LITERARY LIMBO.

Revelations of the Past Gleaned from the Cabinet of Louis Napoleon.

PEEP BEHIND THE IMPERIAL SCENES.

Correspondence of the Emperor with the American Free Masons.

THE SOUTHERN CONFEDERACY

How Davis, Slidell and Benjamin Thought to Influence Napoleon.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF TEXAS?

Gen. James Watson Webb in the Manufactory Business.

A GUN THAT WOULDN'T GO OFF.

How His Majesty Was Defended by the Press of America.

SAVE US FROM THE BOURBONS.

George Jones' Application for the Ribbon of the Legion of Honor.

LOUIS' LETTER TO GEORGE.

A Man Who Could Be Most Useful to His Majesty.

KEEP YOUR HANDS OFF CUBA.

Woodhull, Claflin & Co. Introduce Their Weekly to Imperial Notice.

MATTERS CONCERNING OTHER PEOPLE.

American Adventurers with the Emperor of France.

PARIS, June 15, 1871.

In the fierce days that marked the close of the struggle made by the men of the Commune passion ran too high—the fury was too intense for any moderate satisfaction, and the little revenges that had ministered to the popular taste in calmer days in the shape of piquant disclosures of imperial scandal and corruption were permitted to fall out of sight if they were not forgotten altogether. But when the Commune gave up for more pressing occupations the publication of the imperial papers which had been found in the Tuileries, and which at that time were still kept in the Tuileries, there was still much left that might naturally titillate the risibilities either of the multitude or of the select few. It has occurred to me that I might cull from a mass of these papers, that were fortunately saved from the conflagration, a bouquet that would have a certain interest for American readers—an interest albeit mostly comical. I need only premise that every one of the following papers pertained to what was called "the Cabinet of the Emperor," in which it would appear that every paper of whatever character that was ever addressed to His Majesty was carefully filed away.

First in the bunch I find something that points to unexpected relations between the greatest of secret societies and a man whose life it was always understood many secret societies sought to take. Evidently His Majesty Napoleon III., Emperor of France, was a Free Mason. In his earlier days his association with the Carbonari was well known, and from that to Free Masonry the step was, no doubt, easy; and yet it is something of a surprise to meet this grand humbug of Masonic hocuspocus, red ribbon and tinsel, playing its game so near the throne of France.

AN OLD MEMBER OF THE CARBONARI HAS A PAPER SENT HIM.

To the Glory of the Sublime Architect of the Universe. Masonic Order of Memphis. Peace, Tolerance, Truth.

Grand Areopagus of Magic, Kyrsic Section of the Sovereign Grand Master, Harry J. Seymour, No. 152 Canal street, New York.

VALLEY OF NEW YORK, April 18, 1865—E. V.

SIRE—The sovereign sanction of A. and P. Masonry, of which your well wisher the undersigned is Grand Master, had the honor of sending Your Majesty a letter announcing your election as honorary member of the Sovereign Sanction, with framed certificate of membership, directed to the care of M. M. Heuilliant, 16 Rue Cadet, Paris. An acknowledgment of its reception by Your Majesty would be a source of fraternal pride to the thousands of Masons presided over by your devoted admirer, HARRY J. SEYMOUR,

Sov. Grand Master.

To His Majesty LOUIS NAPOLEON, Emperor.

It is funny to find with this the following letter from a man who was

PERHAPS A MEXICAN.

Monsieur SACALEY, Secretary:—

CHER MONSIEUR ("Cher" is underlined by Mr. Sacaley, with the note in pencil, "I do not know him")—I beg you to have the goodness to present personally the enclosed letter to the Emperor. I have the honor to present my affectionate compliments. Your devoted

ANDREA ANELINO, of Chihuahua.

NEW YORK, April 18, 1865.

LOUIS HAS NOT RECEIVED THE CERTIFICATE.

"CABINET OF THE EMPEROR,
PALACE OF THE TUILERIES, May 22, 1865."

To M. HEUILLIANT, 16 Rue Cadet:—

MONSIEUR—Mr. Seymour, of New York, Grand Master of Memphis Masonic Lodge, writes me that he has sent to the Emperor, through your hands, a diploma of honorary member of that lodge. I beg you to be so good as to inform me whether you have forwarded the diploma to His Majesty, and in that case at what epoch and by what means.

Above is a rough copy of the letter sent to M. Heuiliant.

Evidently His Majesty had a special desire that the paper should not go astray, and upon proper search it was

FOUND.

GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE, SUPREME COUNCIL
FOR FRANCE AND THE FRENCH POSSESSIONS,
ORIENT OF PARIS, May 26, 1865.

Cabinet of the Grand Master.

MONSIEUR—M. Heuilliant has handed to the General Secretariate of the Grand Orient in France the diploma which was addressed to him by Mr. Seymour, of New York, United States of America, to be offered to the Emperor; and the Grand Master, His Excellency Marshal Magnan, had taken into consideration the means and the favorable moment for placing the diploma in the hands of His Majesty.

I presume he had not found an opportunity before the departure of the Sovereign, and as the Marshal's recent indisposition has kept him from coming among us, and it is, therefore, impossible to take his commands on the subject, I beg, monsieur, that you will take this charge upon yourself.

I have the honor of depositing in your Cabinet the object which should long ago have been presented to His Majesty. Accept the assurance of my high consideration, the Grand Master adjoint, charged with the administration.

[A microscopic signature impossible to decipher.]

On this was a note in the handwriting of the Emperor's son's secretary, as follows:—

Upon an observation made to him, the signer of the above letter took back the diploma to await the authorization of His Majesty.

But the following points to an even more noteworthy chapter of the history of

FREE MASONRY IN THE UNITED STATES.

Memorandum by a secretary of the Imperial Cabinet of the contents of a letter not found:—

Communication, the object of which is:—First, to aid in the development of French manufactures in the Western States; second, to spread French influence in the United States; third, to bring back Masonry in the Western States to its legitimate central point, the Grand Orient of France; gives information with regard to the state of Masonry in the United States, and engages himself to bring back the influence of the Grand Orient in France.

Notwithstanding the loss of the letter to which this memorandum refers we are not left in ignorance of the name of the man who proposed to the Emperor to accomplish so much in our country. He also wrote the following, in which it will be seen an American Freemason gives an opinion on the Grand Orient of France that was verified under the Commune:—

To His IMPERIAL MAJESTY NAPOLEON III., Emperor of the French:—

SIRE—In his humble petition of the 5th July the undersigned submitted humbly to Your Majesty different Masonic encaemonts, notably a petition from the brothers of Scioto Lodge, No. 6, Chillicothe, Ohio, United States, to the effect—First, to obtain a direct and free affiliation with the Grand Orient of France, which is refused to them by the Grand Commander Sovereign General of the Jurisdiction of the United States of the North, under whom, unhappily, they are placed at present; second, to establish that this commander manifested hostile tendencies to the manufacturing and other brothers represented by the Grand Orient of France.

Since the 11th July last this Commander signed and sent to the undersigned and to other brothers a communication under the great Masonic seal—called "Great East"—in which he declares that "the Grand Orient of France has nothing to do with Masonry at all, nor any Frenchman else, whatever." These are his words, and he threatens the undersigned with Masonic penalties for having interceded in favor of the American brothers; which undersigned has protested in Masonic form (the 11th inst.) at the risk of incurring these same penalties under the jurisdiction of the United States, where he is at present; and from whence he appeals to the Grand Orient.

If the undersigned has been deemed worthy a reply to the above mentioned petition of July 5 from the mouth of His Majesty it has not been transmitted to him with the necessary precautions, and thus has perhaps been intercepted.

The undersigned is, with most profound respect, Your Majesty's very humble and obedient servant,

Professor BARTHOLOMEW MELCHIOR.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, United States, August 29, 1864.

NOTE.—The petition of July 5 was dated Chillicothe. The present residence of the petitioner is Columbus.

There are other Masonic papers in the mass from which I choose these; but the above are sufficient to show that the Emperor gave some attention to correspondence of this class, and to show also that the Masonic fraternity, which cut such queer capers in the recent revolt in Paris, has its active agents in America—a fact worthy the serious thought of our people.

Next to this I find some queer points of Southern diplomacy, which present

REASONS THAT MIGHT NOT CONVINCE THE AUTHOR OF THE COUP D'ETAT.

SIRE—The undersigned begs leave most respectfully to present to Your Imperial Majesty a very superior map on a large scale of Virginia, of which there are few copies in Europe. He is induced to hope that Your Majesty will deign to accept it from the fact that in the course of an audience with which he was honored Your Majesty manifested great interest in the campaign then in progress in Virginia, and expressed regret at not having a good map of the seat of war. Many bloody battlefields have since made the soil of Virginia classic ground to every soldier and strategist; but none can better appreciate the genius of Lee than the illustrious historian of Cæsar.

The undersigned trusts that he may be pardoned if he avail himself of this occasion to make a suggestion relative to the American question. It is that from the 4th of March next the government of Washington will present itself in a new aspect before the world.

Mr. Lincoln, at his first election, was chosen President in accordance with the forms of the constitution, and foreign Powers were necessarily obliged so to consider and treat him. All this will be changed, and Mr. Lincoln will claim to be President of the United States, while eleven of the States which participated in his first election have taken no share in the second.

To the sagacious and comprehensive mind of the Emperor any attempt to develop this idea would be superfluous. It is offered to the consideration of His Majesty on the hypothesis that reasons may present themselves for modifying the policy heretofore pursued by France toward the Confederate States.

The undersigned tenders to His Imperial Majesty the homage of the profound respect with which he has the honor to be His Majesty's most obedient and humble servant,

PARIS, Jan. 13, 1865. JOHN SLIDELL.

The little reference to the illustrious historian of Cæsar reads oddly since we have heard of Sedan. But the diplomacy of Slidell was certainly a slipshod affair, and we could not expect his flattery to keep its favor in such changeable times as we live in. Above we see him presenting to the Man of December an argument founded upon abstract political justice—what a market for such ware!—and below we have an argument indicating that the great diplomatist could not see the difference between

THE UNITED STATES AND PERU.

Memorandum which, at the instance of Mr. Mocquard, Mr. Slidell has prepared for submission to the Emperor, and which Mr. Slidell begs Mr. Mocquard to present, with his most profound respects:—

The undersigned knows nothing of the steamer Japan, or Virginius, referred to in the despatch from London, which Mr. Mocquard had the kindness to communicate to him last evening, more than is contained in the accompanying slip from the London *Herald* of Tuesday. He believes the statement therein given to be substantially correct, having had advices that such a steamer was expected to leave an English port about the date at which the Japan is said to have left Greenock. It seems very probable that in consequence of damage to her steam apparatus she may find it necessary to put into a French port for repairs. The undersigned most respectfully represents that he confidently trusts that the Emperor will direct that, in such an event, instructions be given to afford every proper and necessary facility for making such repairs as the damaged condition of the steamer may demand. The proverbial hospitality of the French people, and the friendly sympathy which the Emperor has deigned to express for the cause of the Confederate States in the fearful struggle in which they have been engaged for more than two years, justify the expectation that such facilities will not be withheld. The municipal law of England is very rigid on the subject of equipping and arming ships for the service of a foreign belligerent Power; but however flagrant may have been the violation of her municipal law, if whenever a vessel so fitted out has fairly escaped beyond her territorial limits, the offence is purged, and no further penalty attaches.

In proof of this assertion he refers to the cases of the Alabama and Florida, Confederate cruisers, built, and, in a great degree, fitted out in England, which have been freely admitted into various English ports, have there repaired damages and been supplied with fuel and provisions.

It is further submitted that the fitting out of ships for the service of one belligerent is not a violation of neutrality under the laws of nations so long as the same privilege is equally accorded to the other.

As the undersigned is informed, no special legislation on the subject exists in France, and consequently either the Confederate or federal government may, without violation of municipal or public law, freely build and equip in France vessels of war.

About the year 1843 the Chilean government, then being at war with Peru, caused to be built and equipped for war purposes by Mr. Arman, the well known constructor at Bordeaux, a large frigate. The fact becoming known to the Peruvian Minister at Paris, he made a formal representation and protest to the French government, and required that the ship should not be allowed to proceed to sea. The answer to this protest was that the sailing of the ship would be permitted; that Peru could not complain of any breach of neutrality, inasmuch as she was free to build and equip in French ports all such vessels as she might desire. The frigate accordingly sailed from France under the French flag, with a French crew, and was delivered to the Chilean government, fully armed and equipped, at the port of Valparaiso.

The undersigned has this statement from a gentleman of high standing at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and it has been fully confirmed to him by Mr. Arman.

He also has the honor to submit to the consideration of the Emperor certain documents, which, in his opinion, demonstrate conclusively that, notwithstanding the proclamation by the enemy of a large portion of the Confederate coasts, the blockade is still ineffective at various ports. The list of vessels running the blockade within the last two or three months would be largely extended by returns from Bermuda and Cuba.

The undersigned having already, on more than one occasion, invited the attention of the Emperor's government to this question, and submitted his views in detail, will not trespass on the invaluable time of His Imperial Majesty by repeating them. JOHN SLIDELL.

PARIS, April 16, 1863, 19 Rue Marignan.

MORE ANCIENT HISTORY—DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN THE MEMORANDUM OF MR. SLIDELL.

PARIS, Hotel du Helder, Feb. 19, 1863.

Hon. JOHN SLIDELL, Confederate States Commissioner to France:—

SIR—In reply to your request that I should furnish you with some facts relative to the supply of war material to the Confederate States army through the blockaded ports, I have the honor to state that since the commencement of the war I have been the only agent of the Confederate States government charged with the purchasing and forwarding of army supplies from Europe. No preparation whatever having been made for the war on the part of the Confederate States government, and there having been no considerable private establishments in the country at the breaking out of hostilities, the principal wants of the army have had to be supplied from abroad. The plan of operations has for the most part been to send by steamer to Bermuda and Nassau, and at these points to transfer them to steamers of light draught and generally of good speed.

In some cases steamers have sailed direct from Europe for Charleston and Wilmington, and in all cases have run in successfully. Since, however, the quantity of coal required for so long a voyage is very considerable, and the qualities required for a sea-going steamer are so different from those required in attempting the blockade, it has been found more economical to transship at an intermediate port.

As a general rule private steamers have been made use of—the Confederate States government being disposed to encourage private enterprise. Of late, however, the demands of the country have been so great for all kinds of supplies that, precious to the war, were received from the Northern States, that the owners of the steamers have loaded their vessels with merchandise for ordinary consumption, preferring the profits arising from the sale of such articles to the generous freights paid by the Confederate States government.

The government has therefore taken the question of transportation into its own hands. Until this plan was commenced I received no accounts of the transportation of supplies beyond Nassau and Bermuda. I cannot, therefore, furnish you with that accurate information that I would like to send as to the dates of sailing and names of the several vessels that have run the blockade with Confederate States government stores on board.

I can, however, state the names of the steamers that have been used. They are as follows:—Steamers Herald, Leopard, Nashville, Nassau, Kate, Cecile, Giraffe, Cornelia, Hero, Mesho, Columbia. Other steamers have run between Charleston and Wilmington and Bermuda and Nassau. The above, however, are the only vessels on board which there has been Confederate States government property.

Of the above the Columbia has been fallen in with at sea, when only a few hours out from Nassau, by a vessel of the United States—not, however, belonging to the blockading squadron. The Columbia has since been recaptured by the Confederate States forces off the coast of North Carolina.

The Nassau was unnecessarily given up when she was in sight of the pursuing ship, and actually within hail of the sentries at Wilmington. It is generally believed that the master was bribed by the enemy.

None of the other vessels that I have named had, up to the latest dates, been captured. During the year 1862, therefore, the only vessel with munitions of war on board for the Confederate States government actually captured while running the blockade was the steamer Nassau, and, as I have stated, it is believed that she was treacherously given up by the master. I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant, CALEB HUSE, Major C. S. Artillery.

"WHICH I WISH TO REMARK."

Just here there is a place in which we may profitably stick a pin. In a little while a commission is to sit to adjust certain claims and counter claims between British and American subjects, growing out of the war, and the attempt is to be made in England to offset the Alabama claims by claims of damage that will more than balance them. We hope the commissioners will not admit the validity of any claim in which any ship figures whose name is in the list given by Mr. Huse.

STILES' OPINION.

PARIS, Feb. 25, 1863.

Hon. JOHN SLIDELL:—

SIR—According to your request I have the honor to state that I have just returned from the Confederate States of America, having successfully run the blockade in and out of the port of Wilmington, N. C., in charge of the Confederate States steamer Cornubia. During my short stay of twenty-five days the Confederate States steamers Cornubia and Giraffe successfully ran the blockade in and out of Wilmington, N. C. (The Cornubia has again returned.) During the same period the steamers Herald, Leopard and Ares did the same at the port of Charleston, S. C.; also one sailing vessel in and one out of the port of Wilmington, N. C. Captain Lockwood, of the Kate, has made over forty successful trips at Charleston and Wilmington, and Captain Kocktelor, of the Herald, about the same number. In my opinion, with good ships and able commanders, there is but little or no trouble in passing the blockade at any of our ports. I have the honor to be, very respectfully, EDW. C. STILES, Captain and C. S. Agent.

WHAT WAS THE MATTER?

The very *empressé* tone of the note below suggests a glimpse at its date. It was written just a month before Lee sat down under the apple tree at Appomattox, and at the moment it was written the confederacy was in a bad way. What was the urgent communication Slidell made in those pressing circumstances? What higher and still higher price did he offer to the enemy of American freedom if only he would stretch out his hand and save their desperate cause? Doubtless they thought that France could save them

EVEN THEN.

SIRE—The marks of good will with which Your Majesty has deigned to honor the undersigned on several occasions embolden him to solicit a favor which he would fain hope Your Majesty will graciously be pleased to accord. It is that he may be permitted to present himself before Your Majesty for the purpose of making a communication of the very gravest importance, and which, for reasons which he believes your Majesty will deem sufficient, cannot well be submitted through an intermediate channel. Should Your Majesty condescend to receive the undersigned, he feels assured that Your Majesty will not consider that he has exaggerated the importance of the matter which he wishes to submit. He begs Your Majesty to accept the homage of the profound respect of His Majesty's most obedient and humble servant,

PARIS, March 2, 1865. JOHN SLIDELL.

In pencil is written:—"To-morrow at 7 o'clock." So the interview was granted; but the price was not high enough to tempt him.

Associated with the Slidell papers in the Emperor's Cabinet was the following series of letters, showing how astonishingly they could play the fool sometimes in the confederacy. Certainly nothing that we ever saw assuming a serious aspect was more ridiculously absurd than this attempt to carry the State of Texas out of the confederacy:—

JEFF DAVIS & CO. FIND AN ENORMOUS MARE'S NEST.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA,
DEPARTMENT OF STATE, RICHMOND, Oct. 17, 1862.

SIR—Since my No. 6, of 26th ult., of which duplicate is herewith forwarded, some circumstances of a very remarkable character have come to the knowledge of the President, to which your earnest attention is invited. On the 7th inst. the President received from Governor Lubbock, of Texas, a letter, of which a copy is annexed, marked A, with enclosures Nos. 1 and 2.

The very singular nature of this correspondence, initiated, as you will perceive, by Mr. B. Theron, French Consular Agent and Spanish Vice Consul at Galveston, naturally excited a lively interest, but we had not yet arrived at any satisfactory conclusion as to the nature and extent nor the source of the intrigue evidently on foot, when, on the 13th inst., the President received from the Hon. W. S. Oldham, Senator from Texas, a letter, of which a copy, marked B, is herewith enclosed.

The concurrent action of two French Consular officers at points so remote from each other as Galveston and Richmond, the evident understanding which exists between them, the choice of Mr. Oldham as the party to be approached—he being generally considered as identified with the party opposed to the administration, while Mr. Wigfall, the other Senator, is its supporter—all concur in satisfying us that there is not only concert of action between these officials, but that their conduct has been dictated by some common superior.

I have, in accordance with the instructions of the President, expelled Mr. Theron and Mr. Tabonelle from the confederacy, and have forbidden their return without the previous permission of the government. I enclose copies of the order of expulsion, marked C and D.

A suggestion occurs to me which you may receive as purely conjectural on my part. It is known to me personally that at the date of the annexation of Texas to the United States M. Dubois de Saligny, the present French Minister in Mexico, and who was at the time French Charge d'Affaires to the republic of Texas, was vehemently opposed to the annexation, and was active in endeavoring to obstruct and prevent it.

It is not impossible that the movement of the Consular agents here has received its first impulse from the Legation in Mexico.

These movements are not considered as having the slightest importance as far as their effect in Texas is concerned. The answer of Governor Lubbock and the letter of Mr. Oldham will satisfy how little these gentlemen were disposed to encourage such attempts, while the popular feeling in Texas is best evinced by the fact that she has seventy regiments of volunteers in our army.

J. P. BENJAMIN, Secretary of State.

To JOHN SLIDELL, &c.

OCTOBER 20, 1862.

P. S.—Since the foregoing was written I have had an interview with Mr. Tabonelle, and from the explanations offered by him and certain facts which have come to my knowledge, I have become satisfied that notwithstanding the singular coincidence between his conversation with Mr. Oldham and the communication of Mr. Theron to Governor Lubbock, there was no concert of action between them, and that Mr. Tabonelle is no party to the intrigue referred to. The order for his expulsion has been, therefore, revoked, as you will perceive by the annexed copy of a letter to him, marked E.

It is barely possible that Mr. Theron may have acted on his own ideas of what he supposed would be agreeable to his superiors, and not in consequence of instruction.

J. P. BENJAMIN, &c.

THE EGGS THAT WERE IN THE MARE'S NEST.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
AUSTIN, Texas, Sept. 11, 1862.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS, President, &c.:—

SIR—I have the honor to forward for your consideration the enclosed copies of letters; the one, marked A, from the French and Spanish Consul at Galveston; the other, marked B, being my reply thereto.

As the proceeding of the said consul would seem to indicate an incipient intrigue I have deemed it proper to advise you thereof on the threshold. I have the honor to be yours, &c., F. R. LUBBOCK.

[Private and confidential.]

[A]

Consular Agency for France and Vice Consulate for Spain in Galveston.

[Confidential.]

GALVESTON, August 18, 1862.

To His Excellency F. R. LUBBOCK, Governor of the State of Texas:—

SIR—Will you be kind enough to inform me confidentially of your personal opinion on the following questions:—

First—The annexation of the republic of Texas to the United States—was or was it not a good political measure?

Second—The act of disunion, and of the junction of the State of Texas to the Southern States—was or was it not another good or bad political step taken by the State?

Third—The restablishment of the old republic of Texas—will or will it not be beneficial to our beloved adopted country?

Your answer to these questions will serve me as a guide in my political correspondence with the governments which I have the honor to represent. I have the honor to be, &c.,

B. THERON, French and Spanish Consul.

[B]

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
AUSTIN, Texas, Sept. 9, 1862.

B. THERON, Esq., French and Spanish Consul, Galveston:—

SIR—Your communication of the 19th ult. is before me, and contents duly noted.

In answer to your first interrogatory, permit me to say that the annexation of Texas to the United States was "a good political measure."

As to your second question, I answer most emphatically that the act of disunion and of the junction of the State of Texas to the Southern States was a good and proper political step.

In reply to your third inquiry I have to say, the re-establishment of the old republic of Texas will not be beneficial to our beloved adopted country. Texas has linked her fate to that of her sisters of the South. She will be true, steadfast and victorious.

I have the honor to be, &c., F. R. LUBBOCK.

RICHMOND, Oct. 13, 1862.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS, &c.:—

On to-day Monsieur Tabonelle, French Vice Consul at Richmond, sought an introduction to me in the Senate Chamber, and stated that he desired to obtain from me certain statistical information in regard to Texas. I told him that I did not then have the time to give him the desired information, but that, if he would call at my room, I would take pleasure in giving him any information I possessed. He promised to call this evening, which he did, and I then had a long talk in my room. I deem it proper to give you the substance of the conversation between us, as it had a connection with the subject matter of the correspondence between the Governor of Texas and the French Consular Agent at Galveston, of which you advised General Wigfall and myself a few days since.

After I had furnished him with information with regard to the area, population, debt, taxes and agricultural productive capacity of Texas he remarked that the resources of the State were magnificent and capable of supporting a powerful and independent people; and then asked me whether I thought it would not be to the interest of the State to assume an independent nationality.

I told him that the people of Texas, being mostly emigrants from the old Southern States, were strongly attached to those States and to our federative system of government, which I at some length explained to him. I told him that they never could have been induced to secede from the United States but to preserve that form of government which was in danger of being destroyed. I further stated to him that not only the affections and sympathies, but also the interests of the people of Texas bound them to the States of the confederacy; that their institutions, pursuits and agricultural products were the same, and that mutual safety required harmony among them, which could only be assured by a confederacy; that as a separate and independent State Texas would be weak and incapable of self-defence; that we were sensible that we were subject to being involved in collisions with our sister Southern States; that the similarity of institutions and productions did not have now bonds of union and the cause of harmony would become causes of rivalries, jealousies and perhaps wars between the States; that in the confederacy we would not be a weak and dependent people, incapable of resenting insult or repelling aggression. The subject was then waived and we talked of other matters.

But for the fact that you had called my attention to the correspondence between the Governor of Texas and the French Consular Agent at Galveston, this conversation would perhaps have made no impression on my mind; but as an introduction to me was sought, and was proffered with the view of obtaining statistical information with regard to Texas, and the separate independence of that State was thus introduced by him, it struck me that it was not casual or accidental.

He furthermore stated to me that he had written to the Consular Agent at Galveston for information upon the resources of Texas, and had received from him a specimen or sample of Texas wool, which he either had or intended to send to France.

I have deemed it proper to communicate the foregoing to you as affording corroboratory evidence to the conclusion that there is an organized plan to induce Texas to assume an independent nationality. The fact communicated by you to General Wigfall and myself put me on my guard and caused me to be more expect and specific than I might otherwise have been for the purpose of dissipating such a design, if it exists, and to induce whatever steps may be taken to be for the benefit of the entire confederacy. I am, &c., W. S. OLDHAM.

It seems likely that this Oldham, who was not high in the confidence of Davis & Co., thought the Frenchman was only sent to "try him," and was too old a fish to be caught with such bait. In the following letter we see

HOW THE CONFEDERACY WOULD TREAT A FRIEND OF SECESSION.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
RICHMOND, Oct. 17, 1862.

SIR—The Governor of Texas has communicated to the President a correspondence between him and yourself, in which you plainly attempt to induce the Governor to enter into some understanding or arrangement for the withdrawal of Texas from this confederacy. This attempt on your part is considered by the President as an abuse of the hospitality of the confederacy and as indicating hostility on your part against this government and people.

Your presence within the confederacy can no longer be permitted. You are therefore required to depart immediately, and not return without the previous permission of this government. I am, &c.,

J. P. BENJAMIN, Secretary of State.

Mr. B. THERON, French Consular Agent and Vice Consul for Spain, Galveston, Texas.

"VI ET ARMIS."

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
RICHMOND, Oct. 17, 1862.

SIR—Herewith you will find enclosed a letter addressed to Mr. B. Theron, French Consular Agent and Vice Consul for Spain at Galveston, Texas, requiring that functionary to depart immediately from the confederacy. The President requests that you will have this order executed as promptly as can be done without undue harshness, and that you have Mr. Theron conveyed under surveillance to Matamoros, or any other convenient point on the Mexican frontier, when he can depart for Europe if he chooses. Mr. Theron will be allowed to make such disposal of his books and papers as he may deem proper.

Please acknowledge the receipt of this communication. Your obedient servant,

J. P. BENJAMIN, Secretary of State.

Major General J. B. MAGRUDER, Spotswoods Hotel.

ANOTHER DANGEROUS MAN.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
RICHMOND, Oct. 17, 1862.

SIR—The Hon. Mr. Oldham, Senator from the State of Texas, having communicated to the President the substance of a conversation held with you on the 13th instant, in the course of which you sought to impress on that Senator the conviction that it would be for the interest of the State of Texas to separate herself from this confederacy, I am instructed by the President to inform you that your presence within the confederacy can no longer be permitted, your conduct being considered hostile to this government and people.

You are therefore required to depart from the confederacy, and not to return without the previous permission of this government. You will prepare to leave by the flag-of-truce boat which will depart on the 18th instant. I am, &c.,

J. P. BENJAMIN.

MOns. TABONELLE, Vice Consul of France, Richmond.

"NEVER MIND—IT'S NOTHING."

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
RICHMOND, Oct. 18, 1862.

SIR—I have seen the President since my interview with yourself and Mr. Giles this morning, and having taken into consideration your explanations in relation to your interview with Mr. Oldham, and the other facts stated by you, the President is satisfied that your conversation with Mr. Oldham was not prompted by any hostility to this government, and that you are not connected with the intrigue known to exist having for its object to induce the withdrawal of the State of Texas from the confederacy.

You will therefore consider the order to depart from the confederacy as withdrawn, and you will remain at liberty to reside here as heretofore. Your obedient servant,

J. P. BENJAMIN, Secretary of State.

M. TABONELLE, French Consul, Richmond.

CRY OF THE BLOATED BONDHOLDERS.

SOUTHERN INDEPENDENCE ASSOCIATION,
MANCHESTER, Dec. 2, 1863.

May it please Your Majesty the society named above is desirous to force the Parliament of England by pressure of public opinion to take measures for the recognition of the Confederate States of America. Several public meetings of a decisive character have already been held, the latest being in the city of Glasgow, where an audience of 4,000 persons pronounced in our favor.

Believing that Your Majesty's wishes coincide with ours, we venture to ask whether you can lend pecuniary assistance to our enterprise. At present we expend about £100 weekly, and the paralysis of the cotton trade renders it difficult to obtain subscriptions from those most interested in its revival. Your Majesty's most humble servant,

MORTIMER COLLINS.

THE INEVITABLE JAMES WATSON WEBB.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
PARIS, Aug. 28, 1855.

To M. MOCQUARD, Chief of the Cabinet to His Majesty the Emperor:—

SIR—My countryman, General James Watson Webb, of New York, has sent to me a package, addressed by him to His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French. He has requested me to see that it reaches the hands of His Majesty.

Uninformed of the purport of its contents, and knowing only that General Webb assures me of his high esteem and regard for the Emperor, whose acquaintance he has had the honor to enjoy, and that there is nothing in the package which it will be disagreeable for the Emperor to receive, and believing from the character of General Webb that he would make no communication to His Majesty which, in his judgment, is not free from objection. After conversing with His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs, I venture to comply with the request of my countryman, so far as to send to you the package for such disposition as to you may seem proper, under the circumstances. I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant, J. Y. MASON.

By the portentous style of John Y. it is evident that he wanted to guard himself carefully on all points, and not to be held responsible for any of Webb's vagaries. It is also evident that there is heavier ordnance than mahogany-stocked pistols in the case, wherefore the reader will not be surprised to find that

WEBB HAS A CANNON TO SELL—AND A NEWSPAPER.

NEW YORK, July 11, 1855.

Your Imperial Majesty will, I am persuaded, pardon my intrusion upon you in consideration of the motives which prompt me to do so.

I have spent much of the last two years in London, where I was very kindly received by the government, some of whom were old friends, and while there was influence at home and the influence of my press—the great conservative journal of our country—was exercised in behalf of the allies. To such an extent has this advocacy of the cause of the allies been exercised that the radical press of the United States has not hesitated openly to charge me with being in the pay of Your Majesty and of England.

I refer to this matter by way of introduction, should Your Majesty have forgotten me, which is not impossible; although on my return from Austria in 1850 I was honored with a note from Your Majesty proposing to receive me on Your Majesty's return from Cherbourg. As an old soldier I feel that any invention which will place the military of artillery as far in advance of what it is now as the Minie rifle is in advance of the old-fashioned arm of that name must render the possessor of that invention for the time being invincible. Such an invention I believe has been perfected, and such, moreover, is the opinion of General Scott, whom Your Majesty may remember to have met at my house on the evening of my first arrival in this city, in 1836. I speak not of a theory, but of an actual practical invention, as will appear from the enclosed copy of an official report made to our government by an officer of the ordnance. His experiment was made with a brass six-pounder, which threw an elongated eight round shot 4 2-5 miles, with wonderful accuracy. If this be so what would not a sixty-eight-pounder accomplish? Then its simplicity is admirable.

But I will not dwell upon the matter. Your Majesty, better than anybody else, can appreciate it, and, thank God, you are sufficiently practical to appreciate and test its merits. This invention was completed after the gun tested after the adjournment of Congress, and consequently there is no authority existing here to buy the patent, or most probably the world would not have become the wiser for it at present. The inventor, therefore, was about selling it to M. Stoeckl, the representative of Russia at Washington, with a view to securing for England and France the refusal of the patent. To accomplish and get the control of the invention £11,000 was paid, of which I furnished a part; and should the result be what I anticipate I shall reap a rich reward in the good I have accomplished, even if France and England should forget it.

Mr. Arthur M. Eastman sails from this city to-morrow for England, taking with him the six-pound gun, and also a small model, and I have given him letters to Lords Palmerston, Clarendon and Panmure, with the latter of whom I spent the summer of 1854 in Scotland. I have said to their Lordships that I obtained the offer of this patent to England and France jointly by giving the aid alluded to and a solemn pledge that no unnecessary delay should occur in examining and testing, or in accepting or rejecting this invention. And I have said, too, that it has now the admiration and approval of our most scientific officers, including General Scott. I fear, however, that Your Majesty's greater practical knowledge and thorough understanding of the science of gunnery should have sent this arm first to Paris; and as it is the inventor will make the offer jointly to England and France, believing it is easier to obtain access to the ministry of England than to the Emperor of France, an impression of which I do not partake. M. Eastman will make the following proposition to England and France, and if listened to in England Your Majesty will doubtless be called upon to decide upon the merits of the invention.

PROPOSITION OF MR. EASTMAN.

"There is the gun and the report of the owner's offer to the American government. Order it to be fired and tested in any way you please, and if it proves to be all that is claimed for it construct at once some larger guns (100-pounders and try and test them; and if they prove to be the best, ever invented then, you are to pay me £——; I not I ask no remuneration whatever for my expenditures, not even my expenses in visiting Europe."

Most assuredly never was there a fairer offer made to man, and most sincerely do I pray that Your Majesty, with your practical knowledge of the world and of mankind, will cause it to be promptly accepted. I shall by this steamer inform my friend A. O'Riley, of 10 Champs Elysees, of the address of Mr. Eastman in London, and should Your Majesty desire to see his small portable model of his gun, or the gun itself, it is only necessary to send an agent to Mr. O'Riley, who will promptly order Mr. Eastman to Paris, or do whatever Your Majesty may desire.

I have taken the liberty of enclosing some publications from my paper, which so greatly exasperate the small republican party in our midst, and which will indicate the course I have universally pursued. On my return from my mission to Austria in 1850 I resumed the conduct of my paper and continue it up to this time.

With prayers for Your Majesty's health and your success in the present war and a long and prosperous reign, I am, as ever, your obedient servant, J. WATSON WEBB.

THE GUN WOULDN'T GO OFF.

The account of the gun was apparently sent to General Fave, Chief of Ordnance, who writes as follows:—

CABINET OF THE EMPEROR,
PALACE OF THE TUILERIES.
(No date.)

My Dear MOCQUARD—

I return you a letter from General James Watson Webb, which you sent to me by the Emperor's command, with the papers which accompanied it.

The American General proposes to the Emperor to have a newly invented cannon tried, with the engagement to pay a certain price if it is found good.

The Emperor does not accept this proposition, but charges you to write a letter in an amiable way to General Webb, and His Majesty will sign the letter. Receive, &c., FAVE.

WHAT WEBB PRAYED FOR EVERY DAY.

RIO JANEIRO, Dec. 17, 1866.

SIRE—Presuming on Your Majesty's general kindness and well known readiness at all times to aid those who have been honored with the title of friend, I take the liberty of asking that Your Majesty will do me the favor to read the letter I have this day addressed to Dr. Thomas W. Evans, with a request that he will hand it to Your Majesty.

I have asked Dr. Evans to do me this service without thereby committing himself directly or indirectly in favor of my application.

With earnest and daily prayers to the Giver of All Good, that for the peace of the world and the good of mankind Your Majesty's life may be spared many years, and that your dynasty may be firmly established, I remain, Your Majesty's sincere friend, J. WATSON WEBB.

To His Imperial Majesty NAPOLEON III.

MORE OF THE VENAL PRESS—AN APPEAL FOR PAP.

Memorandum of contents of a letter from Mr. Fuller, Grand Hotel, October 31, 1868.

Has come to Paris on the invitation of M. de St. Paul to solicit the assistance of the government in favor of his journal, the *Consevil*, in order to prevent its falling into the hands of the Orleanists; and, not having been able to see either M. de St. Paul or his successor, he addresses himself directly to His Majesty, in order to obtain a support which he thinks will be useful to the empire.

[Referred to the Foreign Press Department.]

WHAT OCCURRED TO A MAN IN BOSTON—THE SALABLE PRESS.

BOSTON, U. S. A., Dec. 21, 1863.

SIR—I take the great freedom of sending you by this mail a copy of the Boston *Post* of the 16th inst., containing a hastily written article upon the European policy of the Emperor.

It has occurred to me that a few opportune words once in a while on such topics in a leading newspaper of this Continent might tend to develop more liberal sentiments upon the great problem of European civilization. I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

To Monsieur MOCQUARD. GEO. W. SEARLE.

WHERE THE OPINIONS OF A CERTAIN PORTION OF THE PRESS COME FROM.

NEW YORK, Sept. 2, 1863.

MY DEAR MOCQUARD:—

There appeared the 26th ult. in the NEW YORK HERALD an article which assails and incriminates your character. Although this journal, from its habit of calumniating only deserves contempt, I wished nevertheless to make known here that you are an honorable man, and I seized the occasion in a respectable journal—the *Evening Post*—which on the same day gave an account of the representation of one