SOUTH AMERICA.

PROGRESS OF THE PARAGUAYAN WAR.

Arrival of Count d'Eu at Asuncion.

Prospects and Position of the Belligerents.

BRAZIL.

Politics in the Empire—Slavery Doomed—The Paraguayan War—Brazilian Accounts of the Situation—The Army Not Able to Move for Some Time—The Reported Fights with the Paraguayans.

RIO JANEIRO, May 8, 1869.

The General Assembly of the united wisdom of Brazil has not yet opened, although the 3d was the appointed day, as sufficient Deputies have not yet come in to form a house. However, it is anticipated that the 11th will see the ceremony of formal opening and give us the policy of the government, so far as it may be gathered from the Emperor's address to the "august and most illustrious representatives of the nation." It is generally looked for that the subject of emancipation will be untouched.

It would really seem that slavery cannot exist much longer in Brazil, whatever party be in power. There is a very large body of influential men advocating its immediate or its speedy, if gradual, extinction, and even among those slave owners who are opposed to emancipation there is no touchiness like that which prevailed in regard to it in the South. They object to it purely on the material grounds of the pecuniary loss to them and the probability that their productions would suffer greatly in the very probable case of the negroes preferring idleness to remunerated labor. They say, "Provide us with laborers who will work and we do not care when the blacks be freed." In fact, the liberal slave owners in one of the richest districts of St. Paulo have themselves initiated a measure which would put an end to slaves being born after 1880, and to slavery entirely in 1901. Among the signs of the times is that Mr. Gunther, a Maranham merchant, now resident in London, has just set free twenty-two slaves, whom he possessed in Maranham.

That indefatigable traveller, Captain Burton, late British Consul at Santos, and now Consul elect at Damascus, has just got back to Rio, after a peregrination which took in the Argentine Confederation, Paraguay, Patagonia, Chile and Peru, from which he doubtless has collected the materials for another of his all-discussive books. I hear, however, that he will immediately issue, on his arrival in England, whither he goes in the packet of to-morrow, a small book entitled "The War Against the Brazilian Treasury," the result of his observations while in the allied camps in Paraguay. In fact, he believes that so powerful is the influence of those who are making fortunes by the war that the Count d'Eu, with all his earnestness and ability, will encounter so organized a passive resistance to the measures which would bring the war to an end that he will be unable to effect anything important.

However this may be, the Prince has shown a determination to do what he can. His call at Humaitá produced measures for the relief of the soldiers imprisoned to await trial, many of them already four years in wait in a rotten old pontoon, with rotten moorings. At Asuncion his visit to the hospitals, where the sick were without mattresses or sheets for months, as I mentioned in my last, procured those comforts for the neglected wretches, as he at once sent off a steamer to Humaitá, where accumulations of mattresses and sheets existed, and in the course of four days had them in the Asuncion hospitals. Another order replaced all the lazy officials who had so long been neglecting their duties at Asuncion and sent them to rejoin their regiments in the front; and, finding that the supply of forage and horses was a notorious swindle and job, he has cancelled the contract and sent off a trusty officer to effect the required purchases. It is difficult to understand how thoroughly disorganized every department of the army must have got. The rolls of the animals show that on January 1 the number of horses and mules was 27,936, besides 3,023 oxen; yet, although the cavalry force does not count more than 5,000 men, and various remittances of horses have been received since then, the cavalry is unable to undertake anything for want of horses, and the 20,000 men camped within twenty miles of Asuncion are sometimes on short allowance, owing to the want of transport. The troops have received no pay for a year, and, although the winter has been on two months only a few corps had got winter clothing. The government here declare that it has sent down at least two suits of winter clothing for every soldier, but all the correspondents agree in saying very few of the troops have got any. On the other hand, officers of the transports say there are thousands of bales and boxes lying in the depots with no mark to show what they contain, and which no one pretends to know anything of. And, to climax the matter, one of those fits of spasmodic energy which occasionally seize lazy officials came upon a medical officer of a depot, who ordered over 200 boxes to be piled up and burned as a "sanitary measure."

It does not appear that the Brazilian forces will be able to move for a month at least, as the bridge over the Juquery must be finished, rolling stock for the railroad must be got, and several thousand horses are yet wanted for the cavalry. The Second army corps is at Luque, and General Polydoro has been appointed to it; the First army corps is between Luque and the river Juquery, and Osorio is expected from Rio Grande to take its command again, he having almost recovered from the wound in his jaw. The railroad bridge over the Juquery is rather a heavy job for the Brazilian engineers, notwithstanding the abundance of timber in its neighborhood; for the length is 630 feet, and it was so effectually burned by the Paraguayans that only a few stumps of the old one remained. Besides this, the engineers had no pile driver, and it was only of late times that they could get an order sent off to Rio Janeiro for one. Even when a bottle of oil was wanted for the oiling of the bolts used in the bridge it took four requisitions, one after the other, before it could be obtained.

Since the locomotive attacks on the working party a bridge of boats has been thrown over the Juquery, and a strong force is stationed there, whose outposts reach to six miles further on the railroad. The river Plate journals say the Paraguayans surprised a regiment of Brazilian cavalry, while dismounted, and gobbled up a number of men and nearly all the horses. The Brazilian accounts deny this and say the only affair beyond the Juquery was one in which the Brazilians took nine horses, with equipments, without loss to themselves.

To the north, near Rosario, the Brazilians claim to have whipped a small party of Paraguayans and captured 150 head of bullocks. The Count d'Eu's first act was to modify the plans, whatever they were, in regard to the Rosario expedition, and the town was being fortified. It seems likely that some fighting will take place for the possession of the northwestern country of Paraguay, as Lopez gets great resources of cattle from it, and probably recruits, and the allies will naturally wish to deprive him of its advantages. It is thought Lopez has a strong force at San Pedro to prevent the Rosario expedition from sending raiding forces towards the north.

The Count d'Eu seems rather popular among the Brazilian troops, and his giving an hour each day for free access to him by persons of any rank has caused great satisfaction, as Caxias was rendered inaccessible, unless by favor of his immediate following.

It is said that a party of Paraguayans came down the Tebicuari in boats and surprised and captured a small steamer which the army surpliers had in use for the transport of cattle across that river. The Paraguayans seem to be ubiquitous. Deserters to the Brazilian camp say that Lopez has 8,500 men under arms and has the Europeans in his service hard at work turning out small arms and cannon. Of the 8,500 men 6,000 were in front of the line of advance from Asuncion and most of the others were in the north.

The locomotiveand a number of horses coming up from Buenos Ayres to the Brazilians were somewhere on the way, the steamers having got aground.

Nothing is yet known of the troops upon the Upper Parana, but as several vessels have gone up that river it is thought they will be brought to Asuncion. Of the naval expedition up the Manduvira to attempt the destruction of the six Paraguayan steamers nothing has yet been heard.

The province of Matto Grosso did not prove the El Dorado which was proudly anticipated by the merchants, and some of the steamers returned with cargoes intact, the people being too poor to indulge in luxuries and not being so bare as was expected.

ARGENTINE CONFEDERATION.

Arrival of Count d'Eu at Asuncion—Position of the Paraguayan Army—Lopez Hard at Work Casting Cannons and Making Gunpowder—Minister McMahon Not Heard From—Prospects of the War—The Elections.

BUENOS AYRES, April 28, 1869.

The Prince d'Eu, the new commander-in-chief of the allied forces against Paraguay, arrived at Asuncion on April 14, and was received with great rejoicing. The officers on active duty felt the need of a younger man than General Guillermo Xavier de Souza. During these three months of the latter's command the army has done nothing, while the evils of inactivity have been severely felt, and Lopez has employed the time in rallying his forces and preparing for continued defence. A change from senility could hardly make matters worse, and Prince d'Eu, though only twenty-six years of age, inspires hopes of a reform in the army.

Lopez is known to be curing his sick and wounded, and gathering men and boys, casting one cannon a week and making gunpowder every day, while the woods for leagues and leagues around him swarm with his scouts, who look for their own stragglers, gather cattle or pounce on any foraging or reconnoitering party of the enemy. He does not seek battle; he never did; but he waits among the spurs of the Cordilleras for the enemy to come, and when twenty leagues of morasses, defiles, sand heaps and dense forests are between the allies and their ironclads he hopes to destroy all that come against him.

The policy of putting Paraguayan prisoners into the ranks of the allies as soldiers does not work so as to be recommended to other nations. They keep their counsel till they see an opportunity and then they take their revenge. No doubt many of the casualties of battle come from this source, and then when they desert they carry valuable information. Not long ago one hundred deserted in one day, carrying their arms with them. Last week an officer, who had become a prisoner at Angostura, was arrested in Asuncion, charged with having set on foot a conspiracy to take the city from the garrison of 1,000 Brazilians who hold it. There is no doubt of the continued and increasing malignity of the Paraguayans towards the allies, and as the war rolls on they increase in their skilfulness in making good defences out of small means. From their separate posts they have means of communicating as by a secret signal telegraph, which often serves their purpose well.

The United States Minister, General McMahon, is still with Lopez, much to the surprise and anxiety of his friends. Not a word has come from him to his family here nor to the Minister at this place. Nor do we know anything of what his plans are, or how he or his country can be served by his itinerating ministry, or how Lopez can be able to retain him in that uncertain military encampment in the forest.

Since the fall of the last stronghold of Lopez on the river, and his retreat inland, we have heard the statement that the war is now about over. And yet its expenses do not decrease. The forage contract amounts to $800,000, gold, per month, and the other departments are also expensive. But the men cost less than the horses in proportion to their number, including clothing, food and pay.

One of the best informed correspondents of the army writes that it will probably be three months before any important movement is made. There is no doubt but that if the number and character of cavalry that pursued Jeff Davis had gone in pursuit of Lopez on January 1, he could have been as easily taken; but cavalry like them are not here, nor is there an appearance among the officers of a decided purpose to close the war. The delays and the practical mistakes made, if not on purpose, yet from culpable carelessness, have most needlessly protracted the war, and many are so unkind as to say that if salaries are reduced and the profits of the army contractors cut off, the war would end honorably in a short time.

On the 11th April the elections were held for representatives to the Provincial Legislature, and as these elect the Governor, there was a very spirited contest. There never was so much money staked on an election as in this case. The most popular newspaper here, *La Tribuna*, lost $50,000, currency ($2,000 gold), and its winners have given it to the widow of a young man shot at the polls. The result of the election secures to Governor Castro a re-election. This is a good thing, although his opponents are of the same party, and are good men.

THE ELEVATED RAILWAY.

Meeting of the Commissioners—Non-Appearance of Any Objectors or Complainants—Progress of the Building of the Road.

In the first act of the Legislature of this State authorizing the building of an elevated railway (chapter 489 of the Session Laws of 1867), a trial road was permitted to be built of half a mile in length, beginning at the intersection of Greenwich street and Battery place, and the Governor was authorized to appoint three commissioners to examine this half-mile section, report upon its adaptability as a railroad for city travel, and if their report be favorable and the Governor approve of it, then the company was empowered to continue the road through Greenwich street to Ninth avenue, and out Ninth avenue to the city limits, and beyond to Yonkers. The first half mile was built and Governor Fenton appointed Messrs. J. S. Freer, Freeman J. Fithian and John H. Morris as the commissioners, who accepted and constituted themselves by electing Mr. Freer chairman and Mr. Morris secretary. Their report, after repeated tests and examinations, was in favor of the road, and the Governor approved it. Since then the company have endeavored to proceed with the building of their enterprise as fast as circumstances would permit, but met with many obstacles. Owners of real estate became restive under the apprehension that the value of their property would suffer. Owners of stores and factories objected to the road on the ground that it would interfere with the free use of the street for trading purposes. Others again would not allow awning posts and trees, which were in the way of the track, to be removed by the company. One of these objections, that of the property holders, has even reached the courts on an action for a perpetual injunction, and it is said that all the owners of real estate along the proposed route of this elevated railway have clubbed together and are assisting the present plaintiff in the action referred to, in order to test the constitutionality of the act of the Legislature of 1867, and the supplemental act, chapter 855, of the session of 1868. Notwithstanding all this, however, the company are progressing with the work. The posts for the track have all been erected as far as Thirtieth street and Ninth avenue, and the rails and cars and the steel wire rope are being rapidly manufactured and will be put in position so that this portion of the route may be opened to the use of the public by September next. At various places along the route room has been secured from private owners to erect vaults for the stationary engines which are to furnish the propelling power. At certain intervals it is proposed to build switches for the present, where the up and down cars may pass each other, though these places, and also where the stations and spiral stairs are to be, have not yet been determined by the commissioners. It is possible that the plan of the switches will be entirely abandoned as impracticable, and another one, being already now discussed, adopted. This latter is to run several trains down in the morning and despatch the same trains for up town again in the evening, and continue this until a second track can be completed.

In view to ascertain the nature of all the objections of the people along the route to this railway the commissioners, at their meeting on the 26th of May last, adopted the following preamble and resolutions:—

Whereas heretofore, on the 16th day of October, 1868, these commissioners gave authority, subject to certain restrictions, to the said Elevated Railway Company, their officers and agents, to remove obstructions which might exist along its proposed route; and, whereas, complaints having been made to us as to the manner in which said authority has been executed, therefore,

Resolved, That the commissioners will meet (as heretofore until further notice) every Saturday at twelve o'clock M., at 110 Broadway, for the purpose of hearing and examining any and all objections or complaints that may be preferred by persons residing, owning property, or doing business on the line of said proposed railroad, or others interested in respect to the proceedings of said railway company, in and about the erection and construction of its proposed railroad. And inasmuch as it becomes the duty of the commissioners to certify and approve in respect to the safety and security of said railway for the carrying of passengers, we invite suggestions and information on that subject.

Resolved, That our secretary is instructed to communicate a copy of these resolutions to the said railway company, and cause the same to be published in such newspapers as he should deem expedient.

These proposed meetings were held, the first on Saturday, the 5th of June, and the second yesterday at noon, at the office of Judge Fithian, at No. 110 Broadway. At neither of these meetings did a single objector or complainant put in an appearance, and it was stated in a conversational way at the meeting yesterday, by some of the commissioners, that they had been privately informed that this neglect of the objectors to appear was for the reason that they would not, either by an informal or any other appearance before the commission, even seem to recognize the legality and validity of the act of the Legislature creating it. After waiting yesterday from noon till one o'clock, on motion of Judge Fithian, no one appearing, the commissioners adjourned to next Saturday noon at the same place.

DEPARTURE OF STEAMSHIPS.

The following steamships left this port yesterday:—

The Louisiana, Captain Thomas, for Liverpool and Queenstown, with 80 steerage passengers and a full cargo of wheat, corn, tobacco, bacon and cheese.

The City of Baltimore, Captain Roskell, for Liverpool and Queenstown, with 79 cabin passengers and others in the steerage, and a full cargo of cheese, bacon and lard.

The Britannia, Captain Campbell, for Glasgow and Londonderry, with 31 cabin and 107 steerage passengers and a full cargo of wheat, flour and provisions.

The Ville de Paris, Captain Surmont, for Brest and Havre, with 267 passengers, 450 bales of cotton, a quantity of potash and $200,100 in specie.

The George Cromwell, Captain Vaill, for New Orleans direct, with six passengers and a full cargo of general merchandise.

The United States, Captain Norton, for New Orleans direct, with 15 cabin and 10 steerage passengers and a full cargo of general merchandise.

The Alabama, Captain Limeburner, for Mobile, with 20 passengers and a full cargo, and $7,000 in specie for Key West.

The James Adger, Captain Lockwood, for Charleston and Florida ports, with 25 passengers and a fair cargo of general merchandise.

The Isaac Bell, Captain Bowine, for Norfolk, City Point and Richmond, with 38 cabin and 12 steerage passengers, and a fair cargo of general merchandise.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

The Necessity for Clergymen Furnishing Ideas—What Has Become of the Lost Tribes of Israel?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

You lately published a letter calling upon "clergymen to furnish ideas" as well as oratory to the world, that religious truth may become as intelligible and undeniable to ordinary thinking men as scientific truth already is to every one who reads and studies it—in short, that theology may take its place among the sciences, as astronomy, geology and chemistry have already, instead of being frequently about as dubious and questionable as was the astrology and alchemy of the olden time.

That theology may be worthy to take its place among the sciences known to man and not be any longer a mere matter of opinion, the first requisite is that the line between the known and the unknown should be clearly defined. Let us have solid foundations to begin to build upon. Let religious opinions be stated, or classed as opinions merely, and speculative dreams be regarded only as speculative dreams. But when once a religious truth is clearly proved and established, then let us regard it as a certain, positively known and undeniable truth, upon which we may safely build up and increase our knowledge of theology.

Thus the science of theology may have a fair and equal chance of becoming as progressive as are all the other sciences, so that the world's information may be daily increased about things unseen as well as about those things which are seen; about things eternal as well as about things temporal; about God and heaven as well as about man and earth, and about the past and future as well as about the present.

In my former letter I proposed that the ministers of religion and students of the Bible should take advantage of the liberality of the HERALD, and through its open columns enlighten the world as to whether the Almighty has revealed His purposes in regard to the "ten tribes of Israel," commonly known as the "ten lost tribes." About two months have already elapsed since I made this very reasonable request, and it does not appear that any one has thought it worth while to respond; so I suppose I must endeavor myself to give some idea, in the smallest possible compass, as to what the Bible reveals as the ultimate destiny of these "ten tribes of Israel," about which the world in general appears to have been hitherto so contentedly ignorant, or so perfectly indifferent.

In the fourth century after the flood—while one of the "eight souls" rescued in the ark (the patriarch Shem) was yet living upon the earth—the Bible informs us that God called upon Abraham and proved him, and, finding him persistently faithful and obedient, "blessed him," and assured him that he should become "the father of many nations," and that "in him and his seed should all the families of the earth be blessed." Abraham's son and grandson (the patriarchs Isaac and Jacob) inherited these solemn promises of God, and when Jacob on his deathbed was prophetically blessing his twelve sons (from whom afterwards proceeded the twelve tribes of Israel) he says to his son Joseph, "The blessings of thy father have prevailed above the blessings of my progenitors; unto the utmost bound of the everlasting hills they shall be upon the head of Joseph," &c., intimating very clearly that though the blessings of God upon Jacob had even exceeded those of his progenitors, Abraham and Isaac, yet Joseph should inherit all, "unto the utmost bound of the everlasting hills." Thus Joseph is clearly proved to be the heir of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and inheritor of the promises of God to the patriarchs. With this also agrees the statement made in the beginning of the fifth chapter of the first book of Chronicles in reference to the birthright having been transferred from Reuben, the first born, to Joseph—"Judah prevailed above his brethren"—and of him came the Chief Ruler; but the birthright was Joseph's. And in the forty-eighth chapter of Genesis we find Ephraim prophetically declared to be the heir of Joseph and the father of a "multitude of nations." Thus it is plain that if any reliance is to be placed upon the clear statements of the Bible we must expect to find the children of Ephraim ultimately blessed in a most remarkable manner. The question is, where are these children of Ephraim, and in what quarter of the earth shall we now look for these chief representatives of the "ten tribes of Israel?"

The Bible gives us their history but for the few centuries which intervene between the time of their servitude in Egypt and that of their final captivity by the King of Assyria. We find that Africa and "the children of Ham" were the first to attain a high degree of civilization only about six or seven centuries after the flood, and that the children of Israel were brought in contact with this early African civilization, that they might partake of its advantages, but were kept in servitude that they might be preserved from the enervating effects of all the early civilizations; that after they had derived all the advantages they could be expected to derive from their position in Egypt they were delivered from their state of servitude there by the hand of Moses in a most wonderful manner and led about in the wilderness for a whole generation to eradicate idolatry from among them; that then they were enabled to take possession of the land of Canaan, where for about four centuries they were ruled by "judges" whom the Almighty from time to time raised up to deliver them from their enemies; that ultimately they "desired a king to reign over them," that they might be like the other nations about them; that during a period of about one hundred and twenty years Saul, David and Solomon reigned successively over all Israel; that then "the ten tribes" revolted from the tyrannical rule of Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, and for two or three centuries thereafter they were allowed to choose their kings from a great variety of families other than "the house of David," until at last Shalmaneser, the king of Assyria, carried what remained of the ten tribes of Israel into Assyria, placing them "in Halah and in Habor by the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes," as related in the seventeenth chapter of the Second Book of Kings. The history of "the ten tribes of Israel" extends no further than this. We trace them through their varying fortunes from their deliverance from bondage in Egypt, when the highest civilization the world then knew prevailed there, in Africa, to their final captivity in Assyria; when Asia had taken precedence over Africa; and "the children of Asshur" had advanced beyond "the children of Ham," and Assyrian civilization exceeded the Egyptian.

Here all trace of them is lost; therefore are they called "the ten lost tribes of Israel;" and though from this period we may search all historical records in vain for any satisfactory account of "the ten tribes of Israel," yet the very clear, most distinct and emphatic prophecies in reference to "Ephraim and the ten tribes of Israel, his fellows," forbid us for one moment to suppose that these "ten tribes" are really "lost," but, on the contrary, compel us to believe that their preservation in some portion of the earth is at least as remarkable as is the preservation of the two remaining tribes of Judah and Benjamin, as represented by the Jews of our day. But in what quarter of the earth shall we look for them? We know that they did not return to the land of Israel, as did the Jews, or Judah and Benjamin, after the Babylonish captivity. Is it likely that they returned to Egypt? Not at all, for they had already derived what advantage they could from African civilization. Did they remain long in Assyria? Not at all likely, either; for Assyrian civilization very soon waned before the European; and doubtless the same Providence which caused them to derive the advantage of the highest African and Asiatic civilization found some means of bringing them into contact with the highest European civilization also; so it is to Europe that we must look for their next appearance. Accordingly we find that when European civilization had superseded both the African and Asiatic about the commencement of the Christian era, a peculiar people appears at the north of Europe quite as mysteriously as "the ten tribes" had disappeared in Asia, about 1,000 years previously. They pour in hordes upon the Roman empire, robbing all before them, and come in contact with the highest civilization the world had yet witnessed; but not as the children of Israel were formerly brought into contact with the earlier civilizations of Egypt and Assyria, as slaves and captives, but as conquerors.

More than a thousand years have now elapsed since these northern hordes poured in upon Europe and the Roman empire, conquering and permanently subduing all before them, and at the same time laying the foundations of the present European kingdoms and empires. From whence did these barbarian hordes derive so decided a superiority to all the rest of the world? Why should they be at all superior to the North American Indians, for instance, who with all their hardy physical qualities so soon disappear when brought in contact with civilization? It certainly appears that so very decided a superiority cannot otherwise be satisfactorily accounted for than by supposing that these barbarian hordes were descended from a very superior race of men. And where are we likely to find such a very superior race if not among the chosen people of God, who have providentially partaken of the advantages and been preserved from the disadvantages of all former civilizations, and subsequently invigorated by contact for centuries with a rigorous northern climate?

If the barbarian hordes who so mysteriously appeared at the north of Europe more than 1,000 years ago, and proved themselves superior to all the rest of the world, were not the lineal descendants of "the ten tribes of Israel," who about 1,000 years previously had disappeared in Asia in an equally mysterious manner, it must be admitted that it is extremely difficult otherwise to account satisfactorily for a barbarian people manifesting so decided a superiority to the whole human race. If ethnologists or philosophers can otherwise satisfactorily account for so wonderful and unprecedented a superiority, let them do so. But if, on the contrary, thorough investigation should only make it more clear that these Northern hordes and "the ten tribes of Israel" are identical, then we can understand how it is that their descendants, the Europeans and Americans of the present day, are in a fair way of being "a blessing to all the families of the earth" according to the promise of God made to "Abraham and his seed." What other race besides the Europeans and Americans is at all likely to benefit greatly "all the families of the earth" by introducing civilization and liberty, with its accompanying progress everywhere, until the whole earth in the course of a few centuries may become as delightful a residence for the whole human family as was the Garden of Eden originally for the first couple? Now that we have already in the course of one single generation made steam and electricity so generally subservient to the requirements of man in every quarter of the globe, who shall limit our progress in all future generations? It is now quite plain that the human family have ceased to crawl, and begun to walk, and under Providence it is to the Europeans and Americans that the credit for this is due. Should they prove to be really "the ten tribes of Israel," who have been so long "lost," but concerning whom, nevertheless, so many gracious promises of God are recorded, it might be some encouragement to them to know it.

M.

"Alarm of Christians."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

The article under the above head in a recent number of your paper calls forth the following reflections and prayer of one for and of many millions of firm believers in revelation that yearn after truth. Is it not singular for Christians to feel alarm at free discussion of the tenets of any religious sect or denomination including their own? How is this? In any profession or branch of knowledge discussion is invited to sift the chaff from the grain, the trash from the substance. Why not even more in religion? Some may construe this into a significant sign of weakness, and incline to look unfavorably at tenets that cannot bear the light of free discussion. Philosophers do not decline, rather invite it. Why should those who consider their faith so infinitely more profound? It is always considered not only a weakness in governments to prohibit liberty of speech, but a despotism—an infringement on the liberty of the population. Actions of governments pure and correct will stand criticism; so will all knowledge; only the impure will shun publicity. True and correct religious tenets have even less to fear from exposure, on the contrary, all to gain; their truth will be ever more brilliantly demonstrated; by hiding them from discussion under a worthless plea that they are no proper subjects for publicity to all, they only lay themselves open to detrimental suspicion and appear in the light of despotism. God is not a being of mere words. Words for or against this supposed essence cannot possibly effect it, otherwise the constant denunciations of sects and denominations against one another are unpardonable crimes now.

Jews, Mohammedans and others, ignorant of the superiority of Christianity, choose to consider it idolatry, as in their opinion Christians allot divine honors to human beings, idolatry being sinful or absurd in their sight. What more easy than to convert these poor, ignorant beings by proofs that God selected this speck in the universe for the execution of this inscrutable design to create beings in His image, and in His infinite mercy to sacrifice His own Son descended in human shape to redeem His unworthy creatures from sin, incurred contrary to the will of the Almighty? This doctrine, plain to the understanding of every Christian, requires only the same convincing proofs to unbelievers to secure their appreciation and belief, when all unbelief will disappear from the face of the globe. Religion is no science; it is knowledge, the understanding of the all-wise, eternal God, who could not reveal Himself in a thousand different contradictory ways. The revelations of the All-wise were and are intended for all. It is impossible that they were designed to remain the property of a few, to coin money and profit from them. They should, moreover, be within the reach of everybody's understanding. If different it will be well to have it universally known and understood, though it hardly seems compatible with justice in God, for all morality is based in justice to others and one's self alike. All human knowledge has been obtained by that which reveals itself; it may be presumed that religious revelations took the same course. All knowledge has been improved and purified only by discussion; so should religious knowledge be. Therefore we, the untold millions, pray to give us discussion on this momentous question, and the great principles of liberty, of freedom in opposition to all despotism, will be gloriously vindicated, the essence of what there was, is and will be established beyond a doubt and to the understanding of all as is meet and proper.

All conventions of delegates for the purpose have as yet ended in bitter quarrels and passionate imputations one on the other; each stood on his assumed dignity, without respecting that of the other, well aware of its assumption. A safer, more efficient and general mode should be adopted. Pray open your paper Sundays to this discussion; your voice will be heard from pole to pole, for there is no more circulated and more impartial paper in the country—ay, in the world. Allow everybody that complies with the express condition of refraining from all personal abuse a space not exceeding sixty lines (any excess charged), not to be employed in attacks on adherents to other creeds, but to treat in a dignified style the abstract question of the essence of the various creeds, supported by proofs.

America has taken the initiative in political progress. Its social and religious progress should be the direct results. She should be also the first to shake off the trammels which despotism of any kind forges to drag the mind into the mire of intolerance and ignorance, but which knowledge dispels, like a pure breeze, the fog. Justice demands progress. Let us be just and charitable to all if we claim justice and charity in return, for all of us lack in perfection, but long to approach it. If America proudly takes the lead in freeing the mind, the world must follow, while the leader earns immortal glory. "Onward" be her watchword, "to the enduring light of truth," and the NEW YORK HERALD the apostle of truth.

OUR RELIGIOUS CORRESPONDENCE.

Laying of the Corner Stone of a Catholic Church in Wilmington, Del.

WILMINGTON, June 6, 1869.

This afternoon at four o'clock the corner stone of St. Paul's Catholic church was laid in the presence of about 5,000 spectators, Bishop Becker officiating. A procession of 3,000 persons, composed of religious, literary and beneficial societies, marched through the principal streets to the corner of Fourth and Jackson streets, where the church is to be built. After the laying of the corner stone the litany was chanted by the Bishop and clergy, and a brief but most excellent sermon preached by the Bishop, which was listened to with marked attention by the large concourse present.

Notwithstanding the exposed condition of the place to the scorching rays of the sun and the absence of any seats everything passed off pleasantly and nothing occurred to mar the harmony of the whole.

Religious Notes.

The Unitarian Society at Newburg, N. Y., is building a $12,000 church. Trinity Methodist church, in the same place, will soon order a $5,000 organ.

The members of Western avenue Methodist church, Poughkeepsie, have voted on lay representation with the following result:—For, 15; against, 123. But it will be carried in the diocese, nevertheless.

A State convention of Spiritualists will be held at Indianapolis, commencing on the 17th of this month.

The question whether to hold a State convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations the present year or not is now being canvassed by that body.

The Massachusetts Legislature has increased the charter of the Boston Wesleyan Association to $400,000, and it will immediately proceed to erect a handsome building, costing, with the land, nearly $300,000.

The following are the graduates of Drew Theological Seminary of the class of 1869, who received their diplomas on May 20:—James Boyd Brady, New York; Oliver Allen Brown, Delaware, Ohio; Samuel K. Doolittle, Pond Eddy, N. Y.; Henry Graham, Wilna, N. Y.; George Miller, Warrenville, N. J.; William Forman Morris, Trenton Falls, N. Y.; Charles Flavius Noble, Pittsfield, Mass.; Ezra Tinker, Macedon, N. Y.; Samuel M. Vernon, Des Moines Iowa.

The *Levant Times* says:—"The head of the Armenian Church, the Catholicos Kevork IV., residing at Etchtmiadzine, has published his decision in reply to the invitation addressed to the patriarchs, archbishops and vicars of his Church to repair to Rome in order to take part in the Ecumenical Council. After having expressed his ardent wishes for the cessation of all division in Christianity, Kevork IV. affirms that union cannot be attained by that assembly, and as a proof he refers to the aspiration of the Roman Pontifical See to be superior to all others in the East, either by hierarchy, by jurisdiction or by heritage from the Apostles. As 'the Holy and orthodox Armenian Church,' says the document, 'cannot admit that pretension, the Catholicos declares that the Council has no legitimate basis;' in consequence, all the members of his creed in Turkey are to refuse every invitation, as a source of misunderstanding and discord."

Under the heading of "A Remarkable Episcopate," the Baltimore *Sun* says:—"As is generally known, the bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church in this country are not diocesans, but exercise a joint and general authority over the whole Church. One of them, Bishop Kingsley, is about to start on a course of episcopal visitations which affords a striking illustration of the breadth of the field over which our American Methodists have extended their missionary operations. He goes first to Colorado, where he will organize an annual conference; thence to Oregon to superintend the meeting of conference there; then back to the California conference, and then to Shanghae, in China, and from there to the conference in Northern India. After that he is to visit the work in Germany, Denmark, Sweden and other European countries. This visitation round the world is to end in France next summer, and the bishop expects to reach his home again, if life is spared, in September of next year. In the programme of this tour the days of the month are specified on which each meeting is to be held, and such is the completeness of modern arrangements for travel that very little apprehension is entertained of a failure in the appointments."

FOREIGN ART NOTES.

The south portal of the cathedral of Cologne is now adorned with statues executed by the cathedral sculptor, Christian Mohr. Of these there are altogether 107, thirty-eight of which are as large as life, and stand on carved supporting stones. Besides these figures there are eight groups in relief, illustrating the history of the Passion. The principal nave of the cathedral has also been embellished with statues from the chisel of the same artist.

LITERATURE.

Reviews of New Books.

GOOD SOCIETY. A COMPLETE MANUAL OF MANNERS. By the Right Hon. the Countess of ********. New York: George Routledge & Sons. 1869.

An aristocratic lady, shopping one day, wearied the unfortunate clerk with her objections to every piece of goods he placed before her. At length she inquired for "something that common people do not wear." Annoyed by her manner, the knight of the yardstick retired for a few moments, and on returning threw a bale of bagging before her, saying, "Madam, here is something common people do not wear." She was, no doubt, deeply offended at his rudeness, yet who can say that she was not served right? Now, this lady was a member of that good society which the Countess of Eight Asterisks writes of—a society, by the way, which comprises about one five-hundredth of the total population of Great Britain and the United States. Still its exclusiveness, refinement, polish, elegance and *esprit* make us thankful for a work which teaches us how to behave, how to ride, how to eat, drink, &c.

To begin with, the Countess of Eight Asterisks gives a very pleasant account of the customs of "good society" from the days of William the Conqueror to the present time; then follow a few observations regarding the "arrangement of a lady's house and the management of servants," by which we learn that "suit tables, covered with little shepherdesses in Dresden China, and little chalets, carved in wood, are a delusion and a snare" for reception rooms, and that it is highly desirable "fluffy knitted things and gaudy pieces of wool-work should be abolished by act of Parliament." Further on we are informed that "it is not permissible to leave one's chair in order to get nearer the fire." How will this apply in Alaska? The art of conversing well should be acquired. Nothing could give us greater regret than to know English "ladies pride themselves on the saucy *chique* with which they adopt certain Americanisms." Bad, bad, very bad. "Scandal is the least excusable of all conversational vulgarities," and probably that is the reason why it is frequently indulged in. "Red sealing wax is inadmissible, except for business letters, and wafers must never be used," which is a strong argument in favor of gum. We pass over, not understanding it, the mysteries of ladies' toilet, and turn to the chapter devoted to "the gentlemen's toilet." The first important thing is nails. "Long nails are an abomination." The hair and whiskers of man receive special attention. "Long hair, says the Countess of Eight Asterisks, "is never indulged in except by painters and fiddlers." The attire should be faultless. "Economy in gloves is an insult to society." Good heavens, how society must suffer! "No gentleman can afford to wear shabby clothes." We have known gentlemen who could not afford to wear any other kind; but that fact does not make the Countess less correct. We cannot, however, agree with her opinion that "if there is one thing in this world about which we can entertain any degree of moral certainty it is that we must pay our tailor's bills." We hold it true that a large number of persons are always morally certain they cannot pay their tailor's bills. "Chevalier de Maupras," says Richelieu, "pay your debts." "I will, my lord," he answers; "but tell me where I can borrow the money?" We must confess to feeling somewhat puzzled to know how we can heed the instructions of the Countess to the effect that "a gentleman, in riding, as in walking, gives the lady the wall." Suppose there are two walls, or suppose there are no walls, what then? At evening parties a gentleman should be careful what comic songs he sings. "At an evening party given expressly in honor of a distinguished lady of color" the Countess "once heard a thoughtless amateur dash into the broadly comic, but terribly appropriate nigger song of 'Sally Come Up.'" The attention of a radical paper, which shall be nameless, is called to the fact that the Countess spells the popular name of the African with two "g's." At a ball "young gentlemen are earnestly advised not to limit their conversation to remarks on the weather and the heat of the room." This is very old advice, but always trite. From the ball one naturally turns to the edibles. "It is impossible," says the Countess, "to over estimate the importance of dinners." We should say it was—quite impossible, in fact. "Veal is almost uneatable if the lemon has been forgotten." We have seen it almost all eaten before the lemon was thought of. It is gratifying to our democratic republican pride to know that American canvas-back ducks are considered "rare delicacies." Persons in moderate circumstances (say $50,000 per annum) should never pretend to give expensive dinner parties. Let the dinner be economic but a the same time of the very best quality. Fish balls and pork and beans should never be brought on table. Don't eat fish with a knife, don't pick your teeth with the fork, don't pour your coffee from the cup into the saucer, don't swallow hot soup—don't. On the subject of marriages the Countess of Eight Asterisks announces that "nothing black is admissible at a wedding," which is a copperhead reflection upon equal rights. When on a visit at a country house a gentleman who, during the morning hours, does nothing "but idle about the house and chat with the ladies, is an intolerable nuisance." Sooner than become that, "he had better retire to the billiard room and practise cannons by himself." Carroms, my lady, carroms. We perceive by a long quotation from the poem that ladies of the "best society" read Byron's "Don Juan," doubtless with all the naughty passages left out. "Polite vulgarisms must be scrupulously guarded against;" certainly they must, as soon as we know what a "polite" vulgarism is. "Sniffing, snuffling, expectorating must never be performed in society under any consideration." Suppose a gentleman has a cold or chews tobacco, what shall he do? The Countess thinks a gentleman should learn boxing scientifically, and quotes approvingly the saying, "To knock a man down is never good manners, but there is a way of doing it gracefully." She, however, suggests no method by means of which the man knocked down can act gracefully.

We have quoted enough of this book to give the reader a fair idea of its contents. It is of little use as a guide to propriety of behavior in society—that is, being intended for a small, exclusive circle, its teaching could not, from the very nature of things, be of service to the great mass of American readers. We all remember the English nobleman who, hearing during the Irish famine that the people could not get bread, wondered why they did not obtain the same kind of cakes that he was served with for breakfast. We really believe this book to be written by a countess and a "born one" at that; for it is the most impracticable thing we have read of the kind. There are some good hints, it is true; some excellent advice and much that would benefit the reader. But while we cannot praise it as good for instruction, we do not hesitate to recommend it as the most thoroughly entertaining of books. No recent publication has given us half the amusement that this has.

THE SON OF MAN. Discourses on the humanity of Jesus Christ. By Frank Coulin, D. D., Minister of the National church of Geneva. Translated with the sanction of the author. Philadelphia: Claxton, Remsen & Haffelfinger.

We doubt if all Christian sects will agree with every doctrine expounded in these discourses or sermons, for even doctors do not disagree more radically in their opinions than do preachers in their interpretations of Scripture. But if we cannot coincide with all that is said we can at least admire the able, earnest manner in which Dr. Coulin tells of the humanity of the Saviour. We have seldom read printed sermons with greater pleasure than we have these. They are simple in their language, earnest in tone and thoroughly Christian. There is no extraneous matter in them; the subject is kept strictly in view by the preacher, who never tires with prolixity, although he is graphic and minute. Another admirable feature in these discourses is the absence of any attacks upon other religions while arguing from the religious standpoint of the author. On the whole this book is worthy of being read by theological students and others interested in religious literature. It is excellently translated and is admirably printed and bound.

PHYSICAL SURVEY OF VIRGINIA. Her Geographical Position, its Commercial Advantages and National Importance. Preliminary Report. By M. F. Maury, LL.D., &c. Second edition. New York: D. Van Nostrand. 1869.

Had the people of Virginia and of the South and West gone energetically to work fifty, or even thirty years ago, they would probably have raised up a rival to New York in the city of Norfolk, which would have contended powerfully with us for the high position of the commercial metropolis of the United States. We are quite prepared to agree with the views advanced by Professor Maury in the work before us, but while entertaining no doubt of Norfolk becoming a large city eventually, scarcely think that she will ever materially affect the prosperity of New York or even come into rivalry with her. Long ago she fell back in the race, and if she has been distanced the fault must be attributed to the unaccountable short-sightedness with which the South neglected commerce for agriculture and slavebreeding. Still, the geographical position of Virginia, and its commercial advantages are undeniably great, and the work before us points them out beyond a doubt. The accompanying maps are quite accurate and interesting. The publication is worthy of being read, if for nothing more than to learn how, with all the elements of empire, the South frittered away her great opportunities (greater than any other section of the republic possessed) and made New York and Massachusetts leap far ahead of her—the first in commerce and the last in manufactures.

LEONORA CASALONI; OR, THE MARRIAGE SECRET. By T. Adolphus Trollope. Philadelphia: T. B. Peterson & Brothers.

The scene of the novel before us, like most of Mr. T. A. Trollope's works, is laid in Italy, and is probably more valuable for its description of Italian scenery and of private life in Italy than for its plot. This latter, however, is quite interesting, and the story, on the whole, is one which deserves to be widely read. The characters are all well drawn, and the mystery of the marriage secret is admirably preserved to the last pages, when the revelation is made. On the whole this novel is quite acceptable and worthy of praise.

THE PACIFIC RAILROAD—OPEN—HOW TO GO; WHAT TO SEE. A Guide for travel to and through Western America. By Samuel Bowles. Boston: Fields, Osgood & Co. 1869.

The series of papers, under the same title, written by Mr. Bowles for the *Atlantic Monthly*, have been collected and published in the little volume before us. As we said at the time of their serial publication, the papers are full of interest to all and are written in the happiest style of the author.

Miscellaneous.

We have received from Messrs. Fields, Osgood & Co., two additional volumes of their green and gold edition of Thackeray's works. They comprise "Pendennis" and "The Newcomes," and are admirably printed and bound. There appears to be quite a rivalry between Fields, Osgood & Co. and Harper & Brothers in the publication of these books, as each house is issuing them as fast as possible, and at a wonderfully small price. We doubt if either will reap many dollars thereby; but as the public will thus obtain the works of one of the ablest of English writers for an almost nominal sum, that part of the matter is of very little consideration.

Mr. Edwin W. Bellinger has sent us a copy of *The Counting House Monitor*, a weekly business journal, containing notices of dividends, interests, coupons, &c., when due and when payable; meetings and closing of transfer books of stock companies; assessment and collection of national, State and city taxes, and much other matter of interest. The publication is very neatly gotten up and will be found valuable to all business men.

Magazine Notices.

THE XIX CENTURY. Charleston, S. C.: "XIX Century Company publishers.

We have received from the publishers the first (June) number of this new magazine. At any time the appearance of a new periodical is viewed with interest by the literary world, and the publication of a literary monthly in Charleston cannot fail to be regarded with somewhat of curiosity. It is a gratifying evidence of the progress of letters among the masses at the South, and also, perhaps, indicates a desire for literary independence of, or, at least, literary equality with, the North. The contents of the new magazine are varied, and, on the whole, of a fair standard of excellence. "The Blockade Runners of the Confederacy," "Looking Back," "The Talmud," "Shoulder to Shoulder," and some other articles are well written and interesting. Its mechanical execution will compare favorably with any of our monthlies. The *XIX Century* is under the management of Mr. F. G. de Fontaine, formerly connected with the press of this city. We wish it success.

THE MANUFACTURER AND BUILDER for June contains several interesting articles, among which one on "The Art of Electrotyping," and another on "Salt—Its Manufacture and Uses," are the most worthy of mention. The illustrations are all admirably executed, and the magazine is altogether one of the best of its class of publications.

MUSICAL REVIEW.

The just and timely strictures of the HERALD on the trash which our musical publishers threatened to inflict on us under the general title of the "Spirit of Burlesque" have effected a result which must be gratifying to all true lovers of music. We seldom come across any of the worthless productions which greeted our eyes when blonde burlesque first afflicted the metropolitan stage. They have given way to works of real merit either in their design or execution. There is in the latest works we have seen at least a desire to elevate the standard of musical publishing in this country. The publishers improve every year in their style of bringing out musical works, and their prices are materially reduced. Let them only keep out of the slough of burlesque and their reputation will never suffer. Reputation is a very essential point in the music publishing business. On those gentlemen depends a great deal the progress of the art in this country, so that if they avoid London concert saloon ditties and absurd medleys, they will keep a debilitating and demoralizing element out of the realms of music.

Ditson & Co. publish the following:—

"Petites Bavardes Polka." C. Neustedt. A pretty, sparkling little piece, of moderate difficulty.

"Brindisi." Chanson bacchique. Neustedt. A dashing, effective work of a superior order to most of such compositions.

"Souvenir d'Allemagne." Waltz. Neustedt. An exceedingly pretty waltz. In these three works Mr. Neustedt shows what a good musician and composer can make out of the simplest materials.

"I'm Happy as a Bird Upon the Wing." Song and dance. A. M. Hernandez. Arranged by Tannenbaum. A minstrel song and commonplace at that. There is nothing particularly cheerful about it.

Lyon & Healey, Chicago, publish two pieces by Edward Dorn, called "Sweet Hope" and "Evening Song." The first is a plaintive, sentimental work *à la valse*, and the second, partaking of the same character, has some very graceful passages in it. Both are, however, marred by puerile, hackneyed arpeggii *à la* "Maiden's Prayer."

A very neat and convenient edition of Rossini's "Messe Solennelle." This is the cheapest edition in existence at present, being sold at one dollar and sixty cents. In Paris they charge twenty francs and in London one pound for this work.

"Vale." Harry Sanderson. A piano study of real excellence. There is more sentiment and thought in it than can be found in any of the other works of this well-known pianist. A plaintive, tender feeling pervades each theme, and the construction is that of a thorough musician.

"Happy Memories." Nocturne. G. Heyner. Graceful and attractive, with an easy flow of melody and sufficient variety to make it a favorite.

"Laughing Eyes." Nocturne. Heyner. This is even a prettier piece than the preceding and of the same character. Neither of them, however, are exactly what is generally known as the *nocturne* order of piano pieces.

"Rest, Lady, Rest." Serenade. W. T. Meir. A beautiful little trifle, quite in keeping with the title.

"The Last Fond Look." Ballad. J. L. Hatton. One of this favorite song writer's prettiest little ballads.

"Beautiful Flowers." Song. This is a very favorable specimen of a song of the Hawaiian Islands. It was written by a young lady in Honolulu, and although founded on a familiar theme is a song of genuine merit.

"Damascus Triumphal March." From Costa's oratorio of "Naaman." Arranged for four hands by E. L. Gurney. A very good arrangement of this well known work.

"Glittering Dew." Sketch. Lott. Rather commonplace in the main features, but possessing some very neatly constructed passages.

"Why Delay?" Song. J. P. Knight. A reminiscence, and a good one at that.

"Tassels on the Boots." An English concert saloon song, whose only recommendation is a very good likeness of Miss Elise Holt on the title page.

"Many Happy Returns of the Day." J. Blockley. A very pretty and pleasing song.

The handsome editions of "Gems of the Opéra Bouffe" and "Wreath of Vocal Gems," published by this house, are in great demand.

Wm. Hall & Son publish the "Lurline" music in every possible form. Rummel's fantasia on the opera will be found of great value to pianists of moderate attainments. The "Naiads' Spell" is very brilliantly arranged in it.

René Favorger takes the same theme, which seems capable of endless variations, and sets it in a brilliant and effective framework of scintillating passages which are more difficult than those in the preceding work. The chorus, "From his Palace of Crystal," follows the "Spell" in this arrangement and is equally effective. But Ascher's arrangement, which he wrote for Mme. Arabella Goddard, is the most brilliant of all others. Osborne has also written two fine transcriptions on this opera. Coote has arranged a very pretty set of waltzes from it, and Rimbault has adapted the leading gems for little fingers. They are all worthy of the work and fitting tributes to the genius of William Vincent Wallace.

Wm. A. Pond & Co. publish the following:—

"Vaillance Polka Militaire." J. Ascher. A very good four hand arrangement of this well known polka.

"The Return." Song. H. Millard. This is a very ambitious song, and displays a good deal of labor and study in both the treatment of the subject and the accompaniment, but neither can compensate for the manifest dearth of attractive melody.

"La Sonnambula." Fantasia brillante. Leybach. The brilliant and sparkling character of this popular composer's piano works is here displayed to the utmost advantage.

"Geraldine." Waltz. Charles Godfrey. There is a good deal of sameness about the style of the waltzes of the Godfrey's, taking the "Mabel" as a standard for nearly all of them. That standard is good, but there is something in having too much of a good thing.

Wundermann, Broadway, publishes a barcarolle and a serenade of his own, the poetry by Arthur Mathison. The music is the same in both and the poetry is the best part of them.

"Lilian." Song. Words by A. Mathison, music by F. R. Tonn. A very pretty and simple minor theme.

Charles Bunce, Brooklyn, publishes the "Offenbach Quadrilles," arranged by J. J. Freeman. They are good.

R. M. De Witt publishes a sixpenny series of popular pieces in a neat, pretty form.

Dodworth, Astor place, publishes the following:—

"Sweet Bird of Spring." *Morceau de salon.* J. H. Wand. Characteristic and very cleverly treated, but spun out to an unnecessary extent.

"Lily." Song. George F. Bristow. One of the prettiest and most graceful little songs we have seen for some time, and just what one would expect from the first musician in America. Mr. Bristow should write more, for it is only by means of musicians of his stamp that the divine art can be elevated in this country from the state of degradation into which cockney humbugs would drag it. The song is beautifully got up by the publisher.

"Beautiful Spring." Song and chorus. J. H. Wand. A charming song in 9-8 time, and one which is bound to be a favorite, as it is within the reach of every voice.