FOREIGN GOSSIP.

—Of the London Music Halls, where vocalism, gymnastic feats, beer, tobacco smoke, and mutton chops form the chief attractions, the reader of course knows something. A recent trial in one of the Metropolitan courts, however, lets us into a partial acquaintance with the life behind the scenes. The proprietor of two of these halls sued one of his female vocalists for breach of engagement, laying his damages at $275. The plaintiff alleged that the lady refused to attend rehearsals, often declined to go on with a performance, even in the middle of the evening, frequently stayed away altogether, on the pretext of a cold, while at the same time she could and would rail at him the next morning for twenty minutes in the most thrilling and clear-toned voice. The defendant answered that she was forced to sing seven or eight songs each evening, in most or all of which she was encored; she was so much affected throatwise by these exertions that she was obliged to be medically treated by the proprietor and by her mother. For the benefit of similar sufferers the prescriptions are given; the proprietor used to administer cayenne pepper and claret, while the mother gave linseed tea and salad oil. One grievance she had to submit to was the passage to and fro between the Oxford and Canterbury Halls, she having to sing at both places on each evening. To this the plaintiff answered that she had a brougham to go in. She replied that she was so crowded and crushed in the vehicle referred to that she was not fit to be seen in public during the remainder of the evening. The plaintiff attempted to refute this allegation by saying that *only four ladies* were ever put together into one brougham! It is not surprising to those who know what a brougham is to hear that this remark was received with great laughter. The trial resulted in small damages for the plaintiff. One of the interesting incidents of the case was the liberal advice of the physician, who told the young woman that she should go to her "native air or to Italy"—upon which she went to Sheffield.

—The steady and aggressive movement in England, of which the "Essays and Reviews" formed one feature, and the recent publication of Bishop Colenso's book on the Pentateuch another, is attracting deep and wide attention, and calls forth expressions of opinion from thinkers of all classes, lay as well as ecclesiastical. The Bishop of London, in his latest charge to his clergy, takes hold of the question, though rather gingerly, and he has not put out any very practical suggestions. He acknowledges that the unrestrained spirit of free inquiry, which claims the right to sift and test all theories, and bows to no authority, however venerable, is a source of immense difficulty. The Bishop of Oxford, on the one hand, says that the motive of inquiry being doubt, should be thrown overboard at once, as one at sea would throw over a shell alighting on the deck during a hot fight. The Bishop of London, on the other hand, declares that he will not ask any man to give an unreasoning assent to the Church's teachings; he feels secure in the truth of those teachings, and therefore he will not discourage "the use of that great instrument which God has given to man for the investigation and defence of truth." Advocating free inquiry, the Bishop of London acknowledges that the English clergy, beginning by a full assent to certain doctrines and formal articles, are by that manner of beginning prevented from using the right measure of freedom in inquiry; consequently, he would have this difficulty diminished by relaxing the strictness of the subscription. He expresses his distrust, also, of prosecutions for opinion's sake, and says "it will never do to lay down that a clergyman is bound not to inquire."

—The old prayer, "Save us from our friends," is likely to be put up fervently by numerous people in London if the following case is to be often repeated: A timid Cockney, under the influence of the terrible stories concerning garroters, provided himself with a loaded stick and held himself always ready for instant action when he was in the streets after nightfall. To one looking out so sharply for danger, there soon came, of course, an apparent call for defensive operations. As he was nearing his home one evening, he was rudely brushed against by a passer. Quick as thought our timid friend let fly a blow with his heavy stick, under the influence of which the supposed assailant lost his hat and ran away with the fleetness of terror. The victor seized the hat, and in a fine glow of triumph dropped in to the house of a near friend, who lived hard by his own residence, for the purpose of narrating his exploit. He was received at the door by his friend's wife, who, in a voice inarticulate with sobs, said: "Oh, I'm so glad to see you! Poor Edward! In bed, up stairs! Covered with blood! He's been garroted!" At the same moment the triumphant visitor cast his eyes upon the hat which he carried as a trophy of his fight, and on the lining saw, to his disgust, the name of his friend, whose head he had broken. He said not a word about his prowess, but condoled warmly with the sufferer and went his way.

—The highly respectable and even dainty *London Saturday Review*, has taken a peculiar view of the present excitement in the English metropolis concerning ruffianism: it has discovered that the only remedy for the evil is for the people generally to take lessons in sparring, and cultivate the manly art of self-defense. A recent prize-fight has taken place near London, wherein a man smaller than his antagonist smashed the latter's face most dismally; therefore *The Saturday Review* becomes gloriously enthusiastic, and desires to know what garroter would dare to attack this doughty champion of the ring, deducing therefrom the immensely distant conclusion that a course of boxing lessons would make every man a Thomas King, such being the name of the successful brute alluded to. The other London papers have made all manner of sport of this raw project of self defense, and one of them gravely supposes that the article in question was the work of a professional garroter who wishes to throw dust into the public eye, thus keeping the people from arming themselves with revolvers, knives and sticks, things dangerous to him, and inducing them to take to their fists, from which he could suffer no harm. Imagine the shame—says the writer—of the eloquent gentlemen who have usually filled the columns of that high-bred weekly, when they read of the antecedents of some convicted garroter, brought out on his trial, and shall learn that at one time in his miserable existence he was a *Saturday Reviewer*.

—The Sultan of Turkey was recently afflicted with an attack of the disease known as the jumping toothache. His dentist was summoned, but could not be found at his lodging; he had, in fact, gone to a hunt. For three hours messengers on fleetest steeds sought for him, the Sultan, meanwhile, roaring with pain till the entire household seemed to hear in their ears the twang of the bowstring. Fortunately one of them remembered an obscure dentist whose sign was out in a remote quarter; this member of the profession was found, a ragged man in a garret, and was whisked away to the palace. Twelve valets seized upon him, cleansed him, brushed him, tumbled him into comparative decency, and sent him, forceps in hand, into the presence. He extracted the tooth, and the warm regard of His Serenity, and was at once named special dentist, with a great monthly salary, an immediate gift of large amount, and a noble residence.

—Mr. Charles Kingsley lately preached at the Chapel Royal, and in the course of his sermon remarked that the virtue of humanity was one which the Jews before the time of Christ had not discovered, "inasmuch as they looked upon those who did not belong to their faith as unclean and accursed." Thereupon "A Daughter of Israel" writes a card to The Times, mildly saying that Mr. Kingsley's statement is "utterly untrue." Her distinction, however, seems rather to want a difference; for she says that the Jews did not look upon those who did not belong to their faith as unclean and accursed, but it was a simple fact that the Gentiles were "unclean," and therefore "accursed." With which, and with a truly womanly recommendation to the reverend novelist to "read his Bible," the subject blows over.

—The French Government, that is, the Emperor, has determined to accomplish a reform in the dwellings of the operative classes, and is about building a house upon one of the Boulevards for unmarried workmen. The situation is in the center of the manufacturing portion of Paris; the edifice is to be five stories high, and each floor is to be divided into apartments completely separated, all to be approached by a spacious staircase. On the ground floor will be a reception room or common hall, a restaurant, a dining room, and the necessary offices. The common sitting room is to be well lighted, warmed, and ventilated, and to be made so attractive that the wineshop shall not allure the workman from economical paths.

—A new application of Cornelia's famous saying about her jewels is contained in a foreign item: A party of brigands recently attacked a diligence on the borders of Switzerland. Among the molested passengers were a count and countess, from Milan. They were robbed of all their money, except a couple of thousand francs in ornaments which the lady managed to conceal upon her person. When the ruffians bade her give up whatever jewels she might have she pointed to her little daughter, whom she held in her arms, and said: "I have only this jewel, which I will not give up, except with my life." The brigands retired.

—The temperance cause is said to be progressing in the British army. At Woolwich, within a year, 579 non-commissioned officers and men have signed the pledge; and at another camp or barracks, within the same time, upward of 700 have become teetotallers. A missionary of the National Temperance League, who has had excellent opportunities of forming an opinion, says that among the military with whom he has come in contact, fifteen per cent of the soldiers are total abstinence men.

Additional Foreign Intelligence.

From The Liverpool Mercury.

THE ENGLISH TORIES AND LOUIS NAPOLEON.

The Morning Herald is in an unpleasant position. Our contemporary rests under the serious imputation of being in the employ of the French Government, and *The Globe* and other English semi-official journals have expressed their opinions on the new course pursued by *The Herald* in terms which could only be justified by the possession on their part of such information as would leave no reasonable doubt that the relations existing between the leading Tory organ and the Tuileries are similar to those which existed between the late *Morning Chronicle* and Count de Persigny. *The Herald* has on several occasions attempted to steer down the imputation, but, seeing that by merely abusing its accusers it does not remove the impression which has been forced on the public mind, our contemporary finds it necessary to deny the grave indictment. The denial is not at all satisfactory, as will be seen from the following extract:

"We purvey for the public, and the public likes to get the earliest news on affairs of moment. If the channels are run dry which should convey the current intelligence to the organs of the Liberal press, are we to be blamed who are not tormented with this drouth? If *The Globe* is without these sources of earlier information, so much the better for us and so much the worse for *The Globe*. To the great mortification of the Liberal prides, which refused for a whole week to credit our news, we published the earliest intelligence of the proposal of mediation in America. The man who had discovered the philosopher's stone went on making gold for himself, and resolutely declined to explain the secret to our contemporaries. We give our friends of the press the advantage of our information every morning. If they do not believe it, we cannot help it; we must leave them to find out their mistake. As for the key to this information, we will only suggest that there are other ways of explaining it besides supposing a secret communication between ourselves and the agents of the French Government."

The Herald also attempts to disprove other assertions, to the effect that the Tories have made successful advances to France, whereby the former agree to further certain proposals of the Emperor; but it would have been better for *The Herald* if this count of the indictment had been passed over in silence, as the denial will tend to make Englishmen dread still more than they do at present a change of Administration.

From The Liverpool Mercury.

SPEECH OF MR. LEATHAM, M. P., ON AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

Mr. E. A. Leatham, the member for Huddersfield, has adopted the system of meeting his constituents during the intervals between the sessions of Parliament, and addressing them on the most prominent topics of the day. His speeches, for two reasons, generally attract attention. In the first place, he is a young, able, and rising member of the House of Commons; and, secondly, he is related to Mr. Bright, and is a devoted follower of that eminent politician. To a certain extent he reflects Mr. Bright's views, and may be accepted as a fair exponent of extreme Liberal principles. The last meeting between Mr. Leatham and his constituents took place on Tuesday evening, when he delivered a long and discursive address. The chief topics to which he alluded were the national expenditure, the distress in the cotton-manufacturing districts, and the war in America.

The American question was referred to at great length. Mr. Bright's opinions on the subject are so familiar to the public that it would be almost a waste of space to repeat Mr. Leatham's statements. Like Mr. Bright, he believes that the North is right and the South wrong; that the war is sure to result in the subjugation of the Confederacy; and that the real questions at issue between the combatants are but ill-understood in this country. The following extract from this portion of the honorable gentleman's speech is worth attentive consideration:

"He anticipated great things yet from the friendship of England and America. He anticipated that when this unhappy animosity which had been excited against us in the North, due in no small measure to the extraordinary pains which we had been at to misrepresent ourselves,—that when that should pass away there would come between the two nations a total revolution of feeling on the part of the North. He anticipated that when the mind of America should have had time and leisure to consider the course which we had pursued in maintaining, as we had maintained, in spite of the appalling obstacle of our domestic distress, our strict, straightforward neutrality, that it would candidly admit that we had played a wise if not a magnanimous part. He anticipated that, in proportion as the forms of government under which we lived assimilated—the Americans harking back, as they would do, from the abyss of democracy, and the English advancing, as they would do, until they clasped that brave, and patient, and loyal people in their arms—there would spring up between the two nations a great community of thought; a great community of interest; a great sympathy of heart; and he was rash enough to believe that the friendship of two such peoples, so great, so free, so prosperous, and so enlightened, was preeminently calculated to promote the glory of the Creator and to advance the well-being of mankind."

GARIBALDI.

Garibaldi is recovering much more speedily than was anticipated. The General has been advised to return to the bracing air and the tranquillity of Caprera, and it is thought he will act upon the suggestion. He himself writes that he hopes soon to be able to resume the work to which he has devoted himself—the complete emancipation of Italy.

The following letter has been addressed by Garibaldi to Prof. Nélaton:

PISA, Dec. 5.

MY VERY DEAR FRIEND: I owe you a word of love and gratitude. Your appearance at Spezzia brought happiness to me, and, if any doubt of my recovery could ever have crossed my mind, in spite of the fraternal and learned care of the surgeons who attended me, at your interview, so eminently sympathetic, and at your words, so sublimely encouraging, it would have disappeared. I am much better since the extraction of the ball so ably effected by our compatriot, Prof. Zanetti, and with the instruments which you had the kindness to send me. To-morrow a fixed bandage will be applied, and I hope to be able very soon to move about upon crutches. God bless you, as well as those virtuous men whose humane principles have honored the eminent man of science and the benefactor.

Your devoted, G. GARIBALDI.

FRENCH INTRIGUES IN ITALY.

The absurd pretensions of Prince Lucien Murat to the throne of Naples are developed afresh, in a letter published by a Brussels paper, and which purports to have been addressed by the prince to his mysterious correspondent in the capital of Southern Italy. Prince Murat denounces pretty smartly (if the document be really from his pen) the Bourbonian reactionists and the "Piedmontese sect," and confidently promises his friends the approaching triumph of their principles and his own claims. The force of self-conceit can surely not go much farther. At the same time a reactionary paper, the counterpart of *La France*, is, under the title of the *Nappe*, coming out in Naples under the Imperial patronage. Its principal tactics is to ignore every other State or country in the world unless Naples. Naples, it seems as says, cannot get on with the rest of Italy, and the rest of Italy must fall to pieces without Naples, which is all the better for the last, as she will, therefore, attain political preeminence in the peninsula, and be unrivaled in her prosperity. The new journal does not yet advance the claims of the Murats, the time not being ripe to do so, but it does all in its power to effect a separation between Northern and Southern Italy.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

ANNUAL COURT STATEMENT FOR 1862.

We present to our readers statements of the business of the several courts for the present year. Our reporter returns his thanks to the judges, clerks and officers who have rendered him facilities during the year in the discharge of his duties.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.

The Honorables Charles P. Daly, John R. Brady and Henry Hilton, Judges; Nathaniel Jarvis, jr., Clerk; Thomas H. Landon, Deputy Clerk.

GENERAL TERM.

Appeals from Judgments and Orders at General Term	124
Appeals from Judgments of Marine and District Courts	454
Total number added by the Court	579
Total number heard and disposed of	415

TRIAL TERMS.

Causes on Jury Calendar	3,603
Causes called by the Court	1,171
Causes disposed of	719
Causes on Calendar by Court without Jury	160
Causes called by Court	166
Causes disposed of	47

SPECIAL TERMS.

Issues of Law and Enumerated Motions on Calendar	90
Causes Called by the Court	96
Causes Determined	77
Non-enumerated Motions heard and decided at Special Term in Chambers, including many Final Judgments	2,117
Proceedings for Discharge of Insolvent Debtors	25
Writ of Habeas Corpus and Certiorari granted, and Decisions thereon	45
Divorces granted	22
Change of Name	3
Inventories of property assigned by insolvents and bonds of assignees examined and approved	152
Applications for Citizen's ship heard and granted	1,501
Applications denied	114

The aggregate number of sittings in Court by all the Judges during the year was 730 days.

MARINE COURT.

Honorables Florence McCarthy, Henry Alker, and Edmund L. Hearne, Justices. Moses D. Guie, Clerk.

Number of Processes issued from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1862—Summons, Warrants, Attachments, Aliases, &c	3,819
Number of Judgments rendered	1,925
Number of cases remaining in Court	13
Number of Special Term Orders filed	500

The amount of which judgment has been obtained in all is $427,540.

GENERAL TERM.

Cases appealed from Special Term	150
Argued and decided	121
Dismissed and discontinued	29

Special Terms, for the trial of causes, are held in Parts I and II; for the hearing of motions and ex parte business only, will be held in Part III.

ASSIGNMENT OF THE JUDGES FOR THE YEAR 1863.

	Part I.	Part II.	Part III.
January	Hearne, J.	Alker, J.	McCarthy, J.
February	McCarthy, J.	Hearne, J.	Alker, J.
March	Alker, J.	McCarthy, J.	Hearne, J.
April	Hearne, J.	Alker, J.	McCarthy, J.
May	McCarthy, J.	Hearne, J.	Alker, J.
June	Alker, J.	McCarthy, J.	Hearne, J.
July	Hearne, J.	Alker, J.	McCarthy, J.
August	McCarthy, J.	Hearne, J.	Alker, J.
September	Alker, J.	McCarthy, J.	Hearne, J.
October	Hearne, J.	Alker, J.	McCarthy, J.
November	McCarthy, J.	Hearne, J.	Alker, J.
December	Alker, J.	McCarthy, J.	Hearne, J.

Day Calendar called in Part I.

General Term commences on the last Thursday of each month, to continue for three days, held by all the Justices.

The Court is open every day during the year for transaction of business, except Sunday and the usual holidays.

UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT.

The Hon. Samuel Nelson (Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States), Presiding Judge. Benjamin White, esq., Clerk; Richard E. Stilwell, esq., Deputy Clerk.

Common Law Suits Commenced	349
Common Law Suits Tried	11
Common Law Suits discontinued	5
Equity Suits Commenced	134
Equity Suits Heard Definitively	11
Injunctions granted	16
Injunctions Denied	3
Equity Suits Discontinued	4
Appeals in Admiralty from District Court	21
Appeals in Admiralty Heard and Decided	15
Indictments Found on the Criminal Side	30
Indictments Tried	20
Appeals taken to the Supreme Court	3

During the year Judge Nelson was sitting in the Supreme Court of the United States, in the months of January, February, March and December; and he also held terms of the Circuit Court in this District, Vermont, Connecticut, and in the Northern District of this State. During Judge Nelson's absence from this District, the Court was held by District Judges Shipman, Betts and Hall.

UNITED STATES COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE.

Kenneth G. White, esq., and Richard E. Stilwell, esq., United States Commissioners.

They have issued during the year 79 warrants for various offenses, viz., murder, smuggling, counterfeiting, crimes and minor punishment, assaults with dangerous weapons, larceny on shipboard, revolts and desertions. A portion of the above cases were sent before the Grand Jury for their action.

OYER AND TERMINER.

	Conv'd.	Acq'd.
Manslaughter, 3d degree	1	1
Manslaughter, 4th degree	1	1
Grand Larceny, 2d offense	1	0

GENERAL SESSIONS.

Murder, 1st degree	—	1
Manslaughter, various degrees	17	1
Assault with intent to kill	—	4
Assault with intent to do bodily harm	14	—
Assault with intent to commit a rape	1	1
Attempt to procure an abortion	1	—
Kidnapping	1	—
Deserting a child	1	—
Abduction	—	1
Robbery, 1st degree	3	6
Assault with intent to commit a robbery	2	—
Assault and battery	43	7
Bigamy	5	—
Perjury	—	2
Arson, various degrees	—	2
Burglary, various degrees	25	10
Burglary, various degrees	17	4
Attempt to commit burglary, various degrees	14	—
Embezzlement	1	2
Grand larceny	67	35
Attempt to commit larceny	28	—
Petit larceny from the person	25	3
Attempt to commit grand larceny from the person	1	—
Accessory to felony after the fact	—	1
Receiving stolen goods	4	4
Obtaining goods by false pretenses	3	6
Petit larceny	67	—
Attempt to commit petit larceny	13	—
Conspiracy	2	—
Entering out-door with intent to steal	1	—
Violation of Excise Law	1	—
Keeping gambling and disorderly houses	4	3
Engaging in prize-fighting	2	—
Violation of law regulating places of amusement	1	—
Opening sealed letters without authority	1	1
Violation of Patent laws	1	—
Malicious mischief	1	—
Libel	—	1
Total	299	97

100 males and 15 females were sentenced to imprisonment in the State Prison, the aggregate time amounts to 322 years and 8 months.

Sentenced to imprisonment in the Penitentiary—96 males, 41 females.

Sentenced to imprisonment in the City Prison—38 males, 27 females.

Sent to House of Refuge—13 boys and 2 girls.

849 indictments were found, and 172 complaints were dismissed by the Grand Jury.

3,446 recognizances to appear and answer were filed, and 49 were forfeited during the year.

Fines and costs collected and paid into the County Treasury during the year, $711 62.

Mr. Henry Vandervoort and Mr. John Sparks are the Clerk and Deputy of this Court, in which capacity they have faithfully served the public for a space of nearly a quarter of a century. Both of these gentlemen will receive the thanks of our reporter for many courtesies extended toward him.

UNITED STATES MARSHAL'S OFFICE—Dec. 30.

SENTENCE OF DEMARCHI COMMUTED.

Ferdinand Demarchi was convicted, a few months ago, in the United States Circuit Court, of the murder of Frank Vincent on board the bark Blondel, and Judge Shipman sentenced him to be hung in February next. He was defended by Mr. Edwin James.

This morning Marshal Murray received from President Lincoln an order directing the commutation of the prisoner's sentence from death to imprisonment in the State Prison for 15 years. Marshal Murray took the document to the Tombs and read it to the prisoner.

SUPREME COURT—CHAMBERS—Dec. 30.—Before Justice BARNARD.

THE JUDGMENTS AGAINST FERNANDO WOOD.

Leighton agt. Fernando Wood

Four judgments of $1,000 each having been rendered against the defendant, by default, in actions for assault and battery committed upon the plaintiffs during the police riots of 1857, a motion was made last week to open said defaults as irregular. An objection was made against Judge Barnard hearing the motion, on the ground that he was counsel for the defendant at the time the cause of action arose.

To-day, the Judge decided against the objection, for the reasons: 1. That to decline to hear a case under those circumstances would put it in the power of an attorney to refuse to proceed to the trial of a cause or to make an argument on a motion, unless the magistrate on the bench personally solicited him; 2. That to decline would have a tendency to create a want of confidence in the judiciary; and 3. That the effect of such a course would be that, in nearly every case, an application would be made to postpone a trial or hearing before a judge where the judge at any time had been friendly to the parties or counsels or the other, and which would create an impression in the minds of the community that an acquaintance with either of the suitors or their attorneys would be a disqualification so far as impartiality was concerned.

The counsel then proceeded to argue on the motion to open the default.

Ex-Judges Dean and Pierrepont for motion; Mr. Field opposed.

DECISION.

Thomas Andrews agt. Jas. Ellis—Motion denied.

SUPERIOR COURT—SPECIAL TERM—Dec. 30.—Before Justice BOSWORTH.

DECISIONS.

Wm. H. Phare et al. agt. Chas. S. Bailey et al.—Motion denied with $10 costs to abide event. Papers to Clerk's Office.

Before Justice MONCRIEF.

James B. Taylor agt. John Hounsom; John Hemmle agt. Joseph Gelly; Ebenezer Seeley agt. James W. Barker; Chas. Barrall agt. James C. Jewett; John Hennessy agt. Axel Freeman; Robert Hare Powell agt. John D. Collins; Matilda C. Gray agt. John Cook, jr.; John J. Phillips agt. Joseph Rothchem. Orders granted.

Wm. H. Aspinall agt. Wm. B. Lawrence—Judgement of foreclosure, &c.

Teresa Brown agt. M. McGarmon—Motion denied. Defendant to have ten days to answer, &c.

COURT CALENDAR—THIS DAY.

SUPREME COURT—CIRCUIT.—Part I.—Nos. 4639, 4699, 4743, 4744, 4753, 4755, 4759, 4761, 4763, 4767, 4773, 4777, 4779, 4789, 4790, 4793, 4801, 4805, 4811, 4812, 4815, 4827, 4828, 4839, 4845, 4849, 48.5. Part II—Nos. 5093, 5104, 5133, 5140, 5143, 5144, 5149, 5152, 5154, 5156, 5158, 5162, 5164, 5166, 5168, 5170, 5174, 5176, 5178, 5182, 5184, 5186, 5188, 5190, 5194, 5196, 5198, 5200, 5204, 5206.

CITY ITEMS.

NEW-YEAR'S EVE.—The last day and the last night of the Old Year never fail to bring subjects for reflection to the earnest and thoughtful mind. During the past three hundred and sixty-five days, we as a people have been standing in the midst of great events. Elections involving great issues have been held—army has been added to army—battles have been lost and won—the courage, patriotism, and endurance of our gallant volunteers have again and again been tested in the presence of an unscrupulous and cruel enemy. We now lift the curtain and look back upon the past, confident that our cause is just, and that justice will win the victory in the present struggle for life and liberty. Freedom never retrogrades—History cannot point to a backward step that she has taken. The channel of the ages is worn deep with the footsteps of reform, and we as a people have made great advancement in that direction. We shall not sacrifice our interests to protect the property of Rebels. We shall not return the panting fugitive to bondage. We are fighting in earnest now, and the Rebellion must be crushed. In many of the churches fervent men and women will assemble to watch and pray; and here will be few indeed whose sympathies will not be awakened afresh by the recollection that since the commencement of the war dear relatives and friends have sealed their loyalty with their blood. What a spectacle! A vast congregation of worshipers kneeling on the graves of their fathers, brothers, and children! When the clock of ages shall strike, may we not expect that it will ring out Slavery and ring in freedom. Is it merely a picture of the fancy that we see at the Capitol? A tall man surrounded, rises in the majesty of his power and puts the trumpet of liberty to his lips. He has been trusted more than any other man of modern times, and he will not betray that trust. A nation of slaves bowed in chains, and a nation of freemen fighting for peace and union, wait with intense interest the sound of the trumpet. Will he falter now, at this crisis, when the people are passing through the red sea, under a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night? He will not. He will be true to freedom as the fire to the sun. The clock strikes the hour of twelve, and before the last tone has died away in the distance, the trumpet sounds peal upon peal, echoing over our broad land. The affairs of the Confederacy is shaken. The Rebel chief is pale with terror. The Rebel armies tremble with fear. As the notes of the trumpet sound along the Southern rivers, and echo among the Southern hills, the slaves arise from their knees and shout psalms and thanksgiving to God. We verily believe to-morrow's sun will dawn upon a free people on this continent—a people who will set aside every condition of freedom. We shall commence a new era in our history on the morning of the New Year, and have cause to congratulate each other with the prospect of a Happy New Year.

THE OLD AND NEW YEAR TRINITY CHIMES.—The following programme will be performed on Trinity Church bells by James E. Ashton, on the departure of the old year and beginning of the new. The chimes will commence at 11 o'clock, Dec. 31, 1862. 1. Ringing the Changes on Eight Bells. 2. Hail Columbia. 3. Yankee Doodle. 4. Old Dog Tray. 5. Grand Medley, arranged expressly for Trinity Church Chimes, by George F. Bristow. 6. Evening Bells. 7. Last Rose of Summer. 8. Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean. 9. Yankee Doodle. 10. Home, Sweet Home.

"THE GREAT JUBILEE."—Under this title a watch meeting is called for 9 o'clock to-night at Shiloh Presbyterian Church, Fifteen street, corner of Marion, of the colored people and their friends. The call reads: "At 9 o'clock we shall begin to dig the grave of American Slavery, and at 12 precisely we hope to bury the old Monster beyond the possibility of a resurrection."

ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS.—The annual festival of the Industrial, Sabbath, and Parochial Schools attached to the Protestant Episcopal Church was celebrated yesterday afternoon in St. John's Chapel. In front of the chancel was a large and magnificent Christmas tree, from the branches of which were suspended numerous colored lamps, with toys of every character. Tables on either side were also laden with gifts. A beautiful Christmas carol, of which we give the first stanza, was sung by the children, 1,600 and upward in number:

Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child!
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace!

The Rev. Dr. Weston and the Rev. Mr. Young officiated in the anti-Communion service, when another hymn on the incarnation was sung, after which Bishop Potter addressed the children.

Another carol, commencing

Christ was born on Christmas Day—
Worship the King, throughout the day—
The Babe—The Son—The Holy One of Mary,

was then sung, when the Bishop pronounced the benediction, and the gifts were distributed to the children.

Mr. Grau has done very well with the opera company in Philadelphia, and will shortly recommence here at the Academy.

BULL'S HEAD.—The report of the Cattle market this week presents some remarkable features. There is an actual plethora of all kinds of meat in Midwinter, and in the midst of our great war. Certainly in this case war is not accompanied by famine. The receipt of live hogs is the largest by some 8,000 head ever received in this city in one week, numbering over 61,000. The receipt of beef is, though not so large as in some previous weeks, is remarkably large for the season—a season of abundance in the poultry market. The price of all ordinary grades of beef cattle has run very low, and it was difficult to find purchasers for all on sale, and some of them sold at lower prices than any time in 1861. The range of prices has been from $20 to $175 a head, and from 5 to 11c. net for the beef. This is a very great range, but a true one. Look at the items in the full report of the market.

THE POLICE AND THE JAPANESE FUND.—On Monday evening a number of the policemen who were in the Department at the time of the Japanese reception, held a meeting to consider what steps should be taken for the recovery of their respective shares of the Japanese fund. Yesterday a Committee, appointed at that meeting, waited upon Commissioner Bowen to ascertain whether the members of the force on duty at the time of the Japanese reception, but who had been discharged since, would receive their share of said fund. Mr. Bowen stated that he thought they were entitled to it, but he was compelled to submit the question to the Counsel of the Board, and get his opinion as to whether the money was originally given to the members of the force or to the Department.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.—This Board met at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, but immediately thereafter took a recess of fifteen minutes to await the action of the Councilmen on certain papers. The intermission having expired, the roll was again called, when, on motion of Mr. Boole, the message of the Mayor vetoing the appointment of 150 Commissioners of Deeds was taken up. After a word from Mr. Boole in regard to the subject, the resolution making the appointments was passed over the veto. For want of further business, the Board adjourned until this afternoon at 1 o'clock.

AN AGREEABLE SURPRISE.—On Monday night a large number of the members and congregation of the Stanton street Baptist Church "surprised" their parson, the Rev. Dr. E. T. Hiscox, and his family. Of course the party brought along a splendid holiday repast, which was not among the least of the enjoyable things of the affair. Before separating, Dr. Baldwin of Twenty-fourth street, in behalf of the company presented their pastor and his amiable wife with two neat little packages of "greenbacks," to the value of several hundred dollars, ornamented with a delicate silken flag of the Union. Of course this was an addition as well as acceptable surprise. Suitable thanks were returned for such a tangible expression of regard. During the evening an unlooked-for entertainment was given by the Rev. Dr. McGowan, the celebrated lecturer on Japan, who related several interesting incidents of his personal experience among that people.

BOARD OF COUNCILMEN.—The Board met on Tuesday, at 4 o'clock p. m., the President, C. C. Pinckney, esq., in the chair.

The Chief Engineer of the Fire Department sent in the returns of the election for Assistant Engineer for the Harlem District, nominating C. W. Eidley for the position. The Board confirmed the nomination.

An invitation was accepted to attend De Vries's allegorico-historical painting at No. 16 Leroy place.

Resolutions were adopted expressive of regret at the death of Assistant Charles Lutz (524 N. Y. V.), who was killed at the battle of Fredericksburg.

It should have appeared in yesterday's report of this Board that the list of Commissioners of Deeds published several days since was adopted over the Mayor's veto.

Adjourned to Wednesday, at 4 p. m.

INTERNATIONAL RELIEF COMMITTEE.—The Treasurer of the International Relief Committee acknowledges the receipt of the following donations since Dec. 24:

"For Christ' Lake," Fortress Monroe	$10 00
Merritt and Lawson	25 00
J. R. B	10 00
Merritt & Wood	25 00
Miss Bressette	50 00
Total	170 00
Previously reported in cash	107,553 97
Grand total	107,753 97

A. A. LOW, Treasurer, No. 31 Burling slip.

ALLEGED GRAND LARCENY.—Yesterday, officers Irving and Anderson arrested Margaret Toomey and Eliza Jane Lane, on a charge of stealing from Timotheus Grindley his gold watch and chain valued at $150, while in their society at a house commonly known as the "The Ruins," in Ninth avenue. They were taken before Justice Kelly and committed for examination.

MURDEROUS ASSAULT.—About 1 o'clock yesterday morning, David Hogan, while proceeding homeward through Dutchess street, was assaulted by two unknown men, one of whom stabbed him severely in the left side, inflicting a dangerous wound. He was found in the street by Officer Taylor of the Fifth Precinct, and conveyed to the New-York Hospital.

[Advertisement.]

MISS LAVINIA WARREN being called suddenly to Boston, and utterly unable to do her privately all the calls upon her for her carte de visite, would refer her friends to Fredericks & Co., Gurney & Son, and Appleton.

[Advertisement.]

THIS IS A GRAND FAMILY HOLIDAY at BARNUM'S Museum, also the last day of the great drama, CONLEEN BAWN. It is played afternoon and evening, at 3 and 7½ o'clock. All who have not seen it should embrace this last opportunity. Commodore Nutt, the Fat Woman, Albinos, Performing Bears, &c., at all hours.

[Advertisement.]

BANTAM MEN.—Tom Thumb and Com. Nutt, with portraits and description, in THEROMOLOGICAL JOURNAL. Why are they so little? Newsmen have it, or will get it.

[Advertisement.]

DR. LEVETT'S DENTIFRICE AND LOTION, after twenty years' test, in his extensive dental practice, is highly recommended. Price 75 cents. Of all Druggists and at No. 12 Waverley place.

[Advertisement.]

A LIKENESS OF YOUR MIND, or your mental portrait, would make an appropriate Holiday present for lady or gentleman, and may be had of FOWLER & WELLS, Phrenologists, No. 308 Broadway.

[Advertisement.]

THE UNITED STATES TAX LAW,

Now Ready, is a pamphlet of 32 pages, on fine, white paper. Inside the bill, which is word for word in accordance with the original text, we append to it an Alphabetical Recapitulation of every article to be taxed by the law, and the amount of the tax to be levied thereon. This renders it as complete and convenient as it is possible to make it.

Price 5 cents, postpaid; $4 per 100 if sent by express; $5 per 100 if by mail. Address THE TRIBUNE, New-York.

[Advertisement.]

MME. DEMOREST'S beautiful first-premium $5 Repeating Stitch Sewing Machine. It is marvelously simple and efficient, and a beautiful Holiday Present. Sent free of expense charges on receipt of $5. MME. DEMOREST, 473 B'way.

NEW-JERSEY ITEMS.

A GENTLEMAN AND LADY NEARLY SUFFOCATED.—A Mr. and Mrs. Thorley, of Hoboken, had a narrow escape from suffocation a few days since. They went to inspect a new house which had just been completed, and in which fire had been fabred in some of the rooms for the purpose of drying the plastering. Mrs. Thorley extended one of the rooms which had been closed for some time, and in a moment was overcome by the effects of the coal gas and fell to the floor, uttering a scream for help. Mr. T. rushed to her rescue, when he, too, was prostrated, and falling on the stove, was considerably burned. Some workmen were attracted to the room, and rescued the unfortunate persons from their perilous situation. The gas is supposed to have been retained in the room by a defect in the chimney.

HALL ROBBERY.—On Monday evening the residence of Mr. James A. Williamson, No. 35 Morris street, Jersey City, was entered by hall thieves, and six overcoats, belonging to gentlemen who were spending the evening there, were stolen. Chief Riley recovered three of them from a thief who attempted to cross to New-York.

MASONIC FUNERAL.—The funeral of Mr. Alexander Dillon, a well known citizen of Jersey City, will take place at the Third Reformed Dutch Church this (Wednesday) afternoon. The funeral will be attended by the Masonic Fraternity, of which he was a prominent and zealous member.

A NEW ENGINE.—Arrescsoh Engine Company No. 2 of Jersey City will proceed to New-York this (Wednesday) afternoon, for the purpose of bringing home a fine new engine from the manufacturers.

HUDSON COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.—This Society has elected the following Standing Committees for the ensuing year:

FINANCE—Messrs. Howell, Morgan, and Case.

EXPLORATION AND SUPPLY—Rev. Messrs. Taylor, Pabbit, and Van Horne.

DEPOSITORY—Rev. P. D. Van Cleef, Messrs. R. Case, and J. S. Howell.

PUBLIC MEETINGS—Rev. Wm. Verrinder, Rev. Richard Van Horne, and Rev. N. S. Harris.

Parson Brownlow as a Prophet.

In a recent letter, written in Washington, to *The Cincinnati Commercial*, Parson Brownlow prophecies as follows:

But I have said that I am still hopeful. Yes, I will not despair, because the Rebellion will be put down, and that, too, by the army we now have in the field. I don't know what is *contraband* news, and if I did, I have no access to official quarters, and hence what I say is upon my own authority, which I may