

The Standard

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graph. The police are generally a vigilant body, and private assassination is confined to the friends of Italian Liberty of the Orsini school. The public morality, though far from perfect, will stand comparison with other Italian cities. Convents and churches are perhaps rather numerous, yet this may be expected in a clerical regime. Monuments of public charity such as hospitals, asylums and poor-schools are more numerous in some than in Dublin, tho' the latter city is twice the size, and one of the most benevolent cities in Europe. *Tata Giovanni* is an excellent institution for the care and education of little houseless children. *Th' Ofsanelli* contains about 200 youths, some of whom are foundlings, others the sons of poor tradesmen, who receive not only a trade, but often a capital to commence life. The University so famed throughout Christendom is open to all, dispensing the higher branches of a brilliant education to thousands of students, gratis. To the youth, not alone of Italy, but of the world, Rome offers a classic hospitality, laying wide her treasures of art and literature, without distinction of race, rank or religion. To a foreigner visiting London, it is permitted as a special favor to inspect the Queen's stables; and in the polite Paris not the all-powerful passport can unlock the salons of the Tuileries when the Emperor is at home; but, for the much-sobered Pius the ninth, there is no greater pleasure than to receive and welcome in the Vatican the poor traveller of science or untried scholar, to whom is presented the grandest field for study that ancient or modern ages have ever held.

The civil war in America.

The Africa arrived here last night. Her dates are down to the 14th, being four days later than the last arrival. The intelligence she brings is important. I send you files of papers, together with the annexed selections. The new York Herald of the 14th thus summarizes the latest intelligence:—The most important news from the seat of war which we have to record to-day comes from Missouri, where the gallant General Lyon has been contending in the south-western portion of that state with an immense force of the rebels, and this news, we regret to say, tells of the death of General Lyon and the retreat of his army. It will be remembered that on Thursday last General Lyon had a fight with his brave guard and that of the rebels under Ben. McCulloch at Dog Springs, near Springfield, where he endeavored to draw the latter out of his shelter in the woods. I appear from official intelligence received by Major General Fremont, at St. Louis, from one of General Lyon's aides, that the fight was renewed on Saturday morning at half-past six o'clock—three columns of the Union forces, respectively commanded by General Lyon, General Sigel, and Major Sturgis, numbering in all eight thousand men, being engaged on one side, and a body of rebels under General McCulloch and General Price, numbering twenty-three thousand, on the other. The battle took place at Davis' creek, about nine miles south east of Springfield. Against this immensely superior force, which was composed of regiments from Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas, and Texas, the troops of General Lyon were unable to maintain their ground, and pressed the enemy back to their encampment, on Wilson's Creek, which General Sigel actually occupied for the night; but fearing a flank movement of the rebels, he withdrew his small force. General Lyon was killed while charging at the head of his column. The engagement was a severe one. Eight hundred of the Union troops are reported killed and wounded. The loss of the rebels was very heavy, and it is said to include General McCulloch and General Price. All the tents and wagons of the rebels were lost. General Sigel effected a retreat to Springfield in good order, and from there fell back on

Rolla, the terminus of the south-west branch of the Pacific Railroad, leaving only one gun behind him on the field. He captured ninety prisoners, and brought back as a trophy the horse and sword of Ben. McCulloch, together with 25,000 lbs. in specie from the Springfield bank. At last report there was no appearance of a pursuit on Sigel's retreating columns, and his army was considered safe. The report of the rebel loss has been confirmed by the statement of prisoners taken, and their numbers have been ascertained by the muster rolls found on the field. A despatch confirming the account of the battle and the death of General Lyon was received at the War Department yesterday from General Fremont. We have nothing of importance to report of military movements at Washington. The Navy Department appears to be stirring itself a little at last. Orders were issued yesterday for the construction of five out of twelve of the new steam gunboats authorized by Congress. Two of them are to be built at the Kittery yard in Maine; one at Charlestown, Mass. one at Brooklyn, and one at Philadelphia. The other seven are to be built by contract outside of the navy yards. Proposals for two iron-clad steamers were also issued yesterday, to be constructed by contract. We give a full account to-day of the whereabouts of the rebel privateer Sumter. It appears that she arrived at Curacao on the 17th of July, but her flag had not been recognized at the fort there, she was not permitted to enter; but upon Lieutenant Semmes, her commander, sending a boat ashore and representing her position to the Governor as a war vessel of the Confederate States he was permitted to enter and rest. She went to sea on the 24th, still steering to the eastward. There were one hundred and fifty men on the Sumter. The vessel took no provisions on board at Curacao, one of the officers stating that they had taken enough out of the crew for some weeks. She was armed with four thirty-two and one sixty-four pounders. These officers who had been in the United States Navy wore their old uniform, with the United States Navy button. The general feeling among the merchants at the port was against admitting the privateer. There was a Dutch man-of-war in the harbour, and the officers refused to associate with the officers of the privateer, and went on shore without their uniforms while the Sumter was in the harbour. These facts we learn from Captain Borchman of the brig Sea Foam, which arrived at the port yesterday from Curacao.

St. Louis, Mo., TUESDAY, AUGUST 13 P. M.—Rumors are current on the street, in which some reliance is placed, that General Lyon's command in the southwest has been totally routed by the rebels. General Lyon himself was killed, and General Sigel was in full retreat with the remnant of the Federal forces. This information is said to have been received by Secessionists last evening. The messenger who brought the news killed four horses between Springfield and Rolla in his haste to outstrip the government messengers. Great anxiety is felt by the Union men here, and most serious apprehensions are indulged in for the safety of our army.

VARIETIES.

A Peep into the Office of the London "Times."—A French tourist, who has visited the office of the *Times*, furnishes some interesting items respecting the internal economy of that vast establishment that we have not before seen mentioned. Adjoining the editorial room—which is large, well-lighted, and fitted up with desks comprising every convenience for writing—is a dining-room for editors, and the archive room, where are stored all the files of the *"Times"* since its foundation. Next to the archive-room are the proof-readers' rooms, where are hundreds of dictionaries and encyclopedias in all languages and relating to all subjects. A dozen proof-

readers are employed during the day, and another dozen during the night. They have an eating-room adjoining that where they work, and their meals are provided at the expense of the establishment. The administration of the *Times* has nothing to do with the subscription of the paper. Smith, of the Strand, sees to the mailing of the paper, of which he takes thirty thousand daily. The remainder are bought by one hundred and seventy news-dealers, who pay in advance. The paper is sold to them less than cost, the proprietors looking to the advertisements for remuneration. The wear and tear produced by the perpetual motion which reigns in this immense establishment are so great that it is necessary to rebuild and strengthen once every two years the lower storeys of the building.

A letter from Beyrout, in the *"Patrie,"* states that the French squadron on the coast of Syria is very active, constantly cruising on the coast to show the French flag to the natives. The Admiral himself sets an example, being eager to see all, and judge of everything that is going on. He recently went to Nazareth and the Sea of Tiberias in order to satisfy himself of the state of Palestine, which he found completely tranquil. During the Admiral's excursion his flag-ship, the *Bretagne*, remained in sight of Caiffa, and was an object of admiration to the population.

GOATS AT MALTA.—Early every morning one hears the tinkling of very small bells. These are those of the goats which are driven in flocks throughout the streets. Go wherever one will in the town there are goats met with; sometimes in large droves of thirty or forty, but generally in small companies. They are driven from house to house, and milked at the doors. Scarcely any cow's milk is to be had in Malta. Sometimes a number of sheep are mingled with the flocks of goats. These animals, though usually driven in front of their owners, are often seen following them, as in oriental lands, and in accordance with the pastoral allusions in the Bible.

TRADE WITH AMERICA.—The effect of the events in America upon the trade of this country everybody must have expected to be great; but we rather think that the most disastrous forebodings fall far short of the facts, as we find them in a statement obligingly furnished from the Customhouse at Liverpool. The following figures show the declared value of British goods exported from Liverpool to the United States in the months of May, June, and July, 1860 and 1861:—

Taking the three months together in each year, we have the following results:—	
1860	£4,959,023
1861	905,151
Decrease	£4,053,872

In other words, the exports to America from Liverpool have decreased more than four-fifths. As 1860 was an average year for exports, and as there is nothing exceptional in the case of Liverpool, beyond the fact that it is the chief seat of the American export trade, it will probably be found that the decrease in our whole American trade is in a similar proportion.—*Sedman.*

A SOUTHERN COMPLIMENT TO THE 69th INFANTRY.—No Southerner but feels that the sixty-ninth maintained the old reputation of Irish valour, on the wrong side through misguidance, and not through treachery to the old cause; and not one of us but feels that the day must come when a true understanding of the principle at issue will range their fearless hearts in line with their brethren of the South. All honour to the sixty-ninth, even in its error.—*Memphis (Tenn.) Argus.*

The Oil-wells of North America.—Numerous letters confirm the great value of the oil-springs lately discovered in the United States and Canada. The question as to the duration of their yield remains to be set, but it seems probable that, owing to the extent of the regions in which they are found, the supply will last many years, and that a proper organ-

ization of railway facilities will also be needed to cause the production to be among the most important in modern commerce. In the United States the principal deposits are understood to be close to a station on a new railway—the Atlantic and Great Western—which will render their conveyance to New York comparatively inexpensive. In Canada they are about twelve miles from the Wyoming Station of the Great Western of Canada Railway, and some arrangements will be necessary for the transit over that distance, the existing roads being of the worst description. At the site of the principal wells the ground was two years ago covered by an almost unbroken forest. Now there is a resident and constantly-increasing population upwards of five hundred. During the last winter the coaches took an average of fifty people daily to the spot from Wyoming, and many bought land and remained. There are several inns filled to overflowing. Two good hotels are in course of erection. Houses and shanties are rising on all sides, and the great activity is everywhere apparent. At present there are about one hundred wells in full operation, all yielding oil. The land is held in large blocks, the owner leasing acres and half acres for nine or ten years. The terms usually are 300 dollars for the privilege and one-third of the oil drawn from the wells. The wells are sunk and cribbed to a depth of from 40 to 60 feet, till the rock is reached. In many cases surface-oil is found before reaching the rock, but it is of rather inferior quality and doubtful yield. After arriving at the rock, the wells through the earth being from 4 to 7 feet square, they drill to a depth of from 40 to 70 feet, between which distances oil is almost sure to be discovered. Wooden tanks, varying from 500 to 2000 gallons capacity, are constructed close to each well. The oil is pumped into these, and afterwards drawn off into barrels to be sent to market. A moderate average yield for all the wells now in operation (one hundred) is fifteen barrels or 600 gallons per day.

Story of a Madman.—A Mullinger correspondent of the *"Irish Times,"* states that, some time ago Captain Sydney Smyth, who had been confined in a lunatic asylum, set fire to the residence of his brother, Captain Robert Smyth, of Portlick Castle, Westmeath. The building was totally destroyed, the motive of the man being revenge for some fancied grievance. The correspondent adds, "Immediately after the destruction of the building, the lunatic fixed his residence in an elevated part of the ruins where he has set up a permanent residence as the 21st of July," successfully opposing all the attempts made to capture him. Armed with a sword, of which he had managed to possess himself, and furnished with a formidable supply of stones and missiles of every description, which he had ready to hurl on any hostile intruder, he succeeded for more than a month in defying the power of the civil authorities, who have been unremitting in their endeavors to effect his arrest, which it was found impossible to do without a certain loss of life. The only persons he allowed to approach him were two men belonging to the place, by whose means food was conveyed to him. It was proposed to render him insensible by mixing opium with his drink, and then securing him; but the attempt was not more successful than several other stratagems which resulted also in failure. At one time he seems to have entertained the intention of escaping, and making his way to his former residence; but the constabulary took such effectual measures as to frustrate his object, withdrawing the boats from the neighbourhood and guarding the roads—in fact, subjecting him to a regular siege. The number of police engaged in watching him on one occasion amounted to thirty, accompanied by the county inspector or a sub-inspector, and resident magistrates; but all their efforts proved fruitless until one day last week, when a sub-inspector Kirkland and his party suc-

ceeded in capturing him. He is unquestionably insane, and persists in his threats of further vengeance against his brother."

GARIBALDI AND THE AMERICAN WAR.—The *New York Herald* makes the following statement:—"The offer made by Garibaldi to our government of his services has been accepted, and he is to receive the rank of Major-General in our army. His name and presence will be of immense value to the Union cause. They will prove to the English and French governments that it has the sympathy of the friends of human freedom throughout the world, and that any interference in favour of the South will expose them to a severe retribution at their hands."

ENORMOUS NEW GUN.—Mr. Clay, of the Mersey Steel and Iron Works, is engaged in the manufacture of one of his guns of enormous size and power. The design and destination of the gun is not allowed to transpire, but it is supposed to be made for experimental purposes for a foreign government, to test the resistance of battery plates. It is said that the gun is to throw a shot of 500lb, and that it will be ready for trial in two or three weeks. The monster gun made at these works, and which was lately tested again at Portsmouth, carries a shot of 250lb.

THE QUEEN AND MR. DARGON.—It used to be mentioned as a characteristic of "the Georges" that they never forgot old acquaintances, and on Thursday evening Queen Victoria proved her true blood by a worthy instance. No sooner had she set foot within the terminus at Westland row, than she singled out Mr. Dargon from the group of gentlemen awaiting her arrival, and kindly greeted him expressing a hope that all went well with him and his. In this graceful recognition her Majesty was followed by the Prince Consort, who warmly expressed to Mr. Dargon his admiration of the scenery of Killarney, and the gratification his excursion had afforded him.—*Mail.*

AN AMERICAN FARM.—The largest farm in Illinois is that of Isaac Funk, who resides at Bloomington, McLean County. The total number of acres occupied and owned by him is 39,900—one farm of 27,000 acres, fields containing, respectively, 8,000, 3,900 and 1,000 acres. By his great crop of corn, all of which he consumes at home, he is thus able to market about 70,000 bushels of cattle a year at New York. His stock on hand of horses, mules, hogs and fat cattle, is said to be worth 1,000,000 dollars.

COAL.—The earliest mention of coal is said to be in 1345, but it was probably known for the purposes of trade long before. The citizens of London used it in the reign of Edward I; every ship load that passed under the arches of old London Bridge, paid a toll of sixpence to the corporation. The middle classes were the first to appreciate its value, but the nobility, whose mansions were in the pleasant suburbs of Holborn and the Strand, regarded it as a nuisance, and complained loudly of the smoke. In 1306 a Commission of Inquiry was instituted, and followed by a proclamation forbidding the use of sea coal within the city of London. The effect of this prohibitory measure was but temporary. Fifty pounds were paid from the Exchequer in 1305 to several "coal merchants" for providing coal and wood for the coronation of Edward II. The price of coal in the reign of Edward III. was six shillings and fourpence a chaldron.—*Our English Home.*

EXPORTATION OF COTTON FROM LIVERPOOL.—To New York.—Last week less than 15,000 bales of unstated cotton were sent from Liverpool to North America, via New York. Such an occurrence, as we believe, unprecedented.

The Russian journals announce that a remarkable geological phenomenon has just occurred in the Caspian Sea, an island having risen from the waters near Baku, on the western coast. The captain of the schooner *Turkmen*, who first discovered it, states that, except the upper crust, the soil of this new island was quite

moist and very warm, which shows that it was of very recent formation. It is eighteen feet above the level of the water, and twelve miles from the island of Sicinet.

Rates of Freight.

Destination	London	Amsterdam	Hamburg	Antwerp	Brussels	Genoa	Spain	India	China
Per ton	40s	40s	40s	40s	40s	40s	40s	40s	40s
Per cwt	4s	4s	4s	4s	4s	4s	4s	4s	4s
Per 100 lbs	40s	40s	40s	40s	40s	40s	40s	40s	40s

ARRIVALS AND EXPORTS.

- October 13.
- From London, Aug. 3, Eng. barque "Patriotes" to Getting, with 1200 barrels beer, 35 tons coal and hardware.
 - 13. From Hamburg, July 25, English barque "Asia" to Hartenfels, with hardware, liquors and 16,000 pieces lumber.
 - From Montevideo, American steamer "Mississippi" with 81 passengers and cargo.
 - 14. From Sessport, July 26, American brig "Waccaman," to O' Shea, with 171,000 feet lumber.
 - 15. From Rio Janeiro, Oct. 8, British steam-packet "Morsey," with general cargo and 28 passengers.
 - 16. From Havana, Jan. 15, Spanish goletta "Paco" to Lopez, with 160 pipes *caña* and 7 boxes cigars.
 - 19. From Montevideo, American steamer "Mississippi," with 135 passengers, 8 sheep and 31 boxes eggs.
 - From Montevideo, Brazilian steamer "Marquez do Oliveira."
- SAILINGS AND EXPORTS.**
- October 13.
- England, British schooner "Num-deeps."
 - Cádiz, Spanish barque "Victoria."
 - England, Brit. brig "Flying Cloud."
 - Panagos, Italian schooner "Nueva Diana."
 - 14. Rio Janeiro, French mail steamer "Santongo," with mails and passengers.
 - 16. Antwerp, Belgian brig "Do Ruyster."
 - Montevideo, American steamer "Mississippi" with passengers.
 - 17. New York, American ship "Benjamin Ayman" in ballast.
 - Esuadna, British steamer "Eagle."
 - Up the River, Dutch brig "Joan Jacob" in ballast.
 - Up the River, American brig "Ada" in ballast.
 - Foreign ports, British bark "Adventure" in ballast.
 - Auncion, Paraguayan steamer "Salto de Guayra."
 - 18. Havre, French ship "Racine."
 - Foreign ports, Bremen bk. "Oriol" in ballast.
 - Foreign ports, British bark "Liriope" in ballast.
 - Spain, Spanish brig "Nuevo Martin."
 - N. York, American ship "Benjamin Ayman."
 - Montevideo, British war steamer "Oberon."
 - 19. Uruguay, British brig "Wilton Wood."

