The Sun.

MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1876.

Amusements To-Day.

Academy of Music—Benefit of Thomas.
Booth's Theatre—Henry V.
Bowery Theatre—Waiting for the Verdict.
Brooklyn Theatre—The Mighty Dollar.
Chateau Mabille Varieties—34th st. and 8th av.
Eagle Theatre—Modern School of Acting, &c.
Fifth Avenue Theatre—Pique.
Globe Theatre—Joshua Whitcomb.
Lyceum Theatre—Jack Eyre Sams.
Parisian Varieties—14th st. and Broadway.
Park Theatre—Boss.
San Francisco Minstrels—Variety.
Tony Pastor's Theatre—Variety.
Thirty-fourth Street Theatre—Parisian Ballet.
Theatre Comique—New Attractions.
Tivoli Theatre—Variety.
Union Square Theatre—Ferrell.
Wallack's Theatre—Tears, Idle Tears.

Advertising Rates.

DAILY—[illegible] cents a line, ordinary advertising; large type, 80 cents; and preferred positions, 50 cents to $2.50, according to classification.

WEEKLY.—50 cents a line; no extra charge for large type. Preferred positions from 75 cents to $2.

The regular circulation of THE SUN *for the week ending April 8, 1876, was:*

Sunday	93,138	Weekly	87,086
Monday	135,975	Thursday	136,804
Tuesday	141,341	Friday	135,920
Wednesday	136,396	Saturday	137,733
Total for the week			997,433

Worse.

It appears by the testimony of SILAS REED and L. C. STEPHENS before the Congressional Committee on the Expenditures of the Interior Department that President GRANT, when informed of ORVIL GRANT's speculations out of Government contracts, refused to interfere; in fact, that his conduct was every whit as bad as BELKNAP's, except that he did not share in the plunder. He let his brother have it all, so far as appears.

REED was Surveyor-General of Wyoming Territory. ORVIL GRANT was permitted by him to make a "handsome thing," as it is called—we do not think it is handsome—by speculating in the contracts for surveying. STEPHENS, REED's clerk, gave information of this, and got removed in consequence.

It is very clear now that the Government has been administered by GRANT upon the principle that offices were to be treated as plunder, to be divided among his family and friends. So low, so base, has been the conception, by a President of the United States, of his high official duties!

The evidence in this case is very direct. We trust that the developments will end with the prostitution of public places for the benefit of others, and that we are not to be humiliated by finding that the President put money in his own pocket! The discoveries have been growing worse and worse. We hope they will stop short of open bribery of the President.

Cattell and Robeson.

What GRATZ was to a corrupt Judge in this city, CATTELL has been to ROBESON in Washington. He has figured as the go-between in all the naval jobbery, he arranged the percentage to be paid for favor, he levied the assessments on contracts, and he practised KEMBLE's thieving rule of Addition, Division, and Silence. In fact, he directed the department in everything by which money was to be made, and the public service degraded to serve the purpose of a gang of public plunderers.

In fraudulent claims like that of the steamboat Governor, which Mr. WELLES had branded as an imposture, and which is only a sample of hundreds of others that were allowed by ROBESON, CATTELL was on hand to divide with his confederates. In contracts like those of MATHEWS, he had an extorted percentage for securing the partiality of the department. In the construction of new ships, the repairs of old, and the transfers of material at the navy yards, he was the pivot upon which the machinery turned. No sales could be made without his concurrence. He was made an agent of the Treasury in placing the Syndicate bonds abroad, and the leading bankers knew what his influence was worth to them and to him. He turned up, of course, in the JAY COOKE, MCCULLOCH & Co. business on behalf of ROBESON and himself.

Wherever the Navy appears in the public business in connection with jobs of any kind, there is CATTELL as the master spirit. He has been universally recognized as the representative of ROBESON. He is known to be one of the very few and the most powerful of the men who constitute the Navy Ring. When the enormous frauds are considered, and the barefaced plunder of the Treasury is proved beyond all doubt, the relations of these parties become important, and lead to but one possible conclusion.

It will perhaps be difficult to prove that CATTELL turned over to ROBESON, in dollars and cents, his share of these rich spoils. Both were too shrewd to pass checks or drafts that could be traced. Indeed, all these transactions in their wide extent manifest a watchful care and a sharp lawyer's concern to guard against detection, which might send somebody to the penitentiary. Still the fact remains unexplained and incapable of any satisfactory explanation, that this one man, who admitted being a partner with ROBESON in real estate speculations at Washington, controlled the great patronage of the Navy, hawked it about, and sold it to the highest bidder. Does anybody believe, who knows that ROBESON went to Washington out at the elbows and glad to get the salary, and has lived there on the fat of the land for over six years, receiving the pay of $8,000 to $10,000 a year and spending $50,000, while he has purchased valuable property and loaned money out at interest, did not share in the plunder with his friend CATTELL?

In ROBESON's letter to CLEWS, explaining why JAY COOKE's concern was substituted for the BARINGS, he admits that political reasons determined the choice, because the combination of banks and railroads, with which the COOKES were connected, controlled Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and other States. Subsequently, and after their rottenness was exposed, he recklessly used the public money to prop them up, and of his improper advance three-quarters of a million is yet unpaid. A member of the Cabinet who would thus prostitute his trust and deliberately put his hand in the Treasury to aid a bankrupt firm of speculators, would not hesitate at any other crime like those charged against him. It is true ROBESON has been sustained by GRANT in these misdeeds, but that fact in no way diminishes his responsibility, or excuses his complicity with CATTELL.

Perjury, flight of witnesses, hiding of books, and destruction of papers, are believed to have been freely used as expedients to cover up this rascality and to conceal the profits derived from official robbery. But, notwithstanding these criminal resorts, there is still evidence enough left to fasten guilt on ROBESON and to demand his impeachment and degradation from office, and perhaps to send some of his intimates to crack stone in a striped suit for ten or twenty years.

Babcock's Latest Infamy.

The additional testimony given before the committee investigating the safe burglary conspiracy, which we print this morning, cannot fail to satisfy every candid reader of BABCOCK's complicity in that most infamous plot. The purpose of this plot was to ruin one of the leading citizens of Washington, because he had been active in urging Congress to investigate the frauds perpetrated by the District Ring. From the first, BABCOCK was one of the principal members of that combination. He aided it by certifying to fraudulent measurements and false vouchers, and got rich while connected with it. This has long been known, and few who have watched his career for the last seven years can be astonished at the proof now brought forward, that he was a party to the conspiracy against Mr. ALEXANDER.

If the testimony of WHITLEY, who was the chief manager of the burglary, was unsupported by corroborative evidence, it might justly be regarded with suspicion; but before the committee that witness told a very straight story, which, in all respects, was confirmed by the evidence taken in the trial of HARRINGTON, so far as that went, and likewise by that of NETTLESHIP, who was WHITLEY's principal assistant in the secret service, and by other witnesses who were acquainted with all the facts. It is preposterous to suppose that WHITLEY, while telling the truth in regard to all other features of the case, should, without any conceivable reason for doing so, go out of his way to lie about BABCOCK, who had always befriended him.

But there is direct evidence against BABCOCK, aside from the declarations of WHITLEY. NETTLESHIP testifies that on one occasion, while he was in Washington engaged in working up the bogus burglary, WHITLEY wished him to call upon BABCOCK, but he declined, saying, in detective slang, that "he did not want to make connections with too many people." He also testifies that on another occasion, in New York, when he had expressed apprehensions of getting into difficulty in consequence of the conspiracy, WHITLEY reassured him by saying that "HARRINGTON is Assistant District Attorney; we have got them all right in the Treasury Department; you know I have got WILLIAMS so that he will do anything I want him to; BABCOCK is in the White House; the President is a great friend of Boss SHEPHERD's, and we can do just as we please." Everybody knows how effectively all the persons named exerted their influence for the protection of the conspirators when HARRINGTON and his confederates were on trial. A still more important corroboration of WHITLEY's testimony is found in a letter from A. B. NEWCOMB, who is now a detective employed by Attorney-General PIERREPONT, written and sent to the witness when the latter was in Colorado, which was put in evidence. In this letter, NEWCOMB, who certainly had no object for misrepresentation, said that he had just had an interview with BABCOCK, who expressed a great deal of solicitude about WHITLEY's health, and hoped that as long as he continued to improve he would remain where he was. "He wants me to keep him posted as to your movements," writes NEWCOMB, "and especially urges you, in case of trouble, to get out of the way." This agrees perfectly with WHITLEY's testimony that BABCOCK urged him to go to southern Colorado, which was not far from the border of Mexico, so that if anything happened he could easily get across and be out of the reach of a subpœna.

Of course BABCOCK denies that he had any hand in the atrocious conspiracy under investigation; but his explanation that the job he referred to in his interviews with WHITLEY was merely that of dogging THE SUN correspondent, and other newspaper writers, is flimsy enough when viewed in the light of the evidence, and of the notorious exercise of White House influence to secure the acquittal of HARRINGTON when the latter was on trial. At present there seems to be no doubt that BABCOCK, besides having been an active member of the Whiskey Ring, and an officer who certified to false measurements and vouchers for the purpose of defrauding the Treasury, was likewise one of the principals in the conspiracy of professional thieves and other rascals to convict an innocent man of the crime of burglary.

Who Shall be Minister to England?

There are several candidates suggested, nearly all of whom have at least the one qualification of being men of personal pride and high personal character. BEN BUTLER puts up WENDELL PHILLIPS. Now, while Mr. PHILLIPS would scorn an Emma Mine proposition and administer the affairs of the English mission with scrupulous regard for his personal honor, he is the last man in the country to pick out for the place. He is not an intellectually safe man, and has a chronic tendency to ride hobbies. His judgment is not to be trusted, and he looks at all questions not as a statesman but as an agitator and an orator who is fond of dramatic effects. Though a man against whose private character nothing can truthfully be alleged, a brilliant speaker and an earnest champion of the ideas that happen to take his fancy, Mr. PHILLIPS is not the man for Minister to England.

Another candidate suggested in many quarters is Mr. HENRY W. LONGFELLOW, the poet. It is not at all probable that Mr. LONGFELLOW would take the mission if it was offered him. His tastes are not for public life, nor is either his training or his natural ability such as to fit him for the duties of the most important diplomatic place in our civil service. Something more than elegant culture and a gentle poetic faculty is needed at London. A knowledge of international law and of the commercial intercourse between the two peoples is a prime requisite in a Minister to England. No one pretends that Mr. LONGFELLOW has this, or that he has the taste or aptitude to take up the study at his time of life. He is not the man for Minister to England.

President THEODORE D. WOOLSEY is thoroughly fitted for the post by his knowledge of international law and his interest in the higher sort of political questions. He is a man so spotless in character and of such varied attainments that he could not fail to honorably and efficiently represent his country at the Court of St. James's. But, one candidate having been taken from New England and rejected by the Senate in a way disgraceful to the Senators, perhaps it would be wisest to look for the Minister to England in other quarters of the country.

The true place in which to seek the most fitting Minister is New York. It is easy to find here a suitable man for the place, and one widely known and honored at home, and of high reputation abroad. Mr. EDWIN W. STOUGHTON would undoubtedly be the favorite of GRANT for the place. He did GRANT a service when he bolstered up his Louisiana oppression, and, like all new converts, he is a zealous advocate of Grantism. He is a charming, handsome, gracious and diplomatic man, and would cut a fine figure at London socially, while his unquestioned legal abilities would make him a Minister whom the British Government would soon learn to regard. Perhaps, however, the copperish taste of his political opinions during the war might be offensive to the sensitive CAMERON, and lead to his rejection by the Senate. But Mr. STOUGHTON is not the only lawyer equal to the place. The Hon. WILLIAM M. EVARTS is not only his equal, but his superior as a lawyer. He has an extensive professional reputation, and is well informed as to the questions likely to arise between us and England. He is also endowed with genius for society, is rich and liberal, and would raise our embassy at London to a level with the most esteemed at that great capital. The people of this country, without regard to party, would be delighted with such a representative at VICTORIA's court. It is true Mr. EVARTS has not of late been a follower of GRANTISM; but neither was Mr. DANA. GRANT is in bad straits and needs to pick out the best man he can find to save his and our drowning reputations.

Mr. EVARTS's young and brilliant law partner, Mr. JOSEPH H. CHOATE, might also do for Minister. He is a man of multiform accomplishments, a graceful orator, and a handsome man, just approaching middle life. But he is President of the Union League Club, and has, of late, been active in the opposition to Senator ROSCOE CONKLING. This probably would prevent Mr. CHOATE's appointment to England unless Mr. CONKLING should perceive that it might be better to have him in a foreign country.

Our popular Senator would certainly be ready to give his full support to the nomination of Gov. E. D. MORGAN. The Governor, by reason of his great commercial transactions, added to his long and wide experience in public affairs, is well fitted for Minister to England. Our relations with that country are chiefly commercial, and it would be altogether fitting to put in the place of the Ambassador to London a merchant of the highest class and largest ability, like Gov. MORGAN. He is in his personal presence a man to command attention wherever he may go—a strong, impressive, and self-reliant individuality. Gov. MORGAN would make a powerful Minister to England.

Gen. JOHN A. DIX is also a strong candidate for the place. There is no one in the country who has had such varied experience of public office as he, and it would be hard to find among our public men a gentleman of his scholarship and classical and historical acquirements. Gov. DIX would command admiration in London, as he did in Paris, where he was a special favorite with the Empress EUGENIE.

But perhaps, looking the list through, the man of all most likely, after Mr. STOUGHTON, to get the nomination, is Gov. MORGAN, since he would have the powerful support of Senator CONKLING, GRANT's first choice for the nomination at Cincinnati.

The Proposed Debased Coinage.

The views we have recently expressed in regard to issuing a debased silver coinage in the place of our fractional paper currency, receive striking confirmation by recent discussions in Europe.

The question of issuing more silver currency in France, at the present valuation of that metal, has just been brought up in the French Senate. In the debate which followed, we find a complete concurrence with the views we have expressed. It was maintained that, "in the present state of the silver market, it would be wrong for France to coin any silver at all;" and it was further proposed that the example of Switzerland be followed. That country had declined to coin silver in 1875, on the ground that "it was dishonest to put a depreciated currency in circulation."

Since, by a fortunate accident, we are well out of this silver complication, in which all specie-paying nations are to a greater or less degree involved, we ought to know enough to keep out. Perhaps, if Congress is indisposed to pay heed to the argument in the case, it may yet be willing to take some note of the action of high authorities in Europe on the subject. We commend the suggestions here referred to, to the consideration of both branches of that illustrious body.

How Babcock Raised the Wind.

ZACH CHANDLER is a millionaire several times over, and knows where to put his money so that it will do the most good. He was elected three times to the Senate, and only failed for the fourth term through an accident, and not from any want of liberality on his part. He never spares the thousands when a personal or a political point is to be carried, but he always sees that the officeholders, contractors, Rings, post traders, and other patriots, pay their share to the last dime before he contributes his portion of the fund.

CHANDLER swore the other day that he gave a check for $1,000 to Gen. BABCOCK to help cover the expenses of his trial at St. Louis, which he had been assured by Mr. BORIE of Philadelphia, GRANT's first Secretary of the Navy and sponsor for ROBESON's appointment, aggregated $40,000 in round numbers. That was a very large sum for an "innocent man" to pay. In fact innocence is rather an expensive virtue in these days, for it cost HARRINGTON, one of BABCOCK's cronies, some $30,000 to keep out of the penitentiary in the safe burglary conspiracy, of which he was one of the chiefs.

It appears BORIE wrote to CHANDLER that BABCOCK had been "utterly ruined" pecuniarily by the trial, and required assistance to set him upon his feet again. If Mr. BORIE will consult the records at Washington, he will find that BABCOCK's real estate operations with Boss SHEPHERD, and his dealings with other Ring chiefs, have made him rich, independent of the coupon bonds which have been carefully put out of view, and stocks conveniently held in other names for his benefit.

It is not improbable there will be new demands on the purses of these patriotic partisans before long, as BABCOCK may require another vindication, and this time at the hands of a Washington jury, for his connection with the safe burglary villainy. He was always supposed to be criminated in that diabolical plot, which was intended for the benefit of his confederates; but the proofs could not be reached, until some of the conspirators concluded to let out the bottom facts in order to save themselves. Justice has been slow in its stern march, but it is at last likely to overtake the wretches who deliberately concocted a conspiracy that has had no parallel in our civilization.

It might be well to inquire whether other members of the Cabinet were as liberal as CHANDLER. Everybody knows Mr. FISH is rich, Mr. JEWELL is rich, Mr. PIERREPONT is rich, and SECOR ROBESON has the Navy appropriations to draw upon for emergencies. They are among the most loyal worshippers of GRANT, and would not be likely to stand back when CHANDLER went forward. Mr. BRISTOW, we may presume, was not pressed for a subscription, and BELKNAP escaped an assessment on account of being a victim of public prejudice just at present. Still, there were five members to help BABCOCK's last speculation, and he doubtless booked them for $1,000 a head, which was not bad in these hard times.

One of the most beautiful things in the world will be the enthusiasm of JOHN COCHRANE, REUBEN E. FENTON, and the old Liberal Republicans generally in shouting for ROSCOE CONKLING and voting for him, too, when he is the regular candidate of their party for President. But will WALDO HUTCHINS be counted in? It is not certain?

The report is authoritatively contradicted that in executive session the other day Senator CONKLING was one of those who voted against the confirmation of Mr. RICHARD H. DANA as Minister to England. Instead of voting against Mr. DANA, Mr. CONKLING was one of the Senators who voted for him. There is, then, no reason growing out of this affair why the delegation of Massachusetts in the Cincinnati Convention should refuse to vote for Mr. CONKLING as the Republican candidate for President.

We trust that District Attorney WELLS may be afforded an opportunity to explain before the Congressional committee, which is investigating the safe-burglary conspiracy, his reasons for neglecting to prosecute the leaders in that infamous plot, when he had ample evidence of their guilt. It has been surmised that his purpose was to prevent any action by the Grand Jury until the conspirators were placed beyond the reach of punishment by the statute of limitations, and it must be confessed that his attitude has that appearance. There can be no doubt that Mr. WELLS has for a long time had sufficient proofs in his possession to convict the guilty parties. On March 18, ALBERT CUNZ, one of the witnesses who has since testified before the committee, wrote a letter from this city to Mr. WELLS which has some significant allusions. It was called out by a despatch which appeared in THE SUN, and from it we quote the following:

"Now, to the best of my recollection, the Judiciary Committee were directed to make their investigation *nearly a month after I had made my statement to you*; and that statement was not proffered to you, nor even made of my own free will and accord, but only when it was compulsory for me to appear before you; when I had to choose between obeying your subpœna and disregarding it. I have also given you the substance of my last conversation with HARRINGTON, which occurred many months ago, when he complained of the expense of keeping BENTON, the burglar, under cover, and of feeding several other leeches."

From this it appears that nearly two months ago WELLS was in the possession of the most conclusive evidence against the conspirators, and also knew that HARRINGTON was keeping in hiding the notorious burglar, BENTON, who was released from the District jail on straw bail, to prevent his telling what he knew about the plot. And yet no steps were taken to prosecute any of the conspirators until Mr. COLUMBUS ALEXANDER succeeded in getting a hearing before the Grand Jury, some of whom promised to look into the matter, without regard to the wishes of the District Attorney.

What strength is Brother BLAINE going to show at the Cincinnati Convention? What State, except Maine, sends a delegation that will give him its votes? Not one, we fear. The contest will all be between CONKLING and MORTON, with a rather poor chance for MORTON at that. His lower limbs are weak, and CONKLING's legs are splendid; but, as for BLAINE, he might as well have no legs at all so far as that race is concerned. As a Western politician expresses it, "at Cincinnati BLAINE's hide will be sent to the tan yard."

Mr. J. D. WORMALD, writer to the *Signet*, was sentenced yesterday at the High Court of Justiciary, Edinburgh, to five years' penal servitude for the misappropriation of money received by him in trust.—*London Standard.*

How thankful HENRY NICOLL and WILLIAM C. BARRETT should be that they did not make Scotland the scene of their frauds and embezzlements. But then Scotland does not possess a Bar Association.

Our fleet should receive him in the lower bay, our President should welcome him to our shores, and the military should escort him to his home in New York. That plain duty discharged, Dom PEDRO should be left to the freedom and seclusion he so modestly and prudently desires.—*Herald.*

They should do nothing of the sort, Mr. BENNETT. The Emperor of Brazil expressly asks that no official reception be given him on landing, and that he be suffered to proceed to his hotel like any other traveller. When a journeying monarch makes such a request, good breeding as well as precedent, requires that it be respected.

The Cincinnati *Enquirer* reports that on Wednesday, the 5th inst., Deacon RICHARD SMITH was in bad company, and we notice with satisfaction that the Cincinnati *Commercial* at once scouts this imputation, maintaining anew and with unaffected zeal that Deacon RICHARD SMITH is a truly good man, and never frequents company of that sort. Nothing is more lovely than to see one journalist of renown rising spontaneously in defence of another who is unjustly assailed.

It will be an outrage upon the people if BABCOCK is permitted to resign his numerous civil offices before a searching examination is made of his accounts as Engineer in Charge of Public Grounds and Buildings, and as Superintendent of the new War and Navy Department building. But he should be suspended at once, and not another dollar of the public money should be allowed to pass through his hands.

On Sunday mornings the time occupied in issuing the paper [the *Herald*] is necessarily somewhat longer, owing to the increased demand for copies. It can readily be understood that the work performed in getting out on the street over 130,000 papers in such a short space of time must tax the energy of the men engaged in it.—*Herald.*

The above intimates that the circulation of the *Herald* yesterday was 130,000 copies. If this is the fact, we congratulate Mr. BENNETT on the prosperity of his paper. The trouble, however, is that he does not conspicuously and exactly publish the circulation of the *Herald*, after our fashion, but only by implication, as above, and in the course of a long article, leaving us to infer that it was 130,000 on Sunday. If the *Herald* has so vast a circulation, Mr. BENNETT would gain by publishing it just as it is, as we do ours. We again urge him to follow our plan of printing weekly a bulletin of the exact circulation of the *Herald* for every day of the week.

Mr. C. E. BISHOP, editor of the Buffalo *Express*, has resigned his office, because he was required by the proprietors of the paper to turn it against CONKLING and make it a BLAINE organ. Such a somersault, Mr. BISHOP says, would be suicidal, the State Convention being passed, and the delegates to Cincinnati chosen. Mr. BISHOP is universally regarded as a man of good judgment.

Why did Dom PEDRO II. telegraph that he wished no reception at New York, but to land and proceed to his hotel like a private gentleman? Probably because he had heard of the plan for the grand reception by JAY GOULD and his stool pigeon, as the exponents of our finance, culture, and high society. But the young editor and the Lotos Club need not despair. When once the Emperor is safely on our shores, they may by adroit management succeed in enticing him to endure that oration. Let the young editor not desist, but go on with its construction in his intervals of meditation. JAY GOULD must spare him for a few days from stock-jobbing work for this imperial duty.

Old BEN WADE of Ohio is for Senator MORTON as his candidate for President. Thus, the most influential politicians in the Republican party are gradually ranging themselves either under the flag of MORTON or that of CONKLING. Brother BLAINE is not mentioned by men of this calibre. He is too young to be President.

It is alleged in the Cincinnati papers, that while Mr. BRISTOW was in that patriotic city last week, he had Mr. HENRY WATTERSON and Mr. MURAT HALSTEAD to dinner; and we laud his taste. A more agreeable dinner party could not possibly be got together than one composed of BRISTOW, HALSTEAD, and WATTERSON. We deeply regret, however, that another distinguished editor and energetic admirer of the Kentucky statesman, was not present on this charming occasion; and we regret this the more keenly because he would have supplied an element of moral excellence which would have rendered the banquet altogether perfect. We refer, of course, to Deacon RICHARD SMITH. Had he been there, true goodness would have gradually inspired and permeated the wit, the cordial good fellowship, the vigorous intellect, and the manly beauty assembled around BRISTOW's hospitable board. Why, ah, why, did he not invite this truly good man? He would have said grace for them—a ceremony which, we fear, was altogether omitted.

The House Judiciary Committee in its investigations into the safe burglary conspiracy should not omit to inquire into the connection which the United States District Attorney's office in Newark had with that infamous plot. There is a Federal Ring in Newark which is one of the most pestilent little nests of corruption in existence.

So they say BEECHER triumphed again in the ministerial conference of last week in Brooklyn; but the result of it was that the ablest and most respected ministers of the denomination withdrew from the association. In this way it goes on. BEECHER triumphs every time, but at last there will nobody be left in his denomination except HENRY WARD BEECHER, the licentious and perjured preacher.

Men who Know All About the Half-Breed Scrip Frauds in Minnesota.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* If the House committee now investigating the matter of fraud in the issue of half-breed scrip to parties in this State will summon the Hon. Willis Drummond, late Commissioner of the General Land Office, and Col. C. D. Kerr of St. Paul, Minn., they will obtain evidence of "crookedness" that will satisfy them. R. F. Crowell, now in the Treasury Department, who went to Washington as the private secretary of ex-Senator Ramsey, is also believed to know a good deal about the rascally business.

The Saint Cloud Land Office in this State was the scene of most of the half-breed scrip frauds. In 1869 one C. A. Gilman was appointed to that office in consideration of his vote for Senator Ramsey. He was forced by Commissioner Drummond to resign on account of those very frauds, but was allowed, at Ramsey's request, to dictate his successor, H. L. Gordon, who is said to have boasted that during his incumbency of the office he obtained the ownership of pine lands on which there stood over one hundred million feet of pine timber. Harry Burbank of St. Paul, Minn., who was for a time receiver of the office, would likewise be a witness full of information. LEX.

ST. PAUL, Minn., March 31, 1876.

Imitating his Great Exemplar.

From the Cincinnati Commercial.

ST. LOUIS, April 5.—There is dissatisfaction here over the fact that Judge John F. Long, surveyor of Customs, has followed the policy of our illustrious President, by providing his relatives with some sinecures in and around the Custom House, thereby displacing better Republicans. Long was always a Democrat, but has lived for years alongside the Dent family, and when Grant was nominated Long voted for him. Two years ago the President appointed Long to his present position, displacing for that purpose E. W. Fox, who has of late received unenviable notoriety for having furnished Babcock's counsel with the evidence adduced before the Grand Jury, of which he was foreman, whereby they were enabled to prepare for trial.

The following are the positions now held by the Long family:

John F. Long, Surveyor of Customs and disburser for the new Custom House, in process of erection.
J. Fielding Long, son of preceding, United States Weigher and Time Keeper new Custom House.
Wm. P. Long, son, bookkeeper, United States Sub-Treasury.
Wm. H. Long, nephew, Inspector of Customs.
Sanford Long, brother, Foreman of Inspection Appraisers.
Henry C. Wright, brother-in-law, Superintendent of Letter Carriers.
H. C. Wright, cousin, United States Appraiser.
M. A. Sawyer, son-in-law, Messenger, United States Custom House.
—— Werner, nephew, Assistant Appraiser of Customs.
H. Clay Egbert, grandson, Clerk at Custom House.

The fact that these office holders are, or until recently were, Democratic in their sympathies and affiliations, is not calculated to improve the temper of the Administration supporters who just now happen to be on the outside. Their comment on the situation is, sure enough, very bitter, very wicked, and if it were to appear in print would be quite shocking.

A Western Statesman Loses His Library.

From the Des Moines Register.

Henry Clay Dean arrived in Des Moines on March 28, and for the first time heard of the destruction of his residence by fire. Nothing was saved. The house was about forty feet square, built with great care, and cost about $5,000. But the greatest loss Mr. Dean sustains is in the destruction of his valuable library. This consisted of 4,000 volumes. There was not a trashy book among them. There were 150 biographical dictionaries; complete sets of "Niles's Register," "Gales & Seaton's Debates," "Congressional Globe," and "Hamilton's Republic." There was a copy of "Shay's Rebellion," that had formerly been the property of Samuel Adams. One hundred dollars worth of new books were received into the house just before the conflagration took place. There were 200 volumes of church history, and innumerable volumes of classics.

A still more serious loss than all of these works, in Mr. Dean's opinion, are some of his own manuscript works, almost ready for the printer. The most prized among them was a poem illustrating the legends of the mountain region of Virginia, and the second volume of his "History of the Criminals of the Civil War." All of Mr. Dean's correspondence, dating four years back, and including letters from Clay, Webster, Calhoun, and nearly all the statesmen that were prominent thirty-five years since, is now in ashes.

Grant Bothered about Bristow.

From the Boston Post.

Publications predicting the early resignation of Secretary Bristow are believed to be based upon the fact that the President showed great feeling at a statement in certain papers that Henderson had testified that Bristow had written him letters reflecting on the President. The President sent for Solicitor Wilson to ascertain the truth. Wilson saw Henderson, who denied the statement in toto, saying that he had never received any such letters from Bristow, and that he had not testified that he had. This assurance Mr. Wilson conveyed to the President to-day, whereupon he was instructed by the President to telegraph Gen. Bristow that he should not allow himself to be disturbed by reports of the President's dissatisfaction on this account, but should remain in Kentucky in tranquillity till he got ready to return.

An Independent Democrat for Judge Davis.

From the Cincinnati Enquirer.

Judge David Davis of Illinois is not exactly a favorite son, but things may work around in his favor. The Judge has the merit of being a Western man. He is somewhat of the people, though eminently judicial in character and pursuits. The Judge, on a good platform, would be a very formidable candidate for the Presidency.

Smith & Girvan's Case.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In connection with the recent suspension of the National Bank of the State of New York, the name of our firm has been freely placed before the public by those who have no special interest in our good name. The transactions of our firm with the bank have extended over several years, have been large, and it has received property from us of much greater amount and value than the loans. It has been alleged in published statements that our firm has received large loans on stock of the United States Attrition Company, Limited, and the New York City Attrition Mill Company. This is a mistake. These stocks represented a large value, and were merely placed with the bank as further collateral.

In all the circumstances of the case it is due to our friends and to ourselves to say that whether any loss will be sustained by any interested in our affairs depends on the judicious action of the holders of our property. SMITH & GIRVAN.

76 BROAD STREET, April 8.

On Thursday evening next, at Chickering Hall, Mr. GEO. WILLIAM CURTIS will deliver a lecture upon "Women in the Old Time and the New." This is the only appearance of Mr. CURTIS as a lecturer in this city during the present season, and the proceeds of the entertainment are for the benefit of the art department of the approaching fair of the Young Women's Christian Association.

THE GREAT CONSPIRACY.

A Tale of Slouched Hats. Mysterious Movements, and Dark Intrigue.

I.

Dawn was just breaking as a mysterious individual with a black carpet bag emerged from the Grand Central Depot and looked thoughtfully up and down Forty second street. To the east he saw in the uncertain light the retreating form of a policeman. To the west he heard the rattle of a milkman's wagon. "Oh! I am observed," he whispered, through his clenched teeth. Then turning up the collar of his ulster and pulling his slouched hat well over his face, he started at a rapid gait down through the tunnel. What was in the black carpet bag? Ah, there are mysteries of which we must not even speak!

II.

The sun was quite high in the heavens and was bathing the chimneys and cobble stones of Jersey City with rosy light when three men jumped from an incoming train that was rapidly approaching the Pennsylvania Railroad station. Two slighted simultaneously upon their hands and knees, while the third found himself sitting uneasily upon the ragged edge of a curbstone. Although the contusions inflicted by contact with the cruel pavement were severe, no cry of pain escaped their lips, and no sign of recognition passed between them. They scrambled to their feet and peered anxiously in every direction. In the distance a dray was rumbling along with a load of empty lager beer kegs.

"Hist! We are observed," exclaimed one, in a tone inaudible except to his companions.

"Observed! aha!" whispered back the other two. The first darted behind a lamppost. The second crouched in the shadow of an ash barrel. The third sauntered carelessly along, humming an air. The dray passed out of sight and the danger was over.

Again the three came together and hastily conferred. "Is it still safe?" whispered one, eagerly.

"Are you sure," gasped the second—"sure that you have it?"

The third tapped with his hand the right inner breast pocket of his ulster. "It is still there," he said, in a low, significant whisper, "and safe!"

The three cast meaning glances, each at the others. Then, with a strange, unearthly laugh, they separated.

III.

One of these mysterious persons, his face concealed by his slouched hat, and his form muffled in a gray shawl, walked boldly through the streets, and by means of a detour through Staten Island, East New York, Williamsburgh, and Hunter's Point, reached the city without exciting suspicion. Another came by the way of Hoboken, Spuyten Duyvel, and Harlem. The third, bribing a Jersey gardener, who was bringing a load to market, penetrated to the heart of the city concealed in a mass of early vegetables.

IV.

That very night four men stood together in the centre of a retired apartment in a first-class hotel. There was no need now for mystery, for concealment, for disguise, for stealth. Every man knew that the hearts of the others were true. The long ulsters were piled upon a sofa, slouched hats were on the floor. The black carpet bag was on the table. As they stood together in the middle of the room, hands clasped across and across, a holy enthusiasm shone from every countenance, and the combined holy enthusiasm of the four quite dimmed the light of the gas burners above the group.

Then there came a knock upon the door, loud, stern, and abrupt. "Hush!" exclaimed the four, "we must dissemble."

And they all dissembled. In an instant the glow of holy enthusiasm was gone from every face. But it was only a boy with a pitcher of ice water.

When he had departed, the conspirators secured themselves against further intrusion by moving a heavy wardrobe against the door. Holy enthusiasm again lit every countenance.

"Shall we do it?" at length asked one who was standing in deep thought a little apart. "The country must be saved."

"The country must be saved!" echoed his three companions, and every man placed his forefinger alongside his nose and winked—solemnly, significantly, mysteriously winked. "The country must be saved!"

"And I submit," added one excitedly, "I submit and maintain that Charles Francis—"

"Bowles, be calm!" whispered another. "You need the full command of every nerve."

"Let us hear from Halstead," said a third. "He has over two hundred valuable ideas on the subject."

"I have," said Halstead; "and I will proceed to—"

"Let that be anon," urged the first speaker. "This is a time for action, not for Halstead's two hundred valuable ideas. The question now is, shall we do it?"

"We shall! We shall!" came from every lip.

At last they had committed themselves. Again they clasped hands in silence. All felt the solemnity of the moment. What though four hearts thumped loudly just then? Was emotion discreditable at such a crisis?

Perhaps they gained courage from each other's eyes. Finally spoke one: "If done, it must be done at once."

"It must be done at once!" repeated the others firmly.

"Then," said the senior of the group, "Produce the paraphernalia, Samuel."

And the rest echoed, "Samuel, produce the paraphernalia!"

From his black carpet bag the gentleman addressed as Samuel drew forth a bundle of *Springfield Republicans*, a clean collar, a package of rutabaga seeds from the Agricultural Bureau, a paper collar slightly crumpled, an ambrotype of Charles Francis Adams, another collar of linen, and a bottle of hair dye. These he threw carelessly aside except the last, which he replaced with rather nervous haste. Then from the bottom of the bag he produced fifty-two cards with ivory counters, red, white, and yellow.

"Ha!" he whispered hoarsely, "red is the color of blood, white the hue of death, and yellow the shade of biliousness. Watterson, hast thou done thy part?"

"I haste," said Watterson, and from the pocket of his ulster, while his fellow conspirators stood in breathless silence, he brought forth a mysterious black bottle bearing across its flat side this cabalistic legend:

BOURBON COUNTY—1858.

"The country shall be saved," he said resolutely, "if it takes every drop in the bottle!"

V.

Then, placing the fifty-two cards, the chips, red, white, and yellow, and the mysterious bottle upon the table, the conspirators drew their chairs close together, and conspired far into the small hours of the night.

How Grantism Plunders the People.

From the Westliche Post.

The band is well arranged. Wherever three or four scoundrels were gathered together in Grant's name, there he was in the midst of them, in the person of a brother, brother-in-law, cousin, or friend. No Custom House or Whiskey Ring could divide its plunder without the devil being present to cry "Halves!" The ubiquitous Asmodeus, as Porter in New York, or as Casey in New Orleans, filled his fathomless pockets, and wherever the White House cast its shadow a brother Orville or a brother-in-law Dent came forth out of it with extended palms. If Shepherd and Babcock could make their hundreds of thousands out of the District Ring, and Belknap scarcely less out of a single department, how shall we estimate the probable total sum ground out of the toiling citizens and taxpayers of the country during eight long years by the well-organized band created by that nepotism of the White House which has thrown the chief patronage of the Administration into their dirty hands?

Paying Well for his Ticket.

From the Cincinnati Gazette.

Edwin Adams took a benefit on the 31st ultimo at the Olympic Theatre, St. Louis. Mr. John McCullough sent the following telegraphic despatch, which tells its own story of kindness:

SAN FRANCISCO, March 30, 1876.

Chas. P. Warner, Southern Hotel:

Buy one ticket for Adams's benefit; pay $500 for it, and draw on me for the amount.

JOHN MCCULLOUGH.

The lungs are strained and racked by a persistent cough, the general strength wasted, and an incurable complaint often established thereby. Dr. Jayne's Expectorant is an effective remedy for coughs and colds, and exerts a beneficial effect on the pulmonary and bronchial organs.—Adv.

SUNBEAMS.

—Australia exported in 1875, gold dust to the amount of $15,880,525.

—Secret societies are being organized by the Chinese throughout Nevada.

—One thousand men will be employed in the Consolidated Virginia mine this summer.

—The site on which Cincinnati is built was sold for less than fifty silver dollars in 1787.

—There are 60,000 Sunday schools in the United States, with 600,000 teachers, and 5,000,000 pupils.

—London has now 100 roller-skating rinks, one of which cost for ground and building $400,000.

—Half the amount required for the preliminary experiments on the submarine tunnel between England and France—4,000,000 francs—has been subscribed in Paris.

—In some parts of Australia the wild horses have increased to such an extent and do so much damage that the settlers have to shoot them as they do wild beasts.

—Among the treasures recently brought to light in Pompeii is a silver altar, on which were placed two silver cups and