Evening Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—German Opera: "Egmont."

BOWERY THEATRE: Bowery.—"Highwayman of Kensington," and "Green Mountain Boys" Other places: Afternoon & Evening.

BROADWAY THEATRE: Broadway, corner of Broome st.—The Florences in "The Ticket of Leave Man." Afternoon and Evening.

BARNUM'S MUSEUM: Broadway, near Spring st.—200,000 Curiosities: Afternoon and Evening. "Under Polaris." "Moon." Burlesque, and "Fairy Fox's Pasture."

BELLY & LEON'S MINSTRELS, 720 Broadway: Ethiopian Eccentricities.

BIJOU GARDEN.—"The Flash Cricket" and Parisienne Ballet.

PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn: Edwin Adams in "The Dead Heart."

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 585 Broadway, 2d No. of Holland st.

TONY PASTOR'S Opera House, 201 Bowery.—A Fine Round N. Y. Afternoon and Evening.

THEATRE COMIQUE, 514 Broadway, opposite Tattersalls: Days and Mornings.

WOOD'S MINSTRELS' NEW YORK THEATRE, opposite New York Hotel: Daily drama of "Ivy Leaf." In the Afternoon at 2. Evening at 7½.

WALLACK'S THEATRE: Broadway and 13th st. Mode's Benefit.

THE NEW YORK SUN.

"It Shines for All."

THURSDAY MORNING, NOV. 28, 1867.

Please send in your Advertisements early. It best ensures their classification.

Thanksgiving Day.

The annual Thanksgiving observance is this year more than usually approriate. The custom of setting apart one day in every year for this purpose sometimes makes the occasion more honored in the breach than in the observance. In the dark period of the rebellion, for instance, the custom was kept up, although it was a puzzling question as to what the country was getting thanks for. At the present time, however, there is abundant cause for thankfulness. The war has passed away without leaving a lingering trace of those evils which were so gravely predicted both in this country and in Europe. Although there has been a comparative dullness of business during the past year, it is a natural reaction from the abnormal activity that existed while the war was in progress. The country is now settling down to its natural condition of quiet and thrift. During the rebellion it lavishly expended its accumulated wealth, and the money thus thrown broadcast over the land gave an appearance of prosperity which had no solid basis. We are now undergoing the condition from the abnormal to the normal condition of business, and the passage is being made as safely and satisfactorily as we have any right to expect. Pestilence and famine, which the ancients thought were the inevitable followers of war, have not afflicted the country. In some localities of the South the yellow fever has been epidemic during the year, but the general health of the country was never better. With regard to famine, there has been nothing of the kind, nor is there any present danger of such calamity. The yield of our crops is larger this year than was ever known before. Last week the amount of breadstuffs exported from New York exceeded that of any previous week, and our surplus is so large that the shipments will continue to be unusually heavy. The fact that bread riots are almost daily reported in England, and that the United States are now looked to for breadstuffs to supply a great part of the deficiency in all of Western Europe, is a striking commentary upon the predictions made by Europeans during the rebellion to the effect that the war would ruin the Republic. The condition of the United States was never more encouraging than at the time for the nation to return thanks for its safe emergence from the darkness of the past few years, and for the bright prospect presented to it in the future.

Top-Heavy Business Houses.

The person mentioned in the biblical parable, who built his house upon the sand, has many imitators at the present time. A case of this kind came to public notice yesterday. A retail dry goods firm with a capital of $150,000, recently leased a valuable property on Union Square and expended two-thirds of their money in fitting it up. The result of that expenditure was a magnificent store—"the first in New York,"—to quote the firm's advertisements. But the establishment had no foundation. Its capital was, for the most part, expended in the tinsel and filagree of the superstructure, and when the financial "rains descended and the floods came and beat upon that house," it fell. This case is no parity, for failures from the same cause are frequent in these days of extravagant show; but it serves to point a moral and may do some good as a warning. During the war, business could be done on a fictitious basis, but we are now getting back to the solid, matter-of-fact style, and shadow will no longer answer in lieu of substance. There are other top-heavy establishments in New York that cannot stand much pressure, and if such would avoid the fate of the house alluded to, they will make haste to lighten their superstructures and repair their foundations.

A Parallel to the Abyssinian War.

It appears by the news from China that the United States Pacific Squadron has opened a warfare against the inhabitants of the Island of Formosa, in the China sea. This action has been taken to avenge the outrage committed upon the crew of the American bark Rover, an account of which we published a few weeks ago. It is now stated that several of our war vessels are engaged in an expedition against Formosa, and that the Chinese authorities have kindly furnished a detachment of their soldiers to accompany and take part in the movement. This Formosa war is a fair counterpart of the British war against Theodore, the dusky King of Abyssinia. In the ridiculous feature, however, we greatly excel the British in this belligerent enterprise. The Formosa "enemy" are a race of barbarians, very fierce and warlike, who live in the mountains of their island, and dress in the primitive fashion introduced by ADAM and EVE. They live in low bamboo huts, and in their manners and habits much resemble the American Indians. The American eagle is now after these people, accompanied by a troop of Chinese warriors, who are, doubtless, well provided with gongs, tom-toms, and other improved implements of Chinese warfare. If this display does not strike terror to the hearts of the Formosa savages, there is no virtue in astonishing combinations.

Art as a Means of Instruction.

It is somewhat singular that the beautiful art has never been employed, to any considerable extent, to subserve the ends of morality and religion. It has been used not only for amusement, but also to instruct the mind, and to leave a lasting impression that could not otherwise be conveyed. In this use, however, it has been confined to secular subjects. That it might be effectually and usefully employed in moral and religious illustration there is no reason to doubt, and we are glad to see that a successful attempt has been made to demonstrate this fact. The beautiful allegory of BUNYAN'S "Pilgrim's Progress" has been illustrated in a series of admirable paintings, representing leading scenes in Christian's journey from the City of Destruction to the Celestial City. These paintings were designed and executed by eminent artists, whose names are the best guarantee of the artistic character of the work. Among them are BALLING, BURGESS, CEVENNOISE, CHAFFELL, LEUTZE, CARMINCKE HAHN and NEUTZE. An exhibition like this should be largely visited. It is calculated to convey an instructive and agreeable religious lesson, and to impress that lesson so indelibly upon the memory that it is not likely to be forgotten. Next to the Bible, there is no book that has done so much to advance the cause of Christianity as that which gives the allegory of "Pilgrim's Progress," and hence every effort to increase its usefulness is deserving of encouragement. The allegory may be thus editorialized:

The hero of the allegory, whose name is CHRISTIAN, lived in the City of Destruction. Having learned to contain his impatient awaited an announcement that he resolved to fly. He was informed by EVANGELIST to Wicket Gate, as the way to Celestial City. Christian ran in vain to obtain limes, yet he was turned aside by the evil counsels of Worldly Wiseman, who assured him that the way to the town of Morality was better than that by the Wicket Gate. Christian had an unpleasant way. But again by Evangelist, who received and commended him, he turned into the narrow path, and was admitted to the Wicket Gate. Arrived at the House of the Interpreter, he was shown many strange and wonderful things. After his burden on his back fell the Cross, and he heavy burden, which he had borne from the time, fell from his shoulders. Three Shining Ones came to meet him, and with words of peace kissed him. In the narrow way he met FORMALIST and HYPOCRISY, who came tumbling over the wall. They proved himself for coming in any other way than that by the Wicket Gate. They went on for a little the way together, until at the hill DIFFICULTY the Shining Ones, and were left. Christian went straight up the hill, but fell asleep in an arbor. He was awakened by a shining one, who angrily him for sleep. Approaching the Palace Beautiful, he was met by the Lions in the way, but reassured by the voice of the Porter, he went on. As he was smoking by the Palace door, he saw two men climbing