

Spirit of the English Press.

We know already by telegraph so much about the Reform Bill and the triumph of the Conservative Ministry after a hard fight that we imagine our readers will feel but little interest in discussing the subject at length, especially when so many questions of importance crowd upon our columns. The *Times* of March 19, declares that the existence of the Government depended upon their readiness to modify the Bill introduced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and saw no hope of escape from a peremptory rejection of the Bill, except the Ministry retraced its steps. How far this valuable hint was acted upon by the Government our readers already know. The Ministry saved itself from an overthrow by its wisdom in bowing to the demand of a majority. The *Daily Telegraph* rejoices over the vote for the abolishment of the lash in the Army, although the net majority consisted of the vote given by one reluctant Conservative, whose human sympathies proved to be stronger than his party sympathies. The *Manchester Examiner*, treating on the same subject, says that the lash and the purchase system hang together; they are one complementary portions of one bad system. Sooner or later they must both be swept away; and although we have no hope of seeing this done by an unreformed House of Commons, still it is not without satisfaction that we mention the fact that even such an assembly carried by a majority of one Mr. Otway's motion for the abolition of flogging. The new Bankruptcy Law introduced by the Attorney General virtually does away with imprisonment for debt. No debtor is to be imprisoned except for fraud, when, as a matter of course he ceases to be a debtor and becomes a criminal in the eyes of the law. It is proposed to increase the amount recoverable in County Courts from £20 to £50. The *Standard* endorses the Bill heartily and says that its main features are such as will commend it to the cordial acceptance of commercial men. A great scandal has been ventilated by the press and condemned in the House of Commons. Mr. Churchward, of Dover, a Conservative politician, having been convicted once of corrupt practices at a Plymouth election, and once prevented by a vote of the House of Commons from completing a Government contract which the House declared had been obtained by "corrupt expedients," was appointed to the Commission of the Peace, the other day. Mr. P. A. Taylor brought the matter forward in the House on the 19th March, and a resolution was passed requesting Mr. Churchward's removal; during the debate, however, it dropped out that there are four Liberal magistrates who were in the same boat with Mr. Churchward, and the exposure has done both sides of the House a deal of harm. The *London Times* thus refers to the matter. "If bribery is ever to be put down—a matter on which we confess to many misgivings, drawn partly from the well known feeling of the House and partly from the nature of the offence—it will be in the same way as duelling—that is, not so much by any change in the law as by a change of opinion concerning it. Duelling died out in England and in New England because the atmosphere of opinion was deadly to it, just as a tropical plant cannot exist in the rigours of English spring. So, perhaps, it may one day be with bribery. If any deterring penalty is to be used, it should be one which strikes the social status rather than implies criminal liability." The *Morning Post* (March 18) sketches the requirements of the coming budget and makes out that there will be a deficiency of £241,000, in place of a surplus. The estimated increase of expenditure over 1866 is set down by the same authority at £2,000,000.

The *Morning Advertiser* (March 19) says:—"As for the new alarm of Fenianism in Canada, it will be a curious comment on the proposal to erect a united confederacy of the provinces, if any difficulty is found in such a case. If the Canadians do not care, or are unable to repel a Fenian raid not encouraged in any open way by the American States Government, they need not talk of forming an independent and separate confederacy. They ought to be able to fight on the dispute themselves, and they probably are perfectly well able to do so. They might claim British aid if the States Government declared war on account of a difference with this country, but to repress a miserable border riot, it is absurd to demand imperial assistance." The *Morning Star*, of March 6th, contains a powerful article on the Maxwell Divorce Case. The story may be very briefly told. Captain Maxwell and Mr. Westcar were both military men—both men of means and social position—and they were friends. Capt Maxwell brought his young wife on a visit to Mr. Westcar's, and Mr. Westcar seduced her. The seduction was accompanied and followed by conduct the most cynical and heartless on the part of the respondent. The jury found a verdict for the petitioner, and visited Mr. Westcar, who is a man of some £7,000 a year property, with the infliction of damages to the amount of £10,000. In the course of his summing-up—a very feeling and impressive address—Sir James Wilde took occasion to defend the principle of the Divorce Court. But for the power of inflicting damages, which the law gives in such a case, the most guilty party, Sir James Wilde argued, would suffer nothing. Here were three parties—two greatly guilty, one perfectly innocent. The latter, the husband, suffers the most of all. His home is destroyed, his heart is torn with grief; life is, perhaps, all clouded for him: The woman, who is probably the less guilty of the two culprits, suffers severely also. She is cast out from society; "wherever modest women congregate her name will no more be heard." But the seducer, who is probably still more guilty, suffers nothing except that which the law can inflict—and therefore the law allows the jury to assess damages. This is Sir James Wilde's reasoning. It is well meant and well urged, it is put in feeling and eloquent language. But is it convincing? Does it not rather by its own force destroy itself? Is not the conclusion a terrible anti-climax? A man has wantonly, treacherously, heartlessly destroyed for ever the happiness of his friend's home. He has driven his friend to misery. He has brought his friend's wife to shame and ruin. The suffering he has caused is absolutely irreparable. Never, on this side of the grave, can that evil be by any possible combination of chances remedied, atoned for, or even mitigated. Few murders ever committed could bring about more misery and ruin. For this enormous guilt the law provides a punishment. It allows the court to declare that a rich offender shall pay over a sum of money, which in no divorce cause we ever heard of was large enough seriously to abridge the comforts or even the luxuries of his ordinary life. And what is absolutely disgusting, it hands over this money as compensation to the injured husband for the loss of his seduced wife. It assesses her value as a companion at so much, and says to the seducer—"Come, you have taken the woman and you are bound to pay for her. Give her husband a lump sum—so much—that, we think, is about her market value."

Saturday, May 18.  
ASSAULTS.—A squaw, with a woefully battered face, appeared before the Police Magistrate yesterday and preferred a charge against a white man for knocking her down and kicking her about the head and face. The fellow was fined £20, in default, three months' imprisonment. An Indian boy, arrested for assaulting another Indian, was fined a like amount.

The fine British ship *Kathay*, 1123 tons register, has been wrecked at Howland's Island in the Pacific ocean, and is a total loss.

Shocking Occurrence at Port Townsend, W. T.

TWO MEN KILLED—ANOTHER SERIOUSLY WOUNDED!

By the arrival of the schooner *Norwester*, Capt Whitford, yesterday, from Port Townsend, W. T., we are placed in possession of the particulars of a tragedy that occurred on Thursday at that place. J. W. Tripp, a lawyer and Republican nominee for District Attorney, some ten days ago was entrusted to settle the accounts of five sailors with the American ship *Southern Chief* of New York, they having refused to go to sea in her again. The ship was loading at one of the mills up the Sound, whither Tripp proceeded effected a settlement with the captain, and deducting his fees from the amount collected, sent the balance to his clients at Port Townsend by a sloop. On Monday last, with his wife and infant, he returned to Port Townsend in the steamer *New World*; but was met on the wharf by the sailors who, accusing him of having robbed them, assaulted and drove him back on board the steamer. Tripp continued on to Victoria. Here he procured a double-barrelled shot gun, loaded it with slugs, and early on Thursday morning took passage again in the *New World* for Port Townsend. The steamer arrived there at 9 o'clock on the same morning, and Tripp with his wife and child had no sooner stepped on the wharf than he was approached by three of the sailors. He warned them to keep back; but they continued to advance, and when only six feet distant Tripp levelled his weapon and fired at one of their number. The whole charge passed through the unfortunate man's left breast and he fell dead in his tracks. As quick as thought Tripp covered another of his assailants with the remaining barrel and stretched him at his feet with the charge through his shoulder. Simultaneously with the firing of the first shot, a brother of Mrs. Tripp, who resides at Port Townsend, drew a revolver and fired three times at the remaining man. One of the shots took effect in the sailor's head, causing instant death. Tripp and his brother-in-law were arrested and the examination before the Coroner commenced yesterday morning. The following letter is from a resident of Port Townsend:—

PORT TOWNSEND, May 16th, 1867.  
MESSRS EDITORS.—This morning, on the arrival of the *New World*, a bloody shooting affray occurred on Fowler's wharf. The particulars, as far as I can give them at this moment, are as follows: J. W. Tripp, the Republican candidate for District Attorney, came ashore from the steamer and while proceeding up the wharf an altercation took place with some sailors from the ship *Southern Chief*. Tripp being armed with a shot gun, and his brother-in-law, who was with him, with a revolver, some five shots were fired. Two sailors were killed and another seriously wounded. Tripp and his brother-in-law were at once lodged in jail to await the result of the investigation now going on. Tripp's wife and child were upon the wharf and his friends claim that he was partially if not fully justified. After the examinations are closed I will give you full particulars.

W.  
MOON'S REFLECTIONS.—A gentleman informs us that he saw the Simopure, original moon on Thursday night and two reflections of the orb—one in the northern and the other in the southern horizon. Does our friend mean to insinuate that the moon east a reflection? or is he casting a reflection on that honest old planet? As it was late at night perhaps he saw "double"—no uncommon thing in this latitude.

WANT TO GET BACK.—A gentleman lately from San Francisco says there are any number of young Victorians in that city doing nothing, who would be only too glad to return to Victoria could they but obtain employment. The gentleman adds, he did not meet with a man who had once resided in this Colony, that did not heartily wish himself back again: The poor fellows appear to have leaped from the frying pan into the fire.

FROM PORTLAND.—The steamer *Fideliter*, Erskine, returned from Portland yesterday afternoon with 13 cabin passengers and 52 U. S. soldiers. Among the passengers was W. T. Welcker, Esq., for several years a valued resident of this city. Outside of the harbor, the U. S. soldiers were placed on board the steamers *Eliza Anderson* and *Diana* and taken up the Sound to the forts. We are indebted to Capt. Erskine for late papers.

THE "CESSION" OF B. C. AND V. I.—A gentleman in this city who received a letter from San Francisco by last steamer, tells us that in view of the so-called cession of British Columbia and Vancouver Island to Uncle Sam, C. Gentile, lately of Victoria, proposes to get up a diorama of this country for exhibition, and that the services of Mr. Macnamara, formerly in our government's employ, will be engaged as itinerant lecturer.

RULING MACHINE.—Otto & Co., the bookbinders, have added to their establishment a ruling machine, which does excellent work, and will prove invaluable in the preparation of certain descriptions of blanks.

An amusing affair occurred recently in Canada. A lieutenant was promenading in full uniform one day, and approaching a volunteer on sentry, who challenged him with "Halt! Who comes there?" the lieutenant, with contempt in every lineament of his face, expressed his ire with an indignant "Ass!" The sentry's reply, apt and quick, came, "Advance, ass, and give the countersign."

GREAT OPIUM SUEIT DECIDED.—The suit of the United States Government vs. several Chinese Companies, to recover \$53,400, the amount which it was alleged they had defrauded the U. S. revenue of, by smuggling opium from Victoria to San Francisco, has been decided in favor of the United States. Tong Fat, who formerly kept a tea store on Port street, was the informing witness.

NANAIMO LODGE, F. & A. M.—The officers of Nanaimo Lodge, No. 1090, E. R., installed on Wednesday, are as follows:—Hon W. H. Franklin, W. M., W. Clark, S. W., W. M. Stewart, J. W., S. D. Levi, Treasurer, Jas. Harvey, Secretary, W. H. Phillips, S. D., D. Fraw, J. D., Jas. Brown, I. G., J. S. Smith, Tyler.

THE Quebec Morning Chronicle, of 5th April, says: "We have read the telegram announcing the pleasing fact of a late cordial demonstration in Victoria, Vancouver Island, in favor of Confederation. The good cause thus rapidly advances, and may soon be expected to attain its perfect success."

An arrival from the Foca Straits Coal Mine reports the seam widening and the coal improving in quality. The work is being pushed forward rapidly, and a great many tons of black diamonds are lying at the pit's mouth.

U. S. NAVAL ITEMS.—The U. S. Flagship *Pensacola*, Commodore Thatcher, is expected to arrive here shortly from San Francisco... Capt. Paul Shirley, late of the war steamer *Suwanee*, has been promoted to be a Fleet Captain.

ACCIDENT.—The Rev Mr Garrett while on horseback yesterday morning looking up some cattle on the Craigflower Road near to his residence, fell from his saddle and sustained a fracture of one of his legs.

NAVAL MAIL.—The gunboat *Forward* left Esquimalt yesterday afternoon with the naval mail and despatches for Capt Oldfield at New Westminster, which were late for the *Enterprise* in the morning.

SAILING DAY.—The mail steamer will not sail for San Francisco until Tuesday evening next at 6 o'clock, Capt Winsor having consented to wait for the treasure expected from above.

MR C. W. WALLACE has been appointed agent for the *Oriflamme*, which will touch here about the 5th of June on her way to Sitka.

ENGLISH SHIPPING FOR THIS PORT.—A new iron bark, the *Merceda*, is on the berth at Liverpool, and the ship *Byzantium* is loading at London.

THE Real Estate Tax Commissioners will meet on Monday, at noon, to take evidence as to tax sales of real estate.

THE schooner *Albani*, laden with sugar for Janion, Green & Rhodes, is due here from Honolulu, S. I.

CHERRIES and strawberries have appeared in the San Francisco market, and sell at 25 cents per pound.

THE *Active* brought 175 tons of freight for this place and 28 tons for Port Townsend.

The schooner *Norwester* arrived yesterday with a cargo of grain.

The Russian Purchase—Boundaries and Extent of the Territory ceded by Russia to the United States.

The following is a copy of the Treaty with Russia, confirmed by the almost unanimous vote of the United States Senate, April 9th: The United States of America and His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, being desirous of strengthening, if possible, the good understanding which exists between their plenipotentiaries the President of the United States, William H. Seward, Secretary of State, and His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, Mr Edward de Stoeckl, his Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the United States, and the plenipotentiaries having exchanged their full powers, which were found to be in due form, have agreed upon and signed the following articles:

Article 1. His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias agrees to cede to the United States by this convention, immediately upon the exchange of the ratifications thereof, all the territory and dominion now possessed by His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, in the adjacent islands, the same being contained within the geographical limits herein set forth, to wit:—the eastern limit is the line of demarcation between the Russian and the British possessions in North America, as established by the convention between Russia and Great Britain of February 20, (16) 1825, and described in articles third and fourth of said convention in the following terms: "Commencing from the southernmost point of the Island called Prince of Wales Island, which point lies in the parallel of 54 degrees 40 minutes north latitude, and be-

tween the 101st and 103 degree of west longitude, meridian of Greenwich. The said line shall ascend to the north along the channel called Portland Channel, so far as the point of the continent where it strikes the 50th degree of north longitude. From this last mentioned point the line of demarcation shall follow the summit of the mountains situated parallel to the coast as far as the point of intersection of the 141st degree of west longitude of the same meridian and finally from the point of intersecting the said meridian line of the 141st degree in its prolongation as far as the Frozen Ocean. With reference to the line of demarcation laid down in the preceding article, it is understood—first, that the island called Prince of Wales Island shall belong wholly to the United States; second, that whenever the summit of the mountains which extend in a direction parallel to the coast from the 56th degree of north latitude to the point of intersection of the 141st degree of west longitude shall prove to be at a distance of more than ten marine leagues from the ocean, the limit between the British possessions and the line of coast which is to belong to Russia, as above mentioned—that is to say, the limit of the possessions ceded by this Convention—shall be formed by a line parallel to the winding of the coast, and which shall never exceed the distance of ten marine leagues therefrom. The western limit within which the territories and dominions conveyed are contained, passes through a point of Behring's Straits on the parallel of 65 degrees 30 minutes north latitude at its intersection by the meridian which passes midway between the islands of Krusenstern or Noonarbook and proceeds due north without limitation into the limit, beginning at the same initial point, west through Behring's Straits and Behring's Sea, so as to pass midway between the northwest point of the island of St Lawrence and the southeast point of Chukotki to the meridian of 172 west longitude. Thence from the intersection of that meridian in a southwesterly direction, so as to pass midway between the island of Atlin and the copper island of the Kormandorskii complex or group in the North Pacific Ocean, to the meridian of 193 degrees west longitude, so as to include in the territory conveyed the whole of the Aleutian Islands east of that meridian.

Art 2. In the cession of territory and dominion made by the preceding article are included the right of property in all public lots and squares, vacant lands and all public buildings, barracks and other edifices that are not private or individual property. It is, however, understood and agreed that the churches which have been built in the ceded territory by the Russian Government shall remain the property of such members of the Greek Oriental Church resident in the territory as may choose to worship therein. Any Government archives, papers and documents relative to the territory and dominion aforesaid, which may be now existing there, will be left in the possession of the agent of the United States, but an authenticated copy of such of them as may be required will be at all times given by the United States to the Russian Government, or to such Russian officers or subjects as may apply therefor.

Art 3. The inhabitants of the ceded territory, according to their choice, reserving their natural allegiance, may return to Russia within three years; but if they should prefer to remain in the ceded territory, they, with the exception of uncivilized tribes, shall be admitted to the enjoyment of all the rights, advantages and immunities of citizens of the United States and shall be maintained and protected in the free enjoyment of their liberty, property and religion. The uncivilized tribes will be subject to such laws and regulations as the United States may from time to time adopt in regard to aboriginal tribes of that country.

Art 4. His Majesty the Emperor of the Russias shall appoint, with convenient despatch, an agent or agents for the purpose of formally delivering to a similar agent or agents, appointed on behalf of the United States, the territory, dominion, property, dependencies and appurtenances which are ceded as above, and for doing any other act which may be necessary in regard thereto but the cession with the right of immediate possession, is nevertheless to be deemed complete on the exchange of ratifications, without waiting for such formal delivery.

Art 5. In immediately after the exchange of the ratifications of this Convention, any fortifications or military posts which may be in the ceded territory shall be delivered to the agent of the United States, and any Russian troops which may be in the territory shall be withdrawn as soon as may be reasonably and conveniently practicable.

Art 6. In consideration of the cession aforesaid, the United States agree to pay at the Treasury at Washington, within ten months after the exchange of the ratifications of this Convention, to the plenipotentiaries or other agent of His Majesty, the Emperor of all the Russias, duly authorized to receive the same, \$7,200,000 in gold. The cession of territory and dominion herein made is hereby declared to be free and unincumbered by any reservations, privileges, franchises, grants or possessions, by any associations, companies, whether corporate or incorporate, Russian or any other, or by any parties except merely private individual holders; and the cession hereby made conveys all the rights, franchises and privileges now belonging to Russia in the said territory or domain and appurtenances thereto.

Art 7. When this convention shall have been duly ratified by the President of the United States, by and with the advice of the Senate on the one part, and on the other by His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, the ratification shall be exchanged at Washington within three months from the date hereof, or sooner if possible. In faith whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed this convention, and hereto affixed the seals of their arms.

Done at Washington, the 13th day of March, in the year of our Lord 1867.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD,  
Plenipotentiary of the United States  
EDWARD DE STOECKL,  
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of all the Russias.

European News Sum

The intelligence by this an interesting character and require more than one article to review its most striking features. The Queen has made up her mind to seclude herself so much as to. The short residence at the Palace, the holding of there, and the reception of authorities, are all to be together with the report that again reside for a short time in this season. He continues in the enjoyment of health, and, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, passed a day without driving about the grounds in the Park. Notice is given in that the Queen's Birthday will be on Saturday, May 25th. The Princess of Wales, who has been a martyr to rheumatism lately, is rapidly recovering; and we that the Prince Imperial of whom the *New York Herald* death's door, is recovering from a cold and an abscess in the all accounts agree, though, a little fellow has a delicate constitution. Parliamentary matters in the House of Commons on the 19th of March Mr Shaw-Lefevre as Secretary of State for Foreign whether it was true that the correspondence with the States government on the subject of the Alabama claims had been decided, and, if so, whether he would the papers upon the table in the House. Lord Stanley said that correspondence with the government of the United States on the subject of the Alabama claims, or, rather the subject of the claims on both arising out of the late war, was yet concluded, and under these circumstances it would be better to the production of papers. He the present opportunity of continuing a report which had gone round of the newspapers, to the that communications of an unofficial character had been received from government at Washington. was no truth in that statement. Fenian excitement is dying. There is much talk of more "ris" in Ireland, but they amount to nothing, for Lord Strathairn has received the most explicit instructions for his guidance in dealing with disaffected, and the troops have doubt as to the mode in which are to deal with men with arms in their hands engaged in rebellion. This has been done in consequence Lord Strathairn feeling some doubt after the course taken against Jamaica authorities, as to his own situation. St. Patrick's Day passed off very quietly in Ireland, where it had anticipated, the Fenian outbreak would receive a serious accession of strength. He ply for the peace of the country the war was so severe as to be most unfriendly, rebellion, and the Fenians who had "g" out" the previous week to challenge the authorities, suffered more from the element than from the Queen's troops. The gr Paris Exhibition is still in a very confused state. The Great Northern Railway France is in a chaotic condition in its merchandise department—disorganized by masses of Exhibition goods. There has been, if there be not now, a block of most formidable character at Arras, to the great delay of the Belgian goods. The work amounts to 12,200 tons, of which 10,000 tons are in the machinery galleries. The windows of this gallery present a surface of 53,700 square yards, and those the other galleries 25,000. The palace itself occupies an area of 140,184 square yards. Of this 61,000 square yards will be occupied by France, 21,654 by England, and 2,900 by the United States. The French government has decided to raise the pay of all its employees in Paris twenty five per cent, during the Exhibition. The first story of the Hotel Bristol, Place Vendome, has been taken during the Exhibition for the King and Queen of Portugal at the rate of £50 a day. Intelligence of an important character begins to come in from the Christian communities of Turkey in Europe, showing the imminence of a very general revolution in that region. It is now announced that treaties of alliance have been entered into by Servia,