

Prof. Swift, at Rochester, discovered a comet last Saturday evening in the constellation Draco. He receives the Warner prize of two hundred dollars. The comet is wonderfully brilliant.

The steamer *Wm. Harrison*, from Hull to Boston, in a fog was run into by the steam collier *Professor Morse*, from New York. The *Harrison* was cut to the water's edge. The *Morse* being iron, the vessel received no damage. There was much excitement among the passengers.

Ninety men are on strike at the Delroy Glass Works, near Detroit. The strike is occasioned by a demand equivalent to five per cent. reduction of wages, which the workmen refuse to grant.

Pleuro-pneumonia has appeared among cattle in Delaware, Chester, and York counties, Pa. Three hundred and fifty are affected, and a dozen have been killed.

The peanut crop is reported to be a failure throughout the state of Virginia in consequence of the drouth. It is not believed more than a fourth of the crop will be made. The loss will be \$200,000.

The New York police are looking for Abram Nesbitt, the sixteen-year-old son of the President of the 2nd National Bank of Easton, Pa., who ran away from home, and is said to be heir to half a million dollars.

A case of leprosy was brought to San Francisco by the last steamer from Honolulu. The quarantine officer refused permission to land, and a writ of *habeas corpus* has been issued.

Unknown parties recently passed worthless bills upon Boston tradesmen, headed, "Irish Republic," and purporting to be signed by John O'Mahoney, agent of the Irish Republic, and B. Drawfillian, financial secretary. The bills are dated March 17th, 1856, and promise six months after acknowledgment of the independence of the Irish Republic to pay the bearer five dollars. The bill would readily be taken for a United States note.

A bad fire occurred in New York city. Several stores were gutted and much property destroyed.

The Merchants Union Barb Wire Works at Des Moines, Iowa, were burned Friday night; loss unknown; insurance \$20,000.

Serious fires have also occurred at Brooklyn, Atlanta and Milwaukee.

Louisa B. Klanowsky, of Detroit, has begun a suit for \$10,000 against the Grand Trunk road for the death of her husband, who was run over and killed last June at the Chene street crossing in that city.

Wm. G. Hunter, a druggist of New Haven, Conn., sold laudanum for paragon by mistake, on Wednesday, to Patrick H. O'Brien, who administered it to his infant, causing death.

The steampipe of the steamer *Roselal*, plying between New York and Bridgeport, burst on Wednesday, totally scalding a four-year-old son of Peter Daly, of Birmingham.

The Postmaster-General says the reduction in letter postage will cause a loss to the Government of over two millions.

Louisiana advices say that caterpillars have appeared in swarms in the vicinity of Vermillionville, and are devastating the cotton.

Moody, the evangelist, preached in his old church in Chicago last Sunday morning. There was a great crush, and a number of women and children were seriously hurt.

Charles J. Foster, editor of the *New York Sportsman*, died on Wednesday, aged 63.

Frank Von Meter, of New York, son of the evangelist, has been arrested on a charge of embezzling \$4,200 from a lumber firm at Newark, while their bookkeeper.

At Myerstown, Pa., Andrew Pfangavner, a tramp, has been arrested on a charge of abducting Alice Wenwick, aged 11, and roasting her alive.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

Mr. Gladstone is absent in Europe. He has entertained some Royal personages, and is being greatly lionized.

Lord Dufferin, the British Ambassador to Turkey, has been recalled.

Parrell has paid off the mortgage on his estate, £13,000, from the proceeds of the testimonial fund.

A great struggle between capital and labour in the Lancashire cotton trade is expected. The operatives will resist a reduction of wages, which the masters consider the condition of trade renders necessary.

The agricultural districts of England report a large increase in foot and mouth disease.

O'Donnell, the murderer of Carey, arrived at Plymouth on the steamer *Athenian*.

Dutton Cook is dead. He was a contributor to *Punch*, the *Cornhill Magazine*, the *Pall Mall Gazette*, and the *World*.

Admiral Sir Richard Colinson is dead. He commenced the Enterprize expedition which left in 1850 in search of Franklin.

The Trades Unions have held a great Congress at Birmingham. Joseph Arch offered a resolution that, considering the large amount of waste land in the kingdom capable of cultivation, radical changes in the land system of the country are required, that the land may be put under productive cultivation for the benefit of the community, thereby offering a check to excessive emigration. The resolution was adopted with an amendment calling upon the Government to declare such land Government property.

## FOREIGN.

Yellow fever is raging with great violence at Guyamas, in Mexico.

The celebration of the seventy-third anniversary of Mexican independence was immensely enthusiastic. The procession of societies, schools, Government employees, military, and allegorical cars was four hours passing a given point. The city was crowded with strangers, and bunting was displayed everywhere.

The insurgents in Hayti have been badly beaten, and it is expected they will soon be entirely suppressed.

*La Patrie* reports that the police frustrated a plot to kill King Alfonso during the latter's stay in Paris.

The Emperor of Germany has conferred the Order of the Black Eagle upon the Crown Prince of Portugal.

The barque *Oxford*, from New York to Havre, caught fire, and was burned to the water's edge.

The Italian barque *Serena*, from New York for Bilbao, was totally wrecked at the latter port.

It is said that the recent accessions to the Austro-German alliance will shortly result in Germany proposing a general congress of all the European Powers with a view to determining upon a general disarmament. It is reported that Austria, Spain, and Italy have signified their willingness to participate in the congress.

Seventeen Pomeranian herring-boats are missing since the recent gales.

Col. Clibborn, of the Salvation Army, has been expelled from the city of Geneva, in Switzerland. Miss Booth, a member of the Army, has been imprisoned at Neufchatel for violating an order prohibiting holding meetings.

The four-hundredth anniversary of Martin Luther's birth has been celebrated at Wittenberg in a very imposing manner, 50,000 visitors were present, and an oration was delivered by the Crown Prince.

The rebellious peasants in Croatia are well-organized, and are giving much trouble.

There has been a great battle between the French and the Black-flags, and the latter are badly beaten.

There is still much excitement among Australian Colonists because the British Government refuses to sanction their annexation of adjoining islands.

## Ladies' Department.

### THE DEAN OF WELLS ON THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN.

At the first annual meeting of the Bath and Wells Lay Helper's Association, held at the Cathedral on July 26th, the Dean of Wells read a paper on "The Ministry of Women." He said:—It seems the conventionally right thing to say on this, as a topic of the day, that the highest ministry of woman is the ministry of home; that wifehood and motherhood are the crown, almost the limit of her functions in the body politic. We have heard this repeated with a wearisome iteration against every claim for the recognition of woman's rights or the extension of her duties. Like all such conventional utterances it has an element of divine truth in it. . . . Step by step the conventional prejudice of which I speak has had to give way before the advance of truer and more Christian thought. Women may be poor law guardians and may sit on school boards. . . . Many forms of such work have already obtained recognition. Women may be Sunday-school teachers and district visitors without incurring the reproach of being unfeminine. Here, at least, we do not shrink back, as from some dangerous spectre, from the outward garb of the deaconess or the sister. We are beginning to recognise that our labors among the sick and poor should be more organized, and clothed with a more definite