

ance. In what sense it is Divine has been, it is true, the subject of much controversy among theologians, some holding that it was instituted at the Creation and observed by the patriarchs, others that it was its sanction to the Mosaic law, others that like Christmas and Easter it rests on the authority of the Church from Apostolical times. The point upon which all are agreed is that, whatever its legal origin, it must now be regulated, like all other duties, by the principles of the New Testament. Here, again, there is a divergence of opinion, some maintaining that the New Testament confirms all the precepts of the Old which it does not abrogate, others that it supersedes all which it does not incorporate. Those who incline to the latter theory lay stress, as they well may, on the fact that the Jews were often rebuked by our Saviour for their idolatry of the Sabbath, never for its desecration, and on the emphatic protest of St. Paul against those who would judge Christians in respect of Sabbath-days. But, after all, the practical views of these two parties do not greatly differ; both uphold, for the most part, the laws against Sunday trading, neither would legislate against Sunday trains. The reason is obvious. The opening of shops on Sunday would entail labor on vast masses of people, whose consciences would be wounded, and who would be deprived of their day of rest against their will. Competition would make it almost impossible to keep a shop closed, and the result would be that which we see in a foreign capital. Railways stand on a ground of their own. The employment of a few officials enables many thousands to enjoy country air, to visit their friends, and to perform works of mercy or necessity which must otherwise be left undone. Excursion trains may or may not do more harm than good, but, at all events, no one travels by them who does not choose, or who would be driven to church if they were put down by law. Herein consists what in the language of Scotch theology is called 'the root of the matter.' We guide our practice by the spirit, they by the letter; we by the moral law, they by the ceremonial. Selecting from among the Ten Commandments the only one which has not been extended and strengthened by Christianity, they pin their whole religious faith to it, and are almost indifferent to the effects upon public morality of their peculiar institution.—Times.

ENGLISH LITERATURE.—English literature at the present day is like a plot of ground which once was a lovely garden, but which is now all overrun with weeds, and in this rank jungle lies in wait the penny-a-liner, whose calling it is to fall upon every fresh fact, and to tell it in the most diffuse and rambling way. Like a Plung, he chokes the life out of a sentence by a long coil of words. In general this assassin of the mother tongue has very vague notions of spelling. He could not write "irrelevant," or "veterinary," or even "separate" correctly from dictation. With him women in what the Germans call a state of *guter Hoffnung* or *gesegneten Lebensumständen*, are always "entente." When a frost comes, though he revels at the prospect of accidents on the ice, his notions of zero are most perplexing. Sometimes he will tell you that "zero" is to freezing point during the past night, but that as the sun rose zero fell suddenly, and a thaw set in." Sometimes he seems to think the centigrade thermometer is a malignant monster, a water-god that lurks among the weeds of the Serpentine in defiance of Mr. Cuper and the park-keepers, for he has been known to warn his readers on no account to venture on the ice so long as the centigrade is below zero, but to wait till they see their old friend Fahrenheit below the freezing point, so that to him these two scales are the Ormuzd and Ahriman of skaters and sliders, the good and evil principles of frost, instead of two different scales expressing exactly the very same thing. With him all accidents are "awful," but he much prefers "catastrophe" to "accident." So too a fire is invariably a "conflagration," and not only a conflagration but an "alarming" one, as if it were likely to be anything else. If he describes a shop it is an "extensive establishment," though the owner may be merely a cobbler. At a launch he is in great glory, nor is he satisfied till he has described how "the noble triumph of marine architectural construction"—a periphrasis for ship which would delight the heart of an Anglo-Saxon "maker"—has "glided, like lightning into its native element"—a most puzzling assertion, seeing that the native element of no part of a ship is water, either salt or fresh. He makes his way everywhere, and we find him even in the very last Queen's Speech, in which he makes Her Most Gracious Majesty talk of a "friendly reconciliation" between contending powers, as if a reconciliation could ever be anything else than friendly. Sometimes he goes up in a balloon, at least he says he does, though we hardly believe him. Were we there on the spot, endowed like Nero with absolute power, and sure that he was the only one of this wretched class alive, we would, without a moment's remorse, take such steps that the balloon, and he in it, should never come down. To the moon he might rise, and write a long description of earth to the "man" in that planet, but earth should be rid of him and his twaddle. But, alas! he goes up and comes down, and talks of the "veteran aviator" and of zero rising and falling up there in his distracting way. But we leave him where we found him, "the last man in possession" of the English language abiding in that stately palace which our forefathers have reared, and rendering it hideous by his utter ignorance of our language. Standing there, in the very front of our language and literature, read by millions every morning in the newspapers, his power for harm is incalculable. "To this complexion," after an existence of 18 centuries, "have we come at last."—North British Review.

The Free Kirk in Scotland is protesting against 'Sabbath breaking,' and the newspapers take the occasion to protest against the 'Free Kirk,' and with justice, for if ever there was a senseless tyranny, a yoke pressed down upon the necks of men, utterly without authority or excuse, it is that of Sabbath observance as enforced by the sect of John Knox.—It is most curious to see the degree to which the Scotch notion on this subject has been gradually spread in England. We need hardly say that it was as much unknown to the original founders of Protestantism in England as it is to the Catholic Church itself. Indeed, it is a curious fact that the Catholicism of the Established Church, which gives us the views which Oranmer and Co. meant to enforce, gives us a careful summary of the lessons to be learned from each of the Ten Commandments of God, and the only one which it draws from the third (called by Protestants the fourth) is 'To serve God truly all the days of my life.' But for ourselves, fully as we are convinced of all this, it is with a mixed feeling that we see Protestants availing themselves of the liberty which the law of Christ gives us in this matter, because we fear they too generally act with a bad conscience. Hence it is that, as a general rule, an educated Protestant who comes to a thoroughly bad end will avow that the first step of his ruin was Sabbath breaking. How can it be otherwise? for it was by going contrary to what he believed to be the law of God in this matter, although it was nothing more than a false and oppressive tradition of men, that he gave the first shock to his conscience, and entered upon the path of sin. Few people incur greater responsibility than those who give man a false conscience, although they may flatter themselves that it is a high one.—Weekly Register.

The election of a member for North Warwickshire, in the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Spooner, took place on Tuesday, when Mr. Daventry Bromley, was declared duly elected. The Wages at first threatened opposition, but a little consideration showed them the hopelessness of their chance, and Mr. Bromley was allowed to be elected without opposition.

The average price of wheat for England and Wales is now lower than at any period since the year '51.

CHRISTIAN MISSIONS.—Two Protestant Antipathists.—But it is a serious question for the British Government whether it shall be in the power of a foreign nation and persecuting Church to break any establishment which the piety and liberality of our countrymen have founded in heathen lands. We have missionaries all over the Pacific, men of earnestness and intelligence, and devoted to the cause which has sent them forth. It is to be in the power of any reckless foreign soldier to insult and plunder these men and massacre their congregations? If so, let them understand it before they set out; if not, we should take care that the precedent established 20 years since be not forgotten.—Times.

On the leaving principle of the everlasting Gospel, and the blessed language of the eternal truth, in the hands of this nation of England, depended the destinies of the East, because it, and it only at present, could bring thoroughly to bear upon the Eastern mind its leavening power and its subduing influence. And how had Great Britain hitherto fulfilled her obligations? Comparison was most humiliating if they looked at the way in which France had taken possession of that great tract of land, Cochinchina, and was probably laying the foundation of a great French dominion. It was a most striking feature to his eye that France had begun by avowing openly her Christianity, and made the redress of persecution of her own faith the occasion of entering into that land. If they compared that with their own country, and asked if she avowed her belief in the face of her Eastern subjects, they would find that she had been afraid when it came to the question of whether she would avow her faith in her crucified Lord in the face of her Eastern multitudes. Now, the excuse made was that the government of India was not, in point of fact, in Christian England but in a commercial body, and that commercial body naturally regarded its commerce more than any other consideration, and the fact that that great company was governed almost exclusively during all its early years by Scotch rather than by English people, and so was connected with the Presbyterian, and not with the English Church, that prevented the spread of Christianity in India. Be that as it may, the fact was, that not very long ago all missionary exertion of a direct kind was excluded from India.—The Bishop of Oxford at the meeting for the 'Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts.

By the merest accident in the world, a vessel which had been the terror of Federal merchants and shipowners was run down as she was lying quietly off Norfolk, in the James River, and afterwards sunk from the effects of the collision. Her name was the Florida, and our readers can scarcely have forgotten that a casual misapprehension on the part of a Federal captain, who mistook the neutral harbor of Bahia for the high seas, was the cause of her presence in Federal waters. Of course she would have been restored, crew and all, to the Brazilian Government, had this "fortuitous concurrence" not taken place; but, as ill-luck would have it, while she was coaling previous to being taken up the river to Newport News, down came the transport steamer Alliance, under heavy pressure of steam, and caught her just on the bow. No time was lost in setting the pumps to work, but the same fatality pursued this doomed vessel, and the water steadily gained. Desperate efforts were made to save her by rigging out new pumps and baling vigorously, and a very strict watch was kept day and night, as it was supposed that measures might be taken by the rebels to attempt her destruction from the shore. But, alas! it was but labor lost. One night, at half past 12 o'clock, the acting master, Mr. Baker, retired to bed, after satisfying himself that there was no immediate danger of going down; but within an hour, he was woken up by a report from the engineer that 'he could not keep the vessel clear.' According to the correspondent of the New York World, 'it is not definitely known what caused the water suddenly to pour into the Florida in so much greater volume after midnight,' but the engineer fancied that 'something had happened to the sea-cocks of the engines,' and others conjectured that 'some portion of the bottom planks had given way.' Both of these suggestions seem probable, but all that is known for certain is that the untoward circumstance was entirely due to chance, of which we cannot have a better proof than the alacrity with which Captain Woodward, of the ram Atlanta, came on board 'to see what could be done to keep her afloat.' This officer nearly fell a victim to his devotion on behalf of the Florida, for he stood by her to the last, and had not Admiral Porter, by some providential inspiration, bethought himself of despatching a tug steamer to the scene of action in the nick of time, Captain Woodward and the prize crew would doubtless have gone to the bottom. As it was, this crowning misfortune was averted, and no sooner was every one well out of her than the Florida careened over, and disappeared stern-foremost. The only consideration which qualifies the purely casual nature of this occurrence is the fact that it had been frequently predicted. Whether it were because men are proud to forebode what they most dread, or whether in some mysterious sense the coming event cast its shadow before it, so happened that a very general impression prevailed at New York that the Florida would meet such a fate as we have described. There was a certain discrepancy, indeed, between the prophecies, for whereas some predicted that she would founder by fire, others were of opinion that the fatal blow which stove in her side should be inflicted by a Government vessel.—Times.

THE LONDON TIMES ON GRAND JURIES.—The only wholesome exercise we have known in modern times of their ancient jurisdiction is that exhibited the other day by the Grand Jury of the City of London, who, awakening to a sense of their old responsibilities, have come into Court and presented themselves as a nuisance. The Grand Jury of the county of the City of London—for London is a county as well as a city—take unnecessary pains to prove that they have long shown in themselves an egregious instance of the nuisance: that ought to be forthwith abated. In the first place, there is no single duty which they are supposed to perform which is not already assigned to special officers, who, if they do their work, leave nothing undone which a Grand Jury is ever likely to do. In the second place, there being nothing to do, people who have a great deal of work on their hands are taken from their own business in order to do that "nothing." It is all very well for country gentlemen, who really do for the most part thoroughly understand the wants of their neighborhood, to drive into the assize town and listen to the Judge's charge, and talk over what they shall do about roads and bridges and the like at the next magistrates' meeting. But London Grand Jurors are altogether different people. They are men with dingy counting-houses about the Bank, and ledgers that seem disproportionately to the size of the closest little places in which they are used. These Grand Jurors are mercantile men, who are being pursued all day long by telegrams from every part of the earth, whose counting-houses are rented at several guineas per square foot, and whose time is worth a guinea a minute. Surely it is a dreadful cruelty to bring these restless men unnecessarily away from their own work and lock them up in a room, to do nothing with a solemn air of deliberation. The Grand Jury of the December Session, 1864, have under these very natural feelings presented themselves as a nuisance.

ARMY REDUCTIONS.—As rumors of particular reductions in the army are still persistently circulated, we may assure our readers that they are as yet but rumors, and that any statements made upon the subject are altogether premature. We have the best reason to know that the authorities have not yet decided upon any of the changes which may or may not take place when the Estimates for 1865-66 come to be settled.—Army and Navy Gazette.

The Post says Cardinal Wiseman has been for some time past labouring under severe indisposition, and has been unable to attend to his ecclesiastical duties.

SPURGEON AGAIN.—A disgraceful scene took place in Edinburgh a short time ago, connected with Mr. Spurgeon's visit to that city. It having been announced that tickets for the sermons on the Sunday following would be obtained at the Music Hall from twelve to three o'clock, a very large crowd assembled, and literally broke into the hall, putting to flight the ticket distributor, and literally smashing the door. They then began to try their hand on the grand organ, as well as breaking up the forms, when the appearance of a strong detachment of police saved the place from destruction.

The Federal Government has got out of its difficulty about the Florida after a peculiarly nasty and thoroughly Yankee fashion. She has been 'quite accidentally' run down by a Federal transport, and lies out of harm's way nine fathoms deep off Fort Monroe. This transaction is so very flagrant that even Professor Goldwin Smith, one of the most consistent and respectable of Northern 'sympathisers,' cannot well make out an excuse for it. In a letter to the Daily News, the Professor writes:—'There is too much reason to fear that American honor has suffered a great stain.'

The controversy about a 'Court of Ultimate Appeal' in questions of doctrine in the Established Church, occupies more attention than ever, and is growing in importance. Especially this is the case since Mr. Disraeli's late speech at Oxford. The Times has lately admitted several letters upon the subject, which, some time back, would have no chance of publication. This is no doubt partly because there has been a sad want of other subjects for discussion. But, in addition to this, it is no doubt felt that a charge demanded by so influential a party and to which the leader of Her Majesty's Opposition has now pledged himself as 'in his mind paramount' can no longer be pool-pooled.—Weekly Register.

The tyrant, majority, is giving us a taste of its quality in Scotland. The Free Kirk is founded on the principle of a majority, assumed, of course, to be Heaven's own elect and the salt of the earth, but, in fact, very much like other men. With the grand article, the right of appointing ones own minister, we shall not meddle, except to observe that if a man expects to be approached by a messenger from the skies, the most unlikely messenger will be one of his own sending, and the most unlikely road will be a line direct from himself. The Free Kirk, however, discarding all authorities, dignities, and powers—all dictation, mediation, and compromise, hold to the infallibility of their own vote. Armed with this terrible authority, they have addressed themselves to the Sabbath, on which, as may be expected, they do not wish men to be free or to exercise the right of private judgment. A few years ago matters were in such a state north of the Tweed that, if a man were hasting on Saturday night to the bedside of a dying wife or child, as soon as the clock struck twelve he was brought to a standstill, and must resign himself to bed, or to whisky, or to some other authorized mode of employing the sacred hours. In towns it might be said that they had made it a solitude and called it religion. Pleasant walks in the green fields, the suburban stroll, family groups, friendly gatherings, mutual calls, and all that here contributes so much to the cheerfulness of a day that ought to be cheerful, were prohibited. Happily the influence of the age is against that worst form of Judaism which applies the names of grace to a purely prohibitive system. The sect of Judaizing Christians is on the decline. In Scotland this happy change is revealing itself to the eye of the English traveller in various unwonted relaxations. The railways are condescending to the calls of Providence and the wants of humanity. The prisoners of superstition now go at large. Friends and relations are observed to be paying their visits, not so easy to compass on other days. The Sunday sky, breezes, trees, turf, and flowers are no longer held to savor of sin from below. There are not those excursion trains which, we readily confess, are apt to make Sunday hideous in some places, but people are resorting easily and naturally to out-of-town places, where they see one another under pleasant auspices. A chain is off the national foot, a weight off the national mind, and a hoist shaken off the inebriate sufferer wakes, breaths, and smiles.—The Free Kirk is agitated at the change. By some indefatigable process of reasoning it identifies its own freedom with the public slavery, and foresees that if people are allowed to spend Sunday as they please, they will not insist so rigorously on the choice of their own Pastors. A report on Sabbath Observance made to a Presbytery of theirs on Wednesday last, enumerates some of the signs of the times which distress tender Kirk consciences. Sunday luggage trains are made the front of the offending, and the railway officials complain of the hardship. As they are not starting and arriving all day long, the officials must have some time to themselves, and the very fact of the luggage trains running on Sunday shows that the lines are clearer on that day. The difficulty of combining luggage with passenger trains is a fertile source of accidents, and if we heard some Monday morning of twenty human beings being jammed into one mass with so many bullocks, we should regret to hear that the quadrupeds had been observing the Sabbath in some 'siding' on the line, and but for that would have been quartered by a less summary process and in more regular fashion. On this hint, however, the Presbytery spoke further. The Railway Companies, we are told, are converting their lines into machinery for catering to the wants of the profane and dissolute, and irrigating the country with the scum of the community. This pretty application of "great sewage" metaphors is far more appropriate to weekdays than Sundays, inasmuch as the people especially interested in a Sunday train are not the profane and dissolute scum of the community, but honest, industrious folks so tied to their posts on other days that they cannot see the face of nature except on Sundays. The great mass of them in this country, though we cannot answer for Scotland, prefer tea to stronger drinks, and instead of blaspheming, or practising the other improprieties alluded to, sit quietly round little tables with their wives and children, or sally forth in quest of wild flowers. Our own category in the sphere of Free Kirk intelligence is not difficult to find. If we don't read in the Bible that on the first day of every week every Christian draws down his blinds or shuts himself up in a back parlour, without putting his foot out of doors except to go to the nearest Free Kirk, we must be infidels, latitudinarians, and blackguards, and must have acquired our faith, or morals, or our manners from the Champs Elysees, or some other Continental Inferno. These Free Kirkmen, however, did not confine themselves to argument or abuse; their own spiritual organization suggested a stronger means. Several members of the Presbytery in succession recommended that, on a given Sunday, all railway servants should refuse to work, and so leave luggage, cattle, and other passengers to their fate. One of them, somewhat weakly, admitted that he did not like 'Strikes,' though he would like to see one on the Sabbath, forgetting that in the eyes of Him who will have mercy and not sacrifice even a Sabbath may be made an abomination.

When men speak and act as if religion was never so pure as when it most outraged humanity they do something more than disgrace their own cause; they bring discredit to a cause which is much more sacred than their own—that is, the cause of moderation and common sense. We should be very glad to know that the Sunday excursion trains were not a necessity of London life, and that our working people could see the country now and then and breathe fresh air in quieter fashion. It is a point on which we entertain a strong conviction that there is really no necessity to make Sunday such a day of hard work as it evidently is to the excursionists themselves as well as the officials. But this is a very different question from any entertained by the Free Kirk of Kirkcaldy. Their object seems to be to make Sunday so intensely disagreeable that there shall be no escape but to the Kirk. When this is the most attractive form that can be given to religion, no doubt the face of nature, the bright sun, the singing birds, sweet smiles, and, and friendly voices are formidable rivals. They that worship in the temple of nature will be likely enough to gain upon a dark superstition which holds all calling themselves Christians—except in Scotland and in the Free Kirk—to be infidels, latitudinarians, and reprobates. Such a system is not likely to make much way in these days, when it no longer yields its congenial instruments—the sword, the fagot, the halberd, and no longer relies on the hammer, the wedge, the iron boot, and the pincers. Let the Kirk be reasonable and humane, and it may do some good; otherwise it will only drive people to the other extreme.—Times.

A SKETCH.—The following anecdote of the Iron Duke may be resuscitated by way of a hint to the war authorities of the present day, who have spent enormous sums in fruitless experiments with new inventions:—A man visited the duke, and intimated that he had an important invention to submit to his notice. 'Well, what have you to offer?' A bullet-proof jacket, your grace. 'Put it on.' The inventor obeyed. The duke gave a bell and an aide-de-camp presented himself. 'Tell the captain of the guard to order one of his men to load with ball cartridge.' The inventor disappeared, and was never again seen near the Horse Guards. No money was wasted in trying that invention.—Sun.

UNITED STATES.—We regret to state that our beloved Bishop had a very severe attack of bleeding at the nose on Wednesday evening of last week, from which he recovered, but on Saturday had another attack of an alarming character. On Sunday prayers were offered up in all our churches for his speedy recovery. In the evening he was much better, and had a tolerable night's rest. He is by no means out of danger. Let our prayers ascend to the Throne of Mercy that he may be yet spared to his beloved flock.—Boston Pilot, Dec. 24.

YANKEE MORALS.—The blind and deaf know that immorality is fearfully increasing. Private morals may be said to be dependant upon public virtue. When the former become tainted, the latter advance with no laggard's pace to the practices of nameless sins against God and man. Look around your town, village or city, and ask yourself why it is that, in this dread hour of our country's misery, this day of desperate war and labor to keep our sovereignty unimpaird, wickedness is increasing. The answer is plain, obvious, and easily understood:—Too many of our public men—our politicians—are corrupt, dishonest, false to God and their country. De Tocqueville, in the French Chamber of Deputies, in the year 1843, said: 'Do you know what is the general, efficient, deeply-seated cause, why private morals are degraded? It is because public morals have first become depraved. It is because pure morality does not govern the principal actions of life, that it does not descend to the smaller ones. It is because private interest has taken the place of disinterested sentiment in public action, that selfishness has become the law in private life. It has been said that there are two sorts of morality, the one for politics, and the other for private life. Certainly if what is passing around us really is what I see to be, never was the falsity of such an assertion proved in a more striking and unhappy manner than in our own day. Yes, I believe that a change is taking place in our private morals, of such a nature as to trouble and alarm all good citizens, and that this change proceeds in great part from what is coming to pass in our public morals.' If the author of 'Democracy in America' were here to-day, he would see a change that bodes no good to this country; he would see an immorality that is horrible, an extravagance unparalleled, and a disregard of honor and virtue that may, if continued, do what the battalions of rebellion can not do: prostrate the energies of the Republic and plant the virus which has destroyed a greater and more powerful commonwealth than this Union which was defended, and guarded in its cradle, by wise pure and virtuous men, but which is, in its manhood, suffering from the reprehensible conduct of individuals without the bravery of the rebel, and possessing no sympathy with their sorrows and griefs, except when it is necessary to use a little, as a condiment, that the shibboleth may be more palatable to those who have their eyes open, but do not see, and, doggedly, persist in being blind to the best interests of society, of their country.—Cincinnati Catholic Telegraph.

BEAUTIES OF A DIVORCE LAW.—Mr. Dorchester Tuttle committed suicide on Sunday morning last, by shooting himself through the head with a pistol on the front steps of a house in West Twenty-sixth street. He died in a few minutes after having fired the shot. The ball entered immediately over the right eye, and penetrated the brain. The motives that induced the man to commit the deed are, as we learn them, briefly as follows:—About two years ago, Tuttle was married to a Miss Smith, in the city of Boston. At the time the marriage ceremony was performed she knew that he had been previously married, but believed, as she says, that a legal divorce had been granted by a competent court. For a time they lived happily together, but quite recently the wife was advised by a respectable lawyer of this city, to whom she presented the divorce papers, that the same were forgeries. Hence she gave notice to her husband that she would no longer cohabit with him. On Sunday last she had an interview with him in Twenty-sixth street, when he asked her the question if she intended to live with him! Her reply was, "No, you have another wife who has a higher claim on you than I have." He then said, "I shall immediately do something which you will regret." When he took his leave, she accompanied him to the door, and when he was on the front steps he drew a revolver and shot himself as above stated. When the wife saw what he was about to do she used every effort to prevent the suicide, but without effect. The coroner's jury rendered a verdict in accordance with the above facts.—N. Y. Paper.

I heard yesterday an army anecdote, which illustrates the old adage, that the ruling passion is strong in death. A New England officer, who had been wounded, finding that his end was approaching, sent for an embalmer, and inquired what he would charge to embalm and enclose his remains. "Ninety dollars is the charge for officers." "Won't you take eighty?" "Can't deduct a dollar!" "Take eighty-five, then?" "No." But finally a bargain was struck at eighty-seven and a half, the embalmer promising the officer that his body should be sent up by the next morning's boat. And it was sent up, so says a responsible voucher for the truth of this last bargain.—Cor. American paper.

The following is a concluding paragraph of a long editorial in the Richmond Sentinel, (Jeff Davis' organ) France and England will enter into a treaty with these Confederate States, recognizing our nationality and guaranteeing our independence, upon the abolition of slavery in all these States, rather than continue the war, we should be prepared to urge the measure on our readers. We believe such a proposition would be favorably received and acted on by those nations, and it ought to be made to them.

THE PASSPORT SYSTEM.—Despatches from Clinton and Windsor on Saturday state that the passport order of the Federal Government was on that day rigidly enforced for the first time. Hundreds of passengers from the latter town to the States were turned back on account of not having the necessary papers.

THE FAMED NEGRO.—It appears from a carefully prepared report that fifty thousand liberated negroes in Louisiana have perished from starvation, and from diseases induced by want, during the past two years.

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS IN THE LAND OF LIBERTY.—The publication of newspapers is limited to two, the editors to be held to a strict accountability for libels, mischievous matter, premature news, exaggerated statements, or any comments whatever on the acts of the authorities.

HOSTAGE FOR A MOTHER.—Mrs. M. Wood, lately of St. Louis, was aroused one night by a lady friend seeking an asylum for the night to protect her from arrest. The lady made good her escape, but Mrs. Wood was snuggled in her stead, into the female prison of St. Louis. Mrs. Wood, eluding the vigilance of her gaolers, after a long imprisonment, succeeded in regaining her freedom a few weeks ago, but immediately after her escape her infant son was arrested, and is still held as a hostage for her return. That youthful prisoner, Lee Sumter Wood, was born on the day of Beauregard's bombardment of Fort Sumter, and is now, therefore, not four years old.—American Paper.

NEVER TOO OLD TO LEARN.—Socrates at an extreme age, learned to play on musical instruments. Cato at eighty years of age thought proper to learn the Greek language. Plutarch, when he was seventy and eighty, commenced the study of Latin. Boccaccio was thirty-five years of age when he commenced the study of polite literature; he became one of the great masters of the Tuscan dialect, Dante, and Petrarch being the other two. Sir Henry Spelman neglected the sciences in his youth but commenced the study of them when he was between fifty and sixty years of age. After this time, he became a most learned antiquarian! Colbert, the famous French Minister, at sixty years of age returned to his Latin and law studies. Ludovico, at the great age of one hundred and fifteen, wrote the memoirs of his own times. A singular exertion noticed by Voltaire, who was himself one of the most remarkable instances of the progressing of age in new studies. Ogilby the translator of Homer and Virgil, was unacquainted with Latin and Greek till he was past the age of fifty. Franklin did not fully commence his philosophic pursuits until he had reached his fiftieth year. Accorso, a great lawyer being asked why he began the study of law so late, answered that indeed he began late, but he could therefore master it sooner. Dryden, in his sixty-eighth year commenced the translation of the Iliad: and his most pleasing productions were written in his old age.

MURRAY'S FLORIDA WATER.—Poets may talk of 'lanes from spicy Araby,' but it may well be questioned whether any cinnamon or orange grove ever sent up incense as refreshing as the perfume of this Florida essence. The atmosphere, which steals the fragrance from moist toilet waters, seems to have little effect upon the exquisite aroma which belongs pure excellence, to this refreshing preparation. It contains, so to speak, the condensed breath of the most odoriferous blossoms of Tropical America and its fragrance seems inexhaustible even by long continued evaporation and diffusion. In this respect it resembles the original Florida Cologne, and it is preferred to that more costly perfume in South America and the West Indies, where it is almost universally used.

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

HIGHLY IMPORTANT TO ALL THOSE WHO SUFFER WITH PLEURISY.

Another of the respectable citizens of Quebec, Canada, has voluntarily addressed the following to W. B. Brunet, Esq., Druggist, &c., Pont St. Roch Street, Quebec: 'I should be greatly pleased to inform you that I have been completely cured of a very severe Pleurisy, which I had neglected, and by the use of only three bottles of the BISTOL'S SARSAPARILLA, which I bought at your establishment in Valior Street.

I am, dear sir, very truly yours, J. B. ALEXIS DORVAL, Inspector of Timber.

WHAT THEY SAY.—Go to business men for reliable facts. Read the testimony of a merchant. 'Lugrange, N. Y., Feb. 12, 1861. Messrs. Henry & Co. Your agent left with me a short time ago two dozen bottles of Downs' Blixir. I have sold it all and want more. It is the best lung medicine I ever had.

H. B. ROBINSON.' When dealers speak in its praise, and physicians recommend it, it must possess some virtue. Its sale is constantly on the increase. It is warranted to cure coughs and colds.

SORE THROAT, COUGH, COLD, and similar troubles, if suffered to progress, result in serious Pulmonary, Bronchial and Asthmatic affections often incurable.

DOWNS' BRONCHIAL TROCHES are compounded so as to reach directly the seat of the disease and give almost instant relief. The Troches are offered with the fullest confidence in their efficacy; they have been thoroughly tested, and maintain the good reputation they have justly acquired. For Public Speakers, Singers, Military Officers and those who over-tax the voice, they are useful in relieving an Irritated Throat, and will render articulation easy. To the soldier exposed to sudden changes in the weather they will give prompt relief in Coughs and Colds, and can be carried in the pocket to be taken as occasion requires. Sold at 35 cents a box.

A NECESSITY.—In every house, is a bottle of Henry's Vermont Liniment. A burn, a bruise, a tooth-ache that would otherwise go unrelieved, may then be cured. A wise man will take every precaution against accident, so that the time of need will find him well prepared with a remedy. See advertisement in another column for the disorders for which the Liniment is a specific.

EXERCISE.—The ancient Grecians were noted of their agility, strength, and great powers of endurance. The English women of the present time are celebrated for their robust and healthy appearance, the result in both instances, of vigorous and healthy exercise. The Americans, unfortunately, have but little taste for this method of retaining their health or building up a broken constitution, hence the great prevalence of weak, sickly, and delicate men and women. HOOFLAND'S GERMAN BITTERS will in a great measure palliate this want of exercise, by giving great strength to the digestive organs, hence producing a good appetite and a vigorous feeling of body. A moderate degree of exercise, however, used in connection with the Bitters, is much better; the most desperate cases of Dyspepsia, Liver Complaint, Nervous Debility, yielding quickly to their beneficial influence. All druggists and dealers in medicines have these Bitters for sale.

WISTAR'S WILD CHERRY BALSAM.—This Balsamic compound has become a home fixture. Let all who suffer, and have in vain attempted to cure their coughs, colds, bronchitis, or pulmonary complaints, make use of this unequalled remedy.