

## GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

### THE COURIER AND MR. SPURGEON.

The *Courier*, which considers itself set for the defence of good manners and social order, finds it difficult to maintain its own principles, when the great institution of the South is assailed even indirectly. Having fallen in with a paragraph from a London paper, which refers in bad taste to Mr. Spurgeon's probable treatment of slavery in his visit to this country, the *Courier* invites mob-law against the preacher in the following paragraph, which would not look out of place in the *N. Y. Herald*, but looks strangely in the columns of our decorous neighbor:

"If Mr. Spurgeon preaches on the same subject that St. Paul did at Athens, there is no doubt that he will be listened to everywhere respectfully, according to what he has to say. If, on the other hand, he should be silly enough to manifest any of that officious and anything but Christian spirit implied in the passage—'Won't he give it to them on their slavery?' he will have to thank his own folly for any consequences to himself. In England, if a foreigner should undertake to declaim against Queen, Lords and Commons, or the somewhat vague glories of the British Constitution, or any other of the settled institutions of the land,—if he excited the mob, he would find himself very quickly in Newgate, or, perhaps, more summarily than politely headed over the rail of some outward bound bark. We do not pretend to say what might occur to brother Spurgeon, if he should count too much upon the liberties of fraternal relations in his efforts to stir us up on slavery. But we doubt very much whether our people would hear him as indifferently as they do the railings of our own anti-slavery volunteer orators."

Sober second-thought has, doubtless, repented of the hasty utterance. We presume the London preacher will speak with plainness and pungency of any sin the Bible condemns, even if, like Paul at Ephesus, it may excite commotion among the silversmiths or cotton-merchants.