The Daily Crescent.

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The Daily Crescent.

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TERMS OF THE CRESCENT.

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Criminal Law.

The decision in the case of *The State* vs. *Read*, which we publish below, is important to District Attorneys having to frame indictments under penal and criminal statutes. Instead of merely reciting the words of the statute, it is necessary to make averments of what constitutes the crime or offence—and to allege and prove that the act done, or words spoken, were *felonious*, or done with a criminal *intent*. This is of the essence of the crime. Besides, as in this case, it is necessary to allege and prove that the words spoken were uttered in the presence of colored persons, or slaves, which were calculated to produce discontent, or insubordination; otherwise, no injury could result, and no crime is committed. In the present case, a poor fellow is convicted and sentenced to five years imprisonment in the penitentiary, for certain words spoken, which, for aught that appears, might have been uttered in the most obscure corner, in the presence of a citizen of the parish, who was the only person hearing the obnoxious words, and at the same time, the colored and slave population, or any individual of them, remained as ignorant of what passed, as if no words had ever been uttered or spoken on the subject. There was no crime in this—and it would have been the height of cruelty, tyranny and injustice to incarcerate a freeman in the penitentiary in such a case. I was a proper case for the arrest of judgment, because, from the face of the record, it appeared no crime was committed.

The Supreme Court of Louisiana.

STATE OF LOUISIANA *VS.* MICHAEL READ.

Indictment for Seditious Words Spoken.

1. All indictments under statutes, especially the most penal, must state all the circumstances which constitute the definition of the offence on the act, so as to bring the accused within it.

2. If an indictment under the statute of the 16th March, 1830, for words spoken, calculated to produce discontent among the colored population, or to excite insubordination among slaves, it is necessary in order to make it a crime, to charge a criminal *intent*; that the accused, *feloniously*, uttered the words spoken, in the presence or hearing of the slaves or persons of color.

EUSTIS, C. J.—Delivered the opinion of the Court. This appeal is taken by the accused from a judgment of the Court of the Seventh District, sitting in the Parish of West Feliciana, by which he was sentenced to be confined to hard labor in the Penitentiary for the term of five years, and to pay the costs of prosecution. He was indicted and found guilty under a statute approved on the 16th March, 1830, entitled "an act to punish the crimes therein mentioned, and for other purposes."

The section under which the indictment was framed is in these words:

"*Be it further enacted*, That whoever shall make use of language in a public discourse from the bar, the bench, the stage, the pulpit, or any place whatsoever; or whoever shall make use of language in any discourse, address or harangue, or shall make use of signs or actions, *having a tendency* to produce *discontent* among the free colored population of this State, or to excite insubordination among the slaves therein; or whoever shall knowingly be instrumental in bringing into the State any paper, pamphlet, or book, having such tendency, or forward, or cause to be forwarded, or delivered to court of competent jurisdiction, suffer imprisonment at hard labor, not less than three years nor more than twenty-one years, or death, as the discretion of the court."

The indictment charges—"That Michael Read, late of the Parish of West Feliciana, and State of Louisiana, yeoman, on the 25th day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty, with force and arms, at the Parish aforesaid, and State aforesaid, did, in public discourse, make use of and utter the following language, in substance, and to the effect; that is to say, 'the abolitionists, meaning the slaves of the Parish and State aforesaid, are a free race in the country, meaning the free people of color of the Parish and State aforesaid; and that the negroes, so meaning slaves, have as much right to a wife as any man master; which said last discourse and language, so uttered as aforesaid by the said Michael Read, did then and there have a tendency to produce discontent among the free colored population of the State of Louisiana, and to excite insubordination among the slaves therein, contrary to the form of the statute in such cases made and provided; in contempt of the authority of the State of Louisiana, and against the peace and dignity of the same."

The jury found the accused guilty in manner and form as charged in the indictment, and recommended him to the mercy of the Court.

The counsel appointed by the Court to defend the accused, moved to arrest the judgment on the grounds that the crime was not sufficiently and positively stated in the indictment; that the accused was not charged with criminal intent in uttering the words alleged to have been spoken; and that the indictment does not state any particular words to have been uttered which would subject him to a criminal prosecution; but charges him with having, "in public discourse made use of and uttered the following language, in substance, and in the effect, etc."

The motion to arrest the judgment was overruled, and the case then argued before us by the Attorney General, and the counsel for the accused, on the grounds urged in support of the motion in the Court below.

We understand that the rules concerning indictments at Common Law, relate, generally, to indictments for crimes under statutes, and that whatever precision is required in the one, is necessary in the other; and that it often insufficient, merely pursue the description of the offence given in the statute by which it is created. It is laid down in general terms, in elementary works on the Criminal Law, that all indictments under statutes, especially the most penal, must state all the circumstances which constitute the definition of the offence on the act, so as to bring the defendant within it. *Vide* the King *vs.* Neil and others—6th East Reports, 417.

The indictment contains no charge of any criminal intent, and the word *feloniously*, which is necessary in indictments for felony, is omitted; nor is there any equivalent word to be found in this indictment; nor is it charged that the words were uttered in the presence or hearing of slaves or persons of color. This may not be essential in all cases under the statute, but under the very naked charge of this indictment, which repeats merely the words of the statute, an allegation of this kind would be necessary in order to constitute an offence.

The statute makes it criminal to "make use of language having a tendency" to produce certain evils.

Our impression is, that besides setting forth the words made use of in the indictment, it ought to contain such averments and inuendoes as establish its tendency, and the relation in which they were spoken; rendering the language intelligible, and its application to the evil intended to be reached by the statute, evident. The words of the statute, "having a tendency," are so comprehensive and vague without proper averments, indicating the tendency and sufficient explanatory statements and reference to the words spoken, the accused would not have the means of defence, which an indictment drawn with the precision and certainty which the law requires, would afford to him. Our inquiries have not led us to discover any precedent of an indictment like this having been sustained.

The requisites of indictments for seditious words, and for libel, afford us examples which we consider as safeguides although the cases are not identical.

It is urged on behalf of the State, that the statute does not require any criminal intent to constitute the offence; and that it is not necessary to allege it, inasmuch as malice may be inferred from the language itself, without averment or extrinsic proof of it. But in this case there are no averments, references or inuendoes, concerning the language used, which establish the inference. We understand the rule to be that the charge must be sufficiently definite and explicit to support itself, and no latitude of intention can be allowed to include any thing more than is expressed. 2d Burrow's, 1127; 2 Maule & Selwyn, 281; Chitty's edition of Blackstone, 4th vol., p. 308; and notes.

The other objection taken by counsel to the validity of the indictment is, that it does not purport to state the words uttered, but the substance and effect of them. The indictment charges that the accused "did, in public discourse, make use of and utter the following language, in substance, to the effect;" "that is to say."

The Attorney General contends that the words "in substance and to the effect," may be considered as surplusages, and not written, and that the indictment will then read "utter the following language, that is to say," and is sufficient.

It appears to us that the suppression of these words would violate the sense of the indictment, and that these words were intended to qualify those which precede them. The indictment certainly does not purport to give the language uttered, but the substance and effect of it.

When a man's liberty and life are put in jeopardy for language made use of, we think the language used ought to be charged in the indictment; where words are the gist of the offence, they must be set forth in the indictment with the same particularity as for a libel. Where words are laid as an overt act of treason, it is sufficient to set forth the substance of them; for they are not the gist of the offence, but the proofs or evidence of it. Archbold's Criminal Pleadings, 22.

For these reasons, it is therefore ordered adjudged and decreed that the judgment of the Court below, in this case, *is arrested.*

Sheridan Knowles, it is said, is about to appear as a polemical writer. He has announced the publication of a volume, entitled "The Idol Demolished by its own Priest," being an answer to Cardinal Wiseman's former lectures on Transubstantiation.

A new Synagogue is about to be erected in New York.

Christian Art.

Amid all the buzz and noise, and din of business, in the great mart of America, the fine arts are not neglected. In fact, the history of art is intimately connected with the history of commerce, and of cities. Athens itself was the great commercial city, and the Athenians, the merchants of their age. So, too, with modern Europe, the commercial cities of Italy, Holland, and Flanders, nourished and protected art.

In this country, Philadelphia took the lead in the encouragement of the fine arts. Dennies' Portfolio was for many years the organ by which Art communicated with the American public. Of late years, however, New York has outstripped her sister city in this department, and Philadelphia can only boast of her medical schools, and mint. During the present season, a series of lectures have been delivered in New York, on art. Mr. Huntington, who delivered the last, selected for his theme, Christian Art. From the NewYork papers, we select passages of uncommon beauty. The finest essays, however, with which we are acquainted, on this interesting subject, are in "Theodore, or the Skeptic's Conversion," a book but little read in this country. It forms two volumes of Ripley's Specimens of Foreign Literature, and is to be found at the Lyceum Library:

"I am asked if Portraiture can by any means be admitted to this wide circle of negatively Christian Art? Why! is it possible that yonder simple and demure portrait of a plainly dressed old woman, is to be dignified with the name of Sacred Art? There are reasons why it may be. Do you not know that to be the resemblance of a venerated mother? The homely, well-worn bible that she holds, and those old fashioned spectacles are not without their meaning. Her grave of mild intelligence are often met by those of her rugged, and, may hap, hard-hearted son: he looks often and long at this memento of his departed parent; his eye will sometimes moisten, and his heart melt as he remembers that such evening, in the silence of her chamber, she taught his infant lips to say, 'Our Father.'

"In its influence Portraiture is certainly humanizing. It cultivates and perpetuates the home influence; the reverence of virtue is prolonged by it; and the worthies of the past become our visible companions to stimulate the living to good and great acts.

"The portrait painter, so often tried and discouraged, is sometimes well repaid by the consolation the art affords to the bereaved. He is suddenly called, perhaps to a house where a lovely child has been snatched away by death. He may touch sealing up for ever that 'well spring of joy.' While he is sketching on the effect of the open brow, the soft hair about the transparent temples, the dimpled chin and cheek of the slightly parted mouth, the mother watches with eyes of hopeless sorrow; 'Do you think,' she tremulously asks, 'you can make the portrait look as when he used to open his eyes, press his sweet smile? Can you give the roguish sparkle of his eye, which was clear and blue? Shall we see the dimple on his rounded arm, and his curning little hand put the rosy to our fingers?' The sketch is made. The painter leaves the still and darkened room. There is no hope in the mother's expression. The delicate pale form, wrapped in white blossoms, and hands meekly folded, is carried away for ever.

"After many days the portrait is completed, and invested with color; beauty and life are seen, and the painter, when he inquires, 'Do you think it like?' is sufficiently answered by the earnest pressure of the hand, and the choking voice that cannot speak."

"All arts, in the sense to which I allude, generally Christian, the simplest tracing of a form by the hand of a child, when spontaneous, is an exercise of the creative faculty, and a so small proof of his claim to an immortal parentage and inheritance. Those feeble lines, executed by an infant on the scrap of paper with which it plays for its mother's feet, and which bears some dim resemblance to a living being, are but the drawings of that power which the Almighty has conferred on his children of shaping, from the unformed mass of matter, forms of beauty, and of reproducing all, but the breath of life, his own sole prerogative. Whenever the artist puts forth his wand to call into being a form which is not, he is but imitating his divine Master, and is so far a Christian, and it matters not whether from the shapeless mass of clay he moulds the human form—or from the rude earth and stone, the architectural pile, harmonious in lines—or by arrangement of sounds charms the ear, and sets away the soul by divinely warbled notes—all are but reflections of the Divine, and must redound to the glory of the Creator. When the artist conceives the brain of the silent and solitary reader with phantasms and dreams, or to name more homely, our subject, when on the bare, flat canvas, from that blank and void, by stains of colored earth, the painter wakens to life the images of the past; when in his lonely studio, the sculptural form throws off its white shroud, and the dumb marble speaks, and breaks into developed; when, by the recorded touches of his pencil, the blood seems to steal gently through the veins, the eye kindles and is suffused with tender emotion, or the lip curls with scorn, the *group*, in all its living force, is revealed to us, then is another creative act accomplished—one more proof is added that we are the children of God. It is but a trifle, after the prolonged and ever extending song we hear which the dawn of creation was first celebrated by the angelic host; for we and they are alike the creatures of God.

"Every work of art is also an illustration of Christianity, in a general way, for, in every painting, and in every statue, is a snapshot by the great Creator, of the spiritual nature of the man, the apostacy and fall of which came we struggle and see ever beauty, and the hope of that immortal life for which we pant. In the sculptured form, we see the beginning of every true artist; our pencils are bound by indissoluble links to the past, and the coming eternity. Every work you produce, that has any thing of the spiritual in it, is stamped by your own souls, and on the souls of all who behold it. Erase its effect you cannot. If the soul is wounded by what you have done, wrong not, lest it bleed and fester for years; if the soul is purified, then blessings wait upon you. Every foul stain is as indelible as the blood upon murderous fingers; every fair and pure one is immortal as the soul itself. Even after all pleasant pictures are destroyed, till the very stars are put out. Yes, longer, till that light shall grow dim which makes earth and heaven visible, the work of God shall live. These are those who would trown on all arts, as injurious to the Christian religion. It may, however, my province to have spoken of pictures; some of them are unsure, I doubt not, but most of them have the reputation to stand the coarse earth at their feet. Let them look upward and around them. How fair hath the Creator made all things—last night's sunset, which bathed the sky and waves with a flood of glory, which made so gorgeous that tumultuous pile of clouds, and turned your river into molten gold, and gave a deeper redness to the brown forest which crowns its banks. That living picture you scarce glanced at. But there was one who gazed long and wistfully at it, on whose soul all its beauty is impressed, and who, in his lonely landscape painter, whom you despise, has treasured up all, and will perpetuate it to others, if not so bright, at least more enduring. Our artist-brother has spoken of the sky by standards to the exquisite colors and delicate form of the olive—'Hebrew, saith he, Solomon, in all his glory, was not arrayed like one of these.' His art, divine though it is, must ever be always conveyed in the form of graphic images, from which practice some of our dry, dithetic theologians may well take a lesson.

"I am aware that it has been said in a former lecture of this course, that the end of art is never to teach, and especially never to teach morality; that is a usurpation for art to attempt to teach, and above all things! morality! Are the holy lessons of divine love never to be impressed on the mind by the pleasing images of the poet and painter? We are told in Christ's Sermon on the Mount of God Clothing Foolish Virgins, hath plainly said—'Have, then, oil in your lamps?' Let them appear, and with his chastened eye of faith, look a rebuke to his despairing soul. Art where is Milton? Let him come, angel-winged and seraph-voiced, and from Paradise lost eternal Paradise, and justify the ways of God to man. Did Hogarth fail in his purpose of art in his 'Rake's Progress,' or in his marriage *à la mode?* but honest fellow, perhaps he did not mean to teach. What meant Wilkie, by his disclaiming for art, but to save? Shall we not grind the face of the poor? Is Dante's warning voice in the 'Inferno' to be struggled? And old Bunyan to be dragged out from his plain simple romance to an article, or else could not so great a fool as not to have known what he was about? But I have said enough on this point. For one, I believe that arts are sublimated means, and that, in its means, it has dominion over matter, mind and morals, and can never be penned, even to the time-shattering foe to mula woven for it by the hunted traces of German infidels and transcendentalists. Let us earn again to examines of art used for holy purposes. Poetry, music, architecture, and painting, were employed by divine command since the world began, and for moral purposes. It is needless to multiply instances. The book of Job itself is a dramatic poem, whose sublimity all must acknowledge, and there is no attempt in it even to conceal its moral meaning. The Almighty has smiled upon all that is beautiful, as well as upon all that is good and true; every art then, that is pure and innocent, is approved by the Allwise, and may, in a comprehensive sense, be styled Christian."

THE SLEEP OF PLANTS.—The way in which sleep is shown in the vegetable kingdom is infinitely more variable than among animals. Man throws himself prostrate; some kinds of monkeys lie down on their sides; the camel places its head between the fore-legs; and birds roost their heads beneath the wing. Beyond these there are few remarkable differences. But in plants, there is no end to the curious and beautiful diversity which rewards the seeker after nature's mysteries. Some plants droop their leaves at night, the flat part becoming flaccid and pendulous. Others of the kind called "compound," as clover and vetches, close their leaflets together in pairs, and occasionally the whole leaf droops at the same time. The three leaflets of clover bring their faces to the outside, and so form a triangular pyramid, whose apex is the point of union between the leaflets and their stalks. Lupines, which have leaves resembling a seven fingered hand without a palm, fold them together like a lady's half-closed parasol. Clockweed raises its leaves so as to embrace the stem, and some species of lotus, besides many of its elegant family, the Leguminose bring them together in such a way as to protect the young flower-buds and immature seed-vessels from the chill air of night. These are only a few out of the many cases which could be instanced of change of position in leaves, whilst in flowers there seems to be no limit to variation. The greater part shut the petals at night, the stalks declining on one side; but there are some which roll their petals back, and curl them up like miniature volutes. The sleep of some plants is probably unaccompanied by any external change. The same may be said of Campanulus, and other bell-shaped flowers. The four petaled flowers of Crucifers, it should have been observed, are remarkably careless of repose. Their sleep never appears sound, or even constant, for many successive nights they seem restless, and in the morning always look dozy and uncomfortable. When flowers are over-blown, or the plant, if an annual, is near its decay, the phenomena of sleep are very considerably diminished. In fact, they are only seen in perfection when the growing powers of the plant are in their full energy. Deciduous trees—that is, such as cast their leaves in autumn—are in a sort of trance in the winter months. Flowers, too, lose their sensibility altogether when the period of fertilization is passed, as may be readily seen by inspecting a field of daisies early in the morning, before the dew is off the grass. The over-blown ones will be found wide open; those in the younger stages all "crimson-tipped," and sound asleep.

A careless compositor lately dissolved the Union by transposing two letters, whereby the United States became the *United States.*

LATE INTERESTING NEWS.

By the steamship Union, Capt. Budd, we have the New York Commercial Advertiser of the afternoon of the 8th. This paper contains particulars of the arrival at New York, that morning, of the steamship Empire City from Chagres, *via* Kingston, Jamaica. The Empire City left Chagres on the night of the 25th ult. and Kingston on the 1st inst. She carried to New York about 160 passengers—$750,000 in gold, and a full budget of foreign intelligence. There is also a sprinkling of farther news from California.

The adventure to the Gold Bluffs gave discouraging prospects. Here is the last reflection by a passenger on the Chesapeake:

If the sand yield any thing like the quantity of gold which has been represented, we cannot doubt the ultimate success of the Company, if their affairs are managed prudently. But for individuals, singlehanded, we have no word of encourgement.

The expense of reaching the Gold Bluffs is nearly or quite one hundred dollars, and the cost of getting provisions there about fifty cents per pound. Even suppose the success in getting large quantities of the so-called black sand, without some economical method of separating the gold, it will be valueless. We saw men in the vicinity of the Bluffs, who had expended all their means in getting there, and are now unable to return.

The schooner Capacity, with 140 passengers, arrived at Trinidad on the 28th January, proceeded next day to the Gold Bluffs, to land her passengers. The steamer Sea Gull touched at Trinidad on the 30th, left a few passengers, and continued on her trip to Oregon. The steamer Goliah was going into Trinidad as the Chesapeake left, on the afternoon of the 30th.

From Oregon.

The steamship Oregon arrived at San Francisco on the 1st of February, bringing advices from Oregon 25th of January.

The extracts given in the Extra Alta California are not of much importance.

A battean loaded with wheat was lost in the whirlpools of the narrows of Rock Island on the 13th January, and five persons, all on board, were drowned.

The Oregonian of January 26, says the pilot boat Mary Taylor was thrown on her beam ends, in a gale near the mouth of the Columbia River on Tuesday last, and somewhat injured. During the same gale the steamer Gold Hunter was battling the elements outside against fearful odds.

From the Isthmus of Panama.

Nearly the whole of this intelligence is fresh and interesting.

The English brig Sarah Hughes, from Chagres for Cuba, put into Navy Bay on the 17th February, with all hands sick. Through the attention of Dr. Totten they were all convalescent when the Empire City left, and the brig would probably leave for her destination in two or three days from that time.

The first rails on the Panama Railroad were laid on the 24th February. A locomotive and tender were landed from the Port Admiral, Capt. Walford, on Washington's birth-day.

There were few passengers remaining on the Isthmus.

Our Panama papers are to the 22d of February.

The officers of the Empire City report that the Isthmus is as healthy as could be expected. The Panama Star of the 18th, however, says:

"During the past two weeks we have had two heavy, and several light showers of rain. Such things being unseasonable in this climate, have had the effect of producing much sickness, which, although in no case that we heard of resulting fatally, has nevertheless been generally of a severe nature. We are glad to announce that almost all whom we have heard of being attacked are fast convalescing, and making their appearance again in the streets. Our city is entirely free from any disease of a malignant type."

The same paper of the 22d, says that the diseases most prevalent were chills and fevers, and occasional cases of varioloid and chicken pox.

The Star notices the escape of Messrs. Kendall and Patterson, Americans, while on their way from the prison of Novitin, to the Quindin mountain, where they had been sentenced to hard labor. The alleged cause of their offence was not able to state, for the want of a preceding paper.

Hance, the person whose case we have previously noticed, still remained in confinement at the Panama prison, as also did those arrested for connection with the robbery of the specie trains. No proceedings had been instituted as yet against the latter.

A public dinner was given at Panama, on the 20th of February, to Captain C. K. Garrison, of the firm of Garrison & Fry, and Wm. Nelson, Esq. of the house of Zachrison, Nelson & Co., both of whom were about to pay a visit to the U. States.

Senor Manuel Diaz is acting temporarily as Governor at Panama, and so acceptably that the Star expresses a wish that his appointment may be made permanent.

From the Sandwich Islands.

The Alta California publishes a royal decree establishing a postoffice at Honolulu, at the office of the Polynesian—Henry M. Whitney, P. M.

The rates of postage are ten cents on every letter weighing not more than half an ounce, received from San Francisco, and ten cents for every additional half ounce; two and a half cents for pamphlets, and two cents for each newspaper, circular, etc. Editors to be allowed the privilege of a free exchange of newspapers.

From the West Indies.

FROM JAMAICA.—We have one day's later advices from Kingston, Jamaica, but there is no additional news.

We have also Barbadoes and other West India papers to corresponding dates, but they contain no news.

From Chili.

The British mail steamer New Granada arrived at Panama, on the 20th of February, from Valparaiso and the intermediate ports. The Valparaiso papers were to the 25th of January.

The Chilian Congress adjourned on the 10th of January. Among its enactments was a law authorizing a loan of $500,000 for the immediate completion of the public stores. Also, a bill to encourage the establishment of a steam communication with the ports south of Valparaiso. It empowers the President to grant for three years a subsidy of $36,000 annually to the line of steamers which shall establish a regular monthly communication between Valparaiso and the South, employing steamers of not less than 300 tons, and of speed not less than eight to ten miles an hour.

The coasting trade has been thrown open to lines of foreign steamers, which affords a communication between the ports of Chili and other countries. This favor is granted also to steamers engaged in commerce within the waters of the Republic.

The U. S. ship Raritan was at Valparaiso on the 24th of January. The Vincennes sailed for Coquimbo on the 16th.

The crew of the British ship Alfred, thirty-two in number, arrived at Talcahana in the ship's launch, on the 11th of January. The ship was coal laden, and having taken fire at the entrance of the harbor, was entirely destroyed.

Several ship loads of iron for the Copiapo railroad, had arrived, and about four miles of the track had been laid.

The survey of the Santiago railroad was going on. No insuperable difficulties had been encountered thus far.

The exports of silver from Copiapo for 1850 were 387,049 marks of silver, valued at $3,870,490. The produce from other sections of the country during the same period was $536,698.

Bolivia.

One or two partial insurrections had occurred. A decree had been promulgated, banishing all Buenos Ayreans who were not married to Bolivian females, or were federalists.

From Honduras.

We have files of the Honduras Watchman to February 15. Advices from Guatemala to the 18th of January had been received at Honduras. From private sources the Watchman has the following particulars of the proceedings of the military forces of Salvador and Honduras.

On the 1st inst. the tribes of those States arrived at a village called San Jose, about three leagues from Chiquimula. General Carrera was at that time in the latter place, and soon marched to meet them, though they numbered about four thousand men. On the 24 inst., about nine o'clock in the morning, the battle commenced, and continued, with many changes of success on both sides, until half-past three o'clock in the afternoon, when, by an able manœuvre of General Carrera, the forces of Salvador and Honduras were completely defeated, leaving on the field many dead, wounded, and prisoners, together with arms, baggage, etc.

The pursuit of the enemy, who were flying in all directions, still continued by the last accounts, and in all probability Carrera will now march upon San Salvador. When the battle commenced, it is stated that Carrera had only 2000 men, but received several reinforcements during the day.

This battle will, no doubt, break the neck of the hostile intentions of those States against Guatemala, and put a speedy end to what might otherwise have been a long and protracted warfare.

From some official documents published in the *Gaceta*, it would appear that the pretext of the Salvadorenians for this unprovoked attack, is the blockade of their ports by the British, which they assert has been done at the instigation of the Guatemalian Government.

The Watchman of February 8, has the following:

"By the *Gaceta* from Guatemala we see that the celebrated annual fair of Esquipulas did not take place as usual, in consequence of the menaces of war from the State of Salvador—thus causing considerable injury to the commercial interests of several parties in all the different States of Central America who had made arrangements and laid their plans of speculation at this fair, where nearly every merchant meets to barter and sell.

By the same paper we see that General Nufio has also been foiled in his attempts to induce the mountaineer insurrectionists at Palencia, Jalapa, and Sanarate to join the Salvadorenians in their projects of conquest; for although still disaffected, they have refused to join; thus showing that although dissatisfied they are not opposed to the Government.

Troops are daily leaving for the frontiers. On the 7th ultimo a large division under the command of General Forenzana, marched toward the borders of Salvador, to place themselves at the orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-chief.

A decree had been issued by the President of Guatemala, requiring all persons who, by whatever right, have obtained grants of uncultivated lands, and those who hold them in virtue of permission as mahogany works in the northern coast of the Republic, must present their documents to the overseer of lands within six months from date, on pain of forfeiture, that they may be properly registered.

LOSS OF THE SCHOONER GEORGE WASHINGTON.—The Belize (Honduras) Watchman, of the 8th ultimo, furnishes the following particulars of the loss of the above named vessel, a brief account of which we published a few days since:

"We have now to record the loss of the American schooner George Washington, on her way from hence to New York. She got on the Northern Triangles on the night of the 24th of January, and has from the accounts received become a complete wreck.

"Several boats had returned from the wreck bringing in ceroons of cochineal and indigo, and also a portion of the materials, which have been put up at auction, and brought in remunerating prices, considering their condition, for nearly all were saturated with salt water.

"The George Washington was wrecked on the most exposed part of that dangerous reef, the Northern Triangles, and must have filled within a few hours after she struck. At three P. M. of the 24th took the sun, and found his longitude per chronometer to be 87 deg. 30 min. west, when he tacked and stood in for the main land. At five P. M. a man stationed at the mast-head could not discern either reef or land, and about half-past seven she struck on the reef, at the south-east end of the Triangles, the Captain on deck looking out at the time."

Further News by the Pacific.

NEW YORK, March 7.

The most important item of political news is the resignation of the British Ministry. The ministerial course on the Catholic question probably led to this, though the immediate cause was the defeat of the Ministry, by a vote of ten to one, on the motion in regard to the election of franchise. This defeat took place on Thursday evening. On Friday, when the budget of the Chancellor of the Exchequer was called up, Lord John Russell asked that it might be postponed until Monday, declining to give his reasons for the request. Soon afterwards the resignation was announced, as follows:

The budget has been withdrawn, and it is reported confidently about the House of Parliament that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has resigned, that Lord John Russell, it is understood, has also tendered his resignation, and that Sir John Graham, on the Premier's suggestion, has been sent for. Great excitement prevails, and rumor announces all kinds of dubious reports.

The cabinet hesitated too short a time before the sailing of the Pacific to afford time to form speculations as to the new Ministry.

The Times in announcing the resignation says: "Lord John Russell has tendered his resignation to her Majesty, and only holds the office till another government can be formed. The extensive loss of parliamentary confidence, or rather parliamentary sympathy, which his Lordship and colleagues have evidently suffered of late, has probably prepared the most of our readers for this event."

RUSSIA.—The Hamburg correspondent of the Times informs, on the authority of travellers who lately passed through Poland, that an enormous Russian army had been concentrated in an menacing and menacing position in Poland, and that rumors of an important expedition are freely circulated among various corps of that army.

TURKEY.—It is said that Dembinski has been sent to Constantinople, but that Kossuth and others are still at Kutahia. All of the refugees had left Shumla.

EGYPT.—A telegraphic dispatch from Vienna says:

"The last news from Egypt is of the highest importance. The Sublime Porte has addressed categorical demands to Vice Ray, which the latter refuses to comply with. Instead of reducing his army to 200,000 as told, he ordered a levy of 40,000 land troops, and 15,000 for a fleet. He is determined to oppose any aggression of the Porte by arms."

It is thought not unlikely that the Eastern question will assume a serious aspect.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS, FEB. 21.—The trade in iron continues quiet as last reported. No change in prices, and there is no probability of any immediate alteration.

Our Cotton market was exceedingly depressed, accounts by the Franklin having been to-day received by telegraph, reporting an advance in prices in Cotton at New York, the demand has become active at full prices of the last circular for fair, and an advance of an 1d per lb. in the lower and middling qualities. Quotations are, fair Orleans 7¾, fair Mobile 7¾, fair Upland 7d, middling qualities 6⅞ to 7¼d. The stock of Cotton in the market is estimated at 457,000 bales, of which 267,000 are American, against 520,000 bales last year, of which 321,000 were American.

DUTCH SENTIMENT.—The Paris correspondent of the Courier des Etats Unis speaks of an actress who met with great success a month since at Amsterdam. Her latest exhibition was in a piece entitled "Life in Bohemia," she playing the part of Mimi, the most prominent character.

This piece was very much applauded at Amsterdam, as it had been at Paris, but one thing had seriously troubled the too sensitive Dutchman. This was the death of Mimi. All Amsterdam was drying its eyes at the end of the representation. The next day when the bill announced the second representation of Life in Bohemia, a deputation of subscribers to the theatre called on Mademoiselle Grave.

"Mademoiselle," said the head of the delegation, an old burgomaster, perhaps," we have been deputed by several of the stockholders of the theatre to present to you a request to which we earnestly beg you to accede." "If it is in my power, gentlemen, the thing is settled," replied Mademoiselle gravely.

"Mademoiselle, you die, at the end of the new play you performed yesterday, in the midst of the applauses of the ravished crowd. This death, Mademoiselle, has broken our hearts—pray, Mademoiselle, do not suffer Mimi to die at the denouement."

"But reflect, gentlemen, the author of 'Life in Bohemia' wished to have Mimi die."

"Oh, Mademoiselle, have pity on Mimi."

"But what can I do?"

"Do what you will, but we beg you to spare her life."

"But yet"—

"Do not refuse; all Amsterdam begs of you the life of Mimi."

"Well, gentlemen, since Amsterdam insists upon it, Mimi shall live, I promise you."

The time came, the ball was full—Mademoiselle Grave kept her promise. By a prodigy, unknown in science, at the moment when her death should filled all eyes with tears, Mimi suddenly got up and cried out in the midst of the general sorrow, "Happiness has restored me to life! I revive for my beloved."

Amsterdam that night slept quietly.

MOUNT VERNON.—The Alexandria Gazette makes the following suggestion:

"We observe that the bill for establishing an asylum for infirm and invalid soldiers, has passed Congress. If Mount Vernon is selected as the site, what more noble guard could the tomb of Washington have than the old soldiers of the Republic? We suggest the subject for reflection."

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