THE EXAMINER:

A Weekly Journal of Politics, Literature, and News.

"This is true Liberty, when Freeborn Men, having to advise the Public, may speak free."---Euripides.

Vol. XV. Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Monday, December 19, 1864. New Series.---No. 3.

TO CARRIAGE MAKERS!

IRON,
STEEL,
AXLES,
BOLTS & NUTS,
to be had very cheap for Cash at
W. E. DAWSON'S.
December 5, 1864.

King Square House!

NOW READY,
OUR FALL SUPPLY OF
BRITISH and AMERICAN
GOODS,
COMPRISING ONE OF THE
Largest and
BEST ASSORTED STOCKS
to be found in the Colony,
is now offered at prices which will compare
FAVORABLY with those of
ANY HOUSE IN THE TRADE.
BEER & SONS.
October 31, 1864.

TRINITY HOUSE,
Georgetown!

THE subscriber, in calling the attention of the public in GEORGETOWN and KING'S COUNTY in general, to his present ENLARGED STOCK of BRITISH and COLONIAL MERCHANDIZE, which forms a selection seasonable, varied and useful—in quality, the best—in price, the lowest,—would, at the same time, most respectfully state that all Book Accounts, Notes of Hand, and other sureties, due him at the 1st instant, must be paid on or before the 1st JANUARY next, 1865, as a contemplated alteration in his business at that period will cause the then unpaid amounts to be handed over for IMMEDIATE prosecution, which, of all things, should be prevented.

For Sale on Commission!

Best TEAS, per chest; FLOUR, per barrel; TOBACCO, per box or keg; LEATHER, all sorts; BREAD, per bbl.; Brick, &c.

☞ A quantity of Cooking and Parlor STOVES expected soon.

All former advertised agencies still continued.

W. SANDERSON,
General Agent.
Georgetown, Nov. 7, 1864. isl pro 6w

BOOTS & SHOES.

JUST RECEIVED,
PER STEAMER *FRANCONIA*,
500 Pairs
Ladies', Gents', Boys', Misses' and Children's
BOOTS and SHOES,
IN GREAT VARIETY,
which may be had VERY CHEAP from the subscriber.
H. HASZARD.
Charlottetown, August 22, 1864. isl

ROSEWOOD PIANOS,
At Private Sale.

2 ROSEWOOD COTTAGE PIANOS,
(Gilbert maker.)
1 Mahogany do do (Broadwood maker.)
The above Instruments are Iron Frame, warranted to stand the climate, and will be sold at cost.
N. RANKIN, Queen-street.
October 3, 1864.

To Shipbuilders.

THE Subscriber HAS RECEIVED on CONSIGNMENT, from ARBROATH, Scotland, a large quantity of SAIL TWINE and CANVAS in assorted numbers from 1 to 8, which will be sold at small advance.

ALSO, ON HAND:

PITCH,	IRON,	PAINTS,
PITCH OIL,	SPIKES,	PAINT OIL,
Paraffine Varnish,	PAILS,	Do BRUSHES,

H. HASZARD.
Upper Queen Street
Charlottetown, May 30, 1864.

NOTICE!

THE subscribers would inform those parties indebted to them by Promissory Notes and Book Account, that if the amounts due are not paid by the FIRST of DECEMBER, legal proceedings will be taken to recover the same, without any further notice.

DODD & ROGERS,
Dodd's Brick Store, Pownal-street.
Ch'town, Nov. 7, 1864.

Rubbers!! Rubbers!!!

JUST RECEIVED, per *Commodore*, 15 Cases RUBBERS, consisting of Ladies', Gents', Misses', Boys' and Children's
BOOTS and SHOES,
which will be sold CHEAPEST IN THE CITY, at Dodd's Brick Store, Pownal Street.
DODD & ROGERS.
Ch'town, Nov. 7, 1864.

Bank of Prince Edward Island.

THE Rate of Interest allowed on Deposit Receipts will be raised from THREE to FOUR per cent. per annum, from and after the quarter ending the 30th November, until further notice. By Order of the Board.
WM. CUNDALL, Cashier.
Charlottetown, Dec. 5, 1864. 3w

I HAVE TO REQUEST
OF
My Country Customers
THAT
THEY CALL AND SETTLE
Their respective Accounts,
PROMPTLY,
Before the 20th November.
W. E. DAWSON.
October 24, 1864.

For Sale!

AT SOURIS EAST, Fifty-two Acres of LAND, beautifully situate on Souris Harbor, having a front of ten chains thereon; it also fronts on both sides of the road leading to East Point.

It will be sold in Lots to suit intending purchasers, and is well adapted for places of business or Fishing Establishments.

For particulars apply to the Hon. JOSEPH HEASLEY, Q. C., or to
WILLIAM FORGAN.
Charlottetown, Dec. 12, 1864. tf

WATCHES & JEWELLERY,

JUST RECEIVED from ENGLAND, of best quality, and for sale at a low price—

Horizontal Watches in Silver Cases,	
4 holes jewelled	£3 10 0
Do. in Hunting Cases	4 0 0
English Levers	9 0 0

Watch Chains and Keys, Finger Rings, Steel Ear Rings and Brooches, Gents' Pins in great variety, by
A. PURCHASE, Watchmaker,
Smardon's Corner.
Charlottetown, Oct. 31 1864.

TO ARRIVE,

PER Schr. *Pacifique*, from QUEBEC:
600 Bbls. No. 1 sup. CANADA FLOUR,
25 Bbls. Fancy do do
30 Bbls. Extra do do
MONTREAL INSPECTION.
35 Boxes TOBACCO, 20 lbs. each,
34 Boxes CIGARS, L'Amazona,
For sale by
J. ROBERTS ECKART.
Charlottetown, Nov. 21, 1864.

POETRY.

THE FIRST NIGHT FROM HOME

Alone in the stranger's dwelling,
I gazed on the quiet sky;
The musical breeze was swelling
With odorous spoils on high.
The moon rose up in her beauty,
Sole queen of the night to reign;
And like courtiers on their duty,
Glittered the stars in her train.

For a moment thought was turning
To the dear ones true and kind;
But I quelled the homeward yearning,
And cast regrets behind.
The future that lay before me
Seemed clothed with a holy light;
And I felt a change come o'er me
As I gazed on the sky that night.

I felt that the boy's wild dreaming
Was changed to the man's strong aim;
And bright o'er my spirit gleaming,
A ray from the future came.
The hope-star of my existence
Already gladdened my soul;
And through the measureless distance,
I saw the radiant goal.

I felt the laurel's twining
In their fadeless lustre bright;
And the stars so calmly shining,
Seemed like crowns to me that night.
The room seemed lit with the splendour
Of gems from the crown of Fame;
And the wind grew soft and tender
When I thought it breathed my name.

But through my beautiful vision
A murmur seemed to glide:
"Oh, trust not thine heart's ambition,
'Twill prove but an erring guide.
Thou may'st deem it pure and earnest,
And its present form may be
Like the fame for which thou yearnest,
Exceedingly fair to see.

"For the present it may nerve thee
With a strong and steadfast will;
But it will not always serve thee,
Nor thy restless craving still.
It availeth not in sorrow,
It can neither help nor save;
From its wiles thou can'st not borrow
A spell to charm the grave.

"Go learn from the wise old sages,
Go learn from God's own Book;
Alone to the Rock of Ages,
We may thro' the future look.
Go seek thee a firmer standing
Than the sands of fame can give;
Secure for thy final landing,
The shore where the angels live."

NEWS BY THE ENGLISH MAIL.

SPAIN.

DREADFUL HURRICANE AND INUNDATION NEAR VALENCIA.

The river Jucar, which has its source among the mountains of Cuenca, flows through and fertilises one of the most productive districts in Spain. Many are the villages of from 500 to 2,000 inhabitants, but the two principal towns are Alcira and Carcagente, of about 30,000 and 20,000 inhabitants respectively. The former is 22 and the latter 25 miles distant from Valencia by rail on the Madrid line. Of late years England has been supplied with large quantities of Valencia oranges grown in the neighbourhood of Alcira and Carcagente. Rice, Indian corn, and silk are the other staple productions of these towns. A summer of considerable heat and drought—not a single shower having fallen between the 30th April and 25th August — has been succeeded by an autumn of unusual severity. October was more or less stormy throughout, but on the 1st instant the heavens assumed a threatening aspect. On the night of the 3rd there was a copious fall of rain, which continued on the morning of the 4th, and towards the evening it seemed as if the windows of heaven had opened, and another deluge were inevitable, the rain descending in torrents. As night approached, the water in the streams, rivulets, and rivers rose with incredible rapidity, and the rain fell faster and faster. Before midnight the towns of Cullera, Alcira, Carcagente, and Jativa, with many adjoining villages, were submerged in water. In Alcira alone, which is the largest of the towns just mentioned, upwards of 200 houses near the banks of the river were completely swept away; others have fallen since, and many have had their foundations sapped. The poorer classes, whose houses were of one storey only, were obliged to get on the roofs to save themselves from being drowned. Thousands from their house-tops anxiously looked for the morning. There was no escape. The water had risen to a height of six or eight feet in the highest parts of the town—in the lower parts whole houses were covered. In the convent of Carcagente the water was 15 feet deep. Except cats and dogs, not a single domestic or farm animal has been left alive. Now that the waters have subsided, the streets and houses are full of the dead carcasses of horses, mules, donkeys, pigs, goats and sheep. On the first entrance into the town 21 corpses were found in the streets — how many more are to be found in the houses that have fallen, how many drowned in their beds, and how many swept away with the flood, no one presumes to estimate. Already about 100 corpses have been taken to the church, but there is no place of interment for them, scarcely a vestige of the cemetery having been left. At the railway station some seventy labourers who had been employed on the railway saved themselves by getting on the roof of the station and adjoining warehouses. The station is about a quarter of a mile out of Alcira, and on higher ground; yet in the waiting-room the water was six feet deep. Morning came, but with the morning no succor for the poor isolated, inundated inhabitants. All communication with the adjoining towns and villages had been completely cut off. The railway had been swept away in several places, but even had this not been the case, it was for miles from six to eight feet under water. The telegraptic wires were broken, and it was not till near midnight on the 6th instant that, at all hazards, Senor Mas, the civil governor of Valencia, and some other intrepid individuals, waded through water and mud waist-deep into the town. The accounts given by the officials and labourers who found refuge at the railway station are heart-rending. These were the first to be relieved, owing to their position; and they state that before the waters rose to their extreme height their own position was rendered more horrible by the cries of agony from the town. At first the image of San Bernardo (the patron saint of Alcira) was carried in procession through such streets as were passable, while the people implored the aid of the saint to protect them from the ravages of the deluge. After being 36 hours exposed to wind and rain on the roof of a railway station, one of the officials and a telegraph clerk, seeing no hope of relief, cast themselves into the flood, and succeeded in swimming to Algemesi, the nearest station on the line, about two and a half miles from Alcira. The second night was much more terrible than the first. Days had passed—day, the time of hope—and no succor had arrived, or could arrive. The rain again fell in torrents, the lightning flashed with terrific vividness, the rolling thunder, peal after peal, succeeded—

"And then all was hushed,
Save the wild wind and the remorseless dash
Of billows; but at intervals there gushed,
Accompanied with a convulsive splash,
A solitary shriek, the bubbling cry
Of some strong swimmer in his agony."

About 100 square miles—the most fertile and populous that the province of Valencia can boast of—have been thus inundated. The waters swept with terrific force and incalculable havoc through fertile valleys, converting them into desolate and depopulated deserts. Albalat, a village near Alcira, was completely under water. From the nearest approach only the steeple of the church could be seen. For the present no estimate whatever can be formed of the amount of damage done to property or the number of lives lost.

ITALY.

SHOCKING BRIGAND AFFAIR.

Near Acerra, about seven miles from Naples, on the road to Rome, resided a notorious character, with his wife. They were concealed by a friend in a subterranean chamber or vault, and might long have escaped detection but for the price of 2,000 ducats which had been placed upon the fellow's head. This was too much for friendship. His protector a few days since announced to him that he might safely appear, as the police were not near, but immediately on raising his head above ground he was felled by an axe, wounded in several places with a knife, and left for dead in a ditch near at hand. The friend then descended into the vault and despatched the wife; but the brigand, though mortally wounded, was not dead, and had strength enough to crawl to the station of the National Guard, where he deposed that his protector had long been his accomplice, receiving two-thirds of the profits; and that he had murdered his own wife, who was buried not far distant. The man then fell dead, the friend and protector was arrested, and, instead of getting the reward, will possibly be condemned to irons for life, unless the Judge Instructors are tampered with, as they still are; and this man may get off mildly, as many other atrocious villains have done during the last two or three years.

PRUSSIA.

ALLEGED DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE KING AND HIS MINISTERS.

It is said that a serious difference of opinion exists between the King of Prussia and the Prince Royal on the one hand, and M. de Bismarck on the other, in relation to the Duchies. The minister thinks the best plan would be, having regard to the interest of the Duchies themselves, to annex them to Prussia, but the King is of opinion that the Duke of Augustenburg's pretensions are legitimate, and ought to prevail. It occurs to us that this alleged struggle between the ambitious minister and his not over-wise sovereign may be a sham fight.

MURDER IN GREECE.

A letter from Athens gives anything but a pleasing picture of the state of things in that country: "Two days ago, M. Xanthis, sub-chief of the police at the Piræus, was killed by a sabre cut by a man named Mairodimos. The motive of this murder is not known. An inhabitant of Messenia, a man generally respected, was killed by a pistol shot at the moment when he was leaving a mill which he possesses in the neighborhood of that town. The murderer has not yet been discovered. Three days ago a number of men residing at Pylos had a quarrel with three brothers residing at Zakynthe, and killed them all. The quarrel is said to have been caused by differences in political opinions."

INDIA.

REBELLION OF THE WAGHURS—UNSETTLED STATE OF THINGS IN CABUL—EXPECTED FAMINE.

We have received files of papers from Bombay to the 28th October. The Waghurs have again risen in rebellion in Kattiawar, and defeated the Guicowar's troops sent against them. A small British force, under Major Dennis, accompanied by Major Keatinge, V. C., the political agent, has left Rajkote to quell the insurrection. Things are in a very unsettled state in Cabul. It is said that the Ameer would not be able to return to his capital for some time, as the people around Turkhistan are in a state of insurrection. The King of Bokhara has openly sympathised with Urzul Khann, and is expected to espouse his cause. It is rumored that the latter will shortly be set at liberty by the Ameer. The advance of the Russians up to Kohan, according to the *Delhi Gazette*, is confirmed. They are reported to have defeated the Khan at Tashkund, and then to have entered and occupied Kohan. The Viceroy has been at Lahore, where he held a grand Durbar, which was attended by some 600 rajahs and chiefs, at which the Rajah of Kuppoorthulla was invested with the insignia of the Star of India. Extensive preparations are going on for the Bhoottan expedition, and a strong native force will shortly be ready to take the field. The Bhooteans are said to have made arrangements for collecting together about 22,000 troops on the north-east frontier. Sir C. Trevelyan is said to have been suddenly attacked with severe illness. The accounts from the Punjaub and from Guzerat inform us that the crops have to a great extent failed, and that there is more than a probability of famine. Sir Herbert Edwardes is said to be alarmingly ill, and will have to leave for England almost immediately. Mr. David Sassoon, a well-known Jewish merchant, has applied to the Secretary of State for permission to erect a statue to the late Prince Consort in the gardens of the Victoria Museum, at Bombay. The Rajah of Sillinghut, in Chota Nagpore, has been accused of sacrificing a human being at the shrine of Remkunee, and has been arrested by the police. He declares it is a conspiracy of his enemies, and that the man said to have been sacrificed died from a snake bite. The weather in Madras has been very boisterous, and some damage has been done to the shipping in the roadstead.

JAPAN.

SUBMISSION OF PRINCE NAGATO, AND FREE NAVIGATION OF THE INLAND SEA.

Prince Nagato, as is right and proper, is to pay the expenses of the Allied Expedition in Japan. Admiral Kuper's despatches represent the operations of the Allied squadron to have been, if anything, more complete than we had supposed, and there can certainly be nothing left to be desired, so far as the immediate object of the expedition is concerned. There is not a Japanese battery or gun remaining on the shore of the Straits, and the presence of an English, French and Dutch man-of-war, which have been left behind, will prevent the fortifications being renewed. We are still in ignorance of the result of the engagement upon our diplomatic relations with the Tycoon, but such an effectual display of our power cannot fail to produce the most happy effects. The Admiral was in communication with Sir Rutherford Alcock, and the finale arrangements as "to this portion of the territory of the Prince of Chosiu" rest in his hands. They will, we trust, be decisive. While it is evident that the Japanese are at our mercy in any similar encounter, it is equally plain that they have the power of causing us considerable annoyance by their resistance. The operations were rather more lengthened than had been reported, commencing on the 5th of September, and not being thoroughly completed until the 10th. The Inland Sea, of which we have now obtained the free navigation, is entered on the west by the Straits of Simonosaki; on the east it is closed in by an island, on the north and south of which, however, it is entered by two channels. The fleet forced the passage of the Straits from the east, entering the Inland Sea by the south-east channel. It assembled on the 4th of September at the island of Hime Sima, within the seas, the appointed rendezvous, and consisted of nine English vessels, three French ships carrying between them 49 guns, four Dutch vessels carrying 58 guns, and one chartered steamship belonging to the United States, carrying one gun. On the morning of the 4th they left the anchorage of Hime Simi, and arrived in the afternoon before the entrance to the Straits, but anchored that evening out of range of the batteries. On the 5th the state of the tide did not allow of their commencing the engagement until two o'clock in the afternoon, but at that hour the fleet went into action in two principal divisions, one engaging the batteries in front, and the other, the light division, preparing to take them in flank. As soon as the ships opened fire it was returned and kept up with much spirit from the Japanese batteries, but about half past four the fire from two batteries slackened and soon ceased entirely, and by half-past five three other batteries were also silenced. It was then too late to land the storming parties that evening; but before the Admiral's orders could be known a small detachment of English and Dutch had landed, and succeeded in spiking nearly all the guns in one of the silenced batteries. On the 6th the Japanese recommenced the engagement by firing with some effect upon the advanced squadron. Their first shot killed two persons and wounded several others on board of one of the French vessels, and on her retiring to her former position the Tartar "was instantly and repeatedly struck by the fire from the fort;" but on the squadron returning the fire the battery was soon silenced, and only straggling shots were fired afterwards. At this point all was ready for disembarkation, and the small-arm companies of the Euryalus and Conqueror, under Capt Alexander, and the Marines, under Lieut.-Col. Suther, together with 350 French and 200 Dutch seamen and marines, soon succeeded in landing without any accident. They at once, under Admiral Kuper's personal directions, assaulted all the principal batteries, and met with only a trifling opposition. They succeeded in dismounting and spiking all the guns, burning the carriages and platforms, and blowing up the magazines. This was accomplished by four o'clock, and at that hour the force was ordered to re-embark, as the rugged and impenetrable nature of the country would have made it dangerous to leave any post on shore during the night. An unfortunate delay, however, in consequence of one of the ships having grounded, was the cause of the principal loss during the whole engagement. The Japanese seem to have retreated from their batteries to the woods and hills behind, and having posted themselves at the head of a valley, had considerably annoyed the body of men under Capt. Alexander's orders by firing into their flank as they marched along the batteries. Capt. Alexander, therefore, determined to dislodge them from this position, which was protected by a moat, and eight-foot wall, and a palisade. Accordingly, supported by the Marines, he charged rapidly up the valley. The Japanese stood to their post until the force was within fifty yards of them, but then they threw down their arms and fled in confusion. They maintained, however, a very hot and dangerous fire upon the advancing troops, and half of our whole loss was incurred in this charge—viz., 7 killed and 26 wounded, our whole loss being 15 killed and 50 wounded. After this, however, the whole force re-embarked leaving in our hands, as the result of the day's action, eight batteries out of the ten which the Prince had erected, the other two lying round a point of land. On the following day, the 7th, the working parties landed for the purpose of embarking the guns already captured, and towards the afternoon an advanced squadron rounded the point we have referred to, in order to attack the two remaining batteries. On the 8th fire was opened upon these, but it was not returned, either from the Japanese being already convinced of the uselessness of resistance, or in consequence of a shell exploding one of their Magazines. A force was therefore landed to destroy the batteries and embark the guns, and no further resistance was offered. By the evening of the 10th 62 pieces of ordnance of various sizes were embarked in the fleet, and every part, therefore, of the Prince of Chosiu's preparations was either destroyed or removed. Since then the Admiral satisfied himself by personal examination of the entire Straits that no batteries remain in existence on the Prince's territory. On the 8th, while the demolition of the batteries and the embarkation of the guns were in progress, an envoy appeared on the flag-ship, producing written documents, promising, on behalf of the Prince of Chosiu, that no opposition should henceforth be offered to the free passage of the Straits. It was thought proper, however, to insist on a requisition for peace under the Prince's own hand, and after a delay of two days this was obtained. The terms of peace fall in with what Sir A. Kuper calls "the very satisfactory character and the humble tone" of the Prince's communication. The Admiral confirms the report that the Prince claimed the direct authority of the Mikado and the Tycoon for his recent acts of hostility. The envoy produced, we are told, written communications to establish this statement. If this be the case, it may considerably add to the importance of our victory, which will then be a direct blow at the central Government, and not merely the local chastisement of an irresponsible potentate. The Admiral himself thinks he has "reasonable grounds for the presumption that, apart from the brilliant success in a military point of view, and the great extent of the injury inflicted upon the Prince of Chosiu, his power and prestige, advantages of an important nature, in a political sense, may very possibly result from the presence of the Allied Squadron in these Straits." If, indeed, the Japanese are capable of drawing any conclusion adverse to their own self-importance, the display of so much power, exerted by several European nations in complete unanimity, must induce them at least to acquiesce in the necessary results of their treaties. It would be interesting to have some more detailed accounts of the circumstances of this action. What, for example, is the character of the 62 guns which the Admiral has captured? He speaks of the Japanese riflemen as though they were armed with rifles, and from his speaking of engaging a battery at 3,000 yards, we might suppose that the Japanese were furnished with rifled guns. Their shot certainly seems in some cases to have been destructive. It is clear, however, from their ready abandonment of their batteries, that they were completely overwhelmed by our artillery. Their stand in the palisade, and the steady firing they maintained upon a body of troops advancing at the double, until they were within 50 yards, is a considerable proof of coolness and discipline. It will be long, we hope, before we have to engage in any similar struggle, for the loss of 15 men killed and 50 wounded is a sacrifice not to be made without absolute necessity; but whenever we are forced to gain another such victory, we cannot wish more than that it should be achieved as gallantly and as successfully as in the present instance.

THE CAPTURE OF THE *FLORIDA*.

EXTRAORDINARY INSOLENCE OF THE UNITED STATES MINISTER AT RIO.

Immediately on the receipt at Rio of the news of the capture of the *Florida*, the Brazilian Government addressed a note to Mr. Webb, the United States' Minister at that Court; and this note, together with Mr. Webb's answer, are published in the *Diario Official*. In his reply, dated October 14, to the note of the Brazilian Government:—"Mr. Webb vigorously repels from his Government and himself all suspicion of complicity, directly or indirectly, with the act of the captain of the *Wachusetts*, which was not, he states, authorised by any orders or instructions of that officer. He accepts the statement made in the note of the Brazilian Government as exact in every part, reserving to himself the right of making subsequent corrections of it. The Government of the United States has always directed him, he continues, to express its confidence in and friendship for Brazil. Mr. Webb says he has learnt with deep regret that a commander of an American ship of war, without instructions or authority, has taken on himself the responsibility of capturing a rebel cruiser in the port of Bahia, and finds himself able to assure the Imperial Government that every reparation will be offered to it that honour and justice require, more promptly and frankly than if the same act had been perpetrated in a harbour of the most powerful maritime nation of the world. This reparation will, however, be given under protest, as the United States Government denies the right of giving the character of belligerents to those who are in rebellion against the legal Government of the United States. The Brazilian Government has ordered courts of investigation on the conduct of the officers of its ships and forts in the Bay of Bahia on the occasion of this outrage. Full instructions have, it is understood, been addressed by the Brazilian Government to its Charge d'Affaires at Washington to require satisfaction and redress for the capture of the Florida."—Mr. Webb in the course of his despatch enters into a long argument to the effect that the Confederates should not have been recognised as belligerents, but excuses Brazil and other neutral Gouernments on the ground that they had followed the example of England, whose object in doing so is stated by Mr. Webb as follows:—"Beyond all, peradventure, the object of Great Britain in recognising as belligerents those in rebellion against the Government of the United States, was—if we take her leading press and the speeches of her leading statesmen in and out of Parliament as exponents of her purpose—to accomplish by indirect means what she did not deem it prudent to attempt by a more manly course. She had just as much right to declare our Government destroyed and the Union broken up by a recognition of the sovereignty and independence of our rebels within two weeks after hearing of the rebellion as she had to give them by proclamation the rights of belligerents. But she wanted the manhood to do this in the face of Europe, and the just indignation which she would thereby have brought upon herself; and she, therefore, in the exercise of her discretion, resorted to a measure which she well knew was a *casus belli*, but which she foresaw we were not in a position to treat as such; and the consequences of which she had a right to suppose, as did our rebels, would eventually be a disruption of the great American Republic."—Mr. Webb also says, in disavowing the act of the Wachusetts:—"It was neither ordered nor authorised by the Government of the United States or the undersigned; and it will be to his Government, as it is to the undersigned, a source of very sincere regret that if such an event must of necessity have occurred, it did not take place in the waters of the Power which, 15 days after hearing of the rebellion in the United States, joyfully and hopefully proclaimed our rebels a 'belligerent' Power—an act which her press and people and our rebellious States looked upon as certain to bring on our country all and more than all the evils actually inflicted, by adding to them the dissolution of the American Union."

THE EXECUTION OF MULLER.

The English papers just arrived are filled with accounts of this event, which took place on the morning of the 14th ult. The usual minute account of the scaffold building is given, and it is estimated that at the hour fixed for the execution not fewer than 100,000 people had assembled. The occupants of "cheap seats" and "good accommodation," were particularly numerous. The windows of the several houses in front of the drop were well filled, while numbers were sitting on the roofs. Preachers of various religious sects were scattered about, and worked with commendable zeal in the distribution of tracts. In one part a three-jointed fishing rod was employed, to which was attached a scroll with the inscription, "Be sure your sins will find you out;" and in another instance a party of men was stationed, one of whom held up a walking stick with a text attached, while the others discoursed on scriptural subjects and took part in reading and singing hymns. All of which is peculiarly English.

Dr. Cappel, of the German Lutheran Church, had an interview of about two hour's length with the convict on the morning of the execution. The latter endeavoured to produce the impression that he was innocent. There were other sins, of which he said he was guilty, but whenever he was pressed with reference to the murder he evaded the subject in some way, or, to use Dr. Cappel's own words, afterwards in conversation with the sheriffs, "he hid that particular sin under his garment, as it were." The following account of the closing scene is taken from the London *Times*:—

"After the convict had been placed upon the drop, and the rope adjusted round his neck, Dr. Cappel addressed him with great animation and solemnity, said, "In a few moments, Muller, you will stand before God; I ask you again, and for the last time, are you guilty or innocent?" He replied, "I am innocent." Dr. Cappel said, "You are innocent?" repeating his own words in the form of a question. Muller answered, "God Almighty knows what I have done." Dr. Cappel, "God Almighty knows what you have done!" again repeating the convict's own words: "Does God know that you have done this particular deed?" Muller replied, "Yes, I have done it," speaking in German, in which language the whole conversation was conducted. The German expression used by the convict was "Ich habe les gethan;" and these were his last words. The drop fell, and he soon ceased to live. So greatly relieved was the Rev. gentleman by the confession that he rushed from the scaffold, exclaiming, "Thank God! Thank God!" and sank down in a chair, completely exhausted by his own emotion. After recovering he repeated in English, in the presence of the sheriffs and under-sheriffs, and the representatives of the newspaper press, of whom there were four, what had just passed between him and the convict, precisely as it has been related above.

The convict has left behind him a written and sealed document, which has been placed in the hands of the sheriff, but who forbear for the present to make it public, after his confession on the scaffold, until they shall have reported the fact to the Court of Aldermen.

Subsequently the statement is made that the document which Muller left behind him proves to be a mere reiteration of the statements and arguments upon which he and his friends relied down to about the last moment of his existence."

The following is from Dr. Cappel's statement:

"Soon after entering his cell on the last morning, I asked Muller again whether he was guilty of this murder? He denied it. I then said, 'Muller, the moments are precious; we must turn our minds wholly to God; I shall question you no more about this, but my last words to you will be, are you innocent? He remained silent for a minute or two, but presently exclaimed, his eyes full of tears, and clasping his arms round my neck, 'Do not forsake me; stay with me to the last.' I was so struck with this that I consulted with Mr. Jonas, the governor, whether the final question should be put in the pinioning room or on the scaffold. We decided for the latter. The manner in which this crime was committed will never be known. My own firm conviction, derived from the closest personal intercourse with the prisoner, is that the murder was not premeditated; but that Muller, in want of money, and yielding to a sudden temptation, attacked his victim for the sake of robbery, and finished, in the despair of the moment, by killing him either with his own hand or by causing his fall from the railway carriage."

UNDER THE GALLOWS.

The crowd which assembled in front of Newgate was neither so disorderly nor so felonious as when the five pirates were hanged, but the same brutal callousness and hideous mirth were rampant in the Old Bailey in the hours immediately preceeding the execution. The rain, however, had a marked effect in the attendance, and from midnight on Sunday until six o'clock on Monday morning there were comparatively few people on the spot. Arriving at the north end of the Old Bailey shortly before twelve o'clock on Sunday night, we made our way without difficulty to a tavern nearly opposite the drop, and running a guantlet of dozens of eager touters who were vaunting the excellence of their rooms and the admirable view to be gained therefrom, we were admitted by a side door and ushered into a small room on the first floor. Every preparation for the sight of the morning and the customers it would attract had been made. A large billiard room has been built at the back of this house within the last few months, and games at pool and pyramids were played at intervals throughout the night. Everything was hard, practical, and matter of fact. Muller was seldom named, and there was certainly nothing in the demeanor of either landlord or guests that spoke of the dread ceremony we were assembled to see. The venetian blinds were down, and the gas alight throughout the night, and while some of the party played cards, others sang sentimental songs, or dozed uneasily on the horse-hair covered benches or the wooden chairs. The pavement of the street below was comparatively uncrowded, but every adjacent doorstep and alley affording shelter was densely packed with damp and shivering wretches who were bent on securing their places before the thousands who, as they knew by experience, would be assembled by eight o'clock. More persistent still were those already stationed round the open space reserved around the drop, and who, in spite of rain and chill and weariness, waited patiently throughout the night. But the influence of the wet was very perceptible. The huge pens, like sheep-folds, which had been erected wherever a view of the gallows could be obtained, were nearly tenantless. There were few preachers, and the hot potato men and the girls who vended roasted chestnuts complained bitterly of lack of trade. The portion of the pavement opposite the gallows, whereon at the pirates' execution robbery and violence were supreme, where men had their pockets rifled, garments wrenched from off them, and where they were seen helplessly struggling with an organized band of thieves, was on Sunday night well guarded by policemen. The familiar oilskin capes and glazed hats were pleasantly conspicuous, stationed within a few yards of each other, or patrolling the streets, and there was little more possibility of systematic highway robbery being carried on here than at the opposite side of the street, where the policemen were standing in an unbroken line. One of the force informed us that "the Germans had threatened to use knives if they were not allowed to pass the word to him," but we saw no signs of insubordination in such of Muller's countrymen as were present. The foreign element was scarcely so prominent as was expected, and there were certainly less women and children than before. There was ribaldry and obscene talk and filthy jests, and sickening groans, but the physical discomfort due to the rain, had the effect of chilling the mob into some semblance of order, and it was not until after dawn that the base brute instincts had full sway, and the shrieks and rompings, the fight and savage horseplay were at their height. From six to seven o'clock men and women flocked into the pens until the Ludgate-hill end of the Old Bailey was crammed, and the barriers beneath us were hidden by the crowd. Amid the thieves and prostitutes, the broad and muscular ruffians and the ragged shouting, shrieking lads, might be seen here and there a form arrayed in broadcloth and clean linen, who looked nervously to the right and left until all doubts were solved, and his hat was immediately broken in and lost. The red coats of the some half dozen soldiers present, the gaudy staring bonnets of some of the women, the gold-lettered ribon on the cap of a man-of-war's man, all stand out prominently by the side of the tattered garments, the greasy head-coverings, and the unkempt locks wherewith they are surrounded. Every moment was now altering the condition of the crowd. During an absence of two minutes from the open window Giltspurstreet had been invested, and the few patches of space in the direction of Holborn filled; and as far as the eye could reach was a tightly packed mob of evil faces, many of which seemed to belong to fiends rather than men. A fanatic, who to the full as blasphemous as the mockers who parodied him, was proclaiming that, "in four hours Muller will be in heaven, while thousands of you will go straight to hell." The familiarity with which this man treated the most sacred names would have been ludicrous if it were not shocking. He was angrily addressed as a "ranting bugaboo," and warned to "shut up" under the penalty of "hammering,"—so, yielding at length to the fierce demands of the increasing crowd, he proceeded to silently distribute tracts. It was as awful to hear young lads pretend to read from these the confessions of Muller jestingly, mingled with coarse oaths, and the stolen words used by the tract writer, as it was to see a group of three convert the slips of paper into mock play-bills, and feigns, by sign and gesture, that they were in a theatre, and in ecstacies of meriment at the humors of the gallows stage. The morning was at this time dull but fine, and the wet fallen in the night soon furnished material for rude practical jokes, some of the men, rash enough to venture into the crowd while wearing a hat, had it whisked off, jumped upon and soaked in mud. When thoroughly charged—and they seemed to be as absorbent as an ordinary sponge—these hats were flung into the air, or at the people sitting at open windows, or were passed on from hand to hand, amid the shrieks and floutings of the throwers and their friends. When hats were not available tracts were used for a like purpose, and large pellets of mud, cased in paper, were launched at eyes and faces, each hit being noted by derisive cheers. The floor around the trap-door of the gallows had been strewed with saw-dust—presumably to remedy the slipperiness caused by the rain; but it reminds those looking from the windows of the block and the headsman's axe, and comparisons were made between the old days and now. The mob below saw nothing and knew nothing of this, or the saw-dust would probably have been groaned at as an innovation. As it was they yelled loudly at the additional policemen who filed into the space around the scaffold, and shouted out obscene jokes to such women as were to be seen in the houses. There were four females in the coffee-room of the tavern we were in, who had been brought by a male friend, well-behaved, orderly girls, of the bar-maid or milliner type, who obviously saw neither incongruity or impropriety in coming to an execution, or in sipping champagne or warbling sentimental ballads before seeing a fellow-creature hanged. One of these—the youngest and fairest—was subsequently heard to say that she "never took her eyes off him, and it didn't make her feel queer the least bit," whereupon an old visitant to such scenes declared applaudingly that "women always had more pluck than men." After many eager enquiries as to each person's identity who peeped up the doorway leading on to the scaffold—after each of the sheriffs had been pointed out as Calcraft by the mocking crew below—after a turnkey in uniform, coat and gold-banded cap, had been cheered—after two clergymen had been recognised as the ordinary of Newgate and the German minister—the crowd settled, and with the cry of "Hats off!" "He's coming!" prepared for the treat provided for it. Much has been said and written concerning the demeanor of an execution mob at the fatal moment, and it has been held that however unbecoming may be the levity of the night, it is condoned by the thrill of emotion which passes over the face of the multitude as the drop falls, and that the sum total is a public good. Our experience leads to a widely different conclusion. With every facility for observation, and after devoting the moments between Muller's appearance on the scaffold and the termination of his career to scrutinising the countenances before us, we assert deliberately and advisedly that their prevailing expression was one of base enjoyment at the taking away of life. It is quite true that the yells and shrieks, the bonnetings and ticklings, the hat throwing and fighting, gave way for the instant to an intense desire to behold the sight, and that the depth of its excitement and anxiety is to see all. But when the drop had fallen, and the poor wretch was quivering in the air, there was a deep gasp such as might come from a gourmand on tasting a rare dish, or a toper on quaffing a delicate wine. Next, the eager, staring, dreadfully hungry eyes lost their fixity of gaze, the craned necks were eased, and then by chatter, gibe, and grin, by delighted comparisons between the bearing of the man hung yesterday and the heroes of other executions, by hideous jests upon the hanging man's dying agony, and by ribald mockery of the clergyman's prayers, did these pupils of the gallows show their appreciation of its lessons. When Muller first appeared there was a partial groan, but it only came from the people in the immediate vicinity of the scaffold, and was not shared in by the general crowd. These, after the first few seconds, whistled, shrieked and yelled, but not vindictively or malignantly. They seemed to have no feeling as to the guilt or innocence of the man before them, and would doubtless have come as readily to see one of the street preachers or each other in similar plight. It is the spectacle, and the spectacle purely, they love; and we heard an advocate for the public infliction of capital punishment admit and exult over what he termed the "innocent mirth" and "decent hilarity" of the mob. If obscenity of word and gesture, if gloating with keen enjoyment over the last sharp terrible spasm of the dying man, if beastial license and a laughing levity infinitely more dreadful than rage—if a sea of faces [illegible] cannot be called "animal" with[out] injustice to the brutes—if any [illegible] phenomena constitute innocent R[illegible] surely flourished in the Old [illegible] day. Allusion to anot[illegible] mids were the last [illegible] Co[illegible] leaving the tavern [illegible] die game," and [illegible] manifest expo[illegible] the scaffold [illegible] outside [illegible] by [illegible]