OCEANICA.

NEW-ZEALAND.

THE NEW STEAM POSTAL SERVICE BY WAY OF PANAMA—ITS IMPORTANCE AND COMMERCIAL ADVANTAGES—DISCOVERY OF NEW-ZEALAND—SETTLEMENT OF THE COUNTRY—TOPOGRAPHY AND RESOURCES—TRADE WITH AMERICA.

AUCKLAND, Sept. 3, 1866.

The successful opening of the Panama, New-Zealand and Australian Steam Postal Service is a noteworthy event in the history of steam navigation. It has solved the doubt but for which this enterprise would have been undertaken and completed at least seven years ago, namely, the possibility of an ocean steamer running a distance of 6,500 miles under steam without an intermediate coaling station. That doubt is now removed. The performances of the Rakaia and Kaikoura have set the matter at rest forever and opened up a new and ever increasing field for enterprise and capital.

It is impossible to overestimate the importance of this new route to commercial men. At present the advantage derivable from direct communication with the American Continent, North and South, do not appear at all commensurate with the immense mail subsidy paid to the Company; but in a short time I doubt not, these drawbacks will be lost sight of in the more substantial results that must follow. Before going into particulars, a few general observations on this country may be of some interest. New Zealand is generally supposed to have been discovered by the Dutch navigator Tasman, in 1642. He did not land, however. The natives resisted his boat's crew, and he lost four men in the fruitless enterprise. The credit of this discovery is, however, disputed by the Spaniards.

To Capt. Cook, the great modern navigator and explorer, the credit belongs of making the first survey of New-Zealand, which in its general features, so far as the coast is concerned, is quite accurate. Until then, New-Zealand was believed to form a part of the great *terra Australis incognita*. He first sighted this country on the 6th October, 1769, and made four subsequent visits to it. Traces of his garden at the entrance to Queen Charlotte's Sound, which was his favorite anchorage, may still be seen. The smith's forge, erected by him, was, I believe, likewise there a few years ago, if it is not there at present; and the clear, deep waters of the lonely Sound, in which Cook wintered, and where most of his observations were made, are now daily traversed by a fleet of steamships, great and small, that surpass anything in naval architecture ever dreamed of in Cook's age of seamanship.

Physically the New-Zealander of to-day differs little, if at all from that of Tasman and Cook. Socially it is as different as day is from night. The anthropophagi, and men "whose heads do grow beneath their shoulders," have become sadly reduced in numbers, and agreeably changed in manners. That even cannibalism may be productive of good results is manifest, however, from the fact that but for the man-eating habits of the New-Zealander aborigines and their warlike nature, this beautiful country would have been selected as a penal settlement by Great Britain, about the year 1788, when New-South Wales was established. Thus the savage nature of its people preserved the country from a worse evil, and kept open the door for that wonderful and rapid transformation which the natives underwent at the hands of the early missionaries. The social scum of English civilisation did not pollute the springs and fountains of this young and vigorous State. To New-South Wales and Tasmania, and to Western Australia, were deported those men and women who have so impregnated society in those countries with the hereditary taint of crime, that long after the penal system had been abolished, long after free immigration had been promoted, and representative institutions have been granted (Western Australia excepted), the social taint is discernible, and the calendar of crime is ever large and increasing.

In 1800, sperm whalers frequented the coast; in 1814, the Church missionaries appeared, and in 1822, the venerable Marsden established the Wesleyan missionaries at the Bay of Islands. Thenceforward there was security for the white man, and a considerable native trade sprung up. The natives exchanged flax and "preserved heads" for powder and muskets, to enable them to carry on their inter-tribal wars of extermination, and bartered for rum and articles of merchandise the virtue of their females. To give one an idea of the extent of the flax trade, I may quote the figures from "McCulloch's Commercial Dictionary," which states that in 1831 as many as 15,725 cwts. of New-Zealand flax (*phormium tenax*) were imported by England; in 1832, 15,867 cwts. were imported. The trade has since fallen off; but it is now being revived, owing to the scarcity of hemp and other textile fabrics, and £30 per tun is now freely given in Auckland for European cleaned *phormium tenax*, which is greatly inferior to native cleaned flax. I saw the other day a sample of flax, for which a merchant offered the natives £40 per tun. It was a really beautiful sample as soft as silk, and a fiber averaging six feet in length. The flax hitherto sold (I mean recently) has been bought on account of Melbourne manufacturers.

The missionaries only effected at first a permanent footing in the north, and the security of life and property consequent thereon attracted traders to the northern parts. The Bay of Islands now, as for many years past, the favorite resort of New-England whalers, was the headquarters of the missionaries, from whence their influence spread over the country, and where the celebrated Treaty of Waitangi was drawn up and signed by the "thirteen confederate chiefs" of New-Zealand, by which the British Government took formal possession and established the colony of New-Zealand.

Turning from this general view of things, let me come to the particular. New-Zealand consists of two large islands, known as the North and Middle Islands, and a smaller one south of Foveaux's Straits, called Stewart's Island. Cook's Straits separates the North from the Middle Islands. On Cook's Straits, at the extreme length of the North Island, is situated Wellington, the present seat of government, which was selected on account of its central position by the majority of the House of Representatives. It is the political capital merely, and owes its importance in the colony purely to its geographical position. I may state that up to within the last two years Auckland was the seat of government, and is still the great military and naval depot. In fact, as a naval rendezvous, the harbor of Auckland can hardly be said to be second to that of Sydney.

The New-Zealand group lying about north-east and south-west, extends from 34 and 48 degrees, south latitude, and 166 degrees to 179 degrees, east longitude, and has a coast line of 1,000 leagues. The total area about 75,000,000 acres, rather under the total acreage of Great Britain and Ireland, including Wales. The province of Auckland is favored with the warmest and most equable climate, but no part of New-Zealand can be said to possess a "bad" climate. I think, however, that Auckland, which is a country about the size of the ancient Kingdom of Scotland, has the advantage in many respects. It is practicable at all seasons of the year to work in the open air from sunrise to sunset, and by proper cultivation two crops of potatoes or cereals may be gathered each year. There is no uncertainty about maize, owing to the moisture of the climate. The North Island being the principal seat of the native population has not been so open to settlement as the Middle Island, which was little heard of until lately, being a pastoral country. The Middle Island was fortunate in having few natives, and these "the remains of a feast," as the northern cannibals contemptuously say. It likewise possessed immense grassy plains, which were at once available for sheep runs. The various provinces of this island were settled on widely different principles. Canterbury, the most favored of these, having the port of Lyttelton as its principal outlet (and only a second-rate harbor), and Christ-Church as its capital, was colonized by the Canterbury Association, a "brilliant association of peers, bishops and commoners, patriotically interested in improving the character of British colonization."

Since it was established in 1850, Canterbury exercised a powerful influence on the politics of the country. It is the premier province of the Middle Island, and possesses more open pastoral and agricultural country than any other province in the colony. With its immense natural advantages, and having the revenue of its waste lands secured for local works, it has made rapid strides in colonization. Within the last 12 months the Westland gold field, discovered on the inhospitable western coast line of Canterbury—a *terra incognita* until then—has rapidly enabled her to recover the position she lost for two or three years, owing to the discovery of gold in the Otago province, lying to the south of Canterbury, and which was founded "by an association of members of the Free Kirk of Scotland." It is only proper to state that the influx of population to Otago, consequent on the gold mania of 1853, has obliterated all traces of the exclusive principles of the founders. And so, but to a lesser degree, is it with Canterbury, whose "High Church" proclivities and aristocratic pretensions were at first as offensive to the great body of the colonists as was the narrow-minded exclusiveness of the "old identity" [illegible] in Otago.

There is another Province (peninsula) in the Middle island as well as Nelson and Marlborough. Southland was a "slice" cut out of Otago by the local politicians, who complained that their interests had been overlooked by the Provincial Government and Council, and Marlborough was formed in the same way. Southland inherited about 3,000,000 acres of waste lands, nearly all either agricultural or pastoral, and it managed so to "overrun the Constable," that the Colonial Government was compelled to step in, guarantee its debt, and practically administer its affairs. Marlborough was, like Southland, mismanaged. Its grassy plains were portioned among the squatters, who now own the whole soil, to the exclusion of population. Nelson was an off-shoot from the New-Zealand Company's settlement at Wellington, which was planted by that association of peers and commissioners, under Col. Gibbon Wakefield's direction, in opposition to and defiance of the Crown. Nelson has been stationary for many years. Its sheep yielded annually about the same return of wool, which was shipped to England, and its imports hardly ever varied. Since the Auckland gold fields have been discovered trade has revived. The auriferous ground extends along the west coast of that Province and Nelson, its political and commercial capital—a most difficult harbor, unsafe except for steam vessels—being situate near the roadstead in Blind Bay and within a few hours' steam of Grey River and Hokitika diggings, had they had a considerable stimulus given to its local trade. But the principal trade of the diggings has been done with Melbourne, Sydney, Otago and Manukau—the eastern portion of the city and isthmus of Auckland.

Speaking generally, the harbors of the West coast are not first rate; by comparison with those of the North Island, and notably Auckland Province, they are not to be named. There are no safe harbors on the West coast of the Middle Island. There are narrow and difficult bar entrances to the rivers, or mountain torrents, which are formed principally of the melted snow from the great Southern Alps.

Recrossing Cook's Straits I at once come to Wellington, the political capital of the Colony, and the premier settlement of New-Zealand Company. It is situated on a fine land-locked harbor, but is by no means a desirable place of abode, being exposed to the prevailing winds, which appear to blow without intermission all the year round. This locality appears to be the center of volcanic action in New Zealand, the northern portion of this Island, having, as the inhabitants truly say, been "burned out." No shock of any great consequence has occurred since the great earthquake which so terrified the late Governor of Jamaica, Mr. Eyre, then Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of New-Munster, as the territory south of the Province of Auckland, or New-Ulster, was called in the nomenclature of Downing-st., before the Constitution was granted to New-Zealand; that is some 12 or 14 years ago. But then, the coast line was upheaved for many miles, as much as four feet, and there is yet abundant proof of a gradual uprising of the land in the vicinity of Cook's Straits. There are almost weekly "shakes" or pulsations of the earth to be felt at Wellington, or in Nelson, Marlborough, and Hawk's Bay, of which last named place I shall presently speak.

Wellington is shut out from the interior by mountain ranges, which greatly retard industrial pursuits. Indeed, from the rugged character of the country, except along the north-west coast, in the district of Hagaaui, recently the scene of active military operations, and the birth place of the *Hauhau* fanaticism, which revived cannibalism in its most abhorrent features, there is no really available agricultural land. The province of Wellington exports wool, and being the headquarters of the New-Zealand Steam Navigation Company, and now the seat of Government, and port of call of the Panama steamers, there is a good deal of bustle about the port. But this in no way influences the country beyond the ranges.

Hawke's Bay, a small pastoral province, abutting on the south east of Auckland, contains a large native population. The crown land has been alienated to a few sheepowners, either at a nominal rent or for 5s. per acre. The native land, unalienated, has been leased by squatters for sheepfarming purposes, thus conserving the old tribal title and making the tribe, and not the individual, lord of the soil.

The remaining provinces to be spoken of are Taranaki and Auckland. The former is a small province of rich arable land, lying south of Auckland on the west coast line, and abutting on the Wanganui District of Wellington. It has not deservedly been termed "The Garden of New-Zealand," but it labors under the drawbacks of having the most inoffensive native population in the colony, and no harbor. Taranaki has been an "issue of blood" to this colony for 10 years past, indeed, since its foundation the natives have never been at peace with each other or with the settlers. The entire of the settlement, beyond a limit of 50 acres on which the garrison town of New-Plymouth stood, was burned down in 1860 by the natives, and we are only now seeing the settlers crawling back again to their ruined farms. Petroleum in a crude form has been discovered by boring at New-Plymouth; and for miles the beach is formed of the famous titaniferous iron sand, from which the finest steel can be formed by a single process of fusion.

The Province of Auckland contains the great bulk of the native race, whose stand in Waikato and to the east coast I have already spoken of. It also possesses a greater variety of soil than any other province; but it does not, except in the interior of the southern district, possess any open grass land. Indeed, the chief difficulty of settlement is to remove the luxuriant growth of timber, fern and creepers which drape every spot of ground with continual verdure. There is no fall of the leaf in this Province, except in the case of imported plants and trees. All indigenous trees and shrubs are evergreen. Auckland abounds in many useful trees for building purposes, the principal being the Kauri pine, which does not exist in any other part of the world. There is a valuable tree growing along the coast called the Pohutakawa, a hard wood used in shipbuilding. Owing to its peculiar growth, the shipwrights have no difficulty in securing knees ready made for the inboard cutting them; and by this means, and also because of the extraordinary facilities for water communication in this Province, ship-building has become an extensive domestic industry.

There are more harbors in Auckland, twice told, than in all the other provinces put together. There are fully five hundred miles of inland navigation for large vessels provided by the Kaipara and its affluents. The country is quite open to settlement. The natives are extremely quiet and industrious, and have alienated the most of their land; but owing to the difficulty of obtaining transport, and the seductions of a town life, this immense territory is only sparsely occupied, in isolated spots, by Europeans. This is all the more singular, when a few miles of all but level cutting would unite the Waitemata, or Auckland harbor, with the Kipara navigation, and so open up the interior trade of that vast country to the capital.

Northward again, on the west coast is the harbor and river of Hokianga, a noble tidal river, known to all the old traders in New-Zealand, and long celebrated for its timber, flax and gum trade. South of the Manukau, on the west coast, is the Waikato river and port. The river takes its rise in the great central lake of Taupo, and waters the plains of the Waikato, which have so recently passed into our hands as the fruits of conquest, and where there are now several flourishing town settlements, and a European population of well nigh 7,000 souls. The river steamers are supplied with coal from the mines contiguous to the river, and in a few years hence this must become a most prosperous district. There are about 150 square miles of open agricultural country, well watered, and abounding in minerals, the chief at present known being coal and limestone.

I have shown that in the matter of harbors and navigable rivers the province of Auckland is, perhaps, unequalled in the world. It abounds in coal, iron, copper, gold, limestone and other minerals. Flowing petroleum has been discovered in several places in the province; and the coal, gold, and copper mines are being worked. These mining efforts are in their infancy, however, and invite capital and skill to assist. Silver and lead are likewise known to exist in this province, but no persevering efforts have been made to test the value of the discovery. Besides all this, the province of Auckland exclusively supplies that valuable commodity, kauri gum, which Americans use so largely in the manufacture of varnish, which they obtain at second-hand from England at greatly enhanced rates, instead of at first hand from Auckland.

To give some idea of the importance of the New-Zealand trade to New-York and other American emporiums, I will quote a few figures from the statistics of the Colony for 1865, published by the Colonial Government: Total value of imports, £6,594,977; total value of exports, £5,713,218. Of this total amount, the imports from the United Kingdom was £2,685,994; from the Colony of New-South Wales, £1,047,686; from the Colony of Victoria, £1,249,243. The exports were principally to these countries. The imports of breadstuffs from America was £301,610; and from the United States, £45,026; the exports thence being valued at £7,168.

This plainly enough indicates the source of wealth opened to American commercial enterprise by the Panama line, which brings us into earlier intercourse with South America and the United States than with England. Of this total, the value of imports at Auckland in the year 1865 amounted to £1,850,000, and the exports to £230,891. There were 261 vessels, representing a tonnage of 102,877 tons, entered into the port of Auckland in 1865—a much larger proportion than at any other port in the colony. The registered tonnage of the port of Auckland is 13,094 tons, of a total of 24,484 tons of the entire colony. The following is a return of the population at the end of 1864: Auckland, 48,606; natives about 15,000; Taranaki, 4,478; natives about 1,500; Wellington, 19,165; natives about 1,000; Hawke's Bay, 4,302; natives about 2,500; Nelson, 13,920; Marlborough, 5,465; Canterbury, 48,618; Otago, 46,598; Southland, 7,006.

In conclusion, I may mention the fact that the titaniferous iron sand exists along the west coast of the province of Auckland from Cape Maria Van Diemen to its junction with Taranaki province, and that every facility exists for working it. As yet, gold mining is confined to the Coromandel reefs in Auckland. The harbors and rivers teem with fish. There is this point also in its favor, that whereas all the available land in the Middle Island, Wellington and Hawkes Bay have been taken up, there are some 13,000,000 acres in this province open to acquisition and beneficial occupation.

If anything I have written induces the spirit of enterprise, so characteristic of all American communities, to turn its attention to New-Zealand, North or South, I shall be amply rewarded for my pains. Meanwhile, if I have been able to communicate information of a valuable character, I shall be equally grateful.

TEST SUITS FOR IMPARTIAL SUFFRAGE.

To the Friends of Impartial Suffrage:

The undersigned were appointed and recognized, at several mass meetings of colored citizens of New-Jersey, to contend on behalf of the colored citizens of New-Jersey, and of all the States, "*That any State that disfranchises any portion of its citizens on account of color is in that respect anti-republican and in violation of the Constitution of the United States, which guarantees a republican form of government to every State*, and with full powers to enlist the press, raise money, employ counsel, and to institute legal proceedings in the Courts—State and National—for the immediate recognition and enforcement of the right of impartial suffrage, and to carry the question up to the Supreme Court of the United States in one or more National test suits, for final adjudication and decision, and to cooperate with and invite cooperation from other States." Numerous meetings and the Committees appointed at those meetings in the States of New-York, Pennsylvania and Delaware have, by resolutions, requested us to act on their behalf, and other States are moving in the same direction for concert of action; so that we feel authorized to call ourselves a National Council, and to receive aid and cooperative action from all the States.

In discharge of its duties our Council have caused to be commenced three suits, to be regarded as test suits, two in the Supreme Court of New-Jersey and one in the Circuit Court of the United States, including in its judicial circuit the State of Delaware. Two of the parties to these suits, the Rev. Charles H. Thompson and Abraham Conover, are citizens of Newark, New-Jersey, and commenced suits on account of the refusal by the Registers to registrate them as voters on the 16th instant. One of the parties, Peter S. Blake, is a citizen of Wilmington, Delaware, whose vote was refused at an election held in the City of Wilmington on the 2d October instant. One of the complainants is a black, one a mulatto, and one an octoroon. One is a freedman, the other two freemen born; one is a clergyman, and one is a citizen soldier, has fought and bled for his country; *all* are men of education and refinement, tax-payers, possessed of property and have all the qualifications of legal voters in their respective election precincts, unless color, merely, be a disqualification. The suits cover the whole ground, and will settle the legal status of the colored man under the Constitution and laws of the United States in all the States. The suits will be prosecuted with all diligence, so that it is believed that one at least will have reached the Supreme Court of the United States at the next December Term.

The Solicitors and Counsel of Record are John Whitehead, esq., and Joseph P. Bentley, LL.D., of Newark, New-Jersey, the Hon. Benj. F. Butler of Massachusetts has been retained and has consented to act as one of the counsel. Other eminent counsel will also be employed.

Subscriptions and contributions for carrying on these exceedingly interesting and importantant suits may be sent to the Treasurer of the Counsel, Elias S. Ray, Newark, New-Jersey, or made to the agents duly accredited under the autograph signatures of the President of the Council, Chas. H. Thompson, and the Recording Secretary, John H. O. Fake.

All papers friendly to the cause of Republican Government will please give this circular an insertion.

CHARLES H. THOMPSON,	WM. H. NEIL,
ABRAHAM T. COOK,	ADAM RAY,
ELIAS S. RAY,	JOHN LOWRY,
JOHN H. O'FAKE,	MILLER ROGERS,
PETER O'FAKE,	JOHN WHITEHEAD,
CHARLES BROWN, sen.,	CALVIN PEPPER,

ANTHONY MANDEVILLE,
Executive Council.

New-Jersey, Oct. 16, 1866.

FENIANISM.

THE FENIAN MEXICAN ALLIANCE.

During the last two or three weeks a secret and very mysterious movement has been progressing among the Fenians of this and adjacent cities to assist Gen. Lopez de Santri in gaining a foothold on Mexican soil for the purpose of overthrowing the Government of Maximilian, the protegé of Napoleon, and the establishment of a Republic with Santa Anna as President. Since the failure of the attempt on Canada by Gen. Sweeney, and the consequent removal of that officer from the command of the military organization of the Fenian Brotherhood, the officers who followed Sweeney's fortunes to the tented field have been without occupation or employment, and as a great number of them were not natives of Ireland, it is perfectly immaterial to them whether they follow the banner of Santa Anna, Bismark, or Colorado Jewett. Gen. Santa Anna is understood to be very rich, and consequently the sinews of war will be provided in profusion for the benefit of the soldiers of fortune who may chose to risk their necks in an attack on the Empire of Maximilian. An expedition is now being prepared with great secrecy, to transport 2,500 Fenians, with their officers, to the coast of Mexico, and it is understood that the expedition will start from New-York and debark at Tampico. Another expedition will start at the same time from New-Orleans and, meeting at Tampico or Panuco with the New-York contingent, will march at once on the City of Mexico, and there proclaim a republic, with Santa Anna as Dictator. The expedition will be fully equipped and provisioned to prevent disaster, and artillery will be procured in New-Orleans. It is calculated that 2,500 Irish soldiers who have seen service in our armies during the war, together with the thousands of liberals who will rally to the standard of Santa Anna, will be perfectly able to defeat the 5,000 or 6,000 French and Austrian mercenaries who may be concentrated to defend the capital of the Montezumas. Several German and American officers who have served in the late war of the Rebellion have been offered high positions, and it is believed that in a few days the expedition will be ready to start. It has also transpired that several thousand muskets belonging to the Fenian Brotherhood, and deemed unserviceable for future use in Canada from the fact that the Canadian volunteers have been armed lately with breech-loading Snyder rifles, are being negotiated for by Santa Anna, and will be sold to him by the F. B. A couple of steamers have been purchased, and in a week or ten days the citizens of New-York may prepare themselves for startling tidings. It is believed that Gen. Sweeney will command the expedition.

A FENIAN GENERAL CHALLENGED.

A Fenian Gen. Gleason has received the following challenge from some unknown source. Inviting kind to mortal combat to seek satisfaction from imaginary insult. The challenger is unknown to Mr. Gleason, and it is probable that it emanated from some harmless lunatic, who possesses the gift of writing shorthand:

To Gen. Gleason, of "Sophia's Own."

SIR: I call upon you to answer, as a soldier in honor bound, for the course you have pursued toward me. I name my second as Mr. ——, and I request that you will name yours. Nothing less than an ample apology would repair the injury you have done me.

(Signed) ——.

SUNDAY LECTURE ON FENIANISM.

The Rev. C. B. Smyth, D.D., lectured on the "Object and Aims of Fenianism as Applied to the Clergy," at the church corner of Houston and Thompson-sts., on Sunday afternoon. He said in substance that the Fenians are Irishmen by birth and the sons of Irishmen wherever born. When a man is ashamed of his country there is reason to suspect that his country should be ashamed of him. He spoke of the different races in Ireland; and such of its inhabitants as came here to dig our canals and build our railroads are reputed to be the descendants of the ancient Phœnicians. These are the discontented among the inhabitants of the Emerald Isle, the Scotch and other settlers being generally satisfied with English rule. Something of their object and aims, may be gathered from the name of the Fenians. Mr. Stephens, he said, told us the name came from *Fenic*—a name for the Irish militia, before the establishment of Christianity in Ireland. This was not so. Ireland never formed one kingdom until the reign of Queen Mary, and before the establishment of Christianity there was no Irish militia. Let us analyze the name itself. Possibly it is derived from the initial letters of a motto. For instance, "Fides est non in Albani sonic—the faith is not in England. The name was once applied to Irish Jesuits, and the Fenians were generally Catholics. They profess to be Republicans, but, being Papists, would not forswear themselves and engage in a scheme at variance with the aims and objects of the Church of Rome. They professed, he said, to desire the freedom of Ireland. There was no physical slavery there, else why did not the Scotch or the Anglo-Francos complain? With the exception of this fact, that the Church of England receives its tythes from Papist as well as Protestant, all the disabilities of the old times had been removed. But there was another slavery there not physical—Popery. Why these Fenian ramifications throughout the world if the object was only to free Ireland? It was the gathering of great armies, he said, for the battle of Armageddon! The lessons to be learned by the clergy were love of country, zeal in the cause of Protestantism, and the value of energy and organized effort, the worth of lay efforts in the church and the hope for the overthrow of Popery ere long.

THE LEAD MINES OF MISSOURI.

From Our Special Correspondent.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 3, 1866.

Being on a tour of pleasure through this great Western country, I learned, coming up the "Father of Waters," that I was not far from the wonderful deposit of lead at Mine la Motte, near Fredericktown, the county seat of Madison County, Mo., spoken of in the "Encyclopedia Britannica" as being the most remarkable in the world. I determined to land at St. Marys, from which it is distant some 15 miles. Here I procured a conveyance, and in a few hours found myself at the mine, which, being so well known both in this country and Europe, it is hardly worth while to describe. Still, there may be very many of your readers, like myself, who have never heard of its vast productions.

You are, no doubt, aware that it is one of the oldest mines in the State, having been discovered in 1720, by Mr. La Motte, whose name it bears. It is without exception the largest mine in the world, the vein lying in a horizontal sheet some 25 feet below the surface, and averaging about six feet in thickness. The ore, when smelted, yields 67 per cent and upward of pure lead, and is worked on a breast of some 300 feet—an opening sufficient to work 600 men—and lies so near the surface as to prevent any difficulty from excessive accumulation of water, which is very easily drained off at a small cost. The entire tract of land contains over 34,000 acres, of which only 700 have thus far been prospected; but over the whole is strewn detached pieces of quartz, called by miners "blossoms of lead," but no adequate idea can be formed of the extent of the sheet now being worked, though geologists assert that it cannot be exhausted in a century.

About 2,000 acres of this land, divided into farms, are under a high state of cultivation, and the mine has beside a fine manager's home some hundred dwellings now occupied.

There are now in operation two furnaces, turning out 320 pigs of lead per day, but I understand a new company of English and American capitalists are about purchasing out the present Company, and with a large cash capital propose to put the whole concern on a new footing, particulars of which I could not learn. Some three miles from the opening is a cobalt and nickle mine opened several years ago, and worked until 1846, the product selling for $400 per ton, when the lease expiring the owners refused to renew it, since which it has lain dormant. Yet this ore, worth in Birmingham, England, $400, can be dug from the mine and delivered at St. Mary's landing, on the Mississippi River, for not over $6 per ton, from thence to New-Orleans for $10, thence to England in cotton ships as ballast. Now, as a miner can get out and prepare for market 120 tuns per annum, you can imagine the immense net result per man. I make it over half a million as the net earnings per annum of 100 men. As for the profit of working the lead alone, at present prices, they must greatly exceed this amount.

Now here is one out of the many establishments coming rapidly into existence within a day or two's ride by rail from New-York. Is it any wonder, then, that the country requires such an amount of currency? A few years hence, with such developments, the whole national debt will be required for currency, and become actually necessary to represent the vast mining and manufacturing products, and there will be no difficulty in keeping it at a specie value, if the Government will only require bankers to take it, and leave ten per cent in gold, with ninety in stocks, as security.

BASE BALL.

MATCHES TO BE PLAYED.

Oct. 22.—Typographicals vs. Hydraulics, on the former's ground, Carroll Park.

Oct. 22.—Oriental (of Greenpoint) vs. Union (of Morrisania) at Greenpoint.

Oct. 22.—Mutual vs. Excelsior, at Hoboken; game called at 1:30 p. m.

Oct. 22.—Mohawk vs. Peconic, on the Capitoline Grounds.

Oct. 22.—Monmouth (of Hoboken) vs. Amity (of Brooklyn), at Hoboken at 2 p. m.

Oct. 22.—Washington Market vs. Active, jr., return game.

Oct. 23.—Amity vs. Franklin, silver-ball match, on the Capitoline Grounds.

UNION VS. HUDSON RIVER.

The first match this season between these clubs took place on Saturday, on which day the Newburgh club visited Morrisania. The weather was delightful, and consequently there was a gay turnout of the belles of Morrisania on the occasion, who quite enjoyed the triumph achieved by the Unions, they winning easily by the large score of 43 to 4, in a full game of a little over two hours duration, though they were minus the services of Birdsall, their catcher, and Hanulgan, their short-stop. George Wright, the noted cricketer, played as catcher in this game, and his display was, by all odds, the finest seen in a game this season. We would advise the Unions to keep him there, and retain Hanulgan as short-stop. Akin played finely at short-field in this game, Goldie manning the first base. Smith having a lame hand. The Hudson River Nine, though a good one, did not play up to their mark at all, neither batting nor fielding as we have seen them do before. Wilson and Miller played the best in the field, Milspaugh being the most successful at the bat. Smith led at the bat on the Union side, getting two home runs. Hudson, Akin and Wright also scored home runs. This makes the 23d victory out of 23 first-nine games, and two games with picked nines, played by the Unions this season; they have lost but four, winging 21. In six of their games they scored over 50 runs in a match, making a total score of no less than 335 runs to 72. The aggregate of all their games thus far is 877 to 406, they having played their games with the strongest clubs of the several States. This is an average of over 35 runs to a match, thereby leading the average of the Atlantics. We give the score of the game of Saturday:

UNION.	O.	R.	HUDSON RIVER.	O.	R.
Hudson, r f	3	3	Milspaugh, r f	3	2
Smith, l f	1	7	Brown, c f	3	0
Goldie, 1st b	2	5	Miller, 3d b	3	0
Ketchum, 3d b	5	2	Leonard, 1st b	4	0
Martin, 2d b	4	5	Boyd, c	3	1
Akin, s s	2	6	Kelly, p	4	0
Austin, r f	3	4	"Lindlay," s s	3	1
Wright, c	1	6	Wilson, l f	4	0
Pabor, p	5	3	Garrison, 2d b	1	0
Totals	27	43	Totals	27	4

INNINGS.

	1st	2d	3d	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th.	Total.
Union	5	2	6	9	2	3	9	5	2	—43
Hudson River	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	—4

Umpire—Mr. Litchfield of the New-York Club.
Scorers—Messrs. Traver and Wilson.
Time of game—2 hours and 5 minutes.
Fly-catches—Union, 7; Hudson River, 11.
Outs on fouls—Union, 5 times; Hudson River, 5 times.
Home runs—Union, 6.

CRICKET.

MANHATTAN VS. NEW-YORK.

The return match between these clubs, 16 vs. 11, takes place to-morrow at Hoboken, on the New-York grounds.

ARREST OF THE BOWDOINHAM (ME.) BANK ROBBERS.

A THREE MONTHS' PURSUIT—DESPERATE RESISTANCE OF THE BURGLARS.

The circumstances of the startling bank robbery in Bowdoinham, Maine, on the 23d of June last, are doubtless fresh in the memory of our readers. It will be remembered that the audacious operators in this robbery visited the dwelling of the cashier of the bank, Mr. P. Butterfield, at midnight, and having knocked him on the head with a slungshot as he arose in his bed, and gagged and pinioned him (serving his wife and little boy in the same manner), rifled his pockets and obtained the keys of the bank. The thieves, however, found that the mere possession of the keys would not avail them with the "combination" locks of the bank vaults, and they returned for the cashier, and threatening him with instant death if he refused, compelled him to go with them and unlock the vaults. The robbers having thus obtained about $75,000 in bills, coin and U. S. bonds, returned to the house, bound the helpless inmates to their beds and escaped. In the course of an hour, Mr. Butterfield managed to free himself and gave the alarm. Mrs. Butterfield had, meanwhile, suffered such mental and physical agony that she was completely prostrated, and has to this day been confined to her bed.

It was ascertained shortly after the robbery that four men, answering the description of the thieves, had hired a team at Portland, the night previous to the robbery, and had returned it to the stable on the following morning. The horses were very much jaded, and there was not much doubt but that they were the robbers.

Mr. Moses Sargent, the Boston bank detective, was notified of the occurrence, and visited Bowdoinham. There he received a thorough description of the thieves, and at once came on to this city and communicated with Superintendent Kennedy. Capt. Jourdan of the Sixth Precinct, and Detective Elder, were detailed to work up the case. The description given tallied exactly with that of four of our well-known New-York burglars, and a watch was kept upon their movements. For three months the above officers, or some of Capt. Jourdan's men, dogged them, with the hope of discovering where the stolen property had been placed. Some of the citizens of Bowdoinham were sent for, and came on here. Various thieves were pointed out to them in such a manner as not to excite the suspicions of those under surveillance, and eventually they succeeded in discovering and identifying three of the gang.

Returning to Bowdoinham, these witnesses went before the Grand Jury at that place, and made affidavit against the suspected thieves, and the latter were indicted. Requisitions were procured from Gov. Cony by Officer Sargent, who at once came on to this city with them.

On Friday morning Capt. Jourdan and Detectives Elder and Sargent, accompanied by Officers Dunn, Dolan and Haggerty of the Sixth Precinct, started after the men. Their haunts were well known to the officers, and not much doubt was entertained by the officers but that they would succeed in capturing them, so closely had they been watched. In the Eighth-ave. two of the sought-for men were discovered, named David Bartlett and Edward McGuire, alias Eddy McGuire, alias "Fairy" McGuire. They were followed by the officers down to Abingdon square, where they were arrested. Both made a desperate resistance, McGuire attempting to stab Officer Dolan with a large dirk-knife which he had hurriedly drawn from his pocket. He was instantly knocked down and secured.

The thieves were then forced into a coach, which had been in waiting in the vicinity, and driven to the Station House in Wooster-st., where they were confined.

The utmost stratagem in securing the other thieves was now necessary, for should the news of the arrest of their comrades reach them they would not come near the place of their rendezvous, and would at once make their escape from the city. At 9 o'clock on Friday evening, the party again sallied out, and at the corner of West Houston and Varick-sts., met another of the alleged thieves, named Owen, alias "Rory" Sims. He was in company with a number of notorious thieves and cut-throats. Fearing to delay in arresting him, however, the officers resolved to take him into custody in the presence of his comrades. This was done, when a desperate fight took place between the thieves and the officers. Revolvers and knives were drawn on both sides. A pistol was presented at Capt. Jourdan, when he drew his revolver and threatened to blow the man's brains out if he did not drop his weapon. Sims was severely beaten about the head. In the hight of the melee a Sixth-ave. car came along, and the prisoner was dragged into it, the crowd following, and continuing their attempts to take the man away from the police. They would probably have succeeded had it not happened that two Twenty-eighth Precinct officers, on post in the vicinity, heard the noise, ran to the spot, and their exertions, added to those of the other officers, sufficed to clear the car of the roughs and thieves, much to the relief of the passengers in the car, the lady portion of which were terribly frightened. The car was then driven on, and the prisoner was in a short time lodged with his confederate in the Station-House. The fourth man is still at large, but will probably be caught in a short time. The prisoners were on the same evening taken before Justice Dowling, who opened court for the purpose, and by him committed temporarily.

On Saturday the friends of the prisoners, through counsel, sued out a writ of *habeas corpus*, but no trace of the accused could be found. They had been handed over by our police authorities to the Boston officer, and he had left the city with them in his custody, accompanied by Capt. Jourdan and Detective Elder. Ere this they have doubtless reached the scene of the bank robbery, there to answer the charge of robbery preferred against them. Bartlett is about 50 years of age, and was born in the United States. He has served twenty-one years and six months of his life in State Prison, on convictions of burglary, as follows: Clinton Prison, N. Y., six years; Charlestown, Mass., six years; and two terms—one five and one four and a half years—in Sing Sing Prison. Two years ago he was engaged in a burglary at the corner of McDougall and Amity-sts., when Francis W. Cooper was robbed of thirteen thousand dollars worth of diamonds and silverware.

McGuire is about twenty eight years of age, and was born in the United States. He served four years and six months in Sing Sing in company with Bartlett. He was recently arrested on a charge of having robbed Adams' Express Company, and is now under bail for trial at Danbury, Conn.

Sims is a native of New-York, and is about thirty-two years of age. He has served three years and six months in Sing Sing for burglary. In February, 1865, he was convicted of having shot at Officer Johnson, of the Thirteenth Precinct, while trying to arrest him. Sims pleaded guilty of assault with intent to do bodily harm, and was sentenced to the Penitentiary for one year. He served two months, when he escaped. Sims is very respectably connected, having relatives residing in the Ninth Ward who are well and highly respected. His father was at one time a member of the old police force.

THE DRAMA.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK.

A new drama will be played at Wallack's Theater, tonight, for the first time in America. It is entitled "£100,000," and is the work of Mr. H. J. Byron, of London. It will be repeated on Tuesday and Thursday; while "The Favorite of Fortune" is assigned for Wednesday and Friday. "The Fast Family" is soon to be repeated.

The present week will bring to a close Mr. Jefferson's engagement at the Olympic Theater. It will be devoted to farces. To-night will be performed "Woodcock's Little Game" and "The Spitfire"—in both of which Mr. Jefferson has good comic parts. "Rip Van Winkle" attracted a very large audience on Saturday evening, when it was presented for the last time.

Madame Ristori will repeat her performance of *Lady Macbeth*, to-night, at the French Theater. Her other nights, this week, at the French Theater, are Wednesday and Friday. On Wednesday, in accordance with general desire and special request, she will enact *Mary Stuart*. On Friday she will appear as *Queen Elizabeth*—her most successful part. There will be a Matinée on Saturday next, when Madame Ristori will make her last appearance in the character of *Lady Macbeth*. Brooklyn readers will note that she is to play *Lady Macbeth* at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, on Thursday evening—her last appearance at that place. On Monday next Madame Ristori is to commence an engagement at the Boston Theater, appearing in the character of *Medea*. We have to note, by the way, the very great success of the Matinée of last Saturday. The receipts reached the remarkable amount of $1,000. So densely crowded was the house that it was found necessary to seat 122 ladies upon the stage itself.

After careful preparation, "The Sea of Ice" will, to-day, be revived at Barnum's Museum, and will henceforth be played every afterno