Very Late from Venezuela.

We have received, by an arrival at Baltimore, letters and newspapers from La Guayra to the 24th ult. Annexed is one of our letters:—

OUR LAGUAYRA CORRESPONDENCE.

LAGUAYRA, Feb. 23, 1851.

The Gold Mines of Upata—The New President, Monagas—The Civil Government—Disbanding of the Army—Job in buying a Philadelphia Steamer—Impeachments—Revelations—Paez—Lesson in Cheap Postage to the United States—Sending Money by Mail, &c

I am in the receipt of the *Herald* to the 30th December. Having just arrived from the orient of this republic, I am happy to say all is quiet. The people in that region are running mad in respect to the gold mines recently discovered in Upata, although there is but little prospect of a successful enterprise. Our new President, Gen. Jose Gregorio Monagas, will not "follow in the footsteps of his illustrious predecessor," the ex-President, his brother, Jose Tadio. This speaks well for him. He immediately ordered all the troops disbanded, which his brother had called into service without authority of law, or the least necessity, with the exception of a few soldiers for guards of stations. He refused to have any body guards to escort him in the streets, or sentinels at his door. The ex-president presented his brother, the president elect, with a general's uniform, and while he thanked his brother for it, he told him he was President of Venezuela, and not a general in the army, and consequently had no occasion for a uniform for the next four years.

President Jose Gregorio is making a clean sweep of office holders appointed by his brother. The Ministers have all been sent to the right-about. The Congress have impeached the late Ministers of War and Navy, also the Ministers of the Treasury and of Foreign Affairs, for having built a war steamer at Philadelphia without sanction of law, or any appropriation by Congress. One hundred and sixty-four thousand dollars have been used for this purpose, of course with the sanction of the ex-president, when, it is alleged, that the steamer only cost fifty thousand dollars. The builders in Philadelphia will be able to settle this question. The agent sent to have the steamer built, wrote and published a phamphlet against Gen. Paez, for which eminent service the ex-president rewarded him with the appointment as Minister to the United States. The publication of the pamphlet is reported to have cost $6,000. Congress has not only repudiated this unauthorized expense, but the President elect has revoked the appointment of Minister to the United States, made by his brother. So much for writing against the illustrious ex-president, Gen. Jose Antonio Paez. If good Ministers are appointed, and all the rogues turned out of office, Venezuela will yet stand erect, and prosper.

The President says he means to be President of the whole people, and not of a party. But too many Presidents make this profession, and forget to fulfil their promises.

The United States might copy, to advantage, some of the laws of Venezuela, notwithstanding she is a century behind the age of civilization; for instance, all newspapers, and pamphlets, and printed matter of every description, in any language, foreign or domestic productions, are conveyed by the mails, free of postage, to any part of the republic, providing the package does not exceed four ounces in weight; over that weight half letter postage is charged on the excess; but the number of packages are not limited, and this, too, when all the mails are carried on the backs of men, to the most distant parts of the country.

When any person is desirous to be certain that money, documents, letters, &c., are duly received by correspondents, he puts what he sends under an envelope, pays the postage, and forty cents additional. This is certified on the outside by the postmaster. On the inside of the cover a receipt is written for the contents of the package, describing the same. The postmaster who receives the package at its destination, requires the person to whom the package is directed to open the same in his presence, and verify its contents and sign the receipt, which the postmaster returns to the post office from whence it came, free of charge. It is then delivered to the person who mailed the package. It is believed an arrangement of this kind in the United States would be duly appreciated, and, besides, be a source of revenue to the department.

I shall proceed to-morrow to the capital, and will communicate what may be of importance, either as respects the government, or movements in Congress, or any local matters.

SAN ANTONIO.

The country was quiet for the present.

The new President, General Jose Gregorio Monagas, brother of the last president, had appointed General Salom, Secretary of War; but it was not yet known whether the latter would accept the nomination.

A motion had been made at the beginning of the sessions of the Congress, in the house of Representatives, for the purpose of granting a general amnesty to all political offenders concerned in the troubles of 1848 and 1849, with the exclusion of General Paez; but the measure had not passed, and the subject appears to have been dropped.

Congress was particularly occupied with an accusation presented in the House against Vicente Lecuna, late minister of the treasury, and Francisco Mejia, late Secretary of War, involving the transaction with Senor F. Corvaia, relative to the steamer Libertador, lately built in the city of Philadelphia. Our correspondent informs us that the House had admitted the accusation unanimously, and had sent the matter into the Senate for trial.

The following extract from the speech of the honorable Senor Amengual, made in the House of Representatives, on the 14th of February, and taken from the *Diario de Debates* (the official journal), will throw some light on the subject. A motion having been made to continue the sittings beyond the usual hour, Senor Amengual said:—

"I am in favor of continuing the sittings because we are engaged in a grave question, worthy of the attention of the House. It is said that under color of law large sums of money not appropriated for the purpose have been abstracted from the public treasury, and it is intended to draw up an accusation against those concerned in the act. This is an important subject, as the accusation will probably end, either in the restitution of the sum or sums abstracted, as an exemplary punishment of public officers who have violated the constitution and the laws, and proved unfaithful to their duties; or, in the acquittal of said officers, if the charges brought against them be false. (Cheers.) The people say that under color of law the public money has been robbed, and the people are waiting the issue of the matter. There is nothing more proper than that we should devote our time to the investigation of the matter, in order to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion; and in order to punish the crime severely, if one has been committed, and to absolve the innocent, if the parties concerned are innocent. Such is our duty. (Continued cheers.) Let us devote two or three hours more to this important subject; let us find out the truth, a duty imposed on us not only by our position, but also by our public necessities, evinced by the lamentations of widows, of the soldiers, the invalids, and public officers, who cannot be paid on account of the miserable state of the treasury. (Cheers.) Yesterday we knew nothing respecting this matter, and to-day we are apprised that upwards of $150,000, not appropriated by law, have been expended out of the public treasury; we know that the Board of the Treasury took no part in the matter, and had no knowledge of the expenditure; that the treasurer protested when ordered to make the payment on account of the steamer negotiated with Senor Corvaia; and that the Secretary of State renewed the order, which was then carried out; that on account of said steamer, $100,000 have been paid, and that about $50,000 more are still due. But I desire to know more. I wish to be informed where is the security bond which, according to the sixth clause of the agreement, Corvaia ought to have executed. I do not find it among the paper which have been read; neither do I find that the steamer was delivered at the time agreed upon. These strong considerations must weigh, with the members of this House, to prevent an adjournment until this matter, which has been suspended on account of the absence of the Secretary of War, be finally disposed of. We should remember that we are engaged with a subject which belongs to the people, because the revenues of Venezuela belong only to the people.

Our private advices state that Senor Corvaia, who had been appointed Venezuelan *charge des affaires* to the United States by the President, Monagas, had his appointment revoked by the new President two days after the sailing of Senor C., for New York; and that the American *charge des affaires* had been notified of the fact.

TROUBLE AMONG THE NEGROES AT CAMDEN, N. J.—For two or three weeks past, quite an excitement has prevailed among the colored portion of the population at, and in the vicinity of Snow Hill, Camden county, in consequence of suspicion being entertained against a colored individual named Banks, that he was acting in concert with the officers of the law in arresting fugitives from servitude. The excitement continued to increase among them, and hostile demonstrations were made towards Mr. B., who, by the way, is a colored disciple of Lycurgus, and an attempt was made to destroy his house by fire; but, fortunately, it was discovered, and extinguished before any material damage was sustained. This act appeared to quiet the excitement a short time; but it soon broke out again with increased violence. A few nights since, a party of four colored men went to his house, dragged him from his bed, and beat him in a most horrible and outrageous manner. For a time his wounds were considered so dangerous and severe that his life was despaired of, but through timely and efficient medical aid, we understand he is slowly recovering. For several nights subsequently, an armed guard had to be kept around his house to protect him from the assaults of the infuriated populace. Some of the assailants have been arrested, and the case was brought before Justice Curtis for an investigation.—*Philadelphia Sun, March 18.*

The U. S. District Court and the Boston Fugitive Rescue.

The following is an abstract of Judge Sprague's charge to the jury of the United States District Court, now in session at Boston, relative to the late outrage in that city:—

Gentlemen of the Grand Jury:—The office you now hold demonstrates that the constitution has established not a mere confederacy of States, but a government acting directly upon individuals, with a legislature to enact laws, a judiciary to expound them, and an executive to enforce them. Under this government the people of the United States have enjoyed a greater degree of liberty, prosperity, and happiness than have been enjoyed by any other people in the history of the world. To preserve this government, it is necessary that its laws should be faithfully executed, and you are now called upon, under the highest sanction, to aid in this indispensable work.

I think it proper, at this time, to call your attention particularly to that part of the criminal code, which prohibits and punishes forcible resistance to the laws. Government is so great a blessing, that the highest crime which can be committed is treason. This is defined by the constitution itself in the following words:—"Treason against the United States shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort." What amounts to levying war? This question arose soon after the adoption of the constitution, in the several trials of Mitchell, Vigol, and Fries, for being engaged in the Pennsylvania insurrection against the law imposing a duty upon distilled spirits, under the administration of Washington, and subsequently in the trial of Aaron Burr, in the year 1807, and in the case of the United States vs. Hoxie, in the year 1808. These were all trials in the Circuit Court. * * *

But the sudden outbreak of a mob, or the assembling of men in order by force, to defeat the execution of the law in a particular instance, and then to disperse, without the intention to continue together or to reassemble for the purpose of defeating the law generally, in all cases is not levying war. If war be actually levied, persons may be guilty, although not present with the force actually assembled. "All those who perform any part, however minute, or however remote from the scene of action, and who are actually leagued in the general conspiracy, are to be considered as traitors."

There are minor offences created and defined by acts of Congress alone. By statute of the 30th of April, 1790, chapter 9, section 22, it is enacted, "That if any person or persons shall knowingly and wilfully obstruct, resist, or oppose any officer of the United States, in serving or attempting to serve or execute any mesne, process, or warrant, or any rule or order of any of the Courts of the United States, or any other legal or judicial writ or process whatever, or shall assault, beat or wound any officer or other person duly authorized in serving or executing any writ, rule, order, process or warrant aforesaid, every person so knowingly and wilfully offending in the premises shall, on conviction thereof," be punished by fine and imprisonment.

Thus you perceive that for more than sixty years—indeed from the foundation of the government—it has been a criminal offence to resist, or oppose, or obstruct the Marshal in the execution of a warrant or other legal process; and so plain is the utility and necessity of this provision, that, during all that time, no voice has been raised against it. So far from impairing the energy with which the laws are to be executed, the people, by their legislation, have added new sanctions. Thus, by statute of March 2d, 1831, chapter 90, section 2, it is enacted "That if any person or persons shall corruptly, or by threats or force, endeavor to influence, intimidate, or impede any juror, witness, or officer, in any court of the United States, in the discharge of his duty, or shall corruptly, or by threats or force, obstruct or impede, or endeavor to obstruct or impede, the due administration of justice therein, every person or persons so offending shall be liable to prosecution therefor by indictment."

This salutary enactment to secure the free course of law has been in force for nearly twenty years without objection. But we have recently heard that not only should the courts be impeded in the administration of the law, but that the Marshal should be obstructed and even resisted by force in the execution of legal process, because of a recent statute, providing for the arrest and deliverance up of fugitives from labor. It is to be observed that this statute subjects no persons to arrest who was not before liable to be seized and carried out of the State; for ever since the adoption of the constitution these same persons have been liable to be taken and carried away by those from whose service they had escaped. For a pre-existing right created by the constitution and affirmed by the Supreme Court of the United States, Congress has provided a new remedy by legal process to be executed by a public officer, and has added penal sanctions more effectually to ensure the execution of the law. If it have not all the safeguards we could wish, so neither had the statute of 1793, passed by the fathers of the constitution, with the approbation of Washington, and sustained by the people for more than half a century. The constitution commands that fugitives from labor shall be delivered up. The Supreme Court have decided that it belongs to Congress to provide the means. Congress have enacted this law. It is imperative, and it will be enforced. Let no man mistake the mildness and forbearance with which the criminal code is habitually administered for weakness or timidity. Resistance must make it sternly inflexible.

The statute of 1850, chap. 60, after providing that the claimant of a fugitive from labor may have a warrant for his arrest, or seize him without process, proceeds in the 7th section to enact, "That any person who shall knowingly and willingly obstruct, hinder or prevent such claimant, his agent or attorney, or any person or persons lawfully assisting him, her, or them, from arresting such fugitive from service or labor, either with or without process as aforesaid, or shall rescue, or attempt to rescue, such fugitive from service or labor, from the custody of such claimant, his or her agent, or attorney, or other person or persons lawfully assisting as aforesaid when so arrested, pursuant to the authority herein given and declared; or shall aid, abet, or assist such person so owing service or labor aforesaid, directly or indirectly, to escape from such claimant, his agent or attorney, or other person or persons legally authorized as aforesaid; or shall harbor or conceal such fugitive, so as to prevent the discovery and arrest of such person, after notice or knowledge of the fact that such person was a fugitive from service or labor as aforesaid, shall for either of said offences be subject to" fine and imprisonment.

I have thus, as I proposed, called your attention to certain acts of Congress and provisions of the constitution. They are the law of the land, and it is our most solemn duty faithfully to execute them. In the words of the oath which you have just taken, you are to do this "without fear, favor, affection, or hope of reward," presenting "things truly as they come to your knowledge, according to the best of your understanding."

Here I might close; but as great efforts have been made to convince the public that the recent law cannot be enforced with a good conscience, but may be conscientiously resisted; and an impression may have been made on some of your number, thus presenting an obstacle to the discharge of a plain legal duty, I deem it proper to advert briefly to the moral aspects of the subject.

In this part of the country the convictions of our understanding, our moral sentiments, and our religious opinions, are adverse to the institution of slavery. Hence some are ready to conclude in the first place, that the provision of the constitution for delivering up fugitive slaves must be morally wrong; and, in the next place, that laws made to carry it into effect, are to be disobeyed and resisted. Neither of these propositions legitimately follow from the premises. * * *

We are told by some, that the law being morally wrong, conscience tell them to resist it. Conscience, indeed, is to be reverenced and obeyed, but still we must remember that it is fallible, especially where the rights of others are concerned, and may lead us to do great injustice. Some have an impression that it is the divinity within them, an unerring and infallible guide. Hence they cannot believe or conceive that opposition to their views can be conscientious. It is this lurking fallacy, this tacit assumption of personal infallibility, that makes them intolerant toward others, and inaccessible to argument.

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Again, certain strangers seek an asylum among us. One class of our citizens see in them only fugitives from oppression, whom we can easily and securely receive and protect. Another class believe that they bring with them, not physical, but moral contagion, that their presence will endanger the public peace and individual safety, that it may embroil us with other states, and bring upon us the sufferings and horrors of external and internal war and convulsion. The one class urge the obligations of hospitality and benevolence, the other the obligations of self-preservation, and the sacred duty of preserving those whom nature and society have committed to their protection.

Both are equally sincere, conscientious, and resolute. Which shall yield? Is there no appeal but to force? Yes! And the arbiter must be society, organized society, pronouncing its decision through its regularly constituted agents. This is the moral judgment, the embodied conscience, of the political community. To this not only is each individual bound to submit, but it is a new and controlling element in forming his own moral judgment. An act which before may have been innocent, is now criminal; and its commission not only opposed to the will, but subversive of the order, peace, existence of the political society.

Obedience is a moral duty. This is as certain as that the Creater made man a social being, and designed that he should live, not in perpetual anarchy, but in peace and security, for human government is the only means which Infinite Goodness has provided, for preserving us from unceasing conflict and violence. To obey the law of the land, is then to obey the will of God.

It may be asked—Is resistance never justifiable? Is there no exception? I answer, yes. When oppression present and prospective is so great as to justify a resort to the ultimate right of revolution. But this is not to be done from impulse or feeling, but from the calm and careful consideration of the dangers and difficulties of the proposed remedy. * * *

RECEPTION OF THE MOSQUITO KING AT SAN JUAN.—We have before given an account of the reception of the King of the Mosquitos, but the following is another which we find in the correspondence of the New Orleans *Picayune*, under date of San Juan, Feb. 16:—This town has been in a high state of excitement for the last ten days, in anticipation of a visit from the King. Last night, at 10 o'clock, the Ingun finally came, and this morning, at early dawn, her Britannic Majesty's war schooner was dressed out in holiday attire, and a royal salute was fired from her decks—a signal that he, the King, was about to embark for town.

The Mosquito guard, eight men strong, was at once mustered and drawn up in line to receive his Royal Majesty, who came on shore at precisely 45 minutes and a half past 7 A. M., accompanied by the captain of the man-of-war schooner. The moment the royal cowhide brogans of his Royal Majesty touched the ground, he was met by the English consul, who escorted the august monarch to the unfinished palace. Only think, Mr. *Pic.*, how some fifteen or twenty of us republicans must have felt on being ushered into the presence of royalty! I withstood the shock much better than some of my companions, having been in the presence of his Royal Majesty at the royal palace, Blue Fields, some time since.

At 27 minutes and 10 seconds past 8 A. M.—I like to be exact when speaking of important matters—his regal Majesty sat down to a royal banquet, prepared by her Britannic Majesty's consul, and having given a royal wink, as much as to say that grace might be dispensed with, he pitched into the eatables with as good a will as any ordinary mortal. Whether he had taken a cocktail or two previously is more than I can say—I only speak of wat I saw.

At 13 minutes past 10 A. M., the feast having ended, his serene and saffron-colored Majesty took an airing on foot, flanked on either side by officers of her Britannic Majesty's navy as his escort. The royal train of five passed through the principal streets of the city, their march leading, in what is termed a bee line, from the palace to the Queen's Slough. From thence they proceeded to Copenhagen Square, which they entered Indian file, his Royal Majesty in front. When directly opposite what is known as the Turkey Buzzard Pen, the royal procession came to a dead halt, when his Majesty taking off his cap, and wiping the perspiration from his forehead with the sleeve of his jacket, graciously condescended to open his royal mouth with the question "Wat dat hous for dar?" On being informed, he put on his cap, and again proceeded. From the Buzzard Pen, the royal procession went up Walling street to St. Alban's, from St. Albans to the Cock Pit, from thence to the Royal Parade Ground, and from thence on until they reached the Gin Shop. Here they took refreshments all round, consisting of jerked beef and something to wash it down, after which they scattered, each man his own way, and went off to take a nap, for anything your humble servant knows to the contrary.

When nearly opposite the Buzzard Pen, a small craft was seen sailing down the harbor, with the American ensign at the peak. The royal procession came to a halt, when his Majesty, pointing his sable finger in the direction of the stars and stripes, exclaimed, in an authoritative tone, "Wat dat flag dar, Mr. Consul?" "The American flag" was the reply. "Merican flag—wat country dat you call Merican?" queried his Royal Majesty; "Is it big like Moskeeter kingdom?"

THE NEW BEDFORD HUBBUB SOMETHING OF A HOAX.—The Boston *Advertiser*, of yesterday, speaking of this funny affair, says:—Some persons in Boston, of whom one is known to be a reporter for the abolition newspaper, *The Commonwealth*, carried to New Bedford, on Sunday morning, the story that a steamboat, with one hundred armed men, under the orders of Deputy Marshal Riley, had left the Navy Yard, at Charlestown, to arrest a negro at New Bedford. We may, at the commencement, relieve the anxiety of the reader, by stating that so far as—on diligent inquiry—we can learn, no such steamer has sailed; neither the officer commanding at the Navy Yard, nor the acting marshal here, avouches any such expedition.

The report was started in New Bedford at six o'clock on Sunday morning, and the bell on Liberty Hall was tolled, as if the city was in danger. The people collected, and were told the story which we have sketched above. A timely fall of snow and rain seems to have cooled and damped the unnecessary excitement. It now seems that there was an absurd attempt made to create an excitement, that the romantic plan of tolling a bell before sunrise on Sunday morning was successful in producing one, and that a sober second thought soon quieted it. It will soon appear, in such a game of *poissons d'Avril*, which are the fish and which are the hooks.

The *Commonwealth*, (abolition) which set the thing in motion, says:—We dare Marshal Devens to deny that a naval expedition to capture a fugitive slave or slaves has, for the last week, been in contemplation in his office; and, that on Saturday, application was made for a steamboat for from one to three or four days "to go down on the cape and catch a nigger," and was refused. We dare him to deny that his deputies were at the navy yard on Saturday, making preparations for the expedition, up to the time the yard was closed.

The *Springfield Republican* says:—The whole affair was a hoax, wicked in its inception, and terribly wicked in its results. Deputy Marshal Riley, who figured largely in the sham story, came up to Springfield on Monday forenoon, and learned first of his terrible movements by sea and land on the way hither.

The *Boston Journal* adds to the above, that there has not been even a warrant issued or asked for against fugitives in New Bedford, and that, after a thorough sifting of the whole matter, it is unable to find the slightest ground for the report which created such an excitement in New Bedford. The whole affair seems to have centered in the office of the *Commonwealth*, from which the emissaries were sent to New Bedford, and from which alone the public got any information concerning it.

INTERESTING FROM TEXAS—THE INDIANS, &C.—The New Orleans *Picayune*, of the 8th inst., says:—By the arrival of the steamship Globe, we have received Galveston papers to the 4th inst. The Austin *State Gazette* says it is rumored that Gen. Brooks is making arrangements at an early day to set in motion a strong expedition against the Indians, whose continued annoyances and outrages render it necessary to adopt some such decisive measures, or abandon the frontier to their mercy. It is contemplated to place the expedition under the command of Gen. Harney, who had left for San Antonio to confer with the commanding general on the subject.

The San Antonio *Ledger* of the 19th ult. says:—From Dr. Kingsbury we learn that on last Saturday, four men of Capt. McCown's company of volunteers, going from Musenbach's to their camp, came across some Indians driving off horses. The Indians fled on seeing the men, and the horses ran off; none had been recovered when he left. It is probable that these were the horses stolen from the Civilo on Thursday night last, and that they will be recovered.

The Mexicans attribute most of the Indian depredations in the vicinity of the Rio Grande to the management of Wild Cat.

The schooner Blanche M. Sears was driven ashore on Padre Island on the 31st ult., and is a complete wreck. She was a new vessel, and was on her way from New Orleans, with a cargo of merchandise for Brownsville.

The Washington *Lone Star* of the 26th ult., says that the Brazos had swollen to within a few feet of the top of its banks, but was then receding slowly.

At last advices the steamer Colorado Ranger had nearly succeeded in getting above the raft on the Colorado river. A ditch has been dug avoiding it, and a slight rise only was necessary to enable the steamer to get through.

A writer in the Trinity *Advocate* says that a canal of four miles would let the water from Red river into the Trinity. A Texas paper suggests that by this means the Trinity might be made navigable as long as Red river could supply it with water, and the trade of Red river might be brought to Galveston.

DARING ROBBERY AND PROBABLE MURDER IN KENTUCKY.—We are informed that on the night of the 12th inst., near Floydsburg, Ky., a party of five or seven men attacked the house of a peaceable family, broke open the door, beat the inmates until they were supposed to be killed, and then robbed the house of several thousand dollars in money. The particulars, as related to us, are these:—Two bachelors, James and David Beall, were living together with their aged mother, and a man named Bright, upon a farm owned by the two former, lying in Shelby county, near the edge of Oldham, and within a short distance of Floydsburg. On the night of the 12th inst., between 8 and 9 o'clock, after the two Bealls had retired to bed, and as their mother was about doing the same, she happened to look through the window, when she saw approaching the party of five or seven men, above referred to. She immediately called up one of her sons, who, before opening the door to admit the strangers, inquired who they were. One of them replied that his name was "Peace," and immediately the door was broken open and the inmates of the house attacked and beaten, successively, till each was supposed to be dead. The house was then robbed by the desperadoes of $2,000 in paper money, and a bag of silver of unknown amount. The parties committing the outrage were not recognized. One of the Bealls will probably die from the effects of his wounds; the other sufferers, it is supposed, will recover. No clue has, as yet, been obtained as to who the murderers were.—*Louisville (Ky.) Journal, March 14.*

BURNING OF THE WESTERN RAILROAD DEPOT, AT SPRINGFIELD, MASS.—ELEVEN PERSONS INJURED.—On Monday afternoon, between 4 and 5 o'clock, the passenger depot building of the Western Railroad in this town was discovered to be on fire in the upper part of the western end, occupied by Mrs. Howe as a refreshment room. A large number of men and boys had mounted the roof of the main building, the most of the former engaged in controlling the hose and managing the pipes of the various engines, while the boys were amusing themselves by looking on. At least thirty men and boys were thus situated when a loud crack was heard, and at least two thirds of the building came down with a tremendous crash, taking with it every person on the building. The sheds at either side of the building under which the Northern and Southern cars run, came down at the same time through their entire length. There was one moment of terrible heart sickness and suspense, and then the ruins were mounted by a hundred men for the relief of those who were among them. As the building fell, several slid from the roof and landed clear of the ruins, but more than half had no opportunity for escape. The following persons were among the injured:—Spencer Sanderson, clerk in Dr. Segur's drug store, son of Hurvey Sanderson, slightly injured; William Horton, son of Contractor Horton, slighly injured, and complains of his head; Charles Russell, brakeman, head badly contused, and one hand bruised, two or three fingers broken—lives on Washington st.; Freeman Orcott, severe contusion on the leg and ankle. Addison Vorrey, of New Haven, conductor on the express train South; harsh graze down the hip and the muscles of the thigh, sufficient to incapacitate the limb; Mr. Vorrey was standing, with several others, by the bell on the centre of the roof at the moment of the catastrophe; George Calkins, badly hurt; —— Hastings, in the employ of the Western Railroad Corporation at the freight house, probably injured in the spine, as he cannot walk and shows no bruises; —— McHenry, severely hurt on the hip; Abner Fields, employed at Butterfield's eating house, both bones of fore-arm broken; Thomas Callahan, lives foot of Union street, head bruised, and large incision in the scalp—was in the act of putting up a ladder on one of the side roofs; James Strickland, young man, spine apparently injured—in much pain. In all, eleven individuals were taken from the ruins injured, and, contrary to all expectation, none of them killed. It seemed impossible that all should thus have escaped. The scene around was most exciting. Women were wringing their hands for fear that a husband or a son was buried, and every face was anxious and solemn. The building was of wood, and was old. It would have been necessary to rebuild it very soon, and its loss will be felt more in the inconvenience to the large number of trains centering in it, than in a pecuniary point of view. This inconvenience must be great, as it was the only passenger house in Springfield for the accommodation of northern, southern, eastern, and western travel. The wounded were mostly removed from the northern side of the building, and were taken into the American House, where they were received with every attention possible.—*Springfield Republican. March 18.*

FALL OF A CHURCH IN PHILADELPHIA.—About five o'clock this morning, the Spring Garden Presbyterian church, (Rev. John McDowell, pastor,) corner of Eleventh and Wistar streets, fell with an awful crash. The residents of the neighborhood, suddenly aroused from their slumbers by the report, were thrown into a state of the greatest alarm. The immediate cause of the disaster was the weight of the snow which had fallen during the night. From appearances, when we viewed the scene of the ruins, this forenoon, the rafters must have broken in the centre, when the roof tumbled inwards. The side walls were forced outwards, and the whole mass of the upper timbers, girders, &c., lodged upon the pews in the main body of the church. Wistar street, to the walls of the houses on the south side, directly opposite the church, is a heap of bricks and other rubbish. The north wall damaged the back building of the nearest adjoining dwelling on Eleventh street, and the bath houses, &c., of two or three of the houses on Green street, backing upon the church, were partially demolished. Several of the rear chimneys of these houses were knocked down, and a hole was stove entirely through the wall of one of the back buildings. The pillars and ornamental portion of the front of the church are standing. The greater part of the back wall is likewise remaining. The whole centre of the edifice is crushed to the basement story, which is but slightly damaged. Only a small portion of the ceiling of the lecture room gave way. A boy in one of the wrecked back buildings, made a very narrow escape with his life. Some domestics, who were up, preparing to wash, also escaped, as if by a miracle. We heard of no one being injured. Truly, a fortunate circumstance. Had the accident happened when the congregation were worshipping, the result would have been most lamentable. The church was erected about four years ago, and the loss to the congregation cannot, we should suppose, fall much short of $20,000. The catastrophe is attributed to the bad construction of the building, which, it is now plainly to be seen, was insecurely tied, and poorly roofed. Blame is attached to both architect and builder; but the former seems to come in for the largest share of the censure. There are various stories in circulation about the matter; but we refrain from giving them publicity.—*Philadelphia Eve. Bulletin, March 18*

MURDER IN MOBILE, ALA.—Our city was thrown into a state of unusual excitement yesterday morning, in consequence of the intelligence of the commission of one of the most appalling murders which we have ever been called upon to relate. At half-past eleven o'clock on Saturday night, an amiable old man named Stephen Hernandez, a Cuban by birth, who kept a segar shop on the north side of Dauphin street, between Hamilton and Lawrence streets, was most cruelly murdered by a band of ruffians who covertly entered his house. The cries of the deceased attracted to the spot a gentleman passing, who attempted to enter; but was prevented by the murderers instantly barring the door. Again cries of great distress issued from the interior, and this time the gentleman broke open the door with considerable effort, and found Hernandez lying on the floor, a mangled and bloody corpse. The house, too, was on fire; but the flames were speedily extinguished, and an open box of matches, a long dirk knife, which had been recently sharpened, and the case of a small Arkansas tooth pick were discovered on the floor near the deceased. Upon inspection, it was found that the body had received sixteen wounds, thirteen of which were mortal—ten wounds were discovered on the left breast over the heart, one on the back of the neck, one under the left arm, one on the abdomen, and the rest upon the head and arms. It is supposed that the murderers were incited to their horrid purpose by the fact that Hernandez had been seen the day before with five hundred dollars in his possession, and from the prevalent belief that he was wealthy. The police have arrested and confined in the guard house three persons suspected of having been concerned in this diabolical tragedy—their names are Francisco Foper, Andrew Batrau and F. Narckerbra. Yesterday a boat was despatched, under the direction of an officer, to intercept a schooner which had just cleared this port for Havana, having on board a man who had previously been employed as a segar manufacturer in the shop of Hernandez, suspected to be *particeps criminis* to the murder, and to whom the deceased had confided a daguerreotype likeness of himself, to be delivered to his wife at Havana.—*Mobile (Ala) Reg., March 11.*

CUMBERLAND COAL.—As the canal will be open for navigation in a few days, and the rich product of the Alleghaney mines will, for the first time, have an outlet to market, no matter what may be the quantity presented for transportation, it will not be uninteresting to refer back to the demand which has heretofore existed for its use, and to glance at the probability of a rapid increase for the future. The Cumberland coal has been successfully used for years by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company. It has likewise been employed with great success on the Reading railroad in Pennsylvania, for the same purpose. Other railroad companies at the North and East have also used it, and in every instance to the entire satisfaction of the engineers and managers. At the present time, every steamship engaged in navigating the Atlantic, from Philadelphia, New York and Boston, employs this coal exclusively, whenever it can be obtained in sufficient quantities. The steamships of the United States navy will take no other coal when this can be had. The engineers of the navy regard it as without a rival as a generator of steam. The manufacturers of iron and glass, throughout the North, are beginning to perceive its superiority over any other coal used in their branches of business, and its entire freedom from sulphur, will cause them, in a very short time, to employ it to the exclusion of every other kind. But its use as a fuel for domestic purposes, is likewise advancing with gigantic strides. Whenever it could be had, it has, thus far, taken the place of every other kind of fuel, in every quarter of the country to which it has been carried. It emits a heat as intense as that of anthracite, without its noxious gases. It ignites as rapidly as the more highly bituminous coals, without their disagreeable smoke and superabundant soot. Thus, it will be seen, that the coal of this region is already greatly in demand, and that its superior qualities are well known to those whose interest it is to be acquainted with the facts. Of the increase of the demand, it is almost useless for us to say anything. The use has, heretofore, depended upon the supply. This fact is alone sufficient to show that the demand will constantly increase, even for the ordinary purposes for which this species of coal is employed. The other considerations connected with the rapid increase of the steam ocean marine, and the advance of population in all the Atlantic cities, we are forced to pass by for want of time. We have said enough, however, to show that all the coal that can be carried down the canal hereafter, will find a ready market, no matter to what point, far or near, by sea or land, it may be transported.—*Cumberland (Md.) Civilian, March 14.*

St. John's College.

On Tuesday, the 4th inst., the students of St. John's College, Fordham, gave, to numerous friends and acquaintances their first literary debate of the season. There is always something peculiarly enchanting in such juvenile entertainments. They awaken in the bosoms of all present, recollections the sweetest; for surely if there is one green spot in the desert of life, around which the heart can linger with unalloyed delight, it is that of school boy days; and never before, we confess, on any similar occasion, did fond memory more clearly or more brightly "bring the light of other days around us." The day was propitiously fine; everything around the college wore an appearance of gayety, not usual at such a season. It seemed as if nature herself, desirous to participate in the festivity of their young hearts, had even outstepped her wonted course, and attired herself in lighter robes and brighter colors than usual. At twelve o'clock the company repaired to the large study hall, which was artistically decorated for the occasion. Among other patriotic devices, one prominently appeared which attracted universal admiration, because it spoke the language of every heart—it was the concise, eloquent, American motto "Union." The order of exercises were as follows:—

LITERARY DEBATE.

Question.—Is the downfall of former republics mainly attributable to moral or to political causes. Moral—1. James Martin, New York; 3. Charles C. Pinckney, Walterboro, S. C. Political—2. John McQuade, Utica, N. Y.; 4. G. J. Thebaud, New York.

The Chairman, upon introducing the speakers, made some very appropriate remarks on the interest and importance of the question they were about to debate. He observed, that at first sight it might appear presumptious for youths to discuss a subject which had so often engaged the attention of persons of maturer years. However, as they were intending to take a historical rather than a philosophical view of the question, he hoped they would prove to the highly intellectual audience present, that they were not endeavoring to soar too high. After his well timed remarks on the nature of the subject, and the view in which it was to be considered, the desires of all were somewhat hightened to hear the debaters advocate their respective causes. These high anticipations were indeed more than realized, when they heard the young orators (all of whom we should suppose were under eighteen,) maintain their respective positions, with such force of declamation, powerful reasoning, such eloquent and heartstirring appeals.

The discourses of Messrs. Martin and Pinckney, who maintained that the downfall of republics is mainly to be ascribed to moral causes, were replete with many examples, both ancient and modern, showing that moral corruption widely diffused throughout all classes, was what slowly but surely sapped the foundations of Greece, Carthage, and Rome, as also of the Italian republics, of France and of Holland, in later ages.

Their opponents, Messrs. McQuade and Thebaud, though it must be confessed they advocated the weaker cause, so successfully overturned some, and evaded others of the arguments adduced on the side of moral causes, that the passive listener, who perhaps a little before imagined the reasonings for moral agency incontrovertible, found himself now somewhat in a similar state of mind to the pliable judge, who, after listening to the respective claims of plaintiff and defendant, impartially, though not very logically, cried out "both must be right." But fortunately in the present case, a more penetrating judge presided, and though equally impartial, more logical. After weighing the arguments on each side, clearly defining a moral and political cause, showing that the two are inseparable, though either may preponderate, and adding that France of '93 must be regarded as a social phenomenon, or rather monster, not referable to ordinary rules, he pronounced his decision to this effect:—The downfall of ancient republics, must be attributed rather to moral than to political—that of modern commonwealths, rather to political than moral causes. The continued applause of the audience emphatically bespoke their approbation, and evinced their entire concurrence in the justness of his decision.

The music furnished on the occasion by the students, under the guidance of their eminent professor, Mr. Beck, filled the soul of every auditor with delight. In the present instance, Mr. Beck has indeed shown his talent as a composer, as well as a skillful teacher; seldom, in academic halls have the ears of any audience been regaled with such harmony of sounds, or such sweet and soul stirring notes, as those young warblers send forth.

At the conclusion of the exercises, the Rev. Dr. Forbes represented the audience, in expressing their thanks for the delightful entertainment afforded them by the young gentlemen, who displayed such powers of eloquence, and such sound and practical views on the important subject they so ably discussed. He rejoiced to find, that while some were threatening to raise a sacrilegious hand against that Union which was conceived by the mind of a Washington and a Jefferson, and cemented by the blood of so many patriots, such minds and such hearts as the young orators were possessed of, were imbibing within these sacred walls, true principles of patriotism; and that the Union, the motto inscribed upon their rostrum, was written in their very souls. He hoped that the eloquence they had displayed, would, in their future career, be employed in the cause of their country and of truth.

After the very pertinent remarks of the distinguished gentleman, the company adjourned from the academical to the dining hall, and from music and song to fruit, cake and lemonade.

The Canadian Anti-Slavery Association.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK HERALD.

I have recently perused, and, I must say, with infinite disgust, a letter from your Toronto correspondent, very properly condemning, while detailing, the proceedings of a meeting got up by certain fanatics, who have formed themselves into an association, the avowed objects of which are to encourage disunion in these States, and to induce the slave population to rise against their masters.

These Canadian intermeddlers are consistent men. It is not many years since that they raised their dismal howlings against the government of the United States, because certain restless spirits on the border were not to be restrained from joining those were called the rebels of the province. Perhaps, however, they can show the difference between the two acts—aiding men to acquire that independence which should be the common inheritance of the white race, and encouraging a slave population to regard as insufferable bondage, a tie which never would have been considered onerous, but for the suggestions of a set of *soi-disant* philanthropists, who are far greater tyrants in their hearts, infinitely more dictatorial than those whose conduct they affect to impugn.

Now, Mr. Editor, there is a remedy for all this "much cry and little wool" affair. Suppose the President of the United States should cause it to be intimated, through the proper channel of communication, to the Governor General of Her Majesty's North American possessions—Lord Elgin—who, forgetting his rotten egg pelting at the public dinner of the Mayor of Toronto, amuses himself with drawing contrasts between the United States and Canada, unfavorable to the former; and with the shaking of hands with another equally celebrated character, Sir Allan McNab—suppose, I repeat, the President should cause it to be intimated to the Governor General, that if these and similar meetings, and associations—more insulting than dangerous to the American government—are not promptly discountenanced, he will be unable to prevent public feeling from manifesting itself in the marching of some fifty to a hundred thousand chivalrous spirits into Canada. What, think you, would be the result? Surely, Lord Elgin could not pretend that he was without the power to issue a proclamation prohibiting assemblages and proceedings, the repetition of which would ultimately involve Her Britannic Majesty's government in