THE WAR MOVEMENT IN ENGLAND.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS AND OPINIONS.

EXCITED STATE OF THE BRITISH MIND.

The Restoration of the Rebel Commissioners Still Demanded,

What is Thought by "Young Italy" and "Young Ireland."

AMERICAN POLITICS IN PARIS,

&c., &c., &c.

Sanguinary Feelings and Prejudices of the British Aristocracy.

[From the London Herald (Derby organ), Dec. 4.]

The news from the United States leaves us little, if any, hope of avoiding war. It is quite clear that the few honest journals and respectable men in the Northern States are shocked and disgusted at the act of Captain Wilkes. They would not at any time desire a war with England; they would at a great sacrifice avoid it under present circumstances, when an army of 350,000 men menaces their Southern frontier, and when they could not spare a ship or a regiment from their present duties to wage war on us in Canada or on the seas. But, above all, these men dread and detest the idea of a war with England in a bad cause. *They know that on this occasion Europe is with us; right is with us;* the law of nations is on our side; they know that we fight not for greed, nor for empire, nor for passion, nor for glory; but from the necessity of defending the honor of our flag and the freedom of the seas. They know that their government has ere now strained the law of nations to the uttermost by lawless arrests, by unjustifiable captures, by a paper blockade; and that England has borne these outrages patient y, rather than, with a single doubt hanging over her cause, appeal to the God of Battles. They are grateful for the unprecedented forbearance of the greatest naval Power in the world. They are ashamed of the reckless aggression and wanton insolence of their backwoods statesmen and half educated stump orators. They are glad that we have so long abstained, in tenderness to them, from enlightening painfully the ignorance of Mr. Lincoln, and chastising condignly the braggart impertinence of Mr. Seward. In one word, they know as well as we do how grievously we have been provoked, and how long we have refrained from vengeance. If in America, as in England, the educated and thoughtful men of the country were the guides of national opinion and public policy there would be no risk of war. Disagreeable though it might be, the stolen envoys would be replaced on board a British ship, and Captain Wilkes would have been sent before a court martial. But unhappily the educated classes in America are practically disfranchised. The mob is supreme; and the mob is ruled by passion, and not by principle. They are proud of having insulted the British flag; they are proud of having defied the law of nations; strange as it may seem, they are proud of the capture by a man-of-war of four unarmed gentlemen on board an unarmed mail steamer. They will not hear reason; they care nothing for right or law.

The rejoicing of the Empire City over the capture of the "rebel" envoys is an additional evidence of a temper which makes us shudder at the prospect of a prolongation of the present civil conflict. It would seem that personal hatred to their antagonists mingles in this war to a degree never before witnessed, unless it were in the guerrilla war of Spain against the French invaders. To get hold of four Southern gentlemen the North will risk a struggle with England. To hang a score of Southern seamen they are willing to make their feud with the South a war to the knife, and to ensure the immediate execution of every prisoner taken on either side. On the preposterous condemnation of the crew of a confederate vessel Mr. Davis very properly ordered a number of federal officers into close confinement, giving notice that the execution of any of the prisoners taken in the Savannah would be the death warrant of these captives. The necessity for such reprisals is painful to any man of decent feeling; but honor and justice leave no alternative. The guilt rests with those who begin the policy of murder. *The judicial murder of a prisoner of war has left a damnable and ineffaceable stain on the memory of the only great general America ever produced. Mr. Lincoln has already paraded the picture of the Duc D'Enghien; does he intend to make a precedent of the dastardly assassination of Andre?* If he does he may rest assured that he will have made a fatal blunder. When he has involved himself in war with Great Britain the confederate army will work its will with his distracted forces, and for every prisoner whom he may put to death his rival will be able to hang three. Passionate and reckless as has been his course hitherto, we do earnestly trust that he will stop short of this extreme of wanton wickedness; and if he leave his name to posterity as that of the last President of what once were the United States, we hope that he will not add to this unenviable distinction the loathsome fame earned by the deliberate revival, after centuries of disuse, of the practice of murdering prisoners in cold blood. If he does, we shall certainly not find fault with the retaliation; but when the first crime has been avenged, we trust that the civilized world will interfere, as it did in Greece, to put an end to a war which will have become not merely a nuisance to commerce but a scandal to humanity. Such an atrocity as that apparently meditated by the government of the Northern States would be fitly punished by the joint intervention of the civilized powers to suppress that government altogether as a scourge to mankind and a disgrace to civilization.

What the British Cabinet Thinks of the American Press—Influence of Popular Opinion and England's Mission.

[From the London Post (government organ), Dec. 4.]

The members of the "fourth estate" on the federal side, who probably wield greater influence at the present moment in determining the course of the civil contest than the President, the Senators and the popular representatives of the Northern provinces, all taken together, have, as we learn by the intelligence brought by the Persia, already expressed their opinions on the nature of the act committed by Captain Wilkes, and indulged in extremely characteristic speculations on the probable action of this country. There would not appear to be, it is only fair to state, in the organs of the New York press, judging from their comments on the affair, anything like the same astonishing unanimity in justifying the proceedings of Capt. Wilkes which has been shown by the whole English press in pronouncing their condemnation. We are told that some of the New York journals allude to the probable necessity of their government being compelled to tender an apology, and to offer reparation, and even to surrender the persons of the Southern Commissioners; and the fact that such gleams of common sense and common justice should be visible in any portion of the federal press ought to be duly chronicled. But the general tone of federal journalism is precisely what might have been expected; a long course of impunity in insolence of action, and still greater insolence of language, appears to have created in the minds of the federal politicians an overweening estimate of their own superiority, and a disbelief in the possibility of their insolence being ever curbed, not dissimilar to that entertained by the Emperor Nicholas on the eve of the Crimean war. The parallel which the great master of political science in antiquity has drawn between the single despotic ruler and the many headed despotic mob finds its latest confirmation in the fact that on the crowded marts of New York, as in the imperial halls of St. Petersburg, the parasites to the vanity and panders to the pride of the democratic tyrant have succeeded in warping his judgment and perverting his intellect as completely as was the case with the late Autocrat of all the Russias. The opinion running through most of the New York journals that England will, on learning the outrage committed against her flag, speak only those words of sound and fury which, like an idiot's tale, signify nothing—that after hectoring and ranting like a Bombastes Furioso she will quietly pocket the insult which she has just sustained, reveals a bully's mind and display's a bully's logic. They who write thus are as ignorant of the plain teachings of common sense as they are of the English character. We have not the slightest wish to quarrel with any human being, or about any political question, if we can avoid doing so. But the most pacific man knows right well that, if he tamely allows his head to be punched once by a common street bully, not many days will pass over before he is certain of having his head punched again.

It is right that there should not be room for the slightest misapprehension or mistake in this part of the business on the other side of the Atlantic. There is no sane Englishman who will not rejoice with exceeding great joy should the federal government, wiser than its self-constituted organs and advisers in the Northern press, perform a simple act of duty in expressing its regret at the seizure of the Southern commissioners, and surrendering them into our hands. But if the federal government shall not perform its duty, there is no sane man in England who will blind his eyes to the alternative that England must then do her duty. *Our rights as the first maritime Power in the world cannot be dissevered from our duties;* and never have they been so completely blended as in the present case, where we are called upon to vindicate, in the name of English interests and honor, a right which we profess to hold and exercise not for ourselves alone, but for the vanquished, for the oppressed, or, it may be, only for the suffering and struggling, in every country of the world. We can make no distinction between the seizure of Messrs. Slidell and Mason, under the circumstances in which it occurred, and the rumored design referred to a month ago in our columns of a foreign government to kidnap and carry off, by the agents of its secret police, a troublesome revolutionary writer from his private dwelling in this very metropolis.

We are asserting a great principle—one of which the full scope and bearings are infinitely more important than the ultimate decision of the American struggle in favor of either North or South. To whatever termination that struggle may now lead, its consequences will prove long and signally disastrous. The triumph of the North would inflict a severe wound on the great interests of commercial freedom with which the progress and prospects of our nation are now inseparably linked. The triumph of the South would sanction and extend the hateful doctrine that man may hold property in his low man, and rivet on the limbs of millions those fetters which England would gladly see struck off. The sole practicable termination of the struggle would, in our opinion, be one in which the Northern protectionist and the Southern slaveholder—taught, if not by a sense of duty, at least by the smart of a common suffering, the folly of their strife—should, like the attorney and the turnkey of comic memory, effect even a selfish reconciliation, and growl forth a "Brother, brother, we have both been in the wrong." But, though unhappily only too impartial spectators of a struggle in which any triumph is calamitous, and peace humiliating to both the combatants, we cannot suffer the insolence of one to outrage with impunity rights of which both might have claimed the benefit; for had a like outrage been committed by the captain of a Confederate vessel instead of a federal vessel, the same resentiment would have been felt, and the same reparation would have been demanded.

The Naval Preparations of England.

[Woolwich (Dec. 3) correspondence of London Chronicle.]

In consequence of the threatening aspect of the relations between this country and America, the most unusual activity has prevailed during the present week at the several departments of the Royal Arsenal and Dockyard.

An Admiralty order was this day received by Commodore Superintendent Sir F. W. E. Nicolson, directing that the whole of the artisans and laborers employed at the steam factory department, who have recently been restricted to three-quarter time, shall resume working full day time as formerly. Forty additional shipwrights and laborers were this day set on at the dockyard, and the number is to be increased to one hundred during the present week. A return has been presented to the Admiralty of the number of steam vessels available for immediate service, and the Devastation is to be immediately commissioned for the North American waters.

The Vesuvius, just rebuilt at Deptford, is also to get ready for commission.

The Melbourne, hired steam vessel, this day shipped an immense amount of munitions of war at the Royal Arsenal, and will complete her cargo with Armstrong guns, small arms, &c., for Canada.

The workmen at the Armstrong guns factories and at other departments of the Arsenal are now employed by night as well as day.

The Resistance, iron cased steam ram vessel, built at the premises of Messrs. Westwood & Baillie, London yard, Isle of Dogs, was this day conveyed down the river by the steam vessels African and Adder to Chatham for immediate completion.

[Plymouth (Dec. 2) correspondence of London Chronicle.]

In confirmation of what we stated on Monday, respecting the imaginary assertions in the London *Herald, Standard*, &c., about the Warrior being sent to Annapolis, we may here observe that the alterations to be made in her steering apparatus, and other defects also which require to be made good, are expected to cause her detention at this dockyard quite six weeks.

Several ships are named at this port as having been ordered to be brought forward for commission.

Besides the Shannon, 51, and the Euryalus, 51, which are nearly rigged and equipped ready for service, the Highflyer, 21; Esk, 21; Sutlej, 51; Volcano, 3, paddle, and others recently dismantled after return from foreign service, are to be again prepared for commission.

Portsmouth has not been behind in evincing that patriotic spirit already talked about in other naval ports in the event of a war. Various rumors have been circulated about to-day respecting officers to command certain ships. Taking them for as much as they are worth, we fully believe that neither officers nor men will be found wanting should a day of tribulation come, so far as this port is concerned.

[From the Manchester Guardian, Dec. 5.]

The Orpheus, 21, is being fitted out for foreign service, and with regard to the Warrior, the London *Times* says:—"What may ultimately be done with the ship will, of course, depend upon the nature of the reply which may be received by her Majesty's Ministers from the Cabinet at Washington."

In addition to the Orlando, 51, nearly ready, the following ships-of-war at Devonport are ordered to be prepared for sea:—The screw steam frigate Phœbe, 51; one; the new screw steam sloop Perseus, 17; and the paddle-wheel steam vessel Styx, 6. Three hundred and sixty-eight additional shipwrights, &c., are required at once for this dockyard.

The London *News* of the 4th inst. has been "assured that orders were issued on Monday by government to put ten frigates into commission, and to man them immediately."

The excitement in naval circles respecting the American difficulty, says the London *Times*, increases hourly. Officers of all ranks, and some of them holding high dockyard appointments, are said to have eagerly offered their services to the Admiralty should matters turn out for the worst.

The Lady Rebels in the Trent Endorse Lieutenant Fairfax as a Gentleman.

[From the Liverpool Mercury, Dec. 3.]

It has been stated in some of the papers that Lieutenant Fairfax, who boarded the Trent, behaved in a rude and unbecoming manner whilst in the discharge of what even he must have considered a very disagreeable task. We are glad to be able, on the authority of a lady member of the family of one of the commissioners, to contradict this statement. We are assured that the Lieutenant, in carrying out the orders of his commander, behaved with the utmost courtesy, and personally conducted himself like an officer and a gentleman.

Compliment to the Mail Agent on Board the Trent.

[From the Manchester Guardian, Dec. 5.]

Commander Williams, Royal Navy, mail agent on board the Trent when she was stopped by the San Jacinto, is to be invited to a dinner by the members of the Royal Western Yacht Club, Plymouth, as "a mark of admiration of Commander Williams' spirited and noble conduct on board the Trent."

PUBLIC OPINION IN FRANCE.

Feeling of the Americans in Paris.

[Paris (Dec. 2) correspondence of the London Herald.]

The Americans in Paris are making preparations to migrate homewards. They seem to dread that the British government will lay an embargo on the American bottoms in English ports. They loudly assert that the demands of the British government are preposterous, and that the North *will spend its last man and its last dollar before giving up the Southern Commissioners.*

The Southerners, who are numerous here, are in ecstasies, and do not hesitate to proclaim that the outrage of the commander of the San Jacinto will do more to forward the triumph of their cause than any amount of victories that Beauregard or Johnston might achieve. Party feeling runs very high between the Northerners and Southerners in Paris, and it is not without interest to watch their demeanor towards each other at the public places where they are perforce thrown in contact with each other. They avoid speaking, but look bowie knives and revolvers at each other.

At Havre I am informed the *animus* is far more strongly displayed, and the crew of the Bermuda, which has just arrived there, having, as you are aware, run the blockade at Charleston, have been warned by the police not to repair to the usual haunts frequented by the Yankee sailors. The belief in a war between England and the United States is so general there that all the New York merchants are hastening to complete their cargoes, to be able to sail as soon as possible. Havre being the principal port in France for American shipping, it is easy to understand the tremendous sensation which the "difficulty" has created there.

Official French Report of the Feeling in England.

[London (Dec. 2) correspondence of Paris Moniteur.]

It has been rumored that differences of opinion existed in the Cabinet on the affair of the Trent, but the assertion has no foundation. The ministers were perfectly in accord respecting the despatches to be sent to Lord Lyons, and which are now crossing the Atlantic. All the members of the government, in their private conversation, express the same sentiments, and declare their firm resolution to obtain the reparation due to England. This grave accident of the Trent is destined to give new strength to the Cabinet, as public opinion places absolute confidence in Lord Palmerston and Earl Russell in difficulties of this kind. The news received to-day from the United States is only satisfactory in one point, but it is an important one. It no longer appears doubtful that Captain Wilkes acted without orders, and his having done so will leave President Lincoln full latitude to disavow the act and to release the prisoners without any sacrifice of national dignity. Certain persons, whom there is reason to believe well informed, express the opinion that Mr. Lincoln will refuse to yield to the excitement of the people, who have received with enthusiasm the news of Captain Wilkes' conduct, and that from political prudence he will hesitate before taking a resolution the first effect of which would be to remove the blockade of the Southern ports to the Northern; but that hope is not shared by Mr. Adams, Minister of the United States at London, who, it is said, considers his recall at an early date as inevitable. Mr. Adams personally has obtained the sympathy of high English society; but he is supposed to have had only very limited powers allowed him as a diplomatist, and it is even said that he received his instructions week by week from Washington. He can therefore only exercise a very limited influence in obtaining a pacific solution of the question now pending.

Later Views of the French Press.

[From the Journal Desbats, Dec. 2.]

The promptitude which the English law officers of the crown have shown in giving their decision is a fact the significancy and importance of which will not escape any one's notice. Whatever may be the opinion adopted on this subject, whether the decision of these official lawyers be approved or disapproved, still the act committed by the officers of the federal navy is deeply to be regretted, for at the same time that it furnished a complaint at the least specious to the adversaries of the cause which is represented by the government of Washington in its struggle with the Southern States, *it will have for effect to weaken the just sympathies which that cause, which is for us the good one, has met with and merits to retain in Europe.* However this may be, the public emotion has reached its height on the other side the channel, and the organs of the press are nearly unanimous in loudly calling for reparation for the outrage committed on the British flag. Whatever the *Times* and even the *Morning Post*—which now appears to disavow the hopes which it before expressed as regarded a satisfactory arrangement—may say, we hesitate to think that the government of President Lincoln could have wished to involve itself in a war with England *at a moment when all its efforts barely suffice to maintain the struggle in which it is engaged with the South.* If President Lincoln had really given positive orders to the commander of the San Jacinto to arrest the Southern Commissioners on board the English packet, as the *Times* and *Morning Post* appear disposed to think, we do not hesitate to affirm, with the English journals, that it will have committed an act of madness and a complete suicide. *Until fresh intelligence we shall, therefore, persist in thinking that the general emotion excited in public opinion on the other side the channel is at least premature.*

[From the Paris Press, Dec. 2.]

England offers at the present moment one of those spectacles which are the glory of a free people. Whatever opinion may be entertained respecting this affair of the Trent, *it is impossible not to admire the public spirit which has manifested itself from one end of England to the other, and which, so to say, vibrates a chord of indignation in every English heart.* The public spirit, a mixture of national pride and an invincible attachment to the glory and interests of the country, displays itself in every place—in the newspapers, in public meetings, at the theatres, in the public squares. There is always something grand and instructive in the agitation of this people which is passionately devoted to commerce, but at the same time jealous of its rights and of the honor of its flag, and which, wherever it assembles or labors, expresses in a thousand ways the incomparable energy of its feelings. The interest which must always be attached to so noble a spectacle is doubled to-day in consequence of the violent act which has produced this general explosion of indignation. The English people are averse to war, as, more than any other country in the world, they are engaged in great commercial enterprises. *England will only go to war as a last extremity; but we know how little the great sacrifice will cost to her patriotism.* In this respect experience is at hand to inform us, and, moreover, we have only to read the English daily papers received this morning.

[From the Journal de Rouen, Dec. 2.]

The news from America has put a complete stop to the sale of every kind of fabric, and renders buyers extremely timid. *There has consequently been scarcely any business transacted here during the last few days.* The uneasiness caused by the affair of the Trent having caused a considerable fall in the markets for raw cotton both in England and at Havre, the sale of cotton yarn, which was difficult before, has almost entirely ceased, everybody being inclined to wait till some more is known of the probable issue of the existing complication.

The opinions of the Boulogne *Messenger* are very decisive, as will be seen by the extract below:—

The astounding news of the American ship-of-war San Jacinto boarding the royal mail steamer Trent, and taking therefrom Messrs. Slidell, Mason, McFarland and Eustis, has so absorbed the minds of all that little else is spoken of. There seems to be a doubt in the minds of some as to the illegality of the affair, and there is a reference made to various acts of the British navy during the time of the old war, wherein it is attempted to be shown that precedents for such conduct as that pursued by the American federals is justified. This view of the subject, we must confess, we do not adopt. If the federals had the right of searching, and in searching found contraband of war on board the vessel, the condemnation was not to be made by a naval officer, but the vessel with its contraband of war, ought to have been taken into a port and condemned or discharged, as the case might be. *As it is, the act of the federal officer seems to us to be nothing less than an act of piracy. The customs of the old war are not adapted to the present age.* The advance of civilization has materially altered the proceedings of contending parties, and the justice of the right of search over a vessel sailing under a neutral flag and starting from a neutral port may be questioned, and the power of the party demanding a search ought to be reduced to a demand to see the ship's papers, on the production of which, if the manifest declares the port of destination to be also a neutral port, and the vessel is making her course thereto, we are of opinion that no search for contraband of war is justifiable. It does not appear that the manifest of the Trent was required to be produced—only the list of passengers was demanded; but the search was by an armed Power against an unarmed vessel. *We feel assured that the interests and honor of England will not suffer under the protection of Lord Palmerston.*

Opinion of Young Italy.

[From the Gazette de Florence, Dec. 2.]

A conflict appears inevitable between England and North America. This is a painful event for Italy and for liberty in general. For Italy, because both these governments have been friendly to her, and have been among the first to acknowledge the new kingdom of Italy; for liberty, because England and America have never ceased to favor liberal enterprises in Europe. A rupture between England and America could not but be hailed with joy by absolutism, and civilization would suffer thereby. It would be desirable that the Powers best disposed towards England and America should immediately interpose their good offices, without giving the irascible self-love of these nations time for over excitement. It is France, especially, who should try her hand at this good work; she who is commercially connected with both countries, and would be the first to suffer in her manufactures from the consequences of a rupture between the two nations.

"Young Ireland" on the War Prospect.

[From the Liverpool Mercury, Dec. 3.]

The organs of the "Young Ireland party" have been thrown into hysterics from joy at the prospect of a war between England and America.

The Dublin *Nation* says the capture of the commissioners on board a British steamer was an "*act worthy of the spirit, daring and dash of the Americans;* it was one to make Irish hearts jump with joy." "The news," continues the same organ, "has created wild excitement and enthusiasm in Dublin, and it will awaken similar feelings and sensations throughout the whole country." If the English Government resent the insult, then we are told will come "a great time for Ireland. Then will the men who are gone with a vengeance prove vengeful men indeed. Then will the Irish race in America rush to arms and bound into the battle."

The War Feeling in Halifax.

HALIFAX, Dec. 19, 1861.

The warlike feeling is running very high here and throughout the province.

NEWS FROM MARTINIQUE.

Arrival of the Reindeer from Barbadoes—Some Details Concerning the Privateer Sumter.

By the arrival of the Reindeer, we have files of the Barbadoes *Liberal* to the 27th ult., and commercial intelligence to the 30th.

The following is the translation of a letter from a correspondent of the *Liberal* at St. Pierre, Martinique, giving some additional accounts of the visit of the Sumter to that island:—

ST. PIERRE, MARTINIQUE, Nov. 18, 1861.

The papers from this island will inform you that the South American pirate Sumter has been at anchor in our bay for the last ten days.

On account of information sent on to St. Thomas by the last steamer, the United States steamer Iroquois arrived here on Thursday forenoon last. Of course a detailed account of their proceedings is contained in our papers, but as *there has been very strong sympathy manifested by certain partisans of the South in our island, which has been shared even by the government, you will find the pirate spoken of in the most flattering terms, whilst there is scarcely a word said about the horrible crimes which have been perpetrated by it up to the very moment of its arrival in our port.*

The Sumter is reported to have arrived from Brazil, and among the number of vessels which it has recently fallen in with and successfully destroyed are the Daniel Trowbridge, from New Haven, bound for Demerara, with a cargo of provisions; the brig Joseph Park, Briggs master, from which a sum of money, estimated at $500, was taken, and a vessel with stock, which have all been completely destroyed.

After having given chase to a brig from New York to our very doors, consigned with a cargo to a merchant of our city—after having boarded and searched a French vessel bound for the same destination—the Sumter passed in front of our bay and dropped anchor at Fort de France. The captain of the pirate immediately conferred with the government, and requested to be allowed to take in provisions and coal. You will find in the *Propagateur* that the Governer refused at first to grant the request, resting, without doubt, his refusal on the decree of the Emperor, which is similar to that of her Majesty the Queen of England, by which no ship of-war or privateer of the belligerent parties is allowed to remain longer in any French port than twenty four hours, and by which every Frenchman is prohibited from aiding in any way, either by arms or equipage, any such vessel.

But you will be astonished to learn that the partisans of the South in this island, who represent the slave party, and have not had an opportunity for the last thirteen years, since the emancipation of the slaves was decreed, to manifest their sympathy towards the supporters of the slave system, that this same faction who, in 1848, were driven away by the revolution and welcomed by the Louisianians, wishing to repay the great debt of gratitude contracted at New Orleans, succeeded in turning the Governor from his resolution, at the instance of the captain of the Sumter—submitting the following questions to the Privy Council for consideration:—

1. Whether the article of coal ought to be considered as contraband of war.

2. Whether giving power to the Sumter to coal was contributing to equipment.

These two questions were duly submitted to the Privy Council, and, after due deliberation, the right to coal was granted to the Sumter, and permission to remain four days and engage in transactions with our merchants.

At the request of the United States Consul, Mr. Alexander Campbell, the Sumter landed sixteen or eighteen unfortunate prisoners *who had been taken from on board the vessels already mentioned, and which had been burnt,* and then came to St. Pierre and cast anchor in a line with the American vessels in that part of our bay consigned to that flag.

Scarcely, however, had the Sumter finished coaling, and at the very moment when the Southern faction were conferring on its officers a thousand congratulations, and even made use of the terms "honorable gentlemen" in regard to them, the Iroquois made her appearance in our bay, to the very great surprise of the Sumter and her partisans, *but to the intense gratification of all those who, for the interest of humanity, would wish to see a dissolution of what has been the source of so much disquietude and trouble.*

Although it is scarcely possible to expect that either the North or the South should have the sympathies of the people of color in these islands, yet it has been really remarkable to see with what satisfaction, what joy, the arrival of the Iroquois was hailed by them. But, on the other hand, the representatives of slavery, who form no inconsiderable part of the community, were greatly incensed; and the greater hesitancy the government manifested in solving the questions submitted to them, the greater was the ebulition of feeling on the part of this faction.

As far as the people are concerned, the Sumter would be immediately given up to the Iroquois as its prize; with regard to the faction, they would have the government compel the Iroquois to depart, and give all protection to the Sumter.

Sentinels have been put to guard the moorings of the Sumter to prevent them from being secretly cut, and this in spite of the popular feeling.

The Iroquois has not dropped anchor; but asked permission to do so within a cable's length of the Sumter, which was refused. *She then preferred to sail off and on, watching and defying the Sumter, just like the cat which has its eye on the mouse.*

The Sumter has not at all announced her intention to quit the port; but it is credibly reported that, during the night, all of her gold exceeding four millions of francs, has been safely lodged in the bank.

The French steam guardship Acheron, Commander Duchazel, has been sent up from Fort de France to St. Pierre as a sort of medium between the government and these two American ships.

The matter remains in this state. Yesterday it was thought there would be some final action taken, from the last letter of the captain of the Iroquois to the Governor, but nothing has transpired and nothing has been done.

In this most anomalous state of affairs the conduct of the government is most incomprehensible. But are these vessels to be allowed to remain in our bay indefinitely, and to the great danger of our commerce? *Such culpable indecision would not be tolerated in Barbadoes.*

The *Liberal* of the 27th contains the following account of the Sumter's escape:—

The French schooner Virginie arrived last night from Guadaloupe, reports having called in at Martinique on her way up on Monday last, and that the Sumter had left St. Pierre on Saturday, at about eight P. M. A signal was given by an American vessel at anchor to the Iroquois outside, by throwing up a rocket. As soon as the Sumter got out of the bay she ran to leeward, close island, followed by the Iroquois at some distance out, when the Sumter suddenly turned round, unseen by the Iroquois, which kept on at a rapid rate, thus every moment getting further from the prey, absolutely running from the Sumter.

The local news from Barbadoes is of no importance.

THE WALTON-MATHEWS TRAGEDY.

Trial of Charles M. Jefferds for the Murder of John W. Mathews—Interesting Testimony for the Prosecution—Alleged Confession of the Walton Murder, &c.

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS.

Before Recorder Hoffman.

SECOND DAY.

DEC. 19.—The trial of Charles M. Jefferds, charged with the murder of John W. Mathews, was resumed this morning. Among the spectators were a few ladies' friends of the respective parties.

John E. Costigan, examined by the District Attorney—I live at No. 1 Atlantic street, Brooklyn; am a superintendent in the Union Hotel, of which my brother is proprietor; the South ferry landing is near the hotel, fifty or sixty feet from it; know Jefferds; I first knew him in the spring of 1860; he came there two months before the murder, and engaged rooms, in June, seven or eight days before the 30th of June; he engaged a room for a week, and did not give his name; I don't remember seeing him again until after the murder; my brother shut up the house on Saturday, the 30th of June, at ten minutes past twelve; I was in the bar at the time; I heard Jefferds come in that night; I was in my room at the time; I left the bar at ten minutes past twelve, and was in my room ten minutes before Jefferds arrived.

Cross-examined by Mr. Brady—Jefferds had on a black cloth coat and a light Panama hat.

To the District Attorney—I am sure he had on black clothes; he had no trunk.

Mrs. Ellen Costigan, mother of the last witness, testified—My son George D. keeps the Union Hotel; know the prisoner; I let Jefferds in that Saturday night; as near as I can judge it was between a quarter and half-past twelve.

Cross-examined—Jefferds came in very suddenly and passed up stairs, and remarked, "I'd like to be locked out;" "Yes," said I, "if you had been a few minutes later you would have been;" he had black clothes on that night—the same suit as in the morning; he said he did not wish any dinner, but on being urged he sat at the table, but ate very little; he sat reading the paper till two o'clock; in the afternoon he went out to take a walk with my son.

Robert H. Quanckenbush said—I am a police officer; I made a journey from the corner of Eighteenth street and Third avenue to South ferry; left at twenty minutes past eleven; got to Nineteenth street twenty-four minutes past eleven; waited eight minutes for a car; got down to the lower end of the Park at 11:55; went quickly to South ferry; arrived at three minutes past twelve; the boat left at 12:14 and touched the Brooklyn side at 12:21.

To Mr. Brady—I made pretty good time and was not stopped by anything; I was instructed to run over this route by the General Superintendent, and did not know for what object it was done.

Officer Glass testified—I made a journey on Tuesday evening from the corner of Eighteenth street and Third avenue to South ferry, starting at twenty-two minutes past eleven, and landed in Brooklyn at twenty two minutes past twelve.

Officer Jacob H. Fosham sworn—Made a similar journey on the same evening, starting at twenty-five minutes past eleven and arriving at Brooklyn at twenty-three minutes past twelve.

Robert A. Schultz was the next witness—I am employed at 424 Broadway; Alfred Woodham is the proprietor; I know Jefferds for three years; was well acquainted with him; I sold the prisoner an American Adams pistol, the same style as the one shown me; I sold it to him on the 30th of April, 1860.

Cross-examined—These pistols are made at Chicopee Falls, Massachusetts, and I believe they are manufactured by machinery; this pistol was shown me by the District Attorney two weeks ago; a year ago the Coroner showed a pistol to Alfred Woodham, and was asked if he sold a pistol like that within two weeks; he said not; he was asked if he sold pistols like it, to which he replied "I have plenty of them;" this pistol is Colt's new model; I have sold two pistols besides this one to Jefferds; the first one was a small size Warner's and the other was a Colt's new model; the first pistol was sold to him before I went to Mr. Woodham's, and the last one was after he came out of prison.

Hartshorn W. Gillilan sworn—I reside at 185 Third avenue; remember the 30th of June; was at the Alleghany Hotel, 137 Third avenue; left there from fifteen to twenty-five minutes past eleven; a friend called my attention to a man being shot; saw a crowd of people on the west side of Third avenue, turning up Seventeenth street; they were calling "murder;" I started in pursuit of the crowd, ran up Seventeenth street to Irving place, heard the report of a pistol, and on the corner of Seventeenth street and Irving place two or three gentlemen stood, and said the man shot was on the other side of the street; he was partially down, and men in the window called out that the murderer had run down Sixteenth street; I ran, and as I crossed I met Alderman Bradley; I returned and asked the man if he knew who shot him, but he made no reply; I helped to bring him to the drug store; I took things out of his pocket, from which I learned that his name was Mathews; I took a masonic pin out of his breast and gave it to the policeman.

C. F. Dellabella testified—I reside in Union square, corner of Sixteenth street and Fourth avenue; I am a physician; I found a pistol on Sunday, between June and July, 1860, in the yard; only a fence separates the yard from Sixteenth street; I heard in the morning of the murder, and found the pistol the afternoon of the same day; I went for a policeman, and he took the pistol; the pistol shown me is like the one I found.

Wm. M. Betts said—I reside at Patchogue, L. I.; know the prisoner for the last five years; saw him at my house in the summer of 1860, about the 1st of June; he staid between two and three weeks, and left on Saturday, the 23d; Jefferds told me that he was going to Delaware, and did not know how long he would stay; he came again on Monday, the 25th, and stayed till Thursday, the 28th, when he and I went to the city; when we were in the stage he said, "I have forgotten the pistol I let you have to keep for me;" it had five or six barrels; it was not either of the pistols shown to me; I saw him on the following Monday at the Union Hotel, in Brooklyn; he said he wanted to see me in his room; he took a paper from his pocket and said, "I am accused of shooting my step-father;" he told the keeper of the hotel that his name was Jackson, and as he was accused of this thing in the papers he did not want his name to be known, as he wished to give himself up; I asked him where was the pistol he gave me to keep; he said he had either thrown it overboard or threw it away; he said the papers stated the person who was shot was shot with a pistol, and he did not want a pistol to be found upon him, for fear he might be charged with the crime.

Cross-examined—The pistol he gave me was a little smaller than the one shown me; it had a smooth handle and was silver mounted; I told Jefferds by all means to give himself up as soon as possible; he showed me a letter which he had written to Coroner Jackman; I returned for the purpose of accompanying him when he went to give himself up; we crossed the ferry and went in search of some person to whom he might give himself up; we saw Justice Osborn, who told us to come to the Tombs next morning; Jefferds stopped at the Lafarge House and I at the Hone House; on the following morning Jefferds gave himself up to the authorities.

George S. Devucena testified—I am the proprietor of the Union Hotel, Brooklyn; know the prisoner, who engaged rooms there; Jefferds left on the Saturday of the murder, in the middle of the day, and returned at night, from a quarter to half-past twelve to twelve; on Sunday he came down stairs about nine or ten o'clock; I was in the dining room, reading the Sunday papers; he commenced to read also; he read the HERALD and the *Dispatch;* after dinner he conversed about the Harden murder, and asked me if I didn't think it was a pretty hard case; he asked me if I did not think Harden ought to be skinned alive and salted for committing such a crime; he then spoke of the Hicks murder, and asked me what I thought of that case; I told him I though he deserved hanging; Jefferds, myself and some friends went to East New York in the afternoon; he told me his name was Charles Jackson, but on Monday Mr. Betts told me his name was Charles Jefferds, and that he was charged with being implicated in the Walton-Mathews murder; this is a copy of the Sunday HERALD which I was reading.

Cross-examined—Jefferds brought a trunk, a rifle and a banjo to the hotel, which were called for by a person who had a written order; on the 30th of June Jefferds wore black clothes and a Panama hat, and returned having on the same clothes; when he returned at night he appeared to be in very good humor; I did not notice whether he was flushed or not.

To Mr. Waterbury—I noticed that the prisoner wore a linen duster when he went out into the country.

John J. Lynch said—On the 30th of June I resided at No. 2 Atlantic street; was introduced to the prisoner on Sunday by the name of Jackson; while we were sitting together in East New York making a bouquet he asked me if I had a mother or sister who was injured by a man, and I was to kill him, if they would hang me; I told him "No; that they did not hang people any more;" he repeated several times, "No, they would hang you like a dog;" he was reading a paper—the HERALD, I think—and then he asked me the question.

George L. Higbey, an employe in the *Dispatch* office, was sworn to show that that paper went to press before eleven o'clock on Saturday night.

Mrs. Sarah Walton, sworn and examined by the District Attorney—I reside at No. 192 West Eighteenth street; John Walton was my son; I know the prisoner; have never heard him say anything about Mr. Walton; on one occasion I was in the house when my son and he had a difficulty; I was not in the room; but I heard loud talking; Jefferds lived with my son, but when they had some disagreement he was requested to leave the house, which he did; he came there again to live.

Mary Walton said—I am the daughter of John Walton; have known Jefferds three years; first became acquainted with him in Eighth street when my father was married; a year after my father was married (which was three years before his death) he threatened his life; Jefferds said he would blow pa's brains out; when Jefferds' mother was sick in the house the prisoner asked papa to go up stairs, which he did, and then father went out for the police; I think he (Jefferds) said he would blow his brains out, but I won't be sure; after my father left the house a policeman went up stairs, and Chas. Jefferds went with him when he left.

Cross-examined by Mr. Brady—After the conversation with Jefferds about blowing brains out he brought me out to places of amusement and sleighriding. The counsel read the testimony given by this witness on the trial of Jefferds for the murder of Walton, wherein she stated that the prisoner lived at Mr. Walton's after these threats, and that she and he were as brother and sister.

Officer John Munroe said—I recollect the time of the murder; a gentleman residing in Sixteenth street, corner of Union place, told me there was a pistol in the grass plot, which I picked up and took to the station house; it was a five barrelled pistol; two of the barrels appeared to be empty, while the other three had caps on; I am quite certain that the pistol shown me is the one I found.

Anson Herrick said—I am the proprietor of the *Sunday Atlas;* there was nothing about the murder in the issue of July 1.

Job Long said—I knew the deceased, John Walton.

Q.—Did Mr. Walton die worth property?

Objected to. Objection sustained.

Jackson Corsa sworn—I was a member of the police force up to a year ago; I arrested Jefferds in the winter of 1859, on complaint of Mr. Walton, for disorderly conduct.

Justice Quackenbush testified—That two complaints were made by Mr. Walton during the winter of 1859 against the prisoner; I think on the first complaint Jefferds was held to bail, but I have no recollection of the second one having been returned before me.

Cross-examined—This complaint shown me was made on the 9th of February, 1859, but Jefferds was never brought before me upon it.

Dr. Alexander M. Gunn sworn—I was Mr. Walton's family physician for twenty-five years; Jefferds called on me to visit his mother, who was very ill; he told me she had married a damned scoundrel; he (Walton) treated his mother like a brute; I was not aware then that she had married Mr. John Walton; I said that I knew Walton intimately, and that I did not think he was capable of treating anybody in the manner he suggested; he said he deserved either to be shot down like a dog, or that he would shoot him down, or something to that effect; the prisoner put his hand to his breast pocket, and I think drew out a pistol, but I will not be sure; I know I conversed with him about carrying weapons, and advised him not to do so.

Wm. T. Walton said—I am the brother of John Walton, and know the prisoner; in the summer of 1859 Jefferds was in my brother's store; Charles had a pistol in his hand and stated he could put a ball into a quarter cask on the opposite side of the yard; in a conversation he said that that was the pistol he would have used on my brother; this remark he made to a young man who was with him, and I think they were speaking of Walton having him arrested; both of them were bragging as to their skill in shooting; I saw Jefferds on Saturday night, the 16th of November, 1861, at my office, about seven o'clock; I am a rectifier, at 32 New Bowery; on this evening I was in the office, and saw him standing on the sidewalk; he appe