WASHINGTON, D. C.

Correspondence of the Era.

POLITICAL AFFAIRS IN CALIFORNIA—THE PEOPLE'S PARTY.

SACRAMENTO, *Sept.* 4, 1855.

To the Editor of the National Era:

Since I last wrote you, the State Know Nothing Convention met in this city, and adjourned, after nominating a full State ticket. The result is, that a very large portion of the Order are disgusted with the nominations, and it is now very doubtful whether they will be able to elect their ticket.

Ever since we became a State, we have been troubled with two things: 1. The Southern Chivalry have been continually working to secure power to themselves, and break down every man with the least taint of free principles, and in this they have been but too successful. 2. We have had a horde of office-seekers and public plunderers, who have controlled the old Whig and Democratic parties, so that none but their confederates had the least hope of obtaining office. The Chivalry and the office-seekers have generally worked together, and thus succeeded. The first important check they received was in the refusal to elect Dr. Gwin U. S. Senator.

Some of the best men in our State joined the Secret Order, expecting they would be able to keep it clear of these political traders; but the proceedings of the State Convention show that the South had everything their own way. In fact, it seemed to be made up of the very worst politicians from the Whig and Democratic parties. Men who had been repudiated by these old parties, for their political profligacy, were here found working into each other's hands, and controlling the Convention. Men of the worst private as well as public characters were selected to fill the highest offices. The moral and conscientious portion of the Order feel insulted by some of the nominations, and hundreds are leaving it. These men are not satisfied with the Democratic ticket; and in order to do something to arrest this tendency to put forward immoral men for office, a Convention was called, and met in this city on the 22d instant, and nominated new and independent candidates for Supreme Judges, they being the most objectionable candidates on the other tickets. We had no time to make a platform, nor did we deem it necessary; but our Eastern friends can rest assured that we have at last an organization in California free from Southern fire-eaters, and who stand ready to co-operate with the Republican party. We have laid the foundation, and we think that the time has arrived when the friends of Freedom can act with some effect.

The political papers of this State, with very few exceptions, are most bitter against us. But the religious papers are bold and earnest in advocating Anti-Slavery truth, and they are exerting a great influence. The organization of the "People's Party" has spread consternation throughout the ranks of the politicians. They can hardly believe it possible that any man can be found bold enough to speak up for "morality, religion, and temperance," in politics. But the truth is, that notwithstanding the character our State has acquired abroad, our population is made up of many of the most moral and intelligent class; and the bloody riots and affrays which so disgrace us, are confined to a small class; who seem bent on killing each other off. The thinking portion of the people have lost all party feeling, and they generally stand ready to do anything to break up this spirit of blood and rowdyism which the Southern Chivalry have imported into the State. I can assure you, there is hope yet for California. Our election takes place to-morrow, and the result is waited for with deep anxiety. We intend to have our organization so far perfected by the next political campaign, that we can cast at least a respectable vote for the Republican candidates. BRYANT.

FROM NEW HAMPSHIRE.

RAYMOND, N. H., *Oct.* 2, 1855.

To the Editor of the National Era:

Some of the most entire and ridiculous failures, in efforts professedly good, that have been witnessed within the all as few years in this section of the country, have been those in which persons have withdrawn from the meetings and religious societies with which they have been connected, because the Anti-Slavery sentiment prevailed, and ministers, in prayer, have prayed for "all men," and, among them, for those who are in bonds. In several cases, those who have thus withdrawn have established separate meetings. When they have done so, they have commenced as if they were going to take a considerable portion of the world around with them, and, as Bunyan says, "take heaven by force." They have usually given out that they were going to have religious institutions restored to their primitive state; and that political preaching—as they have called any allusion to the sin of Slavery in the pulpit—was not to be tolerated. A few cases, as specimens, of these will be given.

In A——, a party of some ten or fifteen became disaffected, in consequence of the interest felt in Freedom's sacred cause, and some slight allusions to the sin of Slavery in public, and they left. Before they did so, in one of the last meetings, while prayer was being offered by the minister, that "God would break every yoke, and let the oppressed go free," some of them, who were members of the Church, not only pouted out their lips, but made grimaces. They soon established a meeting, and quite a number attended. But, in less than two years, they were not agreed among themselves, and they were scattered and broken up.

In B——, a party withdrew; and they had wealth, and a good congregation. They seemed more prosperous than the body from which they had separated. But in four or five years they wasted away, one could hardly see how, till scarcely two of them were united in any one thing, and the meeting was given up.

In this county, four or five churches withdrew from the Associations to which they belonged, and united in an Association by themselves, so that they could enjoy their peculiar views, and not be disturbed by Anti-Slavery sentiments. For a time, things appeared prosperous, and then they became weak, and the organization was abandoned. Quite a portion of the members of two of the largest churches had become interested in the cause of Liberty, and they joined the Associations they had left.

In another place, a few years ago, half a dozen churches withdrew in a similar manner, and fractions of as many more united with them. The trouble with them at first was Sabbath Schools, Temperance, and Missions. Then the agitation of Anti-Slavery came on, and that to them was worse than all the others together. In one of their places, I was once at an Anti-Slavery meeting. It was in the evening, and a few of them ventured in. Going home after it was done, they yelled in the street as if tormented. I hoped that it was with them as with some in the days of Him who came to bless and save, that the evil spirits were coming out of them as they "wallowed, foaming." That party or association has dwindled to about nothing.

But I have one more case. It will show how much consistency those have who pursue a course similar to the above. In one town, at the State election, last March, a minister voted. At once there was a terrible ado, as it was said the minister was meddling with politics. It was not alleged that he had said a word in public, nor privately, to influence others to vote as he thought right. In less than ten days, a society was formed to employ a minister who did not thus meddle with politics; no, not he. All that he had done was just to go to a political caucus the day before election, work as an active member, and then, on election day, vote all through! But he *voted the Hunker ticket*, and that was not meddling with politics! I will inform you, Mr. Editor, when this new society overruns all this part of country, and has thousands and millions of members!

Pro-Slavery has gained nothing by any such efforts. JOSEPH FULLONTON.

BIOGRAPHY OF SANTA ANNA.

CENTREVILLE, IND., *Sept.* 27, 1855.

To the Editor of the National Era:

The press, for a year or so past, has teemed with "Biographies" and "Autobiographies" of all sorts, written by and of all sorts of persons. Some of these, as, for instance, the lives of Horace Greeley and Frederick Douglass, have worthy subjects, and are respectably written; of others, again, such as those of P. T. Barnum and James Gordon Bennett, we cannot say as much. But what I set out to remark was, that incomparably the finest subject of the latter sort has thus far been strangely overlooked. I allude, of course, to Gen. ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA, the late President Emperor of Mexico. Not a word need be said to establish his absolute pre-eminence, in this point of view, over all competitors. What author, what publisher, will secure a fortune by forthwith announcing the "Life of Santa Anna?" I. H. J.

The Press of the South.

MONEY AND AID FOR KANSAS.

From the Eutaw (Ala.) Whig.

There are many thousands of men in the South who can easily give from $100 to $500 to create a fund to send emigrants to that Territory, who will become bona-fide settlers, who can not only vote for the South, but if necessary do as much and as good fighting for her interests as will, without doubt, secure the adoption of a Slavery Constitution. The Abolition papers say that those fanatics are determined to make it free soil, and that neither blood nor treasure will be spared to carry that determination into effect; and although they acknowledge themselves defeated thus far, by the Missourians and other Southerners who have settled there, they are making preparations to contest the matter on the field of blood, instead of the ballot-box. If this is their wish and determination, it behooves the Southern people to meet them on their own terms, and fight the battle at once and for all, and to see that the men and means are sent there to make the issue as certainly favorable to the South as is possible.

We see that thirteen persons in Columbus, Georgia, have pledged themselves to Colonel James N. Bethune to contribute $100 each to this cause; also several gentlemen in Alabama, among whom is a Representative elect, who has given $200 to the same cause. This is sufficiently indicative of the state of feeling among us in regard to this matter. The South is being aroused on this point at least, and appears to be determined to make it a slave State in spite of all the Reeders and the Pierce Administration; and we hope this spirit of resistance to the encroachments of fanaticism will be kept warm until our purpose is effected.

Who in Greene county will give $100 for this cause?

From the Nashville True Whig.

A PATRIOTIC LETTER.

We find the following letter from Hon. Walter Brashear, an old and honored citizen of Louisiana, and formerly a prominent member of the Democratic party, in the New Orleans *Crescent* of the South. It was written in reply to a letter from Mr. Miles Taylor, anti-American candidate for Congress in the New Orleans district, soliciting the aid of Mr. Brashear in accomplishing the work of doing all he could to promote the success of the anti-American party. Mr. Brashear declines doing more than to extend the ordinary courtesies common to friends. He could not do more. Although, remarks the *Crescent*, the frosts of nearly four-score years have settled upon his head, his intellect is as clear and his heart as full of patriotism as they were in the full flush of vigorous manhood, when hope danced attendance upon a useful present, and pointed the way to a brilliant future, all of which was fully realized in years of valuable public service, as the records of the State amply prove.

We copy from this letter, administering a stinging rebuke to slaveholding gasconade.

Ed. Era.

You compliment me by saying that I have been the ardent devotee of Southern interests, and hence would seem to expect my co-operation in antagonism to the American organization, thereby assuming that organization to be hostile to Southern interests.

Make that inference appear well founded, and you will have all the aid an octogenarian can give to put down such a suicidal organization; but you must not offer me as proof the slanderous falsehoods of its enemies, since I know men who do not deny their fellowship, who would not remain an hour in the association, if but half the treasonable motives were true which have been attributed.

I do not, however, admit as among legitimate means of Southern influence the new and strange proposition of Senator Benjamin, in effect, that the South, armed and equipped for war, should array itself on Mason and Dixon's line, and invite the enemy to come on! We have had enough and too much of bluster—too much of the cowardly gasconade directed to the fears of the North, and pointing to the battlefield as ultimate arbiter. Southerners have not learned, seemingly, that there is more to be dreaded from the calm courage which marches to the encounter of enemies without threat or noise, than from noisy threat and flourished weapons. An extreme of touchiness, accompanied by threats of violence, has characterized Southern action on the subject of Slavery, (thereby fostering the fire which would otherwise have died out) ever since the constitutional denial of the right of petition on the subject; and a tone of superiority and arrogance, more suited to the style of a master addressing his slave than to the intercourse of friends or equals, has pervaded most of our Southern written or spoken productions on the subject.

From the New Orleans Daily Crescent.

EXTRACTS FROM J. M. BERRIEN'S LETTER ON AMERICANISM.

This eminent and venerable statesman and patriot, for a third of a century the compeer of Clay, Webster, and Calhoun, having been solicited from numerous quarters to give his views upon the American question, has written a letter, addressed "to the people of Georgia," in which he takes up the subject, and handles it with surpassing ability. As the letter is too long for our limits, we are obliged to content ourselves with giving the more important extracts. The letter is dated "Rockingham, Sept. 4, 1855."

From this letter we make a few extracts of special interest to the people of the free States.

Ed. Era.

Bear in mind, then, the fact that a foreign immigration, which, up to the year eighteen hundred, did not exceed five thousand persons, has risen since eighteen hundred and fifty to half a million, and which, looking to the state of Europe, will probably, and in a very short time, mount up to a million a year. Now give free scope to your benevolent feelings—exercise the most extended charity, in estimating the probable number of these who are worthy men, capable by a proper probationary term of being rendered good citizens, and what a fearful residuum will remain—what a mass of poisonous ingredients to be infused into the body politic! The census of 1850 shows that the number of foreign paupers and criminals exceeded that of the native paupers and criminals, although the *native* population was *seven times greater* than the foreign. What would be your feelings, if poverty and crime existed in this proportion and to this extent among yourselves? If the quantum of pauperism and vice existed among you, was the proportion of a population seven times greater in number than your own, what security would you have for your free institutions? What guarantee for your individual rights?

Consider, also, that these emigrants, *shunning the South, from their unwillingness to compete with slave labor, and flocking to the North, from their abolition tendencies, in search of kindred spirits, are thus rapidly increasing the majority against you in Congress, at every opportunity, and will, unless checked, in no very great length of time place the Constitution and the institutions of the South at the mercy of fanaticism.*

Thus, the zeal of the South for Know Nothingism springs from no fear of contamination by foreigners, as they shun that section, but from a jealousy of the political power of the North.—*Ed. Era.*

The twelfth article of the Philadelphia platform has been the subject of much commentary. I state, without discussing them, my own opinions on the subjects of which it treats.

I recognise the impracticability, from whatever cause, of reconciling the conflicting opinions which exist on the subject of Slavery, and the danger of agitating that question in the National Legislature. I am content that the American party shall in good faith hold themselves bound to abide by and maintain the existing laws on the subject, and with their declaration that Congress has no power to interfere with Slavery in the States where it exists, or to refuse the admission of any State, because its Constitution does or does not recognise Slavery as a part of its social system. I hold that the Territories of the United States are the property, not of Congress, but of the whole people of the United States, until such Territory becomes a State. I do not believe that Congress has the power to abolish Slavery in the District of Columbia, apart from the contract with Maryland, or considerations of public faith; but as Congress has no constitutional power to violate a solemn contract, or to commit a breach of the national faith, I think they are equally precluded by these considerations.

UNCONSTITUTIONALITY OF THE FUGITIVE SLAVE LAW ACKNOWLEDGED.

From the Charleston Mercury.

Of the action of Massachusetts in the abrogation of the Fugitive Slave Law, we have no complaint to make. It was from the first a miserable illusion; and worse, in fact, for it *was an infringement upon one of the most cherished principles of the Constitution*, which provides that fugitives from labor, "upon demand, shall be delivered up," but gives no power to Congress to act in this affair. The tenth amendment to the Constitution provides that "the powers not delegated to the United States are reserved to the States or to the people." The clause above confers no power, but is the naked declaration of a right; and the power, not being conferred, results to the States as one of the incidents of sovereignty too dear to be trusted to the General Government.

Our Southern members strove for the passage of the law, and strove honestly; but it shows the evils of our unfortunate condition, that, in the urgency of our contest with an aggressive adversary, we lose the landmarks of principle—to obtain an illusive triumph, we pressed the Government to assume a power not conferred by the instrument of its creation, and to establish a precedent by which, in all after time, it will be authorized to assume whatever right may have no constitutional organ of enforcement; and wearied with so many efforts to confine the Government to its limits of legitimate powers, we are pleased to have assistance from another quarter; and if the question shall be determined in her favor, we will sincerely rejoice in such a vindication of the Constitution.

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For the National Era.

THE LEGAL TENURE OF SLAVERY.

LETTER XXXVIII.

THE PRO-SLAVERY CONSTRUCTION DEMOLISHED BY HISTORICAL EXPOSITION.

To the Friends of American Liberty:

I have now proved that "THE UNION" was formed in 1774, and that it was formed by "a compact" *against* Slavery, not in its favor. This Union, as we have seen, was recognised as still existing by the Declaration of 1776—was recognised again, as existing, by the "Articles of Confederation" of 1778—and yet again, by the Federal Constitution of 1787. All these great national documents give the lie direct, therefore, to the pretence that "the Union" was formed in 1787, and that it could not have been formed without a "compromise" in favor of Slavery! At the very time that the struggle to "form the Union" is supposed to have been going on, "the Union" was already existing, had existed for thirteen years, and not a question concerning its continuance had ever been raised, or was then, in any quarter, or by any body, entertained! At the very moment when, it is now pretended, "a compromise" had to be made, in order to bring the slave States into the Union, (and all of them were slave States but one!) the States *were in* the Union already—a Union by which they were all pledged against the slave trade, and for the avowed purpose of preparing for the abolition of Slavery itself.

As there was no need of "a compromise" respecting Slavery, in order to form *the Union*, so there were no differences of sentiment between the different States, on the subject *to be* compromised. The Ordinance of 1787, excluding Slavery from the Northwestern Territory, (the very year in which the Constitution was drafted,) was assented to by every Delegate in Congress, with the single exception of Mr. Yates, *of New York!* The literature of the times was all against Slavery. Nothing was said in its favor. The statesmen of the South, with united voice, were against it. Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Patrick Henry, William Pinckney, St. George Tucker, Wythe, Pendleton, Grayson, Lee, Blair, Mason, Martin, McHenry, Page, Parker, Randolph, Chase, Iredell, Spaight, Ramsay—"nearly all the illustrious names south of the Potomac regarded Slavery as a waning system, and proclaimed it such before the sun."

Jefferson said: "And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure, when we have removed their only firm basis, the conviction that those liberties are the gift of God?" "With what execration should the statesman be loaded, who, *permitting* one half of the citizens thus to trample on the rights of the other, transforms those into despots and these into enemies?" "The Almighty has no attributes that could take sides with us in such a contest"—(i. e.) with insurgent slaves.

Washington urged its abolition "by Legislative authority," and added: "So far as my suffrage will go, it shall not be wanting."

Madison denied that man could hold property in man; and neither he nor the Convention that drafted the Constitution would permit that instrument to contain a single word that could be construed into a recognition of it. "On motion of Mr. Randolph, the word "*servitude*" was struck out, and the word "service" unanimously inserted, the former being thought to express the condition of slaves, and the latter the obligations of free persons."—*Madison Papers, Vol. 3d, p.* 1569.

Granville Sharp, whose chief claim to literary merit lay in the ability with which he had maintained the illegality and unconstitutionality of Slavery in the British dominions, and the duty of the British Government to abolish it in the British American Colonies, (then including these States,) was thereupon laden with the highest literary honors of the College of William and Mary, in Virginia. To be a radical Abolitionist was then to be on the highway to popularity throughout the Southern States.

And this is the period of our history in which it is pretended that the Union between the Northern and Southern States (already existing!) could not have been *formed* without a constitutional "compromise" concerning Slavery!

And who could have been the parties to this compromise? The North and the South? What! When the *only* Pro-Slavery vote in Congress was by a member from New York? When a greater number of prominent and leading Southern statesmen were earnestly and loudly declaiming against Slavery, than there were of Northern ones? At a time, too, when all the States, except Massachusetts, were slave States, if even Massachusetts be properly an exception, for the census returns reported slaves in Massachusetts some time afterwards? At a time, too, when the number of slaves in Georgia was less than the number of slaves in New York? *Which* of the States, we demand, could not be brought into "the Union," (while already *in* the Union,) without a "compromise" in favor of Slavery? Was it New York, with her solitary Pro-Slavery Delegate in Congress? Was it Rhode Island and Massachusetts, many of whose capitalists were chiefly interested then in the illegal African slave trade, proscribed by the "Union" of 1774?

The idea of a struggle and "compromise" between the North and the South, on the slave question, at the time the Federal Constitution was formed, must have been vastly amusing to any surviving statesman of that period, could he have been spared to our times.

And then, in respect to the "intentions" and "understandings" with which, it is said, the Constitution was framed and adopted. What are the historical facts?

In the Virginia Convention that ratified the Constitution, Patrick Henry (a member of the Federal Convention) said that Congress, by the Constitution, had "power to pronounce all slaves free." "There is," said he, "no ambiguous implication or logical deduction. *The paper speaks to the point. They have the power in clear and unequivocal terms, and will clearly and certainly exercise it.*"

In the same Convention, Gov. Randolph said: "They insist that the abolition of Slavery will result from this Constitution. I hope there is *no one here* who will advance an objection so dishonorable to Virginia. I hope that, at the moment they are securing the rights of their citizens, an objection will not be started that those unfortunate men now held in bondage, BY THE OPERATION OF THE GENERAL GOVERNMENT, may be made FREE."

With this "understanding," the Constitution was ratified by Virginia!

Gen. Wilson, another member of the Federal Convention, from Pennsylvania, assured the people of that State that the Constitution "laid a foundation for banishing Slavery OUT OF THIS COUNTRY."

[REMAINDER OF LETTER XXXVIII NEXT WEEK.]

THE AMERICA'S MAILS.

ADDITIONAL FOREIGN NEWS.

The Fall of Sebastopol—Its Occupation by the Allies—Loss of the Allies—Will the Russians Retreat?—Grand Te Deum in Paris—Orders for American Breadstuffs, &c.

THE WAR.

The Fall of Sebastopol.

The English journals generally regard the success of the Allies against Sebastopol as complete enough for all useful purposes.

The Paris *Debats* contains the following notes on the present occupation of the Allied army, from the pen of Col. St. Ange:

"It has been asked if Sebastopol is tenable, so long as the Russians remain masters of all the forts on the north side, which line the sea in front of the town? Undoubtedly; it may be held in spite of this. It is true that the occupation of the north by the Russians prevents our entering the roadstead and the port. What need have we of them, when we already possess an excellent harbor? Have not our fleets already passed the winter without incurring any danger in these waters? It has also been asked if the Allies will have to undertake, now or later, the siege of the forts on the north side? There appears to be no absolute necessity for so doing.

"The forts on the north side can neither prevent our occupation of Sebastopol, nor can they thwart our operations in the interior of the Crimea, on account of their eccentric situation. We should not be surprised at their being blown up so soon as the Russian army is compelled to retreat from the neighborhood of Sebastopol. For the present, the Allied army holds its strong position until the occupation of the town shall have been properly arranged, and its chief defences thoroughly repaired. It does not appear to have anything else to do at present. The Russian army, for its part, occupies the excellent position of Mackenzie, strongly entrenched and lined with redoubts like our own. The Russians will probably continue in observation before us within their strong positions, until the Allied army gives signs of some movement."

In regard to the losses of the French, a French letter says:

"The death of General de Salles, who made the attack on the Central Bastion, is not confirmed. The names of those killed are Generals Rivet, Le Breton, and Niel. General de Marolles is missing, and it is feared that he has met his death from the explosion of a mine. General Conestoes is severely wounded, and General Cassigne, the favorite aid-de-camp of General Pelissier, mortally so. Of the French casualities otherwise, we know as yet nothing positive. The total number is as yet not allowed to transpire. Some believe that it will be found to amount to 10,000, including the English loss, while others form a lower estimate."

A Paris letter says:

"Notwithstanding the rumors which are afloat, General Bosquet has not received any wound. The death of General Cassigne has caused deep regret throughout the army."

Of the combined loss of the Allies, the latest London paper says:

"Something like an approach to the actual loss sustained by our Allies on the 8th instant has at length been obtained. In a telegraphic communication to the French Government, Marshal Pelissier states that about 4,500 wounded, including 240 officers, have gone to the hospitals; but as regards the number of killed, he had not been able to obtain an exact return. It is, however, the opinion of the Marshal that they do not exceed the ordinary proportion, viz: about one-third of the number of the wounded."

The London *Times* speaks of the nobility of the Russians in maintaining themselves in the northern forts, but says the works there are inferior to those they have quitted, and do not comprise the resources of an arsenal and town, and that they are supplied with water by wells only. It also says: "We take the final destruction of the Russian steamers by the orders of Prince Gortschakoff to be a further proof of his intention to retreat; otherwise, these vessels might have been sheltered for a short time under the large northern batteries. From these indications, we conclude that the present object of the Russian Generals is mainly to save the remains of their army; and that the strategical question, which remains to be determined by the skill and vigor of the respective belligerents, is, whether the Allied forces will not prevent that object."

The *Times* Paris correspondent writes that the Russian artillerymen were at the guns, but with that exception a complete panic took possession of the Russian army at the appearance of the Allies at Malakoff Tower.

The journal *Independence Belge* says that, at the third assault, generals, officers, and soldiers, were all mixed together.

FRANCE.

Grand Te Deum—Rejoicing—Gen. Canrobert.

The *Te Duem* at Notre Dame was chanted on the 12th, with all pomp, for the fall of Sebastopol. All the State bodies were there in uniform. The Emperor went to the cathedral in grand procession, escorted by strong detachments. He was in a carriage drawn by eight horses, led by lackeys in splendid liveries, and was accompanied by Prince Jerome. He wore the uniform of a general. The National Guards and troops of the line were drawn up on both sides of the streets leading from the Tuileries to Notre Dame. A vast crowd of spectators lined the streets along which the cortege passed, and the windows of the houses were filled with people. His Majesty, both going and returning, was greeted with hearty acclamations of "Vive l'Empereur!" All the houses on the line of procession were profusely decorated with English and French flags. The old cathedral of Notre Dame was decorated internally and externally with English, French, Turkish, and Sardinian flags. On the columns also were large escutcheons, bearing the English and French arms. The sight of the standard of Protestant England in the venerable Catholic cathedral of Paris was one of the most curious things that has occurred in the course of the alliance.

Business was pretty much suspended at Paris. There were gratuitous performances in all the theatres. Houses were decorated, and at night the city was illuminated. On Sunday, the 16th, *Te Deum* was chanted in all the towns of France, the local authorities attending in full uniform.

A despatch, dated Paris, September 12, says that fresh reinforcements are ordered to proceed to the Crimea immediately, to join the grenadiers and the guards.

An order has been received at Marseilles to suspend the embarkation of bomb-shells, and to land those already shipped.

General Canrobert was offered the dignity of Marshal of France, but declined to accept it, that he might not detract from the lustre of the achievements of General Pelissier.

The nomination of General Niel to the list of Marshals is spoken of. General Niel it was, who, on his arrival in the Crimea, designated the Malakoff tower as the vulnerable point of Sebastopol.

ENGLAND

Orders for American Breadstuffs—the Bank of England and the Rate of Interest.

The London *Shipping Gazette* of the 14th says, at the close of its article on the grain trade—

"All eyes are now directed to America. Twelve French buyers went out by last week's steamer, and large orders have gone from England for breadstuffs, so that we shall soon know whether the boasting accounts of their crops can be sustained."

The Liverpool *Times*, in noticing the fact that the Bank of England had raised the rate of interest to 4½ per cent., says:

"The commercial world were taken by surprise at the hastiness of this step on the part of the Bank, although the feeling was prevalent that the increased demand for money, the withdrawal of large sums of gold for shipment on account of the foreign loans, and the non-arrival of the overdue Australian vessels, limiting the supplies, would render an advance at an early period necessary.

"The money market continues to manifest a more stringent aspect, the demand for accommodation both at the Bank of England and Lombard street being very active. The joint stock banks have, simultaneously with the raising of the rate of discount, advanced their rates for fixed deposits, several now allowing 3½ per cent. The discount houses were unprepared for the step taken by the bank, and have resolved to delay their decision regulating their future rate of allowance for money at call. The Bank of England rate for advances on Government securities during the shutting of the transfer books has been raised, and will now be 4 instead of 3½ per cent. The arrivals of gold from Australia and the United States have been moderate, and chiefly taken for export to the continent.

"The return from the Bank of England for the week ending the 8th of September gives the following results, when compared with the previous week: The amount of notes in circulation is £19,142,105, being a decrease of £962,525; and the stock of bullion in both departments £14,217,376, showing a decrease of £721,742 when compared with the preceding return."

The London *Times* also refers to the action of the Bank, and says:

"Within the last ten years, there has been only one previous instance of an advance of the rate in two consecutive weeks, and that was in January, 1847, when the threatenings of the approaching panic were suddenly becoming plain. Between the two periods there is no resemblance, for at the present moment the trade of the country is as sound and healthy as at any time on record. Nevertheless, there is quite enough to justify a repetition of the unusual course. Little question seems to be entertained that the instalment of £1,000,000 sterling, paid on Wednesday on the Turkish loan, will forthwith be sent in sovereigns to Constantinople, and that during the next five months the remaining £3,000,000 will be despatched in a similar manner. The Australian arrivals, moreover, are still delayed, only £176,000 having been received out of £800,000 that may be considered due; and, finally, the extraordinary firmness of the corn market, in the face of a satisfactory harvest at home, and of an unusual surplus in the United States and Canada, has disappointed all expectations, and led to the transmission of large orders, accompanied by specie, to the Danube and elsewhere. Under these circumstances, the Bank had no alternative in deciding upon a further and immediate rise. Although commerce has lately assumed increased activity, there are no signs of undue speculation, either in the manufacturing towns, or on the London stock exchange; and the news of the fall of Sebastopol has imparted a feeling of confidence, the effect of which will be much more powerful in sustaining trade than that of the present notification in depressing it. There is, consequently, no reason to depart from the conviction that everything will go on smoothly, and that, even if further measures should be requisite, they will not produce any disturbance."

RUSSIA.

Loss of the Russians at Sweaborg.

A letter from an English merchant at Elsinore, who has received letters from Russian merchants at Helsingfors, states that the loss sustained by the Russians in the late bombardment of Sweaborg is enormous. The three-deck and two-deck ships, which were moored across the passages, were so severely injured that they have since sunk. The third explosion, which did so much damage, was a magazine of eighty tons of powder. It killed seven hundred men, and destroyed in a great measure the principal fortifications, and, in fact, scattered destruction in every direction, as it communicated to the shell magazines along the batteries.

All the winter stores of provisions were completely destroyed, and, as we first supposed, everything that could burn is most effectually consumed. The Russians admit a loss of 2,500 men.

Aid-de-camp General Bibikoff has been dismissed from the post of Minister of the Interior.

PROJECTED CAMPAIGN ON THE DANUBE.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Independence* speaks of a new and important diversion by the Western Powers on the Lower Danube; and it is said that the co-operation of Austria has been declared necessary for the complete success of the operation. It is said, however, that the expedition is actually decided, and that Gen. Letang is expected daily in Vienna.

DENMARK AND THE SOUND DUES.

A letter from Berlin, in the *Augsburgh Gazette*, states that the Danish Government has declared itself willing to reduce the Sound dues for all countries. It is said that Austria has strongly recommended Denmark to make this concession, and that this latter Power will shortly make its intentions known to all the States interested in the question. In the course of a leading article on the same subject, the *Pays* expresses a firm conviction that an European Congress must assemble, before long, to discuss and regulate, not only the question of the Sound, but several others, which have remained for some time *in suspenso*.

AUSTRIA.

A despatch from Vienna states that Baron Kubeck, President of the Council, had died from cholera.

ITALY.

The satisfactory appearance of the vineyards in the provinces of Asti and Alessandria, has lately led to a reduction of 30 per cent. in the price of wine, and the grapes themselves are sold at a low price.

COMMERCIAL.

London, Sept. 14.—The *Shipping Gazette* says: In foreign sugar, 2,100 boxes yellow Havana were all taken in at from 44*s.* @ 47*s.*, and 322 boxes white in bond at 33*s.*, all above the current value; 600 hhds. Cuba, mostly sold at from 42*s.* 6*d.* @ 45*s.*, and 324 hhds. 109 bbls. Porto Rico, at 40*s.* 6*d.* @ 44*s.*, all 1*s.* dearer. The raw market closed firmly. The refined market is higher, brown lumps 52*s.* 6*d.* @ 53*s.*, and grocery 54*s.* @ 56*s.* Saltpetre is quiet, and has declined 1*s.* per cwt. Clean hemp is quoted at £44.

Hamburgh, Sept. 7.—Coffee has further advanced ⅛ sch. Sales 30,000 bags Brazil at 3⅞ @ 5½ sch.; 7,000 do. Laguayra at 5½ @ 5¾, and 600 do. St. Domingo at 4⅞ @ 5⅜ sch. Sugar again high. Molasses wanted at higher rates. Rosin declining; lots of American brown, to arrive, are offered at 2¾ mk. Hops dull, the crop being very favorable; American old are offered at 3 @ 5 sch., new at 6 @ 10 sch.

Antwerp, Sept. 6.—Large sales of coffee at an advance of ½ @ 1c.; Brazil has met with a great demand; 29,000 bags have been sold during the week; 9,000 bags St. Domingo have been bought by speculators. Sugar in continued demand at last rates. Rosin higher; 5,000 bbls. American brown sold at 2¼ @ 3fl. Spirits of turpentine also high; 350 bbls. sold at 18⅝ @ 18¾, and now 19fl. is asked. Lard scarce at 36½. Pepper advancing, 27½c. has been paid.

Amsterdam, Sept. 8.—Coffee, auction sales, all the lots offered sold at an advance of 2 @ 3½c. above taxation. Sugars have further advanced. Gin quiet; we quote American proof 33 @ 31fl.

Rotterdam, Sept. 8.—Sugar advancing. Rice firm. Pepper scarce. Tobacco dull.

NESSELSODE.—Of all the statesmen of Europe and America who took part in public affairs at the fall of the first Napoleon, the only one now remaining in place is the Russian Minister, who commenced his political career as a powerful foe of the Napoleonic dynasty, which he still lives to combat. All the public men of the United States, it is said, who were then eminent in political life, have departed; a new generation occupy their places. In Europe, none remain but Nesselrode, the patriarch of statesmen, who has survived two Imperial masters; who, as the Minister of Alexander the First, opposed the aggressions of the great Napoleon, and now, as the Minister of Alexander the Second, is the vigorous foe of Napoleon the Third.

A SECOND WHITFIELD.—Recent English journals mention that a young preacher of the Methodist Church is creating as much excitement as Irving and Whitfield did in their day. The London correspondent of the New York *Sunday Times* says: "His name is Spurgen, and he can scarcely have reached his 22d or 23d year, I should think. His eloquence is extraordinary—it overwhelms you with its force and brilliancy; and his voice has the characteristics which Whitfield's is said to have possessed—a ringing tone, and capable of being heard by an assemblage of ten thousand persons."

The London *Mercantile Gazette* of a late date, says,

"All eyes are now directed to America. Twelve French buyers went out by the last week's steamer, and large orders have gone from England for breadstuffs, so that we shall soon know whether the boasting accounts of their crops can be substantiated."

A modern philosopher, taking the motion of the earth on its axis at seventeen miles a second, says that if you take off your hat in the street to bow to a friend, you go seventeen miles bareheaded, without taking cold!

TO EDITORS.

The advertiser intends to reside in Washington during the next session of Congress, and wishes to write letters to one or two daily and as many weekly papers of Free Soil principles. Address "J. C. S., Box 648, Washington, D. C."

NEW YORK CENTRAL COLLEGE.

At a meeting of the Trustees of New York Central College, held at McGrawville, September 5th, Elder Asa Caldwell resigned the offices of Treasurer and General Agent. To fill these offices, Benjamin Horton, of McGrawville, was elected Treasurer, and Silas Hammond, of Freetown, General Agent, with power to appoint other agents, who shall report to him.

AZARIAH SMITH, Cor. Sec.

SHARON COLLEGE.

The Winter Session of this Institution will commence on Monday, the 5th day of November next. Tuition, $4 to $10 per session of five months. Boarding, $1.50 to $2 per week. RANDAL ROSS, President of Board.

Sharon, Noble Co., O., Sept. 20, 1855.

NATIONAL WOMAN'S RIGHTS CONVENTION.

In accordance with a vote of the National Woman's Rights Convention at Philadelphia, in October last, the next Convention will be held at Cincinnati, Ohio, on the 17th and 18th of October next.

In behalf of the Central Committee:

PAULINE W. DAVIS, *President.*
LUCY STONE BLACKWELL, *Secretary.*

Papers friendly, please copy.

GENERAL CONVENTION OF RADICAL POLITICAL ABOLITIONISTS,

AT BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS,

On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, October 23d, 24th, and 25th, 1855.

By appointment of a similar Convention in Syracuse, New York, in June last.

The undersigned, a Committee of Arrangements appointed by the "Central Abolition Committee," are authorized by said Committee to invite a General Convention of "Radical Political Abolitionists" in Boston, on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, October 23d, 24th, and 25th, 1855, for the purpose of discussing the *Illegality and Unconstitutionality of Slavery*, and the Power of the Federal Government over Slavery in the States.

Also, to provide means for propagating the sentiments and advocating the measures of "Radical Political Abolitionists," and, if judged best, to organize for that object a

NATIONAL ABOLITION SOCIETY.

Among those expected to be in attendance, and take part in the proceedings, are Gerrit Smith, Lewis Tappan, S. S. Jocelyn, Frederick Douglass, A. Pryne, L. C. Matlack, A. G. Beman, the undersigned, and others, who may be announced hereafter.

WILLIAM GOODELL,
JAMES McCUNE SMITH,
Committee of Arrangements.

New York, August 23, 1855.

PUTNAM'S MONTHLY.

OCTOBER.

Contents of No. XXXIV.

Original Portraits of Washington.
Wind and Rain.
The Willey House—A Ballad of the White Hills.
Benito Cereno.
Unknown Tongues—Language of Animals—Part II.
Life among the Mormons.
My Darling.
Alfred Tennyson.
Living in the Country.
The Helmet.
Experiences in Mount Lebanon.
The Drama in France—Classic and Romantic.
The Legend of Goodman Poverty.
Born, but not Buried.
Reminiscences of a Tempest-tost Life—Lafayette.
The Kansas Question.
Editorial Notes.
American Literature and Reprints.
European Literature.
Drama.
Music.
Plastic Art.

Opinions of the Press.

Putnam's Magazine.—Two numbers of this leading American magazine have reached us at the same time, and brought upon us an *embarras des richesses*. The articles number one eighteen in each, and there is not one of them we should be inclined to pass over. Indeed, "Putnam" has a peculiar attraction for us, as we see in it a reflection of the mind, manners, and intelligence of our transatlantic cousins. It carries us into a new country, and makes us as acquainted with all its characteristics, in an easy, unaffected manner. Politics are not neglected; but we do not detect faction, or even party, and we read under a pursuasion that we are gathering the impartial opinion of the best minds in the United States.—*London (Eng.) Weekly Times.*

Putnam is growing every month stronger, healthier, more to the purpose. It has some fine brains at work for it, and really begins to give the country some genuine criticism on literature and art.

Its opening review of the poetry of Owen Meredith, (Bulwer's son,) and Matthew Arnold, brings back the sensations with which we used to devour the criticisms of Blackwood in its great days. It gives us ideas—it *teaches* us something—and, better and dearer than all, it gives us something to quarrel with!

Had brief notices of new books in "Putnam" are independent, condensed, to the purpose. They generally touch the core of the matter, and show that the books have been *read* before being noticed. Of how few critical publications can we say as much!—*Philad. Morning Times.*

TERMS.—*Three Dollars* a year, or *Twenty-five Cents* a number. *Subscribers remitting Three Dollars*,