

## ANOTHER GREAT BLAST AT DOVER.

DOVER, March 2.—This afternoon, about half-past four o'clock, another great blast took place at the South Eastern Railway works, a little beyond the Rounddown cliff. This blast, as compared with that at the Rounddown (when 18,500 lbs. of gun-powder were instantaneously ignited) was comparatively insignificant; but when we mention that 7,000 lbs. were fired at the present explosion, it will be seen that this insignificance was only comparative. The present operations, like the great blast on the 26th January, were conducted by Mr. Cubitt, the engineer-in-chief to the South-Eastern Railway, who with Lieut. Hutchinson, and a number of the directors of the company, were present to-day, witnessing the blast. The effect of this blast has been quite as successful as that which effected the destruction of Rounddown. About 50,000 yards of chalk has been dislodged, ignition being communicated by the voltaic battery. Nine chambers were formed in the cliff, about ninety feet from its top, the object being to blow away the crown of the cliff, to render it safe for the railway carriages to pass on the sea wall under it. Like the explosion on the 26th of January, the present was effected with very little noise and smoke. The instant ignition was communicated the cliffs around trembled, and the immense mass of chalk burst out with a low booming noise, and the ruins were gently, though majestically, thrown down on the beach below; but instead of like those of the Rounddown, which shot out into the sea about 1,000 feet, they scarcely, we should say, extended 200 feet in any direction, after reaching the base of the cliff. Several hundred persons from Dover and the neighbourhood were present, and among them many ladies. This other great operation was performed without accident. Messrs. Cubitt, Lieut. Hutchinson, and other scientific gentlemen present are quite delighted with the success of this blast, which will materially facilitate the further progress of the railway works, and will prove a great saving in labour.

## REPUDIATION.

LIVERPOOL, March 4.—The creditors who have advanced their money to the repudiating States in the Union, have addressed a strong memorial on the subject to Mr. Everett, the American Minister, in London, with a request that it may be forwarded to the President, for presentation to Congress, and to the different State Legislatures. The memorial advances every possible argument for the maintenance of the credit of the States, and shows, truly enough, the almost irretrievable injury which American credit has sustained in Europe through the dishonesty of the States which have repudiated. It has received a great number of signatures. The most striking passage relates to the straightened pecuniary circumstances of the majority of the sufferers, which we subjoin. Every true American, every honest and right-hearted man must desire to see so foul a stain wiped from the escutcheon of his country. The fact that in the money markets of Europe, American credit is lower than that of any other government, ought to stimulate every true born Yankee—every one in whom the *amor patriæ* is not extinct, to restore the national character to the same elevated position in which it stood before repudiation became fashionable.

"An impression, we understand, prevails very generally amongst your people, that their creditors in this country, are, in great measure, men of large fortunes, to whom a failure in their securities can occasion but little inconvenience. Even if such were the case, it would, in our view of the matter, furnish no ground for any departure from the ordinary obligations of good faith. In fact however, though there may be a few amongst us in more affluent circumstances, yet by far the larger portion of us are persons in the middle ranks of life,—officers on half-pay,—superannuated clerks,—retired tradesmen living on small means,—aged spinsters, widows and orphans;—many of whom have invested their all in the purchase of your securities,—at high prices, and now depend for subsistence,—some even for their daily bread, on the good faith of your people."

PIGEON FLYING.—The ship *Straibane* of Glasgow, in the course of her voyage from Calcutta to Britain, in 1842, picked up at sea a carrier pigeon, which seems to have flown on board this vessel on the 23d of July last, in lat. 34 41, south, long. 22 53, having a regimental button of her Majesty's 78th Regiment attached to its leg by a piece of brass wire. On reference to a log kept on board the *Mary* transport, on her outward passage to Bombay, by Lieutenant G. Horrocks, of the 78th Highlanders, it appears that this bird was liberated from on board the *Mary* on the 13th of July, 1842, in lat. 27 14, long. 54 46; having thus made a distance of nearly 2,000 miles in ten days. Although we believe that pigeons have been known to traverse a much greater distance in the same time, it is to be observed that this bird must, from the state of the prevailing winds in the latitudes in question, have had to encounter a constant succession of adverse gales, nearly right a-head of its course, from the day of its departure from the *Mary* till that of its capture on board the *Straibane*. It is farther remarkable, that it does not seem to have taken a straight line to reach the Cape of Good Hope, but to have adopted nearly the course of the *Mary*, avoiding the land of the Island of Madagascar, close to which it must have passed. However curious these facts may be, this experiment does not seem to throw any light on the wonderful powers of instinct by which the pigeon is enabled to direct its course.—*Edinburgh Register*.

ARRIVAL OF THE NEW GOVERNOR GENERAL OF CANADA.—Sir Charles T. Metcalfe and suite arrived at Boston, in the *Columbia*, on Monday 20th inst. He entertained on that day, at dinner, at the Tremont House, the Mayor of Boston, the British Consul and Vice Consul, the officers of the *Columbia*, &c. having previously, on the same day, visited (with Mr. Grattan, the British Consul,) the Governor of the State at the State House, and afterwards received visits from many of the principal inhabitants at his Hotel.

On Tuesday, 21st, he dined with the Mayor; and in the evening Mr. and Mrs. Grattan entertained him and suite at Albion House, to meet the Governor of the State, the Mayor, and other authorities, several distinguished citizens, and naval and military officers of the U. S., foreign Consuls, late Spanish Minister at Mexico, &c. &c., and some ladies.

Wednesday, 22d, the Governor General and suite sat out for Albany, by the railroad, to proceed, without delay, to Kingston, Canada.—*Albion*.

\* \* The British Commissioners, for running the Boundary Line in accordance with the Treaty of Washington, are Lieut.-Colonel Estcourt, two Astronomers, (Capt. Robinson and Lieut. Phipps, R. E.,) two Surveyors, (Captain Broughton, R. E., and Mr. James Featherstonhaugh,) and Mr. Scott, Secretary, with twelve Sappers and Miners. They will leave England in the next steamer for Boston, April 4th. This intelligence we derive from our private advices; it has not yet appeared in the British journals, but its authenticity may be fully relied on.—*Id.*

[From the Boston Daily Advertiser.]

THE COMET OF 1843.—This day, Feb. 28th, a Comet of great brilliancy has been seen, visible through the day without the aid of a glass, and its brilliancy almost equal to that of Venus. Its situation is very near the eastern limb of the sun; its tail appears about 3° in length. It may be the Comet announced some three months since in Europe; it was then traversing the constellation Draco; be it that or another it is of rare brilliancy. There are but three on record, of sufficient brilliancy to be seen in the day season. The first was 43 years before Christ, and is called a "hairy star;" it was seen with the naked eye in the day time. The second was in the year 1402, and was so brilliant that the light of the sun, at the end of March, did not hinder people seeing it at mid-day; both its nucleus and its tail, was, to use the language of the day, "two fathoms long." The third appeared in Feb. 18th, 1744, and nearly equalled Venus in splendor, and many persons saw it at mid-day without glasses. It may yet prove that the Comet of to-day is the same as that of 1402. Three observations only are necessary to calculate its orbit, the elements of which, if previously registered, will enable astronomers to decide whether the Comet under consideration has appeared or not.

Of 504 Comets that have entered the solar system, 24 have passed between Mercury and the Sun, 47 within Venus, 58 between Venus and the Earth, 73 between Mars and the orbit of Jupiter, and no casualty has occurred to primary or satellite. The comet of 1770 passed through the system of Jupiter without producing the slightest effect; still many people are alarmed at the appearance of these erratic bodies, these rail cars of the stellar regions, the mystery of whose office and destiny makes their astronomy of intense interest.

With reference to the danger of a comet's striking the earth, we here add that the comet Encke, whose period is only 1207 days, and nearest the Earth of all the comets known, cannot come in collision short of a period of 219,000,000 of years, which calculation is based on astronomical facts.—*New Bedford Mercury*.

THE COMET.—This remarkable body, which, since the first instant, has been seen in the day time in several places so distant from each other as to leave no doubt of its being truly a comet, presented itself to us in admirable style last evening, from seven to eight o'clock, exhibiting in the Southwest a long and narrow train, in shape not unlike the representations transmitted to us of the celebrated comet of 1680.

The following observations made at the Observatory of Yale College, though not sufficiently precise for scientific purposes, may serve as a general guide to those who may be on the look out this evening. Rising from the horizon about eighteen degrees south of the west point, at an angle of elevation of twenty nine degrees, it extended for thirty degrees, along the southern part of the constellation Cetus, (or the Whale,) just grazing on its southern margin, the star *tau Ceti*, and terminating, so far as visible, in the star *tau Eridani*. Its light was rendered less striking by the presence of the moon, then six days old; but should its course bring it favorably into view in the nocturnal sky, it promises to be one of the finest comets ever seen.

The *Aurora Borealis* was visible in the northern sky during the evening, becoming quite bright about eleven o'clock.

Yale College, March 7.—*New Haven Herald*.

COMET.—The tail of the Comet was viewed last evening from the Common, by a large number of persons. It presented a beautiful appearance. The body of it, which is near the sun, had set, but the train swept from the south western portion of the horizon towards the south east, and was distinctly visible through an arc of from thirty to forty degrees. The most favourable time for observation was about a quarter past seven. It comes nearer to the