NEW YORK HERALD.

New York, Friday, April 5, 1844.

City Elections—The Plot Thickens.

Every day—every hour gives additional interest and mystery to the approaching city election, which will take place next Tuesday. Both the old factions are agitated from their centre to their extremities. They are trembling in the very recesses of corruption, and visions of evil to come float before their eyes, like the spectres which hurry through the distempered dreams of dying, wicked men. There is every indication that this election will be on a small scale what the memorable era of '76 was to the whole of this country—a complete and blessed revolution against the corruptions of former governments. We do sincerely believe that both the old factions, who have for so long a period ridden, booted and spurred, over the people of this city, treating with the supremest insolence every demand for justice, and battening on the proceeds of their profligate administration of the city affairs, will be prostrated and trampled in the dust by the retributive vengeance of an offended people.

Nothing so clearly indicates the precise condition of things at the approaching election—nothing so clearly reveals all parties in their true aspect—nothing so forcibly exhibits the great questions really at issue in the coming contest, as does the tone and language of the organs of the two old parties—the fear, the alarm, the trembling anxiety, which appear to pervade all their movements, and the very extraordinary character of the manifestoes which they issue to their respective adherents. In proof of all this, we have re-published to-day in another quarter of this journal, a very remarkable article from the *Daily Plebeian*—the organ of the Tammany Hall democrats; and another equally remarkable and significant article from the *Tribune*—the organ of the whigs. It is most amusing and excruciating to perceive how these articles chime together—how the burden of their song flow so lovingly in chorus. The cry of both these organs of corruption and fraud is in all quarters—"help!—help!—help!—we are going!—help! speedily, or we perish!" The *Plebeian* denounces the "Natives" as a whig party in disguise—as the essence of all that is unprincipled and proscriptive—as a thing to be put down and demolished at once. The *Tribune* expresses precisely the same hostile sentiments towards the new movement—talks with great respect of Mr. Coddington to whom it prefers only Mr. Franklin—and denounces in the same style as the *Plebeian* the principles of the "Natives," with respect to the naturalization laws, the Catholics and the Irish.

It will thus be perceived that the charges preferred by the whigs against the new "Reform party," and which the locofocos also urge, neutralize and destroy each other. The assertion that the "Natives" are whigs in disguise is thus completely refuted, and is just as false as the assertion that they are locofocos in disguise. The new "Reform party" which has attained such a formidable growth in this city, has been the natural result of the corruptions and follies and wickedness of the old rotten factions. It has been brought into existence in consequence of the operations of the same causes which produced the revolution of 1776—the impulses of an intelligent and free people to get rid of tyrannical, unjust and corrupt rulers, and to establish a just, free, and efficient government of their own. No doubt, this great movement for reform and justice has its errors—its extravagance of opinion on some points. No doubt, many individuals connected with it entertain sentiments in reference to a particular sect—the Catholic, and a particular race—the Irish, which are illiberal and unjust. But it is impossible to charge the great mass of honest and intelligent citizens, who desire city reform, and who will spare no effort to obtain it, with approving of such opinions; and, in fact, these opinions have nothing to do with the present movement. They are mere matters of individual taste and feeling They lie not at the broad foundations of this movement. They may influence some who swell the ranks of the new party; but they do not give to the movement its complexion and its character. A deep, pervading and indignant sense of the corruption—the faithlessness—the tyranny—the inefficiency of the old parties in their government of the city, and a determined, universal, irrepressible desire to obtain reform—these have been the sources of this mighty movement—these have called it into existence—these have given it its strength, its moral influence—and these, too, will give it its ultimate and complete triumph.

If ever the free and independent electors of this city felt the responsibility which devolves upon them at the ballot-box, they should feel it on this occasion. Both whigs and locofocos have had the reins of government—both have had the fullest, the fairest, the most patient trial. Both have been equally and shamelessly inefficient and corrupt. In fact, the city has been without a municipal government. The only check against the inroad of universal disorder has been the free and independent portion of the press. With Magistrates who systematically released offenders on "straw bail"—with police officers who commuted with the rogue—with a Corporation who have, year after year, exposed the city to all the horrors of the pestilence, by keeping the streets in a state unknown in any other Christian city—the only thing left for the defence and safeguard of the morals and property of the community was that portion of the press which had resisted the shakles of party. At this moment, we do not believe that the city could be kept in peace for one day, were it not for this influence. Well, then, it is at such a period that an opportunity—which can hardly be regarded as less than providential—is afforded of obtaining the blessings of a city government. No change can make us more defenceless—more misgoverned. That's certain. But there *is* good encouragement to expect the happiest results from the success of the revolution now in progress. The articles which we extract from the organs of corruption give us the most consolatory assurances that the new reform party does present the means of attaining deliverance from corruption, and a just, honest, and efficient administration of the City affairs. The falsity—the malice—the utter groundlessness of their accusations against the new party, are most clearly proved by the very statements of these corrupt organs themselves. It is thus apparent that there is not only a secret, but an open coalition between the corrupt organs of the two old parties, for the purpose of defeating this new movement. We have thus the monstrous spectacle of the union in the same bad purpose of Slamm, Bang & Co., of Tammany Hall, and Greeley & Co., on the part of the Fourier Whigs. There we have them cheek-by-jowl, hand-and-glove, working together in the same traces, and soon we trust and believe to be tumbled into the same ditch together.

We do trust that the intelligent and honest citizens of all classes will unite in this great—this last movement for reform. Let them come forth, and like the avalanche that sweeps in thunder from the Alps, bring down the corruptions of both the old factions in one crushing, overwhelming defeat. If this opportunity be neglected, then a long farewell to all hope of reform and good government in the city of New York. And not to this city alone will be embued the beneficial effects of that united and vigorous exertion which will produce reform. The moral effect will be universal. It will teach all classes of politicians that there is a point of endurance, of wrong and of corruption, beyond which a people will not pass—that there is a limit beyond which faithless and corrupt officials cannot go, without being called to account before the great bar of public opinion—public justice—and public morality

☞ THE GRAND FOURIER CONVENTION commenced yesterday in Clinton Hall—all the apostles present. A full report will be found in this day's paper. The Convention meets again to day in the same place

Terrible Riot in Brooklyn last night—Great Fight between the "Natives" and the Irish—Retreat of the former—The Military called out.

The first decided appeal to physical force in the contest between the "natives" and the "Irish," took place in Brooklyn last night. A county meeting of the democrats and one also of the "natives" had been called to receive the nominations for Mayor and city officers. The former convened at the large room in the City Hotel, in the upper part of Fulton street, and the latter in the log cabin on the opposite side of the way. Intense excitement had prevailed throughout the course of the day, and considerably before the time at which the meetings had been called to assemble, immense crowds had collected, each party having its band of music, banners, and all the insignia of party. All, however, was peaceable, except so far as fierce discussion, and oaths, threats, and all sorts of exclamations, went to indicate the presence of greatly excited feeling in both parties.

Both places of meeting were densely crowded. The speakers were as inflammatory as usual, but the proceedings were undisturbed by any outbreak. The nominations were offered, accepted, and both meetings adjourned peaceably, each party moving off, the "natives" in procession. As smaller bodies, however, of the two parties encountered each other in the various quarters of the city, a great deal of excitement was created, and very serious apprehensions began to be entertained of the occurrence of a riot. The first decided collision took place in Court street, near Martin street. A strong party of the "natives," had taken up their position in the neighborhood of the Catholic Church, and a variety of exclamations expressive of hostility to that building were uttered. Several individuals declared their wish to burn it to the ground, and similar expressions, calculated to arouse much angry feeling in the opposite party, were made. In a very few minutes a very formidable body of the Irish made their appearance, and announced their determination to disperse the "natives." The Irish were armed with bludgeons, staves, and four or five of them had muskets. At this moment the appearances were most alarming. Two large and excited mobs were arrayed against each other, and it was evident that a riot of the most serious character was unavoidable. This was about a quarter past eleven o'clock.

Rumors of the most exaggerated character were circulating in the lower part of the city, and it was believed at a distance that a scene of terrible bloodshed had occurred. The Mayor was speedily on the spot, and endeavored, without effect, to induce the mobs to disperse. At this moment also, Dr. James W. Smith and Mr. Mervin, late under-sheriff, two highly respectable citizens arrived, and mixing with the Irish, also endeavored to second the efforts of the Mayor, but with no better success. Whilst these gentlemen were thus engaged, and while a kind of parley was going on between the mobs, the Irish declaring their willingness to retreat a block, if their opponents did the same, and swearing that they would otherwise instantly drive them from their vicinity to the church, some trifling collision took place, and in a moment the batteries of the Irish were opened. A furious shower of stones and brickbats commenced the beginning of the fight, but it was very speedily terminated for the "Natives" instantaneously fled and retreated in all directions. The only individuals left on the field, were, Dr. Smith and Mr. Mervin, who manfully stood their ground, in the conviction that as peace-makers, and not at all identified in any way with the opposite and now utterly routed party, they would escape. But they were mistaken. Another shower of missiles rained about their heads, and how their lives were saved is a miracle. But they retreated to the fence, and were then surrounded in a moment by the mob. Mr. Mervin received a violent blow on the head from a club, and was saved from being beaten to a jelly, only by an Irishman, who, providentially discovered who he was, seized him in his arms, and shouted out that he was no enemy. Dr. Smith received several blows about the shoulders, and one slight one on the head, and had his cloak torn off him, but he also was recognized by some of the crowd, and instantly all violence towards him was stopped. The great body of the Irish hurried after their retreating opponents, shouting, yelling, and uttering the most fearful imprecations.

The escape of Dr. Smith and Mr. Mervin was most miraculous. Several times the Doctor was on the point of discharging a revolving pistol, which he had in his pocket, but with the most remarkable, and, as it turned out, most fortunate forbearance, he refrained. Had he fired one shot, no doubt he would at once have been overwhelmed and massacred. Mr. Mervin also narrowly escaped still greater injury, as one of the mob had raised his musket and aimed a blow at his head with the breech, when the man who recognized him interfered.

In the meantime the Mayor had ordered out the military, and the alarm bell was rung. By 1 o'clock, however, when our reporter left, quiet had been restored and the mob dispersed. A serious fight had, it was said, taken place in Washington street, and several small skirmishes in other parts of the city; but our reporter had not heard of any serious injury having been inflicted on any of the belligerants. It was also said that several guns loaded with shot had been discharged, and that several persons were murdered; but these statements were regarded by the better informed as exaggerations. Loaded muskets were, however, in the hands of numbers of the mob, and had not one party retreated so summarily, there can be no doubt that the most melancholy loss of life would have resulted. As it is, the riot may well alarm all the friends of peace and order, not only in Brooklyn, but in this city. The feelings of the Irish have been greatly exasperated, and very fearful collisions may be expected. We shall learn to-day full and accurate particulars of all the occurrences, which the lateness of the hour and the obvious difficulty of obtaining any detail, prevented us from learning last night.

ACCIDENT ON THE RAILROAD.—We learn from Adams & Co., that a merchant of Boston, named P. Brewer, in attempting to jump upon the train, on Wednesday afternoon, lost his hold and was violently dashed against the rails. When the cars left he was left insensible. It is strange, after so many warnings and losses of life, that people will attempt to jump upon and off the cars, while the train is going at the rate of ten to twenty miles an hour.

SUMMER RETREATS.—The approach of spring, warm weather, and the singing of the birds, begin to bring up for examination and selection the various summer retreats. We have already mentioned several of these places which are preparing for the summer campaign, and we since perceive that Mr. Pierish has taken the Clifton House, Staten Island, at the Narrows—a delightful resort. Mr. Blancard is equally busy at New Brighton. We shall have a number of other places to notice in a few days.

REAL ESTATE.—It will be seen from the sales of real estate in Wall street, that the late speculation has blown up entirely. Prices are not now more than seven or eight per cent in advance of wha they were last year.

THE FOREIGN BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES.—We have been quite amused by a controversy, or *fracas*, between the Irish and English benevolent societies, as they are called, in relation to a toast referring to "repeal," drank at the annual dinner of the former. It is quite melancholy to see respectable men quarrelling about such trifles. If these benevolent societies would quarrel as to who should do most good, who should outstrip the other in benevolent action, then they would excite some sympathy. Their present spluttering excites only laughter.

OCEAN HOTELS.—There has been another splendid floating Hotel added to the many already on the Atlantic; and there now seems to be quite a competition between the owners of those on shore and of those on the ocean to reach perfection in the comforts and magnificence of their palaces.

All are familiar with the Astor and other houses on Broadway, and the Liverpool and other fine packet ships on the ocean. These are famous in their way, and their success has led to the construction of another packet ship, or Ocean House, which is now ready to take in transient boarders. This new ship is called the Indiana, and is really a very fine ship. She is one of Stanton & Frost's line of New Orleans Packets, and will be commanded by Captain Bennett, who has been a long time in that trade In size, the Indiana is, we should think, about eight hundred tons, and fitted up in the most agreeable style, with a poop deck. It is recollected that the poop decks now added to every ship, were introduced by Mr. Collins in his great ships, and have become as popular as they are useful and necessary.

In the Indiana there are all the latest improvements in ship building; and those going south will like her as a means of conveyance, and her captain as a gentlemanly and skilful navigator.

THE STREETS.—Now that we have dry weather, again we have the dust flying all over the city. In wet weather the streets are impassable on account of the dirt; in dry weather the atmosphere is filled with dust to an immense height. And thus it will be, growing worse and worse, until we get complete city reform.

DISTINGUISHED VISITOR.—Our office was yesterday honored by a visit from the celebrated General Radaveauf, the rival of General Tom Thumb, who is now holding his levees daily at Peale's Museum. He is still smaller than Tom, and is quite a good looking, good humored and funny little fellow. Great crowds go to see him.

BIBLE MEETING.—There was a meeting of the Bible Society at their room in Nassau street yesterday evening, for the purpose of taking into consideration the question of continuing Mr. Fanshaw as their printer. It seems that serious difficulties have taken place between the printer and the Society—not religious difficulties, but difficulties in relation to the prices for doing the work. A rather curious debate took place, which we shall endeavor to give to-morrow, with the whole philosophy of the affair.

EXCITEMENT IN PHILADELPHIA.—It was stated in some of the papers that a great excitement prevails in Philadelphia in consequence of the refusal of the Legislature of Pennsylvania to provide means for the payment of the interest on its State debt; in other words because the Legislature had adopted practical repudiation. We doubt this very much. The excitement exists we rather think in the Penitentiary of Philadelphia, and takes the shape of a great and general rejoicing amongst its inmates, who justly consider that in the present state of morals in that State they will be let out and thought as much of as their fellow laborers at Harrisburgh.

THE SCOTTISH MENDICANT.—We perceive that the Rev. Messrs. Cunningham, Burns, and Chalmers are now in Boston on their begging mission for the Scottish Kirk. It is probable that they will raise more money in Boston than in any other city in the country. They are very liberal in that quarter, and ought to give these gentlemen as much as they can.

RIOTS EXPECTED.—Two or three riots have taken place in this city, and as many in Brooklyn, in reference to the approaching elections for the city government of each. Those fighting politicians ought to be allowed to thrash each other well.—All peaceable men will keep out of their way, and let those men of war belabor each other to their hearts' content.

POLICE REFORM.—We understand that the locofocos have sent up a secret committee to oppose the very bill for police reform which they sent up the other day to pass the Legislature. This is in perfect keeping with the character of these double-faced politicians. That project of police reform passed the Corporation just as the resolutions to amend the city charter did at Tammany Hall, to gammon the public. Nothing was meant by it. It was humbug—Tammany Hall humbug—nothing else.

MANUFACTURE OF VOTERS.—The Tammany Hall party have naturalized about five hundred voters per day since Monday last; and, it will, therefore, be seen that this species of manufacture needs no protection. Mr. McKay's new tariff bill contains no provision to foster this branch of Tammany manufactures, for "the blood of Douglas can protect itself." By the morning of election, from twenty-five hundred to three thousand new voters will thus be prepared for the market, and raw material enough left to double that amount, if time permitted.

THE COTTON FEVER AGAIN.—During the last two days the speculation in cotton has started with great vigor in this latitude—sales nearly 8000 bales in two days—½ cent advance—see the markets. It is intended to raise the fever quite high, before the next steamer comes. Flour is also moving. On the contrary stocks are going down. Great times for those who have luck—Captain Tyler should try his.

MAD BULL.—Yesterday morning, about 11 o'clock, a mad bull having got loose somewhere in Mercer street, ran down Mercer and attacked a lady who was passing at the time, and injured her very severely. He then ran down to Canal street, and injured three more ladies—two of them very badly.

THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

DEAR SIR:—

In your paper of this (Thursday) morning, under the caption "Removal of the Dead," I notice a series of remarks calculated to give to the public mind a wrong impression upon the views entertained by the "Trustees of the Second Free Congregational Church," in their proposition to remove the slumbering remains of those interred in the ground adjoining the Church corner of Christie and Delancy streets. Fully persuaded that your strictures have been the result of a non-understanding of the matter, I request the publication of this short article, that the whole proposal may be brought fully before the public, and especially that it may be presented in a true light to the friends of the dead therein interred.

It is a notorious fact, that for years past, the lots forming the burying ground in question, have been desecrated by every impropriety. Hogs, by the drove, have there held undisputed possession, tearing up the sods and uprooting the head-stones, in their persevering attempts to prey upon the unconscious sleepers—in short, the ground has become one vast hog-pen, whilst its sacred character has been foully tarnished by the wild sports, and its proper silence broken by the obscene blasphemings of the youths and boys who have made it the pandemonium of their orgies.

The Trustees of the Second Free Congregational Church propose to erect upon the ground a temple for the worship of the king of the universe; and in order to do this, they propose to remove the dead into a suitable vault or vaults to be built in the rear of the church proposed, upon the same once consecrated, but now desecrated ground. This is all they ask. And we put it to the good sense and moral feeling of the friends of the departed, and the public, under which state of things the dead therein sleeping will most suitably and most becomingly rest.

J. E. K.

NEW YORK LOCAL ELECTIONS.—We have received a few returns which we annex:—

ORANGE CO.—In Goshen the democrats have elected all but two officers; the whigs have those two. In Newburg the Native Americans have carried the election.

WESTCHESTER CO.—The whigs have two and the democrats three

QUEENS CO.—The Natives have elected most of their ticket.

RENSSELAER CO.—The whigs have elected ten and the democrats six Supervisors. This is a whig gain.

COLUMBIA CO.—In Hudson the whigs have elected their candidates. This is Van Buren's county—his place of residence.

SCHENECTADY CO.—This is also whig. A whig mayor in Schenectady City, &c.

SARATOGA CO.—Four towns show a whig majority.

In all these returns the whigs exhibit a gain.

VERY LATE FROM CHINA.—The Helena, Captain Benjamin, arrived last night in 90 days passage from Canton. This is a remarkably short run.

What news she brings is of a very uninteresting character. It is into January. Since the settlement of her difficulties with the "outside barbarians," China seems to have settled down quietly, and with a better knowledge of the rest of the world. This knowledge will, of course, give us great advantages in all future time in our intercourse with the Celestials, and there is now every prospect that China will, in a few years, be thrown open as America is, for foreigners to roam over and abuse.

IMPORTANT FROM HAYTI.—The General Marion, Captain Shepherd, arrived last night from Port au Prince. We are indebted to Capt. S. for *Le Progres* and the annexed. It seems that the recent outbreak has a wheel within a wheel—that the French are at the bottom of it—owing, probably, to their late defeat in their negociations with the existing Haytien Government. But the following tells the whole story:—

Gen. Riviere, the President, was at Arah, within thirty miles of St. Domingo, with one division of his army, consisting of 15,000 men. Several schooners have gone round with artillery. The insurgent force is estimated at from 8 000 to 10,000. The President's son, Col. Deo Herard, who commanded one of the regiments stationed at St. Domingo, with all the force that sided with him, were liberated on parole, and the Colonel had arrived at Port au Prince via Jacmel. A Col. Pimentel took possession of a town bordering on the Spanish part in the name of the Insurgents. The town was mostly inhabited by mahogany cutters, who were away. On hearing of the march of the President, they assembled by night, and took the Colonel prisoner with his papers, and sent him to head quarters. Amongst these papers, was one purporting to be a negociation between the insurgents and the French government, through the French Consul lately stationed at St Domingo. The French offering to supply money and arms, with the aid of 10,000 men, if necessary, on condition that they were to receive the island Samana (at the east) as a naval depot, and to have the original French part of the island restored to them. This, of course, had excited a vast deal of indignation.

A difficulty took place between some of the officers of H.B.M sloop Ewrydice and the Haytiens. It appears the officers went on shore to bathe, and after bathing, amused themselves with knocking cocoa nuts down from the trees, &c., sailor-like, when a guard appeared and drove them to their boats at the point of the bayonet. The next morning this was repeated. They then went on board, and arming their boat, went ashore, and captured the whole guard, and took them into town and there delivered them up to the authorities. The matter was not settled when the G M. left.

FROM CENTRAL AMERICA.—Captain Roberts, of the schooner Ursula, from San Juan, whence he sailed on the 25th February, reports the market for American produce dull, and very little in store. H. B. M. brig of war Griffin had recently arrived, to settle the indemnity money due the government.

FROM NASSAU, N. P.—By the James Power, at Baltimore, we have received our papers, but they contain little of interest except ship news and shipwrecks an account of which will be found in full under the marine head.

Six hundred and fifty bales of cotton had been saved from the wreck of the British ship Ayreshire, lost near Nassau, and were advertised to be sold for the benefit of all concerned.

The Governor has in view to import from the Havana a portion of the re captured Africans there, under the care of the "Mixed Commission;" but we should think the Bahamas were well supplied with enough of the same class of laborers, to say nothing of their own host of emancipated slaves:

"His Excellency, the Governor, having received a communication from the Superintendent of liberated Africans at Havana, dated the 29th ult., inquiring if liberated Africans, as laborers from thence, are wanted in this colony, notice is hereby given, that returns agreeably to the number of African laborers wanted by individuals, who are willing to defray the expense of conveyance from Havana to this colony, will be received at this office."—*U.S Gaz., April 4.*

IMPORTANT FROM CALIFORNIA.—All authentic information from upper California is becoming a matter of general interest, and tends to make our people acquainted with the actual truth as to the advantages of that country. We have learned a fact unknown to us before, viz: that the American colonists on the Oregon have organized a government and put it in operation.

MCCULLOCH'S GEOGRAPHICAL GAZETTEER.—Part XI of this indispensable work, commencing the second volume, has just been issued by the Harpers. The edition is very convenient, and it is one of the cheapest works ever published. The numbers are printed upon small type in double columns, and the work is accompanied by handsome maps of all the principal regions of the earth. The successive numbers are sold at 25 cents.

YOUNG KATE, OR THE RESCUE: A Tale of the Great Kanawha. Two volumes in one. Harper and Brothers, 82 Cliff street. This is the title of an anonymous, original American novel, just issued as No. II. of the pocket series which the Harpers have just commenced. It is spirited, probable in its incidents and very interesting. Those who guess at its character and story from its title, will mistake both. The scene is laid in Virginia and the hits at national and social evils, as well as local peculiarities, are happy and effective. It is sold for two shillings.

Circuit Court.

Before Judge Kent.

APRIL 4.—*John A. Miller* vs *Eaton & Bryan.*—This was an action on a promissory note made by a person named Cooper, for $200, payable to himself, and by him endorsed to defendants. The defendants bought some clock cases from the firm of Wilson & Dunn, and gave them the note in payment. It was alleged that at the time the clock cases were purchased, there was no endorsement on the note, and Eaton gave Wilson a memorandum to inquire into the respectability of the parties, and afterwards came back and took the note without endorsement.

The defendants contended that Wilson & Dunn had endorsed under Cooper, and that Eaton & Bryan were the next endorsers; and that subsequently the endorsement of Wilson and Dunn had been erased, and their signature put under that of Eaton & Bryan, by which all subsequent endorsers were discharged. The Judge told the jury that it lay on the plaintiff to account for the erasure The jury found a verdict for defendants.

Townsend & Hoffman for plaintiff, Mr. Morton for defendants.

* *Rapelje* vs. *Minor et al.*—This was an action on a conditional bond, given by defendants to prosecute an appeal, and as security for costs.

The defence was, that the plaintiff resorted to the bond before he had exhausted all the other means in his power to recover the costs, to wit:—That he had not issued execution on his decree, or took any steps to levy the amount; also, that the bond was unduly got out of the Court of Chancery, and defendant's counsel called on the Court for a nonsuit. The Court refused, and said if the defendant had any remedy, it was in the Court of Chancery, and directed the jury to find for plaintiff. The jury found for plaintiffs, $111.

Circuit Court sits to-day to hear law arguments.

Court of Common Pleas.

This Court adjourned over to Saturday.

Amusements.

AMERICAN MUSEUM.—The giants made their appearance yesterday at the American Museum, and the manager was completely overrun with the crowd who came to see them. They are to appear again to-day, and those who could not get in yesterday, will have an opportunity of getting a sight at these wonderful specimens of humanity. To-day you will have to go early if you wish seats, as the Museum will no doubt be crowded. The Ethiopians perform for the last time but one to-day and to-night. They give a grand performance, with others, this afternoon at 3 o'clock, and in the evening also. Don't fail of seeing them.

CHATHAM THEATRE.—In these days of great election excitement, where there is such a vast falling off of the patronage of other theatres, it is surprising to what an extreme extent this house holds its own, and even increases. This goes to show that the public will appreciate real talent and enterprise wherever it may be found, and should Deverna continue to pursue the same liberal course as that with which he has begun, he may anticipate a speedy fortune. To-night, the bill is one of exciting interest For the first time of this season, Steven's new spectacle drama, called the Spy of St. Marc's, in which Connor plays Homodei, and Mrs. Preston, Bianca; and after songs and dances by Miss Wood, Mr. Winans and Mr. Brooks, the capital farce of the Weathercock—Miss Reynolds and Mr. Conner playing the chief characters.—Let it be borne in mind that Miss Reynold's benefit takes place on Saturday night, when a splendid bill will be presented, and that the benefit of Mr. Winan's is not far distant. Persons who prefer seats in the pit of this house, may be assured that from the improvements recently adopted, this is rendered as comfortable and sightly location as any in the house.

DEPLORABLE OCCURRENCE.—An unfortunate event occurred last Monday morning at Twelve Mile Grove, 15 miles west of Rockford. A person by the name of Andrews had a pre-emption right to a tract of land which he had occupied for some years, and upon which he had just erected a house. However, an individual named Morris Perce, either through fraud or some mistake of the land officers, procured a certificate for the same tract, and avowed his determination to take possession. He accordingly repaired with three others by the name of Sumner, all armed, to the house built by Andrews, and they entrenched themselves in it, barricading the doors, &c. The neighbors generally, regarding Andrews as the rightful possessor of the land, took part with him, and some twenty of them armed themselves with rifles, &c., and proceeded to the scene of action. A gun was fired from the house, when three discharges immediately took place from the outside. A ball from one of the guns hit Perce, passing through his heart and also through an arm of one of the Sumners. Perce instantly jumped out of a window, ran about ten feet, and dropped down dead Another ball grazed the forehead of one of the Sumners. Perce left a wife and three children. The Sheriff had proceeded to arrest the parties, and they were to be taken to Rockford for examination.—*Chicago Express.*

PEALE'S MUSEUM.—The Lapland Dwarf draws a tremendous concourse of people at Peale's Museum.—Many persons scout the idea as perfectly impossible that he is not so tall as Tom Thumb. They can easily be convinced to the contrary by having ocular demonstration of the fact, by the simple process of paying one shilling, and if they are not satisfied then, we must pronounce them hard to please. The Lapland Dwarf is positively the same age as Tom Thumb, and three inches less in height.

City Intelligence.

Lower Police Office—APRIL 4.—HIGHWAY ROBBERY.—The dawn of the morning is the hour now selected by pocket book droppers, watch stealers, and highway robbers to pursue their plunders. Yesterday morning as James P. Ridgeway, of Sing Sing, was passing through Anthony street, he was met by two men who knocked him down with an intent to rob him of his money, but being an active man, he regained his feet and cried out so lustily that one of the rogues named Patrick Keely, was arrested and fully committed on the charge.

STORE BREAKER.—On the night of Thursday last, the book store of Edmund Baldwin, 155 Broadway, was broken open and four gross of steel pens, valued at $14, stolen therefrom. Officer Frank Smith traced a man named John McDonald, in whose possession he found a portion of the stolen pens, and locked him up for trial.

RECEIVING STOLEN GOODS.—Officer Wm. H. Stephens arrested a German named John T. Schultz, of 63 Roosevelt street, on the charge of receiving a stolen gold watch valued at $80, from a black fellow named David Jones, to whom he gave $7. He was held to bail in the sum of $500 for his appearance for trial.

Coroner's Office.—THURSDAY.—The Coroner was actively engaged yesterday in the investigation of several cases of interest. The first was as to the manner in which a man, Daniel McNeal, came to his death which was alledged to have been caused by blows inflicted by Charles Costigan in a fight between the two at the "Thistle House," Frankfort street, on the 18th of March last. It appears that they were engaged in a game of cards, when a dispute arose and the deceased struck Costigan, and a fight between the two followed, in which both were severely beaten. McNeal was taken home, and from thence to the City Hospital, where he died on Wednesday. The Coroner will hold an inquest this morning, when the whole affair will be investigated before the jury.

SINGULAR DEATH.—An inquest was also held at the City Hospital, on the body of a man named Thomas Calahan, who died on Wednesday of injuries received in New Jersey, while in the act of cutting down a tree. The tree fell in a different direction from what he had anticipated, and in the attempt to jump out of the way, he stumbled over a stump and fell, dislocating his spine which caused his death. Verdict "Accidental death."

Superior Court.

Before Judge Oakley.

APRIL 4.—*William B Moffat vs. Lucius S. Comstock.*—This was an action for slander. The parties are venders of patent medicine, and each publish a paper to puff it. The slander complained of appeared in a paper called the United States Advertiser, published by the defendant, and is in substance as follows:—"John Moffat published his dastardly attack on us in the name of William B. Moffat, who is not to be found in the country, but who is now among the missing." The declaration contained four counts, each count putting a different meaning on the libel; the first count stating that it meant Mr. Moffat left the country to avoid his creditors; the second, that he left it for improper purposes; and the third, that he had left his business; and the fourth stated some other wonderful thing, which we don't remember The libel was put in, and admitted.

JOHN M. QUACKENBOSS was sworn and examined.—Is brother-in-law to William B. Moffat, the plaintiff. Plaintiff is engaged in manufacturing Moffat's great life pills; the business has become very extensive, and was so on the 2d of June last. His place of business was 325 Broadway The paper in which the libel was published is extensively circulated; it is circulated through defendant's customers, and through the mail.

Cross examined by JORDAN—Was married in October, 1842; is not connected with Moffat in the business; first became acquainted with William B. Moffat in the spring of 1842; witness knew of Moffat's being in business a year or two before he became acquainted with him; witnesses' reason for having a knowledge of the circulation of the paper, was from being in the employ of William B. Moffat. Mr. Moffat went to Europe in October, 1842, and returned in August, 1843. There is a paper published in Moffat's establishment, called the Good Samaratan. [Here the Samaratan was handed to witness by Mr. Jordan, and proved to be published on the 11th of May, 1843]. The witness, in reply to Mr. Jordan, continued to say that he got a list of Comstock's customers from a man named Henry J. Drew, who lives in Jersey. Witness did not request him to make out or furnish this list; it was his own offer to make it out: witness thinks he gave him $10 for it; did not know the list was stolen from Comstock; thinks Drew told witness he got it from one of Comstock's clerks; it is a part of our system to make agents, and by that list we made a good many agents; that was one of our objects in getting it; witness called at Comstock's store, and found that he had counterfeit pills which he designated as Moffat's Life Pills, and told him he was selling them; went there to see if they were genuine, and found they were not, and said he must stop selling them; this was before we advertised Dr. Comstock; the next object witness had in getting the list was to inform Comstock's customers that the pills he sold were counterfeit. This was the substance of this witness' testimony.

Mr. JORDAN, on behalf of the defendant shortly addressed the Jury. He said it is an old saying and a true one, that two of a trade can never agree; the parties were both manufacturer's of pills, and occasionally crossed each other's path; they both had papers under their control, and abused each other whenever it suited their convenience His present object was to show that there was nothing in the libel complained of reflecting on the plaintiff. Mr. Jordan, in continuation, said that where two meanings might be attached to a publication, one culpable and the other innocent, a Jury were bound to attach the invocent meaning to it, and it was their duty to read the alleged libel, and see that the writer intended to insinuate that William B. Moffat left the country with an intent to secret himself from his creditors.

Mr. JORDAN was proceeding to read Mr. Moffat's paper, the Good Samaratan, when.

Mr. SELDEN interposed, on the ground that a libel written by a third party on defendant was no ground for defendant to libel plaintiff.

The COURT overruled the objection and allowed the jury to take counsel from the Good Samaratan, in their deliberations.

After Mr. JORDAN had done reading a volume of puffs and libels, the case was rested.

His HONOR then charged the jury. He said it was necessary for them to find whether the passages in the libel were meant in a dubious or innocent sense, and the only way they could come at it is to read the libel, and then say in what sense they themselves would understand it; if it only meant that Mr. Moffat left the country and would return home, why then it is no libel, but if you come to a contrary sense to that, and that it meant he went abroad for any improper purpose, the libel is supported. There is no specific evidence before you to support those words, and it is for you to consider whether they were used in some of those injurious senses attributed to them by the declaration.

The jury, after an hours deliberation, rendered a verdict for defendant. Mr. Seldon for Plaintiff—Mr. Jordan for Defendant.

The Court then adjourned to Saturday.

WESTERN WATERS.—At Louisville, March 29, 9 feet water in the channel and falling. At St. Louis, March 26, there was 15 feet water in the channel and falling. At Pittsburg, March 26, 7 feet water in the channel. At Wheeling, March 26, 10 feet water in the channel and falling.

OPENING OF THE NAVIGATION.—We understand that the Royal Mail Steam Packet City of Toronto, will make her first trip this season, from Toronto to Kingston, on Tuesday next. She may, therefore, be expected on Wednesday morning. The ice will, in all probability, have disappeared ere then; if not, she can easily reach Portsmouth.—*Kingston (Canada) Whig, March 29.*

SHAD.—One thousand eight hundred and ninety six shad were caught at one haul at one of the fisheries on Thursday last—and at another, on Wednesday, fifteen hundred shad and thirty thousand herring were taken at one haul.—*Edenton (N. C.) Gaz. March 30.*

☞ LITERARY NOTICES.—The "Yankee," Boston, E. P. Williams; New York, J. A. Tuttle, No. 6 Ann street. We are disposed to find fault with the editor of this paper, were it not that its numerous readers have settled the question of its merits. He gives too much reading for the money—a regular surfeit of "good things," of "wine upon the lees." Each number contains a handsome wood cut, with an original story or two, besides a heap of witty sayings, culled from the largest garden of literature in America. We recommend merchants and tradesmen to interdict their junior helps from patronising it, as it's "all play and no work," with the pretty milliners and young folks when they get hold of it However, as every body reads it, we s'pose our "Jim Baggs" must, and accordingly we seldom get sight of it. Please exchange.

All the newsboys sell it for three cents a copy; agents and others can have them at $2 per hundred of the agent, 6 Ann street.

☞ A FINE HEAD OF DARK CLEAN HAIR TO BE had for 37½ cents. This fact hundreds in the city can prove who have used a 37½ cts bottle of Jones' Coral Hair Restorative. It forces the hair to grow, stops it falling off, cures the scurf or dandruff, makes the hair beautifully dark, soft and silky, and keeps it so thrice as long as any other preparations. Sold at the sign of the American Eagle, 82 Chatham st., and 323 Broadway, New York; or 139 Fulton st., Brooklyn; 8 State st., Boston; 3 Ledger Buildings, Philadelphia.

☞ CREOLE ACTUALDY TURNED WHITE—We are not joking—nothing is impossible in chemistry We ourselves have seen dark, yellow, and sun burnt or freckled skin changed to a beautiful clearness by the use of the Jones' Italian Chemical Soap. It is really a blessing; it cures in the most surprising manner any eruption of the skin, such as pimples, salt rheum, scurvy, indeed any disfigurement of the skin. We advise all, from infancy to old age to try it. It is sold by Jones, sign of the American Eagle, 82 Chatham street; or 323 Broadway; or 139 Fulton street, Brooklyn; 8 State st, Boston; 3 Ledger Buildings, Philadelphia; for 50 cents a cake—so excellent, so harmless, so beautiful.

☞ RHEUMATISM.—How important to those who have rheumatism, gout, contracted cords or muscles, is the Indian Vegetable Elixir and Liniment, which has never been known to fail in a single case, to cure those complaints; and to show the public that we believe what we say, the article is warranted in all cases to cure. If you wish better proof than this, you can be referred to those who have used this remedy and are cured, and can call on them, and learn from their own mouths its effects. It has been used by hundreds, and in no instance failed to cure. From 21 Courtlandt street. Warranted.

☞ GENTLEMEN DOWN TOWN IN WANT OF the famous Hunter's Red Drop, must come up to the Hunterian Dispensary, No. 3 Division street, and get the true article, for we cannot move our Dispensary from its present location, as we are too well established among the Mariner portion of the community, who immediately on their arrival home, come to the old place for the medicine that had years ago cured them and their shipmates Better come up and get this medicine in the first place, than go elsewhere and have the rank poison of a certain disease driven in your systems, and your constitutions injured for ever, and then, at last, have to resort to the only medicine that will thoroughly cure. Full particulars and explicit directions accompany each vial. Price one dollar, and guaranteed to cure. Open until half-past ten P. M., and the doctor always in attendance.

☞ THE EAST INDIAN HAIR DYE WILL COlor the hair, but not the skin At 21 Courtlandt street.

☞ DALLEY'S MAGICAL PAIN EXTRACTOR, from 21 Courtlandt street. Price reduced to 25 cents per box.

☞ BRANDRETH PILLS AND OUR CLIMATE—THE WEATHER AND ITS EFFECTS.—The sudden change of the weather will be productive of much sickness, unless people are careful to attend to the state of the stomach and bowels. If this is done, no danger will arise; but on the first feeling of headache, pain in the side, back or bowels, have recourse to BRANDRETH'S VEGETABLE UNIVERSAL PILLS. Six or eight of these pills will in most cases be sufficient, as a first dose. And one dose of this kind, it is not improbable, may prevent months of sickness, perhaps death.

They will, if used during the prevalence of any cause for disease, generally prevent fatal results; because they remove from the stomach and bowels any mor