

the pristine vigor of the race remains unimpaired,

"A Gadhias usque auroram et Gangem."

The one indubitable moral deducible from this now quashed rebellion is, that the East, with all its varied religions and diverse social systems, will be opened to the humanizing agencies of the civilization of the West—that the re-organization of the social and political systems, which have hitherto obtained among the "children of the sun," will be based upon the only true foundation which can have any chance of success in the present age—the intelligent development of the resources of the country, and the consequent exercise of the mental and physical abilities of the people. The introduction of railways, and the closer connection with Europe and the other quarters of the Globe, consequent upon the employment of steamers, have already begun their civilizing work, and this outburst on the part of the natives, probably arising in some degree from those very improvements, has but accelerated their adoption to a greater extent; and thus it is,

"There's a Divinity that shapes our ends,
Rough-hew them as we will."

Turning our thoughts to the parent country, we cannot but feel a sentiment of admiration at the marvellous resources it possesses, which are applicable at any moment to the suppression of resistance to its authority in any portion of its world-wide dominions. Although the Indian disturbance, which we have just been noticing, has been put down without the assistance of any of the troops despatched from the seat of the central power to the scene of active operations, yet notwithstanding the frightful proportions which the mutiny at first presented to the distant gaze of Europe, the conscious power of the nation pursued the even tenor of its way—the arts of peace—the constant prosecution of which had enabled Britain to wage successful wars against so many foes—received not even a momentary check to their onward progress; and the nation could afford to employ some of her overflowing strength to crush rebellion, while her teeming millions still thronged the factory, still tilled the field. While steam was urging on their long ocean journey the barques which were bearing the soldier to his distant battle-field—while yet the canvas wooed the uncertain breeze which was to speed the eagle to his quarry beneath the southern Cross—while a navy of no small capacity was being employed in the transmission of men and materials to the distant East—the busy hive of industry at home continued to give forth as ever the uninterrupted sounds of activity and energy. Although bad men far but purges might seek to separate her Eastern dominions from that fair Queen "throned in the West," their efforts could not, and did not, impede the prosecution of the most stupendous scheme that men or nations ever conceived, or attempted to reduce to practical operation. When the old Roman, some 2,000 years ago, anathematized the breast of triple brass of him who first violated the decrees of fate in traversing the ocean, which had been intended as a barrier to the inter-communication of the peoples it separated, he little dreamed that from the insulated Britons, the "Toto penitus divisos orbe Britannos," would be extended across the then untraversed Atlantic a means of instantaneous communication to a world then unknown,—little did the heroic Genoese imagine, while sustained in his daring enterprise by a knowledge far beyond that of his age, he ploughed his way o'er the wild waste of waters to America, that the day would come when that physical science, of which he was so devoted a student, would enable the future inhabitants of the Continent which he discovered to communicate by means of the lightning, and with the celerity of its motion, with the Europe he had left. Among those facts which go to justify the adage, "truth is strange, stranger than fiction," the electric telegraph must occupy the first rank. How long that relation to other discoveries and human appliances is to subsist, we know not; for who can tell "what the morrow may bring forth?" But certainly at present the limited use of that great discovery stands at the head of the list of instances of science made the handmaid of man. And when it is considered that experiments have shown that this subtle messenger can be transmitted through thousands of miles of the connecting wire, with the same speed and unerring regularity that distinguishes its transit between the comparatively brief stations at present employed—the mind is lost in contemplation of the wonders it is destined to achieve. That the connection by submarine telegraph by Europe and America can and will be established, we entertain no doubt. The recent failure by the breaking of the cable in paying it out, does not for one moment militate against the feasibility of the scheme; in fact, in an undertaking of such magnitude and novelty, it was only reasonable to suppose that some accident would occur to mar the first attempt, and by its failure teach the able and scientific men the best means of rendering their ultimate success of a more perfect and permanent nature, than would probably have characterized the establishment of the first connection, had it been accomplished without check or interruption. The discovery by Lieutenant Maury, of the American Navy, of the great subaqueous plateau, stretching from Cape Race, in Newfoundland, to Cape Clear in Ireland, appears to have been originally designed for a track between the Old World and the New, and no reasonable doubt exists that ere another year shall have fled, the communication by telegraph will unite the two countries. That two such nations, the one the vigorous offshoot of the other, having carried to its new home the language, ideas, and as far as they were applicable to her condition, the institutions of the parent state,—the other and the elder, after the subsidence of the angry feelings induced by the severance of the old Colonial relations, gladly welcoming her offspring into the family of nations,—should be connected by such a bond, should be united by so close a tie, is matter of congratulation not merely to Britons and Americans, but to Europe and the world at large. When we endeavour to consider the marvellous results which must follow in the wake of such an enterprise, we are lost in amazement at the momentous revolution in the moral, social and political relations of the two continents which it is destined to effect. Time was, not far remote, when he who crossed the Atlantic was considered as pre-eminently a man of mark, and was received on his return to his family with all the consideration due to him who had gone down to the sea in ships, and had seen the wonders of the great deep. Steam has rudely dissolved that spell, and the voyager now counts with certainty upon the day on which he shall have completed his traverse of the ocean. But great as has been the change in this respect, speedy and safe as is the transmission of intelligence between Europe and America, what can be imagined of greater marvel than the instantaneous communication by the electric spark through thousands of miles of wire laid far below the angry

billows of the Atlantic? Low down upon the sandy ocean-bed, while navies ride and tempests rage above it, will the electric cable, "stretching many a rood," transmit with lightning speed the ever coursing spark, pregnant with meaning. This truly cosmopolitan enterprise, which will emphatically annihilate time and space, has been delayed for a season in consequence of an accident which is always to be expected in the first attempt in an undertaking so new and so extensive.

The reviewer of the incidents of 1858 will, we hope and believe, have it in his power to record the laying of the ocean wire as *un fait accompli*, and that the noble and appropriate sentiment with which the Queen of England shall greet the "uncrowned monarch" of the West, as the fitting inauguration of the new connection, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and good-will toward men," has been successfully transmitted. One important reflection suggests itself to the mind of him who ponders on this subject. One wire will be utterly inadequate to the exigencies of communication between Europe and America, and we shall in a few years have to notice the laying of additional lines until the repeated announcements shall cease to attract attention.

Another stupendous monument of the science and enterprise of the age is found in that mighty steamer, so fitly baptized "Leviathan." We trust soon to hear that she floats on the element whose "ruffian billows" in their angriest mood will be powerless to impede or retard her progress, as with the power of five thousand horses and her clouds of canvas, she leaves the gale behind her. One-eighth of a mile in length, supplied with an electric telegraph for the transmission of orders, having eight several compartments, each the size of a first rate London Hotel, carrying on each side a fully equipped steamboat of twenty-five horse power, and one hundred and fifty tons capacity, capable of carrying ten thousand men in addition to her little army of a crew, making a speed of twenty-five miles an hour, not affected by adverse winds or waves—surely "Leviathan" deserves her name. The unfortunate interruptions to her launch, have, we trust, been finally overcome; and the question asked of old by the tormented man of Uz, "Canst thou draw out Leviathan with a hook," has received an affirmative solution. Prospero's directions to his "trickery sprites," "Be thou here again ere the Leviathan can swim a league," might have taxed the delicate Ariel's powers of locomotion, had he had to contend with this sea-monster.

Ere we leave this part of our subject it is pleasing to reflect upon the fact, that Europe is at peace within itself—that the nations which not long since were wasting their resources in endeavours to inflict mutual injuries, are now employing their energies in the more ennobling arts which conduce alike to the prosperity of nations and individuals. Although we are not of those who believe that the lion is quite ready to lie down with the lamb—that the swords are awaiting their conversion into the useful but unromantic implements of bucolic industry,—we have an abiding faith in the pacific tendencies of commerce, and consider that man is becoming more alive to the conviction that his material interests are best promoted by a state of peace, and that the idea is spreading among the masses that

"War is a game, which, were their subjects wise,
Kings would not play at."

We will now anticipate the action of the oceanic telegraph and the mammoth steamer, and, crossing the Atlantic, consider some few of the figures which the history of America for the past year has held up to the mirror of time.

While in Europe the characteristics of national government or national misrule are invested with more or less dignity, arising from the antiquity of institutions, which, however illy adapted to the necessities of the present age, nay, in many cases offering positive obstacles to the march of improvement, are still venerable and picturesque, as some Grecian temple of old, dedicated to a worship long since discarded, still forms the beauty of the landscape, and claims our admiration for its fair proportions, though unsuited to our present purposes,—we look in vain for anything approaching, not the dignified, not the chivalrous, but even the respectable, in the materials which are constantly thrown up to the surface of the ever-seething cauldron of American domestic politics. In proof of our assertion we need cite no more than one or two facts notorious to the world, and undeniable even by the most ardent apologist for the eccentric forms in which the "universal Yankee nation" sometimes manifests its sense of the enjoyment of that freedom, from the blessed rays of which the rest of the world has been religiously debarred by the monarchs of the Eastern Hemisphere.

During the last year, the city of New York, the London of America, the virtual capital of the Union, the place where merchants most do congregate, was, for days, the scene of most disreputable violence between two factions contending for the control of the city; and never did Guelph and Ghibelline show more unhalloved spirit in the City of Flowers than was exhibited in the internecine contests for the control of the municipal affairs of New York by the late Mayor and his opponents. We ask our readers' attention to the following extract from a daily paper published in the city which vice and violence bid fair to elevate to a high rank in the list of communities infamous for crime. This, as the extract itself declares, is but the record of one day's crimes, and crimes of the highest degree. What must be the moral state of that society where so many violent outrages go to form the bloody picture of one single day? What must be the state of the community through which the stream of moral and mental depravity flows with volume which, though unseen, is still sufficient to throw up on its turbid surface such evidences of the strength and pollution of its current?

"CRIME IN NEW YORK.—We are this morning again obliged to surrender a large portion of our paper to the details of the fearful crimes which are running over the city like some terrible pestilence. Three persons were slashed and hacked with knives at a low den in Water street yesterday morning; one died immediately, and the other two are scarcely alive. A man in the Bowery was stabbed by ruffians while defending his own premises. The young man shot a few days since in Canal street, died at the hospital yesterday morning. In the upper part of the city three or four ruffians dragged a young girl into a lumber-yard, imitated the murderous hounds who killed the poor old German woman in Greenwich street, and left their victim for dead. A woman stabbed by a burglar, and highway robbery, complete the "Bloody Record," so far as New York city is concerned, for this day only. In the now old and stale murder which took place in William street as long ago as Tuesday night, nothing new has been developed, except that a son of the victim is held to bail upon some slight suspicion."—*New York Tribune*.

If it should be objected that we are drawing general conclusions from particular premises—that we have attributed as a reproach to the whole Confederacy of States the acts which have been committed in a single city, we can point to some matters of a more national interest and magnitude to show

that there is something rotten in the States of our brother Jonathan.

Halfway between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, flying from contact with the religious and social institutions of Christianity, a horde of dupes and knaves, gathered principally from among the over-worked, under-paid and under-fed millions of Europe, having had preached to them the gospel of sensuality and physical comforts, have sought a realization of the spiritual promises in the seizure with unhallowed hands, and no measured grasp, of the material objects of their wishes. Not content with having founded in the previously-wilderness tract of Utah a settlement exclusively their own, having been allowed to build a temple to their unknown god, those men have had the audacity to proclaim that, although the site of their sanctuary is within the territory of the United States, yet that the federal authority shall have no force within their borders—that they have erected and will maintain an *imperium in imperio*, and acting on this idea, they have offered successful opposition to the troops of the Union sent to enforce the authority of the general government. That Mormonism, with all its attendant abominations, must succumb to the more powerful and more pure institutions and principles which all but Mormons recognize in theory, if not in practice, as the sole influences which are to regulate man in his social or individual relations, it were a libel on God's providence to doubt; and whatever may be the circumstances under which its obsequies may be performed, civilization will have cause to rejoice that the foul imposture has at length ceased to "smell rank to Heaven."

Another peculiarity of the institutions of the States is the encouragement which they afford to the spirit of aggression towards other and weaker powers. We are ready to admit that the degenerate races which inhabit the Central and Southern portions of the Continent—the all-unworthy descendants of the country which sent forth its Columbus to discover, and its Cortes and Pizarro to subdue, the Western World—offer many temptations to the more energetic and enterprising Northerner whose avarice and ambition may chance to be excited by the contrast offered by the sunny South to the less genial clime where labour wrests from reluctant nature comparatively barren meed. This spirit, after manifesting itself with offensive effrontery to other powers, has, for a year or two past, shamed the civilization of the world by the open and unblushing audacity with which it sent forth from the principal ports of the Union its devotees under the notorious Walker. We are happy in the thought that hitherto they left the shores of their country, invading a people whose only crime was to be found in its weakness, not "conquering or to conquer," but ignominiously defeated, and the remnant of the piratical band, their hopes of fame and profit miserably dispelled, had returned to the place from whence they came, "beggared and ruined by their strumpet fortune." Although not openly recognized by the general government, to the authority of which they were of course amenable, and which owed it to itself as a sovereign nation to prevent the lawless invasion of a friendly power by its subjects, there can be no doubt that the popularity-courting government of the United States would not, or dared not, prevent the organization and departure of the ruffians, who, following the fortunes of their pirate leader, carried all the crimes, without the redeeming virtues, of war into the unoffending territory of Nicaragua. The last accounts render it not improbable that the waters of the Gulf of Mexico now roll over the lifeless bodies of those whose self-imposed mission was the compulsory revolution of a nation which, however torn by internal dissension, had given no cause of offence to its powerful Northern neighbours. This state of affairs can but have the effect of diminishing the confidence in their stability which the theory of Republican institutions is so adapted to inspire, and which their practical operation so thoroughly obliterates from the minds and affections of those who live under other forms of government.

The length to which this article has extended, warns us that our readers may be approximating to that limit beyond which patience ceases to be a virtue; and although many topics, on which we would fain dwell, present themselves to our mind as appropriate subjects for a few reflections—we gladly turn our mental gaze to our own Island Home, and bless God that its people have been spared any participation in the troubles and privations which have surrounded many a once happy hearthstone with mourning and anguish.

In the free exercise of the principles on which our political institutions are based, we have seen the past year glide into the wallet wherein Time puts aims for oblivion without the fearful outrages to which the denizens of other countries have been subjected. We have all ample cause to rejoice that, notwithstanding the commercial distress the effects of which we have of course felt in common with the rest of the world, the difficulties have not entailed upon us want of employment and its consequent crime. There can be no doubt that the depression will be but temporary, and that the recuperative energies of our people will soon restore affairs to their former healthy state; and with the expression of our wishes for their individual and collective prosperity, we bid our friends, one and all, "A happy New Year."

THE BANK, GOVERNMENT AND EXAMINER.

No person who has read the article "communicated" to the *Islander*, and published in that paper of the 25th ultimo, in reference to a previous editorial in this journal on the affairs of the Bank, and the application to the Government on its behalf—could have entertained the slightest doubt as to the source from whence it emanated. That the learned leisure of a principal stockholder has been taxed to produce it, is indeed the first conjecture that could be formed; for, keeping in view the losses which the Corporation are sure to sustain from the insolvency of a certain bill-drawer, none but a holder of many shares would exhibit so much of the frailty of poor human nature as to work himself into a towering passion in vouchsafing a very injudicious and ill-timed vindication of the character and standing of the Bank. It would be very proper, and, indeed, praiseworthy in a public writer to uphold the good name of the only banking institution we have in the country, when it should happen to be unjustly assailed; and so impressed are we with the conviction, that no commercial community can prosper without such an establishment, that we would fain be one of the first in offering our poor services to do battle against its assailants. But when no assault is made—when no complaint is preferred, and not a word of censure uttered—we cannot help feeling surprised and amused when we see a pugnacious gentleman, like the author of the article

in the *Islander* under consideration, imitating our countryman at Donnybrook Fair, or some other congenial scene for a row, by offering his coat-tails to be trodden upon, just because he begins to feel that he is getting "blue moulded for want of a bating."

In our No. of the 14th ult., we stated that the Bank had applied to the Government through some of its Directors—first, for a suspension of their charter, so that the shareholders would not have to be called upon, while money was scarce, to pay in the balance of their stock, as the law required them to do before the end of February;—second, the Government was asked to authorise the Directors to stop specie payments; and third, the Government was asked to continue the receipt of the Bank notes at the Treasury—(as it would give them currency)—the Directors offering, of their own accord, we believe, to deposit security in the Government's own warrants, whenever the amount of Bank notes in the Treasury would be so considerable as to render such security expedient. We believe this is a true statement of the nature of the application made to the Government. We obtained it on unquestionable authority, and we made it known for the information of the public at large, and not from any petty desire to get undue credit for the Government at the expense of the Bank. The Government acceded to only that part of the request which referred to the receipt of the Bank notes at the Treasury; and in so doing we expressed our conviction that the Executive had acted in no churlish spirit towards an institution, some of the directors of which were not supposed to entertain very friendly feelings towards the Executive. This seems to have been gall and wormwood to the writer in the *Islander*, whose bile was, no doubt, previously stirred by the reflection, that the great Rothschilds of this community were compelled by any circumstances to ask a favour of men in power whom they so cordially detest;—and, in order to show that the Government granted no favour at all, but declined to perform an act of justice, which leaves them responsible for the suspension of specie payments at the Bank,—the indignant and injudicious advocate of the latter—(the shareholders of which might well exclaim, O save us from our friends!)—has published such a statement of the transaction between the Bank and the Government as might well make any man blush to own it, and fully explains his recourse to the screen of an anonymous correspondent. This writer states that the Government were simply asked for a promise "to introduce a Bill into the Assembly, at its next meeting, to alter the Bank Charter so as to enable the Directors to postpone the call for the remaining £7500 of the subscribed stock," &c. Not a word about stopping specie payments—not a word about notes being received at the Treasury; these very important facts are carefully kept out of sight. "The Directors," says the writer under review, "on being refused so reasonable, and to all appearance, so necessary a request"—(that is, a suspension of the Charter, so as to postpone the payment of the balance of shares)—"in order to save the Bank Charter, deemed it most prudent to suspend for the time being, the payment of their notes in specie," &c. From all we can understand, the Directors had determined on this course from the very moment they became aware of their probable losses by protested bills, otherwise they would not have included in their application to the Government a request that the latter would give them authority to suspend specie payments. Is it not evident, then, that the writer of the article in the *Islander* must be lost to all sense of shame, when he seeks to throw upon the Government the responsibility, (or, the odium if he likes), attached to the suspension of specie payments, as he does in the following sentence:—"Now, it must be quite obvious, that had the Government met the request of the Directors in anything else than 'a churlish spirit,' there would be no necessity whatever for a suspension of specie payments by the Bank." We have placed the last part of the sentence in italics, so as to render the falsehood which it conveys more conspicuous.

We are sneeringly told, in reference to security being offered to cover the amount of Bank notes received at the Treasury, that not many days "since, a single hawbee would be better security than all the treasure in the Treasury." We should be sorry to retort upon the Bank, under the new circumstances in which it has been placed relatively to the Government, in the same "churlish spirit" which prompted the above remark; but we may observe, that if the Treasury had declined to receive Bank paper in payment of duties, either now, or at any previous time, which it might have done if the Government were so disposed, there would be no discount upon Treasury warrants; and we fancy the Bank would be in a rather awkward predicament if it tried to force into circulation notes which it was not prepared to respond to in specie, and which trades-people were generally beginning to reject only a month or two ago.

We sincerely hope that a majority of the Bank Directors do not endorse the narrow-minded sentiments of the writer we have been noticing. As an auxiliary to trade and commercial enterprise, every man in the community should rejoice to see the Bank in a prosperous condition; but far better would it be for us to fall back upon the tender mercies of private money-shavers, and let those in trade struggle on as they best may with a shackled commerce—than that we should have a close-borough of money-dealers, made powerful by their union and co-operation—inflamed by the angry passions of contending politicians, and eagerly watching for an opportunity of putting the screws upon their adversaries. It is a most suicidal policy for the Government of any country and its banking institutions, to be at loggerheads. Hatred on one side is sure to beget hatred on the other; and instead of being mutually serviceable, as they easily might, they will be a source of great annoyance and discredit to the country which has the misfortune to witness their bickerings. We are glad that we have not yet reached such a melancholy state of affairs as to render a censure of this kind applicable to us in all its force; and it is gratifying to reflect, that whatever trifling misunderstanding may have heretofore arisen between some of the Bank Directors and our Government, it has not been owing to any want of good faith on the part of the latter.

Since the above observations were penned, we have received a communication signed "Fair Play," in reply to the article in the *Islander*; but as our views and those of our correspondent are nearly identical, we forbear for the present to make use of his letter. Our correspondent dwells at some length on the silly comparison instituted by the writer in the *Islander* between the Directors of the Bank and the members of the Government, respecting the pecuniary circumstances of the parties. "Fair Play" says he is quite satisfied that the latter are as well able to pay twenty shillings in the pound of the