Poetry.

The Guardsman's Death

[Shortly after the "Australasian" left Halifax, one of the Guards died. His remains were brought on shore, and buried on Sunday morning, with military honors. Whereupon the Hamilton *Spectator* has the following lines:—

Within the troop-ship's narrow bed,
The noble Guardsman lay,
The hand of death dressed on his head,
To steal his soul away.
And with a mourning, heavy heart,
And tear-bemoistened eye,
His fellow-soldiers stood apart
To see their comrade die.

That Guard had often faced the foe
In warfare's carnage wild,
And on fierce Russia's plains of snow,
At death he'd calmly smiled.
Yet now he bowed his manly head,
And after all he'd past,
Within the troop ship's narrow bed,
The Guardsman breathed his last.

They bore him to the snow-clad shore,
And made him there a tomb,
Near where the ocean's breakers roar,
Whore all around is gloom.
They fired a volley o'er his head,
And covered up his breast,
Then left the Guardsman still and dead,
Wrapt in his long, last rest.

No tomb-stone marks his final home,
No tears are o'er him shed,
No friends shall ever thither roam,
To sorrow o'er his head.
But there where breakers dash around,
Where fierce the wild winds moan,
Beneath the snow-bemantled ground,
The Guardsman sleeps alone.

A New Poem by Tennyson.

The following stanzas are the contribution of the author of "In Memoriam" to the new Annual for 1862, the "Victoria Regina;"

THE SAILOR BOY.

"He rose at dawn, and flushed with hope,
Shot o'er the seething harbor bar,
And reached the ship and caught the rope,
And whistled to the morning star.

"And while on deck he whistled loud
He heard a fierce mermaiden cry,
'Boy, though thou art young and proud.
I see the place where thou wilt lie.

"The sand and yeasty surges mix
In caves about the dreary bay;
And on thy ribs the limpet sticks,
And on thy heart the scrawl shall play.

"Fool! he answered, Death is sure
To those that stay and those that roam;
But I will never more endure
To sit with empty hands at home.

"My mother clings about my neck,
My sister clamor "Stay, for shame!
My father raves of death and wreck—
They are all to blame, they are all to blame.

"God help me! save I take my part
Of danger on the daring sea,
A devil rises in my heart,
Far worse than death to me.

Miscellaneous.

What Aunt Betty Gave.

There was once a poor old colored woman who lived in half a railroad car. The wind blew in, and the rain came upon the roof of her poor home, so much, that a respectable dog would scarcely have liked to live in it. She was too old to work. All she could do was to gather sticks in the wood with which to build the fire, and kind people supplied her with the necesseries of life, so that she did not starve. In this old car she would sit and sing, and pray, and meditate, till she thought it seemed almost like heaven. One day a rich man, passing by, heard her singing,

"When I can read my title clear," etc.

He went in, and thus addressed her:

"Aunt Betty" (for that was her name), "I wonder what the Lord keeps you here for. You are too old to work, and there does not seem to bo any thing that you can do in this world. I wonder why he keeps you here, instead of taking you to that mansion in the skies, you were singing about."

"Well massa," she replied, "I reckon you know what de Lor' keeps you here for."

"Oh! yes," said he; 'I'm not a Christian; but then I give to the church, to the missionaries, to the poor, to the Bible and Tract Societies, and to all the religious societies. He keeps me here for that."

"Massa has left out one oder thing."

"What's that?"

"Why, He's kept you here all dese years to repent and begin to lub Him.—Massa, ain't you gwine to begin?"

"Never mind about that aunty; but tell me what he keeps you here for."

"Why, massa, He keeps you here to gib to the church, and He keeps Aunt Betty here to pray for it. All you gib do no good without Aunt Betty's prayers.—I watches when you puts money in the plate, and den I prays God to bress it."

Now, we can all be Aunt Betty's. You can all pray for God's blessing on what is put in the box, no matter who puts it in; and if there is nothing more that you can do, your Father in Heaven will be as much pleased as though you had filled up the box with gold.—*Faulkner.*

DRAFTING SUSPENDED IN CONNECTICUT.—The Adjutant General of Connecticut, by order of Gov. Buckingham, has issued an order to the selectmen of each town in the State to suspend drafting for the militia, as new legislation appears indispensable in order to render the system equitable and effective, and as the number of volunteer companies organized for the active militia has recently so increased as to give encouragement that the number required by law may be secured without the service of men who have been drafted.

By accounts this suspension is extremely necessary in a sanative sense, for a great many of the persons drafted, according to the Connecticut papers, though to all appearance sound and healthy before being drafted, have become possessed of all sorts of disqualifying ailments. The "Courant" says that, out of 310 men drafted in Hartford, 131 had slipped out from under the responsibility to protec their liberties and their firesides; and it thu explain the causes:

"The principal defect in those already reported is a stiffness in joints. This difficulty is quite common, epidemic almost, and is becoming quite popular. We have no doubt but what every man in Hartford will have a lame knee before the 1st of March, even if he has to borrow one of a neighbor. The list shows a very general lameness in arms, fingers, hands, or legs. Some men have been excused because, having eyes, they see not; and others, who having ears, hear not. One way and another the bulk of the people are exempt. Every man who ever had any disease, happens just now to find it budding and blossoming with perennial vigor, cherishes it as a blessing, and refuses to let a physician into his house. And these are our country's brave defenders!"—*Boston Courier.*

A VARNISH FOR IRON-WORK.—To make a good black varnish for iron-work, take 8 lbs. of asphaltum and fuse it in an iron kettle, then add 2 gallons of boiled linseed oil, 1 lb. of litharge, ½ lb. of sulphate of zinc (add these slowly or it will fume over), and boil them for about three hours. Now, add 1½ lbs. of dark gum amber and boil for two hours longer, or until the mass will become quite thick when cool. After which it should be thinned with turpentine to the proper consistency.—*Scientific American.*

Heaven's arm is too short to reach the jewel of salvation. This pearl of price is put into no hand but that hand of faith that reaches from earth to heaven.

Wanderers from the Northern Army.

We find the following amusing hit in the Essex *Journal*, Canada West:—

To the Editor of the Essex *Journal*.

Sir,—We hear a great deal from the seat of war about the 'Army of the Potomac,' the 'Army of the South,' the 'Army of the West.' &c., but I have never seen or heard any reports in the papers from the other side about the 'Army of the East. I assure you Sir, in my neighborhood you can scarcely look along the G. W. R. track at any hour of the day without seeing some of the 'citizen soldiers,' whose patriotism is to serve as a stirring example to us benighted Canadians, travelling east into this oppressed country of Canada.—Of course they are not deserters—we know that all the great army of the Federal Union are actuated by the purest motives that ever incited men to fight and run away; therefore, in all probility, these men who visit me daily (as can be shown by the decrease in my pork barrel and flour bin) are sent by our kind neighbors to convert us, poor slaves to a monarchy, to true freedom. But why do they not supply them with funds? Living as I do on the borders of the great Thames Marsh, I am never without being honored by the company of some one or more of these gallant defenders of their country.—Could you, Mr. Editor, find out to whom I must charge their board? Had I better address the Secretary of War, or the illustrious Mr Lincoln himself? By giving your advice you will much oblige,

Yours truly,
P. DESJARDINES.

Tilbury West, Jan. 14, 1862.

American Opinions on American Affairs.

We give below opinions on American affairs, from two leading American Journals, commencing with the Boston *Courier* which says:

"We have very strong expectations of seeing better days for this country, notwithstanding the undeniable gloom which seems now to overhang it. But in our humble judgement, whatever partial successes we meet with, and they may yet be very marked and important, we had better settle our minds down as soon as we can, to this conviction, namely, that the States of this Union will never be brought into friendly alliance again, as one, until two very great changes take place at the North.—One is, that, whatever we may think of slavery, or believe about its final extinction, we must *treat* it in the Sonth as a permanent thing; to be no more offensively meddled with by us than any other local usage in that quarter."

The other opinion is from the New York *Tribune* a noted abolition journal:—

"Speaking for ourselves, we can honestly say that for that old Union which was kept in existence by Southern menaces and Northern concessions, we have no regrets and no wish for its reconstruction. Who wants any Union which can only be preserved by systematic wrong and organized political blunders? Who wants any Union which is nothing but a sentiment to laker fourth of July Orations withal? Who wants to see repeated in the next quarter of a century, the trials, torments, insults and embarassments to which we have already been subjected; and especially this continually impending and always convenient threat of treason, whenever an obnoxious policy is to be forced, in the interest of slavery upon us—who wants to see this restored to its old and magical potency—intimidating the weak, overpersuading the peaceful, seducing the honest and the honorable, making mere heathenish jumple of our Christianity, and mere temporary subterfuge of our laws? Who wants a Union to be maintained only at the capriciousness of a South Carolina aristocracy—a Union which we are bound to respect, but which Slaveholders are chartered to disregard at sovereign pleasure?—Union, that the man owing Oligarchy may crawl comfortably along in the fat slime of its indolence and injustice, while we keep watch and ward with obsequious fidelity, over its lazy interests, and submit without a murmur to its whimsicalities of selfishness or passion?

If, by chance in ancient times, the criminal felt the loathsome corpse which justice had tied upon his shoulders, slipping off—he did not we fancy, cry out, 'O wretched man that I am—who will fasten me again to the body of this death?' If we are, in the Providence of God, to be delivered from unnatnral alliances—if the January of slavery, rimed all over with frosty feudality, is no longer to chill by unnatural embraces the May of human hope, who is there weak or wicked enough to forbid the righteous divorse?"

"Sagacious and Old Colored Folks."

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26, 1862.

THE AID OF COLORED UNION MEN SOUTH.—Sagacious and aged politicians here begin to express apprehension that it is already too late to win the aid of the colored Union men of the South; that the golden opportunity is lost. They see signs that the negroes, who panted to be our allies, but were repelled by our commanders, and abandoned in the interval between the contending forces, have made up their minds that the war is a war of politicians, and that success to either party will bring no change in the relation of the slave to his master or to the Federal Government. If the impatience and trust with which the colored Unionists of the South waited for our armies are gone, the greatest element of our war is wasted, and wise grey heads here say they are gone.

Legislative Corruption in the State of New York.

A Committee of the Legislature of the State of New York, has been investigating some serious charges, and the most astounding revelations have been made by officers of the House as to the wholesale corruption of members of that body. The exact sums by cheque to each member for his vote on special occasions, is deliberately set forth, with as much nonchalance as if it were an ordinary marketing transaction, If the facts were not stated with such precision and borne out by incontrovertible evidence, we sould really incline to doubt them.

Upon this state of things, the Quebec *Chronicle* has the following remarks:—

"The pharisee thanks God that he is not as other men. We shall not be pharisaical, however, if we claim for Canada the consolation which springs from a consciousness of being in the enjoyment of a higher political morality than obtains in the great state of New York. The legislative and political morality of the province is not perfect, certainly. There has been knavery amongst us, and corruption, and underhand, indefensible dealing for the accomplishment of objects in parliament and out of it. For aught we know to the contrary, bribes may have been paid to facilitate the passage of measures involving private interests. Our lawgivers may not be all purists. Some of our members might suffer in a comparison with Aristides. And it might be possible to discover in these latitudes the microscopic beginnings of the lobby influence which has attained colossal proportions over the border. But we are nevertheless better than our neighbors, as the extraordinary revelations at Albany abundantly prove.

"Virtue being comparative, then, and, like truth, sometimes not easily defined, we have but to scan the barefaced scoundrelism which goes unpunished at Albany to find causes for exulting over the absence of anything resembling it in this portion of the British empire. We in Canada may not be spotless as our snows, but at least our sins are not of the dark hue to which they have attained under republicanism. Fancy for an instant the transplanting of the corrupt trickery which runs riot at Albany to Quebec, and then measure if you can the outburst of indignation, mayhap the punishment, which the exposure would bring upon the culprits great and small! We should have a miniature revolution. The Canadian people would insist upon purification and retribution to boot. They would hold, not only the men who gave bribes and hush money, and the recipients of these potent persuasives, merited ignominy, if nothing more, but that the system which rendered the practice possible should be subjected to rigid scrutiny and immediate reform."

The State of Washington.

From the Special Correspondent of the Boston Courier.

WASHINGTON, January 30th, 1862.

"The journey from New York to this city, notwithstanding the enormous and constantly increasing amount of travel, is full of disagreeable elements. The cars travel slowly along the entire route; Philadelphia and Baltimore passengers are drawn from station to station by horses; the cars are filled and fumed by Dutch emigrants and rude volunteers, who have no idea of the proper use of their "determinations downward," who convert the car floor into one vast spittoon, and who are entitled to the gratitude of the decent traveller if they do not puff clay pipes. If one takes the journey by night, a shawl as well as an overcoat is isdispensable to a comfortable endurance of the long twelve hours.

The streets of Washington were never so full of thick yellow mud, which, tread carefully as he may, the pedestrian cannot escape. The sidewalks of Pennsylvania Avenue are only just passible, but they afford a striking contrast to those of nearly every other portion of the city. The hotels are dirty, the shops dirty, the hackney carriages, driven for the most part by Irish and free negroe boys, are very dirty—in short, so much of the city as first presents itself to the Bostonian eye reminds him only of the condition of one's country estate the morning after a grand *fete.* It seems as if the city of Washington had given a great reception, and the ruins and apple-parings and the nutshells had not been brushed away. Yet it is not strange. Washington is now more than ever crowded with a floating population, swarming all over the hotels, the sidewalks, the Capitol, the Department Buildings and other public resorts—bustling, jostling, crowding, hurrying—all busy, and all self-important, as if upon the accomplishment of their ends hung the destinies of America. It is natural, therefore, that the hotels should be lacking in many essentials which those accustomed to the Tremont, Revere, and Parker's find it difficult to get on without. The attendance is good if the waiters are fee'd, but the table, even at Willards, which is the best of all, is not what the traveller has a right to expect. Their proprietors, however, coin money with inconceivable rapidity. The nett profits which the landlords of Willard's have actually made in the last five months amount to $158,000, while the other houses are doing proportionately as well. It is singular that Mr. Paran Stevens or Mr. Harvey D. Parker, shrewd and sagacious as they are, have not opened such houses here as they only can carry on. The travel here from the New England States, singular as it may seem, is greater than from all other parts of the country, and all that business would, of a certain, be secured by them. Of course, in the present state of affairs, travel is greater than ever before, but, even in ordinary times, fortunes are made by hotel-keepers.

"All business enterprise has received a fresh impetus, which is everywhere manifest. All kinds of wares are tastefully displayed and no trader languishes. There is occupation for all who are willing and capable. Land, which for years has been considered mere waste, is now covered with fragile wooden buildings, in which men who had nothing but their clothes have amassed money in a few months.

"The city is under strict military surveillance, the Provost Marshall's mounted guard rendering efficient service, while squads patrol the streets on foot, challenging every one who wears a uniform for his pass. Uniforms are so frequent, that this duty is no sinecure—in fact it seems rather a mark of distinction to wear citizen's dress.

"There seems to be little indication of a fight, hereabouts, within six weeks or two months. That it will come within that period, wiseacres feel confident, but every little item of news is not grasped as an indication of something momentous about to transpire. The communications with the army are so near and so direct, that people all feel as if they should know soon enough, and accurately enough, of the course things will take, without wasting prognostications on probabilities.

"It is confidently rumored that Secretary Welles will be removed from the Navy Department within a week.

"The sun has been seen but twice in Washington in four weeks. To-day we are in the midst of a driving rain storm, the atmosphere stifling, and the walking worse than anything I ever imagined."

CONTINUANCE OF THE INUNDATION.—REMOVAL OF THE LEGISLATURE TO SAN FRANCISCO.—SAN FRANCISCO, Jan 21.—The weather is still rainy. Money is universally tight.—Business has been suspended on account of the weather.

The State Legislature reassembled at Sacramento yesterday. Most of the city of Sacramento is still under water. The last inundation however caused little damage to the houses there.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan 22.—The rainy weather continues. The members of the Legislature at Sacramento pass to and from the Capitol building in small boats.

A proposition to adjourn the session to San Francisco was debated yesterday, and probably passed finally this evening. The whole Legislature is expected to arrive in this city to night.

The steamer St. Louis sailed yesterday for Panama, with 90 passengers and $893,000 in treasure, of which $600,000 is for New York.

GLOUCESTER FISHERIES.—The *Cape Ann Advertiser* says that the vessels thence that have been engaged in the Bank fishery have had rather a hard time of it the present month, and most of them return with small fares, which but poorly compensate the crews for their hazardous occupation. Two more of the Newfoundland fleet arrived on Thursday.—They bring full cargoes of herring, and the Georges Banks fishing will soon commence.

REFORM, CHANGE AND RETRENCHMENT.—A large number of bills have been introduced in both houses of Congress providing for retrenchment and reform and change in every branch of the government. Each senator and member seems to have some proposition of this character, which is presented and printed, and probably that is the last that is ever heard of it.

LETTER FROM THURLOW WEED.

[From the Albany Evening Journal.]

SOUTHAMPTON, Jan. 11, 1862.

"Mr. Adams received a dispatch late last evening from Earl Russel, stating that as the United States ship "Tuscarora" had entered Southampton with evident intention of engaging the Confederate steamer 'Nashville," an order from the Admiralty Office would be sent immediately to the naval officer in charge at Southampton, to detain the United States vessel in port twenty-four hours after the daparture of the Confederate steamer.

"I came down from London this morning to confer with Capt. Britton, our consul, and Capt. Craven, of the Tuscarora. This new phase to matters will necessarily change Capt. Craven's switch. Instead of waiting for the Nashville, Capt. C. will leave first, governing his course outside, by the best observations and calculations he is enabled to make. It seems that something adverse turns up against us at almost every turning. *Neutrality* questions arise constantly and are pretty sure to tell against us.

"The government has, I believe, refused to allow the Nashville to do any more than would have been extended to a merchant ship. No arms, munitions, or war fixings have been permitted. Capt. Brittan, the consul, gave me a copy of an authenticated account which shows everything provided, with its cut, making in all an aggregate of £666 6s. 8½d. I greatly fear that Capt. Craven, entangled in this neutrality net, may lose the opportunity, which he so much wants, of punishing this pirate.

"Our consul at this port is an efficient and fearless officer, qualities much needed just now, when and where a community that has profited largely and long from American commerce is now bitterly hostile."

American Consuls in Canada.

"The federal spies who have been located in Quebec and Gaspe, under the title of American consuls, will very soon be permitted to return whence they came. It is reported, that the matter stated in Mr. Seward's communication to Congress, will form the subject of a diplomatic note between Lord Lyons and the American government. The latter will be requested to recall the *mouchards* from Canada, and if the request be not complied with, or a distinct assurance given that the appointees at Quebec and Gaspe will not transcend the duties and privileges of consuls as commercial agents, the consular privileges will be denied to these gentry by our government, and they will be sent home. Secretary Seward has brought the Washington Cabinet into an awkward position. Mr. Seward cannot eat his own words, and deny the accuracy of the report he transmitted to Congress, and thus he stands convicted out of his own mouth. His reputation for finesse has been destroyed, by his own awkward admission of the spy system he employs. At one stroke, the "rebels" in Canada have been placed on their guard, and the British Government has been furnished with a ready-made cause for complaint."—*Kingston News.*

PASSAGE OF BRITISH TROOPS THROUGH MAINE.—The Governor of Maine has communicated to the Legislature of that State a letter from Mr. Seward, explaining the reasons why he directed the United States Marshal and other Federal officers to permit the landing at Portland of British troops, and their safe conduct through the State to Canada. Mr. Seward says that the State Department having been informed by telegraph, on the 4th of January, that the mail steamer Bohemian, bound for Portland, was telegraphed off Cape Race, and that she had on board a number of British troops bound for Canada, the despatch inquired whether the troops should be dealt with by the Federal authorities like ordinary passengers, and the Secretary intimated, that they should be permitted to pass on to their destination. He was influenced in the matter by the consideration, that much suffering and risk, through the snow and ice of a northerly voyage, might be spared to troops, by allowing them to travel over the Grand Trunk Railroad, conceiving that when humanity, or even convenience, renders it desirable that the troops of a friendly nation should have a passage through the territory of another nation, it is a customary act of comity to grant permission, and he cites, as an evidence of this principle, the privilege which the Unites States enjoy of transporting troops across the Panama through New Granada, and it is thus deemed only right by the U. S. Government, to accord the same privilege to Great Britain, France, and all other friendly nations.

MR. TRAIN AGAIN.—We should say that "Young America Train" had again been making an ass of himself had not nature kindly interpreted the bent of his youthful mind, and thus sent him into the world with all the attributes of the long-eared species. In the course of a "bray," in the vicinity of London, he said:—

"Mr. Seward had been represented as hostile to this country; but (continued Mr. Train) I deny it. He is my friend, and I had the pleasure of his acquaintance when he was over in this country. I presented him to Lamartine in Paris, and heard his views about England. I can tell you Mr. Seward now bears to this country the kindest of feelings."

Here we have logic, pure and undefiled. Let the ancient logicians pale their uneffectual fires. Mr. Seward is a friend of Mr. Train, and the latter had introduced the former to Lamartine, in Paris, some years ago. *Consequently* Mr. Seward is now friendly disposed towards Great Britain. Can we doubt it?

The Dark Side of Popular Education.

(Saturday Review.)

"There are few things harder than to convince the world that when we point out the faults, or defects, or weak side of anything, or person, or institution, or system, we do not mean to condemn altogether what we attack. Theoretically, people are very willing to allow that in this world everything, however good, has its drawbacks and shortcomings; but practically, it is always taken as a slur on what is good, and an insult to those who occupy themselves in any good work, to say that the good brings evil with it, and that the work that is done is in some degree mischevious. To say, for instance, that education has the dark side, may be easily misconstructed into a depreciation of education. We think that education—that is, the diffusion through large masses of men of the kind of education which large masses can receive in the present state of the world—has its dark side as well as its bright one. At the same time it would be absurd to call in question the great preponderance of good that education brings with it. We may be quite sure that education will not cease in Europe now that it has once fairly begun; and we may see equally that Europe will gain greatly by the process. We are now, perhaps, paying the penalty of those extravagant promises of rapid improvement which the friends of education held out when popular education was in its infancy. We have learnt that the hard-worked mechanic or ploughman who devotes himself, after a frugal tea, to the study of pure science or high art, is an animal at least as rare as a black swan. There are such creatures, but the run of swans are decidely white, and the run of poor men do not care for much more than a peep at the old newspaper on which they impress the circular mark of their mug of beer. Some degree of ridicule has, therefore been thrown over public education; but, after all idle dreams of a rapid change for the better in any section of mankind are over and gone, there remains such an amonnt of solid benefit to the poor, and to all those who a few years ago were uneducated, that no one need repent for having done his utmost to diffuse instruction. Nor are we inclined to attach very much weight to the complaint so frequently made, that one result of education has been to unsettle the poor, to make servants fine, and to teach village shopboys and milliners' apprentices to pretend to each other that they are gentlemen and ladies. This is a feature—and certainly it is an unpleasant feature—of an age of transition—of a time when society is entering on a new phase, and the relations that bind men together are daily becoming less, those of personal dependance, and more those of contract and voluutary agreement. Education contributes to produce this change, but it only does so in conjunction with the increase of wealth, the greater facility of locomotion, the direct or indirect dominion of the leading European countries over the world, and a great variety of other causes. The real evils of popular education are of a much more remote and subtile kind than this altered attitude of the poor.

The most obvious of the ill effects which attend the popularisation of knowledge, is the tendency which this accommodation of instruction to unformed minds has to substitute the machinery of education for education itself. In order to produce the result of imparting what is to be known to persons little qualified to receive it, an elaborate apparatus is devised by which time and labour and thought are spared. Everything is popular. There are popular lectures, and popular explanations, and popular pictures, and popular dictionaries, grammars, and histories. A little learning is conveyed in the most simple and most pleasant form possible. It is scarcely, however, true to say that the great bane of this is to puff the learners up, and make them conceited and vain. In the first place, every good thing makes some people vain, and knowledge must take its chance with other good things. Considering that a large number of persons are vain of being religious, we need not trouble ourselves much at finding that vanity can feed on the acquirement of all other forms of success. And, in the next place, the world in general is not vain of knowledge. It cares too little about it, and comes too easily by all of it that it possesses. There are very few shopboys who would not be much more vain of a fine curly head of hair, than of knowing trigonometry. The effect of placing a little when they might get more. It is this premature satisfaction and contentment of the mind which is the real danger. So long as education was open to only a few of the lower classes, and it required great natural gifts and unwearied industry as well as singular good fortune for a boy born in the humbler ranks to get instruction, there was at least this advantage to balance the difficulties—that his ideal of education was not spoiled. He considered knowledge a thing very hard to attain to, and only to be won by sheer force of labour and unbroken courage. Now a poor boy gets a learning so easily, and he has such an abundance of amusing lectures, and diagrams of the steam-engine, and panoramas of the Acropolis offered him, that he feels wafted to the heights of knowledge without having the bore of climbing.

NEW YORK MONEY MARKETS.—The New York *World* of last Tuesday thus sums up the state of the money market:—

"Money is more stringent for all loans not strictly first class. The stock speculators are called on to pay up their loans or increase their margins. The stock market is unsettled and the future of fancies depends on the ability of the paper clique to hold until the public comes in to buy. Foreign exchange is firm, and has advanced to 114½ to 115 for sixty days sterling bills. Gold is active at 3½ premium. The weekly bank statement is very satisfactory; loans are decreased $1,091,902; specie increased $780,855; circulation decreased $423,066; net deposits increased $1,025,065. The ratio of coin to liabilities including the government loan was 26.20, against 22,67; and including it 25.90, against 24.90 the preceeding weekly statement."

American Paper Currency.

The New York *World* says:—"The best financiers in the country state without hesitation that the issue of one hundred and fifty million demand treasury notes, made legal tender for public and private debts, would treble prices, paralyze industry, and add so much to the expenses of the war and to the burdens of taxation, which we have not yet begun to feel, as to render our cause simply hopeless, put a stop to the war, secure the success of the rebellion, and insure a hopeless disruption of the Union.

If, however, this first issue did not work such disasterous results, it is certain that subsequent issues would. Further issues would be ineviatable. The necessity which now seems so urgent that it has nearly seduced away our old financial virtue would then press still more heavily. Yielding now, is it pretended that Congress would resist then? Let us resist the very beginnings when the end is so calamitous."

CALIFORNIA STEAMER.—By steamer Northern Light at New York, from Aspinwall, $850,000 in treasure was received from California. She brings intelligence of the total loss of the Panama Railroad Company's steamer Columbus, with a very valuable cargo. She was wrecked on the 8th of December, on Point Remedois, near the port of Acayutla. No lives were lost. She was employed in the Central American trade.

Low Price of Pork in Canada.

In the Review of the Montreal Provision Market last week, we find the following:—

PORK.—The depression in the market which we have had to report for the last few weeks, still continues, and in the absence of sales, prices are almost nominal. We quote Mess at $12 a 12 50; Prime Mess at $11 a 12; and Prime at $9 a 10. Dressed Hogs continue in large supply, and dull at a decline on last week's prices. There have been sales at $3 50 a 3 75, some holders still asking $4, but we have heard of no sales, for the last few days, at over $3 75. Lard continues dull at 8½c.

Upon the above, the Montreal *Gazette* has the following remarks:—

"The decline in the price of Dressed Hogs, is a very serious matter to a majority of the farmers of Lower Canada, as it is mainly upon this item of their products, that many of them rely for the means to meet their current engagements, and make provision for the wants of the coming season. It is now eighteen years since Pork reached the same low figure, and after the high prices of the past few years, it is certainly a serious misfortune to be obliged to accept little more than half the prices of former years."

A Canadian in the South.

The following (letter to the Toronto *Leader*) is from a Canadian, who succeeded in making his way to the South through the Federal lines, some months since, and whose friends reside not very many miles from Toronto:

"HOPKINSVILLE, Kentucky, "8th Jan. 1862.

"Our cause is flourishing beyond my expectations. I saw the soldiers in Louisville; they are holiday soldiers compared to our boys.—The enthusiasm in Kentucky is intense, and Louisville is only kept down by armed men.—Indiana is ripe in many parts for secession, and you may rely when a fight does take place at Bowling Green, it will be a Bull Run affair.

"It would not surprise me if Louisville would soon be in our hands. I had no idea the Northern papers published so many falsehoods till I came here, and heard the true account of some skirmishing. The Cincinnati papers are down on the Washington Administration.

"The other day Prentice brought to General Buell an article about the army to read, and asked if he could publish it. 'No, sir, you cannot.' 'What can I publish?' 'Anything,' said Buell, 'but the truth.'

PARAFFINE.

The City article of the London *Times* of the 8th Jan., says:—The accounts of the developement of the oil regions of America continue to indicate that the supply is likely to prove virtually inexhaustible, and that it will work a singular revolution in some branches of commerce. Although the full effect will not be experienced until the short branch line now in course of construction to the Atlantic and Great Western Railway shall have been completed, and also a similar line from the Canadian wells to the Great Western of Canada Railway, many of the principal houses in the whaling trade in New England have diminished or abandoned their operations, and have adapted their mills to the purpose of refining the new product from the Pennsylvania district. The daily quantity of rectified oil thus made in the city of New Bedford is stated to be 4,000 gallons, which are shipped thence to all parts of the world, including the East Indies. The paraffine obtained from this material is found to be highly valuable for the manufacture of candles, and a circular from Messrs. J. C. and J. Field, of Lambeth, which details the successful results of a long and costly series of experiments, embodies also a report from Dr. Letheby, stating that,—

"Weight for weight, the illuminating power of paraffine is rather more than 22 per cent. greater than that of spermaceti, about 40 per cent, greater than wax, 46 per cent. greater than stearic, and 58 per cent. greater than composite; or, to estimate it in another way, the light produced by 98lb. of paraffine candles is equal to that of 120lb. of spermaceti, or 138lb. of wax, or 144lb. of stearic, or 155lb. of the best composite candles. This high illuminating power of paraffine is due to the circumstance that it contains a large proportion of carbon; it is, indeed, among the richest of the hydro-carbons, and therefore it burns with a very intense light, and requires an unusually small wick. The products of its combustion are the same as those of wax and spermaceti, and are free from sulphur compounds. The candles are entirely free from colour, odour, and greasiness; in fact, they have the appearance of the best variety of spermaceti, and would be mistaken for it but for a translucency and fineness of surface spermaceti does not possess."

MURDER OF MISSIONARIES.—The circumstances of the murder of two missionaries in China are told as follows in a private letter: "Two American missionaries, Mr. Parker and Mr. Holmes, hearing that the rebels were likely to visit Yentac, buckled on their revolvers, mounted their horses, and rode out thirty-five miles to meet them. They passed the outposts, and got to the chief. They asked him his intention, questioned him as to his religious belief, explained a little Christianity, and were then cut to pieces by his people."

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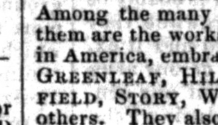

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