stormy debate brewing below here, and that the resolves which save nations, as France was saved by eyes and noses given in sessions that were solemnly voted to be permanent, are silently taking shape in the hearts of the People's representatives. If the army of the Potomac be marched and a great and decisive battle be won, this session of Congress gratefully and necessarily will be a short one. It will be long and passionate, if the President, as Commander-in-Chief under the Constitution, does not see to it that the Volunteers, who volunteered to fight and not to hybernate, are brought face to face with the enemy. "Close quarters, and not winter quarters," is the cry in the camps. This cry will find full echo in the popular House, fuller echo in the Conservative Senate. A speedy battle, and an Austere victory, will save us from much in an early adjournment of the days of quiet, or of debate that good-tempered men are glad to forego. Otherwise, there is immediately upon us discussion of resolutions to emancipate the slaves of Rebels—to emancipate the slaves in the District of Columbia—to arm the slaves of Rebels—to hire the slaves in Rebel States to cultivate the soil and gather crops of cotton, rice, sugar, and tobacco on Federal account—discussion of bills to confiscate the land in the Rebel States—of bills to give bounty lands to the soldiers, and locate the warrants for them exclusively South of the Potomac—to colonize the rank and file of the army throughout the Slave States, and to hold the theatre of the rebellion under such political regeneration as Cromwell's Englishmen held Ireland—to confiscate Rebel personal property throughout the North—discussions about revenue, taxation, expenditure, and, thereon, before the end, a savage demand for retrenchment and economy. There will be debate upon the Slidell and Mason affair—debate upon the Regular Army—upon the New Granadian case of Gwin & Co.—upon the policy which blocked the rebel ports, instead of closing them—more and sharper debate concerning the Regular Army—debate upon the telegraphic censorship of the Press, instituted to save falling statements from accelerated ruin—inquiry and debate upon every blunder and accident of the war from Missouri to Hatteras—propositions to make radical changes in the command of the troops, and to seek in the models of France and Rome in the periods of their military peril and legislative discontent, escape from evils with which invasion and failure afflict a people at once warlike and commercial. Shooting through all this passionate quest, will the war of pure politics make its appearance and institute the strife for administration which either ballots or bullets will determine in 1864. Indeed, not much longer will the tide of patriotism and heroism set westward, if the army go into winter quarters. The Capitol will be the central point of interest for the whole people, and the House of Representatives and the Senate be the theatre where impassioned audiences will see Republicans, as earnest as were the Revolutionists of France, play the great drama of saving a nation anew.—*Washington Cor. of the N. Y. Tribune*.

THE SIX SOLDIERS IN MISSOURI.—Sister of Charity.—A clerical correspondent of the Chicago *Tribune* made, about two weeks since, the following statement in reference to the sanitary condition of the troops in Missouri:—  
"The closing paragraphs in your report this morning, respecting the condition of our men who have fallen sick in the wilds of Missouri, is in itself a strong appeal for immediate action in their behalf. I went as far west as Sedalia as an agent of the United States Sanitary Commission, and the sad and pitiful scenes I encountered in the hospitals above St. Louis have already been narrated in other relations. I would beg hence, however, to speak of them here, but for the sufficient reason that those things are, I hope, done with as far as my actual observation warrants me to write. The Sisters of Mercy have taken hospitals in Jefferson City as nurses for the sick there, and will certainly go far as they command the means, to replace the horrible filth, and equal, and wretchedness that filled them at my first visit, with a gentle, cheerful, abiding care, and purity and peace. Pray permit me, standing so far from these women in ecclesiastical and theological ideas, to testify to their beautiful, holy, and unselfish devotion wherever I have found them in our hospitals, East or West. The doctors can find nowhere else such perfect nurses—so nice about the food—so reliable about the medicine—quiet as quakers, yet cheerful and chatty wherever the unyielding, womanly instinct is touched toward any poor boy, who will get well twice as fast when he can have a sympathy that feels to him like that of his mother and sisters, what no money can purchase."

Some time ago, there was reason to complain of the state of things pointed out by this correspondent but there is no longer. The labor of our own Sanitary Commission, which have been faithful and untiring, should be gratefully acknowledged in this connection. The gentlemen of this commission have so arranged that the sick, except in a few instances where removal is impossible, are no longer detained in the remote hospitals—the condition of all of which has, by the way, been greatly improved. The removal is effected with great carelessness—hospital care, comfortably fitted up, where every attention possible on a journey can be paid to the sick, being among the provisions to insure them an easy transit to the larger hospitals or their homes. The tribute paid by this writer to the Sisters of Charity is but the just due of that beneficent Order. No denomination of Christians but the Catholic has been able to create and keep up permanently such a corps of "ministering angels." The Church that trains souls in perpetual succession to heart-felt practical piety, and a pure benevolence which flows out in acts and a life of untiring devotion to the wants of suffering humanity, may have an erroneous creed, but at the same time has somewhere a large stock of Christian virtues. Those virtues, unnoticed at times when there is no demand for such an exercise of them as strikes the general eye, shine forth, with a lustre to which nobody is blind, in times of public suffering and distress. Some of the larger-minded members of Protestant churches, struck by the beneficent working of the many admirable institutions of the Catholic Church, have, at times, urged on their colleagues the expediency of considering the feasibility of a similar outgrowth for these churches. But whether the framework of these churches or their spirit forbids the attempt, it is certain that no trial has yet been made of what would seem to be an impossibility conceded in the outset. The only Sister of Charity found outside of the Catholic Church is occasionally a holy and endowed woman, like Florence Nightingale. When such a phenomenon appears, the world is in admiration; and the newspapers in ecstasy over the self-sacrificing beauty and nobleness of such a character. But how astonished would that world be to know that, within the pale of the Catholic Church, such visions of light are no phenomena. The pious and devoutly benevolent women within that pale are impersonalities. We may hear of the order to which they belong, but the whole spirit of Catholicism forbids self-exaltation in them; and revolts at all personal publicity, when attempted by the irreverence of others who do not understand their character, and cannot enter into the secret of their motives. They "do good," we cannot add "by stealth," but unostentatiously, and without a thought of self, and "would blush to find it fame."

The N. Y. *Journal of Commerce* says: The newspapers have published most exaggerated accounts of the coming in of slaves at Port Royal. From several gentlemen who have recently returned from the Port, we learn facts which are to be relied on as true. The negroes have come to the fort to sell provisions, poultry, &c., and their supplies have been bought. About 150 remain in the fort, having been employed to work, receiving rations and eight dollars a month. No reliance is placed on any information they give.—*Montreal Gazette*.

THE SHODDY ARISTOCRACY.—But if the war has disturbed the English aristocracy it has completely revolutionized our own. The English aristocracy is one of blood; and blood takes a long while to corrupt and dilute. The American aristocracy is one of wealth; and riches, we all know, are perpetually taking to themselves wings and flying away. As these golden birds seldom alight twice on the same spot, our aristocracy is as variable and changeable as our politicians' principles; and so American aristocracy has come to be.

A thing of laughter, sneers, and jeers, and only the old Knickerbocker nobility, which rests upon a double strata of good blood and good money, which lives upon its rents, and does not much trouble itself pecuniarily about wars or rumours of wars, has maintained either its permanency or its respectability.—Around this Knickerbocker nucleus clustered, before the war began, the two great constellations of American nobility, the cotton and cod-fish aristocracy. Sad havoc the dogs of war have played with them both. The crisis, like a double-barrelled manton, tumbled over these fine feathered birds, and after a few dying kicks, chirps, and flutters, they sang small and gave up the ghost. You may find their vacant nests in and about Fifth Avenue, where one third of the brown stone palatial residences are for sale or to let. You miss them to the Opera—when there is any Opera—where they used to go, not because they understood the music, but to show off their gay plumage and rival the Knickerbockers, whom they courted and detested. Particularly they left an aching void at the Central Park, where they once flattered about every bright Saturday afternoon, still attempting to rival the Knickerbocker line of equipages, and rivalled in their turn by the shrimp aristocracy, in a state of small brougham and great envy. But, alas! cotton was blockaded, codfish was not in demand, and so our aristocracy packed up its moveables, propelled its handcart, and took lodgings in a tenement house on the Bowery side of town. For some time after this disaster, the Knickerbockers held the Central Park all to themselves, and rolled along the drives, envied and admired by the pedestrians, or chatted away the interludes of Dodworth's concert in sarcastic remarks upon the absent nobocracy. Suddenly, however, there came a rush of blooded horde, they pushed in among the Knickerbocker clique, scraped carriage-wheels, and tried to scrape acquaintance. Nobody knew who they were, and everybody wondered and inquired. They did not seem to know much of each other; apparently they had been intimate with the least reputable of the foot visitors, and talked familiarly with the policemen.—At Union's benefits they were distinguished for the immensity of their toilets, the largeness of their gloves, the loudness of their voices, their insane efforts to look through the wrong end of their new opera-glasses, and their peculiarity of frequently and rapturously applauding at the wrong times and with the most frantic and distressing perseverance. At last the enquiry, "Who are these new people?" was answered. The mystery was explained. They were the Government contractors and their families, who had made such heaps of money since last spring by operations in shoddy, that they could afford to be great people. They sprang up from "devil's dust," like the genii from magician's powder.—*N. Y. Herald*.

RECOR OF POLICE SURVEILLANCE IN NEW YORK.—A Quebec gentleman having been for some months in the States, ordered heavy clothing to be sent to him at New York on the approach of winter. They were duly forwarded, but weeks elapsed and they did not reach him. At length the Express agents were applied to, and they stated the Police had taken the trunk. The police were applied to and they said it must be searched and required it to be left for that purpose, refusing to make the search in presence of the applicant. Days past and several applications had to be made ere the clothes were got. Then the trunk came back unlocked—tied only with a cord, and the over-coat and some of the other clothes ripped up in diligent search for treasonable papers! The Austrians could hardly beat that.—*Montreal Gazette*.