

FROM EUROPE.

LONDON, Feb. 15.—It is reported and generally believed that Lord Stanley and son succeed Earl Derby as head of the Ministry.

LONDON, Feb. 18.—In the case of Mr. Sullivan, editor of the Dublin Nation, whose trial for the publication of seditious libels occupied the greater portion of last week, the jury brought in a verdict of guilty, with a recommendation of leniency.

MADRID, Spain, Feb. 18th.—Despatches just received in this city from the provinces, convey the intelligence that the leaders of the central party have a resolution to resign the authority of Queen Isabella in the North, and that their adherents have taken up arms in considerable numbers in Navarre.

LONDON, Feb. 19.—Allen, the Fenian who was discharged from custody yesterday after being examined on charge of causing the Clerkenwell explosion, was soon after arrested and imprisoned on the charge of assisting in the Bill for the regulation of the Press is still under discussion in the French Legislature.

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Shantung 30,000 have been killed, and the Imperial troops everywhere victorious. Honorable liberties were committed by the Shantung rebels. An explosion had occurred at Wanching, opposite Hankow, in which three powder magazines and more than one thousand lives were sacrificed.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—The House of Representatives at Washington today appropriated fifty thousand dollars for relief of American fugitives now in Ireland and England.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21.—President Johnson has appointed adjutant General Thomas, Secretary of War, to succeed Secretary Stanton. Gen. McClellan has been nominated Minister to England.

NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—Advices from Nassau to 13th have been received. A meeting of blacks had been held there, the speakers openly criticized the Government for its inability to extricate the Colony from the difficulties caused by lavish expenditure and extravagant measures, &c., &c.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—Great excitement exists by the action of President Johnson in the removal of Stanton from the War Office. General Thomas, appointed to succeed Stanton, has been arrested for violating the tenure of office law, and the committee on reconstruction have agreed upon and reported a bill to impeach the President.

NEW YORK, Feb. 24.—The impeachment question causes great excitement in political circles and tends to run up the price of Gold, the opening quotations being 143.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24, eve.—The Impachment Bill passed the House of Representatives to-night 126 to 46, a strict party vote. There is much excitement over the result.

TORONTO, Feb. 15.—The Provincial gunboats are being got ready for service on the opening of the Navigation. They will be temporarily manned by the Naval Brigade, now in commission. The Imperial gunboats will be ready in the spring to assist in patrolling the Lakes.

MONTREAL, Feb. 19.—There is intense excitement at the prospect of the departure of the Canadian Papal Zouaves for Rome. An immense audience was present at the special services held at Notre Dame Cathedral last night in connection with the event, and to-day over twenty thousand persons assembled at the station to see them off.

Not long ago a boy was seen putting up Fenian posters in London. The police arrested him. All the papers copied the poster, but the original was not to be had. It is reported that the Fenian Government has detailed a frigate to watch the movements of the United States Squadron under command of Admiral Farragut, in the Adriatic Gulf, and Eastern end of the Mediterranean.

LONDON, Feb. 20.—The members of the Royal Family of Hanover and a number of their adherents now in Vienna met at a private banquet this week, at which King George was present. It is reported that in a speech the King assured the company he would soon return home and resume his seat upon the throne of Hanover in spite of Prussia.

LONDON, Feb. 20, evening.—Advices to the 1st of January, 1861, from the English captives in Abyssinia; at that time they were all safe and well. Late advices from Cape Town, Africa, state that the Supreme Court of Natal has at last decided the question touching the matter of church property, in favor of Bishop Colenso.

the honor to hold in common with yourself and others, against the claims of St. Dunstan's College; he is reckoning without a large part of his host, and that ere many months are over such a public annual grant may be apportioned to and accepted by the authorities of that institution, as may materially assist to add to its stability and general usefulness.

I am, still leaving, as you may perceive, the case of the "true Christians and genuine patriots" of the Island, in your fair hands, Dear Sir, Yours truly, LIBERAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER. Sir,—As our Legislators are about to assemble in our capital, I beg leave, through your journal, to call their attention to the claims of the widow and child of the late Hon. Mr. Whelan. What the intention of the Government is on the subject I know not; but I do know, that thousands of their supporters expect that they will not be ungrateful to the memory of the statesman and scholar who took the most prominent part in introducing those laws and changes in our local constitution, which are now admitted by politicians of every party to be most desirable.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER. Dear Sir, As I am unaware of there being any other school besides my own, bearing the name of the "Charlottetown Academy," I should be much obliged by your correcting an error in which you and your correspondent have been misled to have taken the Academy as no endowment, nor was such a thing ever expected or desired on my part. I am anxious that this mistake should be rectified, as it may, I fear, tend to injure me in more ways than one.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PICTOR CHRONICLE, on one of his articles, copied into the Patriot of the 15th inst., in which, in very complimentary style, he speaks of the Island as the Head, and Patriot as the Tail, of the Island People.

Right, Sir, your happy epithets. Distastefully define. Of the printer and the power. And mark his separate line. The one you designate as Head, And the other as the Tail, And thus opposed, each daily seeks To vanquish and prevail.

In view, which show a statesman's mind, The Islander has still displayed What power to Head belong. And, though sometimes by party led, By party interest swayed, "His columns" against the better cause Have stoutly been arrayed.

Not long did he fair TRUTH forsake, Nor for dark ENRAGE fight; And now again triumphantly He wields the sword of RIGHT. In figures strong, or aught that tells Of profit, safe and sure, The Patriot, for "the siller" cause, All labour will endure.

To goodness, he seems to hold, As Fortune's sweet card; Yet, from his faith, fair Charity He shrinks not to discard. The fable-fables of Holy Writ, The angels' holiest song, The tales with which he pranks his "sheet"—To know do not belong.

Into the realm of Paradise, He, serpent-like, may glide, And, with the spreading bowers concealed, Perhaps a while abide. But still his mission there to bring: Gilt, guilt, and woe to bring; His Head's sole object there to shoot The Tail's enveloped sting.

The Editor of the Examiner may air his Prologue, as well as any other of his "low" heart's content for all I care; but I must most emphatically disclaim and repudiate my having the remotest intention of stirring up politico religious strife in this colony. God forbid that I should be guilty of so heinous a crime; but I nevertheless again aver my conscientious opinion, that any Catholic who follows subjects have not, by ANY MEANS, their just share of the public funds applied to educational purposes in this Island.

The facts of the case as far as concerns the Catholic community, are these: St. Dunstan's College has been built and established, and is maintained by the Catholics; with the slightest aid from Government; and I am not aware that they are pressing their claim for any public grant at the present time. Their College—and as far as it goes they may well be proud of it, and our whole community thankful for the educational advantages it affords—is a professedly Catholic school for the students of the Roman Catholic faith who board and reside under its roof; but youths holding any religious belief are admitted as students—as regular boarders or day scholars—and are entirely free from all interference with their special doctrinal tenets. The Prince of Wales College may be admirably conducted as a higher class day school, for aught I know, but we can hardly expect Catholics to be satisfied to send their children to a day school when they can send them to an establishment where, in addition to their education, they are under the constant supervision and moral tutelage of clergymen of their own faith. I believe I am justified in saying that these advantages attract the parents and guardians of Protestant children to a considerable extent, as the number of Protestant students in St. Dunstan's College is a sufficient evidence of the fact. True, but next to nothing, I am not aware that the subject of Theology or its study, or anything approaching it, has been touched upon by either you or your "contemporaries." There are surely many branches of general education which may be properly taught in a day school, without the necessity of any direct aid to the holy worship of Almighty God or the study of His sacred Word.

or more correctly speaking, the hollow peace of France and Prussia—with Italy grasping for Rome as its capital, and the whole Italian people quiet, with the quiet of a slumbering volcano—with the close union of the two extremes, despotism and democracy, exemplified in the *entente cordiale* between Russia and the United States—with a large proportion of the population of the latter energetically, at least, if by unbalanced means, stirring the minds of the lower orders of the people of Ireland against Great Britain—with the spectacle of British soldiers landing on the shores of the Red Sea, as a hostile force—surely the most lugubrious anticipator of coming evil need not be satisfied that man has some little work cut out for him, ere yet the lion shall lie down with the lamb.

Not in vain has science so long and so successfully been applied to the improvement of the means and engines of destruction, as we have witnessed for the last twenty years. The iron messengers of death have got, like sundry unmarried ladies of uncertain ages, their mission to fulfil.

As nothing is more easy than to prophesy, we are disposed to try a little vaticination on our own account; and if our saying shall be proved not to have been sooth, we must, to hide our shame, borrow the shelter of the hem of the garments of some of our illustrious predecessors in that line of business, to whom we have above referred.

The attitude adopted by the States towards Britain indicates a coming rupture, and nothing could afford a more favorable opportunity for Russia's designs upon Turkey than hostilities between the venerable mother and her giant daughter. If war should ensue between them, England would have quite occupation enough for her soldiers and sailors, and would require the services of every available man, ship and gun, without the necessity of keeping a small army in Ireland, and the depletion of her resources occasioned by that wretched Abyssinian expedition. The struggle by land would have for its field of operations Canada, and probably New Brunswick; and, notwithstanding all that has been said to the contrary, these Colonies could offer but small resistance to the hosts that could and would be thrown across the frontier, such a pressing need would at once be created for the assistance of the mother country on this side of the Atlantic, that on France single-handed would devolve the duty of keeping the Scythians out of Stamboul, the Cossacks out of Constantinople. France, again, would find it prudent to maintain on her own soil a sufficient force to watch Prussia, now a first-rate power in Europe, and animated by no very friendly feelings to the Bonaparte dynasty. The alliance of Austria with Russia would probably be readily secured by the promise of compensation for her loss of northern Italy from the Danubian Principalities; and as Turkey has within herself neither the moral nor the material means wherewith to cope with her powerful foe, the "sick man" would not improbably be strangled in the grasp of the Bear, and the descendant of Mahomet the Second might be under the necessity of turning his face towards Mecca, and his boots or papposes toward the Euphrates. That Russia will sooner or later have the long-coveted prize of the Dardanelles must, we think, be evident to all who consider the effects character of her people, the totally European nature of her political institutions, and the character of her religious creed, so alien to the traditions, to the sympathies and teachings of Christendom. The Koran is still as different from the New Testament as it was in the days when the fiery harangues of Peter the Hermit sent the king from his castle, the baron from his hold, and the peasant from his field, in Western Europe, to plant the cross at Jerusalem over the paled crescent of the Moslem. The Turks, *quod* their European possessions, have been truly and pitifully described as barbarians encamped in Europe, and the justness of the description can be proved by no better means than by asking the one question: What have they done in Europe? A people counted by millions, coming from the East, destroying in their irrepressible progress all opponents, as the locusts consume the vegetation which offers itself to their invading swarms, they have yet made no mark upon the generations succeeding that of their bold leader of the olden time. Their career since the green standard was first shown at St. Sophia, though, as was naturally to be expected, relieved by pitiful gleams of success, has been but a *facilis descensus Avernus*; and however the policy of the West may object to the Russians having unrestricted access to the Mediterranean, the time will come, and we believe, is not very remote, when they who are called upon to pay the piper, will think that the provision of music for their own dances will absorb as much of their money as can be prudently expended for such amusements.

We shall probably return to this subject hereafter, and endeavor to give to our readers some reflections, however crude, on the state of Europe, with reference to other complications. Meanwhile, want of space precludes our enlarging at present on this theme.

SELKIRK ESTATE. The Opinion and Report of the Attorney and Solicitor Generals, concerning the present position of this Estate, as respects the obligations of those who have severally become purchasers of the fee-simple of their farms thereon, will be found in our present column; and we heartily congratulate those individuals upon the certain, although as yet only prospective release, which it affords them from all obligations beyond that of making the estate "self-sustaining."

In this opinion of our law-officers, it is distinctly declared "that any price charged over and above what may have proved requisite to effect the object of rendering the Estate self-sustaining, was not a charge in accordance with the spirit and intention of the statute" (the Land Purchase Act); and, therefore, we conclude that the Government, accepting the opinion, will not fail to introduce, in the approaching Session of the Legislature, a Bill for the redemption of any instalments which may yet, according to the legal interpretation of their bonds, be due from the several purchasers; and we have no doubt, we think, be any doubt or question.

As respects the fixed prices which were put upon the Estate, we may here incidentally observe that, although these prices have now been found to be higher than the rendering of the Estate self-sustaining required them to be, we do not agree with those parties who, on that account, have censured the Government by which they were fixed. Experience had shown that a previous Government, influenced by the most praiseworthy desire to render purchases easy to the occupants of the lands, had unintentionally fixed the prices too low, and so occasioned

a loss to the public Treasury. It was, therefore, nothing but the bounden duty of the late Conservative Government to endeavour—as, in the spirit of candour, it must be admitted they did—so to fix the prices of the Estate in question, as that, whilst they could not but be accounted moderate, they should yet be such as to afford a reasonable guaranty that no serious loss would accrue to the public from the transaction.

OPINION AND REPORT OF ATTORNEY AND SOLICITOR GENERALS, UPON THE SELKIRK ESTATE, REFERRED TO THEM BY THE HON. THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL. It sets forth that they have all become purchasers from the Government of their locations on the above estate, and that most of them have regularly paid up their accruing instalments of the amount charged upon them by the Local Government, for the "Freehold of their Farms." That it appears now, as they allege, from the public accounts, that the total amount paid in, on account of the estate, has been more than enough to repay the capital and expenses laid out by the Government in purchasing it. They submit their opinion that according to the spirit and intention of the Land Purchase Act, 16 Vic. cap. 18, it was not intended to exact from the tenants of any estate purchased by the Government any amount beyond what would be necessary to render the purchase self-sustaining and keep the Government free of all costs and charges. Their request is, that if possible, the Government should be allowed to discharge from further payments to which they have bound themselves by deed, or whether they are by law bound and compellable if required still to continue all remaining unpaid instalments of their purchase money.

The Land Purchase Bill, like all other Acts, is construed according to the intention of the Legislature, collected from its express words, and where these are not explicit, gathered from the objects and purposes expressed in the preamble, and the reasons which induced the Legislature to enact it. The ground intended to be done, the evil to be cured and the remedy proposed must also be ascertained, and such a construction given to it as will best effect the objects of the Act, according to the true intent of the makers of the Act, deduced from a view of the whole and every part of it taken together. Guided by these principles, we apply the following observations to the present case, and having given the statute in question careful consideration in all its parts and enactments, we report upon it and the Petition, as follows:—The object and intention of the Act, as declared in its preamble, was to enable the Tenants of the Island to convert their Leasehold Tenures into Freehold Estates, at an easy rate and on fair terms. This was to be done by the Government advancing the money—purchasing the lands, and reselling them again to the Tenants on favorable and easy terms, with true payment to be given them as specified in the Act. The Act requires the Lieutenant Governor, with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, to call for Tendons for the Sale of Lands to the Government, and when any Tender of an Estate has been received and considered, to conclude the purchase if approved of. After each purchase of Lands is completed under the Act, the Commission of Public Lands within three months to make a report and return of the Lands purchased, and to state in a separate report (to be signed by the Lieutenant Governor) designating particularly the quality, nature, description and position thereof, and arranging the same into classes; and it shall be lawful for the Lieutenant Governor, with the advice and consent of Her Majesty's Executive Council, to determine to fix upon the sale of each class and description of Land; the same to be aggregated to cover all costs, charges and expenses of the purchase, transfer, survey and management of the Lands,—the purchase money and interest thereon—less to the general revenue from the decrease in the land tax, on their European possessions, have been truly and pitifully described as barbarians encamped in Europe, and the justness of the description can be proved by no better means than by asking the one question: What have they done in Europe? A people counted by millions, coming from the East, destroying in their irrepressible progress all opponents, as the locusts consume the vegetation which offers itself to their invading swarms, they have yet made no mark upon the generations succeeding that of their bold leader of the olden time. Their career since the green standard was first shown at St. Sophia, though, as was naturally to be expected, relieved by pitiful gleams of success, has been but a *facilis descensus Avernus*; and however the policy of the West may object to the Russians having unrestricted access to the Mediterranean, the time will come, and we believe, is not very remote, when they who are called upon to pay the piper, will think that the provision of music for their own dances will absorb as much of their money as can be prudently expended for such amusements.

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ing regard of its own cost, and that any price charged over and above what may have proved requisite to effect that object was not a charge in accordance with the spirit and intention of the statute. Should the allegations in the petition as regards the Government having been reimbursed in its outlay, prove correct, as a careful account being taken, it will turn be a matter worthy of the consideration of the Government and Legislature whether it would or would not be right and equitable to pass an Act giving some relief to the Petitioners.

(Signed) JOSEPH HENSLEY, Attorney General. (Signed) D. O'M. REDDIN, Solicitor General. Ch'town, 13th February, 1861.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS. So long as the Provinces of British North America shall happily continue to be integral portions of the British Empire—and may that be to the end of time—so long will domestic disturbances, or any war in which Great Britain may be engaged, prove to their peoples a matter of almost absorbing sympathy and interest. As respects the Abyssinian war, for instance, in which she is at present engaged, distant as we, the peoples of these Provinces, are from the scene of action; and little as, in all probability, we shall in any way be directly affected by its issues, we cannot believe that there is one man amongst us whose wishes, as respects those issues, are not that they may be such as to prove that British valour is still invincible & irresistible in the field, and the military skill by which that valour is directed sufficient to overcome every natural obstacle in its path, and to conquer and subdue the stratagems and power of any amount of armed barbarians, to which it may any time be opposed; and who, should the result prove disastrous to Britain, would not be as sensibly affected by the national loss and disgrace incurred in her defeat as the most sensitive and patriotic of her sons at home.

But Great Britain, we very much fear, is about to have another war forced upon her, the consequences of which, if it takes place, will be more deeply, but certainly more immediately, concerned than Great Britain herself. We allude to the war which Secretary Seward—by means of the *permanent* misunderstanding which seems most unhappily to have succeeded in bringing about between the Government of the United States and that of Great Britain—has rendered all but inevitable between the two countries.

Should such a war unfortunately take place, these Provinces must be the chief scenes of conflict; and, during its continuance, the consequences cannot fail to be most fearfully calamitous to the inhabitants. Of their courage and loyalty, there can be no question; and, in the event of such a contest, they will both be taxed and tried to the utmost. As respects Prince Edward Island, it is very clear that, even although all her resources were to be taken into account, and fully called into operation, no opposition to invasion, which she could make, unless under the immediate protection of the British Navy, could be of any avail; and that, therefore, if invaded, unless so protected, unconditional surrender would be nearly all that could be expected of her. In the event of *duty proclaimed* war, we shall not, however, be left unprotected; and the courage and military training, the loyalty and patriotism of our stalwart youth, in which unbounded confidence, we firmly believe, might safely be placed in the greatest and most trying emergencies, will not want opportunities of acquiring honorable distinction, either on their native soil, or that of the neighbouring Provinces.

As we have always been of opinion that, as respects disputes or quarrels, whether between individuals or nations, scarcely any thing imparts more vigor and confidence for the contest, than the conviction of having right and justice on one's side; for the further encouragement of such of our loyal readers as, when looking forward to the expected struggle, feel themselves inspired by unwavering faith in the national integrity and honor of Great Britain, as well as for the better enlightenment of such of them as, may, with respect to the misunderstanding in question, have some doubts about the correctness of the views entertained by Her Majesty's Government with reference to the matters involved in it; and further also, for the purpose of shewing the untenability of pro-American views concerning these matters, should such be entertained by any of our friends, we shall devote the remainder of this article to a succinct but clear and impartial exhibition of the whole affair as it at present stands, with respect to the conflicting views of the British Cabinet and the American Government.

The American Government insist that the whole question at issue, including the recognition of the people of the Southern States as belligerents, shall go to arbitration. The British Government is ready to submit the *Alabama* Claims to arbitration, and to abide by the decision of the arbitrator; but Mr. Seward wants to have first considered an alleged previous injury and wrong committed by Her Majesty's Government towards the United States, in assuming the existence of a state of war, and issuing a Proclamation of Neutrality, for which the latter, he contends, are entitled to reparation. The principal wrong, in his opinion, consists in the recognition of belligerent rights in the insurgent States; the misconduct of the *Alabama* and other vessels being a direct and legitimate fruit of the premature and injurious proclamation of the belligerency. Unfortunately, however, for Mr. Seward's present view, there are official papers in existence, written by himself, giving to his present declaration opinions a decided and emphatic contradiction. Mr. Seward, in his recent correspondence, declares that the civil war in America was "undeveloped when the British Proclamation of Neutrality, recognizing belligerent rights was issued." "The Queen of Britain," he says, "by that proclamation, baptized the slave insurrection within the United States as a civil war; and thus, so far as the British nation and its influence could go, gave it a name to live and flourish and triumph over the American Union."

In 1861, this is the bill of indictment preferred by Mr. Seward against Great Britain, and which he insists shall be tried, before the claims in respect of the *Alabama* are brought under discussion. But let us see what Mr. Seward had to say to the matter in 1861. On the 4th May, in that year, nine days before the Queen's Proclamation of neutrality, Mr. Seward writes to Mr. Drayton, American Minister in Paris, as follows:—"The *insurgent* have instituted revolution with *open, flagrant, deadly* war, to compel the United States to acquiesce in the dismemberment of the Union. The *United States have accepted this civil war* as a necessity." In his despatch to Lord Lyons, of the same date, he says the blockade of the Southern ports (which had been established twenty-four days before the British neutrality was declared) would be conducted "with as much liberality

as towards neutrals as any blockade ever was by a belligerent." With respect to this declaration of Mr. Seward, it has been very properly observed that a reference to arbitrators of the question, whether the Queen had a right to proclaim the neutrality of the Government and people of Great Britain, would really be a reference of the question whether the United States Government had a right to blockade the Southern ports, thereby proclaiming the South "a belligerent." That, it is added, can hardly be what Mr. Seward means, yet that is the simple logic of his ultimatum.

The proclamation of the President of the United States, declaring the blockade, was signed on the 19th April, and officially communicated to Lord Lyons on the 27th; the Queen's proclamation was not signed until the 13th May; yet Mr. Seward insists that the recognition of belligerency was made before the blockade could have been known in England. Great Britain is required to submit to arbitration whether she should compensate America for having asserted on the 13th of May, what the American Minister had declared on the 4th! In 1860, the American Government obtained from Great Britain a recognition and submission to a blockade, on the ground of the existence of "an open, flagrant, and deadly war;" but now, in 1861, recognition is demanded on the avowment that there was no blockade and no war.

All things considered, the question, it is judiciously observed, becomes extravagant and ridiculous. The Queen's Government can no more afford to have its right of declaring itself a belligerent, and so must every person who, who has any knowledge of the rights, powers, and privileges of independent States. By further illustrations which now lie before us we could easily demonstrate the absurdity of Mr. Seward's demand; but those which we have above given are, we think, quite sufficient to prove that if a war between the two countries must arise in consequence of Great Britain's refusal to acquiesce in the blockade of the United States, that the Government of the United States afford to be challenged as to its right to declare war, and to follow up that declaration by such acts of war as the blockading of the ports of a belligerent. So says the *New York Herald*; and so must every person who, who has any knowledge of the rights, powers, and privileges of independent States. 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