BALTIMORE.

MONDAY, APRIL 26, 1858.

A very important individual in the Councils of the Nation, is the Honorable —— Hill of the —th Congressional District of the State of Georgia, as recent occurrences have demonstrated. For months, the Kansas question has been agitating the country, consuming an immense amount of time in its settlement, and begetting much of bitterness and sectional feeling in its discussion. For months, it has occupied the attention of the two Houses, to the exclusion of every other subject, and to the great hindrance of public business. Honest men of all parties have professed a desire to see this troublesome question settled, and the country relieved from further suspense upon the subject. Two different plans for its settlement have been proposed in Congress. One has received the sanction of the Senate; the other, that of the House. Each of these honorable bodies while manifesting a decided preference for its own way of settling the business, has signified its willingness, however, to agree, if possible, upon a compromise between their respective views. Accordingly, a Committee of Conference has been appointed, and to this Committee has been confided the delicate task of deciding upon such a compromise. A majority of the Committee have agreed upon a plan, which has been reported to the two Houses. This plan possesses for national and conservative men, at least one very decided recommendation, that of being equally distasteful to the extremists of both sections, to the Black-Republicans and to the fire-eaters. Throughout the whole country, the hope appears to have been cherished by moderate men, that this report of the Committee would be at once acted upon, and that if possible, a way might be thereby opened to a satisfactory settlement. This hope, we are sorry to say, must be once more deferred. One Mr. Hill, it seems, who happens to occupy a seat in the lower House, has "private business at home" of an urgent nature, which requires his immediate attention, and accordingly by a vote of the House the subject is postponed until after his return.—The postponement, it may be added, was carried by the votes of the opposition against those of the friends of the Administration, and of the Union, who were in favor of proceeding at once to the consideration of the question. Verily, a modest man is Mr. Hill—his modesty is quite equal to some men's assurance. He has "private business at home," and accordingly the public business, the business of thirty millions of people, must wait until Mr. Hill has got through his "private business" and is ready to attend to theirs. Yet Mr. Hill is a "servant of the people," a patriotic gentleman, no doubt, who, for the good of his country, has consented to make a sacrifice of himself and of his personal character, by occupying a seat in the House of Representatives. We should be surprised at the facility with which the House acceded to Mr. Hill's desire to have the business of legislation suspended to suit his convenience, if we were not aware, as we have just stated, that the postponement was voted by men who, in their hearts, if we may judge by their actions, are opposed to any settlement of the question, and who, for personal and partisan purposes, wish to keep it open for future agitation, by staving off its consideration until the end of the session. In this design they have partially succeeded. We only wish our readers to know upon what pretext, and by whose votes the present settlement of the question has been defeated. Mr. Hill's "private business" requiring his presence in Georgia, was the pretext; and the votes of the two representatives of the city of Baltimore were among the votes by which the motion to postpone was carried, and in fact were decisive of the question. If, therefore, there is to be further agitation upon this subject—more suspense on the part of the people, and more intriguing and engineering on the part of Lecomptonites and anti-Lecomptonites, in Congress, the public may know where and upon whom rests the responsibility of this further delay in the settlement of a question which the public interests require should be laid at rest at once and forever.

In addition to a high degree of modesty and a keen perception of his duties as a legislator and a public servant, we observe that Mr. Hill has a decided taste for melo-drama. Mr. Gartrell, also, of Georgia, objecting to his colleague's demand for a postponement, Mr. Hill rushed furiously at him, crying out, "Where will you have your graveyard, sir," intimating thereby his intention not only to kill the said Gartrell, but "to see him decently buried." It was a delicate attention on the part of Mr. Hill, worthy of Sir Lucius O'Trigger, whose kind inquiry as to Bob Acres' possible choice in the matter of grave-yards, gave that redoubtable hero great uneasiness. However, the Sergeant-at-Arms conducted Mr. Hill back to his seat, and Mr. Gartrell was spared the necessity of indicating then and there his wishes in respect to his place of sepulture. The objection proved unavailing, and to oblige Mr. Hill, and at the same time to throw another stumbling-block in the way of the settlement of the Kansas question, the House agreed to postpone, by a vote of 108 to 105.

The most interesting piece of Congressional news which we have lately heard is the announcement that on Thursday last the *Congressional Globe* reporters struck for higher wages, and have since refused to report the speeches of honorable Senators. We hope the strike will continue, and that the reporters in the other house will follow suit. Even a temporary cessation of "reports of speeches" will be a relief to the country. There is no species of literature, not even the yellow-covered kind which is hawked about at hotels and railway stations, which is half so corrupting to the tastes and morals of the people, as the speeches of members of Congress. Their publication and distribution is not only a heavy and useless tax on the government, but has been the means of keeping alive a spirit of "envy, hatred, malice, and all uncharitableness" in the hearts of the people of the North and the South. Constant misrepresentations of each others' characters, and aspersions of each others' motives, constitute the chief staple of the eloquence of Congressmen, and the burden of one-half of the speeches which are delivered in either wing of the Capitol. These ebullitions of party rancor or sectional hate are reported verbatim by the *Globe* reporters, printed in that newspaper, and afterwards re-published in pamphlet form, and scattered through the country. In great cities they are seldom read, and therefore may not do much harm.—By country firesides, however, in inland towns and villages, and in rural homes, they find attentive readers, and tend greatly to influence popular opinion. We rejoice, therefore, to hear that even for a single day the supply has been stopped, and though Senators may revile each other, and each others' constituents to their hearts' content, the poison of their words will reach no further than themselves.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

"Caparisons are odorous" says Mrs. Malaprop, and we shall therefore refrain from instituting any between the opera which we had last February at the HOLLIDAY STREET, and that which we heard on Saturday night at the FRONT STREET. Without undertaking to compare GAZZANIGGA with LA GRANGE, or AMODIO with GASSIER, it is enough to say that both are great artists, and that the performance of *La Traviata* on Saturday night gave entire satisfaction to the audience. As we have before hinted Verdi is not a favorite composer with us. He lacks both the heaven-born genius and the artistic excellence of the great masters of the lyrical drama. We do not therefore rank him in the same category with Mozart and Meyerbeer, with Rossini and Bellini. He is rather a sort of musical Dumas who will compose the music of an opera, in the same time that the latter would probably write the *libretto*. Like James' "last new novel," *La Traviata* is Verdi's "last great masterpiece;" it is so described at least in the play bills. Without mooting the question how far any of Verdi's compositions may deserve to be thus called a *capo d' opera*, we must concede that *La Traviata* is one of the most pleasing of his works. The music—we are not speaking now of the plot—is better, purer and less meretricious than that of most of his operas. It is neither noisy nor heavy but light and airy, and in no wise dependent for the favorable impression which it produces, upon those scenic effects, adventitious helps, and clap-trap contrivances, to which this composer so frequently has recourse. The instrumentation throughout is excellent, even to the degree of representing with singular fidelity the exact air to which a dose of medicine may be called for by a sick woman, and administered by a nurse out of a Schiedam gin bottle. The Opera contains, perhaps, no very striking passages, but it is because the plot gives rise to no very dramatic situations. If there are no musical climaxes, it is for the simple reason, that there are no climaxes in the story. It is therefore likely to escape "the vile uses" to which some other of Verdi's operas have come, *Il Trovatore*, for example, airs from which we hear thrummed on every piano, or have dinned in our ears by every hand-organ. It is altogether a very clever composition, and has merits which, though they may not make it as popular with the multitude, will commend it far more to the approbation of the critic, than *Il Trovatore*. For the *libretto* of the Opera we have a weakness. We have been taught in the catechism, or if not in the catechism, in sermons, that we are "corrupt and depraved by nature, and desperately wicked." We are afraid that we are. We confess to a secret relish for the story of *La Traviata*. For us, it possesses, even in the opera, much of the tragic interest which attaches to the French novel, *La Dame aux Camelias*, from which the plot is borrowed. It is a terrible story of real life, perfectly simple and natural in its incidents, not at all suited, one would suppose, to the purposes of a dramatic, much less of an operatic representation. It is a tragedy in which there is nobody killed—nobody even wounded, and the only hemorrhage, therefore, is that which proceeds from the lungs of the consumptive heroine of the plot. Nobody is even poisoned, unless it be the same poor invalid who patiently receives from the hand of her attendant the medicine prescribed by the doctor, and who coughs, and presses her handkerchief to her lips, and slowly dies by inches through the whole performance. In a word, there is nothing melodramatic about the story, which is simply that of the love, the sacrifice, the illness and the death of an erring woman of that unhappy class, for whom no language contains a more appropriate designation than the Italian one of *La Traviata, the Lost One*. For the correct presentation of such a plot upon the lyric stage, it will easily be understood, that histrionic, as well as vocal powers, of the highest order are required. When, therefore, we say that Madame GAZZANIGGA acted, as well as sang, the part of *Violetta* to perfection, we pay a high but deserved tribute to her merits as an actress as well as a vocalist. There was a womanly tenderness in her expression of *Violetta's* love for *Alfred*, and tragic power in her delineation of the wasting effects of gradual disease. During the whole of the last scene, and particularly in the *duo* with *Alfred* (Brignoli), she both acted and sang most pathetically. Her voice is in quality a pure liquid *soprano* of very considerable compass, and of exquisite sweetness. BRIGNOLI and AMODIO who figured respectively as *Alfred Germont*, the lover of *Violetta*, and *George Germont*, the father, at whose entreaty *Violetta* sacrifices her love for the son, were both in excellent voice, and sang their parts superbly.—It is lucky, however, for AMODIO that his full, round barytone voice is not a tenor, for his Falstaffian proportions would sadly interfere with his acting the part of the melo-dramatic lover, who in operas is generally supposed to be gifted with a tenor voice. As the respectable father, however, of a *rone* son, over whose morals he undertakes to exercise a paternal oversight, his size gave weight if not dignity to his appearance and reproaches. For the *basso* proper, and the *alto*, there was comparatively little to do, and the three parts we have mentioned are, therefore, the only ones which require special notice. Of these it is but just to say, that each and all performed admirably, and that the whole performance, including that of the orchestra, fully redeemed the pledges of the Manager. We were glad to see the prompter's box dispensed with, and the nuisance to which we were subjected at the HOLLIDAY STREET, when ULLMAN was here, avoided. Nothing is more calculated to mar the effect of fine singing than the constant undercurrent of sound created by the prompter's voice, repeating the words of the opera loud enough to be distinctly audible over the whole house

The long walk over to the theatre, its awkward, out-of-the-way situation, and its very incomplete appointments, suggested to us again, what we have before discussed in the columns of the *Exchange*, namely, the necessity for an accessible and convenient Opera House. The Holliday Street is too small, and the Front Street, though large enough perhaps, in addition to the disadvantages we have just mentioned, is badly constructed. Its acoustic properties are very defective, and unless the singers come forward to the footlights, in many parts of the house the sound is almost lost. Still, both parquette and boxes were filled on Saturday night with a numerous and fashionable audience, whose hearty appreciation of the delightful musical treat which the performance of *La Traviata* afforded them, will induce Manager STUART, we hope, to give us another opera night. In the event of another performance, the only hint which we have to offer, is that on Saturday night, the intermissions between the acts were entirely too long, unnecessarily protracted the performance, and sometimes severely tried the patience of the audience.

At the HOLLIDAY STREET to-night, Miss CUSHMAN commences her engagement by playing *Romeo*. To-morrow night and the next are also Shakspeare nights, *King Henry VIII* and *Macbeth* being the plays selected. In addition therefore to the religious revival, which we are told is in progress in this city, we may safely anticipate during the present week a theatrical revival. If it should lead to renewed interest in the drama, and direct attention to the matter of public amusements, as a great social necessity, for which most inadequate provision is made in Baltimore, we shall be disposed to consider Miss CUSHMAN, not only as a great artist, but as a public benefactress.

We commend the following letter to the attention of all who take an interest in American antiquities. The imperfect manner in which Ethnological and Archæological investigations have been carried on within the territory of the United States, has left a wide field open to future explorers. Of what type these nations were which once inhabited this continent; whence they came; what their language, religion, manners, customs; or how they disappeared, remain a profound mystery. The valleys of the Ohio and Mississippi are covered with remarkable memorials of this unknown people—memorials which have long excited public curiosity, but which have, as yet, refused to reveal their secrets to philosophical research. The enormous mounds and extensive fortifications, to which we more particularly refer, are fast crumbling away beneath the ploughshare of the husbandman and the forces brought incessantly into play by Anglo-Norman civilization; but they still remain, in many instances, sufficiently entire to justify a systematic investigation. There is also a reasonable hope that such researches, properly conducted, might yet throw some light on a question which is at present involved in more than Egyptian darkness. The appeal of the Ethnological Society for aid in this interesting undertaking is therefore one which, we trust, for the sake of science, will meet with a ready and liberal response.—EDS. DAILY EXCHANGE.

THE GRAVE CREEK INSCRIPTION.

Editors Exchange:—The article which you published a few days since, from the Cincinnati *Gazette*, on the subject of the stone tablet discovered some years since, at Grave Creek, Virginia, has attracted much attention among literary and scientific readers.

The whole question of this Grave Creek inscription has filled no small share of public attention during the last month or two. No subject, indeed, connected with archæology or ethnology, in the United States, has attracted so much attention as did the able and elaborate paper of Dr. De Hass, before the American Ethnological Society. The result of that paper has been the organization of a movement for further explorations in the mound in which was discovered the inscribed stone, and in other localities of interest throughout the valley of the Ohio.

Your readers will doubtless be gratified to know that a thorough and extensive system of exploration is about to be made, under the auspices of the Ethnological Society, in the great mound field of the West. The Ethnological will be aided in its laudable effort by other societies. The enterprise, however, will be expensive, and it is but just that all interested in the subject, should aid in the movement. With this view, the Ethnological Society has appealed to all disposed to encourage the enterprise, to do so by contributing through their Recording Secretary, Theodore Dwight, Esq., New York. Such enterprises have heretofore been regarded as too expensive for any single society, and in the absence of Governmental aid, which should long since have been extended, the only possible plan of action appears that now offered—united action by several societies, aided by individual subscription. The plan now presented is perfectly practicable, and we hope to see the movement prosecuted to entire success. Indeed, we are confident of success. The management on the part of the Ethnological is by a select committee, at the head of which stands Hon. George Folsom, late U. S. Minister at the Hague. We notice that Mr. Folsom has just made a report which shows that the right spirit is at work. The Society, we know, will do its part, and the energetic gentleman who will conduct the exploration, we are confident, will discharge his part of the trust with marked ability and success. Dr. DeHass is one of the most thorough and accomplished Archæologists in the country, having devoted many years to the pursuit of this favorite study. We shall look with lively interest for the results of his explorations at Grave Creek, and other important antiquarian localities at the West and South.

In conclusion, we may observe, that those interested in the remarkable discovery of an ancient, unknown inscription at Grave Creek, will have an opportunity of examining this invaluable relic during the session of the American Association for Advancement of Science in this city. Dr. De Hass will be present, and, we understand, will probably read a paper on the subject of this singular and interesting tablet.

MARYLAND.

DEATH CAUSED BY JESSAMINE FLOWERS.—A child of Mr. Jerod, four years of age, living on the Western Branch, in Norfolk county, was poisoned some days since by sucking the flower of the yellow jessamine. The little one died in an hour after it complained of being sick. The parents would not have known the cause of the sudden death of their child but for a playmate, who said it had been sucking the flower, which is a deadly poison.

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS

RECEIVED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DAILY EXCHANGE.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

WASHINGTON, April 24.

SENATE.

Nothing of importance transpired during the morning hour.

Mr. Fessenden's amendment to the deficiency bill was taken up, and the vote being taken it was rejected—yeas 22, nays 80.

Mr. Hardin, of Iowa, proposed to strike out lines 129 to 135, which gave rise to some debate.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Stephens thought that Monday two weeks was too far off at this advanced stage of the session for the consideration of the report of the committee of conference on the Kansas bill. He asked as a personal favor to himself, as he wished to be absent owing to the state of his health, that the vote be taken next Wednesday.

Mr. Campbell said that the report of the Committee is entirely a new one. He desired to leave the city on Monday (and others purpose leaving this evening,) and as it was impossible for him to return on Wednesday next he thought the subject had better be voted on on the second Monday in May.

Mr. Stephens remarked that he only wanted to have a fair understanding.

Mr. Hill said he explained that in moving a postponement of the report till the second Monday in May, he did so at the suggestion of certain personal, but not political friends.

Mr. Clay said he himself wanted to go home and attend to some personal affairs, but this was the first time he had known in the history of public legislation that the affairs of a great country should be postponed to meet private wishes of gentlemen. He presumed that the mind of every gentleman was made up, and the sooner the vote was taken the better for the peace and quiet of the country.

Mr. Montgomery said that private affairs demand his presence at home. No injury could possibly result from a postponement of the matter to the second Monday in May.

The question was then taken on the motion of Mr. Harris, of Illinois, to re-consider the vote by which a postponement to that time was yesterday fixed, and to lay that motion on the table, and it was decided affirmatively. Yeas 105, nays 101.

The question then recurred on agreeing to the original motion for a postponement as amended, by inserting second Monday in May.

Mr. Washburne, of Maine, moved a call of the House. This was disagreed to—yeas 66; nays 155.

Mr. Hynes moved the previous question, which was negatived—yeas 89; nays 103.

If this had been seconded the House would have been brought to vote on the report of the Committee of Conference.

Mr. Dewart moved an adjournment, which was agreed to—yeas 106; nays 99.

LATER FROM RIO.

PHILADELPHIA, Friday, April 23.

The ship Grey Eagle has arrived at this port with Rio dates to the 14th of March. The vessels which left that port previous to her sailing, have already been reported. Robert L. Lutter, of Philadelphia, a passenger by her, and James Cornell, of Newport, R. I., and George Lafond, of New Jersey, two of her seamen, died on the voyage hi her of yellow fever.

THE LITTLES MURDER CASE.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., April 23, 1858.—The defense in the Littles murder case rested at 10 o'clock this morning. The summing up on both sides and the Judge's charge occupied six hours. The jury retired at 5 o'clock, and in one hour after brought in a verdict, "guilty of murder." The prisoner, Stout, will be sentenced at 10 a. m. to-morrow.

NAVIGATION OF THE CANALS.

ALBANY, April 23.—Several loads of Hemlock and Spruce woods have arrived to-day by the Champlain Canal.

The Auditor of the Canal Department has received the following: "Fort Edward, April 22.—The entire length of the Champlain Canal is in good condition."

FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—The Democratic Senators have unanimously determined to sustain the report of the Committee of Conference on the Kansas bill, with the exception of Messrs. Douglas, Stewart and Broderick, who are against the measure.

THE AMERICA OUTWARD BOUND.

HALIFAX, April 23.—The R. M. steamship America, from Boston, arrived here at 7½ o'clock this morning, and sailed again at 9 o'clock for Liverpool. Weather clear. Wind light and blowing from the South.

DAMAGE TO THE CHARLESTON AND MEMPHIS RAILROAD BY FLOODS.

MEMPHIS, April 23.—The connections of the Memphis and Charleston Railroad will be interrupted ten days by the damage caused by the late heavy rains.

UNITED STATES SLOOP-OF-WAR JOHN ADAMS.

NORFOLK, VA., April 23.—United States sloop-of-John Adams, last from St. Helena, arrived at Hampton roads last evening.

TEA SALE.

NEW YORK, April 24.—At the tea sale to-day greens were slightly better; blacks were a shade lower and the catalogue was largely withdrawn.

HEAVY FROST AT THE SOUTH.

AUGUSTA, GA., April 24.—There were heavy frosts last night in the middle and upper portions of this State; also in the region of Mobile. Fears are entertained of injury having been done to the crops.

ARRIVAL OF THE CANADA AT BOSTON.

BOSTON, April 25.—The steamer Canada arrived here this morning at 1 o'clock. Her mails will be due at New York on Monday, at 6 o'clock, A. M.

THE BANKS OF AUGUSTA, GA.

AUGUSTA, GA., April 22.—The banks of this city will resume specie payments on the 1st of May.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

WHOLESALE ARRESTS.—Officers Mills, Andrews, Gains, Taylor, Rivers and Mules on Saturday night made a descent upon a house on Franklin street near Eutaw, kept by George Bourrick, and arrested the following parties found gambling: John Moore, Jacob Boon, J. Edward Dorsey, Levi Gray, Peter Butler, James Moore, George H. Smith, Samuel Murphy, Geo. Green, Henry Thomas, Jas. Ford, F. Maddox, Louis Vannock, Peregrine Johnson and J. Toodgood. They were taken before Justice Marrow, who fined them each $1 and costs. Bourrich, the proprietor, was released by the same magistrate on security for a further hearing.

At a house on Sharp street near Montgomery, kept by a colored fellow named Alexander Gibbs, officers Crouch, Brazier and Hynson on Saturday night arrested Elisha Gross, Louis Deal, James Heath and Edward Harris, also colored, who were caught gambling in a back room. Justice Boyd fined them each $1 and costs. Gibbs, for keeping a gambling house, was fined $10 and costs.

FIRES.—A lot of bedding was destroyed in the house of Mr. H. S. Manning, No. 176 S. Paca street, on Friday night, about 10 o'clock, caused by the explosion of a camphene lamp, through the carelessness of a servant. The flames were extinguished by some neighbors, without raising any alarm. Loss covered by insurance in the Firemen's Office.

On Saturday morning about seven o'clock, some goods which had been placed too close to the stove in the dry goods establishment of Messrs. Joshua Harvey & Co., took fire, but was promptly extinguished by those in the store at the time. Loss covered by insurance in the Associated Firemen's Office.

The alarm of fire yesterday morning about 4 o'clock, was occasioned by the partial burning of a lot of lumber in the yard in the rear of Mr. Joseph Rupert's lager beer saloon, and adjoining the house of the Franklin engine company. The fire was extinguished by the police of the Eastern District, before the flames had gained much headway, and without the assistance of the firemen.

The alarm last night a little after nine o'clock was caused by the burning of one of the city watch boxes, on Granby near Exeter streets.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF BALTIMORE COUNTY.—From the annual report of the School Commissioners of Baltimore county, it appears that there were, during the year 1857, 98 schools in operation, with an average attendance of 3,306 pupils, of which 2,734 are paying, and 572 free scholars. The total cost of instruction, including books and stationery, was $31,898.92, or $9.71 for each pupil. The tuition fees amounted to $10,775.66, leaving $21,123.26 to be paid out of the school fund. It is in contemplation by the Commissioners to commence the erection of school houses in those portions of the county where schools have not hitherto existed, under the authority derived from the Legislature in that behalf.

ODD FELLOWS' CELEBRATION.—The celebration of the Thirty-Ninth Anniversary of the Order will take place this evening in the Egyptian saloon of the Hall, North Gay street. The ceremonies will be opened with an address by the Rev. I. D. Williamson, of Pennsylvania, when the floor will be cleared for those who wish to enjoy themselves in dancing. The entire building will be thrown open for the use of those who may be present. Barrett's Military and Cotillion Band has been engaged for the occasion. The confectionary department will be under the superintendance of Wm. P. O'Neil. The proceeds of this levee will be appropriated to the benefit of the Library.

CONSECRATION.—Augustine Perot, formerly Professor of Physics in St. Mary's College, recently parish priest at St. Paul's, Ellicott's Mills, was consecrated yesterday at the Cathedral, Vicar Apostolic of East Florida, by the Most Rev. Archbishop of Baltimore, assisted by the Bishops of Richmond, Savannah and Charleston. The sermon on the occasion was preached by the Rev. Dr. Charles J. White, of St. Matthew's church, Washington.

ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO KILL.—A notorious character named John Tracey, on Saturday afternoon, assaulted a man named M. Franciswich, on Park street, cutting him so badly about the right eye that it is thought he will lose the sight. Franciswich lost his left eye several years since. Tracey was committed by Justice Morrow to answer before Court.

DISTURBING RELIGIOUS WORSHIP.—A young fellow named John Parr, yesterday morning entered St. James' (Catholic) Church with alighted cigar in his mouth; the Sexton venturing to remark that it was not in accordance with the rules of the house, was struck and felled to the floor. Parr was taken into custody by officers C. Brown and Dunning, and committed for court by Justice Mearis.

VIOLATION OF ORDINANCE.—Lester Davis was arrested on Saturday by officer Graham, of the Eastern District, on the charge of driving through the street at a gait faster than the law allows. He was taken before Justice Griffin, fined $5 and costs, and committed to jail in default of payment.

FOR BOSTON.—The steamship Joseph Whitney, Captain Sol. Howes, left her wharf, foot of Long Dock, punctually at 3 o'clock on Saturday afternoon. The Whitney took out a very full freight, and a number of passengers. As the season advances, travelers are begining to avail themselves of the fine accommodations of this line for a sea trip to Boston.

LARGE CONTRACT.—Wendell Bollman, Esq., so well known in connection with the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, has, we learn, entered into a contract with the Cuban Government to construct all the bridges along the line of the contemplated railroad to be made in the Island of Cuba. The contract price is said to be $1,500,000.

COMMITTED.—John O. Little, the youth charged with the murder of Wm. Finnegan, on board the brig Acma, has been committed to await the action of the grand jury of the United States Court.

THE PRAYER MEETINGS AT THE MARYLAND INSTITUTE.—The meeting yesterday afternoon in the Hall of the Institute, was attended by a very large number of persons, between two and three thousand being present. They will be continued during this week, at the same place, commencing at five o'clock in the afternoon.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

CRIMINAL COURT.—Before Hon. Henry Stump, Judge.—Frederick Pinkney, Esq., Deputy State's Attorney, prosecuting. The following business was transacted on Saturday:

George Bookheimer, charged with assaulting and beating Charles Giecker, was adjudged guilty, and fined $1 and costs; total $10.69.

John Donnelly and Patrick Quirk, charged with assaulting and beating each other, were each ordered to pay costs, amounting to $8.30.

Samuel Mahaney, charged with assaulting John Lloyd, by striking him with a pitchfork, was discharged without trial.

Ready James, charged with assaulting and beating William Holtzman, was adjudged guilty, and fined $5 and costs, and ordered to be imprisoned thirty days; total fine and costs $13.13.

Henry Shaub, charged with assaulting and beating Wilhelmina Voltz. Case dismissed.

From the evidence in the foregoing case it appeared that the party against whom the assault was alleged to have been committed was a pretended doctress; that she was employed to treat a relative of the traverser for rheumatism, and after attending her for nine days without affording relief to the sufferer, pronounced her affliction to be the result of witchcraft, and recommended a resort to a cure by a charm, to which the patient assented; the doctress then placed a charm about the neck of the patient, which was worn for a short time, when the traverser remonstrated against the deception, and ordered the pretended enchantress to leave the premises, for which offence an action for assault and battery was instituted. The charm, which consisted of a small piece of paper with several unintelligible words and characters written upon it, was presented to the court, and the enchantress asked for an explanation of it, when she read the words, "Father, Son and Holy Ghost."

The Court asked a witness whether she did not know the woman was a witch when she was sent after her, to which she responded that she did not; that she was recommended as a doctress, and promised when she first came to see the patient, to cure her in three days; after the three days had elapsed, six days were fixed, and subsequently nine days as the time for performing the cure; at the end of the ninth day, the doctress told her that she was bewitched and proposed to cure her by a charm, and remarked that if the patient desired it, she would give the person who conjured her the small pox.

The Court investigated the matter very patiently, desired to learn whether the charm was written in Hebrew or Chaldaic characters, and whether the victims were believers in the powers of enchantment. After all the testimony had been examined, the case was dismissed, when Mr. Pinkney asked that the pretended enchantress might be made to pay the costs.

He remarked that she had blasphemed the name of the Deity while attempting to impose upon the credulity of the afflicted woman, and when her practice had been thwarted, had brought the case into Court, whereby an expense upon the city had been incurred, and he thought it proper that she should be made to pay the costs.

The Court replied that he would not impose the payment of the costs upon her, as he would doubtless have to send her to jail in default of payment, which he would not do. The parties were all a pack of fools together, and if they believed in enchantment and the woman charged for her services they ought to pay her.

Adjourned until next Saturday morning at eleven o'clock.

CIRCUIT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES.—Before Hon. William Fell Giles, Judge. The following business was transacted on Saturday:

United States *vs.* Charles W. Kerlin, captain of the barque Rainbow, indicted on the charge of inflicting cruel and unusual punishment upon George W. Williams, a seaman, on board of the vessel. The case was concluded and submitted to the jury with instructions to return a sealed verdict this morning. W. M. Addison, District Attorney, prosecuting; S. Teackle Wallis, for defendant.

SUPERIOR COURT.—Before Hon. Z. Collins Lee, Judge. The following business was transacted on Saturday:

Thomas Berry *vs.* Elizabeth Berry. Decree passed divorcing the complainant *a vinculo matrimonii* from the defendant. Ing for complainant.

CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE CITY.—Before Hon. Wm. Geo. Krebs. In the case of Brooks *vs.* Thomas and Jerome—before reported—the argument was concluded on Saturday. Under *curia*. Brooks and Gale for complainant; Pitts for respondents.

There was no business transacted in the Court of Common Pleas on Saturday.

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES.

FRIDAY, April 23, 1858.

George L. Davis, Esq., of New York, was admitted an attorney and counsellor of this Court.

No. 113. John Holroyd, plaintiff in error, *vs.* Levi Pumphrey. In error to the Circuit Court of the United States for the District of Columbia. The matters in controversy in this cause having been agreed and settled between the parties, it was, on motion of Mr. H. Winter Davis, ordered that this writ of error be dismissed, with costs.

Nos. 86 and 87. James Williams, administrator, appellant, *vs.* Robert Oliver's executors, and Robert Oliver's executors, appellants, *vs.* James Williams, administrator; and

Nos. 92 and 93. John Gooding's administrator, appellant, *vs.* Robert Oliver's executors, and Robert Oliver's executors, appellants, *vs.* John Gooding's administrator. The argument of these causes was continued by Messrs. J. Mason Campbell and Reverdy Johnson for Oliver's executors.

Adjourned until to-morrow 11 o'clock.

DOMESTIC

Lord Napier, in his speech on Friday last, at the anniversary dinner given by the members of the St. George's Society of New York, thus alluded to the negotiations still pending between England and the United States:

"There are still embarrassments in the relations of our governments which hang upon the ready cordiality of the two nations, and clog the flow of that mutual and public satisfaction which should be universal and undisturbed. [Cheers, and cries of Hear! Hear!] If it be reserved for the Earl of Malmesbury, in conjunction with the present government of the United States, to remove these last impediments to a perfect understanding, they will have an honorable claim on the gratitude of England and America. [Hear and cheers.]

It is announced by the three banks in Richmond that, in view of the provisions of the act requiring specie payments, they will be constrained to restrict their receipts of bank notes, on and after the 1st of May, in the issues of the Bank of Virginia and its branches, the Farmers' Bank of Virginia and its branches, and the Exchange Bank of Virginia and its branches, and of such other banks as may provide for the redemption of their circulation in Richmond.

A concert has been given in Paris for the benefit of Madame de Guerbel, the young American lady married at Nice by a Protestant minister to a Roman tourist, who pretended afterwards that the marriage was not valid, but was forced afterwards to legalize it by order of the Emperor of Russia.—The Americans attended the concert in large numbers.

ACCIDENT AT THE HOOSAC TUNNEL.—On Sunday night a portion of the tunnel on the west side of the Hoosac mountain, some twenty feet in length, was filled up by the earth from above falling in, in consequence of the temporary roofing and support giving away.

The Governor of Georgia received the other day a set of inflammatory abolition resolutions, passed by the Legislature of Maine, with the request to present them to the Legislature of Georgia. He very promptly and properly sent them back to the Maine Governor.

It is stated that the crew of the U. S. steam frigate Susquehanna intend presenting to Assistant Surgeon Frederick H. Rose, of the English Navy, who so generously volunteered his services on board during the ravages of the yellow fever, a gold medal, as a mark of their esteem and appreciation of his noble conduct.

Mr. Anthony Morse, a prominent citizen of Plymouth, and Deputy Collector under Presidents Harrison and Tyler, committed suicide in that place on Monday morning, by cutting his throat.—He had been suffering from fits of depression, caused by temporary embarrassments.

A note dated at the Quarantine Hospital, Staten Island, New York, April 20th, states that Dr. Ninian Pinckney and O. W. Alexander, U. S. Navy, who were among those on board the U. S. steam frigate Susquehanna, attacked by yellow fever, are much better, and expect to rejoin their families in a few days.

Steamboat thieves are abundant at New Orleans, and hardly a boat escapes them. Last week the E. Howard was visited by a gang, who abstracted the key of the safe from underneath the pillow of the clerk's head, and helped themselves to $900 in cash. Several chronometers turned up also missing.

The Cincinnati *Gazette* fears that the munificent McMicken legacy, bequeathed for the purpose of founding another Girard College in Cincinnati, will be frittered away in fees, and the execution of the testator's purpose postponed by selfish contestants.

The election of Commissioners for the village of Port Tobacco, Md., took place on Monday last, and resulted in the choice of the following named gentlemen:—Elijah W. Day, David Middleton, Wm. Boswell, John La Touche and Samuel M. Padgett.

The Secretary of the Treasury received on Wednesday, fifteen hundred dollars in Treasury notes from an unknown individual in New York, who says that he had cheated the government to that amount during Pierce's administration.

Gov. Hicks has appointed Richard B. Carmichael, Esq., of Queen Anne's county, a Judge of the Judicial Circuit, composed of the counties of Kent, Queen Anne's, Caroline and Talbot, made vacant by the decease of Judge Hopper.

There is now no prospect of a Bankrupt law passing Congress this session.

Dr. Gunn, of Louisville, was shot in the leg and badly wounded, on Wednesday last, by a young man named Lovedy, who wanted a dose of arsenic to "shuffle off this mortal coil" with, and was refused it by the doctor.

Miss Teresa Esmonde is about to give a lecture in New York, in contradiction to the statements of Mr. Charles Mackay respecting Irish poetry, and supplying the deficiencies of his discourses.

We learn that Hurley, who murdered his wife in Pine Hook Neck, Sussex county, Delaware, in March last, was convicted of murder in the first degree by the court, at Georgetown, on Wednesday last. He will be sentenced to be hung in a few days.

Gov. Wise is expected to visit Westmoreland county on the 27th inst., to give directions, under the act of the General Assembly, for enclosing the birth-place of Washington.

On the first Thursday in September next, the people of Tennessee are to vote on the question of calling a convention "to revise, alter, or amend the constitution of the State of Tennessee."

At last accounts, the U. S. steamer Powhatan was at the Cape of Good Hope.

It is expected that Secretary Cobb will need another twenty million loan to help him out.

Fanny Kemble is to commence a series of readings in Albany on the 26th.

The bill to prohibit masquerades went through both houses of the Legislature of New York.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A RACY NOTICE OF THE NASHVILLE THEATRE AND JULIA DEAN HAYNE.

We presume that most of our readers who have lived fifty years or less are aware that extravagant puffs of theatres and theatre people sometimes get into the papers and very frequently run away into the ground. Now here is a notice worth reading. The editor of the Columbia (Tenn.) *Mirror* recently visited the Nashville Theatre and writes:

"Found, when we got to the city about supper time, that

JULIA DEAN
HAYNE

(that's the way the play-bills have it—*he* must feel small) was to be made the victim of a complimentary benefit that night—her last appearance on the Nashville boards. Didn't recollect ever having done anything for Julia; concluded to compliment her with our presence and give her the benefit of our six bits. As we don't have more of them things to spare, hope she considered the benefit considerable. Ought to have gone in free with peanuts and extra programmes furnished gratis, as Crisp, the big dog of the concern, has been remarkably successful in an attempt to owe us two dollars for the last five years.

"Got into the pit, with feet comfortably anchored in a puddle of tobacco juice, just as up flashed three foot-lights, and down flashed the five fiddles—called, by courtesy, the orchestra—through the square hole under the stage, where the licker department of the establishment is located. Tang-a-lang went the bell—a sweet toned instrument, borrowed from the cow which grazes in a lot behind the theatre; up went the curtain, and six greasy looking fellows—whom the audience were requested by the programme to look upon as thorough-bred gentlemen, but which their appearance and manners wouldn't let the audience do—were "discovered" seated round a poplar mahogany table, drinking out of silver goblets made of tin, and talking about a gal who, from all we could learn, was some pumpkins, through and through.

"Didn't care to hear any thing more about her though, and passed the time till the premium stock came aboard, in carving 'humbug' on the back of the next seat with a jack-knife, and in perusing the tiers of highfalutinity that carry double barrel spy-glasses, rented for the occasion round at old man Gowdey's jewelry store. When the rascals got through with their nonsense, Julia Dean Hayne floated out as fine as split silk.

"Julia is a lovely woman, and, having plenty of money, wears very fine clothes on the stage, and, probably, off it too. Has been married a couple of years, and had her baby along with her. Sometimes plays with it in her arms; though this don't often occur on the stage.

"First-rate actress, Julia, and differed in many ways from the actors who figured in the first scene—especially in this, that while she has simply a Grecian cast of countenance, the others seem to have been cast in grease, heels overhead, without having had time to wash it off. The play was the Love Chase. Julia suits the play like a brick. That abundant, soft, brown, wavy hair, that pearly, classic brow those languishingly lustrous eyes, those pouting lips, and, in short, all the features of her face form a *toot angsamble* that makes a love chase an exceedingly probable circumstance. Her part of the play paid a handsome per cent. on the six bits invested, but the rest of the thing was a bad speculation.

"Went back to the hotel when the institution adjourned, smoked a cigar in the bar room, and went up to bed and to sleep, and dreamt that all the world was a stage and that all the actresses were Julia Dean Haynes—which they ain't though, by several."

THE NICARAGUA TRANSIT—IMPORTANT PUBLIC NOTICE.

LEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF NICARAGUA,
BROOKLYN, April 22, 1858.

This Legation, having positive information that one or more citizens of the United States have determined, without