

TUN COMING MAN.—A good story is told of the Clerk at a village church in the west of England whose service is never commenced on Sunday morning until the "squire" has taken his seat.—One Sunday, however, this gentleman happened to be late, and a neighbor clergyman, not acquainted with the ways of the place, was "doing duty."—So he commenced, as usual, with "When the wicked man——" He had proceeded no further when up jumped the clerk, calling out "Stop, stop, sir! he's not come yet."

A lady said to a gentleman who had accompanied her and her sister to church. "Why, it rains— and get an umbrella." "Why," said the beau, "you are neither sugar nor salt, rain won't hurt you." "No," said the lady, "but we are ladies." He sent for one immediately.

—An old footman having read Lindley Murray was afterwards very precise in his announcements when ushering in visitors. On one occasion a gentleman by the name of Footo, with a daughter on each arm, was shown into the drawing room, with this introduction, "Mr. Footo and the two Misses Foot!"

A coxcomb, talking of the transmigration of souls said; "in the time of Moses, I have no doubt I was the golden calf." "Very likely," replied a lady, "time has robbed you of nothing but the gilding."

General News.

WAR BETWEEN ENGLAND AND THE UNITED STATES.

The *Boston Atlas* of the 9th, speaking of this rumour, which became prevalent after the publication of the Asia's news, explains the whole matter, and shows us of what slight materials the thousand-tongued lady can manufacture a most "exciting event." The *Atlas* says:

"Some wag on this side of the water appears to have hoaxed the London Times and the British Admiralty with stories about expeditions to be sent from this country to invade Ireland, to capture Hayti, Cuba, &c. Captain Newlands, a passenger in the *Asia*, who is well acquainted with our institutions, informs us that when he left Liverpool, the wrathful comments of the *Times*, about the supposed expeditions from the United States, excited only merriment among business men. The story, he said, was traced to certain expressions used by Thomas Francis Meagher, in a lecture delivered by him, and which were transmitted to the *Times* and to the Admiralty. So much for the invasion expeditions. About the fleet of war vessels to be sent to this coast, by referring to the British Navy List, it will be seen that by the time they arrive here, the term of those now on this station will have expired. It is simply a relief squadron.

Among the stories afloat in England, Capt. Newlands informs us, was one that a large fleet of privateers, designed for the service of Russia, were being built in our Eastern ports; and that our friend, Mr. McKay, was one of the principal builders. This is an old *canard* revived, which had its origin in these circumstances:—A year before the war commenced, the Russian government was anxious to obtain American models for ships of war, and had actually made a contract with Mr. Wm. H. Webb, of New York, to build a screw-line-of-battle ship. At the same time a proposition was made to Mr. McKay to build another, but before he could visit St. Petersburg to make the necessary arrangements, the war broke out, and here the matter ended. His agent subsequently visited Hamburg, and we believe, took a trip as far as Kiel, to purchase hemp, and out of this visit was manufactured the privateer story, which is now revived. These circumstances were well known to the British Consul in this city at the time. We know Mr. McKay's agent did not visit any part of Russia, and also that neither of them have had any communication with any of the dreaded "Russian agents," since the war commenced. T. M. McKay, Esq., of the firm of James Baines & Co., Liverpool, writes to Mr. Donald McKay that all these stories have been cooked up by "busy-bodies" on this side of the water, and that no one in England who knows anything of the affairs of the United States, attaches the slightest importance to them.

We learn, however, that Capt. Newlands has brought a proposition from England to Mr. McKay, to build about four vessels of a thousand tons each, on English account. This fact shows how little apprehension was felt about a war with this country.

The Queen has conferred on Lieutenant-General Simpson the rank of General in the Army, in consideration of his services in the Crimea. Colonel Wyndham is raised to the rank of Major General for the bravery and coolness exhibited during the attack on the Redan.

THE MISUNDERSTANDING WITH THE UNITED STATES.

The *Morning Post* says that, disagreeable as is the aspect of the question recently raised between the United States and England, France, and Spain, with respect to Hayti and Cuba, another cause of misunderstanding has also occurred between the United States and England of infinitely more gravity and importance. The *Post* then refers to the complication arising from the alleged acts committed by Mr. Crampton, Sir E. Head, and Sir G. le Marchant, in violation of the municipal law of the United States as regards foreign enlistment.

The *Post* says the English instructions as to enlistments were framed most carefully and scrupulously, to avoid any violation of the law; and the sensitiveness of the American Government on this particular point appears very remarkable when their repeated and flagrant violations of public law in Texas, Mexico, Cuba are borne in mind.

As regards Hayti and Cuba, the *Post* is inclined to think that Uncle Jonathan, with all his bluster, is far too wise seriously to embroil himself with the greatest maritime powers in the world merely to bolster up a really unpopular and falling administration, whose wish is to pander to the most vicious element in the American character. England and France have the means and determination to repress the American spirit of lawless aggression, and though the insulting and menacing tone of the Washington cabinet may be accounted for by the probable acquisition of the Russian North American territories, a great maritime war is a course of policy from which the *Post* would fain hope the good sense of the reflecting and honest portion of the American people will save their country. What good results could spring from such an unholy contest? The commerce of England and France might temporarily be cut up, but every American ship would be swept from the seas, or the ports of America would be blockaded; the whole sea board of America from Maine to Florida would be exposed to attack; and all this is to be encountered for the acquisition of a Haytian Sebastopol, from which Cuba can be more conveniently threatened.

The *Post* concludes the leader and its remarks on the enlistment question by trusting that the presence of the formidable British fleet which is remaining at Bermuda will tend to cool the arrogance and over sensitiveness of the American government.

PANIC AT SIMPHEROPOL.—A letter from St. Petersburg of the 9th, in the *Hamburg News*, says:—"The consequence of the fall of Sebastopol begins to be felt at Simpheropol. A great number of the inhabitants of that place have already abandoned it. That town had profited very materially from the siege of Sebastopol. According to a letter of the 7th September, its population at that date amounted to 70,000, and they were constantly increasing by the arrival of persons of all denominations, principally trades-people. It at last became impossible to procure lodgings. Rents were as high as at St. Petersburg. Not less than 50 roubles (the rouble was somewhat under 4fr.) a month were asked for a place which which before had been only worth about 140 roubles a year. Firing had also become excessively dear, but bread continued at a moderate price, in consequence of the constant arrivals from New Russia and the distant provinces. The number of shops which before 1855 was only 438, is now 800. At the late fair held at Pultwa two-thirds of the goods were purchased for Simpheropol.

The Russians seem to be but little in advance of Savage nations in their treatment of prisoners of war. The Paris correspondent of the *Morning Post* gives an account of the brutal manner in which a number of English exchange prisoners had been dealt with during their captivity. This correspondent says:—"I have spoken to a gentleman who has just arrived in Paris from Constantinople. A number of English exchanged prisoners had just reached the latter city half dead. They had been subject to the most insolent and humiliating treatment by the Russians whilst marching. One officer told my friend that he had been marched more than 1,000 miles on foot, with nothing to eat but black bread and dirty water. When the party arrived at some village on their way he was made to walk two or three times through the place, to be shown to the people, and was insulted and spat upon. The guard gave him dirty water to drink when clean was at hand, and throughout the march sought to annoy him in every way. I hope this gentleman, who is now ill at Constantinople, will make his case known, for I am assured it is no exceptional one. The Russians are taught particularly to insult the English, it appears."

Alderman Solomon, a Jew, has been elected Lord Mayor of London for the following year. This is a very strange step.—The Lord Mayor, though not a Christian, will be under the necessity of attending the established Church.

SPAIN.

In a speech delivered by General O'Donnell, Minister of War, at the sittings of the Cortes on the 12th of October, he said:—

"Great events are taking place in Europe which may bring on a general war, more than people think or desire. A day may come when our own interest may compel us to take part in the struggle. If Mr. Oriense imagines that a nation can remain isolated when Europe is engaged in a sanguinary contest, he deceives himself. It is with various nations as with individuals, they often cannot avoid faction however pacific they may be. Do you know what would happen if we were to carry out in the extreme this system of isolation? Sooner or later we should be despised by all, and other countries would make war upon us. When the Government shall do it, I will frankly submit this question to the Cortes; until then I shall not say another word upon the subject, but I cannot pass over in silence Mr. Oriense's observation when speaking of nations that prove every day their attachment to Spain. France has never, even in the time of Louis Philippe, proved more religious than she is now. She has always maintained and now maintains the strictest vigilance at the Pyrenees. England has lately offered us ships for transporting our troops to Africa. Although we do not require them, we ought not the less on that account to express our gratitude for the offers and services of friendly nations."

LORD STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE.—The very excellent British Ambassador to Constantinople, is to be recalled, owing to some difficulties between him and the Sultan about the present Prime Minister. Thus will the Christians of all denominations in Turkey lose an active, conscientious, and pious friend. The Christian population of Turkey is still far from being in a safe and happy condition.—This is not so much the fault of the Sultan as of his subordinates. Lord Elgin is spoken of as Sir Stratford's successor.

Of all the crowned heads of the present day, that of the King of Abyssinia appears to contain as large a quantity and as good a quality of brain as any. His African Majesty has prohibited slavery, renounced polygamy, and banished the Jesuits. Three almost equally fine things to do!—what other existing monarch or state has done them all? Africa is not only distancing Europe and Asia in civilization, but going ahead of America too.

Spain has entered into the Western alliance and is to send 30,000 men to the Crimea forthwith.—The government of that unfortunate country seems to be acquiring unwonted stability; and the property of the clergy is selling well—the pope's allocation notwithstanding.

The total amount contributed by the British nation for religious and benevolent objects, as classed below, was last year £1,256,644. Bible Societies, 230,616; Foreign Missions, 544,006; Irish Mission, 42,147; Home Missions, 158,604; Educational Societies, 78,512; Benevolent Societies, 127,630; Miscellaneous, 75,937. A little self-denial would have probably doubled the above amount.

The Grand Jury found true Bills against James Johnson, James Wilson, John Tucker, James Hobben, John Mason and George Beazely, James Wilson and James Crawford, severally charged with larceny. Jacob Arthur charged with rape, and Livinia Hammond alias Tredwell, charged with the murder of her illegitimate child. Johnson and Tucker have been tried and convicted, and Wilson and Crawford were on trial in the afternoon of yesterday for the larceny of £30 in notes, from George James Henry Goddard on the 23rd of June last.

There are 98 Civil Causes entered for trial.—*Freeman*.

NATURAL CURIOSITY.—In Mariposa county, California, is one of the most remarkable objects of natural scenery in the world. A considerable stream dashes down a precipice almost perpendicularly sixteen hundred feet, and afterwards the collected waters again fall in spray and foam to the depth of eight hundred feet. In winter, when the stream is swollen into a torrent, and snows cover the lofty mountains surrounding, the scene boggles all description.

VERDICT IN THE CASE OF THE HOMICIDE BY THE MURKIN CLARKE.—The jury returned a verdict to-day in this case, after being engaged in the investigation for two days, that John Clarke committed the act during a state of insanity—and recommended that he be kept under such restraint as to prevent further acts of violence.—*Nbrk.*

Envelopes and stamps to the large sum of ten thousand dollars a month are sold at the Boston Post Office. A room has been fitted up for this special purpose, and a number of clerks give their whole time to this branch of the business of the office.

A COSTLY EXPERIMENT.—Writing from the Camp before Sebastopol on the 30th September, the correspondent of the *Times* says:—

"At four o'clock a serious accident took place which has inflicted some loss on the army in depriving them of a considerable magazine of wood. A shell from the Russians burst close to the barracks, and a merchant sailor ran to look at the crater it formed in the ground. Thence he entered the building itself, and sauntered about smoking his pipe till he came to some loose gunpowder, on which, being of a scientific and experimentalizing turn of mind, he tried the effects of dropping several sparks from the burning tobacco. The powder, as is not unusual in such cases, exploded with violence, and blew up the sailor and a sentry outside. They were both dreadfully burnt. As the floor was covered with cartridges and loose powder, the fire caught, and went leaping on by fits and starts to a large quantity of the same combustible matters. No one could approach to stop the fire. It at last caught the magazine, and the explosion blew out the walls and ceilings of the central barrack. The flames set fire to the dry wood-work, and in a short time the whole pile of buildings, which were of admirable construction, was in a blaze. The conflagration lasted till all that could be burnt was consumed, and lighted up the sky at night to a great distance. All that remains of the Imperial Barracks of Sebastopol is a mass of charred and blackened stones, split by the action of fire. The Russians, thinking that the accident had been caused by their own fire, plied their guns with increased vigour, and threw shot and shell around the place, but did no damage. It is not quite certain that the man who caused the accident was a sailor. Some people say he was a navy of the Army Works Corps. Whoever he was, by the act for which he so dearly paid, he destroyed no less than 30,000 cartloads of wood, which would have been made available for hutting and fuel. It is on the whole, a miracle that more accidents of the kind do not occur, owing to the neglect of the authorities and the carelessness of the men."

THE FRENCH AND ENGLISH ALLIANCE.—Forty years of uninterrupted peace between France and England have effaced the last bitterness of the struggle; a new generation has risen up, which has not imbibed the milk of natural hatred. The moment had arrived to repair by the cordial association of the two most powerful nations of Europe the mischief which their enmity had caused the world. This great idea the Emperor Napoleon and Queen Victoria have accomplished. Thanks be to them for it! Lord Clarendon said the other day in the house of Lords, to characterize the intimate union of the two countries, that there was no longer either a French or an English Cabinet, but a single one, the members of which sat indifferently on one or the other side of the channel. We can in our turn say that there will be only one people from the day when Queen Victoria shall have made her entry into Paris.—*Le Pays*.

BIGOTRY AT THE GRAVE.

In a little town named Truffarello, in Piedmont, a remarkable exhibition of conflicting sentiment has just taken place—intolerance in the priesthood, and a spirit of liberality in the better instructed laity. The Countess Barons, a Dutch lady by birth, and of the "Evangelical religion," died on the 4th inst. The civil authority, on proceeding to authorize arrangements for the funeral, was told the interment might take place in a certain part of the cemetery that would be duly deconsecrated for the reception of the body. The priest, however, meant that the burial should take place without any sort of Christian ceremony, and when they saw M. Bert, Waldensian pastor of Turin, make his appearance, their reverences implored M. Bert to desist from the profanation of a heretic funeral service within their hallowed precincts; but, finding the pastor resolved to do his duty, one of them assembled his flock in the church, and forbade them, on peril of excommunication, to take any part in conveying the corpse to the grave. The obedient flock abandoned the spot, as if some destroying angel were upon it, the priests locked the gates, and there seemed no possibility of effecting the interment. But two or three persons were found with sufficient courage to act as bearers. M. Bert walked towards the ground, the magistrate forced an entrance, and just as the procession came in sight, the Lieutenant-General Marquis of Doria, with a party of ladies and gentlemen met it, and addressed the Waldensian pastor in these words:—

"Signor Pastor, I am ashamed of my country for what has happened this day, and I pray you to excuse it. I am a Roman Catholic, but respect the belief of an honest citizen, and I must respect the dead also. I therefore come to protest by my presence against the ignorance and fanaticism of these poor people, and of those who set them on, and we will pay funeral honors to a lady who has died among us; and it will be my duty, with the *Signor Sindacato*, to protect you, and see that the wise and just orders of our constitutional Government are carried into effect."

An impressive service followed in the presence of a crowded assemblage.—*Christian Times*.