EUROPE.

GOSSIP AND SCANDAL IN ROME.

The United States Consul in the Eternal City in an Awkward Predicament.

Napoleon's Speech and Congress Plan.

The mails from Europe furnish the following special correspondence and newspaper reports in detail of our cable despatches to the 23d of November.

A new line of railway of great importance to all the north and west of Germany has been conceded by the Prussian government, after a previous understanding with the authorities of Hamburg, Bremen, Oldenburg, and the company owning the line from Cologne to Minden. This new undertaking, which is already known as "the direct railway from Paris to Hamburg," will start from the latter place and pass by way of Bremen and Osnabruck to Cologne. By uniting the three great ports of Germany—Kiel, Hamburg and Bremen—with the coal districts of Westphalia, of which the town of Dortmund is almost the centre, it will allow German coal to be brought direct to those towns.

At Natal, Cape of Good Hope, in the case of the interdict sought to be obtained by Dr. Colenso against the Rev. Messrs. Green, S. F. Robinson and Walton, for preaching, the Court had refused the application. The reverend respondents were to be cited individually to appear on the first day of next term to show cause why they should not be deprived of their licences in the diocese. The Roman Catholic Bishop of Cape Town had been mobbed at Namaqual, and a mock religious procession paraded before him; his absolution was asked for in derision, and his person pelted with filth by some ignorant members of the Dutch community in consequence of his having baptized two illegitimate children. The better class of the Dutch protested against the outrage and sympathized with the Bishop.

ROME.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE HERALD.

Christian Charity as Seen at the Seat of Catholic Christianity—The United States Consul in an Extraordinary Position—How He Fought Against Garibaldi—War News From Italy.

ROME, Nov. 18, 1867.

Even in Rome there is matter for gossip. Although almost clear of its perennial old women, and free, for the while, of tea fights, conversazioni and other fountain heads of discord, the monk ridden city bids fair to rival, in its display of spite, venom and cynicism, any of the fashionable watering places at the height of their season.

What the "reds" have lost in the field they bravely maintain by argument; by vilifying their opponents, magnifying their mistakes and discrediting their intentions. The "blacks," with the first game of the rubber safe in hand, lose no opportunity, either by counter charges or lying assertions, to secure the other two. And so they keep the ball a-rolling. The time for action over, the danger past, old women reassert their sway, wag their tongues, chatter, misstate and exaggerate as is their wont. The result is much ill feeling, scandal and dissension.

All through the continuance of troubles in the Pontifical States it has been the desire of many in Rome, through love of curiosity or wish for excitement, to accompany any expedition leaving the city to attack parties of Garbaldians. Following the general taste, Mr. Cushman, United States Consul in Rome, accompanied a small expeditionary force sent to act against the Garibaldians in the vicinity of Nerola. Through his position in Rome and official connection with the government, it was easy for him to receive a permission, otherwise grudgingly granted to foreigners, to witness this expedition. The forces met—the conflict was equal. Carried away by excitement, the Consul found himself in the immediate front, among friends in the Zouaves, within two hundred yards of the enemy, and under a tolerably sharp fire. Friends were falling round him, whilst he, at greater leisure than the rest, could more easily observe the movements of a small detached lot of Garibaldians, evidently firing on himself. Unable to retire without compromising his honor, disinclined to remain inactive at such a moment and in such a case, he used a dead man's musket, firing on men he believed to be firing on himself, till a slight wound prevented further action. The news soon spread that the United States Consul, representative of a republican government, had been fighting against republicans in aid of the most despotic, ignorant, intolerant government in Europe. Here our friend gossip stepped in. Such an opportunity!! He had volunteered, so it said, to accompany and fight with the Zouaves, among whom he had friends; he had assisted the Papalini with money; he had thrown his heart in the cause, &c. The consequence of all which is that Mr. Cushman has about him a pretty busy hornet's nest, is almost unanimously condemned by Americans here, has raised the ire of all liberals, and laid himself open, no doubt, to well merited censure. Certainly no one not actually engaged in the cause had a right to fire a gun, much less a Consul, much less again a United States Consul. The officers of the Zouaves cry him up as the most magnificent fellow that ever lived, but Americans generally, and those desirous of stepping into his shoes in particular, make no bones of expressing very different opinions. It was an indiscretion, a very grave one, perhaps even something more, and almost certain to attract remark in America; I therefore permit myself to mention it, especially as I am so perfectly disinterestedly, careless of the opinions of either party.

Mr. Cushman through his personal influence here, more than through the weight of his official permission, has done much for his countrymen through this affair. While all English residents were forced to surrender their arms to the safe keeping of their consul, Americans were allowed to retain theirs. Two American citizens fighting in Garibaldi's ranks and taken prisoners were almost immediately released on his personal request. It will be readily understood an official demand for such a step could not have been thought of for an instant. Scarcely any American's house in Rome has been searched, while more than a dozen dwellings of English people, including that of her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, have undergone rigid examination.

No one would attempt to deny the Consul's want of foresight, even his culpability in the escapade; but his services to Americans in all instances might moderate the venom with which he is attacked. Strange to say, requests of all sorts and from all quarters come pouring in on the United States Consulate from its citizens and from others of all nations. Garibaldi's Englishwoman, "Jessie White," arrested and kept under surveillance in the town for three days, but at length allowed to depart, wrote to the United States representative an urgent letter, requesting him, in the name of his republican principles, to visit the wounded Garibaldian prisoners in Roman cells. The letter, couched in very immoderate terms, abusing the Papal government and lauding the suffering patriots, was without a doubt opened, read and, for the Consul, unfavorably commented upon at the Minister of War's office. Again a noted follower of Garibaldi also in prison in Rome urgently requested the counsel to obtain his release on the plea of a similarity of sympathies. This letter, like the former, was bad of course. Yesterday there arrived a deputation from Leghorn with money for the wounded "red ones," and asking the same Consul's assistance in obtaining access to the prisoners. Needless to say these are matters in which he cannot act, but which at the same time place him under a very unpleasant cross-fire from both parties. I should not omit that the United States legation at Florence requested him by telegraph to obtain, if possible, the release of a noted Garibaldian leader, and to supply him with money. On what grounds? Because we profess republican sentiments sympathetic with Garibaldi's end and aim? Perhaps so; but in all conscience let us keep our republicanism out of the country of all Europe which assimilates to it the least, which is most inimical to it. What right—what decent excuse have we for interference? I'll wager a trifle the French intervention has not been lightly dealt with in the United States. Why should we do here what we could not, ought not, to stand at home? The Legation at Florence for once, at least, has made a mistake. It is almost impossible for a stranger to obtain permission to visit the hospitals in which lie wounded Garibaldians, so great is the fear lest this means should be used for furthering some other plot against the government. I am told Garibaldi's celebrated Englishman, Colonel Peard, is a prisoner, and wounded in the left arm, but it is impossible to ascertain the truth of this fact, and I am not allowed to verify it by a visit.

It is said that the greatest coolness already exists between General Failly, the French Commander-in-Chief, and the Pontifical government, on what particular grounds is not known. Evidence of it was first shown in the reluctance to find quarters for staff officers, who were at first obliged to put up at hotels at their own expense; and now I strongly suspect the discomforts the French soldiers are subjected to are in a measure due to this *mal entente*.

It is also said the Pope's government express themselves dissatisfied with the reports sent to Paris of the share of the work done by the French in the Mentana business. Certain it is General Failly holds the Pope's troops rather cheaply, and General Dumont has been heard to say the city would have been in Garibaldi's hands long ago if only protected by the volunteers, gendarmes, antibeyardi and the rest of them.

An exact report has at last been published of the number of Garibaldians buried at Mentana and Monte Rotondo. Just six hundred and forty-two of the redshirted invaders have been put under the sod in just thirty-five graves. As it is supposed there were not more than six thousand or seven thousand men under Garibaldi, it will be seen at once how desperately they fought and how heavily they lost. The "Chassepots" did terrible execution.

The news reaches us, and we have indubitable daily proof of its correctness, that the trains almost all over Italy are running very irregularly on account of the extraordinary demands made on them in the unusual transportation of troops. Troops, it appears, are moving about in all directions in Upper Italy, and it is probable that the mere return to their original garrisons of the Italian troops which came down on the frontier could create this confusion. Rome is a bad place to obtain news in, but the following also finds its way here:—That ill feeling between Italy and France becomes daily more marked. Consequent rejoicing here.

FRANCE.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE HERALD.

Public Irritation at Napoleon's Speech—Freedom of Debate—Napoleon's Difficulty—The Legislative Opposition in Confident Tone—Lord Lyons' Establishment—A Literary Law Suit—The Roman Question.

PARIS, Nov. 22, 1867.

The Emperor's speech has failed to give to France that profound satisfaction which the friends of the government led the world to expect. It partakes of the flat, stale, and unprofitable, and not a little indignation is expressed, at that part of it, calling upon Frenchmen to frankly acquiesce in the logic of facts, achieved by Prussia. Possibly no graver error could have been committed by the Emperor, in the opinion of many, than permitting this aggrandizement of Prussia. It wounds their pride, and questions their supremacy; for in this last respect, France, like the Turk, can brook no rival near her throne. As an indication of the unpopularity of the speech—numerous arrests have been made, of persons detected in the act of tearing it down from the walls, where it had been pasted up.

The Emperor must feel the effects of his decree, abolishing the discussion on the address to the throne. On the 4th of February, 1861, the Emperor, on grounds of public utility, praised the custom and declared the advantages of criticising his annual discourse as opening up an opportunity for his officials to reply to the attacks of the opposition. In the following March, on receiving the address from the *Corps Législatif*, the Emperor alluded to the liveliness that had marked the debates, but which, instead of disturbing, would instruct the country. His replies to the addresses presented in the following years, were characterized by a similar spirit, all tending as he expressed it, to bring home to the country the real intention of the government, and to knit closer the compact and devoted majority which upheld Napoleonic ideas in the *Corps Législatif*. The privilege which the Emperor praised in February, 1861, he established by a decree on the preceding 24th of November, as a "striking testimony" of his confidence in the nation, yet, by a decree of the 19th of January, 1867, he abolished the same privilege—this same striking proof of his confidence in the country. And for what reason, or upon what grounds? Forsooth that the public time was wasted in mere parliamentary tilts. This, too, when France, when Europe, read from day to day the charge of the opposition, and the counter-charge of the government—the thrust and the *riposte*. But what is most curious is, that the valuable time expected to be economized, has not resulted in the gain of a single sitting to the Chamber. On the contrary, never did a session drag its slow length along more than did the predecessor of that now assembled.

M. Schneider, the President of the *Corps Législatif*, contrary to the usual custom, delivered no speech on the opening of the session. Had he done so, the opposition Deputies would have asked him some awkward questions; so silence was the *mot d'ordre*.

In the Senate, M. President Troplong opened with an address, which consisted of funeral orations that might have been equally appropriate over the tombs of the Senators in whose honor they have been pronounced. Of course, Achille Fould came in for the lion's share of this *in memoriam*, and of whom, by the by, it is difficult to comprehend how, if he was the financial savior of France, the Emperor could have got along for such a length of time without him.

The opposition Deputies were never in better heart, and some of their little differences of opinion are beginning to be reconciled. M. Jules Favre has lost no time in opening the campaign against the government. His demands were deposited, having been duly signed, by expected sympathizers, on the first day of the session. They embrace three delicate questions—viz., foreign affairs, the expedition to Rome, and lastly home politics and the recent application of the laws relative to individual liberty. It is expected, however, that permission for the first interpellation only will be allowed.

A few days will show whether the Emperor's letter of the 19th of last January will be carried out in the liberal spirit in which he again assures us it has been conceived. The new law upon the organization of the army has been given to the public, and has been sent for examination by the *Corps Législatif* to the same commission which examined the original scheme. The chief amendments proposed by the government are:—Nine years' service in time of war, and in peace five instead of seven; five years' service in the *Garde Nationale Mobile*, and the fixing of the annual contingent to the army 100,000 men instead of 160,000. Industry and agriculture alike cry out against this absorption of labor to be wasted in a barrack life.

M. Emile Ollivier and two other Deputies have deposited their amendments relative to the laws affecting the press. These may be summarized thus:—Abrogation of the discretionary régime, responsibility alone with those who use the press, full liberty to establish a newspaper without a previous monetary deposit, the abolition of stamps except for postal purposes, and the trade of printing to be free.

It is said that in the original draft of his speech the Emperor had a valedictory paragraph about Mexico, which he prized much and that was praised to the echo at the Cabinet council. However, wisdom comes from the night. The next day it was unanimously struck out.

The persons arrested for the affair at the Cemetery of Mont-Martre have been sentenced to imprisonment varying from three months to fifteen days and a fine of sixteen francs. Rather hard lines for shouting "Vive Garibaldi!" In 1859 one stood a good chance of being prosecuted if they did not shout "Vive Garibaldi!" It may be the mode to-morrow, but in the meantime, *nous avons changé tout cela!*

Lord Lyons, the British Ambassador, has opened his bachelor establishment, regardless of expense. He has got up his servants in a livery of white, trimmed with silver, as costly as his purse can buy. If the apparel oft proclaims the man, these men in white will astonish the natives. A Mlle. ——— is establishing a lottery for bachelors. Happy will be the girl who obtains the gross lot in the shape of the British Ambassador.

M. Ponson du Terrail, Vice President of the Society of Authors, is novelist to the *Moniteur*, gives wonderful suppers, dresses inimitably and puffs delicious cigars. In want of a pair of curtains, he agreed to pay the upholsterer a certain sum, promising to give a puff to his establishment in some future novel, by laying a scene of love, murder, &c., say, in his shop. When settling day came the bill was found to be one hundred per cent too high. Hence the litigation. Defendant's counsel urged that the author in one of his novels—Rocambole—laid the place where that fashionable villain dined, at a well known restaurant, whose customers had been thereby doubled, and such prosperity would have attended, had he had patience in the upholsterer. The law having no eye for romance, the Court were of opinion that the tradesman's bill should be paid in full.

The Pope is determined to have nothing to do with any congress that goes to decide whether his temporal power is to exist or not. Further, he does not desire to go to Jerusalem, or to Jericho; the church is a rock, not a rolling stone. The adhesions to the proposed conference come in languidly, all hinting a fault and hesitating dislike. Spain only appears inclined to "hear the church." It must be consoling to Napoleon the Third to know that the Sultan and the Prince of Monaco have given an unconditional assent to his views.

PORTO RICO.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE HERALD.

The Damage to the Island by the Hurricane—The Plains Enriched by Soil Carried Down by the Floods—Sugar Quotations—General Market Report.

ST. JOHNS, Nov. 10, 1867.

Up to the end of last month we had the most desirable weather for agricultural purposes. Both cane and coffee promised a most abundant harvest; but the hurricane experienced on the 29th of October was the most severe ever felt in these latitudes and caused great devastation on all sides of us. At this city it was not so severe as to the eastward of us. At Fajardo, Naguabo and Humacao it appears the wind was terrific, and demolished the greater part of the buildings on the estates and towns. In some districts not a house is left standing. From this to the westward the floods have been such as never were known before on the island, taking away houses and animals and causing very considerable losses of human life. In the interior it was also very severe, and caused great destruction to the crops and plantations. The coffee trees were almost entirely stripped of what had not been previously gathered, and there will not be one-half of what was expected. We do not think the damage to the cane fields will be as great as present appearances seem to indicate. Still it is impossible to form any correct opinion at present of damage sustained. The rubbish must be cleared off and great work done before the full extent can be ascertained.

The rivers, on the other hand, have brought down from the mountains immense quantities of pure soil, which has been deposited in the plains and cane fields, manuring the lands perfectly for a length of time. The young canes, not destroyed, will spring forth with greater vigor, and no doubt produce finer crops in future.

Those estates that are in a condition to grind will do so earlier than anticipated to try to save some product from the injured canes.

The south side and west end of the island, say Guayama, Ponce and Mayaguez, have not suffered to the same extent as the north side and eastward. The loss in shipping here has been confined to three small coasters. No foreign vessels have suffered any damage of any importance.

Very little change is noted in our markets. The few sugars that offer find ready buyers at from 6c. a 8c.; molasses, 12c. a 18c., according to quality.

Notwithstanding the necessity of provisions which will no doubt soon be felt, there is very little animation to purchase. Sales per Kirkland, from Baltimore:—Clear mess pork, $24 per bbl.; mackerel, No. 3, $10 25; candles, 17c. per lb.; kerosene oil, in boxes, 50c. per gallon; in bbls., 40c.; lard, 17c. per lb.—in kegs, 20c.; hams, 18c.; butter, 22c.; apples, $3 25 per bbl.; potatoes, $2 25. There have been large importations of onions and potatoes, which will, however, be soon consumed or spoiled. A cargo of pitch pine boards would find ready sale. Scantling of all kinds abundant. White pine boards wanted. In consequence of the great loss of vessels in St. Thomas some have obtained good freights for Europe. Exchange rather dull, $5 15 a $5 25. Money scarce. Bills on St. Thomas, 3 a 4 per cent premium.

For convenience of steamers calling here there is a large coal depot in this harbor, and supplies can be obtained at the wharf with quick despatch.

Coffee Coming in Slowly From the Interior—Sugar Scarce—Tonnage—Exchange Quotations.

MAYAGUEZ, Nov. 18, 1867.

The weather has continued fine and favorable to the fields throughout the past month. Our island has also been visited by a hurricane. However, it appears that only on the east coast—Fajardo, Naguabo, Humacao and Caguas—the damage done is of a somewhat more serious character, while the losses experienced in this district are reduced to slight destructions in the coffee plantations and inconveniences and destructions caused by the overflowing of the rivers, destroying part of the sugar estates bordering on its banks. No accidents whatever among the shipping in this harbor.

COFFEE.—There is no change to notice in this article, which continues to come forward rather slowly, owing in part to the late severe gale, which furnishes plausible pretexts and convenient excuses to evade engagements. The small lots which have come in from the interior have again been immediately taken up at former rate of $12 50 for "Pueblo" description for the island of Cuba, Spain and the Mediterranean. The holders generally pretend a somewhat higher rate, viz: $13, but should no fresh demand spring up they will probably have to give way in their pretensions.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES.—Nothing left for shipment neither at this nor the other ports of the island.

The reports about the next crop are somewhat contradictory; in this part of the island it may come up to a fair average yield.

Tonnage without demand, and there will be none wanted before the next crop comes in.

Exchanges well sustained. London, ninety days' sight, $535 a $540 per £100. Paris, ninety days' sight, 465 francs a 470 francs per $100. New York, sixty days' sight, on transactions. St. Thomas, thirty days' sight, no drawers.

NOTES ON NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Theology.

Albert Barnes, the well known author of "Notes on the New Testament," "Notes on the Psalms," &c., has had published in a volume the lectures which he delivered in the Mercer street church last winter on "The Evidences of Christianity in the Nineteenth Century." The key note to this work is struck in the following sentence:—"Theologians must deal with living men and with living opinions, and if they are not prepared for this, they are not prepared for the work of their age." The aim of Mr. Barnes is to aid the ministry in preparing, as they must prepare, to meet men—living men—on the question of the inspiration of the Scriptures, and with arguments that will commend themselves to those trained in the principles of profound criticism; on the question about the antiquity of the race on earth, and with arguments not derived from synods and councils; on the whole question of miracles, and of a supernatural influence in the affairs of men. Mr. Barnes says that "a more deep and subtle Pantheism in the form of Rationalism or Positivism lies at the foundation of the sciences of this day, as they are held, than the great mass of the friends of Christianity are aware of, and against all this, it may be unconsciously, the friend of Christianity struggles and contends when he attempts to impress its truths on the minds of men." Believing, as Mr. Barnes does, in the divine origin of Christianity, he endeavors to supply modern weapons against modern assaults upon it. And it is something for a theological teacher to remind his pupils that this is an age of progress, not only in the discovery of the laws of science and their practical applications, an age of the printing press, the steamer, the railway and the telegram, but also an age of searching inquiry and new modes of interpretation. "The theologian," he says, "must go prepared to meet the world as it is, and not go clad in the armor of past generations."

Science.

The microscope, which for so long a time was regarded chiefly in the light of a costly toy, is now the inseparable companion of the man of science. Its uses and advantages are manifold. The anatomist, the pathologist, the student of vegetable physiology, the zoologist, the geologist, the chemist—all find its aid indispensable. It opens, moreover, a world of entertainment to intelligent curiosity, and impresses the mind with a deep sense of the infinite wisdom and power of the Creator. For the most part, however, the results of the investigations pursued by the help of this wonderful instrument had been confined to erudite and expensive volumes, until Dr. Jabez Hogg, Secretary of the Royal Microscopical Society, succeeded in presenting them in a concise, yet sufficiently comprehensive, popular account of the microscopes under the title of "The Microscope: Its History, Construction and Application: Being a Familiar Introduction to the Use of the Instrument and the Study of Microscopical Science." This work has met with a sale unprecedented for one of its kind. Fifty thousand copies of it have been sold. A sixth edition has just been published by Routledge & Sons, simultaneously in London and New York. In this sixth edition the work has been thoroughly revised and for the most part re-written. Eight carefully and beautifully executed plates are added, which were drawn by Tuffen West, from natural objects, engraved and printed by Edmund Evans in the first style of color printing.

Mr. Hogg's work is divided into two parts. If we find the first part, which is a history of the invention and improvements of the microscope, somewhat long, we are fully indemnified by the second part, which is subdivided into three parts. The first treats of the development and structure of plants, algæ, molluscs and insects; the second of the microscopic anatomy of the human body, and the third of minerals and the formation of crystals. What wealth is offered, then, in this simple volume to the lover of the natural sciences, to the physician and to the geologist? In this country, and particularly in this city, where Dr. Dalton has given a great impulse to microscopical studies, and where Dr. Bucheser and other medical men have successfully tested the practical applications of the microscope, Dr. Hogg's work will doubtless be as popular as it is in Great Britain.

History.

Scarcely any of the so-called "histories" of our late civil war, which the American press has issued in such alarming numbers, deserve to be classed under this dignified title. Crude and undigested materials have been hastily thrown together in most of them, and served up to the public with such seasoning of partisan or sectional spite as may suit the classes or the latitudes in which the booksellers and their agents expect to sell them. In fact, nearly all of them have been made, like Pindar Pindar's razors, simply to sell. The least objectionable have no other merit than as "*mémoires pour servir*." When compiled conscientiously from original sources of information, and, especially, if the compiler is able to give truthful accounts of what passed under his personal observation during the exciting scenes of the war, we welcome such books, from whatever point of view they may have been written, as contributions to the materials requisite for the future impartial and philosophical historian. The second volume of a work entitled "Pictorial History of the Civil War of the United States of America," by Benson J. Lossing, has just appeared. It cannot be fairly denied that it possesses some of the qualities which we have mentioned as indispensable even in these works that have no claim to the dignity of history, and, nevertheless, may prove convenient for the public and more or less useful to the future historian. Mr. Lossing has turned to good account in this elegantly bound volume his long experience as a book maker. His familiarity with the pencil and the graver has enabled him to enliven his somewhat dull but honest page with numerous illustrations. The extensive tour which he has made throughout the South since the war has added to the stock of facts which he obtained from official documents and from the newspapers of the day. But the gossip which he gives about his own visits to persons and places during his Southern tour is generally unworthy of a place even in the letter of an "occasional correspondent" for a newspaper, and is still more inappriate in a professed historical work. After all, the files of old newspapers are among the most valuable original sources of history. The files of the NEW YORK HERALD during the period of our civil war would supply more copious, reliable and interesting materials for the future historian than all misnamed "histories" which have deluged the book market since the close of the great conflict.

Children's Books.

We hold that no genius is too high to minister aright to the mind and heart of children. The little people are as quick to appreciate genius, in the full acceptation of the term, which involves a genial disposition no less than intellect, as they are to detect the lack of it. And a plentiful lack of it they must discover in almost all of the myriads of prettily bound and gaily illustrated books which dazzle their eyes at Christmas and New Years. Robinson Crusoe, or a single volume of the old Fairy Tales, would outweigh the whole of them. It is true, however, that reading is so universal an accomplishment with the children of the present day—that is to say, supposing there are any children left in this rushing progressive age—that many juvenile books which have not the slightest claim to genius may be both useful and entertaining. Among the books of this description may be mentioned "Climbing the Rope; or, God Helps Those Who Try to Help Themselves," and "Billy Grime's Favorite," both by May Mannering; "Alexis, the Runaway; or, Afloat in the World," by Mrs. Rose Abbott Parker, and "Dotty Dimple at Her Grandmother's," by Sophie May. These are all written by women. Unusually women write better for children than any men except men of genius, and the latter only succeed in enlisting a child's sympathy when il y a quelque chose de *femme* in them.

THE FASHIONS.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE HERALD.

Jet and Steel Ornaments—Shell Fish Shaped Decorations—Muslin Drapery—Eugenie's Dress in the Legislative Assembly—Hat Trimmings—Basques and Sashes—Fashionable Philosophy and Overstrained Morality.

PARIS, Nov. 23, 1867.

The new gilt, jet and steel ornaments worn on sashes have assumed emblematic shapes since my last. Ladies now wear arrows, lyres, large harps and crawling dragon flies behind. All the crustacea are in favor, not forgetting lobsters, which are thought becoming in the hair.

A novelty is the elegant white muslin drapery worn on low bodices. I must describe them as plaited braces. They are worn in the style of the Italian braces of last year, only they are kept to the waist by a belt, and the ends flow in front and behind like scarf ends. A bow on each shoulder with this constitutes a sleeve.

The Empress Eugénie wore, on the opening of the Legislative Assembly, a white satin, brocaded with gold laurel leaves, a fichu of the same with carmelite (brown) velvet sash ends, and rouleaux of the same on the satin skirt. She wore over this a black lace shawl. Her bonnet was made of the same, and trimmed with a lovely aigrette, admirably placed on one side.

Princess Murat was in pearl gray and Alençon point. Black velvet underskirts, with black satin tunics, trimmed with deep lace all round, were the quietest toilets in the galleries. Jewels in bonnets flashed on many a brow.

The favorite ornaments on bonnets are steel and gilt—thus, a gilt band with steel leaves, and gilt and steel ears on gilt rims.

Young ladies' hats are something between turbans and caps. The prettiest diadem bonnets have puffs of velvet in front, somewhat high, with a plain rim on the forehead and an aigrette of sparkling steel, crystal or jewels.

Sashes made of the same material as costumes are short and bordered with satin. Ribbon sashes are longer. A lovely leaf for trimming is the wide ivy edged with lace; it is blue on gray or light brown on dark.

Basques of satin are cut in one, with square, low bodice.

The opening of the Legislative Assembly and the Emperor's speech on that occasion, have given occupation to hundreds of court purveyors and thousands of spirited political leaders; a leader without the private opinions of the writer on the intended amendment in the laws of the country, on the fictionary Congress, on the liberty of the press and the encroachments of Prussia, would not be a leader any more than a fashion letter would be fashionable if it were not a faithful account of all the scandal of this wicked world and of its attire.

This correspondence shall therefore relate both, beginning with what concerns the state of society. It appears to me, after close scrutiny in the elevated circles, that war and peace are at present on the best terms. All the Powers want peace, and something with it. The Emperor has shown the example by wishing to be friendly with every one and to have a bigger army besides. Victor Emanuel has had enough of the Pontifical Zouaves, still he is ever harping for the Pontifical States. The King of Prussia wants peace, but he must have the South of Germany with it; and while on one hand Napoleon III. continually announces the advent of a Congress of nations, on the other the representatives of the said European Powers are not forthcoming. England is waiting for Russia to send on some encouragement first, and Russia will not come forward before England has shown the example. Bavaria has enough to do with Wagner for a prophet, without the Pope. Spain has nothing at all but fervent enthusiasms. Austria has had too much to do with the Italian question already, and the Pope himself does not mean to be dictated to by any Congress. So how such an assembly can be called peaceful, or deliberate, with any comfort, is a mystery. People who are hard up for an operette should take the Congress for a subject; all the kings would draw as well as the Grande Duchesse, if brought in as cleverly as the Congress ever is in all the Court speeches.

Monseigneur Dupanloup has also expressed some clever things, but about the education of women in France, which I hasten to communicate to the fair sex. It appears that French ladies have until now been brought up in the bosom of the church, and that they are henceforth to be turned over to the arms of the university. M. Dupanloup thinks this very improper, and all thinkers are taking the question up as enthusiastically as if their sisters, mothers and daughters were being exposed to insult. Some say that the bosom of the church was not positively degenerate, but that the arms of the university are not to be trusted, and the said arms carry the debate off in a way which must ruffle the susceptibilities of the church. Something is going to be settled, for, it appears, ladies in France must either be cradled by one or nursed on the other, and some perturbation is caused by uncertainty in the morals of the nation.

Talking of morals, a case has this week been laid before justice by an indignant father, who has sued a lady, an opposite neighbor, for watering her flowers at her balcony in a yellow negligé, of which the style was so flowing that the aspect thereof was not very modest in the eyes of his family. The lady was requested to select some other garment for her morning avocations, but she refused to do so. It is probable she is an Austrian by birth, and partial to yellow. Princess Mathilde wore a yellow satin robe and cassaque, trimmed with fur, at the opening of the Assembly, and this lady very likely prefers yellow to the Metternich green at the opening of her windows. She was threatened with a lawsuit, which suited her, doubtless, and law proceedings led her before the president of the police court, where the following questions and answers were exchanged:—

President to complainant—State the object of your suit.

Complainant—It is not a suit at all, Monsieur le President; it is a dressing gown.

President—What is objectionable in this garment?

Complainant—In the first place, it is yellow, an anti-national manifestation in favor of outward politics which the youth of France have nothing to do with; and besides it is of such a cut that—

President—Pray, continue.

Complainant—instead of being high in front, especially for the purpose of watering flowers, it is very low in the bodice and high behind.

President to defendant—What is the name given to the style of your morning-robe, madam?

Defendant—An antique, Monsieur le President; Cæsar's wife wore one. (Laughter.)

President to complainant—What family have you?

Complainant—An only son.

President—How old is he?

Complainant—Twenty-one months. (Great laughter in the court.)

President (gravely)—I do not think the morality of your infant is in immediate danger, and the Court, therefore, decides that—

Defendant—The dressing gown may be dropped. (Much laughter.)

Complainant—Then I must give notice to leave my present dwelling, as I cannot live in a house in front of which public morals are set at defiance.

Another instance of this kind tending to correct the loose manners of the age is shown at the Porte St. Martin, where we are to have a review; but the ballet is not to represent three hundred partially attired dancers—they are to be clothed as vegetables. We are to have a quadrille of asparagus, another of turnips and carrots, in which it is hoped not so much as a chignon will be discernible. Mr. Fournier, the manager of the theatre, is thus striding towards reform. The new song now abroad is called "The Polonaise and the Swallow"—a very innocent title. It is sung in the comic bouffonnerie of the "Œil Crevé," at the Folies Dramatiques, and the music is by Hervé. I do not suppose the sense of the romance is as innocent as the title, nor as pretty as the music; but I state that the song is momentarily creating a *furore*.

INFORTUNATE DECISION TO FARMERS IN A RAILROAD CASE.—Some time ago a cow, belonging to a farmer who lived upon the line of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad, in one of the northern counties of Indiana, says the New Albany *Ledger*, ran upon the track in front of an advancing train, throwing the train off the track, badly wrecking it, and injuring several persons. The railroad company sued the owner of the cow for the full amount of damage caused the train by the accident, and recovered, in the lower court, a verdict for $4,000. An appeal was taken by the farmer to the Supreme Court of Indiana, and on Tuesday last the court affirmed the verdict of the court below, holding the farmer for the full amount of the $4,000 damages assessed. This is an important decision, as it holds that persons living on the lines of railroads in that State, cannot allow their stock to run at large, so as to endanger the safety of passing trains, without being legally obligated for all damages that may ensue from such stock being run over, and throwing the trains off the track.

THE DRY GOODS MARKET.

The Present Ruling Prices—Transactions in the Wholesale and Jobbing Branches.

Why is trade dull? The supply being greater than the demand brings down the prices. As usual customers are less disposed to buy, either wholesale or retail, than they would were goods advancing. The effect, then, of the overstock of goods is more the cause of dull trade than the scarcity of money.

Men's wages, for the most part, are as good as they have been, and many mechanics are getting as much as at any time during the war. And when we look at the reduction in the cost of necessaries we are confident they could buy more dry goods than they do; but perhaps, from the fear their work will not last, they are saving money. The farmer also should be able to buy more than he does with his large crops, even though there should be considerably more decline in the price of his produce. But he feels, too, that he had better lay up his money. If the interest of one class of men suffers others are made more timid, though they have met with no loss. The absence must not be forgotten of a great many of the shoddy army contractors, gold speculators, bounty brokers, &c., some of whom have gone from the country to enjoy the attention paid them which money commands so much more than where they are known. Others have kept on speculating and lost all. Others spent all. These are some of the causes of the great stagnation in business felt at the present time. But, after all, the only great losers so far are the jobbers and retailers, for they have paid more for the greater part of their goods than they can get. Even though a great many more jobbers and retailers should fail it can scarcely affect many of the manufacturers and importers, for the most of them have been very cautious for some time past and giving shorter time. Then the prices they get for their goods are still such they do not lose, and as they no doubt see the market is really overstocked with trashy goods they will make better goods, and in such quantities that they are sure they can sell all. We can see no real cause of alarm for the manufacturer.

The importer has not generally such a large stock on hand, but the jobber and some of the retailers have, and they knowing this most likely will be cautious and get only such goods as they are most sure to sell. The time has passed when the manufacturer or importer either can increase his business by the increase of his stock of goods.

Best styles of prints are in fair demand at present prices; so are heavy brown cottons and best grades of white, although with bleached goods the market is heavily stocked, and some makes may suffer a decline. Ginghams are dull and Kentucky jeans slow.

The prices below give the state of the market:—

Very little is doing in dress goods, although offered low, except in a few of the more desirable styles. Some of the best patterns of delaines are selling well and may advance. In milliners' goods very little is doing, although ribbons, such as black, imperial blue, Bismarck and a few other of the best shades, are in good demand.

Woollens and cloaking at the large and recent sale of Wilmerding, Hoguet & Co., at four months, brought for St. Bernard cloakings, $1 55; Astracan, $2 a $3 37½; and the finer qualities $4 25 to $5 37½; blue velour, $7; white, $6 00 a $6 75; black, $5; purple, $4 to $4 12½; Loew & Schmall's extra fine sheepskin, $4 12½; Saxony tricots, $3 25; black Belgian Esquimaux, $2 25 to $2 50; diagonal, $4 15; velvet clockings, $4 62½; Waldhausen's doeskin, $4 87½; twilled anchor make, $4 95; Belgian Moscow, $3 62½ to $4; fine Aix la Chapelle castor beaver, black, $3 38; Austrian crown doeskins, $5; Duffel do. fine, $5 62½; Eskimos, $4 62 to $5 87; Edredons, $4 50 to $4 87; Palmerston Eskimo, $6 12½ to $6 87½; fancy cassimers, $2 75 to $3.

The same parties, at same terms, four months, sold fine English black silk warp bombazine from $1 05 to $1 25; superfine, $1 55; best, $1 75 to $1 82; colored poplins, 43c.; mohair, 62c. to 76c.; colored alpaca, 30½c. to 33c.; poplin do., 38c. to 54c.; 1 lot plaid do., 20c.

In silks, without an allowance for imperfections, there was quite a discrepancy in prices. Grenadine, 60c.; Marceline, 35c. to 67½c.; pouit de soie, 62½c. to $1 18; reps, 75c. to $1 10; 30 inch gros grain, $1 75 to $3; taffeta, $1 05 to $1 10; 32 inch black moire antique, $2 80, was not duplicated, but black drap de France was at $2 62½.

Lyons velvet, 34 inch, $9 25; 33 inch, $10 25.

Fine French counterpanes sold low, and no duplicates were offered; 102 inch, $7 75; 92 inch, $7; 87 inch, $6 50; common goods and small sizes brought from $1 to $3 37½; 55 inch table damask, 62½c.

Eight hundred dozen ⅝ L. C. handkerchiefs sold from 9c. to 15½c.; 200 dozen ¾ do. from 15½c. to 24c.; this was low. ¾ hemmed do. was not in such demand, and did not bring as good prices accordingly. 6-4 cambrics sold low, bringing 17c. to 21½c., and fine goods 23½c. to 31½c. Plaid muslins, 27c. to 32c. Tarlatans, 28c. to 30c.

In hosiery and gloves several lots of ladies' common cotton hose were $2 25 to $2 75 per dozen, and ladies' common cost underwests 96c. each, while men's super stout regular made ½ hose sold for only $3 62½ per dozen. The very large lots of gloves in the market tell against the holder; 500 dozen desirable kid gloves were offered, the most of which had to be passed. Prices ranged from 68c to 82½c. Cloths fared worse; they sold for $2 25 and finer goods $3 30.

Blankets sold low, as follows:—Blue gray blankets, $2 30; brown do., $1 50; Indian Mackinaw blue do., $3 62½; 7½ lbs., gray, $1 30; 8 lbs., $3 35; 9 lbs., $3 40; white blankets, 12-4, as low as $1 50 to $1 57½; white do., 14-4, $2 05.

Hoyt & Wheeler have sold some high cost Nottingham curtains and upholstery goods at very remunerative prices, and of fancy goods for the holidays 501 lots. They sold 800 duplicates.

Jobbers sell brown sheetings, of which very few are in the markets—11-4 Utica, 55c; Pepperell, 47½c.; 10-4 Utica, 50c.; Pepperell, 40c.; 9-4 do., 35c.; 8-4 do., 30c.; 7-4 do., 27c.; 6-4 do., 25c.

Bleached sheetings were as follows:—10-4 Utica, 55c.; 9-4 do., 50c.; 8-4 do., 32½c.; 5-4 do., 27½; 10-4 Pepperell, 47½c.; 9-4 do., 40c.; 8-4 do., 35c.; 6-4 do., 26c.

Bleached muslins were quoted:—New York mills, 27½c.; Clark's iron twist, 23c.; Wamsutta and Utica, 22½c.; Arkwright and Bates, 20c.; Waukegan, 19c.; Androscoggin, Dwight, Lonsdale and Masonville, 17c.; Am