Amusements and Meetings To-Night.

BOOTH'S THEATRE—1:30 and 8: "Uncle Tom's Cabin."
BROADWAY THEATRE—"Pink Dominoes."
FIFTH AVENUE HALL—2 and 8. Heller's Wonders.
NIBLO'S GARDEN—2 and 8: "Old House on the Bridge of Notre Dame."
PARK THEATRE—"Our Bachelors."
SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.
STANDARD THEATRE—"Our Boarding House."
UNION SQUARE THEATRE—"A Celebrated Case."
WALLACK'S THEATRE—"Money."

ACADEMY OF DESIGN—Water-Color Exhibition.
CHICKERING HALL—American Geographical Society.
FOURTH AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—11: Lecture. Miss Sanborn.
NEW-YORK AQUARIUM—Day and Evening.
STEINWAY HALL—2: "The Seasons." Oratorio Society.

Index to Advertisements.

AMUSEMENTS—3d Page—5th and 6th columns.
BOARD AND ROOMS—3d Page—5th column.
BUSINESS CHANCES—7th Page—6th column.
BUSINESS NOTICES—4th Page—1st column.
COAL AND WOOD—7th Page—6th column.
CORPORATION NOTICES—7th Page—6th column.
COUNTRY BOARD—3d Page—5th column.
DANCING ACADEMIES—6th Page—2d column.
DIVIDEND NOTICES—7th Page—5th column.
DRY GOODS—3d Page—5th and 6th columns.
FINANCIAL—7th Page—5th column.
HOUSES AND FARMS WANTED—3d Page—5th column.
ICE CREAM—6th Page—2d column.
INSTRUCTION—6th Page—1st and 2d columns.
LECTURES AND MEETINGS—3d Page—5th column.
LEGAL NOTICES—6th Page—2d column.
LOST AND FOUND—6th Page—2d column.
MARBLE AND SLATE MANTELS—6th Page—2d column.
MARRIAGES AND DEATHS—5th Page—6th column.
MISCELLANEOUS—3d Page—5th column; 8th Page—6th column.
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS—3d Page—6th column.
NEW PUBLICATIONS—6th Page—1st column.
PROPOSALS—7th Page—6th column.
REAL ESTATE FOR SALE—CITY—3d Page—4th column; COUNTRY—3d Page—4th column; TO EXCHANGE—3d Page—5th column.
SALES BY AUCTION—7th Page—6th column.
SAVINGS BANKS—7th Page—6th column.
SPECIAL NOTICES—5th Page—6th column.
SITUATIONS WANTED—MALES—6th Page—3d column; FEMALES—6th Page—3d column.
STEAMBOATS AND RAILROADS—6th Page—3d and 4th columns.
STEAMERS, OCEAN—7th Page—6th column.
TEACHERS—6th Page—2d column.
TO LET—CITY PROPERTY—3d Page—4th column; COUNTRY—3d Page—5th columns.

Business Notices.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1878.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—Russia is still striving to coerce Turkey into signing the peace protocol promptly. ═══ Amnesty has been offered to Spanish refugees. ═══ M. Stoudza proposed an anti-Russian motion in the Roumanian Legislature, but subsequently withdrew it. ═══ Greek soldiers have deserted, to aid the insurgents in Epirus.

DOMESTIC.—The President told the Cabinet yesterday that he will veto the Silver Bill; only Mr. McCrary and Mr. Thompson dissented; Mr. Sherman was undecided. ═══ Mr. Glover's committee investigating the Treasury claims to have facts damaging to Mr. Conant and Mr. Bristow. ═══ Mr. Buckner's plan to retire the National Bank notes and issue legal-tenders has been defeated in committee. ═══ Alanson W. Beard has been nominated to be Collector at Boston. ═══ The Constitution sailed from Philadelphia with exhibits for the Paris Exhibition. ═══ Ex-Governor Wells was before the Grand Jury to testify in regard to the charges he has made against court officers. ═══ Thomas McFarland was appointed receiver of the Standard Oil Company.

CONGRESS.—In the Senate yesterday Mr. Ferry, of Michigan, was elected President pro tem.; a great many bills of minor importance were acted on; a pithy discussion took place on the subject of the decoration of Americans by foreign powers. ═══ In the House a petition 700 yards long was presented by General Butler; Mr. Southard had a paragraph from THE TRIBUNE read, and explained that he had introduced the bill for electing three presidents only by request; General B. F. Butler made a speech on silver, in which he advocated the issue of irredeemable paper as the money of the country; Mr. Chittenden asked him a few hard questions, and much amusement was created in the House by the debate.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.—Stewart's great hotel for workingwomen will be opened about the middle of March. ═══ F. B. Thurber and Receiver Jewett testified yesterday concerning the cost of carrying coal. ═══ The Commissioners of Accounts showed great looseness in Excise administration. ═══ Police Captains Foley and Siebert were dismissed from the force. ═══ Further testimony was taken in the Vanderbilt will contest. ═══ Miss Kate Claxton has filed a petition in bankruptcy. ═══ More testimony was given yesterday in the Morris-Purdy Assembly contest. ═══ The court-martial of General O. L. Shepherd was begun. ═══ The College of Dental Surgery graduated eleven students. ═══ Dr. Crosby and others addressed the Eighth Ward Society for the Prevention of Crime. ═══ Gold, $101\frac{7}{8}$, $101\frac{7}{8}$, $101\frac{7}{8}$. Gold value of the legal-tender dollar at the close, $98\frac{2}{10}$ cents. Stocks dull and lower, closing weak.

THE WEATHER.—TRIBUNE local observations indicate fair weather with partial cloudiness toward night, and little change of temperature. Thermometer yesterday, 30°, 42°, 37°.

Signs increase that Austria will acquiesce in the subjection of the Ottoman Empire, and undertake nothing more than harmless demonstrations, designed to gratify the Hungarians. However much her interests may be endangered, her greatest interest now is peace.

General Butler thinks that if United States bonds would fall to fifty cents on the dollar, it would be "the brightest and happiest financial fact the country ever knew." What sort of a "financial fact" would General Butler consider it if all the money he had in the world was in those bonds? There are several millions of savings bank depositors who are in pretty nearly that position.

The downfall of Damad Mahmoud, the abolition of Grand Viziers, and the character of the new Ottoman Ministry, as described in the Turkish letter elsewhere, are interesting phases of what may be the last days of the Ottoman Empire. The general aspect of the Turkish capital, likewise portrayed, explains in part the hopelessness with which the Porte regards the expediency of further resistance.

Mr. Southard disclaims any personal responsibility for the tri-Presidential scheme, which he submitted in the House on Monday, and declares that, so far as he knows, it does not represent, as it was said to do, the views of any of his committee. This is well. Now let Mr. Southard report the legislation his committee are supposed to have been preparing, and we shall see whether it will be necessary to put him back on the same shelf with Buckner and Knott and Banning.

The President's purpose to veto the Silver Bill, never doubtful, has now been definitely announced in a Cabinet meeting. The discussion which followed reveals the existence of a division of opinion among his advisers on this question greater than has been suspected. Secretaries McCrary and Thompson are understood to have urged him to sign the bill, while Secretary Sherman, who has been looked upon as chief in opposition to the silver movement, unexpectedly declined to advise the President one way or the other.

On another page will be found a full description of the hotel for workingwomen which the late Mr. Stewart founded, and which his heirs have finished. It is a whole city within four walls, having more than five hundred sleeping-rooms, making its own gas, having its own wells, being fitted up with every known appliance of comfort, and even furnished with a good-sized library. It is evidently not to be an institution for paupers, or, on the other hand, for well-to-do women who would like the comfort and security of such a home. It is to be as comfortable, and apparently as luxurious as a first-class hotel, and the cost of accommodation, while beyond the means of very many of the poorer class of workingwomen, will be easily within the reach of a large class who are much in need of such a shelter.

There seems no longer room for doubt that certain wicked repeaters from New-York crossed the border of Westchester County at the last election, and voted with the innocent and unsuspecting citizens thereof. Mr. Purdy, Tammany Assemblyman, says so; Mr. Morris, Anti-Tammany contestant of his seat, says so, too. It is a safe rule that where a Tammany man and an Anti-Tammany man unite in charging fraud upon the Democratic party, their remarks have a solid basis of truth. So it would seem in this case. But whose repeaters were they? Mr. Purdy says that Mr. Morris's "indiscreet friends" hired them; Mr. Morris says, by counsel, that Mr. Purdy was the "indiscreet friend" and hired them to go to Albany and swear that Mr. Morris was their employer. And Mr. Purdy complains to the committee of having had to pay the "board and rum bills" of eight of these gentry in Albany, beside the cost of getting four of them out of jail. The repeaters were certainly Mr. Purdy's—after the election, if not before.

Yesterday's testimony before the Assembly Committee that is investigating the coal combination, was of interest in showing how the debts of the railroad companies add to the cost of coal in this market. When the representatives of certain companies talk about "a fair price" for coal, they mean a price that shall enable those companies to pay interest and dividends on their enormously expanded liabilities—their watered stock and piled-up mortgages. Thus burdened, these roads, it is said, lost money by carrying coal at its price before the combination. But all this only goes to show that some other road or roads could and did carry coal at a profit when it was at low prices. The combination is a temporary device to check the operation of a natural law—the survival of the fittest. The notion that the public is to be benefited in some way by keeping up high and uniform prices, so that the coal companies that are handicapped with debt may save themselves from being pushed to the wall by competition, is too absurd to be worth a thought.

The President has refused to reappoint Collector Simmons, and Alanson W. Beard has been nominated to the Senate in his place. This action will be received with some surprise. Mr. Simmons made a good Collector, and professed himself, besides, such an earnest convert to the Civil Service theories announced by President Hayes a year ago, that it was then decided to allow the Collector to remain in his office. Under these very theories, the record of a good business administration of the Boston Custom House was sufficient to entitle him to reappointment, without regard to his opinions. But he was not originally a man whose character or position made him deserving of such prominence, and his record before his appointment was far from being one to cause him to be looked upon as a man likely to promote the purity of the service. He should never have been appointed; but, having been appointed, having made a good Collector and having conformed to the Civil Service rules, he had a right, under those rules, to a reappointment. The whole affair illustrates the folly of attempting to reform the Civil Service by machine.

OUR FOREIGN CREDIT.

On the 4th of March, 1876, President Hayes wrote to General Garfield a little letter about the currency question. Perhaps it will attract more attention just now than it then received or needed, for the gentleman who wrote it is now able to use the veto power. Some sentences are peculiarly worth quoting. In answer to some questions as to the financial policy of the Republican party, he says:

> "No steps backward" must be something more than unmeaning platform words. "The drift of sentiment among our friends in Ohio," which you inquire about, will depend on the conduct of our leading men. It is for them to see that the right sentiment is steadily upheld. We are in a condition such that firmness and adherence to principle are of peculiar value just now. *I would "consent" to no backward steps. To yield or compromise is weakness, and will destroy us.* If a better resumption measure can be substituted for the present one, that may do. But keep cool. *We can better afford to be beaten in Congress than to back out.*

There is much of the true inwardness of the matter in this letter. Written with special reference to the greenback form of repudiation, it applies with singular force to that other form which threatens to destroy the public credit, to make the sale of bonds difficult, if not impossible, and to dishonor the nation's pledges, by issuing a coin intrinsically worth only 91 cents, and making it a legal-tender for the payment of 100 cents in gold. Whatever else the Nation may do, it cannot afford to be dishonest. Neither can it afford, under any pretext of proper construction of previous statutes, to take any steps which will seem to foreign creditors dishonest.

These creditors, we must always remember, have an alarming power over the finances, commerce and industry of this country. It is very natural that we feel restive in regard to that power, and wish it were not so great; but we borrowed money when the Nation was in absolute need of it, and we must now maintain the public credit or stand the consequences. The country is in the condition of a merchant or manufacturer who has undertaken a large business relying, in part, upon borrowed capital. Hard times have come, and it is not easy to get along, even with untarnished and unquestioned credit, because yearly earnings by all sorts of industry do but barely cover yearly expenses. In better times, possibly this country might be called upon suddenly to pay back borrowed capital, and could do so with small loss. But in such times as these the demand for return of several hundred millions borrowed will mean widespread ruin and incalculable suffering. Precisely that demand we cause when we take any step which seems dishonorable to our creditors abroad. They say little; if they said much it would make no difference. But they quietly sell their bonds. Then the bonds come here for sale, and that means that the United States is called upon unexpectedly to pay back part of the borrowed capital upon which it has been doing business.

It is stated by *The London Times*, in its money article, that large sales of United States bonds are now made by actual holders. The best observers here state that the powerful combination which was formed to sustain bonds and gold, and for some days did sustain both to a certain extent, has proved too weak to meet the unexpectedly large orders to sell. As yet we have only the small leak, which, if not checked, threatens to sweep away the dam altogether; but no one can tell how large the demand from Europe may become if the Silver Bill becomes a law. Passed with a motive hostile to creditors, it is considered immeasurably more dangerous by creditors as an indication of the temper of Congress than by its actual provisions. "In financial circles here," telegraphs a leading banker of London, "it is "looked upon as the first step toward repudi-"ation." We may protest as much as we like. But if foreign creditors take that view of the bill, we are liable to be called upon, within a very short time, to pay to Europe many millions more than can possibly be withdrawn from commerce and industry here without great disaster.

The public credit is the corner-stone upon which our commerce and industry now rest. Dislike the fact as we may, it is a fact. The President saw it clearly in March, 1876. It will be well for the country if he can lead others to see it clearly in March, 1878.

THE FUTURE OF THE REPUBLIC.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, lecturing in Boston the other day on "The Future of the Re-"public," ventured such rosy and confident predictions of our coming glory as befitted a patriotic American, and comforted his listeners with the assurance that, in accordance with the prophecy of Napoleon Bonaparte, the United States would ere long dictate the policy of Europe. We are passing through a great crisis in our history, but nevertheless "the "humanity of all nations is now in the Amer-"ican Union"; here alone is the pathway of progress free and open, the barrier of ancient restrictions and inequalities removed, the activity of the human mind constantly stimulated. Our institutions are all educational. We advance incessantly from ruder to finer conditions. "If any great "mistake is made out of which disaster grows, "the people correct it with energy." "Our "civil system, by perpetual appeal to the "people, preserves its life. The people "shriek their exclamations against the short-"comings of the Government. The fact that "we are a nation of individuals, with a high-"ly intellectual organization, that we can see "and feel moral distinctions, and have such "organizations that moral law and moral "forces must be heard and felt, these things "are our hope." It is true that our civilization is yet incomplete, but Mr. Emerson feels "that in all directions the light is breaking; "that trade and government will not lose by "the overthrow of the enemies of mankind; "that the useful and the elegant arts will be "exercised with us as a Nation; that reason, "the noblest affections, and the purest relig-"ion will find their abiding home in our in-"stitutions."

It is a significant circumstance that Mr. Emerson's flattering sketch of the character, tendencies and destiny of American civilization has been received with loud cries of dissent. In the passages which we have quoted there is nothing particularly new. American orators have uttered the same praises and the same predictions time out of mind, and American audiences have listened to them with enormous complacency. We seemed, a little while ago, to have settled into the fixed belief that there never had been, never could be, a people so wise, so just, so good, so strong as the people of the United States of America. But suddenly our temper has changed. We have awakened from the placid contemplation of our own greatness, and discovered that we are, after all, very much like the rest of the world, only common men, with the faults and failings and temptations of our race, subject to the dangers which have beset all other nations, and to the punishment which surely falls upon all countries which violate the principles of morality and social order. Some of our political leaders have cultivated vulgar prejudice and ignorance, winked at dishonesty, and flattered demagogues, and we have thought it no matter, because our constitution was so strong that poison could not hurt it. Now comes the rude arousing. A just and free government needs some other foundation than a just and free constitution. It can rest secure only upon the broad basis of popular morality and intelligence, and the dreadful fear is beginning to attack us that this basis we have failed to supply. In the light of recent events the American people do not appear to be quite so good as they thought themselves. The quality of which they show the greatest lack is just that sensibility to moral distinctions and moral forces which Mr. Emerson mentions as our strongest hope.

Undoubtedly the depressed feeling so evident just now in those parts of the country which have escaped the prevailing mania for repudiation is not altogether justifiable. But it has some good cause. Mr. Emerson says that here we have "all mankind in its shirt-"sleeves." We are all at work, and we have naturally come to place an exaggerated value upon merely material prosperity, and to pay an exaggerated respect to material success. We ask of a proposed measure not "Is it honorable?" but "Will it pay?" The most disheartening thing about the cheap dollar movement is the indifference of the majority of its advocates to all remonstrances against the intrinsic dishonesty of what they propose to do, and the plain determination of a great many of them to support it expressly because it gives the debtor an unfair advantage over his creditor. There was, perhaps, not one of the defeated Senate amendments which they rejected with more scorn than that which would have made the silver dollar of equal value with gold at the start. If the new dollar is to be worth one hundred cents they do not want it. We shall live through this trouble. There is still too much virtue in our people, too much vitality in our political institutions, to permit us to despair of the Republic. But we fear we shall not rise again from our disgraced situation until we have learned by painful experience that moral uprightness "pays" better in the long run than shrewd operations in finance, and that there is a saving truth in the old-fashioned proverb, Honesty is the best Policy.

BY-GONES FOR ONE.

Though not agreeing fully with Mr. Joyce, of Vermont, in his opposition to the bill granting pensions to soldiers and sailors of the Mexican and Indian wars, or rather in the grounds of his opposition, THE TRIBUNE fails to see any violation of the rules of good taste or propriety, or any reasonable cause of offence for the late members of the Confederate Army now in Congress, in that gentleman's criticism of the bill, that it placed Confederate soldiers who fought in those wars on a better footing than the Union soldiers who fought in the war of the rebellion. The objection, if not conclusive, is a perfectly fair one, and entirely legitimate to the argument. It was a natural comparison between two classes of pensioners; it was suggested by the provisions of the bill; and it would have been very strange under the circumstances if it had not come up during the discussion. We fail to see in it any provocation for the lofty and somewhat arrogant manner in which Mr. Goode, of Virginia, took it upon himself to administer censure to the Vermont representative, or any excuse for the coarse taunt of Mr. Crittenden, of Missouri, in his inquiry where Mr. Joyce himself was during the war of the rebellion. The question was very promptly answered for Mr. Joyce by Mr. Townsend, of New-York, who informed the Missouri knight-errant that he was an honorable officer of the Union Army, serving his country, so that the taunt only recoiled upon its author. Whether Mr. Joyce had served in the army or not, the question was irrelevant and impertinent, and not less so were both the matter and manner of Mr. Goode's passionate outburst. Here is a proposition to pension the soldiers in the Mexican War, a war in which, for reasons familiar to every student of history and politics, the Southern States furnished a very large majority of the volunteers. There has been another war since then, in which many of the survivors of the former were in arms against the Government to which they now look for pensions. That war has left, also, large numbers of pensioners upon the Government, and their relations to it as its wards have been defined by statute. The first was undertaken at the instance of the slaveholding States, with a view of extending their territory and increasing their power. The second was successfully waged against the revolt which the slaveholding States had thus strengthened themselves to make. The present proposition, as Mr. Joyce views it, is to give the preference in the distribution of the Government bounties for faithful service to the survivors of the first war. Is it at all strange that a representative of a Northern State should, under such circumstances, institute a comparison between the two and protest against such favoritism?

But Mr. Goode cries out that he is surprised at such extraordinary behavior; that he cannot believe any other member of the House would do such an infamous thing, and that the gentleman from Vermont must stand alone in opposing the bill on such grounds. He calls it "visiting punishment on Mexican veterans" because they "took sides with the South in "the late civil war," and then he pays a glowing tribute to the Mexican veterans who "paid "their taxes, bore their due proportion of the "burdens of the government, and performed "all the duties of good citizens." These veterans, he added, with the sneer which used to be so common before 1861 in the mouths of Southern members of Congress, and is rapidly coming again into fashion, would be found as ready to respond to the call of the country in a similar emergency as they were in 1846, and "would not be found behind "the constituents of the gentleman from Ver-"mont, as they had not been found behind "them at Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, "Buena Vista, Monterey, Cerro Gordo, Churu-"busco and all the battle fields of Mexico which "American prowess and valor had illustrated "and made famous." All of which is the uttermost bosh and nonsense. Because Mr. Joyce protests in giving the preference in the award of pensions to men who, whatever may be said in their favor, must be admitted, in the light of cold and impartial truth, to have borne arms against the Government whose bounty they seek—over the men who fought against them and for the Government—because he disputes the justice of such a discrimination, this Virginia orator says he is "visiting pun-"ishment upon the Mexican veterans" for taking sides with the South in the late war. We do not know how many of the Confederate brigadiers in this Congress agree with Mr. Goode in this view of the case, but we venture to say that no man at the North, or in the South, or anywhere else, could understand his proposed discrimination in favor of the Mexican veterans of the Confederate service as anything else but punishment of the Union soldiers who took sides with the Government in the late unhappy civil war. That is the foot on which the shoe pinches. It is all very well for these gentlemen to use their fine rhetoric about the burial of differences and the era of reconciliation and the blooming of Spring flowers over fields that have been trampled by the red fiery hoof of war; it sounds pretty. But when we find them seizing every opportunity, by all methods, direct and indirect, to aggrandize themselves and their section, to pay rebel claims and repudiate the National debt, to elevate the Confederate and put down the Union soldier, to ennoble service for the lost cause and disgrace loyal and faithful men, we cannot help suspecting that their letting by-gones be by-gones is purely a matter of preaching to us, and not in any sense a matter of practice for them.

The North has been rather fond of this play of the Prodigal Son. It has been, for the most part, touching and beautiful. But it is beginning to outrun the parable just a little. Doubtless the forgiving old father in the parable agreed, tacitly or otherwise, when the prodigal returned, to let by-gones be by-gones, and kept his promise by refraining from any reference to the "riotous living" of the past. But we do not learn that the young man brought his old companions into the house and put the old gentleman out of doors, or that he was in the habit of upsetting the table, calf and all, whenever any allusion was made to "husks." And as for Mr. Crittenden's uncalled-for impertinence, it occurs to us that, inasmuch as Mr. Crittenden only sympathized with treason, without having done any of the fighting on that side, while (among the traitors who had the courage of their opinions), for the fourth or fifth time some Confederate brigadier has boasted indirectly of his own treason on the floor of Congress, while imputing cowardice to all the Republican members who were not in the army—it occurs to us, we say, considering all these interesting circumstances, that this sort of thing is getting monotonous. The gentlemen who are just now running the lower branch of Congress may be very serious in their belief that their service in the field against the Government (or their sympathy with those who did serve against it), is a good thing to brag of in a place which they only occupy by the grace and magnanimity of that Government, but we can assure them that the general judgment of mankind does not agree with them.

FAMINES IN THE EAST.

The shocking disaster at Tientsin furnishes a climax to the horrors of the Chinese famine. Nearly three thousand persons who had barely escaped death in one of its most terrible forms, met it in that other shape which is yet more dreaded by all mankind, and exchanged starvation for fire. The same mail that brings this news across the Pacific, gives further details of suffering and death in the famine-stricken provinces. Extremely cold weather has prevailed there, and many people, fleeing from starvation, have been frozen to death. Milton's story of the lost, exploring their dismal nether world, and finding new torments in regions where frost produces the effect of fire, seems to have its parallel in the Celestial Empire. Desperation has seized upon the starving populations; children are sold or abandoned by their unhappy parents, and fierce outbreaks against the local authorities add crime and bloodshed to the sickening picture. At present, all that Europe or America can do to alleviate this misery, is to give liberally. When all has been done that charity is capable of, not a tithe of the suffering will be relieved, but thousands of lives may be saved.

The Chinese famine, following so close upon that of India, will present anew the question whether nothing can be done to prevent or ameliorate this periodic scourge of the crowded countries of Asia. In Europe, extensive famines have been exceedingly few in recent years, and are not very likely to recur. The Irish famine was an exceptional event, due principally to the fact that a large population was dependent upon a single article of food, and when that was destroyed they had no resource. The British Government, after a careful study of the causes of the famine in India, has decided upon a great system of internal improvements in that country. The chief feature in this system, so far as it is begun, is the construction of several new lines of railroad, which will afford the means of distributing grain to distant provinces when their crops fail. It may almost be laid down as a rule that deadly famine is impossible in a region well supplied by railroads. The total want of them makes the case of China even more hopeless than that of India. A few months ago the only railroad in China was bought by the Government, with a view to stop its trains, out of deference to the prejudices of the people. Perhaps the day may come when civilized nations, in the name of humanity, may serve a protest on China for carrying out a system of exclusiveness that tends to starve her teeming millions.

The Hon. Henry S. Little, Clerk of the Court of Chancery of New-Jersey, has been abundantly vindicated. One J. A. Beecher, editor of the Greenback organ of that State, published certain statements in regard to a $1,000 check which had been paid to Mr. Little for some valuable legal services rendered to a decrepit insurance company, and the statements which reflected upon Mr. Little's character have been pronounced libels by the court, and Mr. Beecher has been immured in jail. But not only has every suspicion of a stain been sponged from the smooth, white surface of Mr. Little's reputation. The real transaction, brought to light by the check, as it is now displayed to public view, unwarped by any malicious presentation, is only another proof of Mr. Little's immense capacity for achievement in varied spheres of activity. Mr. Little's duties as Clerk of the Court of Chancery, when gauged by his supposed emoluments, are very arduous. It is true that the populace have no means of accurately estimating the sum total of those emoluments, but, judging from the magnitude and multitude of the fees allowed by law, and from the amount which the office is currently reported to have been assessed toward a campaign fund for the election of Governor Bedle (who reappointed Mr. Little), there broods over the State an oppressive, though, perhaps, an exaggerated suspicion that $20,000 per annum is rather below than above the actual figures. Now, a gentleman who earns anything like this amount of money in hard times is liable to have a very limited stock of surplus energy to devote to matters outside of his legitimate calling. Mr. Little, however, with the aid of a few other statesmen, manages to coach Governor McClellan and run the Democratic party throughout the State, and it must be allowed that Mr. Little handles his end of the machine with great dexterity and efficiency. And now it comes out that Mr. Little, in addition to his trying labors as a boss Democrat and Chancery Clerk, thinks nothing of making casual excursions into the realms of law and earning $1,000 fees before breakfast of a morning. This case is made more noteworthy by the fact that Mr. Little never permits his work to interfere with his recreations or to abbreviate his vacation trips to Europe or elsewhere. And even when at home he is never visibly burdened with toil, but he tosses off his labors so lightly that he constantly wears the air of a gentleman of leisure who needs a little mental exercise just to keep him in good health. If Mr. Little could only find some employment that would keep his great powers occupied, he would probably turn off more work than any statesman in New-Jersey, with the possible exception of the Hon. Henry C. Kelsey, Secretary of State, Clerk of the Court of Errors and Appeals, Clerk of the Court of Pardons, Register of the Prerogative Court, Member of the State Board of Education, Commissioner of Agricultural College Fund, Trustee of the School Fund, Bank Commissioner, Commissioner of State Library, Commissioner of Insurance, and Democratic Pashaw of four tails. It would seem that there are hardly enough offices in a small State like New-Jersey to support two gentlemen of such phenomenal capacity. One of them ought to emigrate.

Of the rattlebrained publicists at Toledo, who were called upon to draft a declaration of principles for the "National Party," the most widely known were General Sam Cary, Colonel Blanton Duncan, and Brick Pomeroy, esq., with some weaker vessels like the voluble Citizen Troup and General Hoxsey, who ran a little, in spots, for Governor of New-Jersey last Fall. Either of these energetic economists can explain to a trustful citizen exactly how general confidence is to be restored and is then liable to borrow $2 50 to set the wheels of industry in motion. Under such a leadership the National party ought to sweep onward like an army with banners.

Father Secchi, whose death is just announced, was a hard worker in the newest field of astronomical research—the analysis by means of the spectrum, of the light of the stars. Almost at the very hour when he was attacked by his last illness, a new book respecting the stars appeared from his pen; it was intended for popular reading, but embodied many of his most recent discoveries. His name will always rank high among the pioneers in spectrum research, and he was especially successful in classifying stars by their light, so as to determine which are probably young, and which are beginning to be burned out.

There was much talk of hanging people to the lamp-posts, in the House yesterday. General Butler wanted the Secretary of the Treasury worked off, and Mr. Chittenden suggested that General Butler would be a better man in Secretary Sherman's place. Whereupon the General said he would take his chances "when the lamp-posts came around;" neglecting, however, to state under what circumstances lamp-posts do come around.

POLITICAL NOTES.

Of course the man who wants three Presidents hails from Ohio.

The ability of Congress to develop a fresh idiot every day or two seems to be established.

The silver agitator is determined to have no quiet unless it be the quiet of desolation.

The most ominous thing the silver party is confronted with is the appearance in it of Proctor Knott as a leader.

If the Heathen Chinee would vote the Democratic ticket, the "reform" party would look with less horror upon his immoralities.

General Butler is liable to be confirmed in his suspicion that he has no influence at the White House. He should enlarge his resolution declaring a lack of confidence in Secretary Sherman, and make it include the President also.

Simmons should not be discouraged. There is the New-Orleans Custom House yearning for a reformer to take charge of it. Let him apply for that. New-Orleans might object, but she is used to doing that.

Colonel Ingersoll hasn't any affection for the Silver Bill, but he thinks if it has any effect upon business it will be for good, since "business is not in a condition to be injured." That is pretty nearly the case. The bill in its present shape might do good if the agitation stops, but not otherwise.

A loud complaint comes from Toledo that the recent National Convention was captured by Cary, Mullett & Co., and run in the interest of unlimited greenbacks rather than of the laboring men. The Labor party claims that it has not sufficient recognition of its wrongs and its demands in the platform. This is a startling intimation that the platform is not so bad as it might have been. Nobody even dreamed that it could have been made worse.

The Ohio Democrats show signs of uneasiness over the title of the National party. They say, with great truth, that everything that is asked for in the Toledo platform can be had if the Democrats are put in control of the Government. Give us the power, say they, and we will give everybody precisely what he wants. Perhaps Southard is preparing for such a contingency when he asks for three Presidents. As one Doorkeeper has been shown to be miserably inadequate to the task of distributing the spoils of a Democratic House of Representatives, so Southard sees that one President could never be able to pass out the pap of the Nation to the whole Democratic party.

Mr. Wood's Tariff Bill is liable to die of inhuman treatment. Everybody is kicking it who can get a sight at it, and even its supposed friends are beginning to turn their backs on it. Senator Allison says he is something of a Free Trader, but he has no sympathy for any measure which is intended to disturb the present tariff laws. The mere agitation has unsettled every business interest in the country. He expects to see the bill share the fate which met the Schenck bill several years ago. After having been discussed for several weeks, it was laid on the table, amid great laughter. Mr. Wood is keeping his deliberations as secret as possible, but secrecy will not save a bill which nobody wants, and no Congressman will dare vote for.

There are signs of a mild infection of the silver craze in the recent elections for Supervisors in the central and southern counties of this State. Of the 150 Supervisors elected in eight counties, it is thought that about one-fourth were chosen by the faction called variously the Greenback or the Workingmen's party. In Steuben and Onondaga counties the development has been most marked, the vote having been doubled in the former and more than doubled in the latter. The only other gains of any importance were in Tioga and Chenango counties. In all instances the vote seems to have been drawn most largely from the Democrats, the proportion being about two Democrats for every one Republican. In Oneida County the Workingmen's party is said to be well organized, drawing two-thirds of its strength from the Democrats. This third organization could more properly be called the Discontented than the Silver party. It is made up of the men who are dissatisfied on general principles, and who vote against the old parties more for the sake of relieving their minds than for the accomplishment of any definite purpose.

PERSONAL.

It is proposed in the Maryland Legislature that Congress be urged to erect a monument to Baron De Kalb in Annapolis.

General Butler and his daughter, Mrs. Blanche Butler Ames, are reported to be enthusiastic believers in the cause of woman's rights.

The young Miss Sherman who is about to marry Senator Cameron has, it is said, a fresh, blush-rose face, sparkling dark eyes and brown locks. She is twenty-two years old. Mr. Cameron is forty-five.

"She is not handsome," says George Eliot's latest photographer. "Her face is long, pale, with a sensitive mouth. Her eyes are a vivid, warm, blue-gray, full of depth, now keenly perceptive, now dreamily introspective, always full of sadness. Her hair, worn low, gives a womanly effect to a finely-intellectual forehead. Her general expression is that of wearied sensitiveness."

Writing from Stuttgart, President White, of Cornell, says, in a letter to a friend in this city: "We are as well as we can be in view of the aspect of things in America. What a foul blotting of a noble history. Within the last few days I have heard the United States and Turkey quietly and philosophically classed together as regards financial honor. No national calamity stains a country like such a policy and such 'debates' as now afflict us."

Ex-Governor Seymour pleasantly but decidedly objects to the proposal to change the name of Orange-st., Albany, to Seymour ave. While expressing himself gratified by the compliment, he says: "I pray that a name which has come down to us through nearly three centuries, should be allowed to stand and suggest in the future as it has in the past, the political and military events connected with the capital of our State, and which make it a point of such deep interest to all who study American history."

General Meredith Read has made a very valuable collection of objects connected with the Franco-German war; he began it on the day after war was declared, and is still at work upon it. It includes all the books, brochures, and journals, caricatures, engravings, medals, and placards on the walls published at Paris during the war. Valuable relics of the Commune in stone, metal, and glass he collected himself in the streets of Paris in the latter days of the last week of fighting. One of these is a shell picked up before it could explode; this has been ingeniously turned into a clock with bronze ornaments.

In an interesting paper in *The Albany Journal*, on the late George D. Prentice, Mr. C. G. Shanks mentions an odd privilege bestowed upon the brilliant editor by Mr. Lincoln's Government. He had the right of selling firearms to loyal people in Kentucky—the sole right, so that nobody in the State could purchase even a single-barrelled pistol without the written permission of Prentice. He administered this unusual grant so honestly, or loosely, which ever term suits best, that he made no money by it, although it could plainly have been turned to an immense account. He kept a few pistols in his office to sell or give to his particular friends, but usually he contented himself with presenting loyal applicants for firearms with an order on any gunsmith in the city, asking and receiving no royalty.

A Bostonian, who once stood behind the scenes during a performance of "Medea" by Adelaide Ristori, describes a small incident illustrating the ease with which the artist temperament slips from nature into art. The curtain had not risen, and the actress was vehemently rebuking her son. "In the midst of gesticulations such as Italians alone can make, the call came for Ristori to go on the stage. Instantly a shiver passed through her frame, and *Medea* came to fill the form before me. Then followed applause on applause from an excited audience. Ristori left the stage by the same slip she had entered, and there stood the young man. Again, instantly, as if by magic, *Medea* was gone and Ristori was present, and the maternal advice was continued in the same manner as though nothing had occurred to interrupt the same."

Mrs. Frances F. Burnett, the author of "That Lass O' Lowrie's" is a graceful, agreeable, low-voiced woman, about thirty years old. She is an industrious and domestic person of whom her husband says enthusiastically, "She can do anything." She has nearly completed a story called "Haworth's," and when this is finished she intends to write a thoroughly American story. The plot, it is said, came to her thus: She was sitting one day in her little room writing, when, like a flash, as powerfully and vividly as if it had been a real living creature, the leading character of a new story stood before her mind's eye. It was a sudden inspiration, and made such an impression on her that she immediately opened her note-book and made this entry: "Ten o'clock a. m., January 21, 1878. The first thought of my next book has been born. I was not thinking of it; it came itself, as if a living creature had suddenly opened the door and stood silent before me."

The will of Pius IX. makes provision for his monument. According to the usual custom, a magnif