

DUBLIN, Nov. 18.—The charges of ill-treatment which the Fenian prisoners have brought so openly and bitterly against the Governor of Kilmallock have, by the force of repetition, produced some impression on a portion of the public. As the prisoners are not allowed to communicate with each other in gaol, the unanimity of hatred which they have professed towards Mr. Price seems the more remarkable, and at first view may be thought confirmatory of their statements. The fact, however, that nothing would be more calculated to weaken the moral effect of the convictions than the exercise of any rigour upon untried prisoners suggests a motive for casting such imputations upon the authorities, and a reason for regarding them with suspicion. It would baffle the cause of these misguided men in the estimation of their countrymen if they could succeed in representing themselves as victims of British law, whose sufferings had been aggravated by persecutions inflicted by despotic officials. Nor would the effect be confined to Ireland. A feeling of sympathy and exasperation would be awakened across the Atlantic, and the more impetuous of their brethren might be stimulated to engage in any enterprise, however rash, in order to avenge their injuries. On the other hand nothing could be more repugnant to the English sense of justice than any harshness towards political prisoners, especially such as had not been tried. Impressed with these convictions, your correspondent has thought it right to institute careful personal inquiries, in order that the people of England, whose generous spirit would feel outraged by any cruelty even towards their most inveterate enemies, might be correctly informed whether any grounds really existed for these charges. Having visited the gaol at an early hour yesterday morning, without any previous notice, he is enabled from his own observations and reliable information which he obtained, to give them an emphatic contradiction. The following statement of facts will show how unfounded they are. The three convicts and a number of other Fenian prisoners were taken exercise after breakfast, and there was full opportunity for examining their cells. There are each 14ft. long, 12ft. in height, and nearly 7ft. in width, with whitewashed walls, boarded floors, and well lighted through a window, situated about 9ft. from the ground, at the end opposite the door. In the centre is an iron bedstead frame, containing a hammock, well provided with mattress, a pair of sheets, blanket, and counterpane. When not in use this is folded up flat against the wall to which it is attached, and when in use it extends across the cell, one end resting upon the wall. The other permanent furniture consists of a small deal table, a stool, and a little bracket with two shelves which is fitted in a corner near the door. This holds bread books or other small articles. Toothbrushes, combs, looking glasses, and other toilet requisites, such as Halpin complained that he was not allowed to possess, were on these shelves. Each cell is scrupulously clean. On the floor of Halpin's, where he alleged that his clothes lay in filth and vermin, one might, to use a homely phrase, eat his dinner. In each cell there were books lying on the table which the prisoner appeared to have been recently reading. In Halpin's for example, there were on his table the *Waverley Magazine* and *Literary Reporter*, a periodical published in Boston, United States; *Desireux* a novel by the author of *Pelham*; the *Los' Hair*, and a number of the *University Magazine*. On his shelf there was a Roman Catholic prayer-book. On Warren's table was a modern edition of *Bacon's Commentaries* and a volume of *Chamber's Journal*. On his shelf was a copy of the *Garden of the Soul*, and another religious book, along with a quantity of bread which he had not eaten. On Costello's table were the *Pittolton Legacy*, *Mary Schwarden*, the *Amber Witch*, the *Heart of Midlothian*, *Old Mortality*, and the *Antiquary*. With such gems of literary entertainment they were still allowed to while away their hours of solitude, although they are now convicted felons. All the cells are well ventilated, and kept at a sufficiently warm temperature by means of a heating apparatus which pervades the whole building.

ARRESTS FOR WITNESSING.—It will be remembered that on last St. Patrick's Day, before the excitement of the Fenian rising had subsided, a party of eight or ten persons, supposed to be Fenians, visited the residence of Captain James Barry, J. P., at Ballyclough, near Glaswort, in this county—some fourteen, it is said—and a valuable sword belonging to the late General Barry (Captain Barry's father), to whom it was presented by a Muskerry regiment. Captain Barry was at the time staying in the County Waterford. None of the party who bore off the arms was made amenable at the time, but it is believed the authorities were not without information as to the place where the arms were concealed. At length an informer is understood to spring up, acting upon whose testimony, a strong party of constabulary, under the command of Sub-inspectors Orr, of Fermoy, and Rudge, of Mitcheltown, proceeded, on Sunday last, to the land of a comfortable farmer named Francis Foley, near Glaswort, and made a search which resulted in the discovery of all the stolen arms. They had been deposited in large pig troughs, and buried in a stubble field on Foley's farm. The arms were at once removed to safe keeping, and following up the information afforded them the police immediately after made four arrests in the neighborhood. These are Francis Foley and his son William (who is said to have returned from America shortly before the rising), a tailor named Dune, of Glaswort, and a farm servant named Ryall. The arms were inspected by Capt. Barry, who identified his father's sword, for the recovery of which he was most anxious. The arrests created no sensation throughout the district, and various surmises have been hazarded as to who the informer may be. In anticipation of other arrests, it is stated that several persons in that part of the county have left their homes. Yesterday, Mr. Neal Brown attended at Fermoy to take the preliminary informations of witnesses. The enquiry was held in private, and beyond the foregoing generally known facts, on particulars have transpired. Mr. P. O'Donnell, crown prosecutor, attended on behalf of the crown. The prisoners were remanded and the enquiry adjourned till next week.—*Cork Examiner*.

There seems to be no prospect of the termination of the Fenian movement. Like the Irish Shamrock, the more it is trodden upon the more prolific it becomes. We deeply regret the fact, because we should rather see the young blood of Ireland abandoning paths of danger, and betaking themselves to more useful and more profitable labor. But they seem determined to go on in the path they have chosen. England is now the great theatre upon which they are performing, and it is surprising how they have struck terror into the English population. They are keeping up a sort of civil war, and the authorities in several quarters have more than enough to do, to protect the arsenals, and prevent their contents from falling into Fenian hands. The people of England may thank the Whigs for all the alarms created amongst them. That party and all who protect the execution of injustice in Ireland are the real authors of Fenianism. There is not a bad landlord in this country, who plunders and then exterminates his tenants, who is not a recruiting sergeant for the Fenian movement. There is not a Whig or Orange newspaper which cloaks or defends the injustice suffered by the people, that is not more or less accountable for the outbreak in March last, and also for Sergeant Brett's blood, shed at Hyde Road, Manchester, on the 18th September. It is injustice to the Irish that has begotten this unfortunate Fenian Confederacy, and those who perpetrate and abet that injustice are morally guilty of the deeds of the Fenians.—*Dundalk Democrat*.

IMPORTANT ARREST.—On Saturday last Constable James Ahearne effected a speedy capture of an individual who gave his name as John Gillis, a hatter, not fifteen minutes after receiving a special descrip-

tion from the authorities in Dublin, judging from which this arrest may be considered as important. The prisoner was committed to the bridewell by the Hon. M. J. French, R. M., and was brought up before the Magistrates at the petty sessions on Wednesday. The prisoner is a man of very quick nervous disposition, and apparently reckless as to his present situation. He is of dark complexion, very sallow, having hair inclined to curl, and as black as the raven's wing, and even blacker, so much so as to attract attention. His description answers in every particular to the one received, save in the colour of the hair, which is stated to be dark brown. It is strongly believed, however, that he is the man 'wanted,' whose name is James O'Donnell and that his hair is but stained, and since his incarceration the surmise has been somewhat confirmed, from the fact that it is said to be returning to its original hue. He told the constable that he had been in the Inniskilling Dragoons under the name of M'Caan. The constable charged him with being for a considerable time engaged in illegally teaching drill, and requested to have him further remanded pending the issue of corresponding with the authorities. It was acceded to.—*Clonmel Chronicle*.

THE LATE ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE A CROWN WITNESS.—A young man named John Walsh, who described himself as a pawnbroker's assistant, was arrested on Friday night in Capel-street, by some officers of the detective police in consequence of his resemblance to the man who is charged with having fired a revolver at George Reilly a Crown witness, on the night of Sunday, 20th October last. The prisoner was identified by Police-constable Matthew Dunlop, 99 F, who stated that on the night in question he followed the man who fired at Reilly and had his hand upon his shoulder. He was rescued by two men who were seated upon a car, and who fired some shots at the constable and succeeded in getting away. The prisoner was brought up at the Head Police-office on Saturday and the constable having given evidence to the above effect, the Magistrate remanded the case for a week.

THE IRISH LAND QUESTION.—Free trade in land does not seem likely to be a panacea for Irish landlord and tenant troubles. A Mr. Hogan, a retired tradesman has been buying a patch of Lord Annesley's land in County Wexford, and has at once served notices on all his tenants, three in number. The Wexford newspapers denounce him as a 'little tyrant' and the parish priest hopes 'that the report is without foundation, as he would deprecate the awful consequences which may follow now that the people's feelings are already ignited by such an apprehension.' Mr. Hogan replies that he cannot understand how his notice to quit can have caused a 'fearful sensation,' or can be likely to lead to 'awful consequences.' He bought the land as a commercial speculation; and will let the tenants stay only if they consent to pay rather more than double the rent which Lord Annesley demanded. As a class, says a Wexford paper, 'these upstart lords of the soil are far worse than the old stocks. How is it then that Irish editors are so ready to join in Mr. Bright's plans for giving the 'upstarts' unlimited scope?—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

GREAT BRITAIN.

EXTRAORDINARY PROCEEDINGS AT THE HOME OFFICE.—Yesterday afternoon, a deputation appointed at a meeting held on Clerkenwell-green on Sunday morning attended at the Home Office for the purpose of presenting a memorial to the Home Secretary, praying that the lives of the condemned Fenians at Manchester might be spared. The deputation, which was composed of between 60 and 80 working men, assembled in Whitehall shortly after 2 o'clock. Before that hour an intimation was conveyed to some of its members that Mr. Hardy would refuse to receive them, and that a letter to that effect, written by his private secretary, was awaiting Mr. Finlan, who had written to ask for the interview. Mr. Finlan, however, accompanied by his friends, and after some parleying with one of the officials, succeeded in obtaining admission to a room immediately adjoining that usually occupied by Mr. Hardy. An indignation meeting was immediately constituted, and Mr. Finlan, who was by general assent voted to the chair, read the following communication which evoked strong expressions of disapprobation:—

'Sir—I am directed by Mr. Secretary Hardy to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date, acquainting him that a deputation had been appointed, at a meeting held yesterday at Clerkenwell-green, to wait upon him in reference to the Fenian convicts under sentence of death at Manchester, and expressing a hope that he would receive them this afternoon. Mr. Hardy desires me to inform you in reply that he has declined to receive deputations on that subject, and equally declines to do so in this instance, though prepared to receive any memorial that may be sent for his consideration.'

An official of the Home Office here interposed and informed the deputation that noisy discussion would not be permitted, whereupon Mr. Finlan peremptorily ordered him to hold his tongue, telling him that he was 'a mere servant of the place,' and not a member of the deputation.

The scene which took place at the Home Office upon the arrival of the working men's deputation was of the most extraordinary character. The working men, to the number of some sixty, arrived in a body. Mr. Finlan, who is a public lecturer, entered the building, followed by about half the deputation. Upon ascending the staircase he was met by an elderly messenger, who handed him a letter, and said that the Home Secretary could not receive the deputation. Mr. Finlan took the letter, and read it with great deliberation and slowness. He then made a deliberately took time to reflect. His reflections made, he turned towards an ante-room, and said, 'I will go in here.' The office keeper interposed, saying, 'It is not worth while bringing these gentlemen in here, for the Home Secretary will not receive the deputation.' Mr. Finlan, in the solemn manner which he had assumed all through, requested the office-keeper to let him pass, and moving past, he entered the ante-chamber. Once in, he turned round to the bewildered official and told him, or rather ordered him, to 'show the deputation in.' The deputation took the hint and entered the room in an instant, to the number of about forty or fifty. When they were in, Mr. Finlan placed himself at a table, round which the others congregated. One of the deputation then said in a somewhat timid tone, as if he wished to give an eminently moderate turn to the affair, 'Mr. Finlan, however, stretched forth his arm, and with great dignity said, 'No, I will read the letter to the deputation.' After the letter was read he made a speech, during which at times he made his voice resound throughout the building. This drew all the Home Office clerks out of the neighboring rooms, and they assembled on the staircases to see what was going on. When any remark more than usually audacious was made, the hapless office-keeper made a movement as if he wished to go off at once to convey the news of so much unheard of strong speaking to his superiors; but, thinking better of it, he always returned upon his steps, and stood to listen to what further would or could be said. Meanwhile, the Commissioners of Police were communicated with, and Sir Richard Mayne and Mr. Harris came over from Scotland-yard in hot haste, accompanied by a body of some fifty or sixty police, who were drawn up in military array outside the Home Office, but their services were not required.

The prominence given in Her Majesty's Speech to recent outrages in Manchester and elsewhere, and the remarks of the Prime Minister, will not fail to impress the public mind. It is seldom that an English Government in our own times has recognized so emphatically the prevalence of a spirit dangerous to law and order in this country; nor would any light reason have justified the employment of such lan-

guage as the following:—'The reasonable conspiracy commonly known as Fenianism, baffled and repressed in Ireland, has assumed in England the form of organized violence and assassination. Those outrages require to be vigorously put down, and I rely for their effectual suppression upon the firm administration of the law and the loyalty of the great mass of my subjects.' The attention of Parliament having been thus called to Fenianism in England, we may expect that even during the present Session it will become the subject of debate in Parliament. It is therefore time for us to look the matter in the face, and to consider both what it is that we have to 'put down' and what are the proper measures for its 'effectual suppression.' Some light is thrown upon the former question by a strange letter delivered at the office of the *Daily News*, and published yesterday in that journal. It is dated from Dublin, November 16, and purports to be a circular of the Irish Revolutionary Government to its agents and friends abroad, being signed by a person who styles himself the Secretary of External Relations. Our contemporary, of course, does not vouch for its genuineness, of which our readers must judge for themselves; but, whether it be genuine or spurious, its literary merit and argumentative tone are conclusive proofs of its having been composed by some well-educated person. Its professed object is to notify the course which the Fenian Executive has determined to adopt in the event of Allen and his fellow-conspirators being hanged and, by way of preface, it gives the Fenian view of the rescue and subsequent trials—Kelly and Dessey are designated as 'two Irish officers on secret and special service in Manchester, who had the misfortune to fall into the hands of the civil authorities, and whose release it was of the utmost importance to effect 'at any cost.' The writer proceeds to describe the death of Brett as accidental, and caused by 'the (for him) fatal expedient of firing into the lock.' He admits the exploit to have been illegal, but maintains that 'disregard for the laws by which an oppressor seeks to protect himself is the first and necessary principle in a rebellion against that oppressor.' Acknowledging the duty of 'insurgents' to abstain from all acts of wanton violence, he then casts the same responsibility on the British Government. 'Hitherto,' says he, 'the Irish insurgents against England have honorably fulfilled their share of this moral obligation; and though England has not acted with corresponding forbearance, she has refrained as yet from putting to death any Fenian prisoners.' 'Should she do so,' he continues, 'I am instructed to say that for every judicial assassin she is guilty of the life of a prominent Englishman will be exacted by this Government, and you will point out that upon England will rest the odium of having first inaugurated the policy with Ireland.' He is careful to add that it will make no difference whether the persons executed are Fenians or not, for that retaliation will be enforced on their behalf 'in recognition of their claims as Irishmen.'—*Times*.

To the Editor of the Tablet.

Sir—Some of your readers may like to see a definition of the sentiments of a Protestant Gentleman given by himself. I venture, therefore, to ask you to publish in your next the following letter lately received by me through the post.

You: obedient servant;

DENBIGH.

GUNPOWDER PLOT DAY.
Nov. 5, 1867.

'Down with the Pope, and God Save the Queen! Our Irish Waterford, To Hell with the Pope!'

A cool piece of impudence, Denbigh, to propose a public subscription for a rotten old Papacy. The Popedom (temporal power) is doomed. As for the Pope, you will be allowed, with other superstitious and idolatrous persons (old red-haired Donkey Bowyer, and others), to worship the 'Sacred Whore' in private, as you please, but there must be no popery in public.

We still commemorate to-day with grateful hearts the deliverance of our nation from the internal conspiracy of your Brother Papists of old—Huzzas for Italy. Down with Pius IX. Papa, and his Bulls! To Hell with the Pope!

A PROTESTANT GENTLEMAN.
No Popery!

To the Right Hon. the Earl of Denbigh, Newbarns Paddock, Rugby.

INFAMOUS SLANDER AGAINST A CONVENT.—A notable correspondence has taken place between a gentleman of the name of Hargreaves, who resides at 20, Grosvenor place, Birkenhead, and Canon Chapman, the senior priest of St. Werburga's Church, Birkenhead. Mr. Hargreaves, speaking in public of the demerits of the Roman Catholic convents, said: 'A case has recently occurred near Manchester where a gentleman went to see his daughter at a convent, and found she was within a few days of her confinement.' On hearing of this, Canon Chapman wrote to Mr. Hargreaves, challenging him to name the convent in which the occurrence took place, and Mr. Hargreaves, acknowledging the receipt of the Canon's letter, replied that 'he had no names, and should decline to say more.' On being further pressed by Canon Chapman Mr. Hargreaves invites him to publish the correspondence, which the Canon accordingly does, exhibiting Mr. Hargreaves in the unenviable position of having made a foul accusation against some half dozen convents which he cannot attempt to substantiate.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

LONDON, Dec. 4.—A second instalment of the correspondence between the British and American Governments in regard to the Alabama claims, have been laid before the House of Commons by the Foreign Office. Lord Stanley, in a despatch to Mr. Ford, the present Charge d'Affaires at Washington, says that England will never consent to submit to the arbitration of a foreign power claims involving her right to recognize belligerents. This right, he insists, is purely a question of English law. He repeats his offer to submit to arbitration the Alabama claims, and refer all other demands for indemnity to the decision of a mixed commission.

LONDON, Dec. 3rd. The Bill for a tax of one per cent. on incomes, to defray the expenses of the Abyssinian war, passed the House of Commons to-night. Parliament will adjourn on the 7th inst.

A BROAD HINT.—The *London Morning Post* says:—'The Queen has fixed on the pulpit of the Chapel Royal Savoy, a sad-glass of the measure of eighteen minutes.'

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK, Dec. 3.—All the papers print the President's message this morning. The following is a summary of it:—

The President opens by saying that the continued organization of the Union, to which the President has so often called the attention of Congress, is yet a subject of profound and patriotic concern. He says it is therefore a source of profound regret, in complying with the obligation imposed upon the President by the Constitution, to give from time to time, information of the state of the Union.

Reconstruction of a 'Military Despotism' in the South.

I am unable to communicate any definite adjustment satisfactory to the American people of questions which, since the close of the rebellion, have agitated the public mind. On the contrary, candor compels me to declare that at this time there is no Union as our fathers understood the term, and as they meant it to be understood by us. The Union which they established can only exist when all the States are represented in both Houses of Congress.

To the President, the process of restoration seems perfectly plain and simple. It consists merely in a faithful application of the constitution and law. The execution of the laws is not now obstructed by physical force. There is no military or other necessary, real or pretended, which can prevent obedience

to the Constitution, either North or South. All the rights and all the obligations of States and individuals can be protected and enforced by means perfectly consistent with the fundamental law. It is clear to his apprehension that the States lately in rebellion are still members of the National Union. When did they cease to be so? The ordinances of secession adopted by a portion, in most of them a very small portion, of their citizens, were nullities—If we admit now that they were valid and effectual for the purpose intended by the author, we sweep from under our feet the whole ground upon which we justified the war.

Unconstitutionality of the Military Tenure Acts.

The President elaborates these views, at great length, and then says:—'Being sincerely convinced that those views are correct I would be unfaithful to my duty if I did not recommend the repeal of the Acts of Congress, which place ten of the Southern States under the domination of military masters. If calm reflection shall satisfy a majority of your honorable bodies that the acts referred to are not only a violation of the national faith, but in direct conflict with the constitution, I dare not permit myself to doubt that you will immediately strike them from the statute book.'

The South Reduced by them to Slavery.

The President proceeds to say that 'he has no desire to save from the just and proper consequences of their crime; those who engaged in the rebellion; but, as a mode of punishment, the measures under consideration are the most unreasonable that could be invented. Many of these people are perfectly innocent, and of those who are guilty with their own consent, the degrees of guilt are as various as their shades of character and temper; but these acts of Congress confound them all together in one common doom. Indiscriminate vengeance on classes, sects, parties, or upon whole communities, for offences committed by a portion of them against the government to which they owed obedience, was common in the barbarous ages; but Christianity and civilization have made such progress that recourse to a punishment so cruel and unjust would meet the condemnation of all unprejudiced and right-minded men. The primitive justice of this age, especially in this country, does not consist in depriving whole States of their liberties, and reducing all of their people without distinction, to the condition of slavery.'

He says he is aware that it is assigned that this system of government for the South is not to be perpetual. If the guarantees of the Constitution can be broken provisionally to serve a temporary purpose, and in a part only of the country, we can destroy them everywhere, and for all time. Arbitrary measures often change, but they generally change for the worse. It is the curse of despotism that it has no halting place.

Negro Suffrage Condemned under the Present System.

The President then says it is manifestly and avowedly the object of the laws to confer this privilege of voting on the negroes, and disfranchise such a number of whites as to give the former a clear majority of all the elections in the Southern States. It is, to the minds of some persons, so important that a violation of the Constitution is justified as the means of bringing it about. We are not permitted to do evil that good may come, but in this case the end is evil. The subjugation of these States to negro domination would be worse than the military despotism under which they are now suffering. The blacks of the South are entitled to be well and humanely governed, and to have the protection of just laws for their rights of person and property. If it were practicable at this time to give them a government of their own, it were questionable to do so; but now they are permitted to elect Legislatures, organize States and elect Presidents. No independent government has been maintained by negroes.

The message goes on to argue the dangers of the extension of elective franchise, and says that 4,000,000 of degraded slaves of yesterday, cannot be made intelligent freemen to-day.

The President is willing to join in any plan to better the condition of the negroes in their rights, save transferring to them our political inheritance.

Mr. Johnson intimates that he may make a *Coup d'Etat*.

The President alludes to the uncounted millions that the Congressional plan has cost, and says it will increase the burdens of taxation and may bankrupt us. We must not, he adds, delude ourselves. It will require a strong standing army, and probably more than two hundred million dollars per year, to maintain the supremacy of negro governments when they are established. The money thus thrown away, if put into a sinking fund, would pay the national debt in fifteen years. It is vain to hope the negroes will maintain their own execution. He discusses the extent to which the President may go toward protecting the constitution and opposing the unconstitutional acts of Congress; and said it has caused him much solicitude, and he believes that executive resistance to unconstitutional acts might in high times of party excitement lead to civil war. The executive would concede much to preserve the peace; but there may be times when he would have to take a stand, regardless of the consequence.

Unconstitutionality of the Re-Construction Acts.

The so-called reconstruction acts do not come within the view just mentioned, though clearly unconstitutional. The people are not wholly disarmed of the power of self-defence. In all the northern States they still hold in their hands the right of protection, and the late result of the ballot shows he says, that his faith in the people was not misplaced.

The Civil Tenure bill is next discussed and denounced as unconstitutional and extra-judicial, and promotive of fraud in preventing the removal of dishonest officers.

The Financial Question.

The President then elaborately discusses the financial question, and invites to it the early consideration of Congress. In comparing the currency circulation of seven years ago with now, he says that, in view of the striking facts, it is the obvious duty of government to take such steps as will enable the holders of its notes, and those of the National Bank to convert them without loss into specie or its equivalent. A reduction of our circulation paper medium need not necessarily follow. This would depend on the law of demand and supply, though it should be borne in mind that by making legal tender and bank-notes inconvertible into coin or its equivalent, their present specie value would be enhanced 100 per cent. The varied issues of our bonds, and the gold and paper interest of the same is alluded to at some length, and the President declares that equal and exact justice requires that all of the creditors of the Government should be paid in a currency of equal value, not gold for one, and paper for another. He favors the measure of retiring our paper currency, that the return of gold and silver may cease to become articles of traffic and return to our avenue of trade. It is unreasonable to expect he says, a return to a sound currency, so long as the Government, by continuing to issue irredeemable notes fills the channels of circulation with depreciated paper.

The attention of Congress is earnestly invited to the necessity of a thorough revision of our revenue system, and a large reduction in the number of articles taxed is urged. The President says that peace has been secured with the Indians, but that he has no official details from the Commissioners.

Foreign Affairs.—The Alabama Claims.

Regarding foreign affairs, the President says, 'Mexico is relieved from foreign interposition, and peace reigns in Central and South America.' The United States were creditably represented at the Paris Exposition; and at the General Confer-

ence of all nations, at which a universal system of gold coinage was agreed on.

Of the 'Alabama' claims the President speaks as follows: 'No arrangement has been reached for the settlement of our claims for British depredations upon the commerce of the United States. I have felt it my duty to decline the proposition of arbitration made by Her Majesty's Government, because it has hitherto been accompanied by reservations and limitations incompatible with the rights, honor, and interests of our country. It is not to be approved that Great Britain will persist in her refusal to satisfy these just and reasonable claims, which involve the sacred principle of non-intervention,—a principle hitherto not more important to the United States than to all other commercial nations.'

The President says that a treaty has been concluded with the King of Denmark for the cession of the islands of St. Thomas and St. Johns to the United States.

The President asks an appropriation for Alaska of Congress.

The President concludes as follows:—'The abuse of our laws by the clandestine prosecution of the African slave-trade from American citizens, has altogether ceased; and, under existing circumstances, no apprehensions of its renewal in this part of the world are entertained. Under these circumstances it becomes a question whether we shall not propose to Her Majesty's Government a suspension or discontinuance of the stipulations for maintaining a naval force for the suppression of that trade.'

ANDREW JOHNSON.

THE 'NEW YORK HERALD' ON THE FENIAN MOVING.—The American Government cannot tolerate foreign national factions. Irishmen who leave their honest employments here to go filibustering in Ireland or England, take their lives in their hands and must bear the consequences. If citizens of the Republic they prove themselves unfaithful to their allegiance by attempting to make war on a Power with which we are at peace, and forfeit all claim to protection by the act; subjects of Queen Victoria, they are simply rebels and must be treated accordingly. England has suspended the habeas corpus in Ireland, treason is punishable with death, and the most learned judges of Britain have decided that the Fenian filibusters from America had a fair trial. What more do their friends, real or pretended, require? Indeed, having gone on a hazardous enterprise, it appears cowardly and un-English to seek to cry off on a legal quibble when the pain is being experienced.—England sympathized largely with the American rebels lately in arms against the Union. The American people have pity for the wives and children of all Irishmen who step out from the shelter of the constitution to do illegal acts, but do not seek to retaliate on England by encouraging rebellion and murder on her soil. Further than this we have no sympathy with the condemned Fenian filibusters, no more than we have with Garibaldi—who also pleads his American 'papers'—or had with Lopez when he was garrotted in Cuba.

EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES IN NEW YORK.—A general reduction of the wages of clerks is contemplated by the store-keepers, to take place about the first of January. The merchants say their losses this Fall have been so great that they cannot afford the wages they have been paying during the last two years, and many intend to reduce the number of the unemployed, besides adding to the difficulties that many all-year experience in the effort to live respectably. Hundreds of intelligent young men in large dry goods stores have to work for from ten to fifteen dollars per week, and pay from seven to ten for board. The artisan classes have trade organizations, and can, by strikers, compel employers to pay good wages, but the clerks must take whatever may be offered. The pay of mechanics and skilled laborers is from 100 to 150 per cent higher now than it was five years ago, but the increase in clerks' wages during that time, has not been more than 50 per cent. The cutting down movement started in Brooklyn, where business has been very backward, but most of the New York store-keepers are going into it, and it will probably be generally adopted by mid-winter. There is no doubt that the losses to large retailers have been very great. A. T. Stewart's losses amount to over a million and other large houses have lost from \$100,000 to \$500,000 by the decline in prices alone. A number of small houses, wholesale and retail, have failed, and the large establishments to which they were indebted have to bear the loss. There has been considerable improvement in trade since the elections, and a belief that prices have touched bottom has checked the panic feeling that prevailed, but the shrewdest of the old merchants say a great many failures are yet to come.

BUTLER AND THE YELLOW FEVER.—The Aberdeen *Examiner* is responsible for the following:—'Professor Leja is a distinguished optician of New Orleans and visited Corinth a few weeks since, stopping at the famous Struggs House, of course. One day while sitting at the table, conversing with Colonel Johnson, the able clerk of that popular resort, the conversation turned upon the yellow fever, with the various phases of which the professor was quite familiar; and, among other things, the course of General Sheridan, in neglecting, while controlling the affairs of the Gulf Department, to take the usual precautions to ward off, or at least, prepare the city for the visit of Bronza John, was severely condemned. In his connection, Colonel Johnson remarked:—'You must confess, Professor, that notwithstanding his many faults, General Butler exhibited great administrative ability, in the conception and prosecution of measures to save New Orleans from the dreaded pestilence while in command there? Cp jumped the optician, his face pale with ill suppressed wrath, his eyes darting fire; 'By gar, vat you take me for? You no believe in a God? You no believe zero is merice? Yellow fever and G-e-n-e-r-a-l Butler at the same time!'

PROFANEITY.—In New York city, recently, a man was fined ten dollars for using twenty oaths, the law in that State asserting the utterance of an oath at fifty cents. The profanity of the people of the United States is of a milder type than formerly, but still it is an American peculiarity to back up a statement by language which 'savors more of strength than righteousness,' as a deceased clergyman once mildly described words unfit for polite ears. In this State, the law provides that whoever, having arrived at the age of discretion, profanely curses or swears, is liable to a fine not exceeding \$5 nor less than \$1. If this law should be enforced throughout the whole country we might improve the morals of the community and pay off the national debt in a very short time.—*Massachusetts paper*.

COURT CASES.—A novel case has just been tried in the Circuit Court at Kenosha, Wisconsin. Mr. Mason had conveyed to Mr. Washburn his farm, and had taken from the latter a bond for his maintenance during life. The bond expressed among other things, the providing of food and drink. Mr. Mason claimed that whiskey was one of the necessities for his proper maintenance, because the peculiar condition of his health required it. Mr. Washburn declined to furnish him intoxicating drinks, alleging that they were not essential to his physical life, whereupon Mr. Mason brought a suit for damages. Four physicians were sworn, and gave testimony in respect to the necessity of spirituous liquors in the case of Mr. Mason. The plaintiff obtained a verdict of \$52.

A young Irish girl going from Albany to New York to a situation, lost her written recommendation on the steamer St. John, and on arriving at New York was much troubled about it. Having an old friend in the city that knew her trouble he agreed to help her. The following is a copy of his certificate:—'This is to certify that Bridget Mahony had a good character when she left Albany, but lost it on the steamer coming down.—*Dennis O'Tool*'