

Poetry.

I WISH HE WOULD MAKE UP HIS MIND.

I wish he would make up his mind, ma!
For I don't care much longer to wait;
I'm sure I have hinted quite strongly
That I thought about changing my state;
For a sweetheart he's really so backward,
I can't bring him on, though I try;
I own that he's very good tempered,
But then he's so dreadfully shy!

When I speak about love and a cottage,
He gives me a glance of surprise;
And if I but hint about marriage,
He blushes quite up to his eyes!
I can't make him jealous—I've tried it—
And 'tis no use my being unkind,
For that's not the way, I am certain,
To get him to make up his mind.

I've sung him love sonnets, by dozens,
I've worked him both slippers and hose,
And we've walked out by moonlight together,
Yet he never attempts to propose!
You really must ask his intentions,
Or some other beau I must find;
For, indeed, I won't tarry much longer,
For one who can't make up his mind!

General News.

ENGLISH AND FOREIGN.

HALIFAX, March 13th.

America at Halifax yesterday, P. M.

Difficulty between Britain and Persia progresses satisfactorily. Supposed Convention specifies Britain shall enjoy equal commercial rights as most favored nations. British Consuls may reside at several stations; but refuses British request for them to reside on Caspian Sea, as treaties with Russia forbid it. Persians shall evacuate Herat, and British give up Bushire.

BRITAIN.—Trade returns, month January, show progressive increase. Debate on Lord Derby's motion of censure on Chinese has resulted in divisions for Derby, 110 against 146, in full house. In Commons, Cobden made motion similar to Lord Derby's, that a select committee be appointed to enquire into commercial relations with China. Mr. Layard wished to ask Lord Palmerston three questions, viz.: Whether an offer of £1000 was not made last week to Sir J. McNeill and Col. Tulloch, and indignantly rejected? whether Government had received any information respecting existing treaty between Russia and Persia? and, lastly, if existing negotiations with Persian envoy were completed? Lord Palmerston said offer of £1000 had been made, which was declined; secondly, he was authorised by Russian Minister Foreign Affairs to say no such treaty as that referred to was in existence; thirdly, that negotiations at Paris were not finished.

SPAIN.—It is stated in a ministerial organ that the number of vessels about to be sent against Mexico, including transports for £10,000 men, is to be between twenty and thirty, carrying 10,000 men. Vienna Gazette publishes imperial decree, abolishing passports within the empire, only at frontier to be shown.

Overland Mail, Hong Kong, 15th.—Affairs in China unchanged. Private letters state a numerous Chinese fleet attacked English squadron, and subsequently retired in good order, under forts of Canton. Admiral Seymour had disembarked troops and burnt suburbs in Canton. Fleet belonging to Chinese rebels had formed junction with that of Imperialists. Paris letters from Macao, 10th Jan., say Emperor of China had placed in state of siege five ports of the Empire open to Europeans. The European passengers in steamer *Thistle* had been treacherously murdered by native passengers.—Steamer was carried off and abandoned. Government of Hong Kong had increased police against incendiarism. Prices of tea had advanced—stock small.

Intelligence at Bombay from Bushire to 17th Jan. British were still unmolested. Attack had been made by cavalry and horse on depot of Persian stores and ammunition. 22 miles from camp—objects obtained without loss.

Consols, 93½. Breadstuffs dull, with decreasing tendency.

FRENCH ATTACK ON COCHIN CHINA.—A communication from Cochin China mentions, among other interesting facts, that, in the month of September last, the captain of the French corvette *Catinal* presented a letter to the Cochin Chinese authorities at Touranne. The Mandarins of Touranne, as well as those of Hué, the capital, not only refused to receive the communication, but replied with insolence. They cast the letter into the sea with an expression of contempt. The batteries of Touranne were manned, and preparations were made to at-

tack the *Catinal*. The captain of the corvette thought it better to anticipate the barbarians; he landed some marines and seamen, who, with one shot from a howitzer, burst open the principal gate. They then spiked the cannon, wet the gunpowder, and returned quietly on board, without noticing the musket-shots fired at them. The French spiked 60 brass guns, manufactured in the country. The Cochin Chinese authorities were completely awed by the vigor displayed by the French commander. The Mandarins came on board the *Catinal*, and offered the most humble apologies, and demanded pardon of the great Emperor or of the French. The *Capricieuse*, in the meantime, arrived to the aid of the *Catinal*, and the letter so contemptuously refused was accepted with great gratitude, and carried to the capital with great pomp and every mark of respect. Provisions were brought in abundance on board, and the Cochin Chinese expressed their admiration at the punctuality with which they were paid. They were astonished that men so powerful should be so just. The effect produced by this demonstration, in which the French did not lose a man, was excellent.

FRANCE.—On the 16th ult. the Emperor opened the Legislature with a speech from the Throne, amidst great pomp and enthusiasm.

The Emperor referred to the peaceful solution to recent difficulties amongst various European powers; and, considering that the best understanding now prevails between all the great powers, thinks the time auspicious to endeavor seriously to regulate and develop the strength and riches of the nation at home. Rejoices over the prosperous condition of the country, as evinced by largely increasing revenues. Regrets the suffering caused by deficient crops and recent inundations. Says expenses are to be reduced; wax tax abolished from January next; annual army contingent fixed at 100,000 men. Says appropriation is made for a transatlantic line of steamers; and, after referring to sundry local topics, winds up with a panegyric upon the state of the Empire.

RELIGIOUS TOLERATION IN TURKEY.—Correspondents at Constantinople and Aleppo give a most interesting description of the state of things relative to religious toleration in Turkey. Converts from Islamism are now suffered to live among their friends unmolested. The wife and child and mother-in-law of one convert have rejoined him, and their reunion is likely to lead to their conversion also. Their Turkish neighbours do not think of separating their Mussulman members of the family from the rest. This indicates a great change of public feeling, and shows how the authorities, at present at least, view and treat such cases, in honorable observance of the late hatti-humayoun.

REPORTED ENGLISH MISSION TO CHINA.—A London paper makes the following statement. We do not see any allusion to the fact mentioned in the Parliamentary proceedings:

It is said that the government contemplate sending an embassy to China, and that the Duke of Newcastle, with Rutherford Alcock, Esquire, lately Her Majesty's Consul at Shanghai, as secretary, is spoken of as our minister extraordinary at the Court of Peking. It is expected we shall be joined by the French government in sending a special mission to China.

A correspondent of the *Czar* writes from Rome that the Pope fainted and fell on the floor when the despatch announcing the murder of the Archbishop of Paris was read to him. The intelligence of the murderous attack upon the Archbishop of Matera produced an "indescribably painful impression on His Holiness, who is said to be an extremely nervous man."

The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland has himself contradicted a rumour which has caused much tribulation in Dublin—namely, that the abolition of the vice-royalty was likely ere long to form the subject of Cabinet contemplation.

NEWS FROM AUSTRALIA.—The steamship Philadelphia, which arrived at New York on the night of the 2nd inst., from Havana, brings us files of Melbourne, Australia, papers to Dec. 1, six days later than previous advices. The papers reached Havana in the British mail steamer Solent. The news is unimportant. The Melbourne papers are filled with the proceedings of Parliament, which commenced its sitting on the 21st of November.—Gavan Duffy took an active part in the Debates.—The yield of gold, according to the escort return, published 1st of December, was 46,011 ounces, making the total quantity brought down by escort during the year 2,397,900 ounces. Gold remained steady, at £3 17s. 3d. for Ballarat. Two hundred and thirty seven emigrants arrived at Melbourne during the week ending Jan. 30.

DEATH OF THE EARL OF ELLESMERE.—We have to announce the demise of the Earl of Ellesmere, K. G., whose visit to the United States, four years ago, as one of the Queen's Commissioners to attend the opening of the New York Crystal Palace, made him quite favorably known to the American people. He visited Quebec also at that time, and was the guest of the Earl of Elgin. He expired at Bridgewater House, St. James', on Wednesday, the 18th ult.

RUSSIAN ASSISTANCE TO CHINA AND PERSIA.—The Paris correspondent of the *London Post* writes on Thursday evening:

"I heard from very good authority that there is every reason to suppose that Russia has already offered assistance to China. It is also declared that a new secret treaty was signed between Russia and Persia within the last eight weeks. It is known from despatches received at Paris, that considerable forces have been dispatched lately toward the Chinese and Persian frontiers."

UNITED STATES.

PRESIDENT BUCHANAN'S Inaugural Address was delivered at Washington on the 4th inst. It is not a very lengthy document. We deduce from it, says the *Boston Journal*, the following programme of the Buchanan administration, which is subject, of course, to additions, but probably to no essential modification unless some unforeseen contingency should occur:

1. Application of the doctrine of squatter sovereignty to the territories. Legislation upon the subject of slavery therein by Congress, to be discouraged. The territories to be received into the Union as states with or without slavery as their constitutions may determine. Slavery agitation to be discouraged.
2. Preservation of the government from taint or corruption, growing out of the unparalleled prosperity of its finances. Limitation of the tariff to revenue purposes, and no "discrimination against a particular branch for the purpose of benefiting favored corporations, individuals or interests."
3. A more prudent and judicious management of the public lands.
4. A strict construction of the powers conferred upon the government by the constitution.
5. Government aid to a Pacific Railroad, as a military road, absolutely necessary for the national defence.
6. The cultivation of peace, commerce, and friendship with all nations; non-interference with the domestic concerns, "unless this shall be imperatively required by the great law of self-preservation;" and avoiding entangling alliances. Future acquisition of territory, like the past, must be sanctioned by the laws of justice and honor.

WASHINGTON, March 6.

The following is Mr. Buchanan's cabinet, as confirmed by the Senate to-day:—Secretary of State, Lewis Cass; Secretary of Treasury, Hon. Howell Cobb; Secretary of War, Hon. John B. Floyd; Secretary of Navy, Hon. Isaac Toucey; Interior, Hon. Jacob Thompson; Attorney General, Judge Black, of Pennsylvania; Postmaster General, Hon. B. Brown.

Mr. Buchanan's first public reception to-night was largely attended by all classes of citizens and strangers. All the foreign legations were represented, and a great number of the officers of the army and navy were present. The room presented a fine array of beauty. The inauguration ball resulted in a loss to the managers of \$1,000.

The citizens of Kansas, temporarily at Washington, will call on Mr. Buchanan on Wednesday next to congratulate him on his election, and give him the solemn assurance of their intention to abide by and see executed the laws of the United States and Territories.

Mr. Buchanan has expressed the wish that the Senate would act this session on the British Treaty. This will probably extend the session several weeks. Democratic caucus was held this afternoon, at which it was resolved to constitute a Standing Committee, composed of two-thirds Democrats, and one-third Republicans.

THE MORMONS IN UTAH.—The *N. Y. Tribune* has a correspondent at Salt Lake City, whose letters give the latest account of Utah and the Mormons. His last communication, in the *Tribune* of Friday, speaks thus of the temple which the Mormons are building:

"It is not, as many suppose, to be a place of public religious meetings, but in it are to be celebrated their infernal rites of endowments; within its walls animal sacrifices are to be offered up for remission of sins; in one of its apartments baptism will be made for the dead; and, if we may judge from Brigham Young's own words, human sacrifice will be the fitting accompaniment of their blasphemous, demoniacal ceremonies."

EXCITING NEWS FROM KANSAS.—Late advices from Kansas state that a serious difficulty had arisen between Governor Geary and Judge Sherrard, growing out of the refusal of the Governor to appoint the latter as Sheriff, as desired by the Legislature. Sherrard had avowed his intention to kill the Governor, and meeting him shortly afterwards in the street, spit in his face. Geary did not resent this, but his friends got up an indignation meeting, which Sheriff Jones, Sherrard and others, attempted to break up. A conflict ensued, in which Sherrard shot at a Mr. Shephard, one of Geary's friends, four times, killing him and wounding two others. Mr. Jones, the Governor's Secretary, then shot Mr. Sherrard, the ball passing through his head, and killing him instantly. Very great excitement existed at Leecompton, and a general fight was anticipated. Governor Geary's residence was guarded by the U. S. troops.

HOMICIDE AT WASHINGTON.—On Saturday morning, a Virginian gentleman, named David Hume, called at the Pension office, to demand from the Clerk, named D. C. Lee, a retraction of the charge that Hume had picked his pocket at the President's levee on Friday evening. Lee declined, and Hume dealt him a blow, whereupon Lee shot him dead. He immediately surrendered himself.

GOVERNMENTAL CHANGES.—Mr. Hamlin vacated the Executive Chair on Thursday last, and Hon. J. H. Williams, President of the Senate, entered upon the discharge of his duties, in the capacity of Acting Governor.

On leaving the Senate, over which he has presided with marked ability, courtesy, and to the entire satisfaction of the members of that body, Mr. Williams made an elegant and appropriate speech; as he did also in the Council Chamber, upon entering upon his new duties there.—*Augusta (Maine) Age*.

The Paris correspondent of the *London Atlas* reports that the Emperor has given five hundred thousand francs (say \$94,000,) to the widow of Mr. Charles Morey, the American who was shot by the sentinel in debtors' prison of Clichy.

We find the above in an exchange paper. The Paris correspondent of the *London Atlas* is but indifferent authority. The report probably has its origin in the fact, mentioned in our own Paris correspondent, that the French Government had declared its willingness to provide for Mr. Morey's widow. We have not seen any specific sum named elsewhere than in the above paragraph.—*N. Y. Com. Adv.*

THE SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH.—*New York, 9th.*—The Secretary of the Navy has ordered the steam-frigates Niagara and Mississippi to be equipped with dispatch, to assist in laying down the Atlantic telegraphic cable between Newfoundland and Ireland.

PERSONAL.—Lord Napier, the new British Minister, was waited upon at the Clarendon Hotel, on Saturday, by a deputation from the Chamber of Commerce, and warmly welcomed.—*Boston Trans.*

John B. Gough, at the close of his lecture in Chicago, on Tuesday evening, was presented with a beautiful casket filled with gold coin, and a rich elaborate vase, the whole cost of the testimonial being \$500. The presentation was made by Rev. Mr. Curtis, in behalf of two hundred ladies of that city.

Near Troy, Bedford County, Pa., a woman, annoyed by a mysterious disappearance of her butter, worked strychnine into it. A few days after, two children of a boarding-house keeper fell suddenly ill and died. Several of the boarders were at last accounts, in extreme danger. The woman was immediately arrested, and placed in Towanda jail.

SUSPENSION BRIDGE FROM NEW YORK TO BROOKLYN.—A bill has been offered in the New York Assembly to incorporate a company, the object of which shall be to erect a bridge over the East River between New York and Brooklyn, in such a manner as not to impede navigation.

CENTRAL AMERICA.

AID FOR WALKER.—A propeller is said to be fitting out at New York for the relief of Gen. Walker. The vessel is to go around the Horn, and carry a large force of arms, recruits and provisions. Necessity compels the friends and agents of Gen. Walker here to this step, since Morgan & Sons refuse to carry further recruits to Nicaragua.

A Nicaragua correspondent of the *New York Times* says, that since Gen. Walker has been in that country he has received not far from 4,000 men. Of these about fourteen hundred are now living, which makes his whole loss 3,600. All concur in saying that the graveyards and pits of Granada contain 1,500 of the filibusters, and many place it as high as 2,000.