

All Sorts of Paragraphs.

THE BITTER FRUITS OF REBELLION.—There is too much exultation in the following description of the fearfully changed condition of the aristocracy which slavery created and enriched, and which by its own pride and presumption, brought retribution upon its own head:—
 "In a trip through the Southern States at the present time one can see nothing amid the wreck more salient than the rapid decadence of the planting noblesse. Their spreading mansions, circled by graceful verandahs, and set in little Edens of fadeless hedges and trees, have an air of decline, like a woman richly dressed but out of the fashion. The houses need paint, and the hedges trimming. The stepping stones, whereon so many dainty feet have pattered between the carriage and gate, have the stains of disuse upon them. The favorite creams are gone like the slave who rubbed their glossy coats. The wolf of poverty flits between the neglected shrubs and cowers behind the ambitious stuccoed columns. It is not hard to indentify one of the former class of cotton darlings. Bitterness and sadness dwell in their faces. The young men once accustomed to horses, guns, dogs, a slave for every whim, and spending money in unreckoned wants; the young women, lovely as a tropical flower, as languid as a lily on a breathless lake, and fragile in beauty as either; his feudal pride, his shoals of sleek slaves, his resounding politics, his hospitable country palace and his prodigal cheer—all are alike bewildered by the pitiless revolution that has stricken them with decay, even as the husbandman deadens the forest that he may have fields instead of cumbering groves. We do not doubt that the once haughty and powerful slave aristocracy is passing away. Emancipation girdled that tree. The woodman does not wait to see the leaves wither on the oak around which he has cut the fatal notch. He knows that the work is done."

A correspondent of an English paper proposes to settle the Irish question by a plan similar to that of the "Marriage Fund Association." He wishes the Government to offer a bounty to every person of Irish descent who marries one of English or Scotch ancestry, and pay a premium of £10 for every child born of such marriages.

There is to be an Intercolonial Maritime Exhibition at Havre in June next. The Exhibition embraces forty-three classes figuring in the programme in the five following groups: Navigation, Goods, Fishing, Agriculture, and Complemental classes. Sailing, rowing, and steam regattas are also proposed.

The Lynchburg *Virginian* dislikes the Peabody educational scheme, and says:—"Better let our children go uneducated, and live in the woods, communing there with nature and with nature's God, than to accept of instruction in Schools where New England politics, philosophy and religion are to substitute in any measure the traditions of our good old State.

A writer in the Portland Press states the following very interesting facts:—From Chicago the distance to San Francisco by the Pacific Railway is 2,338 miles, which makes the line across the Continent from Halifax to San Francisco 3979 miles.

During the discussion in the House of Commons the other day, Mr. Rose said he had reason to believe that Mr. Sherman's bill, now before the United States Congress, assimilating the American coin to the French, would be adopted.

Mr. Dickens is to conclude his readings in the United States with a series of five in New York, beginning on the 13th, and ending on the 29th of April. Two days later he is to sail for England.

Mr. Peabody, the American banker, had a pleasant interview with his Holiness the Pope recently, and on his return to his hotel sent back a cheque for 1,000 francs, in aid of the funds of San Spirito Hospital.

A brute has been executed in Virginia for having murdered three persons in a family of four. He confessed the murder, was devoutly thankful that Providence had prevented him from perpetrating the fourth, —was profuse in his declarations of forgiveness for all his enemies, and hoped that neither his family nor his countrymen would suffer from the disgrace he had inflicted on them. He seems to have made as pious and edifying an end as butchers and brutes of his class usually do. These exhibitions which are becoming so frequent, are simply disgusting. The whole system of public executions ought to be reformed. From the time a murderer is sentenced to death, he ought to be absolutely unseen and unknown to the outside world.

MR. GEO. PEABODY AT ROME.—A letter from Rome in the *London News* says that Mr. George Peabody and Hon. Robert C. Winthrop were recently presented to the Pope. His Holiness was fully aware of the character of his visitors, whom he requested to be seated in his presence, an unusual mark of distinction. A delicate token of Pio Nono's appreciation of Mr. Peabody's universal benevolence was afforded by the Latin quotations from Holy Writ, showing the blessed quality of charity, which he wrote with his own hand under some photographic likenesses of himself, which he presented to the party as souvenirs of the visit.

We find the following paragraph in the *Quebec Gazette* of March 20th, in reference to the Dominion 'standing army' that is to be:—"There is stated to be a project in contemplation to establish a standing military force throughout the Dominion, according to the population in each Province, as follows:—Ontario, 2 regiments, 4 battalions, 500 men each, 2,000; Quebec, 1 regiment, 2 battalions, French, 1,000; Quebec, 1 regiment, 2 battalions, English, 600; Nova Scotia, 1 regiment, 2 battalions, 600; New Brunswick, 1 battalion, 400.—Total 4,600.

ROBBERY AND MURDER ON THE GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.—On Tuesday we published a short account of a robbery and murderous assault committed on the person of a respectable and inoffensive man, a drover named Sykes, on the Grand Trunk Railway, near Prescott. The unfortunate man has since died from the effects of the injuries he received by being thrown from the car; but he survived long enough to give the particulars of the diabolical outrage, and the name of one of the parties—the man who demanded his money.

The Montreal Daily News says that private and reliable information has been received of a Fenian movement in the neighbourhood of Malone. Numbers of men, supposed to belong to the organization, and all of whom possess arms of some kind, have been gathering at that point for some days. It is there a matter of common belief that their presence is the result of a plan which mal-contents on this side of the line are not so ignorant as good loyalty would require them to be.

An extraordinary tragedy has lately been enacted at Todmorden, England—The Rev. Mr. Plows, Mrs. Plows and several of their servants were attacked during the night of 2nd ult., by a suitor of one of the maid servants, who had been discharged on account of his visits. He was armed with a pistol and an axe, killed one of the servants on the spot, and inflicted such dangerous wounds upon Mr. and Mrs. Plows that they are not expected to recover.

The Maryland Legislature has passed a law to the effect that no liquor shall be sold in the State on Sunday, except when prescribed by a physician. It is fearful to think of the amount of sickness that will hereafter prevail in Maryland on Sundays.

Since King George arrived at Athens, on the 30th of October, 1863, the Government of Greece has been conducted by sixteen different Cabinets, including that which held office when His Majesty arrived.