

COMMUNICATIONS.

METROPOLITAN CORRESPONDENCE

LETTER XXXV.

NEW YORK, March 3, 1855.

A distinguished arrival—The Spring—Melting influences—Spring—plains—March winds—Winter's reprieve—The Crimean budget—Lord John Russell's speech—Aristocratic Crime—The privileged orders in England—The Collins line and the National Association—General Houston on the Indians—Sam's chance for the Presidency—A book about the Jesuits—An Unscrupulous—Coats de Espars—Satire and the Satirists—A head aches!

MY DEAR POST.—We have had a most distinguished arrival since the date of my last letter, and one which has created no little sensation in every circle of society. I allude to the coming in of spring—the fair young bride of the New Year, whose advent has been looked forward with solicitude. She came on the first of the present month, punctual to her promise, or rather to that of the calendar makers for her. Nor did she conceal herself beneath the skirts of old winter as she sometimes does for the first few days of her annual visit to this region of the globe. She came with an unfeigned face, and looked upon us lovingly, with a smile that went to our very hearts, and so warmed us that we were induced at once to fling aside our winter wrappings. The gracious air with which she thus greeted us has not played us false. Every day, it has become more genial, and while it is fit almost for the tender lungs of the invalid. The masses of frozen snow and ice in our streets are melting away, beneath its soft breath, greatly to the disadvantage of pedestrians; however, for the thoroughfares are choked with vile mud. All this will speedily disappear, especially when the rains which seem already to cover us shall descend with their sauntering steps, and do for us what even our indefatigable May has been unable to accomplish—close our ways.

We have reason to be glad at the coming of the spring for the winter, and especially the latter portion of it, has been exceedingly severe. It has pinched with icy fingers thousands who never before perhaps felt the power of its cold. It has made poverty more bitter than usual, and for the sake of the poor it says that "the winter is over and gone." Not that we shall have all sunshine and balmy air in the month of March. Doubtless the winds will blow and bluster as they wont to do at this period. They will shake the ill-constructed sons and daughters of want to shiver and tremble, but even as they blow we shall hear in their wailings a requiem for the dead—*they are a departed species.*

I will not occupy my usual space with the topic of the Eastern War, for although both the *St. Louis* and *Canada* steamships have arrived during the week with several days later intelligence from the Crimea, than that which I mentioned in my last, the news is meager and inconclusive. If there is any change at all in the complexion of affairs before Sebastopol, it is in favor of the besieging armies. The mission of Lord John Russell, as Plenipotentiary to Vienna is significant say the wiseacres, of positive peace negotiations, but beyond this I see no indications of a speedy termination of the war.

The *Tribune* of this morning in an editorial reference to a very revolting revelation of crime in a high place of the British aristocracy—involving in its guilty disclosures—an Ex Cabinet Minister of England, says: "We have little doubt that it will serve to swell what we have just now with such threatening roar, against England's weak and worn institutions." Without going to the extreme length of the *Tribune* philosophes in their hatred to the British aristocracy, I cannot fail to see in the disastrous management of the war by its pampered and inefficient scions—a great cause of popular dissatisfaction and perhaps hostility—which must result in a great and steady modification of the privileged system. And such disclosures of high crime as that to which allusion is made must certainly deepen the conviction in the minds of the masses of the unsoundness of the aristocracy. Alas! for England. She is under a dark cloud and God only knows when it will pass away from her fair race, and her time-honored pre-eminence among the nations.

There is a good deal of talk about the passage of the bill in Congress, which continues the appropriation of the bonus of \$33,000 a round trip to the steamer of the Collins line, for the next six years, and takes away from the Government the right of terminating this appropriation upon six months notice, as it has heretofore been. By this bill the government is now pledged to pay Collins & Co., over five millions of dollars for carrying a mail once a fortnight for six years between New York and Liverpool. It is certain that other parties would have contended to do the same service for about three millions of dollars bonus. At the first blush of this matter it seems that this large extra bonus, to Messrs. Collins & Co., is extravagant and unjust, but I think it is quite necessary to a correct judgment in the case, that the past circumstances of the Collins' line should be reviewed, when it will appear that they have competed with the Cunard steamers, greatly to the credit of the company and of the country, but greatly also to the pecuniary loss of their owners. With the present bonus from government they pay the company a profit, the enjoyment of which for a brief term of years will scarcely more than make up to them the losses incurred in their first daring and brilliant and successful competition in ocean steam navigation. Others may now do the work for less government bonus, but Collins & Co. deserve something at the hands of the American Congress, and I would much rather see them rewarded than have a cruel extinguisher put upon a noble private enterprise, by the government's withdrawal of its favor, just so soon as the enterprise is made safe to second parties. I am inclined to think that Collins & Co. deserved this token of the national favor.

I think I mentioned in my last the presence of General Sam Houston among us. I had the pleasure of hearing the distinguished Senator deliver a lecture before the Baptist Historical Society of this city on Wednesday night last. A large audience nearly filled the Broadway Tabernacle, and listened with great interest and frequent burst of applause to a rather long discourse about the Indians. I was much interested in the Senator's generous defense of the Indian character and his severe, but perhaps not unmixed animadversions, upon the policy

THE SOUTHERN WEEKLY POST

Southern Weekly Post.

WILLIAM D. COOKE,
JAMES A. WADDELL, M. D. EDITORS.

RALEIGH, MARCH 10, 1855.

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THE STANDARD.

(See article in another column.)

The storm has at last burst upon us. The pent-up fury of the *Standard* has, after sundry premonitions, overwhelmed us with a terrible rebuke. The editors of that paper, not satisfied with our repeated declaration that we are engaged in the service of no political party, notwithstanding our extreme caution to do nothing but even-handed justice towards all the northern portions of the several political bodies, notwithstanding the fact that we have from the first contended quite as earnestly as that paper for the rights of the southern people, against the anti-slavery spirit, wherever it has been developed, and openly sustained patriotic statements, without regard to party, who have faithfully defended our institutions—notwithstanding all this, we say, the editors of the *Standard* came down upon us last Saturday in a long and pelting article, denouncing our course in a tone and language altogether unwarranted by the facts, and in terms as though they were injuriously disposed. There was in its remarks, a sufficient amount of dictatorial arrogance and harshness to irritate our temper, but we are well aware that this may have been exactly the object of the writer, and that he would much prefer a *squabble* to a *discussion*. And we may add, that the *audacious* features of the article, to a great extent, neutralized its apparent acuteness.

WINNE could hear no more. He made a rush to the kitchen to get "the cheese knife." While he was absent, our semi-clerical friend dashed out of the side-door, and when last seen was rushing north, at the rate of fourteen miles an hour. Should he stop this side of Canada, we shall issue an extra.—Duthel.

THE OCEAN AND ITS DEPTHS.—PROF. OLMESTEAD, of New Haven, has contributed to the last number of the New England (a quarterly publication) an article entitled "A Philosophical Survey of the Ocean," from which we extract the following paragraph. The author commands highly the labor of Lieut. MAURY.

FOR many, the physician leaves the abode of health and happiness and goes forth to be exposed to the miseries of insidious districts, and to the infection of contagious diseases.

He goes through storm and winter, through rain and cold, and through damp and darkness for money. For money, the mind descends into pits occupied by the most fatal gasses, and the blaster, by being exposed to the unexpected explosions of gun powder, has often times been found high in the atmosphere, flying a

LITERARY ASSOCIATION.

MR. ELLIOTT.—Briefly, through the medium of your paper, I wish to call the attention of our citizens to the propriety of establishing a Literary Society in Raleigh. Few cities have as yet done anything like this, and they are decidedly the most interesting sketches of travel I have met with in a twelvemonth. "Society and Society" is the title of another book from the press of Redfield, entitled "Cosas de Espaa, or Going to Madrid via Barcelona." The several chapters of this volume are brimful of vivacity and good humor. They are decidedly the most interesting sketches of travel I have met with in a twelvemonth. "Society and Society" is the title of another book from the press of Redfield, entitled "Cosas de Espaa, or Going to Madrid via Barcelona." It is the several chapters of this volume are brimful of vivacity and good humor. They are decidedly the most interesting sketches of travel I have met with in a twelvemonth. 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