4 Evenimg ©elegraph

 MONDAY, DECRMBER $17,1866$. The Loss of the "New Ironsides,"
The lose of the United States frigate New
Ironides is a national calanity. Sha was the
bess Iron-clad in our ny ny, anu one of the
most formidable war vessels in the would She was associated with some of the mos
brilinant achievements of the late war, an gained a world-wide reputation.
The circumstances The circumstances attending the destruc-
tiop of this seseel woald seem to reflect upon tiop of this vesser would seem to rident that no
the navalatathoritis. It is
sufficent preparation had been made to guard against just such a disaster as has now overout there were no appliances at hand for sub
duing it, and the best that could be done wau to batten do wn the hatchways, and send to
this elty for assistance. Before that arrived the vessel was a mass of flame, and it waa
only by the most strenuous exertions of the firemen that the fire was prevented if
spreading to the nelghboring vessels. Congress, too, in the loss of this splendia lot the League Island matter. Here are our
ron-clad vessels-the very life of our navylaid up on private premises, and confided to
the care of a handful of watchmen. Had League Island been accepted for a naval
site, as all the interests of the country have
ong demanded, this vessel could hardly have good luck that the Diotator and the Allanta disaster will arouse Congress to the necessity or the wants of the navy, and that the naval
authorities will meantime take masures for
ind the more perfect p.
at League Island.
"Litte Pleasantries"
Trat debatabe ground for conflict of arms
between the North and South - the city of Washington-has again witnessed a little The facts of thie case are rather interesting,
Dr. Sidney, of Mississippi. has been a staunch Unionist throughout the war. Judge Abe bas been an intense secessionist since "reason
held her sway in h t s distracted globe." Some gentlemen resulted in a rencontre, in whicl hurt". Atter this slight exibition of friendly
relations, the parties did not meet until, Capital Irninde
Ing the Doctor, the Judiatialely upon behold ant anv orevious provocation, salated him
Southerner!" Sidney, saucad, adage, that "Actions speak londer than
words," preserved a sublime silence, and supposed that the Judge, when he made such an attack, would have naturally been prehimself for the emergency; but no such fore-
gight was exhibited. No sooner was the fully departed, and in the afternoon ssent
challenge, which, being accepted, was followed in the evening by a note of apology in which the legal functionary stated tha
his salutation to Dr. Sidney was intended as "a little pleasantry."
"Now, if you leave norning," says Dickens, "in the best possible vithout provocation, calls you ten, and he, is natural to suppose that something has
bappened." The same logic applies to tae present case. Ir you aght a duet with a man be meets you he advances, without a word ade," it is natural to suppooe that he desires another fight. But this logic has proved
allacious. $A n$ oath and an epithet of rium is merely a "ilttle pleasantry "' probablitites of the case. We cannot bu think that the Judge did not expect the
Doctor to resent the insult, Imbued with ourage was still an acknowledged for hought that he could insult with impunity a man who had been true to his country. The
rapid blow and the immediate acceptance of challenge proved his mistake. It is seldom which the party who is struck, and who sends challenge, is the one to apologize. A blow enerally calls forth something more than a otes which contased the "litile pes gave a word of Warning for the future.
Twiee you have klecked me, sir: ou have smacked my face; now beware of a nixth ofiense." rence also adds that "the friends of the par range, tor "se the result," it is conds. The dramatist repres to act as afortunate "Bob Acres" represcats the riend to give his love to nis famuly, which is entirely dependent on him tor support, and eagerly asking im whether he does not
think his duty demands that he should And- the fitend assuring blom that he will

THE DAILY EVENING TKLEGRAPH.-PHLLADELPHIA, MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1866.


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