BALTIMORE.

MONDAY, MARCH 15, 1858.

Yeh—the terrible Yeh—has been captured at last. The high and mighty Mandarin, with his pig tail and peacock tail, his red button and his fan, is actually a prisoner in the hands of the "outside barbarians," whose patience he has abused, whose power he has defied, and whose victorious troops now occupy his vice-regal Palace in the city of Canton. We publish in another column the accounts given in the English papers of the final capture and safe lodgment on ship board of this Chinese functionary—of his abject terror when taken prisoner, and of his insolent demeanor when re-assured of his personal safety, he was brought for examination before his "barbarian" captors. Among his baggage, with other documents, were found the original ratifications of the treaties with England, France, and the United States; papers of entirely too little consequence, his Excellency said, to be sent to Pekin. This fact sufficiently attests, if further evidence were necessary, the utter futility of making any treaty stipulations with China, whose people are restrained by no considerations of personal honor or public faith from habitual violation of their most solemn engagements, and with whose rulers it is impossible to conduct any diplomatic intercourse except through the medium of some such overgrown arrogant satrap as Yeh, who, for his own purposes, will not scruple to pervert, distort, or entirely suppress the facts which he assumes to communicate to his Imperial Master. We require some better security for the protection of our commerce, and the safety of our citizens in China than is to be found in these paper obligations. In the possession of Canton, and of its Governor, Yeh, the English and French Admirals hold pledges for the future good behavior of the Cantonese, which we trust that they will not prove so infirm of purpose as to relinquish. The only regret which we should experience at seeing a permanent Anglo-French protectorate established over that city, would be in reflecting upon the secondary and subordinate part which our own Government has condescended to play in the matter. In a quarrel, in the causes and issue of which we are as deeply interested as either of the belligerents, we have been content to remain passive spectators when we should have been prominent actors. In importance and magnitude, our commercial interests in China equal those of the English, and far exceed those of the French. We had the same grounds of complaint as they; the same insults had been offered to our flag; and the same outrages had been committed upon the lives and property of our citizens. We have stood by, while France and England have avenged our quarrel, and vindicated the rights of civilized and commercial nations throughout the world.

Lord Elgin and Baron Gros, with a flotilla of gun-boats at their backs, have brought the war to a successful termination by the capture of Canton and of the mischief-maker Yeh, while Mr. Commissioner Reed has been sitting, afar from the scene of action, in inglorious inactivity, on the lofty decks of the *Minnesota*, awaiting the result. Meanwhile, hostilities have been so managed on the part of the belligerents, as not to interrupt their commerce, so that we have gained nothing by our neutrality, while in *prestige*, which is everything in China, we have lost incalculably.

The present question is—What shall be done with Yeh? Now that they have 'caught the Tartar,' and got him safely caged on board Her Majesty's ship *Inflexible*, the *Times* suggests that his obese Excellency should be brought home to England, where ocular demonstration of the power and greatness of the 'barbarians' may convince Mr. Yeh of the folly of any longer kicking against the pricks. Experience, however, rarely brings wisdom, and the lessons of the present war will doubtless be as completely thrown away on John Chinaman, as were those of the last. In the language of the court circles at Pekin, events are always read backwards, and defeat means victory, and we have shrewd misgivings whether the Emperor will ever hear of the loss of Canton at all, unless Lord Elgin should find it necessary to carry the news to the capital in person; otherwise the "Son of Heaven, and Brother of the Moon," will undoubtedly be led to believe by the mandarins, that the men Gros and Elgin, who came to disturb his Imperial repose have been repulsed with great slaughter, and that in order more effectually to guard the waters of the Yellow Sea, his faithful Yeh has temporarily taken up his abode on board of one of the great war-junks captured from the discomfitted "barbarians."

That unlucky Mussulman, Mohammed Pacha, has at length escaped from the fell clutches of his New York entertainers. Had his sufferings been prolonged another week, "to treat a man worse than a Turk" must have ceased to be a Christian proverb, seeing that "worse treatment" than that to which this unfortunate Turk has been subjected, it is impossible to imagine. He has been made to eat pork, and to associate with aldermen, who have taken his picture and his time, and driven him about the streets for exhibition, like a strange beast in a raree-show. It was a case for public sympathy, and would almost have justified legislative interference. In fact, in order to prevent a repetition of like atrocities in the future, we would seriously urge upon Congress the passage of a "Cruelty to Strangers" bill, or as we have already societies for the protection of emigrants, let us get up another for the protection of visitors.

It unfortunately too often happens in the working of our democratic cauldron, that the scum rises to the top, and that our men in office are not always the worthiest citizens and best gentlemen in the community. This our own people perfectly understand, but foreigners unluckily do not. Therefore, if our New York cousins must have a 'lion' on whom to exercise their civic hospitalities, let them select some distinguished American, who may safely be presumed 'to know the customs of the country,' and not make a martyr of the next unoffending foreigner who may land at their port. From such, we had rather hide the vulgarities of the little men, who with us too often usurp the place and functions of the great, than ostentatiously parade them under our visitors' eyes and nostrils. *Il faut laver son linge sale en famille* is a proverb worthy of consideration in such cases.

A strong argument in favor of the immediate settlement of the 'Kansas question' in the short and simple way recommended by the President, is to be found in the fact that according to the latest and most moderate computation there are yet some twenty odd speeches to be made in the Senate on this subject, and more than fifty in the House.—Apart from the enormous consumption of valuable time in their delivery, these speeches when printed, estimating them at the usual length of such discourses, and assigning to them the usual number of columns in the *Globe*, will amount to nearly *a mile of talk*. Only think of it. The Cave of Eolus could never have contained such a quantity of wind; and Atlas himself would have staggered under such a burden of words. If brevity be the soul of wit, we are afraid our Senators cannot be very witty; while if there be any truth in the proverb, *vir sapit, qui pauca loquitur*, we are quite sure that they are not very wise.

NISI PRIUS, March 12.—*Judge Strong.*

John Coakly and Wife vs. The North Pennsylvania Railroad Company.—An action to recover damages by the parents for the loss of their daughter, at the time of the great accident on the North Pennsylvania Railroad, on July 17th, 1856. This morning Judge Strong delivered his charge to the jury. The defendants admitted that the plaintiffs were entitled to some damages for the loss of the services of their child. The measure of the damage to be given was the only question for the jury. The Judge said it was not a case for exemplary damages; although the law made the company liable for the acts of their agents, yet there was not shown any negligence or blame on their part, they had employed careful, competent men.

In assessing the damages under the Act of Assembly, the jury were to take into consideration what the pecuniary services of the child would have been worth to the parents, had she lived until the age of 21, and the expenses incurred by the parents after the accident. Another element was that the parents might be entitled to recover for the value of the society of the child to them, and this might be the strongest claim. But the jury were not to consider in the damages the anguish of the parents, nor were they to inquire what a man would take for a child, for this would be speculative damages. In this view the value of human life is beyond all price. The jury are to assess the damages according to the settled principles of law, agreeably to the pecuniary loss sustained by the parents.

The jury, after being out a short time, returned a verdict for the plaintiff for $400.—*Phila. Ledger.*

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS

RECEIVED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DAILY EXCHANGE.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Washington, March 14, P. M.—Senator Douglas has been confined to his house by severe sickness, but he will resume his place in the Senate during the present week. He pronounces the report as to his intention to resign his seat, totally without foundation, and assures his friends that he intends to fight the battle in which he is now engaged to the end. He will not be driven from his position by the threats or frowns of power, nor moved from the purposes to which his life has been devoted, by inducements proffered from any quarter. He says that, with him, it is a matter of principle, which he will maintain at all hazards.

Last week's receipts into the Treasury amounted to $535,000, exclusive of $200,000 in Treasury notes. The drafts drawn amounted to $907,000.

There is no perceptible improvement in the physical condition of Senator Davis. A partial loss of eyesight is feared by his friends.

CONSECRATION OF A BISHOP.

Providence, March 14.—Francis R. McFarland, was to-day consecrated Roman Catholic Bishop, of the diocese of Hartford, comprising Connecticut and Rhode Island. Archbishop Hughes and seven other bishops and numerous priests, were in attendance.

COLLISION AT SEA—SINKING OF THE SCHR. E. FREEMAN.

Chatham, Mass., March 13.—The schooner E. Freeman, from Provincetown for New York, with a cargo of fish, was run into off Cape Cod this morning, and sunk by the schooner Gen. Veazie from Port au Prince for Boston. The crew of the Freeman were taken off by the Gen. Veazie and landed here. The General Veazie is at anchor in this harbor.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.

Utica, March 13.—A destructive fire occurred in this city this morning, consuming the row of wooden buildings on Genesee street, opposite the Central Hotel. They were occupied by Geo. W. Lewis & Co., boot and shoe; H. J. Woodhull, merchant tailor; and Mrs. Browne, milliner. Loss fifteen thousand dollars to twenty thousand dollars, partly insured.

FROM HAVANA.

Savannah, March 13.—The steamer Isabel, from Havana for Charleston, was off this port yesterday. Sugars had advanced ¼ to ½ real, closing firm. Sterling exchange 11@12 per cent premium. Exchange on New York ½ per cent discount; on New Orleans 2@3 per cent premium.

WEATHER REPORTS.

Philadelphia, March 13.—Weather clear. Thermometer 41°. Barometer 30.35. Wind N. W.

Washington, March 13.—Thermometer 47°.—Wind north-west by west.

SHIP NEWS.

Norfolk, March 13.—The schooner Albert Mason from New Orleans, bound to Baltimore with a cargo of sugar arrived here to-day leaking rapidly and will have to discharge.

In Hampton Roads ship Versailles from Callao with guano awaiting orders.

MARKETS.

Savannah, March 13.—Sales of 1,100 bales of Cotton to-day at steady prices. Market steady. Sales of the week 11,000 bales. Cleared to-day for Liverpool four ships with cotton.

Charleston, March 13.—Cotton is firm—sales of 2,500 bales. Finer qualities have slightly declined.

Augusta, March 13.—Cotton is firm. Sales of 1,000 bales.

Mobile, March 13.—Cotton has declined ⅛@¼. Middling at 11¼@11⅜. Sales of the week 20,000 bales. Receipts 17,000 bales; decrease in receipts, as compared with same period last year, 42,000 bales. Stock 155,000 bales.

MARYLAND ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

Third Day's Proceedings.—After the usual religious exercises, the minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

Rev. J. R. Nichols offered the following:

Whereas, By the providence of God, the Methodist Protestant Church has been brought into existence as a separate branch of the Methodist family, presenting her distinctive characteristics, the mutual rights of the ministry and laity of the church, and after an experience of more than twenty-five years, we have fully demonstrated that Methodism and a republican form of church government can live and prosper together; and, whereas, this comparatively young, but we think, very important organization (in view of our free institutions as a nation) is surrounded by older and stronger churches, of necessity, our increase of churches and enlargements of our borders must be by missionary operations. Therefore,

Resolved, That this Conference determine to raise a missionary fund of $10,000 or $20,000, to be invested in good security, the proceeds of which to be applied to the support of missionaries on new fields. Said amount to be collected by the Conference within its bounds

Resolved, That this Conference appoint a Conference Missionary to travel through the district to collect money for said fund, and also assist in forwarding as far as possible the spiritual interests of the church.

A delegate thought the scheme a magnificent one, but was not prepared to vote on it; and, on motion, the resolutions were referred to a Committee on Missions.

Rev. Mr. Bates called the attention of the Conference to Snow-Hill circuit, and offered a resolution to change it to a mission, which was referred to the Committee on Missions.

Considerable debate then arose on the duties of the Conference Stewards.

Rev. Mr. Cox moved that those having claims be requested to present them before Saturday, and that the Steward be authorized to receive all money due the Conference.

This was discussed at length, and, on motion, laid on the table.

Rev. P. L. Wilson then offered a resolution to allow the Steward to receive the certificate of a minister, where none had been forwarded by the circuit Steward. Agreed to.

On motion of Rev. W. Wilson, the Secretary was directed to call the roll for the purpose of ascertaining those who were willing to accept appointments for the ensuing official year.

This being concluded the Conference adjourned until 2 o'clock.

There being no business before the body, Dr. Murray offered the following:

Resolved, That when this Conference adjourn, it be to meet on the second Wednesday in October, 1859.

Amended by fixing the time the second Wednesday in March.

The Chairman announced that he had in his possession a letter from the Rev. Thomas H. Stockton, addressed to the Conference.

Rev. Mr. Varden moved that it be received and referred to a committee.

Rev. Mr. Wright moved to amend, by having the letter received, *read* and referred.

Rev. Mr. Varden hoped this would not be done. He did not see the propriety of introducing a paper with which they had no acquaintance. This course was pursued last year.

Mr. Delany wished to know why there was any hesitation in reading the letter. Was it apprehended that the communication contained insulting language? There was no question in his mind on this latter point, but he was in favor of meeting the subject like men—like Christians, and if it were found to be an improper communication, a vote of censure should be had, and the letter returned. He thought the idea of the first motion was to suppress the contents of the letter. As regarded the decision of last year, he contended that it was an unjust one, and such was his opinion at the time.

The Rev. Mr. Sutherland thought the brother strangely misapprehended the question. He assumed that there was a lack of manliness in the Conference. It was not true. If any and every communication which might be presented were read, the entire time of the Conference would be occupied to the exclusion of other business. He was opposed to allowing those who had held up the Conference to public scorn to communicate with them.

Mr. Delany was still of the opinion that the communication should be read. Many of the spectators would imagine that there was something which the Conference wished to suppress.

Rev. Mr. Varden held that when a paper was referred to a committee it was not suppressed.

A vote was then taken on the amendment, and it was not agreed to.

The original motion was adopted.

The Conference then proceeded to the consideration of a resolution omitting Charleston (S. C.) station from the rule which requires a change in the Minister at least once every two years.

Considerable discussion was had on this subject between the Rev. J. J. Murray and the Rev. Josiah Varden, the former in favor of the resolution and the latter in opposition.

The Rev. D. Wilson offered the following as a substitute for the original resolutions.

Whereas, Certain embarrassments are incident to the Bi-annual supply of the Charleston (S. C.) Station from the Maryland Annual Conference, therefore.

Resolved, That this Annual Conference recommend to the next General Conference to make such change or changes in the relation of that station to the Maryland Annual Conference, and to the General Church, as shall not conflict with the constitution and discipline. This was accepted by the delegate making the first motion, and after some further discussion was not adopted.

The appointments for to-morrow were then made, after which the Conference adjourned until Saturday morning.

FOURTH DAY.

Philadelphia, March 13.

The Conference met this morning at 9 o'clock, and after devotional exercises, the special committee to whom was referred Rev. T. H. Stockton's letter, made a report.

The Conference then adopted resolutions disclaiming any intention of discourtesy toward Mr. Stockton, or any infringement of his rights, and declaring that the subject-matter of the letter did not come within the province of the Conference.

The remainder of the morning session was principally occupied by the consideration of candidates for admission to the itinerancy.

The Union Bank Defalcation.—The criminal prosecution against Jacob H. Mott, who is charged with having been an accomplice of Brotherson, the defaulting bookkeeper of the Union Bank, has been withdrawn, and civil proceedings instituted instead. Mr. Mott was taken out of the custody of the Mayor's police by the Deputy Sheriff, on Thursday night, and locked up in the Eldridge street jail. The warrant was from one of the Judges of the Supreme Court, and orders that he shall be held to bail in $141,000, the alleged amount of the defalcation.

FURTHER PARTICULARS OF THE FOREIGN NEWS

RECEIVED BY THE CANADA.

We extract from our files received by the Canada the following further details of foreign news:

THE OCCUPATION OF CANTON.

The following details we make up from correspondence of the English papers:

THE CAPTURE OF THE TREASURY.

For six days the Western gate had been open, and exit had been denied neither to men nor goods nor treasure. Surely there could be nothing left to reward the captors. How can we strain our minds to comprehend the stolid, stupid confidence of these Chinese officials? The treasury was full of silver, as full, probably, as it ever was. Fifty-two boxes which a man could not singly lift, were found, and 68 packets of solid ingots. There was also a storehouse of the most costly Mandarin, fur dresses lined with sables and rare furs, and there was a room full of copper cash.

Now a strange scene occurred. The instructions were to bring away any bullion, but to touch nothing else. These orders were obeyed with a strange and self-denying fidelity. The soldiers and officers in strict discipline turned their watering eyes away from the rich dresses. But how to remove the heavy load of bullion? Crowds had assembled in front, and a happy thought occurred to one of the officers. "A dollar's worth of cash to every Coolie who will help carry the silver to the English camp." In a moment the crowd dispersed in search of there bamboo poles, in a moment there were a thousand volunteer Cantonese contending for the privilege of carrying off, for an enemy, their city's treasure. With their stipulated strings of cash around their necks, away they trudged with English soldiers and the sycee silver. Colonel Graham, who had advanced from the south to the same point, came up in time to direct this operation. When the last British soldier left the treasury, the mob poured in like a countless pack of famished wolves. The retiring and self-denying English could hear their yells and shouts as they fought over the fur dresses and other stores that had been left untouched.

THE CAPTURE OF YEH.

The longest chase must have an end. At last the guides called a halt at the door of a third-rate yamun, which appeared close and deserted. The doors were forced open and the blue-jackets were all over the place in a moment. It was evident that they were now on the right scent. The place was full of hastily-packed baggage. Mandarins were running about—yes, running about; and at last one came forward and delivered himself up as Yeh. But he was not fat enough. Parkes pushed him aside, and hurrying on, they at last spied a very fat man contemplating the achievement of getting over the wall at the extreme rear of the yamun. Captain Key and Commodore Elliott's coxswain rushed forward. Key took the fat gentleman round the waist, and the coxswain twisted the august tail of the Imperial Commissioner round his fist. There was no mistake now—this was the veritable Yeh. Instinctively the blue-jackets felt it must be Yeh, and they tossed up their hats and gave three rattling cheers.

Yeh is by no means the hero people thought him. He trembled violently when he was taken; he strenuously denied his identity; and it was not till Mr. Parkes had several times had the satisfaction and triumph of assuring his old enemy of his personal safety that he grew composed. As soon, however, as he felt himself safe all his arrogance returned. He posed himself magnificently in his chair. He laughed at the idea of giving up his seals, and also at the idea of his being led away. He would wait there to receive the men Elgin and Gros. They searched all his packages for papers, and found among other things the original ratification of the treaties with England, France, and America; they were, as he intimated, too unimportant as documents to be sent to Pekin. This search lasted three hours. The news of the capture had been sent to head-quarters; Colonel Hocker was dispatched with a strong body marines, and Yeh again trembled as he entered his chair a captive.

At the foot of the terrace, before the great joss-house on Magazine hill, off-setting from the broad steps, is a collegiate quadrangle. Here the dons of the ecclesiastical institution clustered. Some small cellular apartments, opening inwards the hill, were doubtless the private abodes of the bonzes; two large rooms, whose windows look over the city, were the hall and senior common room. This quadrangle is a little changed in its uses. It is become the British headquarters. The Admiral and General have appropriated the hall and common room, and the staff are contriving possibilities of residence in the cells. The servants have utilized the small area—a dozen Crimean shirts are there hanging to dry.

About 12 o'clock on Tuesday the colonnade of this small quadrangle was lately thronged by post captains and colonels and smaller barbarian mandarins. The news that the city had been dragged and all the big fish taken had spread. Every one was anxious to see the prisoners brought in.

First marched Peh-kwei, whom I have already described, and after him, with rolling step, almost gigantic in stature, and immense in bulk, came the Tartar General. As he passed close by me I measured him by myself; he must be quite six feet four high. They were ushered into a small room at the end of the colonnade, where the General and the two Admirals were assembled. The two mandarins took their seats as though they had come of their own free will to pay an ordinary visit. The Tartar General, with his head thrown back so that you saw only the inside of the brim of his Tartar cap, looked not unlike our own Eighth Henry as Holbein shows him. There is great show of dignity and courage about that martial Tartar, but he is only a type and specimen of the great Imperial sham of which he forms part. He is an empty imposture. During the fight he never appeared upon the walls. After the fight he did nothing to gather his 7,000 men around him. When the French came he made no defense, but ran from room to room, and was dragged from a filthy closet. If he had been taken by Tai-pings instead of Europeans, he would be howling at their feet. Knowing himself personally safe, he swells himself and tries to look majestic. He believes he has to do with men more superstitiously obsequious to Chinese rank than the Coolies of Canton are, so he tries to awe them by his presence. Perhaps he is right. There is too much of this nonsence. The interpreters catch the mania of mandarian-worship from their teachers and their Chinese books, and our leaders—predisposed by the truly English deference for high-sounding titles—catch the infectious folly from the interpreters.

What shall we do with these men? "Send them both aboard ship," advises one interpreter; "send them back to resume their functions and to save the city from pillage," advises the other. Lord Elgin is consulted, and has the boldness to believe that the general principles of human nature are not to be extinguished by paper lanterns and peacock feathers. He advises "Let them both return under conditions. Let Peh-kwei re-establish his court under the authority of and in co-operation with an European tribunal. Let Tseang-keun return under conditions of disbanding his troops and delivering up their arms." "Impossible; they couldn't do it—contrary to all Chinese precedent, &c." "Try."—The trial is made, and the indignant mandarins laugh loudly at the impudent suggestion. Left together for a night to consider the matter, they are found in the morning like pricked windbags, ready to surrender their inflation under gentle pressure;—but I am anticipating the events of subsequent days.

Room for the great mandarin! Preceded by Colonel Hocker with his sword drawn, accompanied by Commodore Elliot and Captain Key, and followed by two files of Marines, waddles the great Yeh himself. He is not ushered into the small room, but into the Admiral's room. To place him with the Governor and the General, would be to confine a pike with two gudgeons. Peh-kwei and Tseang-keun shook at the sound of his foot-steps.

THE EXAMINATION OF YEH.

If he had six head men in his train, and if we all stood kidnapped men before him, he could not hold his head more haughtily. It is a huge, sensual, flat face. The profile is nearly straight from the eye-brow to the chin. He wears his Mandarin cap, his red button, and his peacock's tail, but in other respects has the ordinary quilted blue tunic and loose breeches, the universal winter wear of this part of China. He seats himself in an arm-chair and some inferior Mandarins who have pressed in after him stand round and make him a little court. The officers who fill the room are passing to and fro upon their own duties and, of course, refrain from staring at him. Yet no one can look upon that face without feeling that he is in the presence of an extraordinary man. There is a ferocity about that restless, roving eye which almost makes you shrink from it. It is the expression of a fierce and angry, but no courageous animal. While the long nails of his dirty fingers are trembling against the table, and his eyes are ranging in every part of the room in search of every face, his *pose* of dignity is too palpably simulated to inspire respect, even if you could forget his deeds. But no one can look upon him with contempt.

The two Admirals and the General now arrive, and, after some salutations, which were naturally more embarrassing to the captors than the captive, the English Admiral inquired whether Mr. Cooper, sen., was still living. You will recollect the circumstances under which the gentleman was kidnapped. Yeh burst forth into a loud laugh, which sounded to every one present as though he were recollecting and enjoying the recollection of this poor man's sufferings. When he had finished his cachinnations he replied, "I can't recollect about this man, but I will make inquiries to-morrow, and if he can be found you shall have him."

The disgust was at this moment so great, for many in the room had known and esteemed poor Cooper, that if the audience could have decided the matter, Yeh would have been taken out and hanged.

He was told that his answer was not courteous, and he replied that it was, at any rate, the only answer he should give.

The Admiral now asked whether he had any other prisoners alive in his custody. He appeared to have misunderstood the question, for he replied, "Those eighteen men were my prisoners of war, I took a great deal of trouble about those persons to have them properly buried. I can show you their graves at this day." "What eighteen men were they?" asked the Admiral, "and when were they taken?" "How can I tell you who they were, and how can I remember when they were taken? You were fighting from October till January, when you were beaten off and expelled, and your ships ran away. It was during this time."

It was evidently not consistent with the dignity of the Admirals and General to prolong this conversation. After a moment's consultation they directed Mr. Parkes to assure "his Excellency" that every care would be taken for his personal safety and convenience, but that he would be removed for the present on board ship. "I don't see any necessity for going on board ship," replied his Excellency, "I can do everything that requires to be done just as well here." But when Yeh observed that the Admirals were grave and impassable, and that they were about to retire, his eyes roved round the room again in terror, and he added, "Well, I will accept your invitation. In fact, I shall be very glad to have an opportunity of seeing one of your ships."

It was more than an hour, however, after delays so frivolous that I cannot describe them, that he was at last fairly seated in his chair. As he progressed, with his escort of marines, along the walls to the landing place, he met a gang of our commissariat coolies. I am told that these fellows put down their loads and saluted him with a roar of laughter.—This was too much. He gnashed his teeth with rage and made a threatening gesture.

INSTALLATION OF THE NEW GOVERNOR OF CANTON.

Saturday last was a great day in the city of Canton. Yeh being safely caged in the *Inflexible*, and the authorities of the city being prisoners, the Plenipotentiaries became afraid that the city would be sacked by the populace. It was resolved, therefore, to formally re-instate Peh-kwei in his Palace, and to assist him with a council of three, composed of Colonel Holloway, Captain Martineau, and Mr. Parkes.

About midday large bodies of the English and French troops defiled into the city, and the yamun of the Governor was strongly garrisoned.

At three o'clock the Plenipotentiaries and their suite, and the naval and military commanders passed through the court yards in their chairs, and assembled in the third pavilion, which I have already spoken of as a hall of audience.

Here they for two hours awaited the arrival of the Chinese Governor and the Tartar General. The guns which were to fire the salute had lost their way in the city, the prisoners were not ready, and at last, when the delay had been supposed to be overcome, it was discovered that no order had been left to deliver over the prisoners, and the faithful sentinel opposed his bayonet to all who presented themselves to conduct them out.

It was five o'clock before Peh-kwei and his gigantic colleague appeared. It was doubtless an imposing sight. Lord Elgin and Baron Gros were seated on a sort of dias, the naval and military commanders were seated on chairs, at a right angle with the dias, and opposite to those chairs were others, left vacant for the Chinese. A throng of English and French officers, a band and colors filled up the hall. There were only three Chinamen, spectators, present. When Peh-kwei came in, the Plenipotentiaries advanced and received him, and resuming their seats upon the dias, motioned to him to take those assigned to him. But Peh-kwei demurred, protested, jabbered and pottered about, and created a scene.—The Plenipotentiaries remained silent spectators of this for some minutes. Lord Elgin at last yielded, and made way for the Chinamen beside him. With great satisfaction, and many grins and bows, the Mandarins enjoyed the victory granted to their pertinacity, and sat in seats of honor, taking precedence of the English and French Admirals and the British General—ill-omened evidence of weakness of purpose!

The proceedings then commenced. The ceremony was somewhat hurried, for the sun was setting, and we were in the heart of the unknown city. I must confess that I think it, although admirably conceived, yet badly ordered in the execution. If we had assembled in that hall the inferior Chinese authorities—if Lord Elgin and Baron Gros had then taken their seats—if Peh-kwei had been brought in a prisoner—and if the Plenipotentiaries had released him upon the spot, and had resigned to him their dais, there could have been no doubt in the mind of the Chinese as to the nature of the transaction. As it stands, the Chinese only know that Peh-kwei is in his yamun with a guard of hon r.

Lord Elgin then addressed Peh-kwei sitting. He said:

"We are assembled here to welcome your Excellency on your return to your yamun, and on your resumption of the functions of your office, which have been momentarily interrupted. It is proper, however, that I should apprise your Excellency, and through your Excellency the inhabitants of Canton, that the Plenipotentiaries of England and France, and the Commanders-in-Chief of the allied forces are firmly resolved to retain military occupation of the city until all questions pending between our respective governments and that of China shall have been firmly settled and determined between us, the high officers appointed by your governments for this service, and Plenipotentiaries of equal rank and powers whom his imperial Majesty, the Emperor of China, may see fit to appoint to treat with us. Any attempt, therefore, whether by force or by fraud, whether by treachery or violence, to disturb us in our possession of the city, will not fail to bring down on its authors and abetters the most severe and signal punishment.

I am however no less to apprise your Excellency that it is equally our determination, when the questions to which I have referred shall have been so settled, to withdraw from the military occupation of the city, and to restore it to the Imperial authorities. Meanwhile, it is our sincere wish, that during the period of our military occupation the feelings of the people be respected, life and property protected, the good rewarded, and offenders, whether native or foreign, punished. We are desirous to co-operate with your Excellency for these objects, and with this view we have appointed a tribunal composed of officers of high character and discretion to act in concert with you. We hope that through the agency of this tribunal confidence may be restored to the people, and the foundation laid of a better understanding between foreigners and natives, so that henceforth all may pursue their avocations in peace, and traffic together for their mutual advantage."

The address of the French Plenipotentiary was very similar.

These addresses were successively translated to Peh-kwei, and he made an answer which the interpreter reproduced in so low a tone that I could not catch a word of it. It was, however, as I understand, only an unmeaning Chinese compliment, except that in his answer to the French Plenipotentiary Peh-kwei said, "That man Yeh has been the cause of all the troubles."

THE NEW BRITISH MINISTRY.

[From the London Times, Feb. 26.]

We are enabled to-day to publish a list not only of the new Cabinet, but of most of the minor appointments under Lord Derby's Administration.—The list is, perhaps, chiefly remarkable from the presence and from the absence of a great literary name. It is somewhat singular that two gentlemen who have attained to so high and so well deserved a reputation in the world of letters as Mr. D'Israeli and Sir E. Lytton Bulwer should at length meet in the construction of a Cabinet. Whatever may be the views we entertain upon the political situation, we cannot but rejoice at this result as honorable to these two distinguished men of letters, and to the country in which the advancement of such persons to so eminent a post is possible.

The name of Sir E. Bulwer Lytton will not be found on the list which we publish this day; but this omission does not arise from any division between him and the leaders of the party which has now stumbled into power. The administration of the Colonial Department was offered to Sir B. Lytton. At the present moment, however, he does not think it advisable to seek a re-election at the hands of his constituency. Hertfordshire would be hotly contested, and if any untoward event should occur, the loss of so energetic an orator, would be severely felt by his party in the House of Commons.

The leadership of that House naturally devolves to Mr. D'Israeli, who—his literary qualifications apart—has already given proof of higher ability for the position than can be claimed by any other of the gentlemen with whom he acts. Lord Derby, by virtue of his high position in the country, and of his great oratorical faculty, of course assumes the chief command, and the leadership of the House of Lords.—After the many disappointments which have befallen Sir Frederick Thesiger, everybody will rejoice at his elevation to the woolsack. Few men have enjoyed so high a distinction in the legal profession as this most popular advocate without attaining high honors at an earlier period of their career.

Lord Malmesbury has already been Foreign Secretary, and Mr. Spencer Walpole, Secretary of the Home Department. They are not untried men. The country already knows their capacity for the position to which they have been again raised.—Lord Hardwicke as Privy Seal is a great improvement upon Lord Clanricarde, but the appointment of Lord Ellenborough to the Board of Control is one to which we cannot but look with a certain awe. Undobutedly Lord Ellenborough has a higher claim to the office than any of his colleagues, or, indeed, than any of his party, from his former practical experience as Governor General. Let us only hope that he will be content to leave the direction of military matters in Sir Colin Campbell's hands. We cannot altogether discard from our minds the apprehension that more majestic ideas for future campaigns than the old soldier will be able to carry out in practice, may be forwarded to him from the wonderful strategist who will preside at Cannon row.

The maxim to be observed with regard to incoming statesmen—until they actually prove themselves unworthy of confidence—is *ut de mortuis*, to say of them none but words of good omen. Let us hope, then, that General Peel may forget the Chelsea Commission and his stereotyped justifications of every military abuse. The appointment of Lord Stanley to the office of Secretary of the Colonies is not surprising when we consider whose son he is; although it is a little strange, when we remember his former votes and speeches, to find the name of this very clever and accomplished young nobleman upon the list of a Conservative—not to say a Tory Cabinet.

No better appointments, we honestly believe, could have been made from the materials under Lord Derby's hand, than those of Mr. Henley to the Board of Trade, and of Sir John Packington to the Admiralty. Both these gentlemen can address the House of Commons in such a way as to command attention; both are men of great industry and of considerable public spirit. Of the minor appointments, we have but little to say. Sir Fitzroy Kelly was the inevitable Attorney General of the Tories, and in Mr. Cairns, Lord Derby has got a very pains-taking and intelligent Chancery barrister for his Solicitor General. Mr. Corry naturally returns to his place as Secretary to the Admiralty. The four Under-Secretaries of the four Departments of State, will be as follows:—Mr. Seymour Fitzgerald goes to the Foreign; Mr. Hardy, of Leominster, to the Home Office.

Lord Carnival and Lord Hardinge take their places respectively in the Colonial and War Departments. These are untried men, as is also Lord Donoughue, an energetic young Irish nobleman, who is to be Vice-President of the Board of Trade. When we add that Mr. Southeron Estcourt takes the Poor Law Board, and Mr. Adderley the direction of the Education department, we have pretty well exhaust d the list. The Earl of Eglintoun resumes his old ornamental place in Dublin, taking with him Lord Naas as his Secretary. Such are the names of the noblemen and gentlemen, with whose help Lord Derby hopes to carry on the Government of this country.

[From the London Morning Chronicle, Feb. 26.]

Six years since a conservative administration assumed the reins of power, superseding the whig ministry, who had then, as now, successfully retained their grasp of office through several parliamentary sessions. The change supervened, as all such changes have done for a long while past, in both cases upon a vote of the House of Commons. On both occasions, moreover, Lord Derby was the recognized chief of the incoming governments, holding the position of First Lord of the Treasury, while the other high offices of State, whether in or out of the Cabinet, are now occupied, with very few exceptions, by the identical men who composed the administrative staff in 1852, with some readjustment as to the particular functions allotted to each. From this identity of composition in the two administrations, the partizans of their predecessors and rivals have eagerly prognosticated a similarity in their fate. The Derby Ministry of '52 encountered a hostile House of Commons, and after appealing to the constituencies, fell in the first struggle before an adverse vote in the new parliament.

In like manner it is prophesied will the Derby Ministry of '58, composed as it is of the same constituents, succumb to the same fate, either with or without hazarding the step of dissolution. But to this conclusion there are many reasons for demurring. One important element is left out of the question. True that the new Administration of 1858 is practically the same as the new Administration of 1852; but is the England of '58 the same, or are the relationships between the country at large and the members of the Executive Government, either considered as Derbyites by "connection" or conservatives in policy, the same at the present moment as they were six years ago?

On the answer to this question must to a great degree depend the future fortunes of the inchoate Ministry. Individually it will be admitted by their bitterest antagonists that many of the present ministers have risen considerably in public estimation since 1852. Sir J. Parkington, by his unremitting efforts for the promotion of popular education, and Lord Ellenborough, by his prescient warnings and wise counsels during the progress of the Indian revolt, have deserved and obtained public confidence while in opposition, which will not desert them in office. But the improvement in the position of the whole party is not less marked. Six years ago the corn law was not forgotten, nor had free trade become established beyond the possibility of reversal.

The advent of a ministry to power whose policy was thus identified with the maintenance of protection, and many of whose members had pledged themselves emphatically and recently to repair the injustice which, as they insisted, Peel had committed against the "country interests," was regarded with suspicion and distrust. The most advanced conservatives at that time had gone no further than to admit that, without altogether rescinding "the free trade system," they would rest contented with its "mitigation."

Amidst these disadvantageous circumstances encountered with distrust by the manufacturing or borough constituencies, and, hampered everywhere by their own pledges—the Derbyite ministers appealed to the country in July, 1852. Their task was not easy. They had to confess that it would not do to overset an established policy, even though they had opposed and denounced its establishment; they had to plead in excuse for patent inconsistency the difference occasioned by their new position, admitting that the opinion so eloquently enforced from the Opposition bench could not be carried out by men begirt with official responsibilities.

These concessions were made with courageous honesty; their responsibilities assumed and exercised with fidelity and zeal. Mr. D'Israeli and his friends struggled energetically through the general election, and fought a desperate battle in the House of Commons. But he could not vanquish the difficulties of his position. The country had not ceased to feel alarm lest protection should be resuscitated; the House, if it did not share in that apprehension, could not altogether overcome the distrust which is naturally excited by a sudden conversion.

Through the combined action of these influences the conservative administration of 1852 fell to the ground. The interval that has since elapsed has done much for England, and more for the conservatives. In their consciousness of growing wealth and prosperity, the people of England may dismiss, and almost forget the fears they once entertained.—The free-trade policy is now established beyond the chances of reversal, or even of mitigation.—Protection in the old sense of the word, has become as obsolete as the Catholic Disabilities of the Test Act. There is no need for politicians of any class to renew the oath of abjuration, renouncing a system which has become not less completely extinct than the family of the pretender. The chiefs of the conservative party at the same time have escaped from the disadvantages which overwhelmed them in 1852. They are no longer recent converts to the free trade policy. Whatever pledges they may have given during the heat of the corn law controversy are now barred by the statute of limitations.

Their honest acceptance of Peel's commercial policy has been tested by their conduct throughout six years of opposition, and may be relied upon by the nation without misgiving. No one suspects for a moment that Lord Derby, Mr. D'Israeli, and their colleagues will attempt to revive in any shape the old antagonism between "class interests" or seek to benefit the countries at the expense of commerce and manufacturers. In taking office now, the conservative leaders have nothing to explain—nothing to recant—nothing which, having promised it when in opposition, they must devise pretexts for not attempting to perform as ministers. A vote, not of their suggestion, has displaced the minister who challenged the fate that has overtaken him by his own arrogance and levity. By the recognized principles of parliamentary warfare, Lord Derby and his friends are natural heirs to the vacated posts. They claim, at all events, to be fairly tried and impartially judged "upon their merits."

THE CONSPIRATORS ON TRIAL IN FRANCE.

The English papers publish a copy of the indictment preferred against the prisoners charged with the attempt to assassinate the Emperor Louis Napoleon. It is very long, and the London *Times*, in commenting upon it, furnishes us with the following brief sketches of four of the prisoners:

SKETCH OF THE CONSPIRATORS.

[From the London Times, Feb. 26.]

Of the five men charged with this abominable wickedness four are described, in the terms of the indictment, as "residing usually" in certain parts of England. Now, we beg leave to disclaim very sincerely the reputation thus reflected on us, and undertake to make good our denial from the very statements of the *Acte* itself.

We begin with Orsini, described in the indictment as "a literary man, aged 29, born at Meldola (Roman States,) residing usually at London, (England,) having lodged in Paris, in the Rue Monthabor, No. 10." In the body of the document we find the life and career of the prisoner circumstantially traced for the last 13 years. In 1845, at which period he must have been just 16, we discover him already sentenced to the galleys for life on account of a conspiracy against the government of his own country. He was pardoned in 1846, banished in 1847, and member of the Roman Constituent Assembly in 1849.

For some offence, he again, in his absence, suffered the condemnation of a court, in 1853, and then "sought refuge in London." Here, however, he did not remain, but "roamed about in Piedmont, Switzerland and Lombardy," until, in 1855, he was tried for treason against the Emperor of Austria, and imprisoned. From this confinement he effected his escape at the end of March, and is not tracked to London again till the 30th of January following. Now, considering that no fewer than 13 years of this man's life are brought under review as bearing upon his present position, it is, we submit, by no means just or reasonable that his "usual" residence should be ascribed to a country where he only "seems" to have lived through a certain portion of two of them, and then only because he had been driven away from other places. Orsini was everywhere, but nowhere so little as in England.

In the case of Pierri we are favored with a still more extensive view of his past history. "Joseph Andrew Pierri, professor of languages, born at Lucca, Tuscany, residing usually at Birmingham, England, having lodged in Paris, Rue Montmartre, No. 132, Hotel de France et Champagne," turns out to have lived at Birmingham, with some interruption, for three or perhaps four years out of 28, through which his career is followed.

We particularly request that the reader will track the fortunes of the Italian with us, and then say whether England or France is best entitled to the credit of his "usual residence."—Like Orsini, Pierri got first into trouble in his own country, and then, in 1833, transferred himself to France in the avowed capacity, as the Procureur-General states, of "a political refugee." In France he settled and married, working at his trade in the cities of Lyons, Avignon and Paris successively until, in 1853, he entered the French service, and did duty in Africa with the Foreign Legion.—Circumstances then re-opened his native country to him, but for a short time only, as he was fain once more to repair to France, where he remained from 1849 to 1852. In that year he was expelled from the French territory, and, as the *Acte* observes, "then definitively sought refuge in England." It is acknowledged that his stay here was not continuous, for he was at Dusseldorf in August, 1855, and is not said to have returned to Birmingham until February, 1856. Of the 24 years, heretofore of this man's life which followed his original expatriation, 13 were certainly spent in France, 6 more must be divided between Algeria and Italy, and 5 only, from which some deduction is probably to be made, can be assigned to England.

Gomez and Rudio, the two other prisoners now on their trial, though both described again as "residing usually" in England, appear to have had but very little concern with us. Of Rudio, the Procureur General simply observes, that "he led a wandering life for many years," and does not trace him to this country until April, 1856, or assert that he continued here without intermission even from that period.

Of Gomez it is said that "the time when he embarked for England has not been exactly ascertained—but it is certain that he had been there a long time before the first preparations for the crime of January 14 were made." We beg to remark that nothing of the kind is "certain," but that, on the contrary, the very opposite conclusion can be substantiated from the assertions of the *Acte* itself.—The assassination of the Emperor was discussed, says this document, between Pierri and Orsini at the beginning of 1857.

Now, Gomez had been in the French service from the earliest date of which we receive any information about him—May, 1852, to July, 1855. He was brought to trial for some offence at Marseilles in December, 1855, and condemned to six months' imprisonment. Unless, therefore, we are to suppose that French jailors are as unsuccessful as Austrian jailors in keeping this kind of people in custody, it is plain that Gomez could not have been in this country, at the earliest, before June, 1856, between which period and the "first preparations" for the recent atrocity, whether we date them from the original conception or the actual manufacture of the instruments, the interval can only be reckoned by months; and cannot possibly supply a "long time" of residence.

THE CONSPIRATORS AND THEIR INSTRUMENTS OF DEATH.

[From the French Bill of Indictment.]

The only thing now remaining to be done, was to load the shells, the principal instruments of the crime to be executed. The fulminating powder employed for this purpose, appears to have been made by Orsini himself, or at least with his assistance. It is proved that he had relations in England with a professor of chemistry, and that he received from him lessons and instructions, the object of which was, doubtless, not suspected by the latter.

Rudio dec.ares that Orsini always said that it was he himself who had invented and made the fulminating powder which he used. Gomez is convinced of the same thing, although Orsini never said anything to him on the subject. He adds that the last time Orsini came from London to Birmingham, the inside of his hands and the tip of his fingers were burned, and he told Pierri that he had got those burns by his experiments. However, Orsini does not himself admit that he manufactured the powder. He pretends that it was made in London by some one whose name he will not mention; but he acknowledges that he brought it himself from London to Belgium, and from Belgium to Paris, and gives a very circumstantial account of the precautions which he took. He placed this dangerous substance in his carpet bag, after having wrapped it up in linen and paper, which he damped from time to time.—The packet thus wetted weighed about 2 lbs. English. While in the Monthabor he dried his fulminating powder, first by exposing it to the air, and then, as it did not dry fast enough, by placing it near the fire. The latter operation was very dangerous. Orsini stood before the fire with his watch in one hand and a thermometer in the other, in order to measure the condition as to how long powder might remain near the fire. "I ran the risk," he said, in his last examination, "of blowing myself up and the house too." The shells having been filled nearly half full, Orsini closed them by means of a screw adapted to some holes bored in the upper part of each projection. He declares that he was aided in this work by Gomez, who, having a stronger wrist than his, turned the screw better. We come now to January 14.

According to this account Rudio only accompanied the other prisoners as far as the Boulevard, and as soon as he had got as far as the end of the Rue de la Paix, instead of going on to the Rue Lepelletier, he took an opposite direction, and threw his shell into the Seine, at the Pont de la Concord. In the examination of January 24th, he at last completed his confession. The parts to be played by each were settled before they left the house; the two largest shells were given to him and to Gomez. Orsini kept two which were less, and Pierri had the fifth, which was of the same size as those of Orsini. It was arranged that Gomez was to throw the first shell, Rudio the second, that Orsini was to act next, and Pierri last of all. When the Emperor's carriage approached the Rue Lepelletier, the conspirators had taken up positions on the foot pavement, in front of the principal entrance of the peristyle, between the houses and crowd of spectators.

As soon as the first explosion, proceeding from the shell thrown by Gomez, was heard, Orsini said to Rudio, 'Throw yours.' He did throw it, and then instantly took refuge in a small wine-shop, from which he heard the third detonation, and from which he afterwards got away during the confusion that ensued. On the same day, January 24, Gomez also made up his mind to tell the whole truth, and with regard to the distribution of the shells, the plan agreed by the assassins, the execution of the plan, and the part which he himself took in throwing the first shell, he entirely confirmed the declaration of his fellow prisoner Rudio."

LOSS OF THE AMERICAN SHIP HELEN.

The following is the report of Mr. W. P. Russell, a passenger on board the American ship Helen, from London to Melbourne, which was destroyed by fire on the 8th of December.

We left the London docks on the 7th of October, 1857, in the American ship Helen, of Boston, 1,003 tons register, commanded by F. T. West, for Melbourne, with a very valuable cargo of general merchandise, containing coals, (140 tons,) timber, slates, wines, brandy in casks and cases, gin, ales, candles, turpentine, oils, crystals, &c., in all about 2,150 tons; 20 passengers between decks, crew of 17 men, ships' cook, passengers' cook, steward, two officers, captain and captain's clerk. 16th October, at 5, P. M., Scilly Islands bore N. E. by N., 65 miles, from whence we took our departure, and from thence crossed the Equator in 22 days in lon. 30° 52' W.

We had made an excellent passage, with generally fine weather, up to Friday, the 4th Dec., when we were in lat. 42 2 S. and lon. 19 12 E. On Saturday morning the 5th Dec., at 7 30 A. M., we experienced a heavy gale from the west. It commenced with a furious squall, accompanied with hail, rain, and snow, with a large cross-sea; we took in sail as required.

At 11 A. M., the weather looked threatening; double-reefed the topsails and stowed the mainsail. The day ends with a heavy gale and tremendous sea. Ship laboring much and shipping considerable quantities of water. On Sunday, at 2 P. M., turned one reef out of the sails to keep the ship away from the heavy seas—at 7.30 P. M., the gale increasing, double-reefed the maintopsail again—the ship still laboring and rolling heavily; at 2 30 A. M. of Monday, Dec. 7, the second officer on duty at that time discovered smoke coming up the forehatch and reported the same to the captain who was immediately on the spot with all hands trying to discover the exact position of the fire, but without success further than that it came from the lower hole—all hands were set to work with the deck hose-pump, throwing water down the forehatch into the lower hold, but the smoke came up too strong to continue it; Captain West then gave orders to have every part of the ship communicating with the lower hold closed up tight and caulked; and put the ship's head for the nearest land, Algoa Bay, distant about 500 to 600 miles; it was still blowing a gale, and the wind kept gradually hauling to NW and NNW, but Captain West was in hopes of falling in with some ship, and we were gradually drawing into a milder climate, in case the necessity for taking to the boats should become compulsory. Capt. West had arranged the passengers and crews for each boat, with provisions and water, and did everything possible to save the lives of his passengers and crew. Capt. West scarcely for a moment left the deck, from the time the fire was discovered until we left the ship.

His quiet firm manner, and the duty going on as usual, inspired us all with confidence that his exertions would, with God's blessing, get us out of our perilous situation. Early on Tuesday morning, the 8th of December, Captain West discovered a sail, and immediately crowded all sail after the ship—hoisting a flag of distress at the same time. A squall coming on, we lost sight of the ship for a little while; on clearing off we made all sail, and on getting alongside, found the ship to be the Thor, of Gefle, for Madras.

On being made acquainted with our perilous situation, Captain Westmann said he would take us all on board his ship. The weather was very stormy, with heavy squalls, and a large sea running; but happily every soul on board was safely got from the *Helen* to the *Thor* in the *Helen's* boats. Captain West tried all possible means to get Captain Westmann to lay by his ship for a time to try and save the effects of the passengers, and see if any cargo could be got out of her, but Captain Westmann refused peremptorily to do so—being afraid of damage to his ship in case of explosion or otherwise.

Captain West had therefore no alternative left but to abandon his burning ship, which was finally done at noon of Tuesday, the 8th of December, in lat. 41 52 S. lon. 29 47 E. The *Thor* having no accommodation for more than her own crew, Captain West, with his officers, steward and five seamen, left her and went on board the *Eucharis Paul*, of Nantes, a French barque, for Trincomalee, on the 11th of December. Captain Dugast, her commander, received us in the most kind manner, and regretted that his accommodations were so limited that he could not take any more off the *Thor*.

We remained on board the Eucharis Paul until the 11th of January, received the greatest kindness and attention from Captain Dugast and his officers, and left them to go on board the Anna Longton, Kirkby, of Liverpool for Point de Galle, in order to get the needful done with the ship's papers at the American Consulate. We are greatly indebted to Captain Richard Kirkby for his kindness and attention to our wants on board his ship, and shall ever retain a grateful remembrance of the kindness of Captain Johnstone and Captain Chapman, two passengers of the Anna Longton.

Madras, Jan. 21.—23 persons, among whom are six females and two children, are now inmates of the Sailor's Home, under the following distressing circumstances: The party are the passengers and a portion of the crew of the American ship Helen, for Melbourne from London, which was abandoned, on fire, in lat. 41 52 S., long. 29 47 E., Dec. 8, and were brought on to Madras by the Swedish ship Thor.

The *Helen*, upwards of 100 tons, was the property of the Messrs. Cunningham, of Boston, and was chartered by Lidgett & Co., of London, which port she left on Oct. 7, with 1 cabin and 20 second class passengers, and a miscellaneous cargo including 300 tons of coal and a large quantity of spirits. The poor people do not seem to have fared well in the *Thor*, but this was owing more to the accident which nobody on board could have foreseen, than to any want of kindness or attention on the part of the Swedish captain and his crew.

He supplied them with everything in his power; but the female portion of the passengers of the Helen had to do with the single suit on their backs, as the Thor had no change of linen to offer them. A few days afterwards Captain West signaled a French vessel, which took him, the two mates, and the cabin passenger on board, and the inconveniences to which the bereaved people were subjected in the Thor would have found no end before reaching Madras perhaps, had not the steamer *Undaunted*, with horses from Sydney for Calcutta, fallen in with her, lat. 4 46 N., long. 87 12 E., and supplied her with water and other necessaries, not forgetting the women, who were made happy each with a change or two of clean apparel. The *Undaunted* took on some eight of the crew to Calcutta. The female inmates of the Home speak in grateful terms of the lady of Captain Franklin, of the *Undaunted*, from whom they acknowledge having experienced great kindness. On their arrival at Madras they were sent to the Sailors' Home by Captain McKenzie. Captain West and his party are believed to have landed at Ceylon.

[Special Dispatch to the Missouri Democrat.]

FULL AND LATEST PARTICULARS OF THE OUTRAGE IN THE ALTON PENITENTIARY.

Alton, March 9, 8½ o'clock, P. M.

Messrs. McKee & Fishback.—At nine o'clock this morning, Rutherford, the State Superintendent, and Colonel Buckmaster, Warden, undertook to get into the cell of the prisoner by stratagem.—Breakfast was set at the cell door in vessels of larger size than ordinary, but the convict refused to open the door until the hall was cleared, which, after a brief consultation, was done. The Warden, Superintendent and guards were on each side of the cell, but out of sight and motionless. The convict slowly opened the door nearly enough to admit the food, when a crowbar was instantly inserted.

The warden cried out to Crabb, the imprisoned guard, to fight for his life. He accordingly sprang to the opening of the door, and at length dragged himself through, *but not before he was stabbed by the convict nine times, seven times in the back and twice on the arms*. When the poor victim was dragged out the convict barred the door again and refused to yield. He was then given a few minutes for reflection; and the rebel was, after much dodging and effort to get out of the reach of the fire, *shot by the Warden*. The ball struck his skull, just below the left ear, and, glancing around, lodged under the skull. He fell instantly and was dragged out of the cell, and was thought to be dead, but soon recovered, and talked as sensibly as any man could under the circumstances.

After the convict was taken out of the cell, his knife, about eight inches long, with a double edge, was found in his cell, and also on his person was found another large knife, with a blade four inches long. Crabb, the wounded guard, was immediately taken to the hospital, and his wounds were examined and dressed by Dr. Williams, the prison surgeon, and Allen. The left lung was found to be twice perforated by the knife. The other wounds were not dangerous. After his wounds were dressed he f lt quite comfortable and conversed very freely. He expressed a sense of his dangerous condition, but was calm and hopeful. His wife visited him about 11 o'clock to-day, and he bore himself with much fortitude throughout the interview. His physicians consider his case very critical, and that the chances are very much against his recovery.

The convict was laid on a mattress in the prison hall. He said he hoped Crabb would live, and in the next breath said *he had put five men* in the same fix he was in himself.

Dr. McMasters was present, and endeavored faithfully to draw his attention to the fact of his near approach to death. He exhibited no penitence or remorse, but said he "hoped that God, if there was any, would forgive him." He sent for one of his confederates, and advised him to behave himself when he got out, and not bring himself to what he saw before him.

It is stated that everything was done during the night to surprise the convict into a capture, but that he was vigilant and bloody from one minute's end to another, and amused himself, from time to time, by pricking his victim with the point of his knife. It is not stated in our dispatch, at what time the convict died, but we learn from other sources, that he survived his wounds but a short time.

It would, perhaps, be unjust to make any animadversions upon the conduct of the penitentiary officers, until the details have been more fully furnished. But from the facts now before us, it seems that more might have been done to save the life of the unfortunate guardsman, Crabb. Why not have agreed to every demand the villain made, and then have shot him down like a dog? Surely promises exacted by such a wretch, under such aggravating circumstances, are of no moral force.

The pardon of the Governor was ready. A revolver might have been placed in his hands, the money given him, and a close carriage provided, into which even he and Crabb might have been placed; but, undoubtedly, the moment would have come, when he might have been assailable without any risk to Crabb or any one else.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Sudden Death—Supposed Foul Play.—On Tuesday morning last, about 3 o'clock, a man named James Patton, a laborer in the employ of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Co., boarding at the Wheeling House, kept by Michael Connolly, corner of Conway and Howard streets, was discovered lying at the foot of the second flight of stairs in an insensible condition, his injuries being of such a nature as to cause death on the following day. Several of his fellow workmen not being satisfied with the statement made by those in the house as to the manner of his death, ordered a coroner's inquest to be held and Dr. Benson was summoned for that purpose. An inquest was held but still there was dissatisfaction on the part of the jury as to the way in which it had been conducted, in reference to which one of the number, Mr. Samuel W. Downing called at the Marshal's office on Friday and stated his suspicions to Deputy Marshal Manly, having previously made affidavit before Justice Boyd "that he had been called upon by Coroner Benson to serve as a juror, for the purpose of inquiring into the cause of the death of James Patton, that not being satisfied with the verdict rendered, from the fact that he was not permitted by the Coroner to examine the witnesses, and that further, that there were marks of blood in several places that had been washed up, and moreover, the body was not examined by the jury, being in a coffin at the time of holding the inquest." This statement was placed in the hands of Deputy Manly, who, after conferring with the State's Attorney, Milton Whitney, Esq., proceeded, in company with Dr. Hoffman, Captain Manly, of the Southern District Police, and Justice Boyd, to the Baltimore Cemetery, where the body was exhumed, and a *post mortem* examination held. The skull was found to have been fractured in seven distinct places, one of which was to the extent of ten inches, running from the left ear toward the crown of the head, thence to the back of the neck. The others varied from two and a half to three quarters an inch in length, which the physician said could not have been caused by falling the distance stated. After returning to the city, the Deputy Marshal, with Capt. Manly, Lieut. Lippy, Sergeant Pamphillion and officers Caulk and Vernon went to the house where the affair occurred. On their way they arrested two men named Bernard Kelley and Peter Murray, and at the house took into custody the proprietor, Michael Connolly, his wife Mary Connolly, Mary M'Court and Edward Burns, all of whom were conveyed to the Southern District station house, and held by Justice Boyd as being accessories to the murder of James Patton. An examination will be had in the case this afternoon at 4 o'clock at the station house. A remark made by Murray to Lieut. Lippy, who had him in charge, that he wanted to know if he had been arrested about that murder,—nothing having been said to him in reference to the matter, caused a greater degree of suspicion.

A Musical Treat.—On Friday evening, several of the most eminent Professors and Composers of our city, assembled at the rooms of Henry McCaffrey, No. 207 Baltimore street, for the purpose of testing the quality of the new Grand Piano, made by Wm. Knabe & Co., which had been placed there on exhibition. Among the number present, were Professors Courleander, Mahr, Ahrend, Hewitt, Stoddark, Schaeffer, and Sutro,—persons fully capable of judging of the merits of the instrument.—Choice selections from Mendelsohn, Beethoven, Bellini, and other great masters were performed, and the impression was that a superior instrument could not be produced. It will remain at Mr. McCaffrey's for a few days only, prior to its being forwarded to a gentleman in the South who has purchased it.

Fire.—The alarm of fire about half past two o'clock on Saturday morning, was caused by the burning of the old Chemical Works, situated a mile and a half from the city, near White's Mills, a little west of the Northern Central Railroad. The building formerly belonged to a company of gentlemen of this city, but at the time of its destruction, was owned by Chauncy Brooks, Esq., and unoccupied. Loss from $2,500 to $3,000. No insurance. The fire is supposed to have been the result of accident.

The alarm at 4 P. M. on Saturday, proceeded from the burning of a chimney on Park street, near Saratoga.

Serious Casualty.—A man named John Sharp, employed in the steam tannery of Messrs. George Appold & Sons, on North street, near Eager, met with a serious accident on Thursday last, while oiling the machinery. His right arm was caught, and crushed to the elbow, the injury being of such a nature that amputation was deemed necessary, which was performed by Professor N. R. Smith, at the patient's residence, No. 137 Britton street.

Gambling on the Sabbath.—Henry Hunt, Martin Swisner and George Bushman, were yesterday arrested by officers Crouch and Hause, of the Southern District Police, on the charge of gambling at the house of Henry Raser, on Sabbath day. They were arraigned before Justice Boyd, who fined them each $1 and costs. Henry Raser for permitting gambling at his house was arrested by officer Hause and fined by Justice Boyd $10 and costs.

Passed Through.—A delegation of Indians of the Sioux tribe, thirty-four in number, reached here on Saturday morning by the Northern Central Railroad from Minnesota, and put up at Bartholow's National Hotel. They left in the afternoon train for Washington, whither they go on business of importance with the President.

Arrest for Passing Counterfeit Money.—Officer Tucker, of the M. D. P., on Saturday, arrested a man named Daniel Leventhal, on the charge of passing a counterfeit half dollar on Andrew Canns. Justice McKinley committed him to answer the charge before court.

Arrived Safe.—The steamer Virginia, due here on Wednesday last, did not arrive until Saturday morning, having been detained by the ice in the Rappahannock. She received some slight damage about the bow and sides, but will be ready to leave on Friday next.

Robbery.—The hotel of Mr. Samuel Wilhelm, on West Pratt street, was entered by thieves on last Wednesday night, and robbed of some three or four pairs of boots belonging to the boarders.

Criminal Court.—Before Henry Stump, Judge.—Frederick Pinckney, Esq., Deputy State's Attorney, prosecuting. The following business was transacted on Saturday:

In the case of the State *vs.* George A. Megee, convicted of receiving a bribe to dismiss a case brought before him as a Justice of the Peace for the Eleventh ward, the Court remarked that "in consequence of recommendation of the jury who tried the case, to the mercy of the Court, it is adjudged and determined that the said George A. Megee, be fined by the Court here twenty dollars, be imprisoned in jail two days, and be disqualified from holding the office and administering the duties of Justice of the Peace hereafter in the city of Baltimore."

In the case of the State *vs.* Henry Hubert, *alias* Hubert Duer, indicted for the larceny of one pair of boots, the property of Henry Free, the jury returned a sealed verdict of guilty. Mr. Renshaw, counsel for the traverser, filed a motion in arrest of judgment.

Thomas Shannon, charged with assaulting and beating Charles Graves, was adjudged guilty and fined $2 and costs—total $9.14.

John J. Bunting, charg d with assaulting and beating Earby Cohen, was adjudged not guilty.

The case of Thomas Lanahan, charged with disorderly conduct, was compromised, the defendant paying costs amounting to $7.51.

Lawrence Kelly, charged with resisting officer Favier whilst in the discharge of his duty, was adjudged guilty and fined $1 and costs—total $9.89.

Robert Williams, William Tiger, and John Depish, charged with rioting, were adjudged not guilty. James H. King, charged with the same offence, plead guilty and paid costs, amounting to $7.51.

In the case of the State *vs.* Michael Grady, indicted for the murder of Sergeant William Jourdan, and rioting at the eighth ward polls on the day of the last municipal election, the defendant gave bail in the sum of $4,500.

Court of Common Pleas.—Before Hon. William L. Marshall. This Court was in session on Saturday, but there was no business transacted. Assignment for to-day 198 to 235 inclusive.

Circuit Court for Baltimore City.—There was no business of public interest transacted in this Court on Saturday.

Superior Court.—There was no business of interest transacted in this Court on Saturday. The case of Griffith *vs.* Barling & McKee will be resumed this morning.

District Court of the United States.—Before Hon. Wm. Fell Giles. Haney & Ogden *vs.* The steamer Louisiana. Libel to recover damages sustained by a collision between the schooner Wm. R. Parsin and the steamer Louisiana—before reported. Argument concluded, and case held under advisement.

The Wedding-Ring Finger.—This is the fourth finger on the left hand. Why this particular digit should have received such a token of honor and trust beyond all its congeners both in Pagan and Christian times, has been variously interpreted.—The most common explanation is, according to Sir Thomas Browne, "presuming therein that a particular vessel, nerve, vein, or artery, is conferred thereto from the heart," which direct vascular communication Browne shows to be anatomically incorrect. Macrobius gives another reason, which may perhaps satisfy those anatomists who are not satisfied with the above. "Pollex," he says, or *thumb* (whose offices and general usefulness are sufficiently indicated from its Latin derivative *polleo*, and from its Greek equivalent, *anticheir*, which means "as good as a hand,") is too busy to be set apart for any such special employment, the next finger to the thumb being but half protected on that side, besides having other work to do, is also ineligible; the opprobrium attaching to the middle finger, called *medicus*, puts it entirely out of the question; and as the little finger stands exposed, and is moreover too puny to enter the lists in such a contest, the spousal honors devolve naturally on *pronubus*, the wedding finger." In the British Apollo, 1788, it is urged that the fourth finger was chosen from its being not only less used than either o the rest, but more capable of preserving a ring from bruises; having this one quality peculiar to itself, that it cannot be extended but in company with some other finger, whereas the rest may be stretched out to their full length and straightness.—*Popular Errors Examined.*