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The Anglo-Gallican Alliance—The Entente Cordiale—Trifles Indicating the Policy of France and England—The New Commercial Policy of Great Britain—The Expected Movement of France—The Effect of the Foreign Policy of America—The Persecutions of the Catholics—Progress of Republicanism in Europe—The Great Debate in Parliament—Its Effects on the World—The News from India—Bishop Hughes—Music and the Drama—Important Postscript—American Affairs.

The Anglo-Gallican alliance, which has been growing and gaining strength for the last fifteen years, and which has now assumed the magnitude and importance of a "great fact," is a subject of the highest interest to other States, and to none more so than the Republic of the West. By an alliance, I do not mean a paper and parchment alliance, fabricated in Downing street and in the Rue de Capucines; nor a political pact, formed by Sovereigns and their satellites to consolidate their own power, and strengthen the hands of despotism. I mean an alliance of two great people, which has grown out of their common sympathies, and been cemented by their common interests. The burst of admiration and generous sympathy with which the conduct and result of the revolution of July was received by the English people, and the acclamation with which it was hailed by the English press, was the commencement of that national amity between these countries, which has so happily displaced their ancient feeling of hostility, imagined to be eternal. Since 1830, a multitude of causes have conspired to cherish the growth of that national friendship which is now so potent to the world. The King of the Barracades, long resident during his exile in England, had formed English habits, associations and friendships—had become intimately familiar with the working of the institutions of this country—had seen the causes which stimulated the increase of her vast commerce, and which augmented the resources of her unparalleled manufactures; he had seen the seeds sown which have since germinated and fructified in universal religious toleration, the spread of municipal institutions, parlimentary reform, and at this moment, in the glorious example of the declaration of freedom of commerce with the whole race of men. These things profoundly impressed this astute monarch with the policy of extinguishing the spirit of enmity between the French and English nations, of gradually and safely assimilating their institutions, and of laying the foundations of a great and permanent alliance between them. His wise and prudent designs have worked themselves to a fulfilment.

Every public event, on both sides of the Channel, indicates very plainly how unpopular any measure would be which might have the remotest tendency to disturb the present tranquillity.—To their pacific policy is to be ascribed the visible increase of favor which M. Guizot and his cabinet command in the chambers. To his supposed leaning against England is to be ascribed the visibly diminished influence of M. Theirs. This statesman has indeed been rendered sensible of his mistake, and has omitted no opportunity to explain away his conduct, and to re-assert and promulge his desire to maintain the English alliance, so far as is consistent with the independence of France; still, the French public have been rendered so sensitively alive to the magnitude of the interests depending on peace, that they extended their countenance rather to him whose declarations in its favor are the most unqualified and unequivocal, notwithstanding the natural leaning which they have towards the more democratic spirit which has characterised the career of M. Thiers, compared with the prudent conservatism of M. Guizot

Nor are similar manifestations of opinion wanting on this side of the Channel. Remember how the public mind was agitated when Lord Palmerston, four years ago, was supposed to be so near embroiling the countries on the Syrian question The alarm was not less intense at that epoch in London than in Paris. How deep and lasting the impression was has been lately rendered conspicuously apparent in the failure of Lord John Russell to form a cabinet, on the temporary resignation of Sir Robert Peel. What was the cause of that failure? Was it not the insurmountable objection of one of the most influential whig leaders, countenanced, as is well known, by the tacit acquiescence of several other liberal members of the party, against giving the foreign department to Lord Palmerston, from the apprehension of the possibility, however remote, of the disturbance of the amicable relations with France? Thus a slight risk—a remote possibility—the shadow of the shade of danger of a war with France, was regarded in so serious a light as to break up the incipient liberal cabinet, and restore the reins of power to the tories. Lord Aberdeen, the tory and conservative secretary for foreign affairs, is preferred to Lord Palmerston, the whig and radical secretary for foreign affairs, simply because the pacific spirit of the former affords a guaranty for the maintenance of the *entente cordiale*, which might be endangered by the bellicose policy of the latter, his loud protestations to the contrary notwithstanding. Nor were the manifestations on this occasion confined to one side of the Channel. The prospect of the return of Lord Palmerston to the Foreign office spread agitation in Paris and shook the Bourse. The sagacious Louis Philippe expressed to the British Ambassador the alarm, which in common with the French public, was felt by the court of the Tuilleries.

You cannot fail to have noticed the sedulous endeavors of the two governments, to bring into co-operation on every occasion which presents itself, the armed forces of the two nations, and how eagerly every opportunity is seized for the interchange of national courtesies. In the affair of Rio de la Plata, small as it is, the British and French admirals range their ships against a common enemy, and the seamen raise the same shout of triumph and vie with each other to secure the same glory. In the still smaller affair of Madagascar, we again find them fighting side by side.

When the veteran Soult, the impersonation of the French army, presented himself in London, as the representative of France, at the coronation, he was hailed with an enthusiasm such as no foreigner ever before excited. No demonstration of respect was thought too much to be lavished on the hero of an hundred fights, and the representative of the nation whose only acknowledged rivalry now, with England, is in the cultivation of the industrial arts, the improvement of the condition of mankind, and the diffusion of liberal institutions over Europe.

Considerable interest is now felt respecting the reported visit of Queen Victoria, to Louis Philippe. The month of July is named as the probable period of this remarkable event. The palace of the Grand Trianon is to be prepared, as the residence of the British Sovereign and her suite. Fêtes of more than Oriental splendor, recalling the scenes enacted there by the court of Louis XIV, are to be given in the spacious halls of the chateau of Versailles.—Magnificent spectacles are to be produced, in the theatre attached to that palace, which is to be renovated for this occasion, in which all the leading artistes of the capital are to assist.

Among the courtesies interchanged by the royalties of France and England, an amusing characteristic of French "*petites soins*," may be mentioned. His majesty, Louis Philippe, has lately sent to Buckingham Palace, a case containing a *cadeau* for the doll of the Princess Royal, consisting of a miniature wardrobe of elegant workmanship, containing four complete doll's dresses—an evening and morning dress, and two complete *Toilettes de Bal*—from the *ateliers* of the celebrated Madame Barenne.—Each of the dresses is a *chef d'œuvre* of its kind. The minutest parts have been the objects of artistical skill. The pocket handkerchiefs, of costly cambric, are richly embroidered and hemmed with the most expensive lace. The silk stockings, the shoes, the cashmere shawls, the chapeaux, the black lace scarfs, have been all fabricated expressly, and finished with unheard of labor and care. A *parure* of diamonds of the first water, for the head-dress, with bracelets, earrings, and necklace to correspond, have been made expressly by the royal jewellers.—The entire collection is beautifully arranged in the drawers and cases of the exquisite bureau which has been prepared for it.

These and such like proceedings are trifles. But they are trifles symptomatic of more serious matters; and taken with other indications, are sufficiently significant of the spirit which animates, not the two courts only, but the two nations The mutual cordiality which is indicated by such evidences, is now about to be promoted by measures of a far more substantial and serious character. The annihilation of the legislative restrictions on English commerce, will involve the removal of a mass of duties which have hitherto fixed narrow limits to the importation into England, of a long catalogue of productions of French industry. These will now be freely poured into the British ports; and a lively impulse has already been felt, at the mere announcement of the coming measures in Lyons and other seats of French manufactures. Nor is this all. The liberal policy of the British legislature has already opened the eyes of M. Guizot and his colleagues, to their true interests, and they only wait the consummation of the system of free trade on the other side of the Channel, and the termination of the approaching general election in France, to submit to the new Chambers an improved and relaxed system of duties, reciprocating to as great an extent as the state of public opinion in France will admit, the spirit of the reformed commercial system of Great Britain.

Such being the relative position of the two countries and their governments, nothing could be more unpalatable to France at this moment than any disturbance of the general peace. If, unfortunately, a war should ensue between England and the United States, France would maintain a strict neutrality, as the Guizot cabinet has expressly declared, a declaration to which the opposition in the Chambers has been compelled to give its adhesion. But it is impossible not to perceive that this neutrality would be attended with a leaning towards England. It would have been otherwise twenty years ago. But these twenty years have produced a total revolution in the international relation and spirit of the two countries. It is necessary also to add, that on the Oregon question it is understood that the opinion of Louis Philippe, as well as that of his present cabinet, is against the claims advanced by President Polk and those who think with him. The part of the message which seems to repudiate the allegiance of the States to the common principles of international law, and which disclaims all title of European powers to interfere in the affairs of the Western continent, has met with the most decided dissent of all parties here, as indeed might naturally have been expected. Had Mr. Polk confined the application of his principle strictly to the disputed territory of the Oregon, and to the United States and Great Britain, it would not have excited opposition; but the principle he announced had too wide and startling a generality, not only as to the extent, but also as to the permanency of its application, to escape arousing the most jealous apprehensions on the part of every European power possessing either Western colonies or Western commercial or national interests. Be assured that this part of the message was ill-considered and ill-advised, and could tend to no really good purpose. This was the more to be regretted because that document, in some other respects, was a remarkable and masterly state paper.

It is agreed upon all hands, by every class and party of intelligent enquirers, that the Oregon question must now be brought to a definite issue; and if the formal service of the year's notice be intended by one party, and understood by the other, as a mere declaration of the pressing necessity of bringing this point to an immediate and final settlement, then, assuredly, no rational man can attach blame to the advocates of such a step; nay, there are many enlightened friends of peace, who earnestly desire that such a result should be accelerated by every legitimate means. In short, it is agreed that the time has arrived when the establishment of a recognized sovereignty in the Oregon territory is indispensable. Due regard to British and American interests, equally and imperiously demand this. The sovereignty cannot be allowed any longer to remain in abeyance. While, as I have said in my former letters, no one entertains any practical belief or living faith in the possibility of two nations, like the United States and Great Britain, with so much to gain by peaceful international commerce—with every thing to lose by the suspension of their amicable relations—rushing recklessly into a war, upon a cause of such trivial magnitude as the present, constituting little more than a point of honor; yet, at the same time, the deepest solicitude is felt by all for the final, peaceful, and honorable settlement of this question.

If arbitration be contemplated, it is necessary to bear in mind that no European sovereign will award the whole territory of the Oregon to the United States. If, therefore, the question to be submitted, on the part of the Union, be whether or not the whole territory is to be annexed, arbitration would be a farce, and ought not to be consented to. But if a partition of the territory be contemplated by the Union, then no better arbitrator, at least among sovereigns, could be found than Louis Philippe. When I have said that he would lean towards England on that question, I referred only to the point raised by President Polk—that is, "the whole of Oregon for the States." This assuredly would not be awarded by the King of the French.

The atrocities reported to have been committed against the Catholics, by the functionaries of the Greek Church, have excited a feeling of general indignation throughout Europe, and among people of every religious faith. You will, doubtless, have obtained from the newspapers, the report of these horrors, than which nothing more shocking to humanity can be found, even in the lives of the martyrs. It is, however, due to strict justice, to remember that as yet, an *exparte* statement on the question is all that the world has received. The nuns who escaped have found their way to Rome, and laid their case before the Vatican The subject was brought by His Holiness under the notice of the Emperor of Russia, on the occasion of their interview, when the latter lately visited Rome: and the Emperor then disavowed all knowledge of the circumstances, and declared that he would cause an inquiry to be made, and if any subjects of his were guilty, they should be brought to punishment. Meanwhile, however, the Russian government lies under the most odious aspersion before the world.

In the early part of the month, it was whispered among persons considered to possess good means of information, that an organized insurrection throughout Russian Poland, was to break out on Monday, the 7th February; and it was confidently stated, that an understanding prevailed to an alarming extent between the disaffected and the Russian army. This spirit of resistance to despotism, is, in fact, diffused more or less throughout Eastern and Southern Europe. Mild as the Prussian monarchy is in its practical absolutism, and paternal as its sway is admitted to be, there is a fermentation in process there, which ere long will compel the sovereign to yield, and confer something of a representative character on the government of that country. Throughout Austria, Hungary, the Rhenish States and Italy, this popular spirit breaks out from time to time, in a sufficiently significant manner.

In my last letter, I mentioned to you the anomalous position of Sir Robert Peel in the House, on the occasion of his opening speech on the corn laws—cheered by his opponent, and chilled by the silence of his friends. The debate was resumed on the 9th of February, three weeks being allowed to the protectionists to raise the country against what they declared to be impending ruin. During this interval, despair seemed to paralyse their powers. Some silly exhibitions were got up by them in the West Riding of Yorkshire, which answered the purpose of the league even more effectually than the oratory of Cobden or the harangues of Bright; for they covered the party with more ridicule than even did the immortal *curry powder* speech of the Duke of Norfolk. But when the debate in the Commons was resumed on the 9th, then it was that the leading conservatives poured out the phials of their wrath on the devoted head of their unfortunate leader. The entire vocabulary of Billingsgate was exhausted in the House and the press upon him. In proportion to the utter absence of all possibility of success in defeating this vast commercial measure, was the reckless fury with which they assailed its author. Every complimentary allusion made to Sir Robert Peel by the liberal party, was received with uncontrolled laughter, and unsuppressed hisses, by the party of the Right Honorable Baronet; and every attack upon him, however personal and scurrilous, was received with shouts of approbation. The reports of his former conservative and protectionist speeches, recorded in the volumes of Hansard, were mercilessly read, *verbatim*, from night to night, for the entertainment of the audience, in the Theatre of St. Stephen's, in juxtaposition with his late revolutionary oration. It is necessary to know the irritable and thin-skinned susceptibility of this statesman to estimate the agony in which he writhed under these unrelenting inflictions. During the debate he occupied himself incessantly with masses of papers, reading, taking notes, and despatching letters, as though he were not listening to word of the torrent of invective and abuse which, without intermission, were showered upon him. Occasionally he betrayed his irritation by a certain twitching and rubbing of his back. Beside him, however, his colleague, Sir James Graham, was characteristically impassive and phlegmatic; every now and then, when the attack became most furious, turning his eyes to the chandelier suspended over him, with a smile of studied and deliberate contempt.

After a protracted debate of twelve nights, the fate of monopoly was decided on Friday last (27th ult.), by a majority of 97, in a house of 577. At 4 o'clock in the morning the debate closed, when 337 members recorded their votes in favor of free trade, and 240 against it. The liberal party present amounted to 238; of these only eleven voted in favor of monopoly. Of the tory party, 313 were present, of whom 112 voted in favor of free trade, and 231 against it. The tellers completed the above number of votes.

The report of this memorable division has spread a thrill of joy throughout the body politic of Britain, which has been felt from the heart to the tips of the extremest members. The corn laws are dead and gone. Monopoly is stretched in its cerements. A voice has gone forth among the nations, which will resound to the extremities of the earth. The emancipation of commerce is decreed by a power from which there is no appeal. The Autocrat of the North has heard it. The despot of central Europe, the more paternal monarch of Prussia, have been roused by the announcement. It has resounded in the halls of the Palais Bourbon and the Luxembourgh, and it will not have resounded in vain. The establishment of free trade in England is a great event in itself. But it is a small event when put in juxta-position with its vast consequences. The movements of the other planets, in harmonious order round the great central fountain of light and warmth, are not more inevitable consequences of that great law which Newton inferred from the fall of an apple, than is the fact that the chains must drop from the limbs of universal commerce all over the world, as a consequence of the emancipation of commerce in England. America and France, the two great models of constitutional States, will immediately follow, and the rest of the world cannot afterwards lag behind.

The bewilderment of joy in the public and in the press is such, that it is really difficult to write or think collectedly of any subject but this great and absorbing one. One of the most curious consequences of this political convulsion is the utter destruction of old-established parties which has attended it. The great flood of public opinion has swept away all the political landmarks. The buoys which guided the vessels of party have been forced from their moorings and sent adrift. The very channels themselves have changed their positions. Shoals and quicksands have disappeared, and, in a word, the chart of the political waters has been rendered obsolete and useless. New soundings must be taken, new beacons must be erected, new pilots must be elected, or the old ones must be reeducated.

The whig party is annihilated, not by being broken up, but by being swamped in its general fusion with the liberals of every shade and complexion. The chartists and corn-law leaguers are annihilated from having no subject of complaint on which they can command the sympathies of any portion of the nation. The tory party has been pulverised by its leader, and its own blind obstinacy and headlong selfishness. It has dashed out its brains against the wall of protection. But let us not say aught that is ill of the dead; it has had its day *Requiescat in pace*. God be with it! It was a party, take it all in all, we (*hope that we*) ne'er shall look upon its like again.

It is astonishing how entirely this discussion has withdrawn the public attention from the Oregon dispute; or it would perhaps be more correct to say, what entire confidence it has produced that that dispute will be peaceably settled. No one can suppose for a moment that after opening her ports to the free importation of food with one hand, England will shut those of America against its exportation with the other. Nor will any one believe that America, with a mart like England freely offered to every description of her produce, will reject it for such a miserable political crotchet as the Oregon question. To admit such a supposition would be equivalent to issuing a statute of lunacy against the nations. No; the Oregon question will be settled—in what manner, the people of England do not care a rush, provided the national honor is saved from stain.

The impression which the battle, or rather battles, of the Sutlej has produced in England, is of a very qualified character. The victory is held by some to be great and decisive; by others, to be only the beginning of a series of calamitous successes which Britain could very well have dispensed with. That the Punjaub will be, or rather is, conquered and annexed to the British empire there is little doubt But Algeria was many years ago conquered and annexed to the Gallic Empire. Is it surprising that many behold in the Sikhs another race of Arabs, and dimly discover through the mists of futurity, difficulties and disasters awaiting us in this great section of India, which are typified by those against which the brave armies of France have been vainly struggling for years, and in opposing which that nation has already so fruitlessly expended forty millions of treasure, and shed in torrents, the blood of her bravest citizens.

As the theatre of military operations, certainly the most remarkable and important which have been exhibited since the battle of Watterloo, the Punjaub will no doubt be regarded by your readers with feelings of much interest.

The part of the Indian territory called properly the Punjaub, covers an area whose superficial magnitude is little less than an hundred and forty thousand square miles—peopled by nearly five million of souls Though much of this extensive territory is rich and fertile, yet it includes also considerable deserts, mountain chains of inaccessible elevation, and vast tracts covered with perpetual snow. The Punjaub proper, is one boundless plain, lying between the rivers Sutlej and Indus, and intersected by four large rivers, which are the sources of its fertility, and facilitate the transport of goods and produce from one part of the kingdom to another. Nature has bestowed on the Punjaub two thousand miles of internal navigation, which at a moderate expense might be greatly augmented by art. The face of the country is a slightly inclined plain, sloping from its eastern limit, gradually, towards the bed of the Indus. Its rivers, consequently, and the doabs which separate them, descend regularly below each other, till we reach the mighty stream which, for a space of nearly five hundred miles, bounds the triangle on the west. Here the greatest heat felt on the surface of the globe, is sometimes experienced, the sun's rays being fiercely reflected from a sand almost vitrified by constant exposure to them. From the edge of this vast plain a mountain region abruptly rises, the loftiest, the wildest, and the most wonderfully diversified in the world, containing secluded habitable valleys, cradled in serene brightness above the region of the clouds; lakes of all dimensions, the sources of great rivers, with piles of glaciers towering to a height which the foot of man has never yet scaled. On these aerial heights the boundary of the Celestial Empire meets and blends, as it were, with that of India; and here, also, is the birth place of many of those strange opinions, which, modified by the accidents of climate, by time, by mixture with other superstitions, have swayed the universal mind of Asia for many thousand years. Here human life is sparingly distributed, and seems to be almost sublimated into inaction, by the height to which it is thrown up, whilst at the foot of the mountains, over the whole plains of Hindostan, men swarm like bees, and are little addicted to those quiet habits of contemplation which delight the sages of Thibet. Commerce, however, finds its way even into those dreary regions, whence, at stated intervals, caravans pass into the independent states of Central Asia. On the west of the Indus the Sikhs possess two provinces, that of Peshawhur and the Deragat, stretching from the Cabul river to the confines of Upper Scinde. Here, and in the doab of the Indus and the Jhylum, we meet with that lofty salt range of country which constitutes the most extraordinary feature of this part of India; while in the immediate vicinity, are those coal fields, not yet sufficiently explored, which will probably in coming ages, prove an unbounded source of wealth and power to the country. Throughout the plains, there is every where an excess of animal life. All the tremendous game of India, from the lion and the tiger down, may be said to swarm in the jungles, with endless tribes of birds, remarkable for the brilliancy of their plumage or the melody of their song. The vegetable productions are not less numerous and various. Most of the fruits and flowers indigenous or naturalized in India abound here, together with many transplanted from northern latitudes. The sugar-cane and indigo of the Punjaub are equal, perhaps, in quality to any in the East, and of many other productions of the country, the same may be said. By the ancients, its rivers were said to run over golden sands; but, in reality, it has scarcely any auriferous streams except in the Alpine dependency of Balti, where the golden particles roll out from beneath the snow.

As to the population, that which may with propriety be called the military class, is by some considered neither numerous nor powerful, while the pacific portion of the inhabitants, constitute everywhere an overwhelming majority. The Sikh class will dwindle gradually away, and the country may ultimately prove to be one of the most useful of the British colonies—at all events, its conquests, whether for good or for evil, seems inevitable.

Considerable interest was excited among the English and Americans, in Paris, by the announcement that Bishop Hughes of New York, would preach at the church of St. Phillippe du Roule, on the 15th and 22d. This church was selected because of its position in the midst of the residences of the English and American population, in the Faubourgh St. Honoré. The congregation, on the 15th, of which we had the pleasure of being a part, consisted of about five hundred persons, almost exclusively English and Americans. The Bishop preached for an hour on the first verse of the 4th chapter of St. Matthew.—"Then was Jesus led up of the spirit, into the wilderness, to be tempted of the Devil; and when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterwards an hungered. And when the tempter came to him, he said, 'If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.' But he answered and said, 'It is written, man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.'" The subjects of the sermon were penance and confession. After presenting a summary of the arguments, from the nature of man, and the condition and qualities of the human mind, in favor of the immortality of the soul, borrowed apparently from the writings of Plato, the Bishop showed how these dark and unsatisfactory surmises were confirmed and cleared up by the voice of revelation. He then enlarged upon the comfortable effects of confession, and the efficacy of penance. He touched, with some reserve and discretion on the differences of the Protestant church and the church of Rome, on these doctrines, designating the seceders from the latter by the charitable epithet of his "separated brethren." He appealed with a good deal of force to the experience of his audience, of the consolatory effect which all have felt in unbosoming their griefs to a beloved and trusted friend—How much more then must be the comfort of communing with the Saviour himself, through the immediate person of his minister and authorised representative! The Bishop noticed with some skill and tact, the shift to which the reformed churches were forced to resort, owing to their abandonment of the holy sacrament of penance and confession; and it is but fair to say, that the Protestant Episcopal church would be hard pushed to reply to him consistently, without tearing from its ritual the leaves containing the confession and absolution of the morning service, and more especially the very unequivocal absolution, personally pronounced by the clergy in the ministration for the sick. Of the Bishop's discourse on the 22d, we cannot speak for not having been able to be present, on that day.

As I foretold in my former letters, Balfe's opera of the "Star of Seville," is dead and gone. It has not lived fifteen nights. The loss to the Academie is considerable, a great expense having been lavished on its production. The musical world is, however, compensated for this disappointment, by an unexpected gratification at the *Opera Comique*. Halevy's new opera "Les Mousquetairies de la Reine," has been produced with immense and well merited success. This opera is destined to become one of the greatest favorites of the musical world. As it requires two good tenors and two good sopranos, it will, however, be difficult to produce it at provincial theatres with success.

Louis Philippe and his court contribute much to the vogue of the musical drama. There is a theatre in each of the palaces, with all the appointments necessary to give effect to the performances. Here, one night in each week, there is a performance to which the court and its guests are invited. Rossini's opera of "Guillaume Tell," Halevy's "Mousquetairies," Cimarosa's "Matrimonia Secreto," and the grand ballet of "Le Diable a Quatre," have been successively produced there.

The voice of Duprez the celebrated tenor of the Acadamie, is failing fast His place in the musical world will be supplied by Roger, of the *Opera Comique*, who is now probably the finest living tenor. Rubini may be considered as having retired, although efforts are made, and enormous pecuniary inducements offered to him by Lumley, the director of the London opera, to return to the stage for a few nights this season. If he should comply, it will only be the last flicker of the lamp.

Taglioni, who is about to retire to her villa and estate on the Lake of Como, has invited Fanny Elssler, Fanny Cerito, Lucille Grahn and Carlotta Grisi to pass with her the next summer recess. She retires on a large fortune.

Meyerbeer has brought out his new opera of the "Camp of Silesia," with immense success. It is to be produced next month at the Royal and Imperial Theatre of Vienna, M'lle. Jenny Lind performing the principal part. It is said that in the fire, vivacity, and versatility of her genius, this artiste has been equalled by none since the death of Malibran.

Verdi's operas continue to be the rage at the theatres of Italy. They have failed in Paris.

In this city a grand musical event has occurred. A really splendid opera, splendid in all the attributions of that species of dramatic entertainment, has been brought out at Drury Lane, with a success never exceeded in that or any other theatre. "The Crusaders" was produced for the first time on last Thursday evening, to such an audience as we have seldom seen assembled. To say the house was crammed, from the floor to the roof, would be saying little. That we have sometimes seen before.—But the quality, intellectual and artistical rank of the audience—the presence of all the great celebrities in the world of music and of dramatic art—presented an imposing *coup d'œil* such as we have very rarely seen. The plan, plot, *dramatis personæ* and general frame-work of the opera is the work of M. de St. George, a Parisian playwright, who, having long worked in harness with the celebrated Scribe, is now trying his wings independently and alone—He is the author of the "Mousquetaires," so recently successful at the Opera Comique, at Paris. I need not describe the plot of the "Crusaders," as you will see it in all the London papers of last week. The dialogue is by Mr. Bunn, the manager of the theatre, and the music is by Benedict. It bids fair to run, without interruption, to the end of the season.

Miss Cushman and her sister have just concluded a most successful and long protracted engagement at the Haymarket, during which they play "Romeo and Juliet" three times a week, for about two months, with an interruption of a night or two, on which Talfourd's "Ion" was produced without such success as to justify its continuance. In truth, the fault here was in the play, and not in the artists, and the public felt it. The Misses Cushman are just gone to Dublin, where they open this evening (March 2.) Miss Cushman's fortune is made. The ball is at her foot. She is now incontestably, by the suffrage of the British public, at the head of the British stage. It is very questionable, whether, in the opinion of the sounder portion of the critical public, she does not already stand above Macready.

POSTSCRIPT—Tuesday Evening, 3d March—The American news to the 9th ult., brought by the Patrick Henry, to Liverpool, last night, arrived here this morning, and has produced a lively sensation. The reported rejection of arbitration by the cabinet of Washington, has created much alarm, and the renewed claim to the whole territory still more.—We have not, however, yet received the whole correspondence, which is expected hourly by a clipper schooner, said to have sailed in company with the Patrick Henry, bringing the government despatches. On the whole, this arrival has produced much disappointment, and filled the public mind with solicitude for further information. The leading article of the *Herald* of the 9th ult. has been quoted by the principal journals of this day, and has been read and referred to, with feelings of profound interest.

The houses of Parliament passed a vote of thanks to the army in India, for the victory of the Sutlej, last evening, with such acclamation and enthusiasm as I have never heard within the walls of St. Stephen's.

FROM HAVANA.—The Hope Howes, Capt. Shaw, arrived yesterday from Havana, having sailed thence on the 6th instant, to which date she brings papers.—The Cambria's advices reached Havana on the 5th inst., by the way of Charleston. This was well deemed most extraordinary, the Cambria having sailed on the 4th February. The dramatic company at Havana had finally dispersed for the season. Some had gone to Mexico, some to Puerto Rico, and a few to Spain. The Spanish brig Primero de Murzo, from Cardenas for Havana, foundered at sea on the 5th instant. The master and four others started off for Jaruco in the launch. One of three passengers on board was drowned. Two of the crew had reached Havana in the coasting schooner Gen. Lamar. The steamer from Vera Cruz had not arrived, and vessels from Europe for Havana were making unusually long passages.—*N. O. Picayune, March 16.*

LATE FROM ST. DOMINGO.—The ship Henry, Capt. Noyes, arrived at this port this morning, from Havre. She was compelled to put into Port au Paix for water on the 1st instant.

The Haytien army was assembling in three grand divisions, each of which was to march on the 3d instant

Two of these divisions were to be concentrated at Azua, under President Pierrot in person, and would march to retake the city of St Domingo.

The third division would move for Port-au Platte, by way of St. Jago.

The entire force of the army would amount to 60,000 men.—*New Orleans Pic., March 14.*

A DESPERATE CONVICT SHOT.—This morning, about 6 o'clock, a convict named Gibbs, who was under sentence for nine years from last August, for burglary, and who had previously served ten years in the Eastern penitentiary for arson, &c., sprung upon Mr. Watson, the keeper of the prison, intending, no doubt, to despatch him and make his escape Mr Watson had one of the Colt's revolving pistols, and after a desperate scuffle for possession of the weapon, in which Mr. Watson's hand was severely lacerated, Mr. W. shot Gibbs, first in the back, (reaching round him) and twice in the breast. Gibb's staggered into his cell, and in a few moments expired. This Gibbs was a most desperate villain; he attempted to bleed himself to death shortly after he was sentenced, and subsequently almost effected his escape through the skylights of the corridor, but fell. Mr. Watson displayed great courage and presence of mind, or he must himself have been killed. He had shut the iron grated door between the front part of the house and the prison department, and therefore no one could come to his assistance, although they heard the report of the pistols and came as far as the door. A coroner's inquest was summoned, which has not yet reported. Much excitement prevailed in the vicinity of the prison.—*Harrisburgh Letter, in U. S. Gazette, March 19.*

THE CUTTER WOODBURY.—The United States cutter Woodbury, Capt Foster, is engaged as a convoy, and we learn that for a period she is to be stationed in the vicinity of Bateses Santiago.

Police Intelligence.

MARCH 23.—*Stealing a Horse.*—John Lockwood and William Gildersleeve were arrested, yesterday, for stealing a horse, valued at $45, under the following circumstances:—It appears that a man by the name of John Sullivan, residing in Twentieth street, between 6th and 7th avenues, some time last May, was about trading horses with Lockwood and Gildersleeve. Therefore, Sullivan's horse was taken from the wagon, and Lockwood's horse placed in for trial, which was a much inferior "critter" to Sullivan's. Consequently, as soon as Sullivan got fairly under way, they bolted off with the best horse, without waiting the return of Sullivan, and made good their escape, until yesterday. Arrested by officer Welch, and Justice Osborne held them to bail to answer, in the sum of $500

Grand Larceny.—Officers Beeman and Lalor, of the Independent Police, arrested yesterday a man called Theodore Mercer, charged with stealing $200, a watch, and several articles of jewelry, the property of Mr. Campbell, residing in Nassau street, Brooklyn. This Mercer, it appears, resided in the same house, and, in the absence of Mrs Campbell, entered her room and stole the above property. The officer found, on searching his person, about $70 of the money. He was conducted over to Brooklyn, and delivered to the authorities for trial.

Stabbing.—Petter Higgins was arrested last night by a policeman of the 12th ward, for stabbing Jacob Bower seriously, with a knife, in the thigh, at a house in 71st street, 3d avenue. Committed by Justice Roome.

Indecent Exposure.—John Hassen was arrested yesterday, by a policeman of the 8th ward, for an indecent exposure of his person, at 12 o'clock in the day, to several ladies in Houston street, near Crosby. Justice Merritt held him to bail in $500, to answer at court.

Seduction and Marriage.—A very funny affair took place yesterday before the magistrate at the Tombs. It appears that a Mr. Cruse, a wealthy farmer resides at Keyport, New Jersey; and that one of his daughters, a very fine looking young woman, of 22 years of age, became enamoured with a raw looking Irishman, who was employed by her father as a gardener, by the name of Wm. Patterson. This gallant youth eloped with Miss Henrietta on Sunday night, and arrived by the steamboat Independence in this city, at about 1 o'clock on Monday afternoon, and proceeded to the house of his cousin, also by the name of Patterson, No 55 Robinson street. They then started in company with their cousin, to No 200 Mulberry st. and were married by the Rev. Mr. Hoyt, and returned back again to Robinson st to spend the honey-moon; when, who to their astonishment, should step in but her father with two police officers, and at once conducted them both to the Tombs. The father contends that his daughter is insane; consequently she is not accountable for the step she has taken. Henrietta appears to be much opposed to her father, and will not pay any attention to his entreaties. She certainly appears to have a good deal of method in her madness; that is, if she is deranged at all. However, upon the advice of that excellent clerk, Mr. Stewart, she consented to remain in custody of the matron of the city prison until to-day, when the whole matter will be carefully investigated by Justice Drinker.

Court of Oyer and Terminer.

Before Judge Edmonds—Aldermen Stoneall and Compton.

MARCH 23—The grand jury came into court, yesterday, and handed up a true bill against Jean A. P. Barbiere, for shooting at Ralph Lockwood, Esq, with intent to kill: they also found a true bill for grand larceny, after which they were discharged.

Nuisance Case—The People, &c., vs. The Butchers' Smelting Association.—This case involves an indictment against the defendants, growing out of their smelting establishment, at the corner of 1st Avenue and 4th street. The case was set down for yesterday, but is postponed to this morning; there are four hundred witnesses, at least, to be examined. Six very eminent members of the bar, three on each side, are employed.

Marine Court.

Before Judge Smith.

MARCH 23.—*Samuel Pate vs. Robert Dunlap.*—This was a suit brought for the recovery of three months' services, at $18 per month, while in the employ of the defendant, as a driver of a horse and cart. It appears that in the month of February, 1845, the defendant agreed with the plaintiff for one year's services, at $18 per month, including board and washing, and that he was to commence work two weeks from the time of making the contract. He did so commence, and remained in the employment of the defendant for three months, and that, being dissatisfied, he left his service. He now sues for the recovery of three months' services; and the defendant sets up a plea that, inasmuch as the services were contracted for one year, and the plaintiff left before the expiration of the term, he cannot recover. To rebut this position, the plaintiff says his contract to serve for one year was void, because it comes within the section of the statute of frauds, declaring void all agreements which by their terms are not to be completed in one year from the making thereof, unless such agreement be made in writing; and this contract being for a year, and to commence a fortnight after the making of it, and not being in writing, is, therefore, void, and the plaintiff is entitled to recover for his three months' services, the same as if no contract were made—to wit, upon a *quantum meruit*. His honor the Judge thought that this contract comes within the statute above cited, and is void, as it was not to be completed within a year from the making thereof. His honor further decided that, in his opinion, there was no case in this country that gives this clause of the statute this construction; but in England, where the section of the statute of frauds is nearly similar to our own (the difference being, that in England the party cannot sue on such an agreement, and in this country the agreement is declared absolutely void), the court remarked that the high authority of Lord Lyndhurst sustained its position, as well as other eminent judges, in cases hereafter referred to. The case of Snelling vs. Lord Huntingfield, in 1st Crom. Mess and Roscoe's reports, was where the plaintiff hired with the defendant on the 20th July, to serve as his bailiff for one year from the 24th of the same month. In that case, Lord Lyndhurst says: "The question is at what time the contract was made; for if it were made on the 20th of July, and was for a year's service, to commence on the 24th of July, it was not a contract to be performed within a year, upon which, by the 4th section of the statute of frauds, no action could be made, being an agreement not to be performed within one year from the making thereof." The word "performance," used in the statute of frauds, means a complete and not a partial performance; and a contract for a year's service, to commence at a day subsequent to the making of the contract, is void unless in writing. Bracegirdle vs. Heald, 1 B and Al, 723; Boydell vs. Drummond, 11 East reports, 142; Birch vs. Liverpool, 9 Barn and Cress, 392; and also Shute vs. Dorr, 5th Wendell, 204, sustain this view of the case. Judgment for the plaintiff, sixteen dollars and fifty cents, with costs, being the balance claimed, after deducting certain payments made to the plaintiff.

Before Judge Waterman.

Assault and Battery on the High Seas.—Wm. Smith vs. Wm. S. Wilson and Benjamin Buxton.—This was an action brought to recover damages for frequent alleged assaults and battery, upon the person of the plaintiff, by the second mate (the first named defendant) of the bark Inca, which sailed from the port of Baltimore in the middle of last April. The second of these defendants is the master of said vessel; and as it is urged that he did not interfere or cause the suspension of his subordinate in his alleged brutality of conduct, he becomes personally liable in this instance. It, however, appeared that the Captain reprimanded Wilson for the arbitrary exercise of his authority upon two different occasions, and that subsequently no farther difficulty occurred. Verdict to-morrow.

U. S. Commissioner's Office.

Before Commissioner Netcalf.

The Schooner Patuxent, &c.—For the testimony taken in this case on Saturday last, see a very full report in Sunday's *Herald*. When the examination was about to be resumed, yesterday morning, the counsel for Captain Davis and his mate, stated on behalf of his clients, that he would waive further proceedings before the Commissioner, and consent to give bail; the court then fixed the amount to be given by Captain Davis, at $4,000, and by his mate at $2,500. Bail was given in the course of the day, and the parties discharged. The case will be tried, probably, some time in April next.

Charge of Passing Counterfeit Money.—Cheever and Miller, the two men charged with passing a counterfeit Mexican dollar, were discharged by Commissioner Morton, yesterday, the evidence not being sufficient to sustain the complaint.

Common Pleas.

Before Judge Ingraham.

MARCH 23.—*James Lynch vs. John L. Graham, John H. Gatfield, and Sam'l Williams.*—This was an action of trespass on the case to recover damages. It will be remembered that in the year 1844, the Middle Dutch church in Nassau street, was purchased by the Post Office Department, and converted into the city post office. Before the department could be transferred to the new building, it became necessary to make various alterations and repairs, and amongst others, to paint it, both inside and outside. Mr. Graham, who was then Postmaster of this city, employed Gatfield & Williams to do the painting work, and the latter employed the plaintiff, who is a journeyman painter, to assist. In the progress of the work, the scaffolding upon which the plaintiff stood gave way, and he fell through, and both his ankles were broken, or dislocated, so as to make him a cripple for life. The plaintiff now contends that the defendants, Gatfield & Williams, put up the scaffolding, under the direction and superintendence