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the highest calibre. The coarse tastes of the Presbyterians, or any other sect that banishes the fine arts from their worship, will soon become unpopular in this country, and their numbers must diminish.

The progress of religion and Christianity in the United States, is decidedly onward.—Some of the various sects are diminishing in numbers and funds; others are increasing; but in the aggregate, we believe there is an increase of all Christian sects, and particularly the Catholics, their increase being, we believe, greater than ever.

It is very true, the income and subscriptions to the Bible Society are falling off; the same may be said of the Tract Society. There are not so many fanatical exhibitions at the Tabernacle and other places; but there can be no doubt that the number of quiet and sober religionists is increasing—that the clergy are increasing, and that the aggregate revenues of the various churches are increasing. Probably, however, the Catholics increase more than any other sect of Christians. We do not think, however, that this increase has grown out of the efforts of some of the Bishops and leaders of the Catholic church, but out of the improved tone of the age—the liberality of opinion which prevails in all quarters, and the tolerance which is exhibited towards opinions of all kinds, even opinions anti-religious, and inconsistent with Christianity.

We are satisfied that, on the whole, religion is prospering and infidelity going down. At this day, there are probably ten thousand clergymen of all kinds, in these United States, receiving an aggregate salary of five millions of dollars. In the way of charity and religious contributions, of all kinds, we estimate that, in the aggregate, the amount paid for religion and worship, and religious purposes, is equal to ten millions of dollars a year—a pretty considerable sum to be paid voluntarily by a nation embracing twenty-five millions of thorough going democrats, who are, of course, considered ignorant and irreligious by the well fed, stag-hunting clergy of Europe.

THE POST OFFICE ADVERTISING.—TRIUMPH OF THE HERALD.—We received, yesterday, from Mr. Morris, Postmaster of this city, a note communicating to us the information, that after examining the several affidavits presented by the journals of this city, the New York Herald had been selected by him as one of the papers which, under the law of Congress, are entitled to receive the advertising letters not called for at the post office in New York.

This is no more than what we expected. The Tribune never was entitled, from its circulation, either in this city or out of it, to any of that advertising; and that paper has had it for nearly three years, in constant violation of law, and merely by the leniency and tolerance shown by us towards its duplicity and deceit. It is now established officially that the Herald has one of the largest circulations in this city, and we can establish it to the satisfaction of any reasonable man, that the Herald has the largest comprehensive circulation, taking the whole country and foreign parts into consideration, of any journal now in existence in the civilized world. One other paper in New York may have a larger circulation in some small localities among the poor, who want a cheap journal; but the circulation of the Herald among all classes, and all parties, of the highest intelligence and the greatest worth in the community, is larger than that of any other paper in the world.

In giving us this advertising patronage, the Post Office Department could not help itself. We are indebted to Cave Johnson in the least, and therefore we must not relax an iota in our efforts to get that incompetent individual out of the place which he so disgracefully mismanages. The very patronage which the Department, under the law, has given us, will enable us the more to put in, occasionally, a few rich licks, without any extra expense, against that incompetent functionary. Thus much on this point.

Now let us say a word to the auctioneers, the shippers, the merchants, the brokers and the bankers of Wall street. On every occasion, the Herald is ahead of every other paper, in giving them intelligence most necessary for the management of their business. In shipping intelligence, financial intelligence, and every other kind of intelligence, we furnish it earlier, better, and more completely, than any other journal. We have gone to every expense, and spared no money, no matter how large an amount, in making our paper what it is, and we can claim credit, that whenever a steamship is expected to arrive, operations of all kinds are suspended until her news is published in the Herald. No later than yesterday, we gave them shipping intelligence and financial intelligence, obtained by us by express, arranged at great cost, almost exclusively. Yet, in spite of all this enterprise, and all the vast outlays of money which we are continually making to carry that enterprise to the very doors of these classes of men, these brokers and bankers, and shippers, and auctioneers, and financiers, prefer giving their advertising patronage to a few lazy, indolent journals downtown, which exhibit no enterprise, make no effort to place the latest news before their patrons, and have but a very limited circulation among the business classes of society. The Post Office Department acted with equal meanness, until we compelled them to behave decently; but the brokers, bankers, shippers, auctioneers, and jobbers, and others, who receive the principal intelligence on which they make their operations, from this paper, ahead of all other sources, and yet give their advertising patronage to papers of a limited circulation and no enterprise, exhibit a specimen of the meanest and most contemptible conduct that any class of men, in any country, in any age of the world, ever did, or are sure ever will do.

GENERAL SCOTT AND THE ADMINISTRATION.—It is now generally supposed that the cause for ordering a court of inquiry upon General Scott, grew out of his disobedience to the orders of the Secretary of War, who is constitutionally his superior. General Scott is, without doubt, a strict disciplinarian towards all those who are under him, and who receive orders from him; but he may have forgotten that the principle of obedience applies as much to himself, in his conduct towards his superiors, as from his inferiors towards him. The General-in-chief must obey the War Department, as much as the War Department must the President, or the officers obey their superior officers in the field. It appears that he has not communicated with the Secretary of War for a long time, and has manifested insubordination to the directions emanating from Washington. If this be so, it is a violation of duty which cannot be overlooked, notwithstanding his great military talents in Mexico.

Mr. Trist, no doubt, if he has endeavored to enter into negotiations since his recall, is also subject to the penalty of the laws for such an offence; and there is no question but that the administration will make both negotiators, equally amenable to the laws they have violated, whether military or civil.

From this view of the case, the friends of Gen. Scott had better wait before they let out all their sympathy. Much may be said on both sides, even now, and much may be said hereafter. Justice will be done to General Scott by the public and the country, despite of all intrigues; for as a military man, he is one of the first of the age. Gen. Taylor is the only man who surpasses him in moderation, dignity, military skill, and comprehensive propriety of character and conduct.

SENATOR DAVIS.—We learn that the reported death of Senator Davis, of Massachusetts, is incorrect; and we are happy to state, that he is rapidly recovering from his late indisposition.

PRESIDENTIAL MOVEMENTS.—The whig committee of this city have agreed, by a vote nearly unanimous, to prefer Henry Clay as a candidate for the next Presidency, and to recommend him to be taken up by the national convention. We also understand, that a public meeting will soon be called in this city, for the purpose of nominating Mr. Clay for the Presidency, subject, however, to the decision of a national convention; and great efforts will be made to render this meeting the greatest of any which has taken place at any time in New York.

There is no doubt that the great body of the whigs in this city, and it appears in the greater portion of this State and New England, are at present most favorable to Mr. Clay for the next Presidency. The manifestations are too open and too numerous to leave any room to doubt the fact. That section of the whigs whose centre is in Wall street, and who are known as the "pipe-laying clique," who have come out for General Taylor, seem to possess very little influence among the rank and file of the whig party. Indeed, the Taylor movement here, we must admit, has been singularly impeded and diminished, in consequence of the bitterness, the violence, and want of harmony, among the cliques and clubs who are in its favor. The Rough-and-Ready Club, so called, has in it a small number of persons who have come out openly for General Taylor; but they present strong points of antagonism to the pipe-laying clique in Wall street, who have called the great mass meeting on the 22d of next month. Both Mr. Hale and the Journal of Commerce are favorable to General Taylor; but are equally hostile to the Rough-and-Ready Club and to the pipe-laying clique; so that there is no union, no harmony, no adhesion, among the raw materials of those who support General Taylor.

The friends of Mr. Clay are warmed up, of late, and conceive great hopes of getting the vote of New York, from the serious divisions in the democracy growing out of the Wilmot proviso. Their hope is rational, too. The friends of General Taylor, on the contrary, seem to have but little hope of success at the approaching election; but many think the best policy will be to nominate an electoral ticket in every State, in his behalf, during the present year, to run it and get as many votes as they can, and so make an organization for the next election, four years hence. It is difficult to see a man as General Taylor to break down, all at once, the heavy shackles of the party discipline of the old faction. General Jackson had to run twice before he could do it, and the probability is that General Taylor will have to do the same thing.

THE RUSS PAVEMENT.—We are pleased to observe that a movement has, at last, been made in the Board of Common Council, to introduce this admirable plan of paving the streets, in the leading thoroughfares through which the different lines of omnibuses pass.

We have repeatedly called the attention of the Corporation to this subject, and now that it is regularly before the Board, we trust that no party opposition will mark the proceedings in reference to this most useful and serviceable plan of paving the streets. The piece of the pavement opposite Stewart's, in Broadway, has now been sufficiently tested, and there it stands, as solid and firm, and in as good order, as when it was first laid down. What a saving of expense does not this effect! Since this piece of pavement was first laid down, we have been somewhat curious to observe the condition of the other parts of Broadway—and what a condition! Here we find the pavement upon the old plan, deeply rutted and filled with mud, and all kinds of filth, with batches of men here and there, turning up and laying down the cobble stones, which cannot possibly withstand the travel of the heavy omnibuses, cabs, &c. for more than one or two weeks; and thus a perpetual jobbing is kept up, during the entire year round. We would venture to say, that one year's expense of the labor thus employed in Broadway, if applied in laying down the Ruas pavement, would go far towards its completion; and then, on the score of economy, how much would not this effect! The pavement would be not only durable, but we might say, almost everlasting.

But there are other considerations—the cleanliness that must ensue. There would be but little trouble in keeping the streets clean. We would have little dust in summer, little in winter, whilst it would add considerably to the beauty of this leading thoroughfare. These remarks apply with equal force to the other leading thoroughfares; and as the project is now fairly before the Common Council, we cannot see how they can hesitate to let it become the law.

THE NEW YORK HERALD IN EUROPE.—The London, Paris and other European journals, are full of extracts from the columns of the New York Herald, embracing politics, commerce, and general articles of all kinds. The London journals, particularly, copy at great length, all our articles on commercial affairs, explaining the financial position of this country, in connection with the commercial movements and purposes of the great London capitalists, including the Rothschilds and others. One of the leading journals states that the commercial expositions and articles of the Herald are the most complete ever published; and what is more, they are correct to the very letter, to its own knowledge. Indeed, we know from private sources, that the commercial and general articles in the Herald produce as great a sensation on the London 'change, as they do in Wall street.

OPERA SQUABBLES.—We have intelligence from Boston, communicating to us some of the squabbles of the Opera managers here, and the troupe they sent to Boston.

It seems that Sanquiro, one of the managers, and the Boston detachment, had each other arrested and held to bail. Signor Vietti and Avignone are all quarrelling about the salaries and the benefits. Biscaccini seems to be the only one who is not in difficulty. We have had several inquiries made to us from Boston about Signor Albinoli—what is his position in the Opera?—and who are the responsible managers here? In fact, the company seem to be squabbling on all sides; but we hardly think these squabbles are worth giving to the public.

ARRIVAL OF THE PACIFIC SHIP FIDELIA.—The splendid packet ship Fidelity, Captain Yeaton, arrived yesterday from Liverpool, after a quick passage over the Atlantic. She sailed on the 3d ult., and has, therefore, made the run from port to port in twenty-nine days. Captain Yeaton came within twenty-four hours of bringing us three days later news from Europe.

MAJOR GENERAL JOHN A. QUITMAN.—We understand that this distinguished soldier, who is a native of the State of New York, celebrated for his gallantry, will arrive in this city to-day at two o'clock, by the train from Philadelphia. The officers of the 1st division of artillery have made arrangements to receive him, and conduct him to the City Hall.

THE ENGLISH MAIL STEAMERS.—Our private advices from the British Admiralty Office state that it is in contemplation to change the day of departure of the mail steamers from Liverpool, on Saturday to Wednesday. They will, we understand, continue to depart from Boston and New York on Saturday.

SENATOR DAVIS.—We learn that the reported death of Senator Davis, of Massachusetts, is incorrect; and we are happy to state, that he is rapidly recovering from his late indisposition.

TELEGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE.

Marine Disaster.

Boston, February 2, 1848.

Arrived, ship Concordia, Stephenson, Manila, September 14th. Passed Anjer, October 24; St. Helena, December 23. During the gale on Tuesday, the C. was obliged to cut away all her masts, and anchor off Mansfield, to prevent going on shore. She was towed up by the R. B. Forbes.

Trial for Counterfeiting.

Baltimore, Feb. 2, 1848.

The brothers Richard and Philip J. Hopkins, were tried to-day, for passing two counterfeit bills of one hundred dollars, on the Bank of Virginia, payable at Lynchburg, and acquitted. The latter was admitted to bail in the sum of \$500, for passing the same money.

THIRTIETH CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2, 1848.

The Senate met at 12 o'clock. Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Slicer.

On motion of Mr. Benton, seconded by Mr. Mangum, Mr. Atchison was appointed president pro tem. of the Senate, and conducted to the chair by Mr. Mangum and Mr. Cass.

DARKNESS AROUND THE CAPITAL.

Mr. Mangum called the attention of the chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings to the fact, that the Capitol and the public grounds were left in darkness, and suggested prompt action to remove the evil.

Mr. Hunter concurred, and immediately reported a bill to pay Cratchett \$2,000 for lighting the Capitol and the public grounds with gas, which passed.

MEXICAN CLAIMS.

Mr. Niles presented a petition asking Congress to assume the individual claims against Mexico.

DONATIONS OF LANDS, &c.

Mr. Johnson, of Louisiana, presented resolutions from the Louisiana Legislature, on the subject of donations of land to volunteers; also in favor of a bill making compensation for French spoliations, and asking a grant for school lands.

RELATING TO CADETS.

Mr. Benton submitted resolutions asking the President why certain words were introduced in the Army Register relative to Cadets.

PENSION LAWS FOR ORDNANCE CORPS.

Mr. Jefferson Davis, from the Military Committee, reported a bill to extend the provisions of the existing pension laws to enlisted men of the ordinance corps. Read three times and passed.

DECISIONS IN THE SUPREME COURT.

Mr. Ashley, from the Judiciary Committee, reported a bill, providing for the purchase and distribution of the decisions of the Supreme Court among the several States and Territories.

CLAIM FOR INJURY TO A VESSEL.

Mr. Westcott, from Committee of Claims, reported a resolution referring the case of A. H. Frasier and Albert Baker, relative to alleged outrage on a vessel, their property, to the Secretary of State.

TEN REGIMENT BILL.

The ten regiment bill coming up in order, Mr. Bell, of Tennessee, addressed the Senate in opposition. He argued that the popular opinion required the voting of supplies, as by the appropriate authority. It is not cared how the war was commenced; we were in the midst of it, and it was demanded that we should vote men and money to carry it on.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS.

Mr. Rhet, of South Carolina, asked and obtained leave to make a personal explanation. He proceeded to point out and reply to alleged misrepresentations in Mr. Goggin's speech of yesterday, of his (Rhet's) speech the other day on the President's message.

He was called to order by Mr. King, of Georgia, Mr. Rockwell, of Connecticut, and Mr. Smith, of Indiana, on the ground that he was making a reply to Mr. Goggin's argument, instead of confining his remarks to explanations personal to himself.

The SPEAKER being appealed to each time, decided that leave having been given to Mr. Rhet by the House, he had no power to prohibit the gentleman from proceeding, if he confined his remarks to matters personal to himself.

Mr. Smith submitted his objections in writing, and appealed from the decision of the chair to the House, not to establish a precedent for smaller cases in future.

Mr. STEVENS moved to lay the appeal on the table.—Carried, yeas 96, nays 36.

Mr. COLLAMER and several other members desired leave also to make personal explanations; but objections being made, Mr. Collamer remarked that he only desired to say that the report of his speech in a Washington paper was incorrect.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The resolutions referring the President's annual message to appropriate committees was taken up.

Mr. Cobb, of Georgia, having the floor, yielded it to Mr. Vinton, who said that he had on Saturday given notice that he would call up the loan bill to-day, as it was very important that it should be acted upon immediately.

His object in taking the floor at this time, was to express a hope that the debate on the President's annual message would be concluded to-day, or early to-morrow if not, he would to-morrow move, the previous question on the resolution now pending.

Mr. Cobb said that members of his side were ready to close the debate yesterday, had not the remarks of the gentleman from Vermont required an answer. He then proceeded with his speech as follows:—

And that committee be instructed to report a bill, relating to the construction of the canal of the war with Mexico, and until the payment of the public debt, the sum of five millions of dollars; to be assessed on persons residing in the State of Georgia, and apportioned among the several States, as provided by the Constitution."

In conclusion, Mr. Cobb moved to amend this amendment by inserting the words "and others" after the word personal.

Mr. STEVENS replied to Mr. Cobb, and Mr. Brown, of Pennsylvania, replied to Mr. Stevens.

Adjourned.

NEW YORK LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

PROTECTION OF SEAGRANTS.

Mr. FROST introduced a bill for the protection of seagrants.

REDEMPTION OF NOTES.

Mr. COOK gave notice of a bill to amend an act relative to the redemption of circulating notes, passed May 12, 1840.

THE GENERAL BANKING LAW.

The Senate then went into committee of the whole on the bill to amend the general banking law.

Mr. ADAMS proposed an amendment, taxing banking associations or individual bankers on the amount of their actual capital paid in, or secured to be paid, in the same proportion as in the case of incorporated banks; but in no case shall banking associations be taxed less than \$10,000, and individual bankers, \$50,000.

Mr. COOK stated his intention of submitting a new bill for circulation, on five per cent stocks, of 90 per cent of circulation; 6 per cent stocks of 93 per cent, and 10 per cent stocks of circulation equal to the par value of stock. No question taken.

The Senate then adjourned for want of further business to transact.

Assembly.

THE GAS COMPANY BILL.

The general gas company bill was passed.

IMPROVEMENT OF DWELLINGS FOR THE LABORING CLASSES.

Mr. RANSON reported a bill to incorporate an association to improve the dwellings of laboring classes in New York.

LIEN LAW FOR MECHANICS.

The committee of the whole took up a bill for a lien law for mechanics.

Mr. WALSH moved to strike out the section exempting New York from the bill, which was agreed to.

Mr. W. S. SMITH moved to make the bill applicable to cities only.

No question was taken, and the committee rose.

COVERAGE OF COAL.

The committee then took up the bill to encourage the discovery of coal in Albany and Rensselaer counties.

Mr. W. S. SMITH moved to amend the bill to extend to the Sand Lake charcoal dealers.

Mr. PAULS said the bill was brought forth in good faith, and he supposed on the experience of several English miners.

The bill proposed to give the applicants a bounty of \$1000 if they were successful; and if not, the State would lose nothing by the experiment.

The bill was rejected.

APPOINTMENT OF PROBATESTERS.

The bill to provide for the appointment of the Govern-

ment of Wreckmasters in the counties of Kings, Queens, Suffolk and Richmond, was ordered to a third reading.

A motion was made to give the appointment to the Superintendent, and rejected.

A motion to have the Wreckmasters elected by the people was defeated.

Adjourned.

Markets.

New Orleans, Jan. 27.—Cotton—Unsettled; prices irregular; sales declined a quarter to two-thirds.

Wheat—Market quiet; sales of 100,000 bushels. Flour—Dull; Ohio sold at under \$5. Freights—Nothing new. Exchange limited.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 2.—The steamer's news first came to hand by telegraph, too late to produce much effect upon the market. Flour—We note sales of 3000 bbls. at \$4 50. High—Sales of 100,000 bushels were made at \$2 75. Lard—Sales of 1000 packages were made at 6 1/2 cts. Whiskey—Within a day or two, 2000 bbls. were sold at 17 1/2 cts. The river is in good boating order.

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 2.—The steamer's news has been received by telegraph, and had the effect of depressing prices of flour and grain. Small sales of flour were making at 4 1/2 cts, and prices had a downward tendency. Wheat was steady, but no sales transpired. Oats—Sales of 1000 bushels were made at 25c. Pork was steady at \$6.50. Groceries no change. River in good boating order.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 2.—The steamer's news was duly received by telegraph, and had a tendency to unsettle the market for breadstuffs. Flour—Howard street we quote nominal at \$5 75 to \$5 81 1/4. Wheat and corn—No buyers at previous rates. Provisions—Nothing doing.—Whiskey remained inactive, under the influence of foreign news.

BUFFALO, Feb. 2.—The steamer's news came to hand by telegraph. The market for flour was dull at \$4.50, without sales mentioned. Wheat was dull, and we quote Western and Michigan at 90 cents, and good Ohio at 100 cents. Corn—The market was inactive at 50 cents for Western mixed. Nothing new in provisions.

BOSTON, Feb. 2, 1848.—Flour—The effect of the steamer's news has been to unsettle the market, and we report sales of 200 barrels good Western brands, with Genesee, at \$5 87 1/2, which was 1 1/2 cts below previous rates. Corn—Sales of 3000 bushels were made, consisting of good new Western at 51c, the market closed heavy. Rye—Sales of 400 to 600 bushels at 60 cents. 90 cents Oats—Sales of 1000 bushels at 50 cents. There was no alteration in provisions. Freights were quiet.

Shipping Intelligence.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 27.—Arrive ship Marathon, Boston; brig Depot, do. Clis ships Mart and Schaner.

Marine Affairs.

STEAMSHIP ACADIA.—At a meeting of the passengers on board the British and North American Royal Mail Steamship Acadia, on Saturday, the 29th day of Jan., 1848, Doctor John O. Green was chosen chairman, and John Brydon, Esq., Secretary.

A committee of three, consisting of Joseph Reed, Esq., Rev. J. B. Smith, and Henry W. Meade, Esq., were appointed to draft resolutions expressing the sentiments of the passengers respecting the conduct of the captain and other officers of this, the first voyage of Captain Stone, as commander.

This committee subsequently reported the following resolutions, which were adopted by ballot, and are hereby presented by the chairman to Captain Stone, and a copy forwarded for publication to the papers in Boston, New York, and Liverpool.

RESOLVED, That the passengers of the Acadia, on the 29th day of Jan., 184