The Sun.

It Shines for All.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 1871.

Amusements To-day.

Academy of Music—Mary Stuart.
Booth's Theatre—Winter's Tale.
Bowery Theatre—Schneider.
Bryant's Opera House—Sid st., between 4th and 5th avs.
Fifth Avenue Theatre—The Critic. A Thousand a Year.
Grand Opera House—La Belle Helene.
Globe Theatre—Pantomime.
Japanese Troupe—Musical Hall, 585 Broadway.
Lina Edwin's Theatre—Pique.
Niblo's Garden—Richard III.
Newcomb & Arlington's Minstrels—28th st. and Broadway.
Olympic Theatre—Horizon.
Tony Pastor's Opera House—Dumas, &c.
Wallack's—The Lion. The Nervous Man.
Wood's Museum—Streets of New York. Matinee.

Terms of The Sun.

DAILY, per year, to mail subscribers	$6 00
SEMI-WEEKLY, per year	2 00
Ten copies to one address	18 00
Twenty copies to one address	35 00
Fifty copies to one address	80 00
WEEKLY, per year	1 00
Twenty copies to one address	17 00
Fifty copies to one address	37 50

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ADVERTISEMENTS IN WEEKLY, 50 cents per line.
ALL ADVERTISEMENTS charged per line in solid Agate space.
ADVERTISEMENTS IN SEMI-WEEKLY, 50 cents per line.

For the accommodation of persons residing up town, advertisements for THE SUN will be received at our regular rates at the up-town advertisement office, 844 West Thirty-second street, at the junction of Broadway and Sixth avenue, from 8 A. M. to 8 P. M.

Protecting the Indians.

Within the next six weeks dry goods and provisions will be bought in this city for the Indians to the value of more than a million and a half of dollars. In these purchases Gen. E. S. PARKER, President GRANT's Commissioner of Indian Affairs, will appear and go through the formality of opening the bids, and engaging in consultations respecting them; but Congress has prudently deprived him of the power to determine what bids shall be accepted, or to make any purchases whatever. That authority is in the hands of the so called Board of Indian Commissioners. Without their assent, no supplies for the Indians can be bought or delivered.

This fact affords an interesting proof of the want of confidence which the Republican majority in Congress have come to entertain toward President GRANT's Administration. Hitherto, in making these purchases the head of the Indian Bureau has only been restrained by the provisions of law; but Congress has now put him under the guardianship of an incorruptible committee of private citizens. The result will be, we confidently believe, that the Indians will now get the worth of their money, and will no longer be subjected to such frauds as were practised upon them by the Indian Bureau in the purchases of last year.

Would it not be possible to find a man honest enough and with ability enough to perform the duties of Commissioner of Indian affairs without the necessity of such supervision? It seems that the Republican Congress is of opinion that this is out of the question so long as Gen. GRANT is President.

Mr. Place's Explanation.

We make room in another column for the statement of Mr. VICTOR PLACE, the French Consul-General, in reply to the recent exposure made by THE SUN in regard to the purchase of arms and provisions on account of the French Government. We also publish the statement of the French Chargé d'Affaires at Washington upon the subject made to the correspondent of the *Evening Post* in that city.

It will be observed that Mr. PLACE and the French Chargé d'Affaires directly contradict each other. Mr. PLACE says that he bought no arms on account of the French Government, and that all he did was to superintend the carrying out of contracts for arms made at Tours between the Government and American contractors. The Chargé d'Affaires says, on the contrary, that Mr. PLACE bought here a large quantity of arms, amounting to many millions of dollars; that he charged the Government a special commission on these purchases; and that when the Government declined to allow this commission, Mr. PLACE deposited the money in a bank in New York, to be ultimately restored to him or paid back to the Government, according to the final decision of the question in France. Between these two contradictory statements we will not undertake to decide whether credence should be given to Mr. PLACE defending himself against the accusation of fraud, or to the Chargé d'Affaires alleging facts which annul and overthrow this defence.

It will also be observed that Mr. PLACE himself declares that in the purchases of arms the Government has been defrauded, though he says he has had no hand in the fraud. He says that having negotiated for 50,000 Springfield rifles at $5 each, he was subsequently ordered to pay from $9.30 to $12.30 for them. These orders, as he intimates, came to him either from the Committee of Armaments at Tours, or from the firm of REMINGTON in this country. According to this statement, the French Treasury paid on these 50,000 rifles from $4.30 to $7.30 each more than the same rifles had previously been offered for. That is to say, the Treasury was by some means defrauded out of $300,000 or upward upon this single item. This Mr. PLACE states explicitly, and he suggests that in the purchase of 264,000 other Springfield rifles a similar fraud was practised, though he does not say precisely how much more the Government paid for those weapons than they could have been bought for. In regard to the other items specified in our former article, such as the purchase of thirty-five batteries of Napoleon guns at $16,000 each, which they were sold by the Ordnance Department at Washington for only $9,000 each, Mr. PLACE gives no explanation, and does not inform us who was enriched by the swindle.

Mr. PLACE attributes our exposure to hatred and envy toward himself on the part of some person unknown. We assure him he is entirely mistaken. The revelation was the work of THE SUN alone, prosecuted under great difficulties through some length of time, and the facts were verified with all possible care and vigilance. Knowing that the French people had been grossly defrauded in the time of their distress, and that the Government of France had thought the matter of sufficient importance to suspend, if not to remove their Consul-General in this country, we set about investigating the case. The result was as unwelcome and as painful to us as such an exposure of official malfeasance could well be. Mr. PLACE we knew only by reputation as a man of honorable distinction acquired in the famous explorations at Nineveh, and as bearing a good reputation in the public service of his country. But having discovered what we were convinced were facts respecting these fraudulent purchases, we published them, as was our duty, without reserve.

As the French Government has already taken decided action in the matter, and as Mr. PLACE himself admits that gross frauds have been committed, and as the French Chargé d'Affaires at Washington explicitly contradicts a most important part of Mr. PLACE's exculpation, the case seems to be substantially established by conclusive testimony outside of that brought forward in our former article.

The Moral of Mrs. Fair's Conviction.

Some unthinking people are wondering at the verdict of guilty rendered against Mrs. FAIR, the murderess, whose trial has just ended in San Francisco. They contrast it with the verdict rendered in this city a year ago in the case of DANIEL MCFARLAND; and express surprise that a woman who, by her own confession, has been an accomplice of a married man in wronging his wife, should not have been placed upon the same footing with an outraged husband avenging himself upon the invader of his domestic peace!

The truth is that the San Francisco jury, in convicting Mrs. FAIR, acted upon the same principle as did the New York jury in acquitting Mr. MCFARLAND. They expressed, as distinctly as they were permitted to express it, their judgment that no mercy should be shown to the person, whether man or woman, who violates the sanctity of the marriage relation. The result in both cases is a warning to female as well as male libertines to expect no mercy from an American jury, should they ever come before one. Indeed, if Mrs. FAIR had been killed by Mrs. CRITTENDEN, instead of killing Mr. CRITTENDEN, the act would doubtless have been approved by a jury. The condemnation of Mrs. FAIR is an emphatic declaration that her free-love doctrines and practices are not recognized or approved by the people.

Warnings that were not Heeded.

For several years previous to the breaking out of the war between France and Germany, Col. STOFFEL of the French army held the post of military attaché at Berlin, regularly communicating to his Government his observations on the military system and resources of Prussia. This duty he performed with singular ability and fidelity. A thorough soldier himself, he perceived the efficiency of the formidable army which a rival power had for many years been organizing on the very frontiers of France. He saw that a country embarked in a career of peaceful industry was in reality one great encampment, whence in case of need a million of trained soldiers, well armed, able-bodied, intelligent, and patriotic, might in a few weeks be assembled for defensive or aggressive purposes; while his own country had not half that force at its command. This information he carefully reported to the French Government; but he poured his warnings into deaf ears. Gallic vanity, inflated by a fictitious prosperity, and by exaggerated ideas of the national glory and military strength, could not comprehend that a great danger menaced France. While Jena was remembered, the lesson taught by Sadowa was neglected or despised. VERHUEL NAPOLEON himself, whether deluded like his subjects, or, as he says, forced into the war, paid apparently no heed to the reports of Col. STOFFEL; and the nation rushed headlong into an unequal contest, whence it was destined to emerge crushed, humbled, and well nigh ruined.

But it appears that Col. STOFFEL, at the special request of the Emperor, supplemented his military reports by some observations of a political nature, which, in the light of recent events, read like prophetic utterances. They were regarded by the infatuated men who swayed the destinies of France as of no greater value than the ravings of a madman. The following are the points which he communicated personally to the Emperor more than two years before the declaration of war:

"1. War is inevitable, and will be brought on by some trifling cause.

"2. Prussia does not intend to attack France. She has no wish to go to war, but will do her utmost to avoid a rupture.

"3. Prussia is sharp-sighted enough to foresee that, however much she may be desirous to avoid it, war is sure to break out. She is therefore straining every nerve to be prepared for the fatal moment.

"4. France, being careless and ignorant of existing realities in this country, is not likely to judge the situation as accurately as Prussia."

In the report in which these points are embodied, written a year before the first decisive battle of the war, Col. STOFFEL contrasts with singular candor the organization and composition of the French and Prussian armies, showing that the latter was, in many respects besides preponderance in numbers, the superior of the former; the one constituting a valorous and highly intelligent force, while the other is recruited from the most ignorant and degraded classes of the country. He concludes as follows:

"To me and some other Frenchmen looking upon the outbreak of hostilities as a mere question of time, this contrast is a most melancholy one, and the cause of most serious apprehensions.

"I should be overstepping my limits, were I to point out the measures calculated to improve this deplorable state of things. But there is no doubt but that the moral ties binding society together are getting more and more loosened in France, and that the torpor in which the people are enveloped and their blind conceit prevent their realizing the disorder eating up the social organism.

"In my opinion it is the duty of the Government to undertake the task of a complete regeneration. It is a great task, but an indispensable one; and it can succeed only if some of our fundamental institutions are entirely done away with and replaced by others, of a kind to promote education, morality, and manly virtue. The primary steps to be taken for this purpose are to imitate Prussia in generalizing conscription, and making education compulsory.

"I admit that the French do not possess in any very marked degree the qualities required to render general conscription acceptable or to turn it to account. Conceited and egotistic as they are, the people would object to an innovation whose invigorating force they are unable to comprehend, and which cannot be carried out without virtues which they do not possess, self-abnegation, conscientious recognition of duty, and a willingness to sacrifice personal interests to the inflexible demands of the country. As the character of individuals is only improved by experience, most nations require a chastisement before they set about reorganizing their political institutions. Prussia wanted a Jena to make her the strong and healthy country she is. Once upon this subject, I cannot suppress the remark that if Prussia had not introduced general conscription so many years ago, she might find it impossible to adopt it now.

"During the last fifty years France has but once been in a position favorable to the introduction of general conscription. This was in 1848, when, thanks to the ferment occasioned by the Revolution of February, the National Assembly would have been able to apply the principle of general equality, so pompously announced in those days, to the military service. In attempting to abolish the purchase of substitutes, that ugly stain upon our army arrangements, the National Assembly made a move in the right direction. A commission, with Gen. LAMORICIERE as chairman, was appointed to report upon the question. But the majority of the Assembly, swayed by the mean and selfish views of the *bourgeoisie*, threw out the bill. I do not hesitate to declare openly that the men who in 1849 prevented France from entering upon a path which would have led to general conscription with all its healthy accompaniments have exercised a pernicious influence upon the destinies of the land."

If ever wise counsels were given by an intelligent man, they were given by the writer of this report, and in ample time to avert the disasters which have overwhelmed a brave and generous people. They are yet capable of application; in fact, they form the only basis on which France, as a leading member of the family of European nations, can hope to reëstablish herself. When public order is restored, perhaps Col. STOFFEL's words may finally receive the attention they deserve.

The *Press* thinks that the purchase and sale of ORANGE S. WINANS may after all enable the Republicans to carry the State of New York next fall, and turn a temporary defeat into a great victory. This miracle will be accomplished by the disgust of the honest Democrats at such an act of corruption. These Democrats will turn their backs on Tammany and go over to the Republicans, and all will be right.

If buying up a single Republican member of the Legislature in 1871 can lead to such a result, why was not something like it brought about by the buying of thirty or forty in 1870? The bribery was not only grander but more notorious then than now, and yet nothing came of it.

Gen. AARON WARD, who recently died at Sing Sing, was as well known in Westchester and this city as the Croton Aqueduct. He was a genial, jolly man—polite, complaisant, and obliging, with the manners of a courtier, and morals to match. He served some time in Congress, where he was the greatest beau of his day. He had the honor of being father-in-law to Gen. WARD BURNETT, whose claim to be the bravest man in the country was finally admitted, and thereupon he was awarded the sword bequeathed by Gen. JACKSON to the first soldier of the age. Gen. WARD was not a very accomplished lawyer, neither was he an able man; but he was handy and adroit in his profession, a skilful conveyancer, apt in the preparation of legal instruments—in short, a man of faculties for doing many things well. When the good people of Sing Sing sought to obtain a village charter, he made it his business to draw the necessary papers, and gave the matter his attention at Albany, accomplishing the purpose of the inhabitants much to their satisfaction as well as his own. Two or three years afterward Cold Spring became ambitious and desired to emulate Sing Sing. The magnate of Cold Spring, a well-known gentleman, well acquainted with WARD, having been in Congress with him, and often meeting him socially, visited Albany during the session of the Legislature in order to procure a village charter. He was told that the charter of Sing Sing was a model document, and that he would save himself trouble by obtaining a copy of it. He thereupon wrote to his friend, stating what he had learned at Albany, and asking the favor of a copy of the document. The General was much gratified at the compliment, and ran over to the office of the village editor, where he found several loungers, who made it their usual haunt. "My dear fellows," said he, "I dare say you can help me out of my difficulty. A dear friend of mine at Cold Spring wants our charter as a model from which to prepare one for Cold Spring. I am most anxious to oblige him, but unfortunately I have not a single copy left. Can any of you accommodate me? for I pledge you my honor I would not disappoint my dear friend for anything in the world." A waggish fellow present, named JACK MCCOMB, said he had a copy which he would be glad to give him, and immediately went to get it. He presently returned with a paper nicely wrapped up, saying that it was prepared for the mail at the printing office. The General was profuse in his acknowledgments of the civility, and directly forwarded the supposed charter by mail, at the same time writing a letter to his friend calling his attention to a particular section of the charter which he thought specially applicable to Cold Spring and the requirements of the inhabitants. Two or three days afterward the General received a challenge to mortal combat from his dear friend and correspondent. The village of Sing Sing was thrown into a state of consternation, and such was the terror of the General that he thought of seeking safety in the State Prison. Presently it was ascertained that MCCOMB had given Gen. WARD a copy of the charter of a hook and ladder company; and by a curious coincidence, a section corresponding in number to that which the General had commended to the consideration of his Cold Spring friend contained a provision to the effect that any member of the hook and ladder company who should get drunk more than two days at a time should be expelled.

It required several letters and more affidavits to satisfy the Cold Spring gentleman that no affront had been intended; but the affair was settled without bloodshed. The General finally recovered from his alarm, but he was in a doleful condition for several days.

We now have in complete running order in the State of New York four Republican parties, not to speak of minor factions. There is the anti-FENTON party, the anti-CONKLING party, the anti-corruption party recently formed in Albany, and the anti-GRANT party, which is larger than all the rest put together. The bewildered rank and file would like to know to which of these parties the Philosopher of Chappaqua belongs. Will the Hon. HORACE GREELEY define his position, so that people who want to go with him may not make mistakes?

The effect of the rebellion in diminishing the wealth of the country shows itself in the census returns. The increase of property of every kind from 1850 to 1860 was from $6,000,000,000 to $16,000,000,000, or 75 per cent.; whereas in 1870 it has only reached $13,000,000,000, an increase of but 30 per cent. As might be expected, the least increase is in the Southern States. Throwing them out of the calculation, the Northern States have gained 68 per cent. since 1860, which yet is less than the gain of the previous ten years. The *Nation*, to which we are indebted for these statistics, further proposes to deduct the national debt of $2,500,000,000 from the amount of our present property, and to take the average of the remainder among 40,000,000 of population instead of 30,000,000, thus making a still poorer show.

The bench and bar are all going to Niblo's on Saturday evening to see GEORGE the Count JOANNES play "Richard III," according to the readings of the great GARRICK. The rush for tickets is extraordinary.

While Mr. SEWARD was Secretary of State under President JOHNSON, he made extensive use of the Atlantic Telegraph Cable to communicate with our representatives in Europe. A bill for the transmission of his messages between Nov. 10, 1866, and Oct. 5, 1867, to the amount of $82,240, is still unpaid, and the Telegraph Company are endeavoring to collect it in the Court of Claims. Our Government refuses payment on the ground that the messages being in cipher were, according to the rules of the Company, charged at an increased price, and insists on paying no more than the rate for plain English. This is a small business for a country with 40,000,000 of inhabitants and an annual revenue of $350,000,000. If it cannot pay for its telegraphic despatches the same as private individuals, the Government had much better not send any.

To see a man of the size of DAVID DAVIS of Illinois, formerly the law partner of ABRAHAM LINCOLN, and whom Mr. LINCOLN placed on the bench of the Supreme Court of the United States, running as the Democratic candidate for the Presidency in 1872, would be a singular spectacle. But in these revolutionary times we have witnessed stranger sights than this.

They say that since the last decision of the legal tender question by the Supreme Court, Judge DAVIS is not so popular with the Democracy as he was before. He is for the constitutionality of legal tender, and that is not Democratic doctrine. However, the Democrats may get over this before the time comes to nominate their man. Judge DAVIS would make a strong run, especially in Illinois.

The negotiations which have been going on for some time past for a lease by the Pennsylvania Central Railroad Company of the property of the united railroad and canal companies of New Jersey, embracing the New Jersey Railroad, the Camden and Amboy Railroad, and the Delaware and Raritan Canal, have been brought to a satisfactory conclusion, and the lease will be ratified forthwith. The basis is to be 10 per cent. net upon the capital of the combined companies.

It appears that the jury which recently tried Mr. GEORGE CHAHOON at Richmond on the charge of constructive forgery, and which was discharged for want of agreement, stood nine for Mr. CHAHOON's acquittal and three for conviction. These three jurors all had business relations with the present City Government of Richmond, and were thus under the influence of those by whom the persecution of Mr. CHAHOON has from the first been instigated. In view of facts like these, why don't the proper authorities at Richmond enter a *nolle prosequi* in the case, and put an end to the whole affair?

When are the Bar Association going to arraign Mr. DAVID DUDLEY FIELD on Gen. BARLOW's charges? And, still more interesting, when is Gen. BARLOW going to present any charges?

Probably Gen. BARLOW will never prefer any charges; and the Bar Association will never arraign or try Mr. FIELD. *They don't dare to.*

THE CENTRAL PARK MUSEUM.

Inspection by the Commissioners Yesterday—Invitation Party to the Contributors and their Friends—A Treat for the People

Yesterday afternoon the trustees of the American Museum of Natural History met in their rooms, Arsenal building, Central Park, the Park Commissioners and a number of friends being their guests. During the past year the large and valuable collections purchased in Europe have been safely deposited in the rooms of the Arsenal building. Yesterday they were inspected for the first time.

The museum, as it stands, includes the collection of the late Prince Maximilian, which was one of the most celebrated private collections in Europe. It was especially valuable to students of zoology, from the large number of types it contains, the result of the Prince's extensive explorations in South America. In this collection is a specimen of the great auk, a type now lost to the world.

The mammals and Siberian birds, 250 specimens, were purchased of M. Verreyx, in Paris. Some 200 mounted mammals, 2,800 mounted birds, and 400 mounted specimens of mammals, birds, reptiles, and fishes are from the collection of the late Edward Verreaux of Paris. The third floor of the Arsenal is devoted specially to birds and beasts, the second being reserved for insects, shells, minerals, &c. In the southwest corner of the zoological room is a collection of stuffed animals effectively grouped.

Prominent among the guests were Peter Cooper, Dr. Hall, Geo. Bird, Mr. Gilmore and ladies, John David Wolfe, Morris R. Jessup, Sheppard Knapp, Fitz Hugh Lee, and others. It is intended to throw open the Museum for public inspection on the 1st of May.

Railway Consolidation Improved Connection with the Great West.

An agreement has been concluded between the Great Western Railway of Canada, running from Suspension Bridge to Detroit, and the Michigan Central Railroad, running from Detroit to Chicago, by which a virtual consolidation is effected extending over a term of twenty years, during which time the gross earnings of the two companies are to be put into a common purse and then divided *pro rata* per mile. Both companies under this arrangement bind themselves not to interchange traffic with any new lines across Canada or Michigan. The tunnel under the Detroit river connecting the two roads is to be pushed to completion at once, thus making a continuous line between Suspension Bridge and Chicago by this short route. The completion of the Suspension Bridge gives to the Erie Road choice of two connections with this route from this city, and makes it the shortest and most desirable route to the Great West. Mr. W. K. Muir, the General Superintendent of the Great Western of Canada, during his occupancy of that office, according to *Hoepfel's Railway Journal*, of London, Eng., has increased its earnings from a mere cash-paying road to one paying fair dividends. In 1868 the dividends were but 3½ per cent. In 1869, 4½ per cent. In 1870, 5 per cent. Thus far the present year the earnings have been at the rate of 7 per cent. With the above-mentioned consolidation they will doubtless reach 10 per cent.

Jersey Matches New-York's Civil Justice.

The convict, Justice Johnny White, of Hoboken, has received his commission from Gov. Randolph, and will soon enter upon his judicial functions. It will be remembered that White pleaded guilty some time ago on an indictment charging him with having defrauded a couple of runaway Germans of $2,200 in gold. The Germans had stolen the money in Strasbourg, and arrived in this country on one of the steamships which land in Hoboken. A telegram preceded them, and on their arrival they were arrested and taken before White, who was then a Justice of the Peace. By some hocus pocus he got the money (the $2,200) in his hands, and then, instead of dividing it with the indicted, and pleaded guilty to save himself from the Penitentiary. He was sentenced to sixty days' confinement in the county jail. Judge Randolph at the same time requiring him to resign his office. This spring White was again elected, and will soon take his seat. The Justice has never yet had an opportunity to rob an orphan of $2,200, but he ought to have. It would perhaps be well for Justice White to come over to Jefferson Market and make the acquaintance of Judge Yorks and County Officer Fowler. The latter might introduce him to an orphan or a dying widow who wants to make a will.

Give the Poor Boys a Show.

To the Editor of The Sun.

SIR: As the base ball season has commenced there are many young men in this city (belonging to clubs and having to work) who would like to have a good place in the city to play. The rules of the Central Park are such that none but those having special permits are allowed to play there. Now, I think there might be some remedy by which others might be allowed to play there as well, either by allowing an unprivileged club to play with a privileged one, or by granting to the boys who have to work the privilege of playing on the upper ground at any rate. If Messrs. Tweed and Sweeny would manage it somehow they would have the thanks and good wishes of a great many young men.

ANOTHER OF THE BOYS.

NEW YORK, April 27, 1871.

The Fight with Old King Alcohol.

The Grand Division, Sons of Temperance of Eastern New York, held its quarterly session at Glen Cove, L. I., yesterday. The returns show a large increase in the Order since last session. A public meeting was held in the evening, at which the G. W. P., A. W. Gleason, and others made effective temperance speeches. The excursion by steamer Underhill, the proceeds of which were to be given to the widow of A. P. Sands, first W. P., G. W. P., and M. W. P. of the Order, barely paid expenses.

Prize Presentation in the Seventh Ward.

Wednesday afternoon the annual award of prizes to the scholars of the Primary School in Monroe street, near Pike, took place at the schoolhouse. The exercises consisted of songs, recitations, &c. William F. McNamara, Esq., editor of the *Sunburst*, in an appropriate speech, presented to Miss Schwartz and Master John Manning, respectively the most deserving girl and boy in the school, a solid gold medal of considerable value and a bank book covering $25, the money not to be drawn in five years—both prize the gifts of Mr. John Ford, School Trustee. Thomas Sheils, Esq., Comptroller Keenan, Wm. Colligan, and others were present.

WHO HAS SEEN MOLONEY?

Mr. Donovan's Plate of Turtle Soup—Enter Mr. Moloney—Two Plates of Soup for One Gentleman—How they Raise a Fight in Williamsburgh—Midnight Music.

Mr. Daniel Donovan, of the *Brooklyn* (E. D.) *Herald*, has a weakness for green turtle soup. It is his favorite dish. On Saturday last, when he read the announcement that Phillips, of the Colonnade House, at South Third and Fourth streets, Williamsburgh, would treat his customers to that delicious dish, Donovan fasted all day, and prepared for an evening of solid enjoyment. He was one of the earliest at the Colonnade that evening, and those who dropped in after midnight saw him still seated at one of tae tables eating. At about 1 o'clock A. M. Mr. James Moloney, who keeps a wholesale liquor store on Fourth street, strode into the Colonnade and seated himself at a table in front of the epicure Donovan.

"Two plates of soup for one," roared Moloney.

There has been a long-standing feud between the two gentlemen, and when Donovan looked up from his soup and saw his ancient enemy a shade spread over his handsome features, gradually changing to a look of rage. His eyes flashed, and his cheeks alternately flushed and paled. He fixed his eyes upon Moloney, and Moloney returned the look. For two or three minutes the gentlemen sat gazing at each other—Donovan with rage depicted on his countenance, and Moloney with a look of calm indifference, if not of derision. It was a repetition of the Ben-Butler-Garrett Davis scene in the Senate chamber. Donovan, whose cheeks were swelling with suppressed rage, finally partly raised himself from his chair, and leaning over toward Moloney, shrieked out:

"What in h—l are you looking at?"

"That's my business," replied Moloney. "What in h—l are you looking at?"

"You are a dirty scoundrel," shouted Donovan. "You came in here to insult me, sir."

"You are mistaken," interrupted Moloney; "I came in here to get some soup."

"You came to insult me," repeated Donovan. "You called for two plates of soup for one. No gentleman would call for two plates of soup for one. You are no gentleman, sir."

Up to this time Moloney had kept his temper, but now he began to look wild about the eyes, and when Donovan repeated, "You are no gentleman, sir," Moloney went for him as the renowned William Nye went for the heathen Chinee. Then there was a scuffling of feet, a dodging here and there around the tables, an overturning of chairs—indeed, a smashing of things generally. In the liveliest part of the festivities the spectator could not have told whether Donovan was going for Moloney or Moloney going for Donovan. Finally Donovan was brought to bay against a side wall, and drawing himself up to his full height and striking a defiant attitude, with his left foot foremost, he waited for the coming onslaught. He was not kept long in suspense. Moloney had gathered himself up for a tremendous charge, when Donovan, comprehending the danger, just at the critical moment thrust his hand into his pistol pocket, drew what Moloney supposed was a pistol, and leveled it at his antagonist's heart. It was not a pistol, however, as Moloney saw at a glance. It was a huge door key. Up to this time Moloney had struck a blow, though they had made several dashes at each other which had been dexterously warded off.

The attempt of Donovan to shoot him with a door key doubly incensed Moloney, and he went for his enemy with redoubled fury. He flung out his right with the intention of getting in on Donovan's nose, but the latter parried the thrust, and Moloney's fist went straight into Donovan's new silk hat. Donovan quickly gathered up the fragments of his hat, and by a brilliant flank movement placed himself between his antagonist and the door. Taking advantage of a favorable opportunity, when Moloney was preparing for another charge, Donovan "put out" for the door. In less than a second he struck the doorsill, and with one leap made the street, with Moloney close at his heels.

Donovan was at his liveliest up South Third street, with hat in hand and hair streaming in the wind, shouting "Police! police!"

Moloney paddled after him, shrieking "Stop thief!" The chase continued through the deserted streets until Donovan, blown, took refuge in the Dutch Church, at Fifth and Fourth streets. Moloney here lost sight of Donovan, and returned to the Colonnade to finish his soup. This was the last that he saw of Donovan that night.

When in the Odeon Donovan placed himself outside of several glasses of old rye, which raised his courage to such a pitch that he sallied forth in search of Moloney. A Sun reporter, who was going home about 2 o'clock, when on Fourth street, near South Fifth, heard some one shrieking out "Where's Moloney?" He directed his steps whence the sound proceeded, and discovered a man standing alone in the street, sadding a damaged hat over his head and muttering frequent inquiries for Moloney.

The reporter advanced toward the man and quietly "What's the matter, sir? Have you lost a friend?"

"Friend! No!" he replied; and then placing his lips close to the reporter's ear, he shouted in a voice a little louder than thunder, "Have you seen Moloney?"

"No, I have not," answered the reporter. "But what do you want of Moloney?"

"Want of him? I want to knock daylight out of him. Look at that hat (exhibiting a beaver which looked as if it had been struck by a 32-pounder solid shot). He did that, and I want to serve him the same way."

The reporter could not give him any satisfaction, and proceeded on his way home.

Donovan (for this was he) continued his search for Moloney until nearly daybreak, issuing every man he met (if he had a friend Moloney) and shouting the inquiry out upon the night air as if he expected that it would return the information. A policeman was about to take him in for disturbing the peace and quiet of the Burg, when some friends luckily arrived and prevailed upon him to go home. When he awoke the next day his hat'll the less anxiety to see Moloney—in fact, Moloney was the very last man he wanted to meet.

Fun in the Illinois Legislature.

From the Tribune.

The session has not been without the ordinary flashes of dullness and of wit. In the first or second week a resolution was introduced prohibiting the reading of the Bible in any public school. A rural member, in the course of the discussion which followed, spoke of the authorized version as "Saint James's translation." A reporter, literal, thinking the expression a slip of the tongue, corrected it in his report. The next day the member arose to a question of privilege, and remarked that he had been grossly misrepresented and insulted by the press; he did not say "King James's translation," and some James's, another member speaking of his high sense of the compliment paid him when he was nominated and elected, stated that he had called to see a former legislator, a personal friend, to whom he expressed his very great regard for the laws of the country. "Yes," said his friend, "I swear by the statutes, I love them like sausages—the less you know of how they are made the better you like them." One or two very happy retorts were made, though their originality may be open to dispute. A very vigorous speaker, with long arms, which he kept in perpetual motion, stopped for an instant to drink from a tumbler, when a brother member arose to a point of order, which was that "it is out of order for a windmill to go by water." Another speaker, having kept the floor for nearly an hour, said, with an air of triumph, "Does the gentleman wish to ask any more questions?" Upsprang the indefatigable member from Stephenson, and replied: "Yes, Mr. Speaker, I ask for the *ppppprecious* question."

A Severe but Just Word about B. F. Butler.

From the Nation.

When we consider that there is probably not a man in the United States that would say he respected Butler, or had the slightest confidence in him, that his attempts at legislation have all displayed wickedness and folly in about equal proportions, and that he has probably done as much to debase the tone of public life at Washington as any one of the worst men who have ever made their appearance in Congress, the tender leniency with which the press treats him is highly discreditable, and very mischievous as well. It is bad enough, in all conscience, to have such a man returned by a Massachusetts constituency, but when the leading papers of the party of moral ideas always treat him as a simple oddity, and his tricks and dodges as the playful [illegible] of a [illegible] boy, they help greatly to lower the public [illegible] of statesmanship, and open political life to charlatans and rogues of all degrees. If the respectable Republican press would only give him his due, the task of finishing him might apparently be left to Mr. Farnsworth, who is evidently too much for him, and rejoices in hunting him with a savage joy.

How the Times has Become Disreputable.

From the Albany Argus.

The *Times* was always interesting and much sought after while in Mr. Raymond's possession. If it was not a powerful political organ, it was a capital family paper, always courteous and displeasant in its tone, and one of the best purveyors of news in the country. But its character and reputation depended almost entirely upon Raymond. Since his death it has fallen into feeble and incompetent hands, and its deterioration has been painful to see. It seems to have degenerated into a mere conduit to carry all the superfluous secretions of a parcel of filthy hangers on, native and foreign. It is the most scandalous and abusive paper in New York, and its calumnious misrepresentations and malignity are unrelieved by a particle of wit, humor, or good sense. The paper must soon cease to be a remunerative business enterprise, as it long ago ceased to be of the slightest political consequence. If the paper could be wrenched from the clutches of the men who are fast destroying its pecuniary value, it might in time be restored to its former position of influence and profit.

The Great Success of The Sun—Its Wonderful Wit and Good Nature.

From the Evening Leader.

The secret of THE SUN's marvellous success lies in the peculiarity that when it laughs it laughs all over. Its wit and enterprise show as brightly in the most obscure corner of its news pages as on its editorial page. It is not bright in spots; it is no fellow candle Sun that flickers and sputters weakly, but the genuine luminary that shines all over so brightly that we cannot point out the exact spot on its surface where its brilliancy is most intense. That's the journalism for you. It's easy to do—when you know how.

Foley's Bank Gold Pens are the finest, best, and cheapest. Factory and salesroom, 25 Broadway.—*Adv.*

A MORMON MUTINY.

The Wives of an Elder on the Rampage—Three of them Give him the Slip.

From the Detroit Free Press.

A little incident happened at the Grand Trunk Junction Friday evening, which gave a hundred passengers any quantity of fun and merriment, and resulted in the reclamation of three women who have for several years past been living at Salt Lake City in the capacity of wives to a Mormon Elder named Coleman. It seems that Coleman left Salt Lake City some days ago for a trip to the East, having some church matters to see to on Long Island. What is a little unusual for Mormons to do, the Elder decided to have his three wives accompany him, it being his intention, as is learned from one of the wives, to use them to assist in securing the conversion of other women.

The party came along to Chicago, and there stopped for a day or two, taking a look around the city, and the Elder making some purchases to send to friends at Salt Lake. They left Chicago Friday, it being the intention to change off at the Grand Trunk Junction, and take that route through, the Elder claiming that he had friends at Port Huron. The four occupied seats as near together as possible, and, to avoid remark or ridicule, each one was furnished with a ticket, thus seeming to be going along like ordinary travelers. At Chicago only one of the wives was registered as "Mrs. Coleman," the other two giving other names, and occupying a separate room, Coleman stating to the clerk that they were his nieces. It seems that while the Elder was out trading, during their stay in Chicago, the women got their heads together and determined to give him the slip. One had been married to him five years, and the other two less than a year, one being a native of England, and the other two were born in this country. They planned to don their things, take to the street, and state their case to the first policeman encountered, but were met by Coleman just as they were descending the stairs.

His inquiries were answered by the statement that they were going out for a short walk, and he was thus solved, although appearing suspicious thereafter. In coming over the Central road the four occupying two seats close together, Coleman went forward to take a smoke, positive that there was no such thing as losing his four hundred pounds of matrimony on a train running thirty miles an hour. The women were thus given an opportunity for another confab, and they improved it by laying another plan. He had informed them previous to departing from Salt Lake that polygamy was now a recognized institution in the land, and that Congress had sanctioned it. While they did not believe, they could not dispute, as none of them were ever allowed to read any other than Mormon publications. They determined to coolly refuse to proceed with him further than the junction, and trust to the clivalry of the passengers and the law of the State to prevent maltreatment or being forced on.

When the train arrived there the elder found that he must wait a couple of hours before connecting with the Grand Trunk. The quartette sat down in the hotel parlor, and the Elder then proceeded to lay down a programme for the balance of the journey, telling his wives that the least show of insubordination would result in their arrest. They did not reveal their plan until the four were on the platform, and the train within a few minutes of starting. The oldest wife then plainly told him their intention in a quiet, even voice, and he saw at once that if he wanted to create a "scene" they were ready for it. Coleman was at first thunderstruck, and then gave way to a burst of rage. While thus excited, one of the women disappeared, and the other two walked into the ladies' sitting room, filled with passengers, and sat down. He followed them in, threatening them first with arrest, and then with instant death, if they did not immediately go aboard the train with him. Having taken the first step, the women were plucky enough not to back down, and defied him to do his worst. His loud and passionate conversation at length attracted the attention of a railroad man, who walked up to him, and, in his English way, exclaimed:

"See 'ere, you feller, wot you fooling around 'ere for? If you don't be'ave a little civ'ro, I'll knock you into the middle ho' next Monday!"

Coleman saw that he was helpless, and was fairly white with rage. He tried to reason, offered money and promises, but the women were firm, and warned him that if he did not quit their presence, they would excite him to the passengers and secure the arrest. What could he do? Any white man would have mashed his head in a minute, especially if asked to by a female in distress, and Coleman saw that to use force would end in his arrest. Having said "they wouldn't," he felt quite sure that his wives would not go on, even though the trunks in the baggage car contained their finery except what was being worn. He was mazing one last appeal, when Bluff John Bull came back again and stormed:

"See 'ere, you mashed swell hof a pocket-pitcher, hif you don't be hout of 'ere in two minutes, hi'll break hevery bone in your body, I'll will."

The cars were up, and when the conductor yelled "All board," Coleman sneaked out and got aboard the train, not caring to lose his baggage and wives both.

As for the women, they looked over their pin money, found that they had about $20 among them, and determined to come to the city. The missing one was found in a boarding house, where she had taken refuge, and the three walked to the street cars on Michigan avenue, and then rode in. One of them passed over to Windsor after dinner, and the other two were at an intelligence office on Woodward avenue during the afternoon to secure places in hotels as waitresses. They intend to remain in the city until some better arrangements can be made.

The Charges against the French Consul—Reply of Mr. Place.

From the Tribune.

NEW YORK, April 24, 1871.

MESSRS. CH. L