

Cleanings from late Papers.

COLLISION AT SEA.—LOSS OF A STEAMSHIP AND MANY LIVES!

The Hamburg ship Elise, Captain Nelson, arrived at New York last Friday evening, from Hamburg, reports that on the 10th instant spoke to a Bremen bark, having on board sixteen of the passengers and crew of the French steamship Le Lyonnais, which left New York on the 1st instant, for Havre, and was run into by a large ship, on the night of the 2d, and abandoned the next day in a sinking condition. These sixteen persons were picked up in a boat on the 7th instant, two others having died before the Bremen bark came along. Fourteen of the rescued were taken on board the Elise. The others, Mr. Schaler and wife, remained on board the Bremen bark.

Amongst those saved was the second mate of the Lyonnais, who states that in the night, between the 2d and 3d instant, the steamer was run into, and struck so heavily that in the morning she was in a sinking condition, and the captain decided to abandon her.

The second mate and those with him left the steamer on the afternoon of the 3d, and were consequently six days in the open boat. The mate says that to the best of his knowledge, the captain, and all others on board the Lyonnais, left her the next morning.

The Lyonnais had 40 passengers on board. The second mate reports that he stopped by the ship till the next morning, when it commenced blowing, and he believed the captain and all left the vessel. They had a raft made, and about forty persons got on it, which he believed went to pieces, and many lives were lost.

On Tuesday, the 4th, the second mate lost sight of the other boats which left the vessel. The weather was very foggy.

The Bangor Courier contains a despatch from New York, which gives the following particulars:—

The mate of the Lyonnais states that there is no doubt that the vessel which ran into her was a very large American clipper. The figure-head was a dragon's head, gilt, with red eyes and open mouth, from which projected a large dart. The figure-head fell upon the deck of the Lyonnais and remained there. The night was very dark, and a strong wind was blowing. The lights were up, and every precaution had been taken on board the steamship. After the passengers and most of the crew had left the vessel, the captain remained on board with four sailors, until five o'clock in the afternoon of the next day.

All the boats had sails and provisions, and the captain's boat had compasses. The vessel could be used only as a body to keep the boats and raft steady, and was finally abandoned because it was thought she would sink. The boat in charge of the mate left the wreck at seven o'clock in the afternoon on Monday, and lost sight of all the others in half an hour. The mate says the boat was badly broken up by the sea before they were rescued, and was only saved from swamping by a piece of canvas, which happened to be in the boat, and which was drawn over the outside to keep out the water.

News of the other boats and the raft is anxiously expected. There were two months' provisions on board the raft, and if it has not gone to pieces, those upon it may have been saved.

Captain Sharpe, of the steamer Vigo, states that his vessel must have been in the vicinity on the night of the collision, and that he experienced a very rough sea, with gales from the north-west. The offices of the French Consul, and of Messrs. E. N. & E. D. Poirier & Co., agents of the line, were thronged this morning with the friends of the passengers, anxious to obtain some tidings to hang a hope upon. The survivors of the crew are still on board the bark Elise, which lies in the north pier. They are generally doing well, though still much exhausted, and their feet badly swollen. The agents of the Lyonnais have chartered the steamer Marion to go in search of the Lyonnais. She will start immediately.

EXPLANATION OF THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ENGLAND AND FRANCE.

The Times publishes the following in explanation of the difference between the two governments:—"The Ministerial crisis at Constantinople which has led to the downfall of Aali and Fuad Pashas and the accession of Redschid Pasha to power, is an event which will, no doubt, be amply discussed by Continental politicians. The fall of Aalia Pasha is the fall of French influence,—the accession of Redschid is the triumph of England. M. Thouverel and the French Government supported a policy which England and Austria have felt to be not sufficiently decided for the occasion. These latter Powers have thought it necessary to state their opinions clearly and firmly; the Porte has acknowledged the reasonableness of their views, and a Minister has succeeded to power who is not bound, like his predecessors, by expressed opinions in favour of an immediate evacuation of the Principalities and the Black Sea. There has thus been a difference of opinion between the two Western Powers; that there need follow the slightest rivalry or ill-feeling we cannot see. The object of both is, we presume, the peace of Europe by the due fulfilment of the Treaty of Paris. Russia has manifestly evaded the performance of conditions which cannot be passed over. France is willing that they should be re-discussed at some future conference; England thinks that the case is clear and needs no further debate. France believes that the matter is slight and the difficulty accidental; England sees in the proceeding merely the habitual course of Russian diplomacy, which must be met boldly and at once. The only question is, which is in the right? The object of Russia since the peace has been to recover the reputation which she had lost in war. In Vienna and Constantinople, at Bucharest and Athens, the Russian interest was prostrate. Could an empire still powerful and arrogant fail to take the earliest opportunity of re-erecting its power and saving its pride? To equivocate as to the terms of the treaty, and to gain some petty advantage, which should be noised abroad exaggerated to Oriental ears, would be the first step; the more long-sighted policy would be to create dissension between the two nations which had been allies in the war. In England, at least, these manoeuvres have been thoroughly understood. We know Russia well and her policy, from Stockholm to Herat. It is well known that between London and Vienna there has been little good feeling of late years; what, then, brings the two Powers together? Simply the fact that both have the experience of Russian treachery and aggression, and are consequently in earnest."

His Holiness Pio Nono is fond of paying unexpected visits, a la Haroun al Raschid, occasionally, with a view to some charitable or beneficent purpose. A few days ago he surprised the widow of a government employe, residing in the Trastevere quarter, with a visit of this kind. The widow it appears had sent a petition to the Pope, conveying such a picture of her destitute condition and the misery of her family, that his holiness resolved to verify the state of affairs, in order to grant her some relief, if deserving of it. Pio Nono's commiseration was sufficiently excited by what he saw, for he immediately ordered the widow's name to be put on the pension list for twelve scudi a month, and left the poor woman and her family overwhelmed with joy.

AUSTRIA REFUSES TO LEAVE THE PRINCIPALITIES.—The Bresse states that the Austrian Government has answered to the demand of an immediate evacuation of the Principalities by a positive refusal.

CHINA.

The great floods over the country bordering the Canton river have subsided. Canton imperialists admit that their forces have sustained serious and repeated defeats by the rebels in the adjoining province of Kwang-si, and reinforcements were being sent daily. In the Canton estuary a yellow flag has appeared, with the characters "Tai-ping-teen-kwoh" (the flag of the Tai-ping dynasty). The vessels bearing it were served by the police with a notice to quit Hong Kong. The British merchants at Shanghai had petitioned Sir John Bowring to help to abolish the system of foreign inspectorships at the Chinese Custom-house there. The North China Herald of August 16 thus sums up the present position in China:—"Three points appear to be established by a variety of concurrent testimony. 1. That over a region, equal in extent and population to some of the most powerful states of Europe, the people have discarded the Manchu costume, and reverted to that of the Ming dynasty. 2. In a portion, if not the whole, of that extensive territory, the people pay taxes for the support of the Nanking government. 3. That, by the establishment of examinations, they have the privilege of competing for literary honours and civil office. Whence it is obvious that the revolutionists are, and have a right to be, regarded as a government de facto. In its administration the military code no doubt predominates, but there are already distinct traces of a civil organisation; and having existed for more than three years, from the time it planted itself in the capitals of Kiang-su, Anhwy, and Houpih, as an organised resistance of the Chinese to the Manchu sovereignty; and having too in the meantime greatly extended its boundaries and consolidated its strength, if the way of access to its capital were not blockaded by an imperial squadron, we might even now acknowledge its independence without violating neutrality, or transgressing the limits of historical precedent."

EARTHQUAKE AT MALTA.—Malta, Oct. 15.—On Sunday, the 12th of October, at 11 minutes before 2 a. m., the islands of Malta and Goza were visited by shocks of an earthquake, so violent in their nature and so long in their duration, that the oldest inhabitants do not remember ever to have experienced anything so severe. The first shock made itself perceptible by a tremulous motion similar to that caused by the passing of a heavy gun carriage, a thousand times repeated, accompanied by a rumbling noise, as it were, of distant thunder, which rapidly increased in violence, until every building shook and trembled. Scarcely a minute had elapsed when a second and still more violent shock, accompanied by a louder noise, occurred. The alarm occasioned was general throughout town and country. Men, women, and children, of all classes, suddenly aroused from their slumbers, issued from every house, some in their night dresses, others enveloped in a sheet or blanket, and others in the first articles of apparel they could hurriedly catch up, and rushing into the streets, made the best of their way to the squares, the outer walls, and other open spaces, which soon became full of people who had quitted their dwellings, fearing to be included in a general destruction. The sentry at the Treasury left his post, and ran to the main guard, under the impression that shells were being thrown into the town by an enemy from some steam fleet. The two shocks, the interval between being so brief as to be incaleculable, lasted fully two minutes. In the city of Valett scarcely a building had escaped injury, and all corner structures have more particularly suffered, from having no support on one side.

The London News says:—"It is probable that the attention of the Legislature will be directed in the ensuing session to the condition of life insurance companies, with a view to check those scandalous transactions which have become of late so notorious, and which threaten to render an institution of incalculable value in itself a nuisance instead of a benefit to society."

Private letters, received in this city from Hon. George M. Dallas, United States Minister to the Court of St. James, by his confidential friends, convey the important intelligence that he has succeeded in negotiating a treaty between the United States and England, which covers and settles all the points of dispute between the two countries. It has been the earnest desire of President Pierce and Secretary Marcy to accomplish this difficult task before retiring from office, so that all possible troubles might be smoothed away for the incoming administration. The instructions given to Mr. Dallas, when he entered upon his mission, have been zealously acted up to by him, and the result has been as above noted.—Philadelphia North American, Nov. 12.

THE NEW TURKISH MINISTRY.—The new Turkish Ministry is reported to be constituted as follows:—Grand Vizier, Reschid Pasha; War, Omar Pasha; Marine, Riza Pasha; Finance, Safetti Pasha. Fuad Pasha will probably retain the portfolio of Foreign Affairs till Aali Pasha, the late Grand Vizier, consents to resume it.

THE RUSSIAN GEN. LUDERS ORDERED TO HOLD HIMSELF IN READINESS.—An expression occurring in the following letter from the Emperor Alexander to General Luders has excited some remark:—"Taking into consideration the indispensable necessity you are under of seeking a cure of the grave malady which has afflicted you for many years, I have consented to accord you a year's leave of absence, to enable you to repair abroad, conserving to you your present emoluments. Appreciating your efficient services, I hope that, if circumstances give me occasion to recall you to employment before the expiration of the period named, you will come to resume your duties with the same zeal and alacrity which have ever signalized your military career.—I am always your affectionate, ALEXANDER NICOLAIEWITCH."

Accounts have been received that the Russian squadron in the Mediterranean is to consist of eleven vessels, and that the Western Allies are narrowly watching their destination and force.

Canada is now beginning to assume an attitude of importance, that will ultimately lead her on to be one of the great nations of the earth. Her colossal dimensions, her vast rivers and lakes, her fertile and active population, all combine to mark out her career as one of high destiny. The free institutions everywhere planted, the system of self-government established, and the protection of one of the most powerful nations of the world, without the cost of supporting it, are incomparable advantages, and will yield fruits of greatness and grandeur to remote ages. We are led to this train of thought by the many developments of power and capability which Canada has lately exhibited, and among others, the successful establishment of an admirable line of steamers with Great Britain, by the national route, viz., the St. Lawrence. A more important event could scarcely be consummated, and we anticipate for it the highest advantages, both to the colony and the parent state. It is this successful opening of a direct communication with England, that will give efficacy to the railroads of late years constructed in the interior of the country, and take to a ready market the vast productions, not only of Canada herself, but of the vast West which lies beyond. When the chain of internal improvements is completed, the shortness of the river route to Europe will bring it into full play for at least six months in a year; it will be the nearest road both for passengers and produce for all the Western States of this Republic, to the great marts of the Old World, and will bring Quebec nearer to Liverpool than Dantzic was to London under the old system of navigation. The Grand Trunk Railway line is to be opened to Toronto at an early day in October. The length of this line is 333 miles, or 12 miles less than the former estimates of its distance. The completion of this link makes a continuous line to Iowa city, 1,372 miles from Portland.—Liverpool Daily Times.

NEW YORK, Nov. 11h.—Steamer Illinois, Boggs, sailed for Aspinwall to-day, with 400 California passengers.

The Examiner.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., DECEMBER 1, 1856.

THE DISSOLUTION!!

We take the following pithy paragraph from Hazard's Gazette of Saturday. We have no doubt that the usual readers of that journal will give it a more general and attentive perusal than is generally accorded to the learned and elaborate disquisitions of his Honor the Editorial Recorder:—

"DISSOLUTION.—It is currently reported through the city to-day, that the House of Assembly has been dissolved."

We had not only heard the report above referred to, during the whole of Saturday and since, but we were amused to learn that some of the most prominent amongst the Tory party had embarked extensively in betting speculations against the less credulous of their acquaintances on the other side of politics, who put no faith in the report. We, ourselves, should have been glad exceedingly to have done a small business in the betting line in reference to this matter; but chance or fate kept all rash speculators out of our way. With reference to the question of the dissolution, we have made enquiries in the proper quarter, and the Tory minority of the House will be gratified to learn, as the result of our enquiries, that though their number is insignificantly small, it will not be reduced by any act of the Government for some time to come—that compassion for their forlorn state will suffer them to be left where they are until some fine morning in the summer of 1858—that, in short, there will be no general election until most of them shall have received all they can possibly get from the people, namely, pay for two more sessions. This will be glorious news to that small section of the minority who found it convenient to forget the principles in virtue of which they were elected, and to manifest a sublime contempt for the indignation of their constituents. We must do those gentlemen the justice to admit, that they have sense enough to know that the proclamation which dissolves the Assembly will forever dissolve their connection with the political world, as effectually as it did that of Jardine, Fraser, and some others, unless they give such timely proofs of a penitent spirit, and make such amends for past errors, as to give them a reasonable chance of being admitted into the company of the new elected.

The hoax about the dissolution took so admirably and extensively that even up to the present time (Monday afternoon) scores of our Tory friends will not be persuaded that the story is not true. Betting still goes on, which only proves that those who risk their money on the affirmative side of the question have their pockets better filled than their heads. We should not be at all surprised to see before morning flaming placards for a special meeting of the Unholies, and hear of a deputation to Government House to ascertain if the rumour be really true or not. We understand that some of the aspirants for senatorial honours amongst the Tories, were busy, up to a late hour on Saturday night, in writing out their election cards; and we will not be surprised to hear that some of them have been already forwarded to the country, with as much hot haste as the Islander office dispatched, as a Supplement to the country edition of their issue for Friday last, a slip containing the startling intelligence, that at a meeting of the Executive Council on Thursday last the House was really dissolved, and advising the electors to be prepared for the contests. But this kind of news, as everybody knows, is quite characteristic of the Islander office. We should like to know who the mischievous wag is, who has so thoroughly sold the gullible obstructives. He has his reward, no doubt—if he is heartless enough to delight in the pain of others—in seeing the feverish state of excitement into which he has put his dupes. But we recommend them to calm themselves;—there is no dissolution, and there will be none for a long time to come, we think. Yet, this is a world of uncertainties, and who knows but the tidings of a dissolution will break in upon us some fine morning with as much suddenness as a thunder-storm, and with no little terror to political sinners?

NEW APPOINTMENTS.

We have heard during the past week that the two vacant seats in the Legislative Council have been offered to, and accepted by Mr. Forgan, of Charlottetown Royalty, and Mr. Aldous, of Montague. These appointments, we presume, will be shortly gazetted, and we have no doubt they will meet with general approbation. Mr. Aldous, we understand, is to take the place of the Hon. Mr. Clow, regarding whose melancholy fate we fear now there can be no further doubt. In the advocacy of his principles, which we believe lean to the Liberal party, Mr. Aldous has always taken a very moderate course; and being a man of superior intelligence and education, we have no doubt he will worthily fill the vacant place assigned him. As to Mr. Forgan's appointment, we regard that with no small degree of satisfaction, for though not a member of the Liberal party, and no friend to those in power, Mr. Forgan never presented a conspicuous front in the ranks of their foes, although it has been pretty well understood that his principles and predilections leaned to the Conservative side of politics. We do not suppose that Mr. Forgan will support the general policy of the Government in the Upper Branch of the Legislature—indeed it will be a relief to see the Opposition getting a little assistance from his speeches and his votes; but we feel quite assured that the new Councillor will offer no factious opposition to measures of great public importance, be they introduced by the Government or not. We do not believe that the Government could have selected, from the entire ranks of the Conservatives, a less objectionable man. His appointment is a striking commentary on the policy which influenced the ancien regime. Had he been a violent and unscrupulous partisan on their side, his claims would not have been so long overlooked.

We are gratified to learn that it is the intention of the Government to present to the Legislature, at an early period of the next Session, a measure having for its object the establishment of country municipalities. Institutions of this description have been in operation for many years in Canada, and have been the means of securing to that country unexampled prosperity and importance. New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia in some instances, have more recently adopted them; but there is no place where they could be more safely,

cheaply and beneficially set in operation, than in this Island. The subject presents many points of great interest, and we will probably take an opportunity of presenting a few of them for the consideration of our readers in our next No. There are other questions of a reform character, affecting the prosperity of the country, that we think should, and we hope will, engage the attention of the Legislature next Session, which we purpose to discuss at some length, as soon as space and leisure will permit.

"MR. COOPER AND THE ALLIANCE ASSOCIATION."

We were not a little amused at the tone of the article which appeared in the last Islander under the heading of "Mr. Cooper and the Alliance Association." Maclean, who,

Half froth, half venom, spits himself abroad!"

at every thing and every man, not agreeable to the tastes and interests of his masters, has really outdone himself in the article in question. He has afforded another proof of his incompetency to conduct a public journal, by the caption we have given. There was a time when he knew that Alliance and Association were synonymous terms; but let us hope that the apparent blunder was intentional, and that the old wag meant a sly hit at the mental capacities of his paymasters, by a quibble on the first syllable of the word Association. If so, the Unholies are better off than poor Dogberry, who longed in vain for somebody to "write him down ass."

However, the fun of the thing does not stop here, for the whole article is worthy of its asinine title. The respectful manner in which that worthy, patriotic, disinterested, honest and conscientious gentleman, Mr. Cooper, is invited to join the Unholies, is really admirable. On reading it we were reminded of the old song:

"Will you walk into my parlour," said the spider to the fly,
"I've the prettiest little parlour you ever did espay."

The amount of sincere regard for the barrel-maker and the other buzzing thing, was about the same in both instances, and a fate somewhat similar would attend the acceptance of the invitation to join the "Alliance Association." Mr. Cooper is expected to believe that all the libels and gross abuse of himself with which the columns of the Islander have teemed, year after year, form no barrier to his being the welcome associate of his enemies, both personal and political; that, in short, they proceed from an ignorance of his good qualities of head and heart:

"Pitheoleon libelled me," "but here's a letter
Informs you, Sir, 'twas when he knew no better."

Perhaps Cooper may fancy that he has some weight in the country—that after a life-long struggle for power, the wheel of fortune has at last brought him to the zenith—that he is the coming man—that he will be the right man in the right place: i. e., the Secretary's office—and that he has the power

"To rob Rome's ancient geese of all their glories,
And, cackling, save the monarchy of Tories."

If such should be the case, we hope that the illusion may be a source of pleasure to the old man, and as

"Distance lends enchantment to the view,"

the probability of his succeeding is so remote, that his visions of future power must afford him ecstatic pleasure.

We are told that the Alliance has not for its object the resuscitation of the influence of the old Family Compact, and the wearisome driveller adduces in proof of his assertion, the fact, that the President happens to be no other than Mr. Haviland, junior, the son of the chief of that Family Compact whose tyranny and corruption brought the country to the verge of ruin. It is somewhat singular, if Maclean's story be true, that the body is composed entirely of the defeated and disappointed toadies and hangers-on of the old Compact. Some little ingenuity is perceptible in the manner in which they have attempted to extract strength from weakness, by claiming a title to disinterested views in professing a wish to exclude officials from the Assembly. This is capital. They know that the people will not send the members of the Compact to the Legislature, so the supporters of the ancien regime very artfully endeavour to get the public offices for them without any popular control. According to Maclean, the Unholies decided to support no candidate who would not pledge himself not to take office. If this resolve be acted on, Mr. Haviland, junior, must come out from among them—resign his seat in the House, or give up all hopes of a silk gown. However, we consider that the resolution is like his present robe, namely, all stuff. As to the officials filling "their pockets with Treasury money," we hope that the learned Chief of the Unholies told his gaping auditors that there was a time when the Treasury was considered fair game for the Compact and their friends—when no proof of the destruction of any Notes was ever given—when the Treasurer could get the Compact Commissioners to sign as many notes as he pleased, without showing, or being requested to show, what had become of the thousands previously issued—when the Treasurer was a defaulter—when, in short, the public chest was treated very much like the apple-pie in the nursery tale:

"A was an apple-pie, B bit it,"

and so on through the whole alphabet to Y, who was so late in the field, that he could only yearn for it.

How well the officials of those days "protected" the "Treasury money," is proved by the fact of Notes, supposed to have been long since destroyed, finding their way back "to the place from whence they came." What suggestive subjects for the President! We trust that he will thank us for helping him to his texts, the sermons from which Our Own Reporter has promised to give us for publication.

THE UNHOLY ALLIANCE.

[Our Own Reporter attended incog. another of the meetings of the above confederation on Thursday evening last, and he says, although the attendance was most provokingly small—there being exactly only fifteen persons present, for he assures us he counted the heads three times over—still the speeches were characterised by a good deal of fiery eloquence, the orators of the evening evidently feeling disgusted at the thinness of their audience, and determined to vent their anger upon anything that suggested itself to their considerations. Having placed himself in a dark corner—for, as the audience was small, the directors of the Alliance were very judiciously sparing of gas-light—he had no difficulty in taking, on the crown of his hat, ample notes of the speeches delivered, for the authenticity of which, he requests us to say, he is fully prepared to vouch.