It was nine o'clock when Captain Lefever, having given these directions, returned to the house with a mind by no means devoid of interest in the question what sort of dinner his servant had got ready for him. It was answered satisfactorily; part of a cold fowl, a slice or two of ham, a good hunch of bread, the whole washed down by cold brandy and water, formed no despicable meal. It is true that, when nothing remained but a greasy newspaper and an empty flask, he felt quite equal to beginning again; however, as there were no means of doing this, he took out his note-book, and wrote up his report to that time, and then rolling himself up in his cloak, he lay down on the floor.

The laughing and talking gradually died off, as the weary soldiers settled themselves down one after another for the night, and by a little after ten, all was as still as though the owl and the bat had been the only tenants of the grange. The sentry was to be relieved at eleven, and at five minutes to that hour Captain Lefever, not daring to trust anything to the raw boy to whom the exigencies of the case had obliged him to give command of the guard, went to the bridge-head, and called him out. He came, his eyes full of sleep to an extent which justified his officer's anxiety.

'Sergeant Williams,' said the captain, 'it is important that the sentry who is on for the next two hours should be particularly on the alert; if any attack is made upon us, it will be between twelve and one. Which is your smartest man?'

'John Smith, sir.'

'What! that fellow who has been twice reported to me already for drunkenness and impertinence?'

'Yes, sir; he is an owdacious varmint, but as sharp as a needle. He writes beautiful, and his hands have never done any work. I think he must have been a pickpocket, or something genteel of that sort.'

'Humph!' said the captain not oversatisfied. 'Well, relieve the other sentry; it is eleven o'clock. I will speak to this John Smith myself.'

The sergeant entered the guard-room; and Captain Lefever, remaining outside in the dark, was made sensible of the incomplete discipline of his recruits in a startling manner, for the disturbance and confusion incident to the awakening of Private John Smith, and the denunciations of that insubordinate young man on being disturbed in his slumbers, were exceedingly disgusting to the disciplinarian, who was not supposed to be within hearing.

'Never mind,' said Smith, by way of climax, to some comrade who bantered him on his unwillingness to rouse out; 'it's a warm night, and I'll finish my knap on the bridge.' And shouldering his musket, he stepped out after the sergeant.

When he was left alone on his post, Captain Lefever stepped up to him, made him halt and port his arms, and said: 'I heard your remark just now, Smith, but as it was of course made in jest, and not intended to reach my ears, I shall take no notice of it further than to inform you that the punishment of a sentry found sleeping on his post is Death, and that under the peculiar circumstances in which we are placed, I should feel no hesitation in taking the law into my own hands, and shooting the culprit on the spot. But I am sure it is unnecessary for me to say this. All our lives are in your hands. If these rebels, who swarm around us, could once steal past you, they might cut all our throats in our sleep. This is the most important watch of the four, as an attack is most likely to be made shortly after midnight; and I have selected you for it as being evidently a man of sharper faculties and better grade than your comrades. You have only to keep your wits about you for two hours, and then you will be relieved. Shoulder arms.'

Captain Lefever returned to the house, and wrapping himself once more in his cloak, lay down and tried to snatch an hour of that repose of which he stood in considerable need, for, indeed, his fatigues that day had been greater than those of any of the party under his command, except, perhaps, Sergeant Stock. But he could not rest; the responsibility of his position, the fact of all those lives being under his care, the rawness of his recruits, which might cause them to become panic-struck and helpless in the alarm of a night-attack, kept him feverish and uneasy. Suppose the sentry should be overpowered by sleep! Suppose——

He could stand it no longer, so he rose and once more stepped out in the night, and advanced towards the spot on which his anxieties were centered. There was no moon, but the stars were very brilliant, and by their light he could plainly distinguish several dark forms moving about on the other side of the moat. What could the sentry have been about, that he had not made them out and given the alarm? He stepped upon the bridge, but no one cahllenged him, and a figure which was just visible stealing towards him from the other side, fled into the night at his approach. Where was the sentry? He soon found him. Smith leaning his musket against the wall, had settled himself comfortably down at full length upon the parapet; and there he lay, sound asleep. Suspecting treachery, carried away by passion, without giving himself a moment's time for reflection, Captain Lefever drew a pistol from his girdle, placed the muzzle at the sleeping man's head, and pressed the trigger. A loud report awoke the echoes of the night, a bright flash dissipated for a moment its darkness, and the body of the soldier rolled over, and fell heavily into the moat beneath—a corpse.

'Sergeant Williams!' said Captain Lefever, as the guard, alarmed by the shot, came tumbling out, 'place another sentry on the bridge. This man went to sleep and I have shot him; and keep a sharper look-out yourself. Another five minutes, and the rebels would have been in the place.' And he strode sternly back to the house.

Very little inclination to drowsiness had the next sentry, and, indeed, Sergeant Williams and the remainder of his astonished guard showed a remarkable vigilance during the rest of the night; but the rebels made no further attempt to enter their position, and when the day dawned, there was not a figure to be seen on the plain surrounding the grange. Captain Lefever, crushed with fatigue, and confident that there would be no further need of his surveillance, slept soundly, in spite of the stern deed he had committed, until he was aroused by the drums beating the *reveille*.

The report of the pistol in the dead of the night had aroused Sergeant Stock, who on learning what had happened, quietly awoke two or three men, and going down with them to the moat, drew the body out of the sludge where it had fallen, and buried it as well as they were able in a dry place; and the impression made upon the young soldiers was strong when, on assembling in the early morning, they found a grave where they had left a comrade.

Captain Lefever paraded his men previous to marching out of the grange, and observing a sullen look upon their faces which he had never seen before. One man carried two muskets, another a second knapsack; but he made no remark upon this, only set his lips firmly together, and spoke in a harsher tone than was his wont; only his heart sank within him. They were unmolested during their march to W—— and there was nothing to distract his thoughts, which were gloomy and remorseful. It was a fearful thing to have sent an erring fellow-creature unwarned without a moment for repentance, without time to utter a single cry for pardon, in his sleep, with all his sins upon his head, into the presence of his Judge. The words, "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy," rang in Captain Lefever's ears throughout that morning, and he had a presentiment that he had drawn down evil upon his head; and that this presentiment was just. Though his brother-officers—some of whom looked grave at first—were unaltered in their manner towards him, and though the court-martial which he demanded entirely exonerated him from blame, the evil came; for in the course of that court-martial the fact was brought to light, that the wretched man whom he had so ruthlessly put to death, and who had enlisted under the name of John Smith, was none other than William Trevor, the erring brother of his Laura!

How the dreadful tidings were conveyed to the parents and sister, whether Laura Trevor recovered from the shock, and married another man, or died young, or lived single an unwedded widow, I know not. I doubt if Captain Lefever ever knew; for on learning the truth, he was struck down by a brain fever, on his recovery from which a permanent melancholy settled on him. He sold out, and attended only by his servant, who was much attached to him, and whose discharge he purchased, wandered purposeless through the country, till at last he settled down in what was then a lonely cottage on a barren cliff, his career cut short, his hopes of happiness blighted. Indeed, I believe that it was a morbid dread lest his line of life should even by the vaguest report touch that of hers from whom he was so fatally, so eternally severed, which led him to banish himself from mankind so utterly as he did; for his servant, old John Dobbs, tells me that during the many years that they lived at Shingleton, a newspaper was never allowed to come into the house, nor did his master ever receive a letter.

My poor old friend has gone at last, and it is a satisfaction to me to know that my friendship soothed the close of the long life of penance which he imposed upon himself in expiation of a Moment's Impulse.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

[From the London Morning Star.]

THE BRITISH AEMRICAN MONARCHY.

A new plan has been proposed for the future management of Canada. A fervid loyalist and passionate devotee of British rule has issued an appeal, ostensibly to the Canadian representatives, but really to England, demanding forthwith a British Crown Prince as a ruler for the North American Colonies. Although in ordinary cases the value of a proposal depends upon its intrinsic properties, and by no means on the peculiarities of the individual who puts it forward, yet there is something so remarkable in the source from which this suggestion comes that we feel inclined, before noticing the measure, to invite attention to the man. The gentleman who propounds this scheme is Mr. Thomas Darcy McGee, a member of the Canadian Parliament, and recently holding a place in the Government. Mr. McGee was not always so ardent an admirer of British rule—at least if he admired it in secret, he did not profess his admiration aloud. Among the Irish rebels of 1848 there were many perhaps more bold and many less able, but there was none more out-spoken and vehement than Mr. McGee. He had then but recently returned from a sojourn in America, where indeed the fire of republican devotion had been tempered by some little "differences" with public opinion; but he threw himself into the Young Ireland movement with an ardour which rivalled that of Thomas Francis Meagher, and threatened to approach the fervour of John Mitchell. He was a fluent, eloquent, and bold speaker; and he denounced England, her government, and her despotism, with all the passion of the rebel and the republican combined. He wrote poems, too, thrilling with indignation against the Saxon, exhorting all Celtic creatures to rise in their might and sweep the invader anywhere out of Ireland. Trying times, however, came; prosecutions took place, warrants were issued, police were on the look-out for Irish Confederates. Mr McGee was a bold insurgent, and had, if we remember rightly, a splendid plan of a rebellion, conceived by himself, which he left Dublin to put in practice. Circumstances, doubtless, over which he had no control, must have interposed, for his friends next received tidings of Mr. McGee by letters in his own handwriting dated from New York. Thence, however, he continued to send across the ocean his still fervent denunciations of British rule, in prose and in poetry. Oddly enough, one of his poems, dated from New York or Boston, was a passionate invective against all Irishmen so base as to fly instead of remaining at home to fight the Saxon on their own elastic sod. Impartial biographers of Mr. McGee will have to narrate that he did not receive the unmingled admiration, or perhaps even the unqualified confidence of all his countrymen at home or abroad. The good fortune which had conducted the Irish refugee through so many dangers could hardly escape from the cavil of the envious. He had his critics, his assailants, his unfriendly biographers—no doubt his calumniators. This is, indeed, but the lot of all public men, particularly when they engage in rebellions—still more when they escape at the right moment. But Mr. McGee did not protract very long his residence under the Stars and Stripes. He went to Canada, where his eloquence and talents found ready advancement. He became a member of the House of Representatives, and mounted, as we have said, to an administrative seat. He grew a devoted admirer of that British rule about which he was wont to utter such bitter epigram and glowing invective. We cordially welcome his change of opinion. There is surely more joy over one converted rebel than over any number of life-long and consistent loyalists.

Mr. McGee now is seized with an ambition to rival the Emperor Napoleon and set up for King-maker on the North American continent. He wants a British Crown Prince to come over and be King, or Emperor, or Grand Duke of Canada. Mr. McGee has so newly become an admirer of Royalty that he may be excused if he does not quite understand its language. We really cannot spare Mr. McGee a Crown Prince. A monarchy only boasts of one Crown Prince, and we, selfishly perhaps, desire to retain our Prince of Wales here at home to govern ourselves. Besides, the prospect Mr. McGee holds out is not inviting. He has discovered that the Federal Government is immediately about to invade Canada. He describes the whole plan of operations. Mr. Lincoln, it seems, having nothing else just now to engage his attention, is about to employ a few spare hundred thousand men for the conquest of Canada. Mr. McGee detects the military and strategic evidences of the plot with that keen eye which in 1848 guided him in tracing out a plan for the forcible enfranchisement of Ireland, and which was to begin rather strangely, we think we remember hearing, by an invasion of Scotland, and the capture of Dumbarton Castle. But Mr McGee fears that the Canadian people may not be strong enough to resist the invader. He questions, moreover, whether England at present would, under such circumstances, "stand by" Canada. He doubts whether she would go to the expense of an army and navy for the purpose. Therefore he shrewdly suggests that if the British Crown Prince could only be got over somehow England would then never desert him in his hour of need, but would at any expense expel the hated invader. But is this fair towards the Crown Prince? For one who dislikes the coarse scenes of warlike strife so much as Mr. McGee does, it seems rather unkind to invite over to Canada one of our Princes for the mere purpose of making him a sort of a buffer to bear the shock of American invasion. The Emperor Napoleon has not behaved so ungenerously in Mexico. He did all the fighting first, and having established tolerable tranquility, he then gave away the crown. We trust Mr. McGee will make up his mind to behave with equal spirit. We have not ourselves much fear of the American invasion which Mr. McGee anticipates, and we have far more confidence in the resisting power of the Canadians themselves than the eloquent refugee appears to possess. Moreover, while England holds a colony she will certainly not fail to do that which she deems her duty by it. But in any case we should recommend a postponement of the offer of the crown until the imminent danger is over. In the event of an invasion of Canada taking place, it is not impossible that Mr. McGee may embrace the opportunity of visiting this country, and he could then in person ascertain whether his offer is likely to meet with a favourable reception. But for the present, flattering as is the offer, and peculiarly gratifying as is the loyalty of the gentleman from whom it comes, we doubt whether it will receive serious consideration in England.

WAR BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ENGLAND.—A feeling of uneasiness, such as has not previously existed, begins to pervade many in England and in the United States. The building of vessels of war for the Confederate States in the the English ship yards has gone to such lengths that on both sides of the Atlantic it is felt that the United States cannot much longer submit to so great an injury without loss of prestige and the annihilation of its commerce. International law makes a wide distinction between the sale of arms and the building or fitting out of vessels of war, and this the Times, which now helps to swell the alarm, admits. The value of United States shipping already destroyed "or bonded" is said to be nearly twelve million dollars, and this is but a fraction of the loss inflicted on the United State commerce. But if the new vessels, which the Lairds and others have openly built, once get out, they would soon drive the United States merchant vessels from every sea. One of these new war ships is so large and strong and powerful that it is said she could cut the famous "Warrior" in two, and yet she is very fast. It was reported that the Florida was off the coast for the purpose of towing one of these formidable vessels, now nearly ready for sea, to the appointed place of rendezvous, where she is to find her armament, coals, &c. The United States papers, even such moderate papers as the Boston Post, cry out that every man fit to do ship work should now be employed to build and fit out vessels strong enough and swift enough and numerous enough not only to catch and destroy these Confederate vessels, but to defy, and, if necessary, to chastise the enemies who now on every side take advantage of their difficulties. This feeling is much intensified by the report that the Confederate Alabama had been received in the Imperial dockyard at Cherburg for repairs, and that the Atlanta had been received at Brest. These the English papers say are acts of war against the United States on the part of France; but the Americans seem to think them no worse than the building of the new steam rams and iron plated turreted vessels on the Mersey and the Clyde. *St. John Freeman.*

TRAGIC FATE OF TWO POLISH PRIESTS.—All the attempts of the Russian Government to discover the leaders of the Polish revolt having hitherto been in vain, the Russian agents abroad were directed to leave no means untried to discover the names of those persons to whom diplomatic reports from abroad are addressed in Poland. Some time since a Russian spy succeeded in getting possession of a document which Prince Czartoryski had forwarded from London to Warsaw, and on learning the name of the addressed, who was a Catholic priest in a village near Warsaw. The priest, Dodicki by name, was arrested and brought for examination into the castle at Warsaw. A search made through his house produced nothing compromising, and the priest strenuously denied having taken any direct or indirect part in the insurrection. The Russian "Committee of Public Safety" did not know how to dispose of their captive, for his personality did not seem adapted for a diplomatic agent, and yet the details of the spy were so exact and precise that the man must surely be more than he seemed to be. Dodicki was able, however, to clear himself from all suspicion, and was on the point of obtaining his release when the agent reported that great consternation reigned among the London committee on account of the seizure of that priest, as he was the confidant of the National Government and possessed important documents. It was now endeavoured, as threats availed naught, to extract a confession by means of enticing promises. A prebendal stall, with a rich benefice, was held out as a reward. This modified the stern resolution of the hitherto inflexible man. He swore most solemnly on the crucifix to make revelations, yet he stipulated that a confessor should be sent to him previously who should grant him absolution and release him from the oath he had sworn to the National Government. A priest was soon found. Dodicki remained alone with the holy father in his cell, and the committee anxiously awaited the moment when the confessor would leave the captive. As, nevertheless, the interview lasted too long, an entry was made into the cell, and a horrifying spectacle presented itself to view. Dodicki lay a corpse upon the ground, and the priest, who was to have granted absolution, lay near him in the agonies of death. All restoratives were in vain, as the confessor had taken a large dose of prussic acid. This priest, whose name was Cserwinski, always passed for a faithful dependent of the Russians, and had at an early period given proofs of his attachment to the Czar. The corpses were interred in the castle itself. Dodicki is said to have played an important part; he looked very simple, and none would have credited him with those talents which fitted him to act as a Chief Commissioner of the National Government.

IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.

We have later news from Mexico by the arrival of the Roanoke from Havana at New York on Monday last. Another campaign was in preparation, and it was said that Miramon was to command a division. The Peruvian Minister had been ordered by Gen Forey to leave the country, for having written a letter to President Juarez.

Juarez is said to have command of a force of only 20,000 men, which Forey can cut up when he chooses. The committee to Prince Maximilian, the proposed emperor, has been chosen, and consists of J. M. Gutirrez, Estrada, President; Padre Miranda, Jose Hidalgo, Antonio S. Peredo, Antonia Escandon, Jose Landa, Ignacio Aqual r, Josquin Valazquez de Leon, General Adrion Woll, and Dr. Angel J. Iglesias, Secretary. Estrada, Miranda, Aquillar, and Velaquez de Leon, are ex-ministers, and nearly all the members of the committee are men of great wealth. The report of the United States expedition to Brownsville, Texas, has reached Havana, whence the news from Mexico comes, and apprehension of an encounter with the French is entertained. The re-acquisition of California, New Mexico and Texas by the Franco-Mexicans is openly canvassed; and, at all events, it is insisted that France will not lose her hold on her new acquisition, but will fortify it by recognizing the Confederacy.

The Richmond Despatch of the 9th inst., thus remarks, respecting the French policy in Mexico:

France has taken possession of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, placing a force at the town of Minatitlan which is situated near the mouth of the River Ceatzacolcos, which enters the Gulf near the South-eastern boundary of the Mexican State of Vera Cruz. This river is on the line of the Tehuantepec route from the Gulf to the Pacific, a route which has many advantages and has attracted much attention in the politico-commercial world. So Louis Napoleon is in time with his measures to control it, and do what can be done with it. Some years ago a company of United States speculators obtained from the beggarly Government of Mexico some kind of grant, for a trifling consideration, for right of way by this isthmus. Louis Napoleon will brush them away like cobwebs. He is determined not to have impediments in the way of plans touching Mexico, at least from the Yankees.

In further pursuance of his policy of occupying the important positions on the Gulf, he is about to throw a proper force into Tampico, the second largest seaport in Mexico. Having already occupied Vera Cruz and Matamoras, he leaves no commercial or military point of importance on the Gulf unoccupied, and we shall soon hear that those of the Pacific—Mazatlan, Acapulco, San Blas, &c.—have not been overlooked. Maximilian will find his house pretty well in order by the time he arrives; but it is not improbable that he will find some troubles already matured to his hand in his relations with the Yankee Government. But the Emperor of France will settle them for him, and in that way the more effectually perpetuate his office of friend and protector of the Mexican Empire, deriving in turn such consideration, political and commercial, as will amply compensate him.

Indeed, the work of France in Mexico is going on as well as we could desire, and, we may well infer, as much to the discomfort of Lincoln and his Yankees as to our satisfaction. We shall probably soon hear some grumbling at Washington—some ominous mutterings of a storm that is to come—but it may not be allowed to break out uncontrolled. The Yankee Government may complain and threaten; but they have frequently declared through their organs that they cannot afford to have open rupture and war with any other power until they whip us. After that they will resent insult and punish encroachments.—They will bottle their resentment for the present, But it is not clear that they will be able, with all their cunning, to keep out of trouble, so beset are they on all sides with delicate and complicated foreign relations. The South means to be free, whether the Yankees quarrel with other powers or not; but it would certainly not be to our regret that they should be forced into a war with some one else while we are fighting them.

DISASTER ON LAKE SUPERIOR!

LOSS OF THE "SUNBEAM" AND ALL ON BOARD EXCEPT ONE—TERRIBLE SUFFERINGS OF THE RESCUED MAN.

The steamer *City of Cleaveland* brings the intelligence of another of those disasters which chill the public with their deep horrors—the loss of a lake steamer, and all except one of the crew and all of the passengers.

The steamer *Sunbeam*, owned in Chicago, and running on Lake Superior in connection with the steamer *Planet*, left Ontonagon just before the fearful gale of August 28th. The number of passengers is not known here, but among them, as has been ascertained, was the Hon. Abner Sherman and son, and Hon. Augustus Coburn, of Ontonagon; Rev. Mr. Bird and Mrs. Shepard, of Hancock. The only survivor, Mr. Charles Frazer, wheelsman of the ill-fated steamer, gives the only account that has yet been received, and which is such as to lead to the belief that all others on board have perished.

He states that the boat became unmanageable soon after the storm commenced; that the fury of the gale was such as to hold it down and literally drive it under water. When all efforts to manage the boat sufficiently to gain a port of safety proved futile, and their only hope rested in the small boats, the captain, crew, and passengers excepting himself, took to them and left, he proceeded to lash himself to the top of the pilot-house, and while engaged in that undertaking was chilled by the cry of agony that greeted him from the waters. He looked in the direction from which it came, and discovered but one boat battling with the waves. The others had swamped and launched their living freight into a watery grave, and almost immediately the last boat was seen to disappear from view, not again to rise with its ill fated crew.

He succeeded in lashing himself to the pilot house, and quietly resigned his fate to chance. The boat now went down, disengaging the pilot house in its struggles, which floated off with the last survivor of those who went hopefully on their journey but a short time before, little imagining that their last look at friends and home was taken when they parted, to trust their lives to the deep in that unfortunate steamer.

While Mr. Frazer was being tossed about by the rolling seas, he discovered a demijon that danced about him as if in mockery of his peril. His whole desire was to gain possession of that article. Nearly insensible from cold and fatigue, he finally succeeded in seizing it, and was overjoyed to find it contained port wine. Upon the contents of this demijon, so providentially placed at his disposal, he sustained life until cast upon the shore.

For over thirty hours he was floating upon this pilot house, and, during the night-time, his sufferings were intense. Seas continually breaking over him, chilled and benumbed, without any nourishment except that furnished by the wine, no knowledge of his position relative to land, and the uncertainty of being discovered by passing vessels, as everything that could, had undoubtedly made for port, where they could remain until this fearful storm had subsided. This accumulation of horror overcame him, and he finally succumbed to fatigue and lost consciousness. He next awoke upon land, alone, and too weak to assist himself. But the fortune which had safely guided his unwieldy craft to land did not desert him in his extremity, but led to his assistance. The captain of a coasting vessel, Mr. Hodgson, with Mr. Rice, who were coasting along the shore, discovered him, but not till he had again relapsed into insensibility. They took him aboard their boat and carried him to Houghton.

Mr Frazer states as his opinion that the boat became unmanageable, because the "checks," or "bustles," built upon the sides of the hull, to counteract an inclination to be crank, leaked so badly from the straining and beating of the heavy seas, as to fill and leave the vessel "waterlogged."

A yawl-boat and car belonging to the *Sunbeam* were picked up by the *City of Cleaveland*, on her way down. This fact proves that the occupants of one boat, at least, are probably lost.

It is to be hoped some may prove to have been saved by passing vessels.—*Tor. Globe.*

UNITED STATES.

The N Y. *Journal of Commerce* says—"We have the very highest authority for saying that it is the design and intention of the Government to shape its action so as to force all existing banks in the United States to wind up their affairs and withdraw from the field, in favor of institutions to be established under Mr. Chase's system, and controlled at Washington."

The first vessel built on this Continent, says the Historical Magazine, was the *Virgi ia*, of Sagadoc, which made her first voyage in 1608, from the mouth of the Kennebec to Europe.

Lord Lyons and several other of the Foreign Ambassadors at Washington, have lately been in Toronto, Hamilton, and other Upper Canadian cities. They have been on a tour to the Westward.

Galignani's Messenger states, on the authority of an eminent physician, that ice, administered in small particles, is an infallible specific for that fatal and distressing disease, diptheria. It cites a number of instances of its success when other remedies utterly failed.

It is believed there are now fully two million bales of cotton belonging to the rebels in the Mississippi valley, which it is thought our Government will soon permit to come to market, under such regulations as Generals Grant and Banks may prescribe.

Three large ships are to be commenced forthwith at the Charleston navy yard, one of them of such gigantic dimensions as to require an enlargement of one of the ship houses to accommodate it. The whole number of men employed now is about 3300, and this number will soon be increased. An increase of wages in some of the gangs will take effect, to be reckoned from the first of August.

The Cape Ann *Advertiser* of the 12th instant says:—"The Bay Mackerel Fishery bids fair to be more successful this season than it has for many years. Many of the fleet, having obtained good fares, have landed their mackerel at some port in that vicinity, to be freighted home, and have fitted out for another trip, thereby saving much time which would be consumed in coming home and returning. The mackerel meet with a ready sale at remunerative prices, and no doubt the present mackerel season will be the most prosperous that Gloucester has seen for some years. No. 1 are quoted at $14; 2's at $9.25; 3's at $6.50."

COLONIAL.

THE INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY.

The following is the latest development, concerning the action of Messrs. Tilley and Tupper, in the matter of the proposed survey. We clip from the Quebec *Mercury*:—

"It is understood that Messrs. Tupper and Tilley, the representatives, respectfully, of the government of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, propose to abandon so much of the plans pertaining to the Intercolonial Railway survey as relates to the employment of a second engineer. They concur in the appointment of Mr. Sanford Fleming, who will therefore be entrusted with the entire responsibility of the survey on the part of the provinces; his only associate being the engineer appointed by the Imperial authorities. The survey will be proceeded with immediately, and the arrangements contemplated by Mr. Fleming are such as will ensure its completion within a comparatively brief period." The object of the survey, it is stated, is to find an interior route from Riviere du Loup, *which Major Robinson considered impracticable.*

The Fredericton *Head Quarters* truly says that the information afforded is "vague and unsatisfactory." From what we can gather ourselves, from Canadian private sources, that under present circumstances it is next to impossible to look for any possible good to come from the recent delegation. It is true there are a large class in Canada anxious for the construction of the road; but from the critical position of the Government it is almost powerless. The *Head Quarters* goes on to say:—

"The Canadian Government have virtually rejected the offer and terms of the Duke of Newcastle, and the whole affair, as we understand it, as between the Provinces and the British Government, is broken off. We should think it is not likely that the Imperial Government will appoint an Engineer, when they must know that the Canadian Government have no serious intention to proceed with the scheme; that, in fact, they have intimated their intention to abandon it. The announcement made by the *Mercury* might be understood to mean that the representatives of the Lower Provinces, in abandoning the idea of appointing an Engineer have refused to co-operate with Canada. That would be the right course of action for them. Canada and the Lower Provinces do not stand on the same par in this matter. Canada seems to be trifling, and proposes this survey scheme in order to back out of an awkward situation with a good grace, with a show of willingness to do something; while the Lower Provinces have solemnly pledged their resources to the work."

Two new screw steamers of 700 tons burthen are about to be placed on the route between Quebec, Gaspe and the ports in the Lower Provinces, for frieght and passengers. One of them is expected at Quebec in a few days, and will be at once put on, running every alternate week while the navigation is open, with the Lady Head. During the winter the two steamers will run between Portland at St. John, N. B.; and next season between Quebec and the lower ports, on the route now taken by the Lady Head.

Last week, Sheriff Kaulback, Lunenburg county, arrested a gang of gypsies on the road between Windsor and the town of Lunenburg, on suspicion that the party who swindled Mr. Tobin, of P. E. Island, out of a large sum of money was among them, but none of them answering the description of the guilty vagabond, they were soon after set at liberty.—*Chron.*

The quantity of shipping registered in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, and P. E. Island, in 1862, was 5,945 vessels, measuring 552,498 tons.

A "reconstruction" of the Canadian Ministry, although the members are hardly warm in their seats, is talked of.

NOVA SCOTIA.—The Marquis of Normandy, Governor of this Province, left Halifax in the last English Mail Steamer for England; and Major General Doyle, Commander of H. M. Forces for the lower Provinces, was sworn in Administrator of the Government in his Lordship's absence. It is not expected that the noble Marquis will return to the Province.

The new Canadian Militia Bill provides for the establishment of military schools the instruction of Militia officers, at an estimated cost of $100,000 a year.

THE WAR IN THE STATES.

ROSECRANS BADLY BEATEN!

A despatch from Louisville, dated Sept. 21 12 45 a. m., says—Our army under General Rosecrans has been badly beaten and compelled to retreat to Chattanooga by Bragg, with heavy reinforcements from Lee, Beaureguard, and Joe Johnston. The military occupation of the telegraph lines will prevent the transmission of particulars to-night.

THE EVACUATION OF RICHMOND.

Special despatches from Washington state that the reported evacuation of Richmond can be accounted for by the rebels withdrawing their stores from the line of the Tennessee Railroad, and scattering them south through North Carolina towards Atlanta, Ga. This is caused by the capture of East Tennessee by Gen. Burnside.

Advices from the Army of the Potomac state that the rebels appear in increased force along the line of the Rapidan, as though determined to resist its crossing by our troops, but showing no disposition to cross themselves. A small number of prisoners have been brought in, including a rebel Captain. They report that Lee is in command. It is not believed a battle is imminent.

THE REPULSE AT SABINE PASS.

NEW YORK, Sept. 19—The *World's* New Orleans letter of the 11th inst. contains important intelligence. It states: Last week from 10,000 to 15,000 men were conveyed by the Opelousas road from Algiers to Brashear City and to Bayou Boeuf, the whole force under the command of General Washburne. Almost simultaneously Herron's men moved up the Mississippi toward Red River.

Gen. Franklin's division in the meanwhile embarked on transports here and at the camps above, near Carrolton, and moved down the river toward the Gulf. It was therefore a combined movement by three distinct columns and by three routes. The three routes this correspondent suggests were: Franklin's corps going by transports by way of the Gulf, would advance to Sabine Pass, the boundary line in the Gulf between this State and Texas; Herron's men going by way of Red River to Simmsport, would march from thence to Opeloussa or to New Iberia; while Washburne's column crossed Berwick Bay and made the old movement via Pattersonville and Franklin along the Teche.

When Franklin's men went down the river and Washburne's corps moved by the railroad to Brashear and Bayou Boeuf a week ago to-day, the two Federal gun-boats Clifton and Sachem moved down Berwick Bay to the Gulf. Franklin's transports were accompanied by three gunboats, the Arizona, the Quaker City and the St. Charles, (I think.)

Herron's column was taken by steam-boats to the mouth of the Red river to go to Simmsport.

Until to-day, beyond rumors, we have heard nothing definite from the movement. This evening it was well known in the city that a number of vessels chartered as transports for the movement had been discharged or released from the engagement.

LATER.

From various sources to-night we gain the following authentic information about the movement.

The Clifton, at Brashear, took on board two companies of the 75th New York Regiment, and when she and the Sachem moved down the bay, the rebel Col. Mapes' force at Camp Bisland, watching the movement, immediately moved to Vermillion Bay to repel the entrance of the Federal force at that point. In the event of their not entering that bay, it is known to have been Mapes' intention to push on to Sabine Pass. Day before yesterday the gunboats arrived at the Pass, the Clifton taking the lead, and the Sachem following. When they got in they were exposed to a raking fire from both sides of the bay. It is not known that Mapes had arrived, but Sabine Pass was well fortified, and the armament consisted of the heaviest siege guns.

Captain Crocker of the Clifton fired a broadside, and in turning to fire the other broadside his boat grounded and stuck fast on the flat. He was exposed to a very heavy fire. Some of the soldiers or sailors on board ran up a white flag without Crocker's orders. In view of his hopeless condition, Capt. Crocker turned one of his largest guns and fired through the machinery, completely disabling the gunboat. He then spiked his guns.

In the meanwhile two rebel gunboats came down and captured the Sachem. Franklin's gunboats and transports entered the pass just in time to see the last of the brief action. One or two soldiers escaped from the Clifton and swam toward Franklin's transports, and were taken on board. They say there was not a man in the after part of the Clifton who was not killed or wounded by the rebel fire. Those remaining on board were, of course, taken prisoners. Capt. Johnson and his men on the Sachem were also taken prisoners. The Clifton is believed to be a wreck, and useless to the rebels.

This disaster, the low stage of water, and the quite unexpected formidable resistance, no doubt induced Gen. Franklin to run back again and to abandon that part of the expedition.

The news first reached us by a gunboat arriving from Sabine Pass at Brashear City and thence by telegraph to this city.

Herron's men have not been heard from today. Up to this evening not a regiment had crossed the Bay from Brashear.

The arrival of the transports here to-day should give us full details of the Sabine Pass affair in time for the Columbia's mail to-morrow. It is believed that the movement will now begin *de novo*, Gen. Franklin's corps going to Brashear, and the array then moving across the Bay to follow the old track along the Teche.

DESPERATE FIGHT AT CRAWFORD SPRINGS.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND, Crawford Springs, Ga., Sept. 19—A desperate engagement commenced this morning at 11 o'clock. The rebels made a heavy attack on the corps of Gen. Thomas, forming the left wing of our army, and at the same time they attacked the right wing, which was thought to be a feint. Gen. McCook's and Gen. Crittenden's troops were thrown into the engagement as convenience offered, the main portions of their forces being on the march at the time.

The fighting on the left was of a very desperate character. The enemy were repulsed, but on being reinforced regained their position, from which they were subsequently driven after a severe engagement of an hour and a half. Gen. Thomas' forces then charged the rebels for nearly a mile and a half, punishing them badly.

About 2 o'clock in the afternoon the rebels made a fierce dash on our centre, composed of the divisions of Gen. Van Cleve and Reynolds. Gen. Van Cleve's forces were struck on the right flank, and being vigorously pushed by the rebels fell back until Gen. Carter's line was broken and the troops became much scattered. Gen. Thomas on the left and Gen. Davis on the right then pushed forward their forces vigorously toward the Gap, and after a hard fight recovered the ground which had been lost.

The casualties in wounded are heavy, but exceedingly light in killed, for so heavy a musketry engagement. The fight on the left was one continuous roll of musketry for an hour or more.

The battle is not yet over, and will probably be renewed to-morrow.

Rebel prisoners taken represent that the corps of Generals Hill, Polk, Johnson, and Longstreet were in the engagement.

Our men are in the best of spirits and eager to begin again.

GEN. NEGLEY'S FIGHT AT BIRD'S GAP.

LOUISVILLE, Ky, Sept. 18.—Rumors have been prevalent here for the last three days of disasters to Gen. Rosecrans' army, all of which have been discredited by the military authorities. They probably arise from the fact that on Sunday last a rebel force, 16,000 strong, attacked Gen. Negley's brigade, 5300 strong at Bird's Gap, and drove them back three and a half miles. Gen. Negley recovered the ground next morning, with a loss of thirty-five killed, wounded and missing. Our forces buried thirty-six rebels found on the ground. The number of their killed and wounded which had been removed is unknown, but it is supposed to be considerable.

FROM CHARLESTON.

NEW YORK, Sept 19.—The steamer McClellan, from Morris Island on the morning of the 16th, has arrived. Gen. Gilmore was mounting heavy guns at Cummings Point to shell Charleston.

The rebel fire from James Island was continuous but not very effective.

Sumpter was still held by the rebels.

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—A Morris Island letter reports that the rebels are extremely busy repairing Fort Sumpter, and steamers are constantly plying between the city and there with materials therefor. A deserter says that after strengthening Sumter and planting more batteries on James Island, Beauregard intends to assume the offensive, in order, if possible, to gain possession of Morris Island. Charleston is said to be full of rebel troops.

Other accounts state that it may be a week yet before Gen. Gilmore can open fire upon Charleston. The mounting of guns on the north end of Morris Island proves very slow work, but our losses therefrom are trifling.

LEE ON THE DEFENSIVE.

NEW YORK, Sept. 19.—The *Post's* Washington dispatch says all the Richmond papers of the 16th and 17th, received here, mention that Lee's army has been in line of battle for some days between the Rapidan and Orange Court House, but seem to intimate that it will remain on the defensive.

SONORA AND MEXICAN AFFAIRS.

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—The Herald's Washington despatch says:—"Governor Cortes of Sonora waited upon Secretary Seward to-day. Rumor says his object is to establish, if possible, an alliance with the United States against the French invasion of Mexico. No action has yet been taken concerning his application.

FROM CALIFORNIA.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 19.—The steamer *Golden Age* arrived last night with dates from the City of Mexico via Acapulco to August 10 only. The substance of the news is that the guerillas, who occupied the main roads to the Capital, had captured several French trains, causing much suffering from scarcity of provisions. Communication with Vera Cruz was constantly interrupted. The guerillas occupied Jalapa and Orizaba. Saligny, the French Minister, had been poisoned and was dangerously ill in consequence.

The ship John Kay had arrived from Kanagawa August 10. Japan continued in a state of disquietude. A British fleet of 12 vessels had sailed for the Western shores of Japan to finish the punishment of the Damois who had recently been taken to task by the American and French squadrons.

A Wilmington paper publishes an account of a cruise of the Confederate steamer Florida, sent to it from St George's, Bermuda. In this we find an account of an engagement with the U S. steamer Ericsson, of which we never saw any mention in the U. S. papers:—

"We were now close to New York; the 8th July we were not more than 50 or 60 miles from that city. About 12 m. this day (8th) we exchanged signals with an English brig. Another sail being reported, started in pursuit, and as the fog cleared up saw a large steamer lying by her, and had sent her boat alongside. We ran down until we saw the Yankee colours flying from her peak. 'All hands' were then called to quarters. After manœuvring about half an hour she finally ran down to us. As soon as she was near enough we hauled down the English colours (which were flying at the time), and showed to their view the 'stars and bars,' and at the same time gave her a broadside. Her men ran from their after pivot and sought protection behind the ship's bulwarks. But the wind was in their favour, for just then the fog came down so dense that the Ericsson could not be seen, so all we could do was to wait till it cleared up. But judge of our astonishment when it did clear up to see the Yankee about five or six miles ahead of us, and travelling for Sandy Hook. Now it was we felt need of good coal. Our brave Captain Maffit offered $1,500 for 15lb. of steam, but we could get but 8lbs., and 10, although we used pitch and rosin. All hands were anxious to catch her, for she had been sent out to catch rebel cruisers, but she caught a Tartar this time. But we had the pleasure of burning two vessels under her nose, the brig N. B. Nash, from New York and the whaling schr. Rienzi, from Providence; but the crew, however, had left when they saw us burn the brig. We showed the crew of the Nash the steamer Ericsson making tracks for New York. With a sad heart we left the E., and steered for Bermuda."

The signs look better. The Father of Waters again goes unvexed to the sea, thanks to the great North-west for it. Nor yet wholly to them; three hundred miles up they met New England, Empire, Keystone and Jersey, hewing their way right and left. The sunny South, too, in more colors than one, also lent a hand. On the spot their part of the history was jotted down in black and white. The job was a great national one, and let none be banned who bore an honorable part in it. And while those who have cleared the great river may well be proud, even though that is all, it is hard to say that anything has been more bravely and better done than at Antietam, Murfreesboro', Gettysburg, and on many fields of less note. Nor must Uncle Sam's web-feet be forgotten. At all the water's margins they have been present not only in the deep sea, the broad bay, and the rapid river, but also up the narrow, muddy bayou, and wherever the ground was a little damp, they have been and made their tracks.

Maryland will make up most of her drafted quota by negro enlistments.

Richmond papers of Sept. 8, announce the arrival of Gen. Pemberton at Atlanta, Ga., so the report of his death must have been premature.

Intelligence from the West states officially that none of the treasure on the burned steamer Ruth was stolen.

Gen. Hooker and Gen. Hunter are still in Washington. The former has received no command nor has the latter been ordered to St. Louis.

A bill to outlaw deserters has been introduced in the Virginia Senate.

A bill to exclude from Citizenship all who, since April, 1861, held office or rendered service under the United States authorities, or under any illegal or usurped government, has been noticed in the House of Delegates.

While Gen. McClellan is on retired pay Gen. Fremont receives full wages, besides perquisites from the Pacific Railroad. Honest "Old Abe!"

The Richmond Enquirer claims that, notwithstanding rebel reverses in the Southwest, gold has declined in price.

The newspapers all stagger under Sumner's speech. It is the same old performance on the harp of a thousand strings—prolix, verbose, and pedantic.

The censorship of the press continues with its accustomed particularity. Even matters in no way connected with military operations have to undergo the perusal and receive the endorsement of the official supervisors. Delays in telegraphing are therefore unavoidable by correspondents.

The negroes in the black regiments in New York are said to smoke, swear and hang out of the windows with all the nonchalance of a white regiment—and act very much like white folks.

Rumors are afloat that Gen. Lee is preparing to make an attack on Washington with 100,000 men, and that he is to be supported by a large confederate fleet which is mustered, or in course of being coollected, at Wellington. This fleet is to come up the Potomac, while Lee makes his way to the capital through Maryland—at least rumor says so.

A court martial, convened at Fort McHenry, in the case of Samuel Sterrett of Baltimore, convicted him of holding treasonable correspondence with the enemy. He has been sentenced to confinement at Fort Warren during the continuance of the war.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,—Permit me, through the columns of your very excellent journal, to state a few particulars, hurriedly, respecting the Volunteer Rifle Company in this part of the country; the people of whom seldom or ever traverse the columns of the press with a sample of their literary attainments; but when they do stain the columns of the newspapers with their correspondence, always communicate to the public tidings of great joy, or rumours of irretrievable sadness. Of the latter, I have thought proper to scribble a hurried communication, to give you a synopsis of the organizations, downfalls, and doings of the Volunteer Company in this locality.

Some few years ago, when this great Volunteer movement was ravaging the minds of the enlightened in this country, and Companies being organized throughout divers settlements of the Island, a number of individuals characterized to be more loyal to the Crown than the majority, immediately formed themselves into a Company (or rather a family compact,) named the Dalmenie Company. For two or three years this Company has undegone different stages and vicissitudes, and under different commanding officers, who appeared to be just as much annoyed at the downfall of it at certain times as it was for the Company to be called into service. Being at present under the following badge of officers, viz: George McKenzie, Capt. Com., Alexr. Ross, Lieut., and Rodk. McNeill, Ensign, (but acting Lieut. in the absence of A. Ross.) However, the Company remained dormant for a length of time, yes, went nearly beyond the reach of resuscitation, but alas! the then approaching election was ultimately nigh at hand, and fearing that the Roman Catholics—who are represented as very offensive at certain times as Mr. Pope, like an old Turkey-Cock—*coh-uddle, uddle, uddle*, vociferates at the top of his voice, they are this, and they are that, and they are everything bad—(but let that pass for what 'tis worth,) they having deemed it expedient again to call it into existence, and make preparations for the forthcoming contest, but unfortunately they were not put in possession of a full stand of Arms. And what was to be done? Like the fox and the goat at the bottom of the pit, one suggested this, and another that plan, but to their sad disappointment could not agree upon any means by which they were to defend their rights as Protestant subjects.

On the morning of the day above alluded to, which being very inclement from the intense cold and frost, that people came out at an early hour, immediately on voting to repair homewards; but the poll was not open until all was in readiness, I mean Lieut. McNeill, who was busy during the morning preparing green-wood cudgels—which he did manufacture in a style that reflects great credit on the gallant so-called Lieut., and bearing the Initials V. R. meaning, I suppose, *Vagabonds Run*. But just as would be imagined by every right-minded thinking person, the poor inoffensive Roman Catholic folks, after polling their votes, decently and in order wended their way homewards. So much, Mr. Editor, on that point and the bravery of the superior officers.

The nature and material of which this Company is formed is truly very astonishing, and is beyond comprehension to find out, for at one time it appears in all its splendor and patriotism, and as if deprived of life at once comes to the ground and remains so for some time, until it is taken by a fit of paroxysm and revives again. Having remained torpid, as if buried in oblivion during the summer season, and not likely to rise its head any more; but behold, a Proclamation was issued by one of the superior officers, calling upon the Company to meet for drill, target-practice, and competing for a prize which was to be awarded by a person unknown to the writer.

Saturday last being the appointed day to meet for the competition for this prize, the day being favourable, and all that could be desired, it was expected that a large number would be in attendance to witness the grand affair. Only Lieut. McNeill and one private, however, were seen on the grounds, and from the formidable and unflinching appearance of the Lieut. and private, an army of ants having, previous to this day, heard of the formation of this Company, and at once conceiving its object, on selecting the grounds it did, was to make war upon themselves, at once began fortifying and putting themselves in a thorough state of defence, (poor little things.) But, alas! for the struggles of the weak contending against the mighty, not being fully prepared to stand a siege, the leaden missles from Lieut. McNeil and the privates' great guns, in missing the target, which, being fired at, at the range of 18 yards, resulted in ploughing their ranks, and carrying away their half-finished embankments, which, being perceived by the so-called Lieut. and private, they at once determined upon storming their fortifications, which determination was carried out in a most masterly manner, redoubt after redoubt was taken, and although defended by the defenders to the last, yet, after a death struggle of a few moments the whole fortifications fell into the hands of the Dalmenie Company, killing at a rough calculation up to the number of 4000 of its poor inhabitants.

Now, dear Mr Editor, what is to be done, in order to retaliate on this unconstitutional crime? Shall we call upon the Government to enact laws to protect our rights being trampled upon in such a manner, or shall we presume to beg of the besiegers to refrain from annoying us in future?

I am yours very sincerely,
A. PISMIRE.

Dundas Cross Roads, Sept. 8, 1863.

(FOR THE EXAMINER.)

MR EDITOR:—

While the proprietors of the *Monitor* and *Protestant* are quarreling about the working of our city corporation, neither of these gentlemen has pointed out any particular part of the machinery which is defective. Allow me through the columns of your journal to call the attention of the City Fathers to an evil which should be remedied—for instance, should you discover lawless persons destroying your property, you would naturally enough immediately apply at the Police Station for assistance. Should you require such assistance at night, you would have to find the City Clerk to get a summons from him, as the Police officers could not act without it; much time is lost in doing this, and the unruly person has a good chance to escape detection. It appears to me, Mr. Editor, that this grievance could be easily remedied by the City Council giving the officer on duty full power to proceed immediately on complaint, and hold the person who makes the application liable for expenses or fine, in default of appearing to prosecute. There is no doubt had the Police constables this power the ends of justice would be much better served, and it would stimulate them to a sense of their duty. Trusting the matter will get the serious consideration of the City Council at an early day, and apologizing for trespassing on your valuable space.

I am yours respectfully,
A RATE-PAYER.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, September 28th, 1863.

"ASK THE WOMEN."

UNDER the delusive title of "Colonial Defences," the *Islander* of Friday last publishes a lengthy article on the Volunteer system, in which we are taken to task for the opinions lately expressed by us on that subject. We do not know who the writer is, but we suspect it is some old woman in breeches, for we are asked to review the subject from a woman's point of view. We are informed that our Volunteers form a portion of that class of Exquisites who "excel in dress, skill, and what each may deem accomplishments." The writer then goes on to remark:—

"*The women invariably encourage this species of rivalry*, and if there be one class of men that they generally prefer to another, it is that which necessitates the wearing of an imposing uniform, and gives that upright and graceful carriage of the body which is more or less inseparable from the practice of military exercises. If to those be added the sword, the epaulets and plume, the wearer is, or what is much the same thing, thinks he is, irresistable."

We have great respect for the Volunteers, and far greater respect for "the women" of this Island. We have no doubt that the former are as brave as raw, undisciplined country boys usually are; and the latter are, generally, we believe, as good looking as others of their sex to be found elsewhere. But if our "women" are fascinated by the rare specimens of an "upright and graceful carriage of the body" usually presented by our Volunteers—if their imaginations are heated by the "imposing uniform," made of coarse, shabby flannel at 1s. 6d. a yard—we are fain to admit that they are exceedingly singular in their tastes, and easily satisfied.

The writer of the article in the *Islander* seems to labour under the extraordinary delusion that our Volunteer Force would be an efficient protection to us in the event of an invasion; but every person of the least common sense knows that our Volunteer Force would not be seen, or if seen, would disappear like the mist of the morning if a foreign enemy, of any considerable power, chose to plant his foot upon our soil. We do not mean to say that there is any want of courage on the part of our young men and boys who have enrolled themselves, but it is notorious that their number is insignificantly small, and could not stand an hour before an invading force. If this Island be ever assailed, the assault will come from the water side, and where are the batteries or gunboats to protect us? The Barrack Square, facing the harbour, is the only good place for a battery we have had, and that has been alienated from its original object by a Government that pretends to be mightily intent upon encouraging our internal defences. But suppose St. George's Battery were put in the most efficient state, as regards the supply of men and munitions of war, we