managed to scramble up to a branch. The elephant came directly to the tree, and attempted to force it down, which he could not. He first coiled his trunk round the stem, and pulled it with all his might, but with no effect. He then applied his head to the tree, and pushed it for several minutes, but with no better success. He then trampled with his feet all the projecting roots, moving, as he did so, several times round and round the tree. Lastly, failing in all this, and seeing a pile of timber, which I had lately cut, at a short distance from us, he removed it all, (thirty-six pieces) one at a time, to the root of the tree, and piled them up in a regular business-like manner; then placing his hind feet on this, he raised the fore part of his body, and reached out his trunk; but still he could not touch us, as we were too far above him. The Englishman then fired, and the ball took effect somewhere on the elephant's head, but did not kill him. It made him only the more furious. The next shot, however, levelled him to the ground. I afterwards brought the skull of the animal to Colombo, and it is still to be seen at the house of Mr Armitage."

THE BURIED PRINCE.

The last sad solemn rites have been performed, and Albert, the Prince Consort, rests in the gorgeous tomb-house of Royalty at Windsor, with the illustrious dead. Over the open vault the last proclamation of his style and titles has been made, and there remains but a memory for love, and hope and faith to rest upon and cherish!

In this case there is no fear of the memory being a transient one. This at least cannot perish. The Prince is gone, but his memory cannot pass away. It is not alone in the widowed chamber, beyond whose threshold we dare not pass to contemplate, even in imagination, the tears and sobs of one to whom this is life's greatest bereavement, and upon whom the blow has fallen with a severity made more fearful by the recollections of past happiness—happiness closed for ever—it is not there alone that the loss is felt, and the voice of grief is heard. We cannot put the nation's sorrow in comparison with the grief of those who look around in vain for the beloved face, and vainly listen for the accents which have been familiar household things for many years; but where there is a heart that has known sorrow, and upon which the wounds of Death's victory are still unhealed, or the scars remain, it can appreciate and sympathise with the sorrow which has no language, the woe that is the more terrible because it has no speech, wherewith the highest personages in the land are now afflicted. Although our sorrow is not as their sorrow, there is no insincerity in it, no affectation. The outward signs of mourning are no "mere trappings and suits of woe," for they betoken deep regret. A nation mourns because a Queen is bereft of what was given to her for its greatest charm, and has been to her life its highest blessing; there is a still deeper cause for mourning in the reflection that the wisdom, the virtue, the domestic fidelity, and the political self-denying integrity which have been exercised for the public good, are lost and gone. There are ineffaceable marks of grandeur on the character of the departed, for futurity to admire and make an example of; but no more than that is left to us.

It is certain that the Prince Consort was never popular with a certain class of the aristocracy, although they willingly admit his virtues now that he is no more They thought him stiff and cold, but it was only the duller and more pretentious of the aristocracy who found him so. "He had been brought up," says the *Saturday Review*, "at small German Courts, the worst possible school of manners for one who was to make himself popular with the English, and thus contracted a certain stiffness which, combined with a reserve which was the offspring of genuine, though misconstrued, modesty, somewhat detracted from the effect of his sterling virtues and accomplishments on the minds of those with whom he came in contact." But those who approached Prince Albert personally, and were entitled to respect, found him attentive, amiable and considerate. The probability is admitted (by those who object to the Prince's manner on account of its partaking of the stiffness of German etiquette) "that he was always conscious of an embarrassing contrast between the real power which he exercised and his nominal position. No doubt the Prince, where he met with pretension, put forth pretension and overpowered it; but the probability above suggested may convey a truth which the Prince himself was impressed with, but which has not occurred to writers who, in the course of their panegyrics, treat of the power of the Consort to advise and direct *in private, as an inherent right*. The Constitution does not recognise a power of that kind in connection with the Throne, and separate from it; and of this fact no one became more sensible than the late Queen Adelaide, when the advice which she unfortunately gave the King was found to be uncongenial to the wishes and incompatible with the interests of the country. Consorts are jealously excluded from private counsels, and although it would be idle to expect a loving wife, confident in the wisdom and integrity of her husband, to abstain from turning to him for advice, the giving of it can be excused alone by its goodness and success. The advice Queen Adelaide gave King William was neither wise nor profitable. Prince Albert's mind was differently constituted to that of the last Queen Consort, whose personal amiability, though it recommended her to the affections of the people, was her chief, if not her only recommendation. The real power which the Prince exercised, and found therein an embarrassing contrast to his nominal position, was wisely regulated; for he had made himself master of Constitutional law, and held by a fine resolution to allow no consideration of personal pride or ambition to divert his steps from the course to which that study had led him. Debarred from the field of political action, he could not renounce political duties, for was he not the partner, the guardian, and the natural guide of the Queen! His responsibilities were immense. And it is a great thing to be said now that he is no more, that not one serious fault is imputed to him. His sagacity was sufficient to detect an error, and his patriotism was resolute for its correction. His political acquirements were great, but they were necessarily dormant; he would have made a popular statesman in a station below the throne: for his life and conduct were dedicated to the "*cause of progress*;" there is no standing still with life, and the life of nations, he perceived, depended *upon activity*. The dull pomps and formalities of a Court had no other recommendation to him than as they were connected with respectable traditions and the feelings of a high aristocracy: a Prince's mission, he believed, has higher objects than the upholding of state traditions, and the fostering of the pleasures of noble frivolity-mongers; art and science found in him therefore a steadfast promoter, and philanthropy its firmest friend. The period of political quiet which has been enjoyed in this country since Prince Albert's connection with it may be attributed in part to his wise counsels, whereby the strifes of political factions have been mitigated, and the passions of public men subdued; there is no doubt at all of the rapid progress in the arts of peace, the comforts of home, and the proprieties of domestic life, having been advanced by his conduct. These are the reasons why the nation mourns for Prince Albert's loss. They are facts above dispute, which whilst they cause a grateful people to cherish the memory of the Prince, will embalm his name and character in history for admiration, and an example to future generations. —*News of the World, Dec. 29.*

LATE FROM EUROPE.

The R. M. Steamer Canada arrived at half-past 9 from Liverpool. Dates are to the 28th.

The Canada brought for this garrison (Halifax,) officers and men of the Royal Artillery.

Among the passengers for this place, is the Hon. Mr. Tilley, of New Brunswick, one of the Railway Delegates. We learn that up to the time of his departure, no definite answer had been received from Government relative to the great undertaking, but the question was still open for negociation. Mr. Howe remained in London, in order, if possible, to receive a final answer before leaving.

The public mourning on the 23d, while the funeral rites of the Prince Consort were going on at Windsor, was one of the most remarkable sights ever seen. Through all the principal thoroughfares, at least, the shops were nearly, if not quite as universally shut as on Sunday. Every one knows that intermissions of business in London are so few and far between, that most busy men seize every such day, however mournful its occasion, for a holiday, but there was nothing of the kind on that day. The sky was dull and heavy, the air chill and ungenial, the east wind laden with smoke and haze; the church bells tolled slowly, and the guns echoed at measured intervals. London seemed to have changed its whole aspect.

The accounts of atrocities at Warsaw are daily more revolting. A London paper remarks that it is becoming a question between the Greek and Roman Churches. In this there is great truth, only the thing is not new. The extension of the Emperor's Church is always the means for extending the power of the Emperor. By this mail we hear of 12 Parish Priests being sent to Siberia. The Czar is more and more determined to do for the Poles what Caligula did for the Jews when they boasted that he had assailed them in such a manner as "to put God on their side."

The Moniteur announces the appointment of two vice-admirals, three rear-admirals, ten captains, forty lieutenants of men-of-war, and fourteen captains of frigates.

The Times Paris correspondent writes that it is stated that the Minister of Marine has sent orders to the Port Admirals at Brest and Toulon to prepare ships to reinforce the French squadron off the coast of Mexico and the North-western coast of America. It is likewise said that a squadron of observation is to be sent to the coast of America under the command of Vice-Admiral Penaud.

The Madrid journals of the 17th announce that the Queen, on receiving the news of the death of the Prince Consort of England, sent by telegraph an expression of condolence to Queen Victoria, and that Her Majesty ordered that the Court should go into mourning for twenty-four days—half of the time to be in deep mourning, the other light.

TURIN, Dec. 22.—Advices from Naples state that eight shocks of earthquake have been felt during the last two days. Vesuvius throws up very dense columns of ashes, which are carried by the wind as far as Naples. No disaster has occurred.

TURIN, Dec. 25.—The Court has gone to mourning for his late Royal Highness the Prince Consort. The L'Italia states that the negotiations for the entry of Signor de Martino into the Ministry have fallen through.—*Halifax Evening Express, Jan. 6.*

NEWS FROM THE STATES.

THE SUNKEN FLEET.

THE MAIN CHANNEL TO CHARLESTON HARBOR DESTROYED—SIXTEEN OF THE STONE FLEET SUNK ACROSS IT.

STEAMSHIP CAHAWBA, OFF CHARLESTON, Dec. 21, 1861.

The main Channel of the approach to Charleston harbour has been destroyed. Sixteen Stone filled hulks, placed checkerwise across the passage, in the deepest water, just at the inner and outer edges of the bar, are the mediums through which this righteous retribution has been measured out. Thus another strong blow has fallen upon the headstrong people of South Carolina, the effect of which must be more humiliating than any they have yet received. They have no means of resenting it, and their haughty rebellious spirits must fret and chafe beneath the weight of *the heavy* hand which has been laid upon them. The vessels which have been sunk left Port Royal last Tuesday, under the direction of Fleet Captain Charles H. Davis, of the Wabash. They were nearly all condemned whalers—some of them sixty and seventy years of age—the queerest, quaintest specimens of ship-building afloat. Lazily, one by one, under the influence of a strong ebb-tide, these antiquated craft dropped out toward the bar, each anchoring where she happened to be when the flood tide set in. * * *

On Thursday morning, the light-house, which had loomed vastly through the haze the evening before, was not to be seen; but a look through our glasses showed as its ruins on the ground. The fact explained a loud explosion which had been heard in-shore soon after dark. Supposing that our whalers were first-class frigates come to bombard the city, the rebels had blown the light-house up, that the bearings of the channel might be lost. The trick hurt nobody except themselves, but after all, light-houses henceforth will be useless establishments at Charleston. At 3 o'clock on Thursday afternoon, the channel had been buoyed, and the old Tenedos was soon afterward towed to her final moorings. The position chosen for her was at the northeastern edge of the passage, and she grounded where there is eighteen feet of water at high tide. Probably she is anchored as firmly as her Island name-sake of the Ægean Sea. The Leonidas was next sunk, in the same depth of water, an eighth of a mile distant from the other. These two vessels formed the right and left flanks of the barricading column, and the remaining fourteen settled comfortably down between them. The wrecks are not ranged in a straight line across the channel. That arrangement might prove an effective blockade for a time, but not permanently. The theory of Capt. Davis was, that the inland waters about Charleston must have a channel to the sea, and if the usual one were artificially closed, another would naturally form. His scientific mind devised another plan. The hulks are placed checkerwise. This arrangement not only does not prevent the passage of the water but forms a series of shoals, around which the tide will whirl and eddy, making an intricate labyrinth which no vessel could navigate.

The vessels were not scuttled until Friday morning, as it was necessary to work at full tide. They looked desolate enough, as they lay upon their bilges, masts and rigging still standing, some listed to ports and others to starboard, all presenting a confused appearance, comparable to nothing but a fleet at anchor and left aground by the tide. All of the wrecks were prepared for quick scuttling before leaving the North. Nothing was required but to drive out a plug and the water rushed in with force enough to fill them in an hour. * * *

The Charlestonians must have felt themselves chagrined beyond measure at the mischief which had been done them. The wrecks were sunk about two miles and a half from shore, in plain sight from the batteries on Morris Island, Forts Sumter and Moultrie, from the flagstaffs of which the rebels' colors were visible. A small steamer also made several reconnoissances from behind Fort Sumter, when she would quickly retreat when our men-of-war moved as if to chase her. Realizing her helplessness she did not give us a shot, though it has been usual for her to fire toward the blockading vessels at a much further distance than she ventured at now. At low water on Friday the ships' crews returned to them and cut away their masts and rigging, in order that it might drift to sea; for it was no part of our plan that any of this property should fall into the hands of the rebels. It was a singular sight to see the big spars topple over with a crash and a creak as soon as the rigging was severed by a few blows of an axe. It would have driven a New York junkman mad to have seen the quantity of valuable ropes, sails, blocks and iron work which were ruthlessly destroyed. The whaleboats and some of the best sails, were all that could be saved. The Robin Hood was the last vessel sunk. She had been used as a storehouse for the valuables which were taken from the others. This ship hailed from New London, Conn. Her owner must have been a waggish fellow. In utter violation of euphony, he had absurdly curtailed the fair proportions of this old forester's name to R. Hood, which stared big in carved letters, painted to imitate gold, from each quarter of the vessel. One of these I secured, and shall probably send it to Barnum, to serve the double purpose of a memento of the blockade and a specimen of quiet wit.

It is not often that persons are permitted to destroy valuable property, and feel at the same time that they are doing right. On the occasion, however, such a sentiment could be properly entertained, and from the energy which the jack tars displayed in using their axes, I am inclined to think that they considered the privilege one to be thoroughly enjoyed. Smashing things was a luxury, and the inclination to indulge in it was gratified without stint. After everything that could be saved was taken from the Robin Hood, her rigging was cut and "frapped," or secured to the masts, in order to make an illumination and pyrotechnic display worthy of the successful issue of the expedition. She was fired early in the evening, and her burning afforded a novel and beautiful sight to most of those who witnessed it. The blockading squadron was especially entertained. Their lives are such a dull and tedious round of monotony that a far less magnificent spectacle would have afforded them a topic of conversation for a month. The weather during the whole time consumed by the expedition was most favorable. Had it not been so the work could not have been performed. The undertaking was accomplished without an accident, and the entire arrangement reflects alike the greatest praise upon Captain Davis for the prudence and wisdom of his plans, and upon his able assistants for the masterly manner in which they were executed.

THE STONE FLEET.

One of the strongest proofs of the demoralizing effect of the Civil War in the United States is that furnished by the deliberate preparation and sinking of what is known as the "Stone Fleet," "the Rat Hole Fleet," &c., by means of which the Federal Government purpose not merely to shut for a time, but if possible to destroy for ever the ports of the Southern States. So determined and malignant is their purpose, that, finding that the inland waters would make their way, and that when they sank the stone laden vessels in a line a new channel was cut in another direction, they adopted the plan of sinking the vessels in three lines, so as, while allowing the water to pass out, to make an impassable maze of crooked windings and sand-banks. The London Examiner, of December 14th, says of this utterly barbarous and indefensible proceeding:

"But supposing reparation to be made for the Trent outrage, and the prisoners to be restored safe from lynch law, which seems too natural a sequence to Wilkes law, will it not be for the powers of Europe to consider whether the measures the North is taking against the South are consistent with the interest of civilization? Is it to be endured that the Federal Government shall eke out the inefficacy of its blockade by the detestable means described in this malignant passage, respecting the fleet of vessels laden with stone to be sunk to choke up Southern ports?—

"The main ship channel leading to Savannah is but 250 yards across in the narrowest place, and can be perfectly barred by half a dozen of these vessels. Charleston harbour is equally eligible to the same treatment. Once sunk, these old hulks become points for the accumulation of alluvials which the rivers bear down, and of the sands which the tides carry back. There is a natural tendency in such ports to form obstructions, and all we have to do is, as the physicians say, "to assist nature." Becoming thoroughly imbedded in the sand, these accumulations but advance with time, forming unconquerable obstacles to re-opening the harbors, and establishing a blockade which the highest pressure diplomacy of the world will be utterly powerless to "raise." It must be confessed there is something wonderfully gratifying in this silent, resistless piece of Rhadamanthean justice. The calmness of the method is fine, and a chef d'œuvre in its way; no further theatrical vengeance, no laying of the city in ashes, as those heated braggarts of Charleston threatened, but a silent blight falling on them as though out of the night—deadly, inevitable—and leaving those perfidious cities in a petrified death in life, to "point a moral or adorn a tale."—*New York Times.*

Will the civilized Christian world suffer a warfare carried to this fiendish pitch of destructiveness, choking up forever nature's channels of life, intercourse and plenty? A blockade is an injurious interference with the business of nations, but it is temporary, and when the purpose is effected, or abandoned as impracticable, there is a return of the status quo ante; but this infernal expedient of the channel choking is resorted to as permanently destructive, depriving a whole region of one of its natural outlets of production, and ruining its cities more effectually than by fire and sword, whose ravages may be repaired, not so those of this hellish device of malice, according to the calculation of its authors. Rivers are the highways of the world, and to destroy one of these means of communication is an injury to all, which should not be permitted to the malice of any power.

On this the Boston Courier remarks:—

"We may find the carrying out of this delenda est Carthago policy a much more serious cause of hostility, and even of hatred towards us, among all civilized nations, than any deviation from a doubtful principle of international law. We had supposed when we have glanced at the accounts of preparation for this expedient and until quite recently, that it was intended for a more effectual, but still temporary blockade, than could well be put in force by other means; but we did not imagine that the object was to change the very geography of nature, in a point so essential. We can only put on record against it our unavailing remonstrance. The scheme is more than heathen. When old Cato repeated at the end of every speech his perpetual formula, even in a Roman Senate there was a Scipio, always to resort—" And my opinion is, that Carthage should stand."

We hold with Scipio, not with Cato. But even the purpose of the cruel old Roman was nothing to this. A hostile or rebellious city, destroyed by ordinary means, may be rebuilt and be to other generations, if not now, the seat of comfort, prosperity and happiness. But this "choking up forever nature's channels of life, intercourse and plenty" is a measure dictated neither by wisdom nor any feeling with which Christian principle could have any sympathy. It will make us expressly execrated, as it becomes known, by all the civilized world. Nor is it to be overlooked, that other nations may allege, with a reason which we shall find it difficult to answer. You can blockade your ports and exclude us for a time, from your *advantage, or from your* necessities, from commercial benefits ordinarily free to all mankind. But you have no right to change the ordinance of nature, so as to deprive us and all mankind forever of those benefits. If you do, we can no longer regard you as of the family of nations—but rather like some savage beast retiring to his den, whom those who are able have a right to assail and destroy—after your own example.

As for the article quoted from the New York Times, there is a depth of unearthly malignity about it, which we do not remember ever to have read in any composition. Even were the deed necessary in itself, to perpetrate it with such feelings and motives would be to surpass the barbarity of the most remorseless savage.

FROM THE SOUTH.

THE FIGHT AT DRAINSVILLE.

Yesterday morning, a heavy skirmish occured at Drainsville, which resulted disastrously to us. A foraging party was sent on by Gen. Stuart, consisting of about two hundred wagons, escorted by the Eleventh Virginia, Col. Garland; the Sixth South Carolina, under Lieut. Col. A. J. Secrest; the Tenth Alabama, Col. John H. Forney; the First Kentucky, Col. Tom Taylor; the Sumter Flying Artillery, Capt. Cutts; and detachments from Ransom's and Radford's Cavalry. Our whole force amounted to nearly twenty-five hundred men. They started off early in the morning, and, before day, were some distance on the journey. Soon after leaving, a rocket was seen to *shoot up in the direction* of Drainsville, which, as was afterwards ascertained, was a signal from the enemy, and indicated that our approach was known. It is about fifteen miles from here to Drainsville. When within a short distance of the place, two or three regiments of Yankees were seen deployed as skirmishers in the skirts of a pine thicket, which stretched out *on either side of the road*. Gen. Stuart drew up his force and prepared to make an attack. On either side the woods were very thick, and it was difficult to make through them, but our force was pushed forward in the following order;—The Eleventh Virginia being in the advance, was deployed on the right of the road with the Tenth Alabama, while the Sixth South Carolina and the First Kentucky were sent to the left. On account of the dense thicket on either side, the artillery was forced to advance down the road in order to gain a position to make the guns effective. As we approached the Yankees, the Eleventh Virginia charged them with a yell, and drove them back to their line within sight of Drainsville. The enemy seemed somewhat confused, but soon formed again in line of battle. The advanced positions were held by the Eleventh and the Sixth South Carolina, the former on the right and latter on the left of the road. While waiting to get sight of the enemy the Sixth South Carolina was drawn up, and the First Kentucky advanced upon them, and, mistaking them for the enemy, a portion of the regiment fired without orders, killing five of the South Carolinians. The error was soon discovered, and Col. Taylor advanced cautiously to the left, and soon after came in sight of another regiment but a few yards away. To be sure there was no mistake, Colonel Taylor shouted to the Colonel, and asked who he was. "The Colonel of the Ninth," was the reply. "Of what Ninth?" "Don't shoot!" said the Yankees, "we are friends—South Carolinians." "On which side are you?" asked Col. Taylor. "For the Union," and immediately after the Colonel gave the command to fire, and a volley was poured into the Kentuckians from the Ninth Infantry, regulars, U. S. A. The engagement then became general, and our four regiments with Captain Cutt's four guns, were soon actively engaged. The Yankees had every advantage of position. There were several houses along the Leesburg turnpike, and back of it a hill, upon which their battery was placed. Lower down, and opposite the Eleventh, was another battery, placed in position to enfilade the turnpike should we enter it. The main battery of six guns swept the road upon which we were advancing, and kept up an incessant fire of grape, cannister and spherical case. The accuracy of their aim was remarkable, considering the rapidity with which the guns were fired. Captain Cutts got three of his pieces in position and returned the fire rapidly and successfully. Meanwhile the enemy advanced several regiments of infantry, and, protected by the nature of the ground, came within a hundred yards of us, and forming in line, fired for some time, keeping the air full of minnie balls, and finally attempted to charge. Three times the officers gave the order, and tried to get their men forward but failed. They could not be pushed into the thicket. Soon after this the firing on both sides ceased, but not before great damage was done to our force. For over an hour both sides kept up an incessant firing. The wounded and dead lay on every side, and the regiments were beginning to get scattered. To give it a little more detail: As our first advance were marching by the flank, toward the Yankee skirmishers, two companies of the Eleventh Virginia were thrown out as skirmishers, and sent forward. Capt. Houston's company charged the Yankees with a shout, and drove them in, and soon after the shout was taken up by others, and all advanced within sight of Drainsville. Company A, of the Eleventh, was deployed on the right, but by some means got lost, and was separated from the regiment until the fight was over. When the enemy formed in line of battle, Col. Forney drew the Tenth Alabama up also, and prepared to advance upon them. The coolness and daring courage displayed by Col. Forney was observed by everybody. He rode backward and forward in front of the line, encouraging his men, and in getting all prepared for the coming struggle. The same can be said of Col. Garland. Soon after the firing commenced, Col. Forney was shot through the right arm, Lieut. Col. Martin was killed, and the command of the regiment devolved upon Major Woodward, who commanded on one side of the road, and the senior Captain on the other. This regiment lost more than any other. The Sumter Artillery was in the road, and had three guns in position. Only four pieces were out, and about sixty men. Captain Cutts and his men fought bravely, and suffered severely. The enemy's batteries played upon him for some time, and killed nearly all his horses, destroyed one limber and exploded a caisson. Twenty-five horses were left dead upon the field. The guns still keeping firing and did good execution—every shot scattering the Yankees, and telling upon them seriously. He succeeded in breaking their line, and in driving their sharpshooters from the house behind which they were hidden. When ordered to fall back, the pieces were taken to the rear by hand, with the assistance of the infantry. Seeing the wagons safely to the rear, Gen. Stuart gave orders to fall back to a better position. The regiments marched to the rear in good order, both sides having ceased firing. At this time Col. Tom Taylor rode to the right to see what disposition had been made of his neighbors, and on returning found his regiment gone and himself nearly *surrounded* by Yankee cavalry. Throwing himself down he eluded them, and afterwards crept into a pine coppice and remained there until dark with Yankees on each side of him. At night he escaped and joined his regiment this morning, sustaining no injury beyond a slight scratch on the hand from a musket ball. Taking his force to the rear where the ground offered better positions, General Stuart once more drew up his force and awaited the enemy, but he had enough of it, and was not disposed to give battle again. Thus ended the battle of Drainsville, which although disastrous to us, was more so to the enemy, if recent reports are true. It is believed there were seven regiments of infantry, one of cavalry, and eight pieces of light artillery against us. Captains James H. Jameson and A. A. Yeatman, of the Eleventh Virginia regiment, were among the wounded. The Tenth Alabama suffered very severely. Col. John Forney was seriously wounded in the right arm; Lieut. Col. J. B. Martin was killed, and a large number of line officers were wounded. In the Sixth South Carolina regiment, Capt. Means, was seriously wounded, and in the First Kentucky regiment, Capt. John Desha, with a large number of non-commissioned officers and privates, were wounded. The enemy seemed perfectly aware of the approach of our party, and were prepared with an overwhelming force. Nevertheless, they suffered severely, and lost, it is reported by the citizens of Drainsville, more than we did. We took two prisoners.

This morning another force was sent out under Gen. Stuart, but has not yet returned. He took possession of the battle-field of the day previous, and still holds it. He reports this evening the loss of the enemy much more heavier than ours, but I am unable, at this early date, to give fuller particulars.

STATE OF AFFAIRS IN THE SOUTH.

The New York papers publish several columns of editorial and news taken from leading Southern papers of a late date. We collate an interesting collection of extracts bearing on the present crisis and the condition of things at the South. Some of the papers represent matters as being just now in a very unsatisfactory condition.

UNION OPERATIONS ON THE COAST.

The Richmond Examiner of the 3d inst. considers that it is useless for the Northern troops to march from the sea coast towards the interior of South Carolina. Whenever and wherever they try the experiment they are sure to be repulsed. The Examiner then continues:—

The Northern people and government anticipate great effects from the naval operations on the coast, because a part of the plan was a multiplied series of successful marches and subjugations throughout the Atlantic States. They supposed that, having the ports, they would soon and easily have also the country commanded by the ports. To take possession of a harbour and a strip of wave-washed sand was not the design of their armada. Yet it will be found that these are all the prizes they will or can gain for an enormous expenditure. Wherever the water is deep enough for their large ships to get within range of the hasty and insufficient seacoast defences of the South, they can certainly batter them down and land their troops. But there will end their barren glory. Whenever they attempt to march a column into the land it will inevitably come to grief.

The causes are easily seen. The seacoast can never furnish a sufficient basis of operations for an efficient attack on a State in arms, unless the whole power of the nation that makes it is employed in the adventure. If the North could give up its whole line of land operations, take all its armies of the Potomac, Missouri and Ohio in vessels and transport them to the shores of Carolina, they might make with success the inroads they had planned. But we need fear nothing from columns of ten, fifteen, or twenty thousand Bull runners when they leave their vessels even for a distance of two miles. In no part of the Southern country, even if they could make such descent unknown and unheralded, would they find a land so destitute of men as to become their prey. We may be content and happy when we hear of similar efforts, from the rational assurance that they will arrive at parallel catastrophes. The fear that some minds entertain of the Northern fleet, and the consequences of its operations in the South, are not less without foundation than the security or indifference which the first account of its sailing received were without justification. That fleet can do mischief to the villages of the coast, but is without power to inflict a vital or even a disabling wound upon the Confederacy itself. It will cost the Northern Union many millions of money, and many a fine ship; it will ravage a half dozen small towns and cause some good cotton to be burnt. But whenever the popular outcry of the North forces the generals who have charge of it to risk an advance of the smallest and mildest sort in any part of the interior country we will have our revenge, and our enemies will get the reward of insolence and cowardice.

The Examiner goes on to say that whenever the untrained Volunteers of the South meet the untrained Volunteers of the North, with an equality of numbers and commanders, the defeat of the latter may be considered as a certainty. The repeated trials and proofs of this war leave no possible doubt of the individual superiority of the Southern man over the Northern man in a personal combat; and this superiority is still the only element in the battle fought between the two nations. This is the best security for the South against the fleet and army which operate this winter on the Southern coast.

HUMILIATION OF THE NORTH.

The Richmond Despatch considers that the North in succumbing to the English demand demonstrates that they have no sense of national honor. It says:—

This humiliating surrender, so far from propitiating the European world, will convince them of the conscious weakness, and paralyzing cowardice of the blustering power that, with six hundred thousand men in arms, permits its nose to be pulled and its face to be spit upon without an effort at resentment. We believe that to-morrow if England and France would demand that the Federal government recognise the independence of the Southern Confederacy upon penalty of their displeasure, they would not only recognise it, but be glad of the chance. Certainly there can now be no longer any fear of consequences on the part of those governments in themselves recognising the Southern Confederacy, or even in opening the blockade.

A YEAR CLOSING UNDER GLOOMY AUSPICES.

The Richmond Examiner of the 2nd has an article headed "A year closing under gloomy auspices and opening with evil tidings." It looks upon the *surrender of Mason and Slidell* as destroying all hope of an immediate alliance between the Southern Confederacy and Great Britain. It then goes on to say:—

"Never since the humiliation of the Doge and Senate of Genoa before the footstool of Louis XIV., has any nation consented to a degradation so deep. If Lincoln and Seward intended to give them up at a menace, why, their people will ask, did they ever capture the ambassadors? Why the exultant hurrah over the event that went up from nineteen millions of throats? Why the glorification of Wilkes? Why the cowardly insults to two unarmed gentlemen, their close imprisonment and the bloodthirsty movements of Congress in their regard? But, most of all, why did the government of Lincoln indulge a full Cabinet with an unanimous resolution that, under no circumstances, should the United States surrender Messrs. Mason and Slidell? Why did they encourage the popular sentiment to a similar position? The United States Government and people swore the great oath to stand on the ground they had taken; the American eagle was brought out; he screeched his loudest screech of defiance—then

"Dropt, like a craven cock, his conquered wing"

at the first growl of the lion. This is the attitude of the enemy. It would greatly console us to contemplate him did we not know that no new exhibition of insolence and cowardice could sink him lower in the world's estimation. The United States has lost no character by an exhibition of poltroonry as yet unknown in the diplomacy of other nations. That country had already sunken beneath the reach of infamy. The only charge of bayonets made during the war by Lincoln's soldiers was that of Fairfax's marines on Miss Slidell; and the surrender of her father at the first menace of Great Britain, will create neither more disgust nor further surprise."

It considers that "it is certain that the British wanted war; that they were confident of getting it, and that they will be bitterly disappointed at the result." It then censures the Palmerston Ministry for giving Seward and Lincoln the chance of humiliation, when it could have taken redress with the high hand and shut the door to apology by recalling Lyons, sending home Adams, and setting the British fleet at once in full sail for the scene of action.

THE NECESSITY OF SELF-RELIANCE.

The Memphis (Tennessee) Argus of Dec. 19th, considers that it is time that the people of the South should awaken more fully to the dangers at home, and bend their eyes more on their own government, and less on the relationships of foreign nations:—

Not to the wooden walls of England should we look for the liberation of Mason and Slidell, but to the bayonets of Beauregard. When Beauregard reaches Washington, and Johnston Covington, Mason and Slidell will be nearer the Court of St. James than they ever were on board the Trent.

As it is, if our independence is to be won for us by the strength of England, our revolution will stand on the pages of history in any but an enviable light; and when the passions and privations of the present are past, many an eye that now sparkles with exultation at the hope of foreign aid, will droop in shame at the unneeded confession of weak patriotism and unenduring bravery its seeking proved.

If there be a proud spectacle on earth, a bright page in history, it is the spectacle or the narration of a self-making nation. If there be a humiliating position, it is the liberty that is due to a protectorate de facto, though not in name. The past of Great Britain is a guarantee of the ultimate cost of her favors. But be that as it may, England's business is not ours, and God forbid that it ever should be. Look we to things at home, and cease this shameful avidity for the aid of the foreigner, an avidity which we will one day weep tears of shame and sorrow for having encouraged.

This aid is not needed. With quicker action, we never would have cared a rush for it, Southern valor, Southern wealth, and Southern patriotism were adequate to a task tenfold more difficult, if properly led; and if they are, or have been, forced to look with anxiety for foreign help, the fault lies only with those who paralyzed our arms.

CONDITION OF THE SOUTHERN ARMY.

The Richmond Examiner has a very strong article on the condition of the Southern army in Virginia. It says that demoralization is fast creeping in "from the insane and reckless neglect of the Government to sustain and cultivate the spirit of the soldiery."

There is too much drunkness among the officers on the Potomac, and too much vacant idling among the men. We are informed as a positive fact that in the majority of the army on the Potomac the practice of regimental drills has fallen into complete disuse. This alone would be sufficient to demoralize any army in circumstances such as ours. The drill is not only essential for schooling the soldier, it fulfills other vastly important and essential purposes. It developes and educates the physique, fortifies the soldier against disease: and, what is perhaps the most important moral consideration of all, gives him occupation for a portion of his time each day, and *protects him, at least measurably*, against the canker worm of the army—ennui. What can be predicted but utter demoralization for an army whose condition is that of tens of thousands of men, living in utter idleness, grovelling in their tents, with no other occupation than what is afforded by the greasy pack of cards that is the inevitable inmate of every tent, or the yellow-covered novel, whose wretched and perhaps filthy entertainment has more than once gone the rounds of the company.

We cannot shut our eyes to the fact that the army is becoming a name of terror and dread to the minds of our citizens. The newspapers are still filled with advertisements of bonusses for "substitutes," although *the War Department has adopted a rule* restricting the number of substitutions to one in each company. The rates paid for substitutes are enormous. We are informed that they average from two hundred to two hundred and fifty dollars; and we have been told of a recent instance where fifteen hundred dollars were paid for prompt procurement of a substitute to take the place of a private suddenly constrained to leave the army. Evidences stare us in the face of the unwillingness of men to accept the life of famine, dirt and vacant idleness in the army. Richmond is filled with soldiers who have come out of the hospitals, or who have got here on some pretence or other, applying for discharges, and striving and wriggling in all sorts of ways to get out of the army. It was but a few days ago that a soldier, discharged *from one* of the hospitals here, committed suicide rather than be constrained to return to the army.

The Examiner then, in the strongest terms, censures the government for not having taken necessary precautions against such an unfortunate state of affairs, and concludes by saying:—

"We are firmly convinced that the reform of the condition of our army, with a wise and firm hand, and the holding out of rewards, not to avarice or idleness, but to the true patriotic enthusiasm of our country in the prospect of an active military policy and of a share of military glory, will provide the best security for re-enlistment and the most successful stimulant to volunteering. We are as firmly convinced that no other measures will restore the spirit of the volunteer and the enthusiasm of the country."

The financial arrangements of the Confederacy are also *ridiculed* by the Southern press in no very qualified terms. In fact the financial affairs of North and South appear to be equally in a most hopeless condition, and both parties may be, ere long, obliged to come to some amicable arrangement from their sheer inability to find the means to carry on the contest.

THE BLOCKADING SQUADRON.—The National Intelligencer has a letter from an officer of the frigate Potomac, stationed off Mobile, which says:

"But it is no joke, I can tell you, this blockading service; the enemy is alive and keep us on the watch. Their gunboats are heavily armed, and they have many afloat. The forts are well armed, and the troops and labourers are busy in strengthening them as we can see. We can count 46 guns on the parapets of Fort Morgan, and the casements are masked below. Troops of labourers are seen at work on Fort Gaines, further in, and until a few days past a large encampment was seen there.

"Sailing ships are of no great account in modern war, and I suppose that the Government will withdraw them as soon as the new steamers are forthcoming. They are both inactive and expensive. This ship would support the cost of six or eight steam gunboats that would do her work, each of them quite as well or better than she can.

The Secretary of War has submitted to Congress the estimates for fortifications now existing or in course of construction. The whole amount is $4,-710,900. The following are the appropriations for Maine: Fort Knox, at the Narrows of Penobscot River, $150,000: Fort on Hog Island Ledge, Portland Harbour, $150,000. The threatening aspect of our foreign relations will make still larger appropriation necessary for the defences of the extended sea board of Maine, now exposed to successful assault from any hostile maritime power.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, January 20, 1862

THE STONE BLOCKADE.

THE conduct of a man who allows his temper to blind him to the perception of his own interests has generally been described in metaphor as biting off his nose to spite his face. The Federal Government has, in our opinion, placed itself in the category of the unfortunate class of facial self-mutilators. We publish elsewhere an article descriptive of the sinking of sixteen stone laden ships in the channel leading to Charleston harbour, South Carolina.

This achievement is announced in the style of self-laudation characteristic of the braggarts of the Northern press, who, since the first outbreak of the civil war, have "fulmined over Greece and shook the arsenal" in the true vein of King Cambyses. The heroes of Bull's Run, it was natural, should glorify the chivalrous Wilkes and his gallant band, who had so bravely faced the British Lion *and Miss Slidell*. It was equally natural that the American eagle should scream a scream of triumph over an act of such intrepid valour as the submerging of a few old whalers, with their cargoes of stone,

"To lie in cold obstruction and to rot"

in those waters which erewhile bore the rich argosies of the world's commerce.

This, we should think, was not a very difficult or dangerous matter. There was no opposing force; but it seems that the event must be magnified into a glorious result of genius and valour, in order, we suppose, that the national eagle may once more "soar with his eyes to the sun," the said optics being at length free from the tears consequent on previous disasters.

We are strongly of opinion that this act will have an effect but little anticipated by its authors. In its moral and political aspects it is disgraceful to all concerned in its perpetration. In a moral point of view, it, as intended and hoped to be a permanent closing of the harbour, admits of no excuse. Such an act is adding to the hardships and sufferings of war against a particular power, hostility towards the whole human race, and manifests a spirit of which the red Indian would have been ashamed.

Had the Federal forces gone where they would meet their foes—had they taken possession of the City of Charleston, and held it as a basis for future operations, and as a site from which their forces might bring the contest to a successful issue, they would have pursued a course justifiable in view of the circumstances in which they were placed. The world has endured for weary months the stoppage of commercial intercourse of a value and importance almost fabulous. It has so waited the result, in the hope that Esau and Jacob would at length be reconciled—that like the quarrels of brethren, one touch of nature would again make the parties of kin to each other. That hope is dispelled. The experience of each succeeding day but shows a constantly widening gulf between the North and South, and it is this consideration—the correctness of which cannot be truthfully gainsaid by either of the parties to the contest—which renders the immorality of the act we refer to so conspicuous. The Federal Government would have the privilege of treating its Southern captives as prisoners of war or rebels, as it pleased, without extrinsic interference, and the ejaculatory "*væ victis*" would be the utmost of sympathy to be expressed by those not immediately parties to the quarrel. But when we find that harbors are to be closed by masses of stone—that those masses are likely to remain after this wretched struggle shall have terminated—and without regard to the party in whose favour it may be ended—we, in the interests of civilization, protest against the proceeding as a barbarous outrage. Suppose that the Federal power gains the supremacy, who is benefitted, nay, who is not injured by the ruin of Charleston harbor. Imagine the Confederates successful, will the North be benefitted by the ruin of Charleston harbor? And in either contingency, will not the world at large suffer by the stoppage of one of the great mouths through which the wealth-bearing streams of the most wealth-producing regions of the globe bear their treasures to the ocean. In every respect we regard this act as immoral and consequently unjustifiable. We have also termed it impolitic. Its title to this latter attribute may be inferred from several preceding circumstances. It is not probable that the seizure of Messrs. Mason and Slidell had attracted much admiration in England, or elsewhere out of the Northern States; nor that General Scott's modest proposition to the Emperor of the French had raised a strong current of public opinion in behalf of the people whose representative he was; but it is no unreasonable supposition that France and England will no longer stand by idle spectators of a sham war, which prevents international commerce, paralyses industry by withholding its supplies, and, in addition, presents the very undignified appearance of two dogs meeting in preconceived or natural ill will, and making a considerable amount of grumbling.

As this closing of Charleston harbor may possibly lead to the interference of European powers in this domestic quarrel, and consequently to the recognition of the Southern Confederacy, we hope that we shall hear no more such wondrous deeds by "*the most free and enlightened people on the earth*," but that, taking wisdom in his anger, our saucy brother Jonathan may be induced to remember, ere the sadness of adversity shall have taught him, that they who live in glass houses should not throw stones, in Charleston harbor or elsewhere.

LOYALTY OF IRISH CATHOLICS.

WE have no doubt that Mr. Secretary Pope feels that he is under great obligations to us for supplying him with the materials neccessary to write the editorials which the Queen's Printer has not the ability to prepare for the organ of the Government. Our remarks upon the loyalty of the Catholics in America, in England and Ireland, have furnished the Secretary with the staple for an editorial; and our well understood opinions on the famous Land Commission furnish the substance of a second one. Through these editorials—the only ones which the last *Islander* contains—the name of "Mr. Whelan" figures no less than seventeen times. The frequent use of one's patronymic in discussion is sometimes flattering to its possessor, but then he hopes to find something upon which he can make a suitable notice in return. Our opponent has not deigned to afford us this gratification to any considerable extent. He has talked at us and about us very largely, but rambling nonsense and absurdity are the chief characteristics of his literary efforts.

In the article on the loyalty of Irish Catholics, the *Islander* is driven to the necessity of quoting the '*Irish American*' published in New York, and the '*Pilot*,' in Boston, to show that the sentiment of loyalty does not exist in the British Provinces or in the *States*,—he says that these papers are "treasonable and most infamous Catholic organs," and that they are read "by several lay and clerical Catholics in this Island." The *Islander* further says that the papers above mentioned sometimes reprint extracts from the 'Nation,' 'Irishman,' and 'Kerry Star' in Ireland, which, we are told, are very disloyal journals.

Now, it would be easy to show that all this stuff has nothing to do with the question at issue. As regards the Irish American and Pilot, they do not and never did *represent* the opinions of any respectable section of Catholics in the Provinces, any more than Mr. W. H. Pope *represents* the opinions of a majority of Protestants in this Colony, or that the *Islander* can justly be regarded as a fair index of public opinion here. A writer in Blackwood's Magazine, speaking of the New York Herald, says that every person in the States reads that paper, but no one believes it, and all classes despise the editor and his lucubrations. So it is, to some degree, the case with a large proportion of the readers of the Pilot and Irish American—Catholics in British America may read them for the sake of the home news, and as being *the depositories* of incidents and reminiscences connected with familiar places in their native land; but they can do this without *endorsing the rabid opinions* of the editors on political affairs. By the Secretary's own showing, it appears that he has been a very *diligent reader of the "disloyal" prints under* consideration; and surely when it is *proper for a good* Protestant and a loyal man like him to read them, it cannot be very wrong for Catholics to do the same. As to their being "*treasonable*" publications, we cannot see how that charge can be proved. They are owned and conducted by American citizens, who owe no allegiance to the British Crown; and they have just as good a *right to express* their opinions adverse to British rule as thousands of other journalists in the same country. As regards the Irish American, it may be well to state, that the editor and proprietor of that paper is a Protestant, no doubt as zealous in his faith as Mr. Pope himself; and it is just as likely that he would be accepted as the exponent of Catholic views and feelings, as that the Colonial Secretary will ever be publicly recognized as the champion of any creed.

The *Islander* asks:—"If the Irish American and the Pilot are not the true exponents of the feelings of Irish Catholics in America, will Mr. Whelan kindly favour us with the title of an Irish Catholic 'organ' which does not systematically revile England?"

Yes, we shall give our contemporary the title of more than one such "organ," and extracts from the same that must satisfy any reasonable man as to the soundness of the position we have assumed—that Irish Catholics in British America are thoroughly loyal.

The "True Witness and Catholic Chronicle," published in Montreal, is, we believe, the most able and influential organ of the Irish Catholics in Canada. The No. for December 27, contains an admirable article on the subject under consideration, from which we give the following extract:—

From the Montreal True Witness.

It is important that our neighbours on the other side of the Lines, should clearly understand the sentiments entertained towards them, and towards the British Government, by the Catholics, and by the Irish Catholics of Canada especially. Great misapprehension prevails upon this subject.

The New York Metropolitan Record of the 21st instant, has the following, with reference to our Irish friends:—

"There is not an Irishman in the South or in Canada, that would not eagerly accept the opportunity now presented of paying off the debt of centuries which they owe to the English enemy."

We speak only for ourselves—that is for Canada; and in so far as the latter is concerned, we assert that the anticipations of our New York contemporary are as groundless as their enunciation is insulting, and in the highest degree dishonoring to the Irish Catholic subjects of Queen Victoria in Canada.

For the groundlessness of the assertion—that in the event of a war with the United States any section of our Catholic community would fight on the side of the invader, against "the English enemy"—we need only refer the New York *Metropolitan Record* to what is taking place around us, and to the spirit of the Irish Catholic press, of which clear indications will be found in another column. * * * * * *

To insinuate that Irish Catholics—subjects by their own free will and deliberate act, of Queen Victoria—who have voluntarily *chosen* Canada as their future home, and the home of their children—and who *have therefore voluntarily taken upon* themselves the duties and obligations of British *subjects*—look upon *their fellow-subjects* as "*enemies*," and are panting for vengeance upon the government beneath whose *flag they have* spontaneously placed themselves—is to impugn their honor, honesty, and religious sincerity. It is equivalent to asserting that the Irish in Canada are traitors to their Church; hypocrites who profess with their lips a religion which they deny in their hearts; and double-faced scoundrels whose word no man should rely on. The New York *Metropolitan Record* but repeats the slanders of the vile Orange press, and gives the sanction of his influential columns to the mendacious calumnies of our bitterest enemies. * * * *

It cannot be urged that the Government of Queen Victoria is so unjust and tyrannical, either in Ireland or in Canada, as to justify rebellion or armed insurrection against it. * * *

We earnestly entreat of our contemporary to reconsider his hasty and groundless judgment; we beg of him to retract his calumny against us, and we implore him not to judge of us by those emasculated specimens of Catholicity which he sees around him, and not to measure us by the miserably low standard of morality which obtains almost universally in the United States. Our professions are not deliberate lies; if we call ourselves Catholics, we are also prepared to perform all those duties, to God and to man, which our holy religion imposes upon us; and in the words of the Rt. Rev. Bishop of Killaloe, we would respectfully remind the New York *Metropolitan Record* that,

"The loyalty of the Catholics of Ireland is called in question, *but only by their enemies*."

To show the loyal feeling which distinguishes the Irish Catholics of Upper Canada two extracts will suffice. They are taken from the "Toronto Mirror" and "Toronto Freeman"—papers which are conducted with much ability, and enjoy the confidence of the Catholic population of the Province.

From the Toronto Mirror.

THE CATHOLICS OF WESTERN CANADA AND THE THREATENED WAR.—But a little while ago and the probability of a war between Great Britain and the United States was very small. Since the arrest of Messrs. Mason and Slidell this probability, little at first, has at length almost attained the distinctness of a certainty. However unpleasant the fact may be, we must receive it, and prepare for the struggle. It is the duty, interest, and equally the inclination of the Catholics of Western Canada to support the connection with the mother country; and, now that this connexion is threatened, they will be found in the field at the first sound of the tocsin of war. As will be seen by the resolutions given in another place, a special meeting of the Toronto Branch Loyal Irish Society is convened for Monday, Dec. 23rd for the purpose of still further considering the "position of the Irish inhabitants of Upper Canada in the present crisis." The great interest attached to anything relating to the threatened war will doubtless fill the Society's room to overflowing.

(*From the Toronto Freeman*)

Our people have incentives to action in this country not experienced elsewhere: Here, at any rate, we are not strangers in a strange land—not aliens subject to a foreign power—not dependents which a zealous authority may put down and crush. We are in a land where none can dispute our right to possession; a land which is as truly ours as the bright green spot beyond the sea. And, therefore, in the defensive struggle which may soon be forced upon us, we shall have the proud satisfaction of fighting in our own cause, in behalf of our rights and interests, on soil where the inheritance of Irishmen can never be disputed, for a freedom of with Irishmen can never be deprived. * * * *

Politically and religiously, socially and industrially, Irishmen in Canada occupy a position which they realize nowhere else upon this Continent. In the neighboring States, no doubt, they are flattered and cajoled when their votes are desired; they are sought eagerly when danger is to be encountered; they are used when hard work is to be done; and that is all. They do not enjoy anything like substantial equality. They are treated, as a people, as though by *nature an inferior race*—useful in their way, but not fitted to come between the wind and the nobility of Americans. For, though Know Nothingism, with its insults and murders, no longer exists as a visible organization, the temper which pervaded it still animates the American heart. They would proscribe us everywhere, as they have already done in Massachusetts, if the times and circumstances rendered the experiment expedient. Our Church, especially, has been the butt of their most malignant attacks. Could the present ruling party in the North have had their way, to be a Catholic would be to incur political disfranchisement, and to be excluded from all positions of honor and emolument. True, the Church is not now directly assailed. But the democracy which exists in the Northern States—the levelling, anarchical spirit which prevails within their boundaries—is inimical to its highest usefulness, and most dangerous to its members. They suffer from the free schools—from the secularism which reigns omnipotent in Yankeedom, and marks them out for its prey. * * * *

Let us, as Irishmen and Catholics, manifest our appreciation of the occasion, and our resolve to do all that in us lies to perpetuate the honor of our race, and to promote the liberty and welfare of the country to which we belong. We are in and for Canada, now and forever, and the time has arrived when we must discharge our duty as Canadians, cost what it may. Irishmen never yet flinched from danger; they will not flinch now. They were never false to their country, and will be true as ever now. *To your duty, then Irishmen in Canada!* prepare like men for the trial that awaits us! Organise yourselves into military companies, choose officers in whom you can confide, drill often and well, and at the first blast of the bugle advance to the post assigned to you with a rush that shall drive the insolent marauders from our soil. Canada is ours, and it shall not be lost through negligence or cowardice on the part of Irishmen. * * *

Now, as regards the loyalty of the French Catholics—though not strictly pertinent to our subject—it may not not be amiss to give two short extracts here, for their attachment to political principle is generally the same as that of their Irish and Scotch co-religionists. We are indebted for these extracts to the Halifax "Evening Express," which is under the control of an Irish Catholic, and is considered the organ of the Irish Catholics in Nova Scotia:

CANADA AND ENGLAND.

We published in our last issue an extract of a letter written by T. D. McGee, Esq., in reference to the position Irishmen in Canada would take, should war unfortunately break out between Great Britain and the Federal States. That position, our readers are aware, would be of unbounded loyalty to the Throne and flag of England. We now give extracts from the French journals, which plainly show that the liberal policy of England towards Lower Canada, has secured the affections of that large and important portion of the great colony. No doubt, in calculating, upon the chances of war with the mother country, American statesmen expected that some show of sympathy would be manifested in Canada towards the "Stars and Stripes" and American institutions; but in so far as the Irish and French portion of Canada are concerned, the Federalists need expect but little "aid and comfort" in that quarter. We know of no country in the world where a greater amount of rational freedom is enjoyed than in those B. N. American Colonies. We have all the blessings of the British Constitution, without any of its burdens; therefore, Colonists would be madmen, under such circumstances, to exchange theirs for American institutions, however much those institutions may be prized in the unhappy Republic adjoining us:—

[*From La Minerve.*]

But what should be the conduct of Canadians, in the struggle of England with her neighbors? This is now the question we naturally ask ourselves. We will never shirk our duty, the *role* we have to play is already traced out. Being subjects of England, and, besides, preferring the British Standard to the Star Spangled Banner, we will take up arms should it be required. We will show once more that we may be loyal while still defending our nationality; the fanatics of Upper Canada will learn that if we do not wish to be crushed, the wish does not arise from hatred of England. If their excess of population, as they repeat so often, gives them a right to more protection and favors, it should also oblige them to display more loyalty; we will see if they understand their duties as well as their rights, if their exploits are based upon population.

[*From Le Journal Quebec.*]

For Canada which, a new Belgium, would become the field of battle to the great powers involved in the quarrel, peace would be a benefit; but if it fixes a stain on "the flag which has braved the battle and the breeze," will it be an honor for Great Britain?

England has much to lose in respect of its material interest in a war with the United States. They owe her more than a hundred million of dollars, and to destroy New York, Boston and Philadelphia, would be to throw British gold into the sea. The war would be for the Americans a full settlement for all the past. Laws would be broken, mortgages forever effaced. It is the custom in the United States to fill gaps in the balance sheet by bankruptcy. It is, therefore, a serious matter for England to go to war with the Northern States; but can the temporizing which she has already used over much, produce any other effect than that of augmenting the insolence of the American people, and pushing them on to new outrages? It is therefore only a question of time when we shall have war; but we shall have it when the North has escaped from her present contest and embarrassments; we shall have it when probably England will be herself embarrassed in some European war; we shall have it when the debt of the Northern States to England has doubled.

If we had more space to spare, and saw any necessity for it, we could make further additions to this body of evidence, which must be admitted to be conclusive. But we know it is unnecessary to trespass further on the attention of our readers. Mr. Pope is evidently anxious to get up a lengthy discussion on Irish and Catholic affairs, so as to divert us from a consideration of the Land Question and the short-comings of the Island Government. He will be mistaken in the attempt. He may assert as many falsehoods as he please respecting the loyalty of Irish Catholics. We feel that they require no defence against an assailant like William H. Pope, who, having failed to provoke religious strife by letters over his own signature, now meanly employs his time in rehashing the stupid editorials of the Islander into the form of anonymous communications for the Protestant, where he hopes to succeed in making some impression. Let any one read the communication which appeared in the last Protestant, and compare it with the article in the Islander of the previous day, and we think no doubt will be entertained that one as well as the other has emanated from the pen of the Colonial Secretary.

We have said *nothing about the* "Nation" and the other organs of the Young Ireland party in Ireland, mentioned by Mr. Pope, because the delusive principles of that party have long since collapsed, and because a score of such papers as the Nation bear no comparison as regards influence or authority to that of the prelates of Ireland, whose opinions we lately quoted on the subject of the loyalty of the Irish people.

One word more. The Secretary has accused us of stigmatizing the Irish in America as "expatriated villains." The words we borrowed from him, and were by him applied, if not directly, at least indirectly to Irish Catholics in the States, as well as to all other emigrants from Europe. The meanness and mendacity exhibited in attempting to fasten upon us the odium of originating such a slanderous appellation is quite characteristic of an unprincipled man, the recollection of whose Banking transactions, the tarring of houses, and other creditable proceedings, might, we think, if shame is not an emotion wholly unknown to him, have suggested the modesty and propriety of abstaining *from the use of the word villain*, as a stigma upon others.

LETTER FROM BENJ. DAVIES, ESQR.

WE have read with much surprise the short letter from Benjamin Davies, Esquire, which we publish below. Our friend must have been thinking of something else when he read the article in THE EXAMINER of the 30th December, on which he comments. We request him to read that article again, and he will see that we did not propound the views of the Central Liberal Society with respect to the petition for a Dissolution,—we gave our own views, and only our own, on that subject. He will see, moreover, that we distinctly stated the fact of there being a small majority in the Committee of the Society in favour of circulating the petition. But we expressed our conviction plainly that the petition—*which has been in circulation*—had better not be forwarded to the Lieut. Governor, as its prayer would not be complied with, for reasons set forth at some length in the article referred to by Mr. Davies. Our opinion does not bind the Society to any line of action; nor shall we be governed in all things by the decisions of the Society. They may, if they please—and will, for aught we know to the contrary—do their best to promote the object of the petition, which, we understand, has been very extensively signed, especially in Prince and King's Counties. We are fully convinced, however, that nothing would afford the Tories so much gratification as the presentation of the petition, which