orders for steel shots have been given to the extent of £120,000. in value. Have we a single ship afloat that can keep out these simple round steel shot fired from a common smooth-bored gun, if ever directed against us? This is a grave question, and demands a speedy answer." It is, indeed, a grave question, and the answer must not be delayed. If Mr. BESSEMER is right, the Government is all wrong; if he is wrong, the country should know it.

In all the Roman Catholic places of worship within the jurisdiction of Cardinal WISEMAN, a pastoral letter by "his Eminence" was read on Sunday, referring loyally and eloquently to the birth of a son to the Prince of WALES. PROVIDENCE is praised for "anticipating our prayers and desires," and the choicest blessings of Heaven are invoked for the Royal babe. The pastoral then proceeds: "But we feel sure that, while praying for the speedy and complete restoration to health of the PRINCESS mother, that she may be 'as a fruitful vine on the sides of the Royal house,' you will turn your thoughts and sympathies towards one still more august, who, after her, has here a larger claim than any one else to maternal joys; and who, after a long period of faithful mourning, may perhaps exclaim, as did LAMECH on the birth of NOE—'This child shall comfort us.'" No sectarian allusions mar the tone of the CARDINAL'S letter.

The Aborigines' Protection Society has prepared an address, which is to be forwarded by the next mail, for presentation to his Excellency Sir GEORGE GREY, K.C.B., Governor of New Zealand, with respect to the war which is being carried on against the Maories. The society, after acknowledging that his Excellency's administration has been characterised by justice, state that they have heard with alarm the proposal to confiscate the lands of all contumacious and rebellious natives. They consider that such a policy would only have the effect of adding fuel to the flame of war—of extending the area of dissatisfaction, and of making the natives fight with the madness of despair. They therefore pray that, in the hour of victory, his Excellency will temper justice with mercy, and give to the world another bright example of forbearance and magnanimity; so that the Maori race may be saved from extinction, and the dominions of the QUEEN be firmly established over every portion of the islands of New Zealand.

A circular of the National Government of Poland announces the dismissal of General MIEROSLAWSKI from his post as general organiser of the revolutionary forces. He is said, nevertheless, to be actively engaged at Liege in services for the national cause.

The King of PRUSSIA has replied to the address of the Upper House. He says that the objects of the demand of Government were—firstly, the fulfilment of Federal obligations; secondly, the preservation of the power and honour of Prussia against attack, while such fulfilment was taking place. The KING thanks the Upper House for its assurance of aid, and hopes that the devotion of both houses to the requirements of the country will be powerful enough to cause them to lay aside pending differences, and unanimously grant the necessary means. The reply is countersigned by all the ministers.

THE formation of a Southern Independence Association in London seems but a natural result of the general popularity of the Southern cause in English society. There still lingers, of course, amongst the masses of the people an honourable reluctance to rejoice at misfortune to that great republic which by means of its broad lands and new institutions has attracted millions of their brethren to its shores, and has given them comfortable homes. Also amongst all classes in this country there was for a long time an unwillingness to leave out of our consideration of American affairs that sympathy with the anti-slavery movement which had long coloured our views of United States politics. But when the war commenced the issue took such a new turn; the war brought out such unexpected qualities in the Southern people; it threw such light on the condition and disposition of the negro; and it tempted the anti-slavery men into such a new attitude—that the change in English feeling was not only excusable and natural, but perfectly unavoidable by any candid mind.

People who observed American politics before the election of Mr. LINCOLN, or even before the BUCHANAN-FREMONT contest in 1856, are well aware that the tone of the anti-slavery party then was very different from what it is now. Then, the men who opposed slavery—the Free Soil men as well as their violent and thorough allies, the Abolitionists—were simply anxious to clear the Federal flag and the Federal authorities from all complicity with slavery. They never pretended a right to interfere with slavery as a local institution, but they said, "Our nation "is disgraced by the stain on its flag; let us with-"draw from the institution all national patronage "and support; let each State maintain it or sup-"press it as it likes best." Here was an honourable, high-minded programme; perfectly justifi-[...]

antagonistic systems of society, which diverge more widely every year;

And believing it to be the duty of intelligent and conscientious men to meet these facts with wisdom and firmness;

Respectfully invite our fellow-citizens of Massachusetts to meet in Convention at Worcester, on Thursday, January 15, *to consider the practicability, probability, and expediency of a separation* between the Free and Slave States, and to take such other measures as the condition of the times may require.

THEODORE PARKER did not attend this meeting, but in 1857 he drew up "a line of separation "between the *two nations*"—a phrase that the friends of the North will not now allow us to use. He writes:—

*Let me give a hint as to the line of demarkation between the two nations.* I would say, Freedom shall take and keep,—1. The land east of the Chesapeake Bay. 2. All that is north of the Potomac and the Ohio; all that is west of the Mississippi,—*i. e.*, all the actual territory, with the right of reversion in Mexico, Nicaragua, and "the rest of mankind;" the entire State of Missouri, Arkansas, and Texas, with the part of Louisiana west of the Mississippi. I think the North will not be content with less than this.

We quote these documents and declarations to show that the anti-slavery party that elicited English support in 1856, and from 1856 to Mr. LINCOLN'S election, was very different from the so-called anti-slavery party that now carries fire and sword into the South. Men prepared to defend with the sword their homes and their principles, and men who with the sword seek other persons' homes that they may propagate their principles—are both carrying on war; but the difference is very great. If the anti-slavery men of Massachusetts had carried out their programme either in 1856 or in 1861, had BRECKENRIDGE been elected (and in all likelihood they would have done something of the kind had LINCOLN been defeated) we venture to say that the unanimous feeling of England would have been in their favour, and that the protests we now make against Northern invasion of the South would have been repeated with tenfold vigour and fiery indignation against Southern invasion of the North. Indeed we very much doubt whether the feelings of all classes of people here would permit the Government to maintain neutrality if New England or a wider "North" had seceded from the Union, and was hard pressed by the remaining United States; we are inclined to believe that the sword of England would in that case have supported the right of secession. But the situation is utterly unexpected. Had the Huguenots of France obtained the upper hand, and attempted to impose Protestantism at the point of the sword, the sympathy of England, constant to them for centuries when they suffered oppression, would certainly have suffered change. [...]

Office of the administration at Richmond, but that the wide-spread sympathy with the South, audible everywhere in private life, should at length have found a metropolitan and official centre, is natural enough.

IF simple justice is done in the Wigwell Hall murder case, GEORGE TOWNLEY will yet be hanged. The report of the Commissioners in Lunacy, upon which the condemned prisoner has been respited and removed to a lunatic asylum, proves, so far as it proves anything, that he murdered Miss GOODWIN while in the possession of his sound senses, and that there is not the slightest ground for postponing execution on the plea of his insanity. In order to justify this strong statement, and trace the matter step by step, let us go back to the trial. The defence set up by TOWNLEY'S counsel was that he was insane at the time he committed the murder; but this defence completely broke down, and he was found guilty and sentenced to death. The Judge, the jury, and nineteen-twentieths of the public were all of opinion that the murder was deliberately planned and coolly executed, and that TOWNLEY, before he sought the fatal interview, had made up his mind that Miss GOODWIN should renew her engagement or be slain. When the deed was done he gave himself up to the officers of justice, and spoke of his execution for the murder as a thing naturally to follow. The action taken under the clumsy Act of 1840 was flagrantly improper; the magistrates who went to inquire whether or not TOWNLEY was sane had previously declared that he was not sane, and all they had to do was to get two medical men to express a similar opinion. The HOME SECRETARY might still have refused to act upon their representations, for the Act of Parliament, thus tortured from its legitimate meaning, is permissive and not mandatory. It simply declares that "it shall be lawful" to take the course which has suspended legal judgment, and in no way obliges the authorities to take any action whatever. But though we consider that Sir GEORGE GREY chose the wrong course when the right was equally open to him, it is useless to waste words about what is irrevocable, and therefore we come to examine the results of all this preliminary contrivance, to see how far it sustains our proposition that TOWNLEY is not, and has not been, insane. In a letter from the Home Office to the Commissioners in Lunacy, it is stated that Sir GEORGE GREY concurs in the verdict of guilty, and is convinced that the prisoner was sane when the crime was committed. [...]

THE BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND INSTITUTE. —Yesterday evening Mr. James Phillips delivered the first of a series of three lectures, illustrated by experiments on "Light," in the Birmingham and Midland Institute, Paradise Street. Though the weather was very disagreeable, there was a large audience, and they evidently enjoyed the evening's delightful instruction which Mr. Phillips afforded. After a brief introduction the lecturer proceeded to discuss the nature of light and its sources, and afterwards spoke of the electric and lime lights, illustrating their relative powers by a number of experiments which were pleasing and well executed. He also demonstrated the properties of mirrors as affected by light, and made further experiments, among which were several to show that some opaque bodies—gold for instance—were not actually opaque. The second lecture will be delivered on Monday next.

SALT'S PATENT ORTHOMORPHIC TRUSS.—Nearly if not quite all the medical men and surgeons practising in Birmingham have testified to the utility of this invention, to the fact of its being constructed upon anatomically correct principles, and to its being better calculated to fulfil the conditions of a good truss than any other instrument of the kind within their knowledge. [...]

PRESENTATION.—On Saturday last the annual feast in connection with the Newhall Works Sick Society was held at the Shakspere Inn, Parade, when an excellent dinner was served up in first-rate style. [...]

## NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

We respectfully call the attention of House Agents, Owners of Property, and Advertisers generally, to the great reduction we have made in our PRE-PAID CHARGES for the insertion of the following classes of Advertisements:

PREMISES OR LAND TO BE LET.
LAND OR HOUSES TO BE SOLD BY PRIVATE CONTRACT.
HORSES OR CARRIAGES TO BE SOLD.
APARTMENTS TO BE LET.
PUBLIC HOUSES TO BE SOLD.
BUSINESSES TO BE SOLD.
LOST, FOUND, STOLEN, OR STRAYED.
MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES TO BE SOLD.
SITUATIONS WANTED.
CLERKS, SERVANTS, &c., WANTED.
MISCELLANEOUS WANTS OF ALL KINDS.

On and after this day our scale of charges for all Advertisements coming under the above heads will be as follows:—

| | One Insertion. | Three Insertions. | Six Insertions. | Twelve Insertions. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 20 words | *6d. | 1s. 0d. | 1s. 6d. | 2s. 6d. |
| 32 " | *9d. | 1s. 6d. | 2s. 3d. | 3s. 9d. |
| 44 " | 1s. 0d. | 2s. 0d. | 3s. 0d. | 5s. 0d. |
| 56 " | 1s. 3d. | 2s. 6d. | 3s. 9d. | 6s. 3d. |

with an additional threepence for one insertion, sixpence for three insertions, ninepence for six insertions, or one shilling and threepence for twelve insertions of each additional ten words. These are strictly PRE-PAID CHARGES for consecutive insertions, but apply to both the *Daily* and *Aris's Gazette*. Advertisers will thus secure for the above classes of advertisements a much *larger circulation* than can be obtained for the same money in any other newspaper published in the Midland Counties.

The items marked thus * apply only to Advertisements coming under the "Wanted" class.

## EDUCATIONAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

*The attention of Principals of Schools and others connected with the work of tuition is solicited to the following reduced scale of charges for Educational Announcements. The high prices hitherto charged have been practically prohibitory to a large and useful class of Schools, and we have therefore determined so to lower our tariff in this department, as to afford all classes of the Scholastic Profession an opportunity of bringing the claims of their establishments before the public.*

SCALE OF REDUCED PRE-PAID CHARGES.

| | One Insertion. | Three Insertions. | Six Insertions. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Under 4 lines | 1s. 0d. | 2s. | 3s. 0d. |
| " 6 " | 1s. 6d. | 3s. | 4s. 6d. |
| " 8 " | 2s. 0d. | 4s. | 6s. 0d. |
| " 10 " | 2s. 6d. | 5s. | 7s. 6d. |
| " 12 " | 3s. 0d. | 6s. | 9s. 0d. |
| " 16 " | 3s. 6d. | 7s. | 10s. 6d. |
| " 20 " | 4s. 0d. | 8s. | 12s. 0d. |

*and for each additional* TWO LINES *the charge will be* [...]

[illegible]

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