The Sun.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 1874.

Amusements To-day.

Academy of Music—Matinée.
Pain Hall, Great Jones st.—The Pilgrim.
Booth's Theatre—The Fonnie de Fon.
Bowery Theatre—The Scout of Sierra Nevada.
Dan Bryant's Minstrels, Twenty-third street.
Grand Opera House—Humpty Dumpty Abroad.
New Fifth Avenue Theatre—Man and Wife.
Niblo's Garden—The Belles of the Kitchen.
Olympic Theatre—The Athletes of America.
The Colosseum—Broadway and Thirty-fifth street. Matinée.
Théâtre Comique—The French Spy.
Tony Pastor's—Burlesque Troupe.
Union Square Theatre—Led Astray.
Wallack's Theatre—Money.
Wood's Museum—Across the Continent. Matinée.

"The Constitution says that all trials shall be by jury, and the accused is entitled, not to be first convicted by a court and then to be acquitted by a jury, but to be convicted or acquitted IN THE FIRST INSTANCE by a jury."—SAMUEL ELLSCHOFFER.

Is this a Thing the Country Needs?

The people of the United States are almost all of them suffering from financial distress. They owe more money than they are able to pay. All public enterprises are interrupted. Manufactories are shut up. Commerce languishes. Workingmen are everywhere deprived of employment, and cases of positive starvation occur in the great centres of population. And yet, amid such circumstances, it is proposed in Congress to appropriate from five to ten millions of the public money for the proposed Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia. In other words, it is proposed to take this vast sum by force from the people through the machinery of taxation.

If there is in the country any adequate desire for such an exhibition the necessary capital will be furnished in season. If there is not such a desire, the plan is a mistake. Twelve millions will certainly be enough for it. Two or three millions have been raised already in Pennsylvania, and the invitation has gone abroad calling upon every State to furnish its quota. So far the enterprise is all right, and we have sincerely hoped that moneyed men would come forward and make up the required amount.

But now it is proposed to make the people pay it by taxation. The voluntary plan is to be abandoned, and force is to be applied. Against this we earnestly protest. The Government has no business to spend millions of the people's money on a public exhibition. It was not established for any such purpose, and its powers do not include the authority to apply taxation to such an object. We denounce the proposition, and we warn those who attempt to put it through by party means, or by any means, that they are entering a charge against themselves which will not soon be forgiven or forgotten.

Disgraceful Diplomacy.

Now that the excitement in regard to the seizure of the Virginius and the butcheries which followed that outrage has subsided, it is proper to review the leading incidents connected with the diplomatic settlement, and to seek some explanation of the reasons for transferring the negotiations abruptly from Madrid to Washington on the very eve of their conclusion.

The papers recently communicated to Congress were not intended to unravel the mystery which still surrounds this strange proceeding, because a part of the history is written in the regular correspondence from Madrid, which Mr. Fish has withheld, and will never of his own accord give to the light of day.

In order to develop the extraordinary change of base which took place at Washington in the three weeks during which the Virginius question dominated over all others, it is well to go back to the beginning and contrast the loud demands made when the popular pulse beat quick with the humiliating surrender recorded in the FISH-POLO protocol. Brave men usually go into a fight cool and come out hot. Mr. Fish reversed the order, and went in very hot to come out very cool.

On the 12th of November, six days after the first knowledge of the capture and cruelties, Mr. FISH, in a formal despatch to Gen. SICKLES, used this strong language, which was quite in sympathy with the general feeling:

> "Condemnation, disavowal, and deprecation of the act will not be accepted by the world as sufficient to relieve the Government of Spain from participation in the just responsibility for the outrage. There must be a signal mark of displeasure and punishment to which the civilized world can point, and which other subordinate or local officials will have cause to look to as a beacon on a dangerous rock, to be forever after avoided.
>
> "You will represent this to the Government at Madrid, and you will further very earnestly, but avoiding any just cause of offended sensibility, represent that the future of our speedy and signal vindication of punishment on those engaged in this dark deed cannot fail to be regarded as an approval of the act. The omission to punish the actors of the 4th of November, in Santiago de Cuba, will be a virtual abandonment of the control of the island.
>
> "Such wholesale butchery and murder is almost incredible; it would be wholly incredible but for the bloody and vengeful deeds of which Cuba has been the theatre. *No Government deserves to exist which can tolerate such crimes.*"

The tone of this despatch is satisfactory, but it is materially marred by a note to the Spanish Minister of the same date, by which it appears Mr. Fish started a negotiation at Washington on the very day that he was instructing Gen. SICKLES to present the case at Madrid, where it properly belonged. The motive for this double action will be disclosed in the sequel.

MR. FISH TO ADMIRAL POLO DE BERNABE.

"DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
WASHINGTON, Nov. 12, 1873.

"ADMIRAL: This department has received a telegram from an official source, describing that the captain of the Virginius, co-elled, thirty-six of the crew, and sixteen other persons were shot on the 4th and 8th instant. This information relates to an act apparently so shocking and cruel to be credible. I am in future hours and days expected intelligence may have reached you, which would tend to discredit the statement referred to. I will consequently thank you to relieve, as soon as you conveniently can, our natural anxiety on the subject. I avail, &c., HAMILTON FISH."

The difference between these two papers, written at the same time, is striking. But the significance will become more manifest as the conclusion is approached. Still the higher temper was kept up in the correspondence with Madrid.

On the 14th of November Mr. FISH telegraphed Gen. SICKLES as follows:

> "Unless abundant reparation shall have been volunteered by Spain, you will demand the restoration of the Virginius, and the release and delivery to the United States of the persons captured on her who have not already been massacred, and that the flag of the United States be saluted in the port of Santiago, and the signal punishment of the officials who were concerned in the capture of the vessel and the execution of the passengers and crew.
>
> "In case of refusal of satisfactory reparation within twelve days from this date, you will at the expiration of that time close your Legation, and with the archives of your Secretary, leave Madrid, bringing with you the archives of the Legation."

These orders had at least the merit of being explicit and positive, and they responded only to the least public expectation. Gen. SICKLES obeyed them strictly, as will be seen by an extract from a note of the next day addressed to the Minister of State.

> "LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, MADRID, Nov. 15, 1873.
>
> "The undersigned has now, in the name of the President, to demand the restoration of the Virginius and the release and the delivery to the United States of the persons captured in her who may yet survive, and that the flag of the United States be at the same time saluted in the *port of Santiago de Cuba*; and also that the Spanish Government manifest, by signal punishments to be inflicted on them, its sense of the misconduct of those of its servants who were concerned in the capture of the said vessel and the execution of the passengers and crew thereof. D. E. SICKLES."

While the whole spirit and each particular feature of the instructions are here observed, it will be noticed that in the forms of expression used to convey them, Gen. SICKLES has moderated if, anything the strong flavor of the Secretary of State, so as to remove any seeming harshness in the demands.

These citations bring clearly to view the original position of the Administration on this subject. In order to realize how rapid and deep was the descent from this manifesto to the consummation, it is only necessary to recall that the Virginius was sneaked out of Havana under cover of night, so as not to offend the "sensibility" of the "Prætorian volunteers," as Mr. FISH calls them; that the ship was restored in a secluded and almost unknown spot without witnesses or effect, and in a ruined and disgusting condition; that the salute at Santiago de Cuba, the scene of the massacre and the home of the executioners, was abandoned; that the "signal punishment" of BURRIER and his confederates in crime was renounced, and that no example was made of any Spanish official in Cuba.

Another turn of the diplomatic kaleidoscope presents a new and strange phase in this controversy, but quite consistent with all its previous surprises. Mr. FISH found himself cornered by the telegrams and regular despatches of Gen. SICKLES in such a way as to show that the Secretary of State had retreated from his own demands, and had actually proposed the sham which was finally substituted for them. Hoping, therefore, to extricate himself from this dilemma, he conceived the idea of addressing a despatch to Mr. ADEE, Secretary of Legation at Madrid, in order to break the force of these damaging exposures. He knew that Gen. SICKLES could not defend himself officially, and therefore this bit of sharp practice was adopted to have the advantage of the permanent record in the archives.

The trick has not proved successful, and instead of helping the Secretary out of a disreditable scrape, only plunged him deeper in the mire. It is necessary to change the chronological order so as to bring out into strong relief the false charges made by Mr. FISH and the testimony which he unconsciously furnishes for his own conviction. Now for the charge:

MR. FISH TO MR. ADEE.

"DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
WASHINGTON, Dec. 31, 1873.

"SIR: On the 26th ultimo Gen. SICKLES's No. 336 arrived at this department during my absence for the holidays. It appears that it was formally agreed, on the night of the 27th of November last, that on a declaration made by him of the American nationality of the Virginius, the vessel and surviving passengers and crew would be delivered up the day dated, and that other reparation decided on in conformity with our demands of the 15th inst. It is greatly to be regretted that Gen. SICKLES did *not state with whom this informal agreement was made.*

"Gen. SICKLES further says that at noon on the 28th of November, Mr. CARVAJAL gave him a copy of a telegram from Admiral POLO, containing what purported to be a fresh proposal from me respecting the Virginius, which Gen. SICKLES appears to have supposed was in conflict with the informal arrangement of the previous evening.

"Without more accurate information concerning the person with whom the informal arrangement was made I cannot permit myself to think that the Spanish Government receded from any understanding which it had once assumed.

"Very lately, however, when such a statement may be supposed to affect this Government, it is proper to say that the *changes from the original demands of the United States which* were agreed to in the protocol of the 26th of November were adopted on the suggestion of the *Spanish Government* under the belief that *they did not affect the principles on which our demands were founded.* HAMILTON FISH."

The pretence with which this despatch starts out, that Mr. FISH did not know with "whom the informal agreement was made," is puerile and unworthy in every sense. With whom else than the Minister of Foreign Affairs could Gen. SICKLES agree upon terms officially or informally? He had been negotiating with him daily from the 6th of November on this delicate question, and communicating the results of those conferences to Mr. FISH. The very enclosure from Mr. CARVAJAL in Gen. SICKLES's despatch proves the very fact that he attempts to call in question, and demonstrates conclusively at the same time that this "informal agreement" made on the night of the 27th of November would have been carried into effect but for the reason that while the matter was pending at Madrid better terms for the Spaniards were procured at Washington. And here is the proof of it, in an extract from Mr. CARVAJAL's note to Gen. SICKLES:

> "Mr. JOSE POLO DE BERNABE, *duly authorized by* Mr. HAMILTON FISH, informs me that *your Government*, animated by the best desires of conciliation, would adopt a settlement on the basis of the immediate return of the Virginius and the survivors, *reserving the salute of the flag* to be performed if the Spanish Government do not prove to the satisfaction of the United States before the 25th of December next that the Virginius was not in fact entitled to carry the Spanish flag.
>
> "In reaching these conclusions the initiative was taken by the Spanish Government, and was indicated in a telegram addressed to our representative, *being founded upon the note and yet unanswered note of Mr. Fish to the interlocutor* [illegible] Spain and any complaints of resignation to make be regard of the action of the Virginius, the United States were prepared in that case to apply the provisions of international law.
>
> "The executive power has *confirmed its acceptance of these bases* by an act of a decree the despatch which I am at this moment sending to Mr. POLO."

The truthful story of the change of policy is told in these plain words, which fix it directly upon Mr. Fish by name. And it reveals at the same time why Spain did not keep the "informal agreement" made the night before this note was written with Gen. SICKLES. He had been superseded at the very moment when the original terms were about to be yielded.

When Mr. Fish denied any knowledge of the person with whom the informal agreement was made, he had before him a previous despatch, dated on the 27th of November—two days before the other which he was criticising—covering a note from Mr. CARVAJAL of 25th November, making four propositions, intended to cover generally our demands of the 15th of that month. The principal point of dispute was whether there should be an investigation as to the nationality of the Virginius, or her character should be accepted by an official declaration of the American Minister. It was upon that point that the "informal agreement" had been made, which was to be formally fulfilled the next day, and would have been but for Mr. FISH's intervention. So that the Secretary of State must have known and did know, when he pleaded ignorance about the person who agreed that it was the Minister of Foreign Affairs and could be nobody else.

But there is more evidence to expose this deception, and it now comes under Mr. FISH's own hand, which he will hardly dispute. It is taken from one of his conferences with the Spanish Minister.

MEMORANDUM.

"NOVEMBER 27, 1873.—Admiral POLO called upon Mr. FISH, when the latter read to him a telegraphic despatch, dated 1st evening, received this morning from Gen. SICKLES, some words of which, he stated, are not capable of being intelligibly deciphered, but enough is translated to disclose the general purport of the despatch. It presents *a proposition on the part of the Spanish Government* which Mr. FISH says that the United States cannot accept."

That was the proposition which formed the basis of the subsequent informal agreements. Yet while Mr. FISH tells Mr. ADEE he does not know with whom it was made, he tells Admiral POLO it was "a proposition on the part of the Spanish Government."

This brings us to the telegrams which passed on the closing days of the negotiation, and prepares the way for a better understanding of them. The 26th of November concluded the twelve days allowed after the demand was formulated in Washington. It was for this reason that Mr. CARVAJAL submitted his propositions on the last day, and that Gen. SICKLES, after the "informal agreement," ante-dated his reply to conform to it, though not actually delivered until the morning of the 28th of November. Accordingly, Mr. FISH telegraphed SICKLES in this fashion on the eve of the eventful day:

TELEGRAM.

"DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
"WASHINGTON, Nov. 25, 1873.

"If upon the close of to-morrow no accommodation shall have been reached in the case of the Virginius, you will address to the foreign office a note expressing regret at the delay of the Spanish authorities, and stating that in conformity with instructions from your Government, you were under the necessity of withdrawing from Madrid, for which purpose you will request the usual passport for yourself, your family, and suite.

"If, however, the accommodation desired should be brought about, you will confer with me to-morrow or next day with Admiral Polo, and, unless otherwise directed, abstain from addressing the note referred to.

"Should a proposition be submitted to you to-morrow you will refer it to me, and defer action until it be received upon.

"A telegram to Madrid has been read to me by Admiral Polo which gives reason to hope for a satisfactory accommodation. FISH."

This telegram gives a glimpse of the interior operations at Washington and of an intention to control the result there in disregard of the previous instructions. There was double dealing all through, for while Gen. SICKLES supposed himself intrusted with the whole business and had really approached a creditable solution of the trouble, Mr. FISH was bargaining secretly with Admiral POLO, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Madrid was a party to the duplicity.

During the 27th of November Gen. SICKLES sent four telegrams to Mr. FISH, numbered in the document sent to Congress 66, 67, 68, and 69, which fixes the order of their reception at the Department of State. The first states that at two o'clock that morning President CASTELAR informed him that a note would be sent to the Legation that day recognizing the principles of the demand, and promising to make the required reparation on or before the 25th December, if the Virginius was shown to be a regularly documented American ship. He considered that this proposition was designed to gain time, and suggested that the reparation should be made immediately, upon a declaration on our part of the nationality of the ship.

The second acknowledged Mr. FISH's telegraphic instruction of the 25th, and continued:

> "I have informed the Minister that this proposition has been communicated to you by cable, and that *he has leave to defer a reply to my request for passports until I receive it.*"

The third states that "at half past two this afternoon, half an hour after I had asked for my passports, I received a note dated to-day, from the Minister of State, in which he says," &c. (the four propositions already referred to).

The fourth says that after a careful perusal of the Minister's note he is of the opinion that if within thirty days the authorities in Cuba cannot raise a debatable issue over the papers of the Virginius the ship and prisoners will be released. He calls attention to the fact of the omission of any purpose to punish the officer responsible for the capture, and that the authorities at Santiago may be arraigned before a Cuban tribunal, whose decision would be final.

Not one of these four telegrams was acknowledged that day. The 27th passed also in silence, although a message bearing that date was received on the 28th. In view of this extraordinary neglect, Gen. SICKLES cabled us follows on the 28th:

TELEGRAM.

"MADRID, Nov. 28, 1873.—Am without reply to my telegram to you of 25th. Have reason to assure you that the Government is ready to accede to our demands. Request to announce this result to you this afternoon. SICKLES."

TELEGRAM.

"MADRID, Nov. 28, 1873.—Your plain instruction, dated of yesterday, is just received, as also your cipher telegram of same date.

"In conformity to your instructions of the 25th I have awaited your orders in reply to the proposition communicated to me in the afternoon of the 24th. Assuming that you intend me to act as in the 24th, I propose, unless you shall hear from me to the contrary, to renew my request for my passports at 4 o'clock this day. SICKLES."

Thus driven to the wall, Mr. FISH was obliged to answer, and he resorted to an unblushing perversion of truth to extricate his inferior from silence. The explanation is worse than the offence:

TELEGRAM.

"WASHINGTON, Nov. 28, 1873.—When your despatch of 5 afternoon of 26th was received it was supposed note that *you had left* Madrid, as your informant had stated that minister had left Paris. I believe gave the copy of this Government in a written memorandum to Admiral Polo, the substance of which was that it would not accede to the proposition which allowed 8 days to hold the vessel and survivors. Without waiting for the parole the Minister resigned, thereby relieved us from the necessity of its dismissal by this Government. Admiral Polo informs me this morning that his Government says that negotiations are renewed in Madrid, since which time [illegible] 24th. I also received your telegram of this morning informing that you should reply your passports at 4 o'clock. The supposed negotiations must have occurred in Madrid and not in Paris. FISH."

This short telegram contains two distinct misrepresentations. Let us show them:

1. "When your despatch of 5 afternoon of 26th was received it was supposed here that you had left Madrid, inasmuch as you had requested your passports."

Now the "despatch of 5 afternoon," No. 68, contained only the four propositions, and is followed after No. 69, in which Gen. SICKLES expressly stated "I have informed Minister that this proposition has been communicated to you by cable, and that he is at liberty *to defer a reply to my request for passports until I receive it.*"

2. "Since then I received at this afternoon your telegram of this morning informing me I should renew your passports at 4 o'clock."

When Mr. Fish made this statement he had lying before him Gen. SICKLES's telegram saying, "I *propose*, unless in the while I receive *other instructions*, to renew my request for my passports at 4 o'clock this day."

It requires more than ordinary courage to falsify the record so audaciously, and we can now understand how Mr. FISH came to eat his own words, to swallow every demand and to follow the dictation of the Spanish Minister's counsel, who really prescribed the final terms of degradation.

As we have intimated, during all this time negotiations were going on at Washington, and those behind the scenes predicted that the settlement would be made there and not at Madrid. The sinister and social influences which had always controlled on other occasions, were of course bound to prevail when great international interests were at stake and larger inducements for support could be offered.

Coming down to the famous protocol of the 29th of November, one of the conditions is worthy of notice. Here it is:

> "If, however, before that date [25th of December] Spain should prove to the satisfaction of the Government of the United States that the Virginius was not entitled to carry the flag of the United States, and was carrying it at the time of her capture without right and improperly, the salute will be spontaneously dispensed with, as in such case not being necessarily reparable."

As is seen, this agreement bears date the 29th of November, and ostensibly refers to a future investigation. Now the document on the Virginius shows that this part of the business is a fraud on its face, for a secret and *ex parte* inquisition had been held *before the protocol was signed at all.* And what is surprising, the managers, some of whom are cunning, had not wit enough to conceal the startling discrepancy.

The first witness on this subject shall be our noted District Attorney, who acknowledges a commission from Mr. FISH:

> "DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK, Nov. 24, 1873.
>
> "SIR: I beg to acknowledge the receipt this morning of your favor of yesterday, transmitting a copy of notice given by the Minister Plenipotentiary of Spain that certain witnesses are to be examined to-morrow before Commissioner Guiman, as to the history and ownership of the Virginius. I have also received your despatch of this date directing me to appear and cross-examine the witnesses.
>
> "I will attend to the matter in person and advise you of the result. I have obtained, in accordance with your suggestion, all the information which the Collector of the Port is able to furnish. GEORGE BLISS.
>
> "P.S.—Your second despatch received."

Thus five days before the protocol was signed this step was taken upon the motion of the Spanish Minister. And Mr. FISH did all he could to hurry up the business. He knew that care would be taken to allow no witness to be decoyed into injurious admissions. His business was to have the Virginius convicted, and he had it faithfully done.

The witnesses were at hand ready to do their part, and they were swift enough for all purposes. Here are a few samples that may be exhibited to show what the lot was composed of:

> "Know ye that on the 25th day of November, in the year of our Lord 1873, before me, at my office, No. 29 Nassau street, in the city of New York, appeared as a witness LOWARD GREENWOOD, a mariner, formerly on board the steamer Ada Virginius, *produced by the Consul-General of Spain for the District of New York, in the United States of America, and that I was attended at the same time by SIDNEY WEBSTER, Esq.*, counsellor at law in said city, representing the aforesaid Consul-General of Spain, and by GEORGE BLISS, Esq., Attorney of the United States for the Southern District of New York, attending by the direction of the Secretary of State of the United States," &c.

AMBROSE RAWLINS, another mariner, was produced in the same way on the 25th of November, by and before the same parties.

JOHN FURLONG, another mariner, was produced on the 28th of November.

FRANCIS BOWEN, another mariner, was produced on the 29th of November.

THOMAS E. SHEPPARD, another mariner, was produced on the 28th of November.

Two gentlemen who called themselves "seamen by business," and who made their marks strongly, swore before a notary on the 22d of November.

THOMAS GALLAGHER, another mariner, was produced on the 25th of November.

ADOLFO DE VARONA was produced on the 29th of November.

All these witnesses were "produced," in the language of the Commissioner, by the Consul-General of Spain, or rather by Mr. SIDNEY WEBSTER, who represented the Spanish Government, before the protocol was signed at Washington. Mr. BLISS officiated principally as a spectator, or to ask questions in aid of Mr. WEBSTER's purpose.

No notice was served on the owner of the Virginius, or other parties interested. They were ignored entirely, and the whole proceeding was got up evidently to make a case for the Spanish Government, by which the conditions of the protocol in regard to the salute, the apology and the "signal punishments," would be entirely dispensed with. It was done.

From first to last, Mr. SIDNEY WEBSTER, the son-in-law of the Secretary of State, figures as a principal character in this business, and it is almost impossible to reach any other conclusion than that his influence was potent in changing the policy and abandoning the original demands.

On the 10th of December Admiral POLO went through the forms of submitting this one-sided testimony to the Secretary of State, who in turn, according to their private understanding, declared his satisfaction, and promised to institute proceedings against the Virginius. This means the duty to disclaim any indignity to the flag, as the closing ceremony of this farce, and Admiral POLO made short work of it, and was not secretive either when he said:

> "This result, *which was confidently expected*, practically demonstrates that there was no offence to the American flag, and that no intention to insult it ever could or ever did exist.

The Admiral had paid large fees, and in the hour of his triumph he did not care to mince matters. These are only a few facts extracted from the papers, but they exhibit the Administration in a most deplorable light. If there be another chapter in our diplomatic history so darkened by subterfuge, falsehood, trickery and abandonment of national honor, it has yet to be written. We do not know of one which is so disgraceful in every aspect.

The Accident at the Tunnel.

There is something startling in the occurrence of such a collision as happened near the mouth of the tunnel on the Fourth avenue last Wednesday morning. A New Haven train came crashing into the rear end of a Harlem train. Only one person was badly injured, as most of the passengers had time to hasten into the forward cars. But it might just as easily have happened to a score or more to have been injured, or even killed.

If such an accident can happen once, why is it not liable to happen again? If it can occur at one time, why may it not occur at any time? This is a very pertinent inquiry. It concerns every person who travels on the Harlem, the Hudson River, or the New Haven cars.

It would be well for Mr. W. H. VANDERBILT to let the public know whether his system of management exposes travellers every day to the repetition of this kind of accident. The next one may be more serious in its consequences than the last. If it is a mere matter of chance whether a train is to be run into by one coming up behind it, the travelling public ought to be fully apprised of the risk they incur in stepping into one of VANDERBILT's cars. If proper measures are taken to prevent such an occurrence, then why did they not prevent this one?

Let us have some light on this dark tunnel subject?

The truly good Deacon RICHARD SMITH'S newspaper, the *Cincinnati Gazette*, tells how a woman dealt with her husband's very wicked partners. Her husband was a social, weak-minded fellow, and was led into drunkenness solely by his partners in conviviality, who were intolerably wicked. The wife went one night to a saloon, and found the party at their wicked work. Says the *Gazette*:

> "The woman took no notice of her husband, but boldly walked up to the counter and called for a glass of beer. Turning to the crowd, she said: 'Come, gentlemen, have a drink with me. It seems good for men it certainly ought to be for women,' and, though the crowd were a little startled, none of them, except the husband, were unprepared to accept the invitation. The drink was dispensed of, when the drug clerk ventured a second for the crowd, but made a wry face as she struggled to get through with it. Setting her half emptied glass on the counter, she said: 'I don't believe in beer; what else have you got?' The woman who officiated at the bar enumerated the varieties. 'I believe I'll try rum and cherry,' was the answer, and the crowd willingly helped her to a glass of it. Turning to her husband, meanwhile smiling deprecatory a steely smile, with an effort to show that he thought the affair a good joke. Taking a seat then at one of the dirty tables, she sat down and said: 'Gentlemen, I've got some money here that I have no other use for; let's play a game of seven-up at two dollars a game,' and somebody played with and at the same time instructed her. Then the hour of reckoning came, and that party paid every time, and as often treated the crowd as she lost. Finally her husband was able to stand it no longer. He arose from his seat and ordered her to accompany him home, and arm in arm they started."

Thus, even by a woman, the machinations of wicked partners were turned to good accomplishment. Perhaps Deacon RICHARD SMITH in publishing it meant to warn his own partners against further involving him in their wickedness and bringing his good intentions to bad results. At any rate we hope that the example of this woman may nerve him to shake off his own wicked partners without the aid of anybody and without delay.

The press and people of a locality in which money from the Federal Treasury is expended generally hail the expenditure with approbation, no matter how foolish and unnecessary it may be. The *San Francisco Post*, however, speaking of the appropriation of $30,000 for Fort Point and of $20,000 for Alcatraz Island, says that it will be $50,000 wasted. Notwithstanding the large amounts of money which have been expended on Fort Point and Alcatraz Island neither of them could be depended on if San Francisco were threatened with a powerful fleet. But the man who takes the contract to spend the $50,000 can be depended on to make money out of it.

President GRANT says it is time for the Republican party to unload. True; and the weight which should first be cast off is GRANT himself.

The affairs of the Iowa Agricultural College are about to be investigated by the Legislature of that State. Its President, A. S. WELCH, who was formerly a carpet-bag Senator from Florida, is charged with having been cognizant of the defalcation of the State Treasurer, RANKIN, without making his knowledge public or taking any steps to protect the college from loss. The college itself, like the most of the agricultural colleges which have been established at public expense, appears to be a humbug. It is said that many thousands of dollars received from State appropriations and the Congressional endowment have been misapplied, while the institution does not in any manner fulfil the purpose for which it was intended. Its graduates apparently turn their attention to any occupation rather than that of agriculture. The first class, that of '72, numbering twenty-six, turned out but one farmer, and he was educated for an engineer. The last class, numbering fifteen, has one farmer in prospect—provided the strength of the Granger movement continues sufficient to encourage him to believe the corn field the best field to cultivate in order to reap political preferment. It is thought that the promised investigation will lead to some curious disclosures.

President GRANT, when acting as General of the Army, showed more sagacity than this in selecting the right men for the inner circle, or in placing each man in the right place; and to this fact in no small degree was he indebted for his brilliant success. He must have been equally wise in his civil appointments.—*Independent.*

When Gen. GRANT was commanding armies he had JOHN A. RAWLINS to advise him, and then he was modest and not above taking advice. But ever since he grew conscious of his own greatness, and especially since he became President, he has not been ready to take advice from any one, though he has often followed the notions put into his mind by his boon companions. Hence the difference.

There has been trouble in the Police department of Cincinnati, a city in which thieves have lived in clover for some years past owing to the extent to which the stool pigeon detective system has been carried on. Charges were brought against the Chief of Police, JERRY KIERSTED, to the effect that he had been in league with thieves and gamblers, the result being his dismissal from office and the appointment of a successor. KIERSTED's friends protest that he had no opportunity to present a defence, and that his removal was the result of personal feeling on the part of some of the Police Commissioners. Any sympathy which KIERSTED might have received on this account he took care to render of no avail, however, by making an assault on a newspaper reporter so soon as his fate was decided. Within an hour after his dismissal from office the late Chief of Police was arraigned before a Justice of the Peace as a criminal, and compelled to pay a fine and costs.

The school directors of San Francisco have abolished the teaching of French and German in the public schools, except in six of the highest grade. The reason they give for this action is that there are ten thousand children in the city who receive no primary instruction because there are not funds sufficient to erect suitable edifices to accommodate them, and it is the duty of the directors to supply instruction of primary necessity to these children before giving to the rest instruction not absolutely necessary.

The litigation for the possession of Christ Church, Chicago, an edifice intimately associated with the career of the Rev. Mr. CHENEY, has been brought to a standstill, for the present at least, by the sale of the building on Saturday under foreclosure of a mortgage for $7,500, held by a Mr. VAUGHN of Rhode Island. The price realized was $8,000. The purchaser assumes an older mortgage for $5,000, under which the church was to have been sold on the 23d inst. The counsel of the parties seeking to enjoin Mr. CHENEY from using the church expresses, according to the Chicago *Tribune*, the opinion that this move of the vestry is fraudulent and void in any event, and that it is a flank movement made in the belief that they are certain to be defeated in the pending litigation.

A False Lover to Iowa.

From the Chicago Times.

Mr. STEM is an attorney at law, a graduate of the State University, and resides in Monroe. He was engaged to be married to Miss Catherine Reddington, of Iowa City, but meeting Miss Hettie Martin, of Monroe, he fell violently in love with her, and shortly became engaged to her.

All preparations for his marriage with his second choice were completed, except his release from his engagements with Miss Reddington. He went to Iowa City, and had an interview with her on the subject. The eternal fundification took place in the course, and he backed up his views with a deathe-dealing revolver, and a minister of the gospel and a marriage license, a most interesting session was held, and Stem went out of that house a married man.

But yet he is not happy, for the relations with his father-in-law are unpleasant, and Hettie Martin is looking for him in Monroe, which he goes there after his law books.

A Uniform Registry of Seagoing Vessels.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—Mr. Houghton of California to-day introduced a bill to establish a uniform registry of seagoing vessels, to afford additional protection to life on shipboard, and to govern rebates in duties on merchandise damaged on the voyage of importation. It is proposed to commission a corps of surveyors and Record of Shipping, to have its office in the city of New York, and sub-inspectors at such other ports as may be required for the purpose of surveying vessels as to condition, seaworthiness, and in other respects as to safety to life on the same.

THE NEW CHIEF JUSTICE AND HOW HE GOT IT.

Correspondence of The Sun.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21.—John Sherman is perhaps the only member of the Senate who is entirely satisfied with the appointment of Mr. M. R. Waite as Chief Justice. He may be said to have engineered it so far as any Senatorial influence was permitted. It was through him at least that the mantle of obscurity was lifted from the shoulders of this person when he was sent to Geneva and for the first time brought into any degree of national notice.

The leading Republicans shut their eyes and swallow the nomination as children are compelled to take a bitter dose. They would like to reject it as being inferior to the requirements of the position, but still do not care to precipitate crisis which the President's obstinacy, incompetence, and exactions are daily hastening.

Mr. Morton and others of equal sagacity know that the doom of the Republican party is sealed, and that its dissolution is only a question of a short time. The process of disintegration is going rapidly on, because there is no cohesion of principle, no moral bond of unity, and no earnest purpose to meet the popular demands. The exposures of the past year and the universal belief that the organization is rotten to the core, have provoked a want of confidence that destroys all possibility of recovery. The elections last fall were the beginning of the end.

In this state of things an open quarrel between the President and Congress would soon finish the party. Therefore, the most discreet leaders have yielded much of resentful feeling to keep up the appearance of harmony, however false it may be, and to avoid the responsibility of a rupture which is inevitable sooner or later. They know that any such collision at this time would complete their political ruin in States which, though heretofore radically Republican, have given signs of disaffection, and threaten, upon slight cause, to snap the chains of a galling servitude.

Gen. Grant has come to realize rather unpleasantly that the events of the past few months have entirely extinguished his pretensions for a third term, which a portion of the Republican press urged so indecently last summer, and some of the most conspicuous Senators and Representatives encouraged with favor. That idea no longer finds toleration on the Republican side, except among a few of the sutlers and camp-followers of power, whose principles are embraced in the five loaves and two fishes.

The President is well inclined to punish this revolt against him, which he treats as an act of disloyalty, and would not scruple to smash the whole concern by way of revenge. He thinks that his name and fame saved the party, and therefore that his will, and not that of Congress, ought to be the political law. With a narrow mind, full of low prejudice, no appreciation of his position, no knowledge of public affairs, and no desire to acquire any, it is easy to understand how indifferent he is to the wishes of recognized leaders, and how envy and malice would prompt him to defiance.

Still Gen. Grant is cunning enough to know that it might not be to his interest to invite a war to the bitter end. So he contents himself with resisting quietly all the plans of the chiefs whom he suspects of ambitious designs or of having abandoned his own desires, with refusing to consult them voluntarily, with thwarting their advice when given, and with making appointments that he is sure will be distasteful.

This is the real explanation of much that has recently occurred here, and which the outside public found difficult to penetrate upon any reasonable hypothesis. The scandals that have been brought to light, and the unworthy nominations which have been cast into the face of the Senate, form only one phase of a personal controversy which is every day taking larger proportions from reciprocal resentment, jealousy, and distrust.

The President had no actual acquaintance with Mr. Waite until the reunion of the Army of the Cumberland last fall at Toledo, when he responded to a toast which gave him an opportunity to flatter Gen. Grant in a manner that appears to have fixed itself on the General's memory. For when a suggestion was made as to his fitness for Chief Justice, the President told the Senator who raised it that he "*had heard Mr. Waite make one speech, and he was confident that he must be a great lawyer.*"

There is no unfriendly disposition toward Mr. Waite, so far as he is known. His misfortune is to be on the plane with thousands of other local lawyers, respectable in a small sphere of action, but without merits claim distinction. It is said here that he never appeared but once before the Circuit Court of the United States, which Mr. Justice Swayne has annually held at Cleveland ever since he came to the bench, and yet some of the organs pretend to say that he was engaged in every important case in Northwestern Ohio.

Neither is it true that he was twice or once offered a seat on the Supreme bench of the State of Ohio. That is an invention like the other, intended to fabricate a reputation which does not exist. Such expedients do not help the individual when exposed, but rather depreciate whatever credit he may have justly earned.

The coincidence was remarkable that Mr. Waite should have been nominated for Chief Justice on the anniversary of the day when Mr. Cushing had moved to enroll him in the membership of the bar of that court, before which he had never appeared until he applied for this act of admission. If the venerable Caleb should live as long as he proposes to do this experience will probably warn him not to offer any more candidates, for who knows but other rivals may be waiting their turn to trip up his ancient heels?

AMUSEMENTS.

English Opera.

The second performance of Miss Kellogg's English opera company took place last evening at the Academy. It was much more numerously attended than the first, the house, indeed, being an unusually crowded one, and the enthusiasm in proportion to the number of the audience.

"Martha" is always a popular opera, whether performed in French, German, or Italian, and it lends itself readily to an English version. The performance was an exceedingly creditable one. We do not judge it from the Italian standard, for we have recently had presented here in that language one of the most finished and charming renderings of the opera that could be conceived. But looked at solely upon its own merits and not by comparison, every one would concede the representation to be one full of encouragement for the future of English opera.

Miss Kellogg's representation of *Lady Henriette* is too well known to need added comment. It is a coquettishly graceful and sprightly performance, and never fails to leave the audience in a delighted humor. The same cannot always be said of Miss Kellogg's interpretations of more serious roles. Neither temperament nor training has fitted her for a tragic actress. The lighter realm of comedy is land in which she always appears to the best advantage.

The remaining roles were filled by Mr. and Mrs. Seguin, Mr. Joseph Maas, and Mr. G. E. Hall. It was a pleasure to see Mrs. Seguin again. She lends spirit to every opera in which she is cast, both by the certainty of her singing and the vitality of her acting. There is nothing vague or indeterminate about her voice. Her broad style and clear voice are so well to good advantage in concerted pieces, and wherever there is an opportunity to enliven the scene by a little levity it is always gratuitously and effectively put in. Mr. G. E. Hall appeared to unusually good advantage in the part of *Plunkett*. The *Lionel* was Mr. Joseph Maas's tenor warm this occasion made his best appearance in this city. His voice is of a very delicate quality, having much sweetness and but little resonance or force. He is however, a correct singer, very much of an artist, and gives on the whole a quite satisfactory rendering of the part.

Wallace's "Maritana," a four-act English opera with music written for the words, and not, as in the case of these translated works, with words written for the music, will be presented next evening.

A Meeting of Iron and Steel Consumers.

Boston, Jan. 22.—The consumers of iron and steel rails in the United States held yesterday an informal organization to promote their interests. A committee was appointed which declares that the object of the association is to secure legislation in the interest of the consumers of iron and steel, directly, during the use of money for that purpose. George Baines of Lyngnee was elected President of the association. A resolution was adopted that the association petition Congress to remove the duty on steel and make the import wholly specific, without regard to value.

SUNBEAMS.

—It is now thought that the estate of Scranton & Co., the bankrupt bankers in New Haven, may pay five cents on the dollar.

—The first criminal trial in Mexico by jury has occurred in Tamaulipas. The new law, however, only applies in that one State.

—The Pittsburgh glass manufacturers want to reduce the wages of their employees 20 per cent. The employees claim that the manufacturers are making high profits.

—A California paper, having obtained a new subscriber, records the startling fact in a half-column article, headed "Still Another! Our Course Endorsed by the People."

—Ship building on the Clyde, Scotland, shows an increase in the amount of tonnage and a decrease in the number of vessels. There has been a marked revival in the building of sailing ships.

—A young German Prince, the cousin of Prince Louis of Hesse, recently lunched with Queen Victoria at Osborne. He is in the German naval service, and is a suitor for the hand of the Princess Beatrice, and,