

tons of 23 tons of coal. For the first four weeks ending the 18th January, 148 tons of coal were distributed...

Distress in the Provinces.—The distress amongst the poor of the West and of other parts of Ireland continues to intensify...

EMIGRATION TO QUEENSLAND.—On Thursday about four hundred emigrants—men, women, and children embarked at Queenstown on board the Erin Go Bragh...

LEVELLING A CATHOLIC CHAPEL.—FAIRHILL, County of Galway.—A few nights ago a large portion of the side walls of the Catholic chapel at Fairhill...

PROTESTANT PENAL LAWS.—It was once the policy of England to proscrib all matrimonial alliances between natives of this country and natives of Ireland.

THE DERRYMAUGH VICTIMS.—About twenty of the Catholics of Derrymaugh, who were fired upon by the Orangemen, and otherwise ill-treated, on the 12th July, 1860...

NUMBER AND POSITION OF CATHOLICS ON JURY LISTS.—A trustworthy and esteemed correspondent writes to us:—"The Grand Jury of the county of Clare were sworn in on Friday. The High Sheriff is eldest son to Sir Lucius O'Brien."

by Catholics? What a very accusing spirit would be conjured out of his presence to appal the system which placed him alone and unsupported...

THE ENGLISH MINISTRY.—The friends and foes of this worthless government agree in stating that it will soon meet its downfall: a fate, it must be admitted, it richly deserves.

NATIONAL CELEBRATIONS.—National Celebration or Anniversary Festivals are nowise new things. They have been resorted to from time immemorial by the people of every nation...

GENEROUSITY OF A LANDLORD.—It affords us pleasure to record the humane conduct of Robert Orme, Esq., who has given orders to his land agent, Thomas Higgins, Esq., of this town, to purchase and distribute coal to the tenantry on his estate of Lisavally, near Tuam.

RE-EDUCATION OF THE IRISH CONVICT ESTABLISHMENT.—The whole establishment at Philipstown, in the King's County, is about to be closed, the officers belonging to it disposed of by gratuities or superannuation...

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY.—The board, at its late meeting, made arrangements for placing at the disposal of the rector of the university £480 per annum...

THE "UNITED" KINGDOM.—We are strongly assured every day, by one very high authority or another, that there is no real difference, before the law, or in the feelings of the people, between England and Ireland...

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.—On the 8th March, 1861, an order of the House of Commons was made, on the motion of Lord Dunsink, for a return of the average rate of weekly earnings of agricultural laborers in Ireland...

BREACH OF PROMISE CASE.—HARRISON v. HOOKS.—In this case, which was tried in the Court of Exchequer last week, and caused much amusement, the plaintiff was a damsel of the tender age of thirty-five, and the defendant, a "venerable" elder of the Presbyterian church...

EMIGRATION FROM THE PORT OF LIVERPOOL.—According to the official monthly returns just compiled by the emigration officers at the port of Liverpool it appears that there is no improvement whatever to notice in the emigration trade from the port of Liverpool...

UNITED STATES.—WASHINGTON, March 6.—The President to-day transmitted to Congress the following Message:—" Fellow-Citizens of the Senate, and House of Representatives: I recommend the adoption of a joint resolution by your honorable bodies, which shall be substantially as follows:—"Resolved:—"That the United States ought to cooperate with any State which may adopt a gradual abolition of Slavery, giving aid to such State in its discretion to compensate for the inconveniences, public and private, produced by such change of system."

GREAT BRITAIN.—If Mr. Bright, asks why we backed up civil language with serious preparations, we may ask why did not the American Government, who always regard "defined law," immediately give up the men they had no right to keep a day or an hour? Why did the people, who are no mob but reasonable electors, give Captain Wilkes a triumph? Why did the Executive and the House of Representatives vie in doing him honor? Even if a man is piqued by the asperity of a just remonstrance, that is no reason for resisting it, still less for keeping stolen property, or holding men in illegal bondage.

that the American Government, though, as Mr. Bright says, they knew perfectly what they ought to do, had not the heart to do it, but wished to see whether the tone of the nature of our demand would afford some pretence for keeping the prisoners, whom, Mr. Bright says, they no doubt valued more than all the rest of mankind.

THE TUSCARORA AND THE SUMNER AT GIBRALTAR.—Southampton, Feb. 17.—A telegram has been received here to-day from Gibraltar, dated Thursday, stating that the Federal steam corvette Tuscarora had arrived at that port; that the Confederate steamer Sumner was still there, and unable to get coal, in consequence of having no money to pay for it; and that the Tuscarora was exercising the same watchful care over the Sumner as she did for some time over the Nashville in these waters.

Time, which brings retribution to all sides in turn has inverted the old contrast between the cost of Kings and Democracies. It used to be said that the trappings of a monarchy would maintain a Republic and no Republic was supposed to be so cheap as that which our race had founded in the New World. Its annual expenditure was small and evanescent, and the only question was whether a State could exist in blessed undebtedness, and whether that debt which is an invariable condition of European prosperity and power was not necessary to the very existence of a people. But the tables are now turned, and we may afford to smile at our own expenditure in comparison with that of Washington. Yet when it is considered that we not only run into debt, but also pay, and that all our figures stand for solid realities, perhaps it is just worth looking at one of our Returns of Annual Income and Expenditure. The American expenditure we seem now to know something about; we have yet to see their income, which may not, after all, beat our own. Our sum-totals are much too large, and what is worse, the difference is slightly the wrong way. It is right that they should sometimes be presented to our readers, for Revenue and Expenditure are facts as important as the length and breadth of these islands, their population, their climate, and their productions. Here with a population of about thirty millions, and not over much elbow-room, we managed to spend last year 70,818,058! We were not equally successful in our revenue, which was only 68,693,851. Thus the excess of our expenditure over our income was 2,214,207. Now, it is true this is a mere bagatelle in the grand American scale, being but a two days bill for the two armies there looking at one another. But we would rather the difference was the other way, or, at least, that we had made things a little more square. We cannot see that the American difficulty has anything to do with it. On the contrary, the cost of the Army and the Navy for the year ending September 30 of last year was a trifle higher than for the year ending December 31. It may, indeed, be said that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had arranged for a larger reduction under these heads than he was able to effect, and that the affair of the Trent spoilt a nice calculation. Such, however, is the fact. We are spending at the rate of nearly seventy one millions a-year, including interest on old debts and every other outgoing, while the income lags two millions and a quarter behind.—Times.

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THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE GIVES THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT OF THE MORALS OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE POTOMAC:—"The two great curses of our Army are whiskey and gambling. I scarcely know which is the greater. Sometimes men receive presents of turkey stuffed with a bottle of whiskey, or butter with a substratum of whiskey in a tin case. In one division a respectable looking man with a cloak, was observed to be very popular, and, being examined, it was discovered that he was incased in a tin contrivance fitting to his body, filled with whiskey. One wagon in General Franklin's Division was confiscated with all its supply of useful articles in consequence of a false bottom being discovered containing over 50 bottles of whiskey. Men are seen standing on barrels for hours, others with saddles on their backs walking up and down, a punishment for drunkenness, while those who have repeated the offence are more severely dealt with in the guard-house. As many as from fifty to a hundred men will sometimes be in the guard-house after pay-day for this offence. Gambling is even more difficult to control and equally pernicious with drinking. Some men could not make allowances because they owed gambling debts that would take all their pay for months to come; and the observation was made laughingly from one to another, after a number had allotted, "No more poker for us boys." Experienced gamblers sometimes join regiments for the purpose of winning the money that comes from the pay-table. A member of a regiment won \$700 on one sitting; he preyed to be an old gambler. Another was found to have a complete, fat, bank, which must have cost over \$200 in his possession. I might give instances of instances, but feel that I have already exceeded my limits. The only cure for these evils, which can be suggested at the United States' Alms House, is to strike at their root."

WASHINGTON, April 19, 1861. I informed you in a private letter some days ago, that I had learnt from what I thought good authority, that this Government had determined to send two secret agents to Canada, and that it was supposed the object was to ascertain the state of feeling in the Province with regard to annexing itself to the United States. I showed him the paragraph in the paper yesterday afternoon at the State Department, and asked him whether there was any truth in it. "That," he replied, "is a question which I cannot answer." "It is," I said, "a very irregular proceeding." I repeated this remark, and then Mr. Seward asked why it was irregular. I answered that it was an attempt to hold communication otherwise than in the regular official manner, and through the regular recognized channels. After a pause Mr Seward went on to say:—"If you suppose that any agent of this Government has been dispatched with any object affecting the present Colonial relations of Canada to Great Britain, you are entirely mistaken." I said that I was very far from having intended to suggest so grave a charge against the Government of the United States as this. "After all," observed Mr. Seward, "if we did send an agent to Canada, I suppose it would be no treason." I replied that "treason" was usually applied to breakers of the obligations between subjects and the power to which they owed allegiance; that breaches of international obligations were a different matter. Here the conversation ended. The impression left upon my mind was, that undoubtedly an agent or agents had been sent to Canada, and that whatever the object was, it was clearly one which the Secretary of State was unwilling to avow to the British Minister. A copy of the foregoing was of course forwarded to Earl Russell, with the following letter:—"Washington, April 22, 1861. My Lord,—The inclosed copy of a letter, which I addressed on the 19th instant to Gov. Gen. Sir Edmund Head, will make your Lordship acquainted with the steps taken by me with regard to a report that secret agents have been sent by this Government to Canada. The Mr. George Ashman who is stated to be one of these agents, was president of the Convention at Chicago, which nominated Mr. Lincoln as the candidate of the Republican party for the Presidency of the United States. In one at least of his speeches during the Presidential canvass, Mr. Seward alluded to the eventual acquisition of Canada as a compensation to the Northern States for any loss they might sustain, in consequence of the disaffection of the Southern part of the Union. I suppose, however, that the agents who now appear to have been sent to Canada have been dispatched with some definite and practical object.—Your Lordship will perceive from my letter to the Governor General that although Mr. Seward refused to give me any other information on the subject, he did assure me that no agents were employed by the Government for any object affecting the Colonial relations between Canada and the British Crown. I have, &c., LYONS.