

### Intentions of Russia.

Every information we can collect, says the London *Economist*, both from parties who know the country, and parties who are in constant communication with Russian nobility, lead us to conclude with positive conviction that the Emperor has resolved on the safe course of purely defensive operations; that he is preparing for a long, obstinate, unyielding struggle; and that he intends to take refuge in his inaccessibility, and to defy the Western Powers to compel him to make peace. His adherents say, "You may burn our ships, you may destroy our harbors; you may even, at the vast cost of life, take Sebastopol and Cronstadt; you may drive us back across the Danube, and even across the Pruth, though in order to effect all this you must put forth your strength in a very different manner from anything which you have done yet; but when you have done all this, you cannot force us to negotiate. We shall retire within our frontiers, where you dare not follow us; we shall thus compel you to keep up your armies and navies, at a vast expense along our shores and boundaries; for the moment you retire we shall again advance, and we shall thus weary you out by an interminable war at a distance from your homes and amid inhospitable seas and pestilential marshes. We shall thus have two immense advantages over you: we shall be at home—you will be abroad; you will be playing your game of chess with knights and pawns, for in economic value one Englishman or Frenchman is equal to ten Russians; we can replace our men—you cannot replace yours; and a state of war which will be costly, harassing, and annoying in the last degree, the ordinary habits and comforts of our semi-barbarous population. In the meantime the English will grow tired of the war; their merchants will become discontented with commercial interruptions; the people will grumble at additional taxation; and the two new allies, unaccustomed to act together, will disagree among themselves; coldness and quarrels will ensue, and the game will be ultimately won by Russia." This is the policy England has to fear on the part of Russia. It is subtle and well judged, and there is only one way of meeting it. England must not only beat her promptly and effectually, but she must weaken her so decidedly that she will no longer be formidable; that, when once defeated and driven back into her deserts, it will no longer be necessary to keep up an army on her frontier in order to prevent her re-assuming to recover what she has lost. It is necessary to strengthen her conterminous neighbors, as well as weaken her, so that they may henceforth be enabled to hold her in check without the aid (by land) of the distant Western Powers. Georgia must be rescued and replaced, and Circassia maintained as an independent barrier, to keep Russia forever on this side of the Caucasus. The Crimea must be taken also, and Sebastopol stormed at any cost, and the Navy sheltered there captured or destroyed. Bessarabia longs for the day of her emancipation, and would probably rise on the first thorough disaster that happened to the Russian arms, if assured the faithful and permanent support of the allies. The Danubian Principalities must be freed from the curse of Russian occupation and of Russian protectorate forever. Finland must be restored to Sweden, and the Isles of Aland must be held either by Sweden or by England.

### The new Delegate from Oregon.

Mr. Columbia Lancaster, who took his seat in Congress on the 10th inst., as delegate from the New Territory of Washington, formerly resided in Trumbull county, in this State. Thence he removed to St. Joseph county, Michigan, and was one of the earliest settlers in that region. He lived the life of a half-trapper, and half-lawyer, while population was sparse. We believe he represented St. Joseph county once, in the Michigan Legislature. He belonged to the Wild Cat Bank-making democracy of Michigan, in the palmy days of that system of his friends. Mr. Lancaster is a man of very considerable native talent and wit. He is a man also, of eccentricity of character. He once left the county of his residence very suddenly. In the spring of 1847, he started across land in company with several neighbors and their families, for Oregon. If any one had asked Columbian when he was starting, if he calculated to return as a delegate from Oregon, his probable answer would have been, "nothing shorter," with an application of his finger to the lower lid of his eye, pulling it down a trifle. He was a candidate against J. Lane for delegate from Oregon, at a previous election. We know of several men in the world of finer sensibilities, and more acute perceptions than Mr. Lancaster, yet as he has the \$10,000 more or less mileage in his pocket, and can afford to be honest and independent, we think the barren hills, and the waterfalls, and otters, and varmints, and Indians, and 5 or 10,000 white people in Washington Territory, might have had a worse representative.—*Toledo Blade*.

We understand that it is the intention of the Surveyor General of the Territories of Washington and Oregon to follow up, and prosecute with vigor, the surveys already commenced in this territory, and for that purpose, parties, within a short time, will be assigned to different localities among us. We have heard frequent mention made of Mr. C. K. Gardner, the recent democratic appointee to the office of Surveyor General, as a gentleman of pleasing address—of a very accommodating disposition, and every way well qualified for the position held. However much the people of this Territory may consider themselves entitled (and justly so) to the establishment of a certain Surveyor General's office here, they can accommodate themselves in being provided with an energetic and prompt business officer in the person of Mr. Gardner, whose undivided attention is given to the faithful discharge of his official duties.

### Mysterious Projectile.

The London correspondent of the N. Y. Journal of Commerce, referring to the war in the East, says:

"Great consternation has been caused by a statement that the Czar is possessed of a newly invented projectile or 'infernal shell,' as it is called, the appalling efficiency of which is presumed to have been proved in the horrible catastrophe at Smolensk. The invention of this destructive apparatus is attributed to two Frenchmen named Fortier and Chompon, the former of whom registered his discovery in Paris in 1839, under the title of 'Boulet Asphyxiant,' and the latter made a formal offer of a similar implement, with improvements, to the French Government in 1842.

Louis Philippe and his ministers, however, declined to profit by either of these opportunities, considering that the use of such murderous machines was inadmissible by the laws of honorable warfare. Chompon appears to have been a degenerate and unscrupulous character, who, in a notorious career in Paris, had exhausted every means of gain, lawful and otherwise. It is now recollects that some years ago he repaired his shattered fortune by a visit to Russia; and the obvious inference, accordingly, is that he must have sold the secret to the Czar.

The possession of such wholesale means of destruction would at once account for the defiance of the powerful naval armaments of England and France by the Russian despot. The affair at Sinope was undoubtedly shrouded in intense mystery. The Turks were panic-struck, and assigned the sudden discomfiture of their fleet to what they call 'Greek Fire,' or some potent spell of witchcraft. It was examination of fragments of the wreck which first led to the suspicion that an invention hitherto unknown in warfare had been used, and a French naval officer, who had been in the Bureau of the Marine, when Fortier's 'Boulet Asphyxiant' was offered, noticed the similarity of the effects to those its description predicted. It has not transpired what has become of Fortier and Chompon, but scientific men in Paris are busily engaged in examining the *dossier* connected with Fortier's registry, for the purpose of finding some clue to the principle of the invention, though it is not yet known how far they have succeeded.

The machine is variously described. In addition to tremendous explosive power, there is said to be a kind of liquid fire burning under water and destroying life by an emission of suffocating vapor. One account thus concludes—"If the Emperor of Russia is really in possession of this deadly element of destruction, the combined navies of the universe will be powerless against him." It is, nevertheless, most providential, that our commanders have been put on their guard, and we can only hope that some means may be devised to counteract this mysterious agency, if it does exist. To repel the disregard of such discoveries, by France and England, is now too late; but, as regards the future, the lesson will not be lost."

### State of things in Paris.

The Paris correspondent of the Philadelphia North American, in his letter of April 17, writes as follows:

Here, in Paris, we have already been suffering under something approaching the famine press.—There is not an article of necessary and household consumption of which the cost has not been raised. It is not too much to say, that the expense of living in the French capital has been increased at least one-third, and this contemporaneously with an increase of house-rent in a yet greater proportion, amounting, in very many instances, to double what it was before. The price of bread has been artificially kept down, but ordinary butchers' meat is now selling at 20 sous the pound, and the superior qualities at ten sous higher. Wine, especially that drunk by the laboring classes, costs nearly double what it did two years ago, and the revenue exhibits a decrease of two and a half millions in the last quarter on this article alone. Oil, so essential to the same classes in this country, has also greatly risen. In short, corn, wine and oil, fish, flesh and fowl, eggs, butter, milk—all the great staples of life and strength and comfort, have reached a price almost so nearly bordering on the prohibitive for the masses, that should continued warfare, with its inevitable accompaniment of increased taxation, combine with any outward influence of the seasons to augment the difficulty, our rulers are likely to have worse enemies to contend with here at home than any, they are now on the point of encountering abroad. Credit is in a most alarmed and straitened condition, and in the commercial world, many houses are on unusually tight. The quarterly returns of the revenue show a deficit of three and a half millions as compared with the same period last year, and the stagnation of trade threatens to be both general and continuous.

### FROM THE STATES.

**FOREST AND WILLIS.**—The N. Y. correspondent of the Charleston Courier, in his letter of the 9th says:

Forest, the tragedian, who seems to have an incurable penchant for law suits, is docketed in a legal case against N. P. Willis, the damages being laid at \$20,000. It seems very absurd that any one knowing Willis' pecuniary circumstances as well as Forest does, should think of even coupling his name with so large a sum. Willis is a literary man, as poor as Harriet Skimpole, and I would soon expect him guilty of having so much money, as I would believe his ability to squeeze moisture from dust. It has been said that when Willis gained the last suit, for the assault Forest committed upon him, with a verdict in his favor of \$2,500, Forest bought up Willis' bills at ten cents on the dollar, and thus paid him in his own notes. Willis lives up the Hudson river, near Sing Sing, at "Idle-Wild."

### Latest Fish Story.

The following story is told by a correspondent of the Charleston Standard:

A gentleman of this city, in company with a friend some time ago, while in Florida, determined upon a fishing excursion. A large light oared boat was procured, and two stout, able-bodied negroes to row it. They took with them a cast net, and proceeded a short distance from the shore, where they soon found themselves in a school of mullets. The net was thrown, but it enclosed such a prodigious multitude of fish, that to draw it in was found to be utterly impracticable. In this

meantime the fish began to jump into the boat, who it became so full as to be in danger of sinking. The net was cut loose, and they began to pull for the shore, but soon found the moles unable to propel the boat through the fish, until after great exertion, and considerable delay, they finally reached the shore just in time to prevent her sinking, as the gunwales were down to the surface of the water. After drawing her on the beach, they proceeded to unload their cargo, which consisted of eight cart loads of fish, from the heads of which they had fish-stew for two months. What think you of that for a fish story, every word of which is literally true. Let fishermen bear that it is

meantime and I tried to catch it, to leave a good look at it. But how to get it. Paper, pen, ink: yes that's it, now I have you. Did you ever set traps to catch thoughts? If you didn't just try it. I've named the materials of which to make the trap. But you ask, where's the bait? Well there now you've got me. No, no, you haven't the bait with the first stray thought that comes along. Don't you see my bait stuck up there at the head of this? No need of bait after once you get a start. Just make use of them as fast as you catch them. But what kind they are. But they are all for some use; did you know that? Some of them will be very beneficial to you, and others, perhaps, might do your friends good. Have you never thought that some young man was doing wrong; and you have thought you could tell him how to do better. Tell your thoughts to him. Have you thought he needed a friend? Keep that thought for yourself; and try and see if you can't be that friend. Have you thought that young lady was injuring herself by associating with that young man, and yet had not had resolution enough to tell her so? What asks another, have thoughts done? What, my friend, have they not done? They are the beginnings of actions. What if Alexander had never thought, and Cleopatra and Demosthenes had never thought? What if Napoleon, Wellington, Washington, Lafayette, Byron, Gray, Burns, Scott and Bryant had never thought? Why, even the Heavens and the Earth must have been created by a thought from the Eternal Mind. Have you never thought that thoughts were emanations from Deity. Ah! yes, thoughts will well repay taking care of, for nothing else but your own good. We are made up of thoughts. All the books we read are nothing but thoughts, thoughts, thoughts. Friends I think; and if you can't do better for use these thoughts to bait for your own Hallow! my bait is used well nigh up, and I must stop and think what to bait with next time. Trap's full! Who'd thought I'd caught so many! Ha ha! SQUIB.

**3.** Few persons have any idea of the extent of Nebraska. Its boundary is 3000 miles in length, its area 500,000 square miles, and it will form 12 States, each as large as Ohio.

**4.** The block of marble presented by the Suban of Turkey to the National Washington Monument, has been received at Washington.

**5.** The calico-ship Emerson has been raised, and moved into shallow water. Two-thirds of the diameter of her wheels are out of water and she will probably float next high tide.

**6.** Senator Thompson, of Kentucky, it is said, will probably be the "Know-Nothing" candidate for the presidency at the next election. "Know-Nothing" candidates for public office are very common now-a-days, and their success is anything but a satisfactory evidence of the spread of intelligence, and the ascendancy of enlightened opinion.

### Gen. Scott for President Again.

"Potomac," the Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Patriot, says that a political movement is going on there, and in other sections of the country, which has for its object the thorough reorganization of the whig party, and the running of Gen. Winfield Scott for President, and Hon. John Bell for Vice President at the election in 1856.

It is thought Greeley is at the head of the movement, in order to find a sale for the pictorial life of Scott, which he has still on hand in countless thousands.

A magnificient scheme, truly, that would be for selling a few books. We have too much regard for Mr. Greeley, to suppose that he would do anything of that kind, even if he could.

The "KNOW-NOTHINGS."—The Boston Times, in speaking of this new party, says: "There is no mistake but that the 'know-nothings' possess considerable strength in this state. Their number is very large, and it is even intimated that they will poll 40,000 votes for their candidate for governor at the next election. The 'know-nothing' manifest considerable audacity in carrying out their designs. It is their determination to oppose certain regularly nominated candidates for office, nothing is known abroad concerning it until the opening of the polls on election day, when they come like a torrent upon the ballot-box, and their dismayed opponents, being put to flight, they sweep triumphantly all before them. This was the case in Salem, Cambridge, Waltham, and other places, at the town meetings on Monday, the 6th inst., when they carried nearly every candidate on their tickets."

The St. Joseph Gazette says that that place is filled with emigrants going to the Pacific, and every boat adds to the number. There seems to be a greater number destined for Oregon than for California. Several families from St. Joseph are preparing to emigrate thither, among whom is H. F. Bayak, a popular Baptist minister, who was Chaplain to the Senate at the last session of the Missouri Legislature.—*Chicago Democrat*.

**7.** The people of Oregon are to vote in June upon the question of forming a State Government; and if a majority favor the proposition, they will be prepared to send their Senators and Representatives to Congress next winter. Oregon, Minnesota, Washington and perhaps Utah will soon be in the Union, possibly by the next presidential election—all free States.—*Boston Chron.*

And Nebraska and Kansas, too, one of these days—free States, or not at all.—*Chicago Journal*.

**8.** From the St. Paul Democrat, we extract the following:

Ainsworth Northup, Esq., of Hennepin county, informs us that he is now fitting out a company of emigrants for Washington Territory. He designs leaving Minneapolis on or about the first day of May, and intends taking the route traveled by Gov. Stevens, except Mr. N. and party will go by the way of Traverse des Sioux and Fort Ridgely, on the Minnesota river.

### THOUGHTS.

For the Spectator.

What eccentric, unique, interesting little things thoughts must be! Would that I could see one in its eternal round. Wonder if the same thought ever was in two bodies, and whether the same thought ever entered the cells of the same cranium more than once. One visited the vacant space a little.

another and I tried to catch it, to leave a good look at it. But how to get it. Paper, pen, ink: yes that's it, now I have you. Did you ever set traps to catch thoughts? If you didn't just try it. I've named the materials of which to make the trap. But you ask, where's the bait? Well there now you've got me. No, no, you haven't the bait with the first stray thought that comes along. Don't you see my bait stuck up there at the head of this? No need of bait after once you get a start. Just make use of them as fast as you catch them. But what kind they are. But they are all for some use; did you know that? Some of them will be very beneficial to you, and others, perhaps, might do your friends good. Have you never thought that young man was doing wrong; and you have thought you could tell him how to do better. Tell your thoughts to him. Have you thought he needed a friend? Keep that thought for yourself; and try and see if you can't be that friend. Have you thought that young lady was injuring herself by associating with that young man, and yet had not had resolution enough to tell her so? What asks another, have thoughts done? What, my friend, have they not done? They are the beginnings of actions. What if Alexander had never thought, and Cleopatra and Demosthenes had never thought? What if Napoleon, Wellington, Washington, Lafayette, Byron, Gray, Burns, Scott and Bryant had never thought? Why, even the Heavens and the Earth must have been created by a thought from the Eternal Mind. Have you never thought that thoughts were emanations from Deity. Ah! yes, thoughts will well repay taking care of, for nothing else but your own good. We are made up of thoughts. All the books we read are nothing but thoughts, thoughts, thoughts. Friends I think; and if you can't do better for use these thoughts to bait for your own Hallow! my bait is used well nigh up, and I must stop and think what to bait with next time. Trap's full! Who'd thought I'd caught so many! Ha ha! SQUIB.

**9.** The numbers of the "Spec." and your good letter of March 11, are now before me. For the same please accept my joint greatest acknowledgments, wishing you a safe and prosperous voyage on the sea of life, as you have braved your bark, and may many skies, and soft gentle breezes constantly attend you, "visiting" your thoughts, and tipping them into "wisdom."

**10.** You will please discontinue my paper.

**11.** With pleasure we will discontinue your paper; and if you will be kind enough to call at our office, we will refund the amount of subscription due you. But the idea of discontinuing a share in any individual for five cent merely, or five dollars, is perfectly absurd. Our remarks were only intended to show that where public meetings or associations are asking a favor, it would appear more conclusive that they *wanted* one, if they attended to the *small* affairs. This is the first time we have been called on to discontinue, when there was no cause for it.

**12.** How is it that one P. M. could consider to be a circular what a neighboring P. M. would call a sealed letter? Why don't Pierce and Campbell train their offices all alike on such simple points?

### SPECTATOR.

C. L. Goodrich, Editor.

OREGON CITY, OREGON TERRITORY:

**Friday Evening, June 30, 1854.**

For President of the U. S. in '56

MILLARD FILLMORE,

NEW YORK.

For Vice President in '56

JOHN BELL,

OF TENNESSEE.

**13.** We are under the necessity of saying that in consequence of the scarcity of money in this vicinity we are compelled to ask the many who are owing us to come forward and render us a little pecuniary assistance immediately.

**14.** We perceive by the up-country papers that preparations are making in all directions for the celebration of the Anniversary of our National Independence on a grand scale. In almost every town, village and hamlet, civic and military processions, orations, balls, etc., are to come off, and the prospect is that the celebrations will be more enthusiastic and more general than on any preceding occasion. Up to the present time very little has been said in this city relative to the approaching Anniversary, nor that the citizens of San Francisco are less patriotic than their fellow citizens throughout the State, but because immersed in the pursuit of business, they have very little time to think about any future event till the time actually arrives. We hope, however, that at the next meeting of the Common Council an appropriation, in accordance with time-honored custom, will be made to defray the expenses of the celebration, and make all the necessary arrangements. It was suggested some time ago that there should be a procession formed on the occasion composed of all the representatives of the different nationalities at present congregated within this modern Babylon, which we think is by no means a bad idea, and we recommend it to the consideration of those who take charge of these matters.—*S. E. Herald*.

In reply to this we can only tell what is the usage. Society is despotic, young Sir, and arbitrary, we think, to a point that is insane. What more absurd, for instance, than that two persons should be willing to be guests to the same host and yet unfit to be acquaintances for each other? To act upon such a possibility is a tacit disavowal of the host's selection of acquaintances. Yet such is the law—that no gentleman may invite a lady to dance, or otherwise address her or take any visible notice of her presence, without a formal introduction. It is so in America and England, at least. In France, a young lady may be invited to dance, at a party, by an un-introduced gentleman; but for any single gentleman to attempt conversation with such partner, or with any unmarried lady, is an ill-timed freedom upon which French society is positive. Talk to a nondescript! Why, it is a rehearsal of married privileges wholly inadmissible. So it amounts (clear Naval Academy) to a drawn question—right in France, wrong in England—wrong in France, right in England. We can transplant almost anything, better than manners and morals, in this funny world.

**15.** We understand that extensive preparations are being made for the celebration of the 4th in the Mallory Garden, at Wm. Barlow's. There will be every thing prepared to accommodate a large number of people. Good music, &c., for the evening amusements.

Capt. Miller informs us that the steamer Fenix will leave her wharf, Tuesday morning next, at 8 o'clock precisely, carrying passengers for the above celebration.

**16.** The "New York Daily Tribune" of May 9, says that "over ten millions of bushels of wheat will be harvested during the coming season in Oregon."

**17.** The following article is so closely allied to something we wanted to say that we insert it with our endorsement:

**Opposition.**—A certain amount of opposition is a great help to a man. Kites rise against and not with the wind. Even a head wind is better than none. Neighbors over work his passage anywhere in a dead calm. Opposition is what he wants, and more, have taken for granted. Hardship is the natural soil of mankind and sedition. He that sows the storm, re