

operations for the season. The number of hands at present employed, including watchmen, is about fifty.

Mr. SOULE'S SON AT MADRID. There has been a diplomatic fashionable emeute in Madrid, between Mr. Soule, Jr., of the American Legation, and the Duke of Albr, which has thrown that capital into a state of excitement. The Paris correspondent of the London Chronicle, writing on the 26th Nov., gives the following particulars :

Private letters from Madrid speak of an affair which took place in that capital on the fete day of St. Eugene, and which has not resulted in an affair of honor. Saturday week being the fete day of St. Eugene—a saint not often heard of till Louis Napoleon chose to give her renown by creating an empress of the same name—the Marquis de Turgot, the French Ambassador at Madrid, gave a ball, which was attended by all that is brilliant in the Spanish capital, in the shape of nobility or diplomacy. Among the guests were the Duke of Alba, the brother in law of the Empress of the French, and Mr. Soule, the son of the newly appointed Minister of the United States. In the course of the evening, Mr. Soule, jr., while walking through the ball room with Mrs. Perry, the wife of the Secretary of the United States Legation, overheard the Duke of Alba (who has recently been in Paris, and is therefore a judge of ladies' dress) make some contemptuous remarks on the style of dress adopted by the wife of the American Minister, (mother of young Soule) — It appears that the lady had adopted a custom which is not quite a la mode de Madrid, in so far that it covered her person up to her throat; whereas the most approved fashion among the Madrid damsels is to exhibit as many of the graces conferred upon them by nature as come within the bounds of decency. The remark of the Duke was, "there goes Mary of Burgundy." Mr. Soule, on hearing the contemptuous expression, left the lady with whom he was walking, and going up to the Duke, informed him "qu'il etait une canaille," and accompanied his information with a push. Great excitement ensued and Mr. Soule's father having interfered, took away the young man, who subsequently addressed a challenge to the Duke, which has not yet been accepted, the Duke having found it convenient to represent the whole affair as political—which it certainly is, if the dress of the American Minister's wife was not strictly in the fashion. At all events, no fighting had taken place at the period when the last dispatches left; but the affair was the topic of conversation everywhere and the feeling was that Jonathan's position in it was preferable to that of the Hidalgo.

Since the above was in type, we have received the New York Herald of January 5th, containing the following additional particulars :

Mr. Soule, the United States Minister, had fought a duel with the Marquis de Turgot, the French Minister, owing to certain remarks of the latter on Mrs. Soule's dress, before referred to. Lord Howden acted as the second of the Marquis.

A duel had also been fought between young Soule and the Duke of Alba, growing out of the same affair.

In neither case had any harm been done.

PROTECTION TO THE INDIANS.—The Times and Transcript of the 23th ultimo has the following :

Hon. Mr. Hunt, of the Assembly, has introduced a bill for "the government and protection of Indians," from which we extract the following provisions: Proprietors of lands on which Indians have been residing since the

adoption of the Constitution, shall allow them to remain unmolested, provided an application is made to a Justice of the Peace for an amount of land sufficient for the necessary want of such Indians, including a site for a village or residence. In no case is a white person to be convicted upon the testimony of an Indian, but the latter may when aggrieved make a complaint, and the matter is then discretionary with the Court or Jury. Every contract made between a white person and Indian, wherein the latter agrees to perform certain labor or services, shall, when executed before and by the consent of a Justice of the Peace, be binding. Persons forcing Indians away from their home or compelling them to work against their will, shall be fined not less than fifty dollars at the discretion of the Court having jurisdiction. A fine of twenty dollars is imposed on persons furnishing Indians with intoxicating liquors, one half going to the informer. All fines collected shall be paid to the County Treasurer, and set apart as "Indian Fund," for the relief and benefit of indigent sick. Whenever any Indian is sentenced on conviction to pay a fine, any householder or freeholder upon giving a bond for the conditional payment of fine and costs of prosecution—in such case, a Justice may bind out said Indian to the person bailing, for any time not exceeding two years for each one hundred dollars. Indians who are able to work, and who shall be found begging, or habitually intoxicated, or declared a vagrant, may be bound out by a Justice of the Peace for the term of five years. The male Indians under twenty five and females under twenty-one are declared minors, and Justices of the Peace may appoint guardians. This act to apply only to native born California Indians and to any territory within this State which may be reserved to the Indians by the General Government.

Hon. Mr. Tivy, of Tulare, introduced a joint resolution disapproving of the course pursued by the General Government towards the California Indians, and recommending our Senators and Representatives in Congress to use their influence to induce Congress to have them removed out of the country.