Western Provinces will be dissolved, and the East be left to slide back into its native rottenness (which would be lamented); or such a quickening and amalgamation of Protestant power will take place, as will demand, at least, *equal* rights on our own soil with the Romanists!

When we witness the efforts made by Satan in different ways to drown a community in wickedness and ruin—as by Slavery in the United States, by Popery in Canada, and by the liquor traffic every where—we learn more and more the importance of christians using those weapons which it has pleased God to give them for the overthrowing of the strong-holds of Satan. It is no use to try resistance with his own weapons merely. He can use *mind* in the Parliament, in the press, and even under the guise of religion, as well as we can. He can do more: he scruples not to employ falsehoods, and appeals to the sinful tendency of human nature, to aid him in carrying out his desires. These, conscience forbids us to use: so that we fight on this ground at a great disadvantage. The weapon with which christians are to war is the *Gospel*: and they are to wield it with the meekness and the love which it begets in themselves. They must aim to have a divine change wrought in the *heart* of man. A powerful and well-trained *mind*, without a right *heart*, is no better than a powerful engine in a vessel that has no rudder. Preach the gospel, the *whole* gospel, in the name of Christ, and in dependence on His power to convert the soul! This, and this alone, will make communities prosperous, as well as save souls and glorify God. Instead therefore of looking, in the first instance, to Parliament for reforms, let us work at the foundation till it is laid. This brings us farther back than even the pulpit; for the efficacy of the pulpit depends, by divine arrangement, on the activity of individual christians:—"How shall they preach except they be sent?" When we have a religious constituency, we may hope for a sound representation in Parliament. It will be quite difficult enough for politicians with "new hearts" to withstand the temptations by which our Saviour was assailed in the wilderness, viz., popularity, wealth, and power. Can we then be so short-sighted as to expect staunch integrity amongst these temptations without right hearts, as well as right minds? Almost as well expect gun-powder to be safe amongst the sparks in a blacksmith's forge!

But I hope that you and your readers will forgive my first transgression as to length.

Ezra.

The Intelligencer.

SAINT JOHN, N. B. JUNE 27, 1856.

The Condemned Criminal.

Within the precincts of our county jail now lies a man—a young man—but a condemned criminal. He is under sentence of death for the awful crime of murder! The day of his execution has been fixed. In less than three weeks, (July 18th,) unless his sentence is commuted, he must expiate his offence by suffering the extreme penalty of the law. Before the supreme tribunal of his country, and beyond a doubt in the minds of a jury of impartial and judicious men, he has been proven guilty of the crime of suddenly and violently taking away the life of a fellow creature. In accordance with the divine word which says, "at the hand of every man's brother will I require the life of man. Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man;" in vindication of the justice and impartiality of British law; and to render human life more secure by awarding adequate punishment to the murderer; the criminal to whom we refer, must suffer the penalty of death, and be hurried into eternity in the midst of his days, by the hand of the executioner. The facts in the case of this unfortunate man afford a lesson for serious consideration. He is a young man, being, we learn, only about twenty-two years of age; we have not been informed that his former conduct was marked with any more viciousness than is common for that class of persons to which he belonged, or that he exhibited greater criminal propensities than others of that class. His appearance indicates no hardened villany, his expression of countenance is not marked with the stamp of the murderer's heart, (like the would-be assassin of Welch), but it rather indicates mildness of temper and natural goodness. His visit to the place where the dreadful act was committed, and to the victim of his murderous stabs, was not, it appears, to perpetrate premeditated crime; but, under the influence of friendly feelings, and to enjoy an hour or two in the customary way of friends like these. In that visit, however, intended as friendly, was the first act of the dreadful tragedy, the last of which is to be performed at the county jail of St. John, on the 18th inst next. Is it asked, why this transformation of the man into the fiend,—the friend into the murderer? Why a visit to a friend should terminate in a *drop from a gallows*? The answer is easily given: the cause of the strife, and blood, and murder, and execution, is soon told. It lies in the same arrangement of the same three letters which forms the pretended pretext for filling our Province with the bickering and strife which at present exists,—distracting the peace of every community, uprooting the foundations of social order, and sowing the seeds of the most inveterate and durable discord. In a word, RUM *was the cause*. There lies the secret. To it, and it only, is traceable the cause of the sudden and murderous death of Cotter by his friend, at York Point, on the fatal night of the 31st ult; with the condemnation, and probable execution of O'Neil, at the county jail, as the murderer, on the 18th of July next. Rum kindled the murderous fire upon the altar of O'Neil's passions. Rum drowned his reason, and quenched the last friendly feeling of his soul for Cotter. Rum fanned the burning rage within, and nerved the murderous hand that dealt the assassin stabs. O'Neal was not the murderer, it was Rum. But O'Neil must die! Dishonored, branded, executed as a felon, and be the tenant of a murderer's grave! But Rum shall be acquitted as a harmless thing,—"a good creature of God,"—a contributor of some thirty thousand pounds per annum to the Provincial treasury,—an article of commerce for some few to thrive upon at the expense of human life; and enjoy the especial patronage and favoritism of Civil Governors, lordly bishops, consecrated priests, and a host of others, whose interests or appetites must be consulted before the purity of social morals, or the safety of human life. In the case before us the ENFORCEMENT of the Prohibitory Law would have saved two lives—Cotter's and O'Neil's. The stain of murder would not have been on the annals of our city; the judiciary of our county would have been saved the painful duty of passing the death warrant against a fellow creature, and the public funds would not have been taxed for the expenses of a trial for murder. *The cost of a few murder cases will soon very materially reduce the amount of revenue received at the Customs on rum.*

But there is yet another circumstance not disconnected with this case, which is this:—at the time that O'Neil lay in his cell, charged with murder under the influence of strong drink, obtained in defiance of a law passed by the people's representatives, and placed upon the Statute Book of the country under the sanction of *Her Majesty* the *Queen*, an appeal, for we can regard it in no other light, is made to the people of the Province to declare against the law and repeal it, instead of calling upon all law officers, justices, and good citizens to promote its execution, and prevent the repetition of murders in consequence of strong drink, which will of course follow the repeal of this law. Never was there a greater crime perpetrated against the morals of a people in any Protestant country than that of the late dissolution of the Assembly under *the pretext of testing the Prohibitory Law*. But though the law may be repealed, and a *legal* respectability be thrown around the traffic, yet the morality of the country has declared against it, and it will henceforth only be found in places of ill repute and low resort, while all moral and religious men will utterly refuse its use. Repeal the law, *instead of enforcing it*, and many a poor wretch, who in his sober hours hates crime, will have to expiate his offence in the Penitentiary, or on the gallows, while both property and life will be less secure, and hence less valuable. Go ask the murdered form of Cotter if the prohibition of the liquor traffic, would not be the prohibition of crime? And if that form could speak, it would answer in the *affirmative*. Go to the cell of the condemned O'Neil and ask him if the law faithfully executed would not have saved his hands from blood? And in the agony and truthfulness of a soul on the threshold of eternity for crime, he will answer—yes! The whole record of his trial at the bar of his country testified the same—the traffic in rum lies at the root of Cotter's murder and O'Neil's execution! Not because there was no law to prevent it, but because Governors, Bishops, Priests, Lawyers, Justices, Venders, and newspaper editors, *conspired to prevent its execution*. And now, what next? Repeal the law, and give *free rum*! This can be the only answer; for never again in this Province will a license *law* be executed to any extent—to *regulate* the traffic will henceforth be impossible. If we *must* have repeal—by the same necessity, we *must have a free traffic!*

But in the mean time, what shall be done with the criminal O'Neil? We have no false sentimentalism in relation to criminals—we believe that the man who perpetrates a premeditated and wilful murder should expiate his offence by his own life. But there may be mitigating circumstances, to the full benefit of which criminals should be entitled. That there are circumstances of this kind in the case of O'Neil is we believe without doubt. Not that drunkenness which is of itself a crime, should be an excuse for murder; but the absence of *all* premeditation, with provocation on the part of the murdered, should be at least a consideration in favor of the commutation of the extreme penalty of the law. If the demon Alchohol could be executed and O'Neil spared we would rejoice—as it is, the former must continue to enjoy favoritism in *high places*, and have the especial patronage of officials in Church and State, while its victim, the wretched O'Neil, must die by the hands of the hangman, dishonored and execrated. We hope however, that this unfortunate man may have the full benefit of all mitigating circumstances that exist in his case; and if his sentence can be commuted, and justice vindicated, let the victim be spared to expiate his offence by a life of contrition, rather than by a death of violence and abhorrence.

Young Men's Christian Association.—A Meeting of the Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces commenced at Montreal, Canada, on Thursday, the 20th inst. A large number of delegates and corresponding members were present from various parts of the Union and the Provinces; also, Mr. T. H. Gladstone, from London, a relative of the distinguished English statesman of that name. Messrs. E. E. Lockhart and R. J. Underhill were delegates from the Association in this city. Mr. Underhill returned home again on Tuesday last, having left Montreal before the meeting broke up. He represents the Convention as one of great interest. The christian and friendly spirit of the members, though belonging to various evangelical religious bodies, afforded ample evidence that one of the principle features of these Associations is to "let brotherly love continue." Interesting reports from different places, and what is being accomplished by these Associations, were presented to the Convention; meetings for religious services, conferences, and public addresses were held; and among the resolutions passed in their business sessions was one disapproving of Sectarian Associations. A report of the meeting of this Confederation will be published soon, which will no doubt contain much interesting matter.

The Present War with Russia; Part 5, has been laid on our table by Mr. Roger Hunter, Agent for its sale, over Kemp & Adams, Market Square. It has a steel engraving of General Canrobert, also the Battle of Inkerman, and is still continuing the thread of history with interest, and we presume, with correctness.

The Election Contests.

"When the wicked bareth rule, the people mourn."

The election contests in the county and city of St. John have closed, and the results in figures may be seen in another column. In every case the Governor, in his most unwarrantable and unprecedented course, has been sustained; and, no doubt, but a great victory will be proclaimed over Prohibition and *Liberalism*; while the party in power and their organs will assert that the *people* are with them, and refer to the polls as proof of this. But every man acquainted with one half of the facts connected with the late elections in this city and county knows that the successful candidates *are not* the representatives of the wealth, the intelligence, the influence, nor yet the Freemen and Freeholders of the city and county of Saint John. The amount of bribery practiced during these elections, we will venture to affirm was never equalled in this Province. Corruption deep as the depravity of the human heart would admit, has been practiced, and success has been obtained at the cost of a vast amount of falsehood, and a great sum of money. We believe, and we are sustained in this opinion by those whose judgment and knowledge are entitled to the highest respect, that a scrutiny, fairly carried out, would elect nearly every liberal candidate in both city and county. A very large number of votes were cast in the county more than there are freeholders, and the same we learn is true of the city. We are informed that some non-residents and others recorded their votes at different polling places. The whole number of "pillory votes," so called, were cast for the successful candidates. These votes, which are a FRAUD upon the freeholders of the county, were obtained by Orangemen to defeat candidates who might be in favour with the Catholics. But by a most *unnatural*, and certainly *unholy* alliance, they were cast in the recent election to sustain a Government which is bound by every principle of gratitude to grant every request of Bishop Connolly, and confer upon his members every office which he may *demand* for them. When the day for dividing the spoils of this election comes, then will be "the tug of war." Nearly *one hundred and fifty* Draymen, Cartmen, and Hand-cartmen presented themselves in *procession* at the polls, each with a *new dress* consisting of a red or blue shirt, and black or blue pants, with other articles to match, these evidently being the *price* of their votes. To many of these the "bribery oath" was put, that is, that their votes were not purchased; but few of them, however, we learn refused to take it. The candidates who have been defeated in this City and County are men of sterling integrity and good morals; they enjoy the respect and confidence not only of those who voted for them, but of hundreds who voted against them, and their position to-day in the estimation of the community is infinitely more elevated than any man's can be, who enjoys place or power by corruption, and at the sacrifice of principle. But we ask now, who are to be our rulers. *Not* the men who are in office, but the rum and rowdyism, which put them there, including the *Bishops* and their minions; and we should not be surprised to see the new election law repealed; a common school law enacted ejecting the Bible from our school houses; with another, putting a tax on knowledge. There can be at least no progress, only in the downward tendency, for *toryism* even independant of other influences, knows no elevation; its creed is—*crush the people*—let the few govern. And while this party is dominant, the people must mourn.

During this contest we have out-spoken fairly and decidedly. We have done so, because we conscientiously believed it to be our duty. We considered our privileges, civil and religious, to be in danger. We do so still. For our course we are prepared and expect to meet insult and abuse. Notwithstanding, we shall submit to every legal enactment of the "powers that be," and teach others to do so, so far as we can consistently with our allegiance to God.

Hon. S. L. Tilley and James Steadman, Esq.—We deeply regret that both of these gentlemen have failed in securing their return in the present election contests. Mr. Tilley formerly represented St. John; Mr. Steadman, Westmorland. We think we may say without disparagement to any others, that, in these gentlemen, our Legislature has lost two members, whose integrity, high moral worth, and talents also, would do honour to any Legislative body; and a constituency that rejects such men as these indicates but little sense of the high value which should be placed on representatives who would be influenced by elevated moral principles only. We have pleasure in saying, however, that as significant of the high esteem in which Mr. Tilley is held by the constituency of the city, he polled on Wednesday last, notwithstanding the unscrupulous opposition to him, about *one hundred votes* more than he ever did before. The government of the country will, for a while, be destitute of the integrity and discretion of these two gentlemen, but we are quite satisfied that they have earned for themselves too high a character, in the estimation of all good and moral men, to be allowed long to enjoy the retirement of private life.

Opposition and Reverses.

A cause that cannot bear opposition and reverses is a poor cause—it is unworthy of support. No cause of any great value, or of any extensive usefulness, was ever promoted, to any extent, without meeting the opposition of the unscrupulous and selfish, and often suffering reverses which, in the end, rendered it like the oak in the open field, more deeply rooted, and more capable of enduring the angry blast. Opposition and reverses are necessary. They act as a purgative, they carry off the extraneous and superfluous matter, as well as the excrement, which is found in all good causes, and leaves them much more healthy and strong. So the present apparent reverse of Prohibition is acting—already has it purged out from us some who, destitute of principle, were seeking to make it a hobby on which to ride into office. The true friends of Prohibition will soon be known, and we are well satisfied that although many may apostatise and join the opposition for the sake of favour or office, yet a mighty host will remain true to their principles, even ready to do battle in rum and rowdyism! One thing is, however, about certain, and that is, that all true friends of popular government will hereafter rally, side by side, whatever their peculiar views may be on Prohibition.

English Correspondence.

London, June 6, 1856.

Since the date of my last communication, Parliament has been taking a holiday and working late into the morning. Time was when the Houses assembled in the forenoon and finished business before dark; now the day is far spent when they meet, and sometimes they not separate till the first beams of the rising sun have topped the cross of St. Pauls. On the score of both personal and public utility there is no question which custom should be preferred, but with parliaments as with private persons 'habit is second nature.' How the hon. Speaker keeps up, condemned as he is (except when the House is in Committee) to remain in the chair is a general wonder: it is pardonable if he sleep on the sly sometimes but always without shewing it. In the Commons there has been no particular debate of national interest. Mr. Berkley's motion for the Ballot was rejected after he and a few others had spoken. This gentleman is a member for Bristol, and has earned a tarnished reputation by his efforts last session to alter an Act, passed the year before, by which additional restrictions were placed on the Sunday sale of intoxicating liquors. He succeeded in getting two hours and a half more for the publicans, so that the liquor shops are now only compelled to close up to 1 o'clock, from 3 to 5, and after 11 p. m.; leaving eight hours on the best of days for the worst of trades. This year Mr. Berkley had given notice of a Bill for the more effectual suppression of drunkenness; but it happened that on the day in question there was a "come out" and so Mr. B's amiable project fell through. Of his intentions we can say nothing, but "we fear the Greeks even when presenting gifts." A count out is accomplished either when there is not forty members present to form a House at 4 o'clock, an (event which the reporters are never sorry for) or after the House has began to sit, if a member calls for a count and fewer than forty members are in attendance. It has sometimes happened that great debates in expectancy, have been nipped in the bud by a count out at some unexpected moment, but generally this is the result of design with Government or a leading party to avoid an awkward question or put down a particular "bore." When a count out takes place, the officers of the House come to the door and cry aloud, "who goes home?" an interrogative relic of the olden days, when members required the convoy of officials to protect them in their homeward course. What an unpleasant picture does the question suggest, of the undisciplined and unprotected state of our public streets in the days of "our glorious ancestors!"

The Lords have had a quarrel with the Crown about the appointment of life peerages, and an attempt is now being made to patch up the dispute by the appointment of four law Lords to sit as a Court of Appeal of the House in lieu of the present system which leaves the burden of this duty with any of the law Lords who may be members of the House. The real point of debate, whether the Sovereign can constitutionally appoint peers for life, without the hereditary title, is not touched by the Bill which has been introduced.

Mr. Miall in the Commons has had a night on the Irish Establishment. Mr. Miall was formerly an Independent Minister at Leicester, and came up to London to establish and conduct the *Nonconformist* newspaper, which is still in his hands. He is M. P. for Rochdale, a busy thriving Lancashire manufacturing town. Few men have studied more deeply or graged more completely, the polemics of the Irish State Church question than Mr. Miall; he is also a man of keen and subtle intellect, but as a speaker he is cold and unattractive. With natural powers equal to his capacity he would have taken a much higher place in the House than he commands. His motion as a legislative attack was a failure, but the object was never so fully laid open before, and the moral victory was undoubtedly with the assailants. Mr. M's difficulty lay in having to attack the Irish Establishment on principles which would recoil upon the English hierarchy, and though he restricted the present issue to Ireland, his hearers were alive to the consequences of his reasoning and to his ultimate designs. Hence he was defeated less from affection to the Irish Church than from fears respecting "Mother Church" nearer home. While referring to matters ecclesiastical I may take occasion to remark that the Church of Scotland and the Free Church have been holding their annual assemblies. If popular predilection be an index, there is no doubt that the latter and not the former is the real church of the Scottish nation, although the United Presbyterians, composed of the old Relief and Secession Church, are numerous and flourishing. The Free Church has raised in the last year about a quarter of a million pounds for its various religious institutions. The Spring Session of the Congregational Union of England and Wales has also been held in London.

The Sunday Band question remains a source of disquiet. *Punch* and the Sunday papers abuse the Archbishop of Cant, as they term the Archbishop of Canterbury, for his interference; and at present a kind of practical compromise has been entered into, the Government doing nothing (which they ought to have done from the first) but allowing private bands to play in the Regent and Victoria Parks, Hyde Park, and Kensington Gardens.

News will have reached you of the conviction of William Palmer for poisoning J. S. Cook at Rugely. The trial, as one of an ordinary criminal has been unexampled for duration and other attendant circumstances. Three judges were on the bench, the best lawyers at the counsels' table, and the most eminent medical men in the witness box. Twelve days were consumed in the proceedings, and the jury, ten minutes after entering to consider their verdict had agreed to return the solemn one of guilty. Public feeling sustains this decision, and there is no probability of a commutation of sentence.

Scarcely had the excitement attendant on the close of this trial, (Monday, May 27th,) had time to spend itself, when the London public were called to mobile another and different kind of stimulus in the form of the long-expected illuminations. On Thursday, May 29th, the influx of country visitors was prodigious, and did disturb for the time the mighty equilibrium of this "million-peopled" city. From 9 at night till 3 next morning the streets were crowded, sometimes carriage-locked for hours; and it is pleasing to find that the accidents from all causes were comparatively few. The private illuminations were countless, and at no previous period could the same effect have been produced. Some of the designs were queer, and with a shrewd eye to business; as for example, the Fleet street tobacconist, who contrasted the smoke of war with the smoke of peace—the one belching from the cannon's mouth, the other curling from the well-filled pipe. The Government fireworks were discharged from the Green Park, Hyde Park, Victoria Park, and Primrose Hill, and those who had a position sufficiently elevated were regaled with a display of pyrotechnic splendour lasting from half-past nine to eleven o'clock. The effect was very gorgeous, and none the less so from the gloomy aspect of the sky.

On the 2d of June, the Queen, who is never idle and might be surnamed the Alert, laid the foundation of Wellington College, at Sandhurst, accompanied by an imposing ceremonial and a grand review. Assuredly if wars are to be looked and prepared for, it is wise to give our rising soldiers a training which will enable them to sustain the renown of Agincourt and Waterloo. Another public event of a civil nature has been the Annual Commemoration at Oxford. This is the grand field-day of the under graduates, who crowd the upper galleries and vent their pleasure in squibs, hisses and applause. The honorary degree of D. C. L. is at such seasons conferred on various distinguished men, and the manner in which their names are received is no bad index of their place in passing public estimation. Sir W. Williams' name (of Kars) was received with imperial honors—*item absens*, (altho' absent) as the Chancellor announced. Prince Frederick of Prussia accompanied Prince Albert on the occasion, and was formally noticed.

Our foreign relations are pretty satisfactory, with one exception. France is tranquil, though surmises of a growing revolution are abroad. A great agricultural show is going forward in Paris, (and in agriculture the French may learn a good deal from ourselves,) while the country round Lyons has been devastated by floods. The Emperor went in person to relieve the distress—a politic step, but dictated, we would hope, by a more elevated principle than worldly policy can supply.

In Austria the Concordat works badly, and the Government are obliged to put on the "drag." Spain is yet peaceful—wonderful to tell!—under the rule of Espartero, who deserves the confidence reposed in him. I am sorry that a case of religious persecution has occurred in Sardinia, but the current is the other way. If one swallow does not make a summer, neither does one snow-storm make a winter; it may rather be the vestige of a winter breaking up and passing away. The exception to which I have alluded will be understood. Our Yankee cousins are in danger of going a-head too fast. It is extremely vexatious that the politicians in high places at Washington do so many disputable things for electioneering purposes. I am in no fear as to war; English forbearance and American prudence (leaving unreckoned the religious and moral principles of resistance) will prevent so fearful a catastrophe, to which the contest of 1777, or 1812, would be as child's play. The devil, no doubt, would take infinite delight in the parricidal conflict; but the power of light will, I am confident, disappoint, in this matter, the powers of darkness. Still, it is unpleasant to be under the cloud for months, though there be no truncheon of fire in its threatening bosom.

The Exeter Hall meeting of the United Kingdom Alliance has been held since I wrote last. Alderman Carden presided, and was followed in his address by the Earl of Harrington, Rev. J. Burnsley, A. M., Rev. Dr. Burns, S. Pope, Esq., and S. Bowly, Esq., who all delivered speeches full of the pith and marrow of truth. The meeting was large, enthusiastic and unanimous. Hold fast—is the appeal we make to you in reference to your Prohibitory Law. I regret to see that it is not set to work as it should be. As a best resort, you change the idlers for honest workers.

The education of the young is one of the great problems of the age, and though I have no idea that everything rests with the young any more than with the adult portion of society, there is no question that a religious, intelligent training of the boys and girls of a nation is one of the best guarantees of that nation's progress and greatness. With the view of increasing the attendance at our Sunday schools, a census of London has been carried on, and is now generally completed. The result has been very cheering, it is said. Among the old-established institutions of the country are the free schools; hundreds of excellent men, who thought it wise to look after posterity by providing in perpetuity the means of education to the poor. In London there are fifty-six poor schools, and once a year the children assemble in St. Paul's, where divine service is performed. Yesterday this gathering took place, about 5,000 children being present in a variety of curious dresses, of different eras, ugly in their detached form, but making a picturesque *tout ensemble*. About 8,000 other persons were admitted; and the general view is described as being one of uncommon sublimity. The Emperor Alexander (uncle of the present Czar) is said to have eulogized a similar spectacle as the finest sight he had ever beheld. A "treat" precedes and follows the services, and notwithstanding the expenses engross almost all the receipts, the festival is worthy of being continued. How glorious will be that era when "out of the mouth of babes and sucklings" God will "perfect praise" in every land; and when all the "young men and maidens" the "old men and children" of earth, join in one anthem of praise to the Monarch of Heaven and the Redeemer of men. B.

The Pictorial Sunday Book, Part 12, is before us. This contains a beautiful engraving of Christ healing the sick, and numerous Biblical illustrations. We have before spoken of this work in terms of praise. For Sale by Mr. R. Hunter, over Kemp & Adams.

General Intelligence.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

ATLANTIC AT NEW YORK.

New-York, June 22, 1856.

The American Mail Steamer *Atlantic*, arrived this morning.

The Atlantic left Liverpool on the afternoon of the 11th inst.

The English public were still without official notice of Crampton's dismissal, but regarded it as a fixed fact. It however created very little excitement.

It is estimated that the inundation in France rendered 40,000 people houseless, and that 100,000 were thrown out of employment.

The Morning Chronicle thinks it cowardly to make a scapegoat of Mr. Crampton. The London Star, the organ of the Manchester party, thinks it perfectly absurd to go to war to avenge the dignity of Mr. Crampton, and ridicules the idea.

The general news is unimportant.

An attempt on the life of the Queen of Spain is reported. A young man presented a pistol at her, but was immediately disarmed.

Kansas affairs excite notice in England, but without being generally understood. It was argued that they would divert attention from the direction of a foreign war.

A new Portuguese ministry has been formed, Marquis Soule president.

The French papers are filled with accounts of the damage by the recent flood, which was most disastrous.

It was reported to Berlin that Prussia and Sardinia both demanded to be admitted into the commission for the re-organization of the Danubian principalities, and that the demand had been acceded to.

It stated that the Austrian government had resolved to erect the Lombardo Venetian provinces being into the kingdoms of Upper Italy.

Arabia is still in a state of insurrection, refusing to longer recognise the rule of the Sultan.

More Turkish outrages against Christians are reported.

The Russian minister to settle the affairs of the principalities has been instructed to retire from the commission if Moklir Pasha, formerly Prince Stourdza, should be admitted to take part in the deliberations of the commissions.

Crimean letters to May 31st, mention the report that 70,000 masons are to rebuild Sebastopol after the departure of the allies.

France.—Two deplorable events in France have attracted much attention. The first refers to a financial defaulter, a director of the Credit Mobilier, named Place. This is a serious matter, for while his liabilities are 2,720,000, his assets only amounts to a third of that enormous sum, showing a deficiency of nearly half a million sterling. The shock of public confidence in a country like France, involved in a defalcation like this, can hardly be over estimated; and it comes, too at a moment when the south of France has been the scene of inundations of the most terrific kind, caused by the overflowing of two rivers, the Rhone and the Saone. The deluge has swept away towns and villages, and the extent of human suffering is said to be indescribable. Five hundred houses were destroyed in the neighborhood of Lyons and 129 at Avignon. Louis Napoleon is a consummate actor. On hearing of the calamity he started immediately to the scene, and was cheered by the people in a way which showed their appreciation of his sympathy.

UNITED STATES.

Every four years the return of the term for electing the Chief Magistrate of the Republic causes our neighbors to prepare for the contest by the holding of party conventions, in some of the chief cities of the Union, at which the politicians nominate such candidates as they suppose most likely to succeed in their respective interests. The two historical divisions of the politicians of the United States were the Whigs, who at first called themselves Federalists, and the Democrats. These, with little variation, have been the parties who opposed each other in the Presidential battles, which have been constantly occurring at intervals of four years. This year, however, there are no more Whigs. The Democratic party still remains under the old name; but they have become essentially the pro-slavery party, maintaining, of course, all the wicked principles which naturally flow from this wicked course. They have met at Cincinnati, and their nomination has fallen on Mr. Buchanan. Their opponents on the present occasion call themselves Republicans, who for the first time bring forward the Anti-Slavery, (or, perhaps more properly, the Free-Soil idea,) as the basis of the policy of a party likely to place their candidate in the White House.

This party at a Convention recently held in Philadelphia, has nominated Colonel Fremont, the explorer of California as their Candidate, and it is to be hoped that they may carry his election for the sake of the poor of the nation.

There is another party, not yet mentioned, also in the field, who are likely to name Commodore Stockton as their candidate. These are the Americans—late Know-Nothings—but their chances of success must be very small.

Costa Rican Affairs.—*New York*, June 22.—Extract of a private letter dated Granada Nic., June 1st. "We have just received a communication for the government of Costa Rica, in which they acknowledge the government of President Kinas and Gen. Walker, considering the war at an end, and offering to become responsible for all the expenses of the war."

Steamboat Sunk on the St. Lawrence.—The steamer Cataract, Captain Estes, at this port, brought information yesterday of the sinking of the steamer British Empire between Ogdensburg and Montreal. In going down the rapids she struck a rock, and went down in five minutes. No lives were lost, but all the baggage and freight sunk with the vessel.—*Rock Democrat.*

The Nashville, Tenn., Union of the 5th inst., states that many of the farmers in this region are in the midst of their wheat harvest. In most instances the grain is very fine, unmatured, and turns out a good yield.

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