

BRITISH PARLIAMENT—THE McLEOD CASE.

September 17.—A great number of petitions for the repeal of the corn laws were presented.

Mr. Barclay gave notice of an address to the Queen, praying her to use her influence with all maritime powers to obtain treaties binding them to suppress the barbarous practice of privateering.

Lord Russell then rose and made his promised speech, giving his view of the present state of the country and the line of policy proper to be pursued—in other words, marking out the course of opposition.

He began with the foreign relations, and especially with the United States, as to which he said:

In one part of our foreign relations there is certainly a question in connection with the United States, which, in some of its aspects, affords cause of uneasiness; but my noble friend, as Secretary for Foreign Affairs, satisfied the House by the answer of the United States Secretary, that both Her Majesty's Government and the Government of the United States perfectly agreed as to the character which should be attributed to the attack upon, and the capture of, the Caroline—(loud cheers)—that it was a question to be debated between nation and nation, and not to be treated as a private wrong.

A different view, however, had been taken by the Judges of the State of New York, and if that view should be carried out it would be destructive of all amicable relations between the two Governments.

If two Governments were not decide if a question was international, or between private individuals, and any Judge had the power of deciding that a question which the Government considered national was a subject for the local Courts, to amicable relations could subsist between the two States—(Hear, hear.) I have read the judgment of the Judges who decided this case, and in that judgment it seemed to be admitted that the two Executive authorities had agreed that the case was one which should be decided that it should be considered as a case of war, and therefore that it was a proper one to be decided by his own tribunal.

It appears to me that this is a doctrine to which no Government can agree.—For, according to this doctrine, if Sir Graham Moore, or any other officer who had captured the Spanish frigates, at the beginning of the Spanish war, should be taken before a Spanish tribunal, it would be equally competent to the Judge of that tribunal to say there was no declaration of war at the time these captures were made, therefore the captures are piratical and the officers engaged in them are liable to be convicted of murder.

But on the whole it appears that, although such may be the law adopted by the State of New York; yet, considering what has been stated on one side by Mr. Fox, and on the other by Mr. Webster, with regard to the circumstances attending the capture of the Caroline, and the accordance of opinion, existing on that subject—[Hear]—I do not believe that the authorities of America will permit any occurrence to take place which will expose any subject of her Majesty to danger for executing the commands of his Sovereign. I therefore feel convinced that, while the two Governments are agreed, it is not likely that there will be any cause of war between the two countries. I am sure that there prevails in this country, and I trust that there prevails in America also, the strongest desire that peace may be preserved between those two great countries. [Cheers.]

The noble Lord then alluded to Ireland declaring his entire satisfaction with the appointments made there by the new Administration, but expressed his hope that the attempt to introduce Lord Stanley's bill would not be repeated.

vindication of his late colleagues and himself.

The debate (in which many other members took part) was at length brought to a close by Mr. Fielden, who moved that it was the duty of the House to make immediate inquiry into the causes and extent of the distress existing in the country, and that no supplies of money ought to be voted until such inquiry was made, as an amendment to the pending motion, which was that the House go into committee of supply.

The vote was, for the original motion 149.

For the amendment 41. The House then went into committee, some unimportant estimates were voted, and then the House adjourned.

THE McLEOD CASE.

Col. Napier—the author, we presume, of the great history of the Peninsular war—has been engaged in a controversy with the Times, on the McLeod case. We have only one of his articles, but it seems to afford a sufficient understanding of the whole discussion.

Colonel Napier in Reply to the Times. "Time.—The republican sympathies were the first aggressors."

Answer.—That gave England no right to invade America.

Times.—The destruction of the Caroline was a matter of self defence.

Answer.—That is to be proved. If she had been destroyed out of the American waters it would have been so. But she was deliberately attacked in the American waters without any previous demand for redress, without any proof offered, any declaration made, that she was a piratical vessel. Her destruction was, therefore, an attack on the American nation.

Times.—The State of New York was bound to enforce the neutrality of its citizens.

Answer.—Undoubtedly, if it could. An American general was sent with troops to enforce it. But the frontier is immense, and covered with forests. The neutrality could not be enforced. Was bad faith on the part of the American Government suspected?—If so, an energetic remonstrance and notice of reprisals, if redress was not granted, would have been the mode of proceeding according to the international law. Was no deceit suspected? Then a demand for the surrender of the Caroline and her crew as a piratical vessel or the punishment of the pirates, according to the laws of America, would have been the proper mode of proceeding.

In either the right of the American nation to have its sovereignty in its own waters respected would have been conceded, but the deliberate destruction of the Caroline in those waters being a complete act in itself, and not the construction of an attack commenced before she took refuge in the American waters, was quite unauthorized by international law. Was it a matter of necessity. That necessity should have been shown; and an apology founded on it offered for the attain upon American sovereignty. Had this been done on the instant no weakness or dishonor could have been imputed to England, and though it would be less graceful now, it is never too late to act justly and honorably.

Times.—The Federal Government has explicitly recognized the right of England to insist unconditionally on Mr. McLeod's release.

Answer.—This has no bearing on the question. The captivity and trial of McLeod, after the English Government had taken upon itself the responsibility of destroying the Caroline, is a violation of international law on the part of America, which the Federal Government does not defend, and which it endeavors to redress. But this in no manner justifies the previous violation of international law by England. The Federal Government is willing to redress the injustice done to us by releasing McLeod, but apparently it is unable. We then, on our part, ought to express an equal willingness to redress the injury done to American sovereignty, either by showing the necessity of pleading the provocation, and apologizing. In fine, if the Times would adduce those proofs of the necessity for the destruction of the Caroline, in the manner it was effected, which have been laid down in Mr. Webster's letter to Mr. Fox as requisite to bring the act within the pale of international law, it would be more reasonable and more effectual than calling my proposal for an apology "stark staring nonsense."

NEWS OF THE PRESIDENT.

The following letter, from an intelligent and trustworthy correspondent, will be read with interest, as apparently throwing some light upon the fate of the President:—

"To the Editor of the Vindicator.

"Sir.—On arriving in Belfast from Brazil I first saw the announcement relative to the loss of the President steamer, and as any thing, however remotely, connected with that vessel, must be interesting to your readers, I hasten to lay before them the facts, which came under my own immediate observation during the homeward bound passage. On August 29th, or thereabout, being then in the vicinity of the Azores my brother, who was amusing himself on the maintop, observed in the distance what he considered to be a boat exposed. On his announcing the circumstance below, the captain, after surveying the object with his glass, ordered the ship to lie to. On approaching nearer, we found it was the side of an immense vessel, having the beams erect; resembling masts, the other side was away. All hands concurred in opinion that it was the wreck of a large steamer. It may or may not have been part of the hulk of the President. If, as has been conjectured, the above mentioned vessel struck on the ice of Newfoundland, it is highly probable that the great Atlantic current, which sets in from the North dur-

ing the summer, may have drifted the ill-fated ship thus far to the Southward. At all events, it was the wreck of a very large vessel, and may yet prove disastrous to any crew who may have the misfortune to run foul of it during the night.

"I am, sir yours, &c.

"VINCENZO GUERRINI."

MORE EXPLOITS OF THE GREAT FORGER.

FROM THE BOSTON DAILY ADVERTISER. We are authorized to publish the following letters, which show that Munroe Edwards, the accomplished swindler, lately detected and taken into custody in Philadelphia, has been recently practising his trade in England. We should hope that, unless the laws of New York administer upon him a sufficient retribution for the crimes committed there, to secure the public against his further depredation, he may be held in reserve, and handed over to be dealt with according to the principles of English justice.

MARSHFIELD, OCTOBER 8, 1841.

MR. HALE: I know not how I may better guard the Public against further practices of an impostor than by publishing the following letter from Earl Spencer, received by the Acadia. The accompanying letter, purporting to be written by me, is an entire forgery.

Of this Edwards I had some previous knowledge, as he attempted similar frauds, some time ago, upon the late President of the United States, and my predecessor in the Department of State.

Yours, with much respect. DANIEL WEBSTER.

WISCONSIN, SEPTEMBER 12, 1841.

MY DEAR SIR: I have thought it right to let you know of some transactions in which I have been engaged, and in which, as I now believe, your name has been most improperly made use of, and your writing forged. I enclose you a letter which, when I first saw it, I believed to be your hand writing, but which I now believe to be a forgery.

Some time last spring, while I was living at Althorp, I received a letter from a person who signed himself Munroe Edwards, enclosing the letter which I herewith transmit to you. He stated that you had given him a letter of introduction to Lord Brougham as well as this one to myself; that he made use of the letter to Lord Brougham when he first arrived in England, and that Lord Brougham having done for him every thing he wished, he had not thought it necessary to trouble me with this letter. But that now he was in a great difficulty, Lord Brougham was abroad, which I knew to be the case; that neither the American minister, Mr. Stevenson, nor any other of his fellow-countrymen would assist him, because they were so hostile to his objects about the negroes, to which allusion is made in the enclosed letter, and that he was actually without a farthing to pay for his lodgings to carry him and a son of his had with home to New Orleans. He therefore sent me your letter, and asked me to lend him two hundred and fifty pounds, offering as a security certain bonds and receipts upon some bank in the United States. As to these securities, I thought very little about them, but I concluded they were good, as they were offered by a friend of yours. Now this story was a very plausible one, with the exception of the assertion that Col. Edwards's fellow-countrymen would not assist him. But I thought it very probable that you would give any friend of yours about whom you were interested a letter of introduction to Lord Brougham, and I hoped it was not very improbable that you might also give him a letter of introduction to me. I accordingly referred Col. Edwards to my solicitor in London, and sent up this letter purporting to be from you. My solicitor took the letter to Messrs. Baring, who said they knew your handwriting perfectly well, and were sure the letter was a genuine one. I have said I cared very little about Col. Edwards's securities, but I felt that I should behave very ill to you if I permitted "a valued friend" of yours to be arrested when I could avert it by a loan of two hundred and fifty pounds. I will, indeed, say more, that I should have thought it very creditable to my country if such a friend of yours could have been so treated without any one of us coming forward to help him. I accordingly advanced the money. My solicitor taking all the legal securities that were possible, and among others, receiving a certificate, from the American consul that Col. Edwards was the real bearer of that name. Col. Edwards promised to repay me during this month of September, saying that he took so long a period in order to be quite certain that he should have arrived at New Orleans and been able to transmit the money to the day. I felt myself quite secure of repayment till about three weeks or a month ago, when my solicitor received a letter from Col. Edwards, at Philadelphia, not written in his own hand, but only signed by him, saying that having had business to transact in London, he had employed a person of the name of Justin, an Englishman, to transact it for him; that with this view he had put his papers into the hands of this Justin, and sending my solicitor a copy of a letter purporting to be from Justin to him, Col. Edwards, in which he tells him that he had abstracted certain securities from these papers, and had upon them borrowed two hundred and fifty pounds from my solicitor, but making no mention of the letter purporting to be yours at all. Justin saying that with this fraudulent object he had personated Col. Edwards. This, I confess, appeared to me rather suspicious. I accordingly spoke to Brougham, when I found out that this story about Justin was a pure invention; that Col. Edwards had really been here; that he had presented to him a letter of introduction from you, and had asked for a loan of mo-

ney, but that General Hamilton, the minister from the Republic of Texas, having heard something of this, wrote to Lord Brougham to say that this Edwards had been convicted and imprisoned for forgery in Texas, and had escaped from jail; that he, General Hamilton, had told him that he knew all about him, and that Edwards had made no reply to this letter. In consequence of this information I had communication with General Hamilton, and my solicitor showed him the enclosed letter, which he says he is confident is a forgery.

As to recovering the £250, that of course is out of the question; it is also hardly possible to do any thing towards the legal conviction of Edwards for this forgery, but it may be possible by exposing him to prevent him from defrauding other people. I fear, therefore, you may think I am giving you a great deal of unnecessary trouble in sending you this long detail, but as your name had been so much mentioned in the transaction, I think it is as well that you should be aware of what has taken place. And as we seldom act without some selfish influence operating upon us, I must also admit that I am always shall be most happy to attend to your wishes and to do all I can to show hospitality to any friend of yours when you may wish to recommend to me.

Believe me, my dear sir, yours, most truly.

SPENCER. Hon. DANIEL WEBSTER, &c. &c. &c.

MARSHFIELD, (NEAR BOSTON) OCT. 29, 1840.

MY LORD: I have taken the liberty to introduce to the honor of your acquaintance, my valued friend Colonel M. Edwards, a highly respectable and wealthy planter of Louisiana, who visits England with the view of conferring with Her Majesty's Government on the subject of 200 African captives, now illegally held as slaves in Texas. Said Africans were sold with an estate to Colonel Edwards, and imposed on him as bona fide slaves. Subsequently learning their true claims to freedom, he with a magnanimity before unknown, attempted their restoration to freedom by sending them to an English Colony, but was prevented from so doing by the direct interposition of the Government of Texas. These poor Africans have claims on Her Majesty's Government, and it is with the view of representing those claims in their proper light Col. Edwards visits England. Any service it may be in your Lordship's power to render Col. Edwards in promotion of his most praiseworthy object will be properly appreciated.

I have the honor to be, your Lordship's most obedient servant, DANIEL WEBSTER.

Rt. Hon. EARL SPENCER, London.

WHAT IS GENTILITY.

Every man can distinguish what they call a gentleman from a man whom they do not consider to be one. It is true, however, that every body has not the same standard for gentility, and what one might consider to be genteel another might consider to be very far from it. It is therefore impossible to give such a definition of gentility as would accord with the ideas of every one; or, if such a definition could be given there would be wide difference of opinion as to the rules that might be laid down for carrying it out. If we were to venture an opinion on the subject, we would say that gentility is that deportment, whether at home, in society, or in the street, which is the result of a desire to avoid saying or doing any thing that could give offence to others. A strict observance of this law would undoubtedly secure for its observant the respect of all with whom he would be brought into contact, and in carrying it into practice if he aims at the highest standard of gentility, he must consult the taste of the most fastidious, or else he may short of his object, and be considered as genteel by one set of persons and vulgar by another. A man who should act up to the following standard could hardly fail to be considered as a gentleman by every body although we are free to admit that he might be considered by many as rather too much of one. It is not genteel to swear.

It is not genteel to indulge in licentious conversation.

It is not genteel to talk loud in company.

It is not genteel to laugh loud.

It is not genteel to interrupt others in conversation.

It is genteel to be quick and abrupt in conversation.

It is not genteel to pass your opinion in a dogmatical and positive manner.

It is not genteel to give force to your assertions by hammering on the table, or by any extraordinary gesticulation.—As if you were infallible.

It is not genteel at an evening party where refreshments are served, to fill a lady's plate with terrapins, or oysters, or chicken, or salad as if she had eaten no dinner.

It is not genteel to slam a door in going in or out of a room where there are no other persons.

It is not genteel to smoke cigars in the street, as some respectable persons are often seen to do.

It is not genteel for tweedleum to turn up his nose at tweedledee in company.

It is not genteel to talk at concerts or lectures so as to prevent others from hearing.

It is not genteel at a table to begin before the rest of the company are helped.

It is not genteel to eat fast or put a large quantity in your mouth at once.

It is not genteel to finish a meal until others have had time to make some progress with theirs.

It is not genteel to eat so slow as to eat after others are done.

It is not genteel when you are invited to a party to meet a stranger, to go away before the stranger.

It is not genteel if you be that stranger to wait an unreasonable time before you leave.

REPUBLICAN OFFICER, Springfield (Mass.) Tuesday, Eve. Oct. 5.

BREAUFUL COLLISION OF RAIL ROAD CARS. This afternoon, the Eastern and Western passenger trains of the Western Rail Road, both going at great speed, met in the curve about four miles west of Westfield, and the effects were shocking and disastrous.—Westfield depot is the place for meeting and passing, but as train from the West was behind its time, the other train went on, the conductor hoping to arrive at the next turn out before meeting the other train. The baggage cars of each train were behind, of course bringing the passenger cars directly behind the locomotives and tenders. The two locomotives and two or three passenger cars of each train were mashed to a complete wreck. The passengers were jammed and tumbled together in the ruins in dreadful confusion.

We are informed that eighteen or twenty have limbs broken—and as many more are severely bruised and lacerated in various ways. Mr. Warren, the conductor of the train from the West, is shockingly mutilated, but his life is not yet despaired of. The engineer of that train escaped without much injury. Mr. Moore, the conductor of the Springfield train narrowly escaped by jumping off. Mr. Taylor, the engineer of that train, is badly wounded. A young lady, niece of Major Whistler, is said to be dangerously hurt. Colonel Harvey Chapin is much bruised, but not dangerously, as is now hoped.

The Rev. S. Elliot, an Episcopal clergyman from South Carolina, and family, left here this noon, were brought back to the United States Hotel this evening in sad condition. The ladies were not seriously hurt; but last two sons were wounded—one scratched and bruised, and the other had his leg broken above the knee.

These are all the particular cases of which we learned. We are not sufficiently informed of the circumstances of this sad accident, to make any comment.

It is reported that Mr. Warren, mentioned above, died this morning. He was formerly conductor of the steamboat train to Norwich—subsequently clerk of the steamboat Worcester.

*Note.—[The Rev. S. Elliot, above referred to, is the Rev. Bishop Elliott, of the Rev. Mr. S. Elliott, of Sheldon, Prince William, South Carolina. The Bishop left expressly to attend a Convention to be held in the city of New York, and was not accounted for by his family.]—Editors Courier.

A RICH MINE.—We saw a few days since, a specimen of Ore taken from a Gold Mine, in Union District, (S. C.) that excels in richness any we have ever seen. The Mine is owned by Dr. Adolphus Nott, (son of the late Judge Nott,) but is leased at present to an English Mining Company. We were informed that out of ten bushels of ore, as much as five thousand dollars worth of Gold had been obtained. We saw four pieces of the ore, the largest less than a goose-egg in size, and it was thought that the several pieces were worth from forty to seventy dollars.

TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

SHIPWRECK AND LOSS OF LIFE.—The Quebec Gazette states the following particulars of the loss of the barque Amanda, Captain Davis, from Limerick which came on shore at Little Metis Point, at five o'clock, on the 28th ult. She had forty passengers and a crew of eighteen. The Captain, two seamen and two apprentices, were among those saved. Twenty-nine of the passengers, and twelve of the crew were lost.

EXTRAORDINARY SCENE.—A THEATRE ON FIRE.—At St. Petersburg, on the 18th ult., says the Post and Gazette, "the audience at one of the principal theatres perceiving a great light behind the curtain, anticipated some grand display of fire-works, and began to express their delight by clapping and shouts of applause. The delusive joy was only increased instead being converted into terror by the appearance in front of the actor, vociferating the house was on fire; for the people thought that was the trick of the scene, and continued their noisy acclamations. To undeceive them the manager ordered the curtain to be raised, and exposed to them the flames, which soon invaded the whole building.

The rush to the door became instantly so violent, that many persons were killed, or dreadfully injured, before they could make their escape. There was another issue, but it was closed, and in ordinary times is not to be opened without the authority of a police officer, who had not yet arrived. A man, seeing the urgency of the occasion rushed through the flames, and at the risk of his life, forced the way open, and thus saved many from destruction. We have not heard the details of the accident, but have learned that, on the following day the brave man to whom so many other honored their lives, was invested with an honorable distinction by the Emperor's own hand, and had secured to him a pension for life of 2,000.

They boast of having a man in New England 106 years old. Some of our negroes at the South are older than that.

TWO MEN KILLED AND SIX WOUNDED! FATAL ACCIDENT ON BOARD THE STEAM-FRIGATE FULTON.

Yesterday afternoon, a 64 lb. gun burst on board this steamer while off the Hook, killing two persons instantly and wounding six others very badly. The names of the killed are Samuel Snowman, seaman, and Joseph Philbrook, ordinary seaman.—The wounded are, Russell Smith, carpenter's mate, Joshua Wyman, quarter gunner, Levi Lawson, Thomas Smith, Rich'd Bell, and John Cooper, seaman, all badly.

The explosion did great damage to the fore part of the vessel giving it the appearance of a perfect wreck. The starboard steam chimney was blown down. She is now moored at the Navy Yard.

The gun broke in two outside of the carriage and split in the breech—the two parts of the breech taking different directions, one landed on the starboard side—(the gun was on the larboard)—the other went forty feet aft carrying away the dispensary and Purser's store room, and iron workbenches, and then stoving in both starboard and steam chimneys, which added to the horror of the scene by filling the ship with steam. The spar deck is all knocked up, Lieut. Strong was thrown fifteen feet in the air, falling on the hammock netting, without material injury.

The utmost care was taken by Captain Newton, Lieut. Chaton, (the first Lieut.) and all the officers of the ship, to prevent an accident which the officers greatly feared.

The officers kept the men back, placing themselves between the gun and the men, and then fired the gun with a slow match. In examining the scene of the disaster it is only astonishing that more were not killed, although there was not a man within 30 feet of the gun on its discharge.

COLT, THE MURDERER.

Colt's native place, as he stated on his examination, is Hartford, Connecticut, where his parents still reside. We understand that his father has been for many years Comptroller of the State, one of the highest offices in the Commonwealth, and also extensively engaged in the printing of silks and other branches of manufactures. We have been told that the family are highly esteemed, but known to be of violent passions, over which few of them have any great control. One of the sisters of the prisoner a few years since committed suicide.

While quite young, the prisoner was detected in some dishonesty, and at an early age he fled from his father's house to one of the Southern States, where he remained for some four years, procuring a support by various means, sometimes by honorable labor, and at others by dishonest tricks. Some time after this he was charged with swindling operations in Philadelphia; and in 1839 he was brought before the police of this city for having burglariously entered the office of Judge Inglis, at that time in Wall street, and stolen sundry papers therefrom. A lot of skeleton keys were then found in his possession, and he was held to bail under the name of Brown, but his case was never brought to trial.

[We give the above sketch, for the purpose, chiefly, of preface to the following just and impressive comment of the New York Tribune.]

"From this beginning, which many are prone to think exceedingly small, to what a depth of horrid guilt and blasting infamy has he plunged! Thus may we learn that crime has a vital growing power, which, though contemptible to the outward eye in its first shooting forth, soon spreads abroad its branches, thrusts downward deep into the heart its mighty roots, and overshadows the whole inner being with its death-distilling shade.—What treasures would this wretched man now gladly give could he again be placed upon the scenes of his first lapses from honesty and truth, the bitter fruits of whose 'foul flowering he is now to reap!'"

A DANIEL GOING INTO THE LION'S DEN.

At a recent anti-slavery meeting in Vermont, a very zealous young man introduced a resolution that a person be appointed to go to the South and remonstrate with the people there against the sin of slavery. The resolution was adopted, and the young man who introduced the resolution was appointed to do the honors of the office, which he had been the means of creating. We regret to be obliged to say that we do not think he will proceed far on his pilgrimage of love.

Alexander's (Pha.) Messenger.

CUT TO PIECES.—A man, named Henry Stinemitz, aged eighty, was run over by a train of cars near Carlisle, P., on Sunday, and cut to pieces. He was severed in two, leathwise.

KILLED BY A WAD.—A man, named Dinsmore Rugg, was killed during a sham-fight which took place at a military parade in Colerain, Mass., lately. The deceased was a member of cavalry troop, and, during a charge, was struck in the head by a rifle wadding, which penetrated the brain, and caused almost instant death.

SAMUEL A. SUYDAM.—This person was brought up before the Circuit Court of the United States, in N. Y., on Wednesday, charged with an assault on Mr. Alver, an accredited agent of a foreign power to the U. S. The penalty is three years imprisonment, or such fine as is optional with the Court. The District Attorney, after proving the assault, moved for a committal. Messrs. Price and Morrill appeared as counsel for Suydam, and pled in mitigation of proceedings. The injured husband had rights as well as the other. Suydam was ordered to find bail in the sum of \$10,000, which he gave, and was discharged.

Cha. Mer.

The London capitalists have refused to take any part of the twelve million loan authorized by Congress. The Times attributes this refusal to the course taken by Gov. McNutt, of Mississippi.