

THE RAIL.
I met him in the cars—
Where resignedly lie sits;
His hair was full of dust,
And so was his cravat;
He was furthermore embellished
By a ticket in his hat.

"The conductor touched his arm
And awoke him from a nap.
When he gave the feeling flies
An admiring day,
And his ticket to the man
In the yellow leather cap.

"So, launching into talk,
We rattled on our way,
With allusions to the crops—
That along the meadow lay—
Whenceon his eyes were lit
By a special ray.

The heads of many men
Were bobbing as in a p.,
And many babies lifted
Their voices up to sleep;
While the coal-dust did fly & fall
On bonnets in a heap.

All the while the swaying ears
Kept rumbling o'er the rail,
And the frequent whistle sent
Shrills of anguish to the gale,
And the cinders pattered down
On the grim face like rain.

Then suddenly a jar,
And a three-repeat lurch,
Made the people in alarm
From their easy cushioned jump;
For they deemed the sound to be
The inevitable trump.

A splintering crash below,
A doom-forbidding twang,
As the tender gave a lurch
Beyond the dying switch,
And a mangled mass of men
Lay writhing in the ditch.

With a palpitating heart
My friend essayed to rise;
There were briars on his limb's
And stars before his eyes,
And his face was of the hue
Of the dolphin when it dies.

I was very well content,
In escaping with my life,
But my mutilated friend
Commenced a legal strife;
Being thereunto indicted
By his lawyer and his wife.
And he writes me the result,
In his quiet way, as follows:
That his case came up before
A bench of legal scholars,
Who awarded him his claim
Of \$1000.
—Katherine.

[From the London Telegraph, Oct. 29]
The Bombardment of New York—Invasions of Canada.

The United States possess a nucleus of navy, numbering seventy-four ships of war, and some 2,000 and odd guns. This is not a very large navy, as compared with Great Britain and France. But let it not be forgotten that the maritime shipping of the United States rivals our own in tonnage. The United States are in a position to fit out a superb fleet from the merchant navy composed of sailing vessels and steamers. The ocean would literally swarm with their armed clippers and the commerce of England, within six months after the declaration of hostilities, would be almost annihilated. Not a ship that left our English ports for the East or West Indies, Australia, the Cape, or Canada, would ever reach her destination. This would be a consumption we should not at all relish. In point of fact, while we could assemble great naval squadrons, the United States would at the same time, sting us everywhere by a cloud of clipper horns from which our commerce could not escape.

As to our being able to effect any military operations in a war with the United States, that is a farce. We have now some fifty thousand men in the Crimea, which constitute the larger portion of the rank and file of the British army. The Americans, on the contrary, possess the finest organization in the world. Their riflemen are faultless. It is not too much to say that, within one month of a declaration of hostilities, the Americans would, and could, muster an army of some five hundred thousand men on the British frontiers. And, although hastily summoned to arms, they would not betray recruits, as ours, but well trained soldiers, for each one, in his adventuring in the backwoods, has handled the rifle with unerring aim, bivouacked, winter and summer, in the forest and prairies; pioneers of the wilderness; men trained to danger and hand-to-hand—trained with the long rifle in hand from early boyhood; their own commissariat and engineers; at home in every position—whether trailing the wild Indian or engaged in the bear or mouse hunt—on foot or on horseback—on the "long cub" or in the canoe; wild, determined, fearless, wary, up to every work; each and every one of whom considers himself fit to be President or Commander-in-Chief—such would form the rank and file of an army of five hundred thousand down Easterns of our frontiers; and work well too. The Americans are peculiarly a military nation. They possess the qualification for generalship, in which we are grievously deficient.

There are hundreds amongst them who could command an army of invasion with the most brilliant genius. They are fully up to the work, as soldiers; and, as tacticians, they have not one whit degenerated from their fathers who drove us from the Union in 1776, and combated with us in 1814. As to martial enthusiasm, there is no bound to it. We are cold and phlegmatic; the Americans fiery and ambitious. The future of that people is to be a great military nation, which will sweep the American continents from Hudson's Bay, on the north, to Cape Horn, on the south, and no nation can stay their destiny.

An American army would advance from Maine into New Brunswick, and St. John and Fredericton would fall without a blow. Another army would simultaneously cross the St. Lawrence, and invest Montreal and Quebec. From New York State, Kingston and Toronto would be summoned to surrender. The lakes would swarm with American armed steamers. Bombard New York, and the cities of Canada would be razed to the ground. The knowledge of this secures the strongest fortifications necessary to protect the Atlantic cities.

No power we have in the Canadas, with all their loyal inhabitants, could prevent them to us. They would be invaded at fifty points at once, and in one great combined movement the Provinces would be wrested forever from the mother country. So much the accomplishment of the war; what would be the prospect of its termination? The West India Islands and the Bermudas, one by one, would fall to the Americans. Thus our trans-atlantic possessions would be lost. During this time Australia would impinge upon our difficulties, and it is not to much to add, that Tasmania would hoist the lone star of independence.

Our colonies lost to us in the Atlantic and the Pacific, England would, in truth, have achieved a grand success to recompense her for going to war about Cuba. We would impress this fact upon our readers. The declaration of hostilities with the United States would sound the first knell to England's supremacy as a nation. Not only should we be worsted abroad, but at home—in the general commotion of affairs which would follow—dynasties might change, constitutions be overthrown; that which is now below would rise uppermost, and in the frothing cauldron of our "hell broth," things stranger might occur in the world's history than the child assuming the power and position maintained by the parent.

Those who would urge a war between England and the United States are no friends of their country; and the Ministry who would listen to such evil advice, would deserve the hands of an infuriated people a punishment which could only be expiated by their lives.

The Panama Railroad company charge passengers fifteen cents per pound for all baggage over twenty-five pounds to each first class passenger. They used to allow one hundred pounds to each, and the passengers complain that the tariff was altered without due notice.—Boston P. & J.

We appear great in an employment below our merit: but often little in one that is too high for us.

LIST OF LETTERS remain in the Post Office at Oregon City, January 1st, 1855.

Arthur Willson Morris Susannah Ainsworth

Alex. Robinson 3 Martindale S. D. Murray H. H.

Bauer Charles R. Murray H. H.

Bonne M. Mason A. Y.

Baum Jacob Moxham William 2

Brown Susan J. Mrs. Moon Wm. G. 2

Battcher John Martindale S. D.

Battcher John H. M. Murray H. H.

Bough William Moxham William 2

Brown E. L. Moxham William 2

Brown James Moxham William 2

Brown Peter Moxham William 2

Brown John Moxham William 2

Brown Wm. Moxham William 2

Brown, Augustus Moxham William 2

Brown, George Moxham William 2

Brown, John Moxham William 2