NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR AND EDITOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery—HAMLET—LADY OF THE LAKE.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway—INGOMAR—COUSIN CHERRY.

BURTON'S THEATRE, Chambers street—FIRE EATER—HAPPIEST DAY OF MY LIFE—OLD COMMODORE—BOLD DRAGOONS.

NATIONAL THEATRE, Chatham street—WIFE AND WIDOWS—JONATHAN BRADFORD—FARMER JACK.

AMERICAN MUSEUM—ADDING PERFORMANCES IN THE AFTERNOON, AND THE BOTTLE THIS EVENING.

BOWERY AMPHITHEATRE, Bowery—EQUESTRIAN PERFORMANCES.

CHRISTY'S MINSTRELS, Mechanics' Hall, 472 Broadway—ETHIOPIAN MINSTRELSY.

FELLOWS' MINSTRELS, Fellows' Musical Hall, No. 444 Broadway—ETHIOPIAN MINSTRELSY.

DOUBLE SHEET.

New York, Saturday, Feb. 21, 1852.

Summary of the News.

The long and anxiously looked for correspondence between Com. Morgan, Consul Hodge, and Captain Long, relative to the conduct of Kossuth while on board the Mississippi, was transmitted to the House of Representatives yesterday, and will be found in the proceedings in another column. As we predicted from the first, this official *exposé* fully confirms what was said of the proceedings of the Magyar by our Marseilles correspondent, at the time of the difficulty. These letters will fall like a bombshell upon all the efforts of the socialists, abolitionists, and other cliques in this city and vicinity, to uphold the fast fading popularity of the great Hungarian, at the expense of the honor and integrity of our naval officers. The people—every lover of truth—every admirer of justice and fair dealing—will now have an opportunity of judging who was right in this matter—whether Capt. Long and Consul Hodge did not use every proper precaution to preserve unsullied the honor of the American flag, and whether Kossuth, the great orator, did not, on the contrary, hazard the compromise of the same, although repeatedly urged not to do so while under its protection, by making inflammatory speeches, and attempting to set at defiance the internal regulations of a nation with which we were at peace. Capt. Long has, ever since his arrival in this country, done every thing in his power to shield Kossuth; but he can no longer do so. Let every candid man, and especially every friend of Kossuth, read the correspondence, and then judge as to whether we were right or wrong in condemning the course pursued by the distinguished exile.

The private calendar being the special order in the Senate yesterday, but little business of a general character was transacted. The decision of the Supreme Court, in opposition to the Wheeling Bridge, appears to have caused considerable sensation among the Virginians. Senator Hunter presented a memorial, signed by thirty-six members of the Pennsylvania Legislature, stating that the bridge, in their opinion, is no obstruction whatever to navigation. On the other hand, Senator Cooper presented the resolutions of a majority of the said Legislature approving the decision of the court. This matter is likely to produce a great deal of dissatisfaction between the inhabitants of the western parts of Virginia and Pennsylvania. Both houses of Congress adjourned till Tuesday.

From Albany, we learn that the Senate and Assembly have finally determined upon giving Kossuth a simple invitation to visit the capital during the session. The Assembly, however, appears determined to have a discussion on the foreign policy of the national government, and with that view a series of resolutions have been reported approving the principles of the Declaration of Independence, and declaring that it is the duty of the United States to assert and maintain that each nation has the exclusive right to manage its concerns, without interference on the part of any other government. The resolutions were made the special order for Thursday, on which day we may anticipate a tremendous outpouring of the hitherto pent up patriotism of our wise representatives. A long debate came off in the Assembly, on the petitions proposing the extinguishment of monarchical titles. Mike Walsh and several of the other New York delegates figured in the discussion; but no action was had on the subject prior to the adjournment till Monday. The Senate passed several bills, among them the one authorizing this city to collect money by taxation, and then adjourned till Tuesday.

Our Albany correspondent states that out of seven hundred and twenty votes cast at an election in Skaneateles, on Tuesday, only one hundred and fifty were in favor of the adoption of the Maine law. This is rather a poor show for the teetotal cause in the rale region.

A despatch from New Orleans announces that the Mississippi Legislature has elected Walker Brock, whig, to serve out the unexpired term of Gov. Foote in the United States Senate.

The Northern Indiana Railroad was yesterday opened to Chicago. The arrival of the first train of cars was the cause of great rejoicing among the inhabitants of Chicago.

We observe that the notorious Levi Cole pleaded guilty to the robbery of the Phœnix Bank of Westerly, R. I., and was sentenced to four years' imprisonment in the Penitentiary.

Late advices from Chile state that the city of Coplapo was taken possession of by the insurgents on the 26th of December. The existing government was overturned, and a new order of things established. Robberies and murders were still frequent, and the entire country, as usual, was in a most distracted condition.

The English mail steamer Cambria, from Liverpool, is the next steamer to bring us news from Europe. It will be one week later—to the 7th inst. She is, of course, now in her fourteenth day. The screw steamer Glasgow, from Glasgow, is also in her fourteenth day. The Atlantic, from Liverpool, is in her tenth day.

The Nicaragua Inter-Oceanic Canal.

Not much has been said, for some months past, about the important project of an inter-oceanic canal across the Isthmus at Nicaragua; but the projectors of this vast enterprise have not been idle in the meantime. So far otherwise, we are informed, on authority, that in a few months, not only will all the arrangements and preparations be complete for commencing operations, but that ground will be broken upon the canal itself; and that in three or four years the great problem of a ship canal from the Atlantic to the Pacific, will be triumphantly settled, after three hundred years of gitation and incredulity among the commercial nations of the world.

Col. Childs, an *élève* of West Point, and standing at the head of practical rail-road engineers in the West, has, within a few weeks past, returned from Nicaragua, after having made a complete and highly satisfactory reconnoissance of the whole line of the Nicaragua route, from ocean to ocean. His report will, in a few days, be finished, in which the feasibility of a canal by this route will be demonstrated by the most conclusive facts and mathematical deductions. It was not, however, a survey antecedent to any project for constructing the canal. The canal had been already resolved upon; and the reconnoissance of Col. Childs was simply with a view to determine the exact line of the work, and the estimates of its probable cost. There is no doubt that the work will be commenced during the next summer; and there is no question of the ability of the heavy combination of stockholders and capitalists in England and in the United States, to push it forward, without interruption or delay, from ocean to ocean.

A year ago, Cornelius Vanderbilt, Esq., the practical pioneer in this magnificent work, went over to England with the view of obtaining subscriptions, according to the provisions and intent of the Clayton and Bulwer treaty. The paramount object of this treaty was to secure a ship canal by the co-operation of American and English capital, the canal to be open to the commerce of all nations, on the same general footing, under the guarantee of the independence of Nicaragua, and certain other local concessions. Mr. Vanderbilt made an arrangement, accordingly, in behalf of the American stockholders, by which the potential aid of the Rothschilds, the Barings, and other British capitalists, was secured. Under this powerful combination, the work will be undertaken with an available capital of thirty millions of dollars, a sum which, it is believed, will be more than sufficient to complete the work, allowing a large margin upon the most careful estimates. Col. Childs, as we are informed, estimates the total cost at from sixteen to twenty millions.

The commercial interests of the whole world may, in any probable event, regard it as a fixed fact that a ship canal between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans will be completed within the next four years. The route has been surveyed. The light draught steamers of Mr. Vanderbilt have proved it to be already practicable from the Atlantic up the entire length of the San Juan river into Lake Nicaragua, (nearly equal in size to Lake Ontario,) which will admit of vessels of the largest draught from its eastern to its western shore. Thus, nature has already provided a ship canal for light steamers, from San Juan to the western side of Lake Nicaragua, which, by the route of Vanderbilt's California line, is only twelve or fifteen miles from the Pacific ocean. But Mr. Childs, it appears, has discovered a new route for the canal, which will only require a grade not exceeding forty feet. To make this connecting canal, and to deepen the San Juan where most expedient, and to cut a parallel canal where required, along the river, so as to admit the passage of vessels drawing from fifteen to twenty feet of water, from ocean to ocean, nothing is now required but the labor—for the right of way, the route, the practicability of the work, and, above all, the necessary capital, are already secured.

When completed, this ship canal will be the most important and profitable work of art in the world, to all parties concerned—to the world at large—to Central America, but particularly to the United States and the stockholders. During the various interviews of Mr. Vanderbilt with the British stockholders, it was calculated that upon an investment of $20,000,000, the dividends from the tolls of the canal (and they are not to be exorbitant) will be equal to ten per cent per annum. But if the work can be finished for seventeen or twenty millions, the profits will be correspondingly increased; and the moral certainty that it can be done within the margin of four years, from the fact that the stockholders can command the necessary capital, will give a new and powerful impulse to the enterprise. The stock will soon rise in the markets of the world, from the solid basis upon which it stands.

By an arrangement between the American and British stockholders, it was provided that the government on each side should appoint an official engineer, who are to determine upon the report of the canal made by Col. Childs. If they cannot concur, it was further provided that they conjointly should select a third person as arbitrator in the determination of its primary objects. After the settlement of these points in the manner indicated, all the other necessary arrangements and plans will be perfected, when proposals will be issued in the United States and in England for contracts for the work on the several sections of the whole line of the canal, from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Thus will this great object of a Western passage to Asia and the East Indies be achieved. It was this object that brought Columbus on that important voyage which disclosed a new continent to the Old World. All the British expeditions in the Arctic Ocean had this object in view, including the unheard of expedition of Sir John Franklin. It was this object which carried Magellan to the southern extremity of the continent, and through the straits which bear his name. It has actively engaged the attention and inquiry of the western nations of Europe, for the last three or four hundred years. But this western passage has become an absolute necessity to us since the acquisition of California—so that, to the annexation of Texas, the war with Mexico, and the discovery of the rich gold deposits of California, in the first place; and, secondly, to the peculiar energy and enterprise of an American, and that American a New Yorker, will the world be indebted for this great consummation of the passage westward for ships and steamers, from Europe and our Atlantic coast, through the American continent, to China, Japan, the islands of Australia and Polynesia, and the East Indies.

There need be no difficulty apprehended from local disturbances in Central America, growing out of the impudent intermeddling of British agents in the domestic affairs of the country. The Nicaragua treaty provides against all such proceedings hereafter, if the American government will act with energy. The late explanations by Lord Granville, of the Prometheus affair, are a pledge of the good faith of the British government. Chatfield has been taken care of—the officious commander of the brig of war Express has been properly rebuked; and Mr. James Green, Her Britannic Majesty's consul and general superintendent of the affairs of San Juan, will undoubtedly be removed, or reined in his protenceless and breadth of jurisdiction. England will maintain the treaty. The affairs of France and the Continent may be equally and unsafe; but England is isolated, and, saving the rumored invasion, is comparatively secure. She wants the advantages of this ship canal. We must have them. Both will unite to protect and guaranty the safety of the work, while the combined capitalists of both countries will carry it through. It is the policy of England—it is our policy. Here at least, the governments and the people of both nations may pull together for the common benefit of all nations. Within four years, we are assured that a steamer will leave the port of New York, and, passing over the Isthmus of Nicaragua, will, without breaking bulk, land her goods in San Francisco. We shall expect it.

Archbishop Hughes on Religious Liberty.

It has been officially announced, that at Tripler Hall, on Monday evening, the 8th of March, the Most Reverend Archbishop Hughes (not yet a Cardinal) will deliver a lecture, the subject of which is to be "A historical exposition of why the United States is constitutionally neither a Catholic nor a Protestant country, but a land of complete equality in religion, before the law." Such is to be the subject of the discourse—and it is a great subject.

The object of the lecture is a good object. It is announced that "the calls upon the excellent House of Protection, under the care of the Sisters of Mercy, in this city, have been very great during the present season," and that "these devoted Sisters, who labor so efficiently and with so little noise, have special need of pecuniary assistance at the present time." The benevolent societies of the Catholics—such as the Sisters of Charity, and the Sisters of Mercy—constitute one of the most beautiful, commendable, and attractive features of the church. These Sisters, in all countries, under all circumstances—among the dead and dying on the battle field, amidst the infection of plague and cholera hospitals, in the deepest and darkest dens of poverty and degradation—are the ministering angels to human suffering, "without money and without price," other than their faith and hope in a glorious reward in the kingdom of Heaven. The object of this proposed lecture, then, being the supply of "financial and material aid" to the Sisters of Mercy, we give it the full benefit of our columns, also free of charge, with the view of giving to the Archbishop's benevolent intention the advantage of our universal circulation among all creeds and classes of society.

Some practical philosopher has said that a clean conscience and a thin pair of breeches will carry a man safely through the world. With a clean conscience, and pantaloons according to the season, we now proceed to the subject of the Archbishop's appointed discourse. The object will speak for itself. It ought to fill, and doubtless will fill, the house with a benevolent audience, and the treasury box of the beneficiaries with solid cash. We therefore proceed to a passing remark or two on the subject of the lecture for the eighth of March.

The theme of the Archbishop is to be a historical argument showing why the United States is "a land of complete equality of religion before the law." It is a magnificent theme; and his Grace may be confidently expected to handle it in a masterly style. From his views, heretofore expressed on the same general subject, we may partially anticipate the drift of his argument in this case. It is, however, not essential to our purpose to do so. But the subject offers its own suggestions, which, in view of the present condition of the church, and of all churches in this country, and in all countries, at the present time, will justify a passing review.

The debates in the convention which framed our federal constitution, show that there was very little difficulty in that body in establishing the principle of religious, as well as civil liberty, as a part of the fundamental law. And we apprehend that this great concession is due, not so much to the difficulties of adopting an established religion, as from the experience in the history of other nations, of the incompatibility, and the impossibility, of a democratic republican system based upon the junction of Church and State. This, we suppose, was the great fact to which we are indebted for the religious freedom enjoyed by the people of the United States. Had the great mass of the people in that day been Catholics, or had they been of any particular Protestant sect, there is no telling what might have been the consequence. The very existence of so many diverse societies of Protestants doubtless rendered them incapable of concerted action against the Catholics, while the Catholics, from the minority in which they stood, as opposed to all the Protestant sects, were, from policy, as well as from any other motives, disposed to make the general compromise of equal liberty to all.

But, if we are to take the acts and history of the early colonists of this country as evidence of what would have been the established religion had they respectively possessed the power to appoint it, then do the Catholic colonists stand in the front rank as the pioneers of religious freedom. The Roundheads of New England would, doubtless, have fastened their peculiar tenets upon the government, with all the stringency of the Maine liquor law, had they been as potential throughout the Union as in Massachusetts and Connecticut. The Cavaliers of Virginia, from their persecution of the Catholics, and certain sects of Protestant dissenters, with the power to do it, would probably have incorporated the rubric of the Church of England with the federal constitution. The Knickerbockers of New York, in like manner, might have engrafted the doctrines of the Lutherans with the principles of Jefferson, in the same charter. The broad-brimmed Quakers might have ordained a universal drab color, and the wearing of hats in church, as the symbols of orthodoxy; while it is possible that the Huguenots of South Carolina would have retaliated upon the Catholics, in an act similar to the revocation of the Edict of Nantz. And yet, we maintain that we are not so much indebted for religious liberty in the United States to the impossibility of adopting any particular creed, as we are to the enlightened spirit of our early statesmen, in appreciating the absolute impossibility of mixing Church and State together, in a free, representative, and republican government.

Notwithstanding this elementary settlement of the question, we expect Archbishop Hughes will advert to the religious toleration practised by the Catholic settlers of Maryland, in contrast with the persecutions which blur the history of several of the Protestant colonies, particularly the early Puritan settlers of Plymouth in New England. And well may he boast of this distinguishing feature of Catholic colonial history. The colonists under Lord Baltimore landed in Maryland in 1634. He laid the foundations of his province on the broad basis of security to property and of freedom in religion; granting, in absolute fee, fifty acres of land to every emigrant, and establishing Christianity agreeably to the old common law, of which it is part, without allowing pre-eminence to any particular sect. Here we have, in fact, the basis of religious liberty in the United States. It is a fact which must forever embalm the memory of Lord Baltimore, the Catholic, in the hearts of the American people. Yet the honor of a national establishment of religious freedom in this republic, is due to the wisdom of the framers of the constitution, of whom few were Catholics, but all of whom were impressed with this religious concession as a fundamental necessity—as the very corner stone of republican institutions.

The Archbishop is entitled to bear testimony to the religious toleration introduced by the Catholic fathers of Maryland. He has the right to deduce from their act the origin and the influences which led to the establishment of our religious privileges. They are great. We may preach anything, believe anything—thank God!—and every man is not only free to do it, but is sure to obtain believers, from Mormonism and Mesmerism to the second advent and the spiritual manifestations. But while his Grace is thus appropriating to the Catholic Church the success of the principle of religious liberty in the United States, we hope he will endeavor to explain why the same principle has not been established in Mexico, in Spain, in Italy, and in other countries under the special supervision of the Pope, the Cardinals, and the Archbishops of Rome. We trust he will also explain why he appropriated five hundred dollars to the liberation of Ireland, and now opposes all the liberal movements upon the Continent. Trusting that his lecture will be successful in its object, it is to be hoped that, in his treatment of the subject, he will cover the whole ground, even to the red hat of the Cardinal.

Wood was selling at Cincinnati, a few days since, at the enormous sum of twelve dollars per cord.

Exposure of the Aztec Humbug.

A few days ago, several of the newspapers of this city, which are in the habit of puffing every ridiculous humbug of the day, made a charge against the NEW YORK HERALD, that its opposition to the Aztec humbug, and its exposure of the same, arose from the circumstance that the proprietor of these dwarfs had refused to give his printing and advertisements to the HERALD establishment. The journals of this city conspiring in such a charge against us, were, the *Journal of Commerce*, the *Evening Mirror*, the *Evening Post*, the *Morning Express*, and the *New York Tribune*. The charge is contained in an affidavit sworn to by a person calling himself Joseph Morris, and claiming to be acquainted with, and considered respectable by, Cromwell, Haight & Co., Fellows, Van Arsdale & Cooper, and John Bellamy, merchants and importers.

We pronounce the charge made by these journals against us, wilful and malicious—false, from beginning to end, and that this witness has, under the solemnity of an oath, testified to what is utterly and unequivocally false. In proof of the falsehood of our opponents, and the truth of our own averments, we refer our readers to the affidavits of nearly half a dozen gentlemen, which will be found in the inside of the double sheet. These gentlemen are Mr. Frederic Hudson, who has been long connected with this office as principal manager, in the absence of the editor and proprietor; Mr. Edward W. Hudson, our money market reporter; Mr. Connery, our theatrical reporter; and Dr. D. C. Morehead, of this city, who is not connected with the HERALD. All these gentlemen testify clearly and conclusively that the sworn statement of the other journals is utterly and unqualifiedly false; and if that affidavit had been made in a legal process, the signer of it would have been liable to prosecution for perjury, and to the punishment provided for that offence.

For many years our malicious and envious rivals of the New York newspaper press have endeavored to circulate rumors and stories similar to this, against the integrity and purity of the NEW YORK HERALD and its management; but no authentic fact of such a character was ever established against this establishment, although such stories have been circulated for years in the disreputable portion of the press, both daily and Sunday. We pronounce all such assertions, no matter where originated, without foundation and without truth. No journal in this city, in the course of its existence, has exhibited a career and presented a management so upright, independent, and fearless, as that of the NEW YORK HERALD, from the first moment of its existence to this day. Its patronage and popularity, from its first day of existence, has placed us always beyond the reach of want or poverty of any kind. Our income is more than that of any other journal in New York, and probably the aggregate income or receipts of the HERALD, at this moment, is equal to that of all our slanderers put together—being *over three hundred thousand dollars per annum*. In a pecuniary point of view, we are above all such temptations, and such miserable city practices as are put daily in use by our envious assailants. We always believed that purity and independence, fearlessness and principle, would pay best; we always acted on such principles, and always found them to come out right.

In relation to our cotemporaries in the same line of business, we cannot say so much. On this very subject of the Aztec children—who are well known in this community to be the grossest imposture that ever was attempted to be palmed on the public, even more so than any of Barnum's impositions—the *Journal of Commerce*, and others, as we have already shown, have conspired to cheat and impose on the community, by publishing ridiculous stories and inventions, which were originated in this city. The *Journal of Commerce* was the first paper that circulated the ridiculous invention put forth in a pamphlet published by the exhibitor of these dwarfs, and which is acknowledged by the person himself to have been a gross imposture on the newspapers and public. We never would consent, under any circumstances, that our columns should be prostituted to such imposition, nor would we unite with the *Journal of Commerce*, *Tribune*, and the others, in practising imposture on the community.

The true history of these dwarfs, who are simply a pair of accidental idiots from Central America, is well known to many persons in this city. The "Aztec Children," as they are called by their showman, were found running about the streets of Granada or Leon, or some other small town in Central America, about the month of May, 1850, by a man named John Addison, formerly a jeweller of San Francisco, Cal., who conceived the idea that money might be made by their exhibition, and who, in connection with a native of Central America, named Selva, purchased them of an old woman for an ounce of gold, with a promise to give her a portion of the profits. They brought them to this city, where they arrived in the month of July, 1850. Mr. Addison took rooms at the Howard Hotel, then called "Barnum's," where these deformed, disgusting objects were seen by a large number of persons. There was no pretence made at that time that these "Aztecs," as they have since been nicknamed, were other than a couple of deformed, idiotic children, the offspring of a negro father and a miserably debauched and besotted Indian mother; and in proof of this they were exhibited at the Minerva Rooms, in Broadway, by Mr. Addison, during the month of September or October, 1850, and were called, as the bills will show, "Indian Dwarfs from Central America." Not more than a dozen persons attended the exhibition, and Addison, finding it would not pay, sold or leased the monstrosities to William Raymond, as we are informed—the great showman of wild beasts. They were afterwards exhibited in Boston, Albany, and Troy, without success; and it is since that period, and their return here, that, under their present manager, the absurd story of their origin and connection with the old Aztec race of kings or priests has been manufactured, by a well known person in this city, formerly employed by Moses Y. Beach, and published in the *Journal of Commerce*, to humbug and astound the good people of this city out of their shillings, by the impudent fabrication of their capture, flight, and wonderful history.

This is a true and veritable statement of this gross humbug, and the reason of the base attempt to assail us because we refused to become an associate in their infamy—all which we are ready to prove by a cloud of witnesses. We therefore call upon the journals in question, which published the false charges against us, to retract their statements, by publishing the counter affidavits, or they will hear of this business again.

THE ART UNION LOTTERY IN TROUBLE AT LAST.—Misfortunes seldom come alone; and the Art Union lottery has not only got into trouble, but we understand that one of the original subscribers—one who has subscribed from the very commencement—intends in a few days, either in his own proper person, or through his representative, to commence legal proceedings against the managers, for the purpose of winding up the concern, selling the property by public auction, and dividing the assets between all the subscribers, who are the owners of the Art Union.

This will be an interesting suit at law. It is the very step that was wanted to bring the committee to some accountability for its past management, and to unfold the secrets of its prison house, in spite of its efforts to hide them from the community. The process will also have another effect—it will postpone till the day of judgment the lottery and distribution at present pending, and will divide the whole of that property, and all the assets, *pro rata*, among the existing subscribers and proprietors.

The authority upon which we publish this information is of the most unquestionable character, and in a few days the public will see that it is so. The Art Union managers commenced by intimidating and frightening the newspapers by suits at law. By and bye they will have enough of it—such a dose as will make them sick of law for the rest of their journey in this mundane sphere.

RELIEVING BROADWAY.—We have received a copy of a petition, in course of signature, to be presented to the Mayor and Common Council of New York, setting forth the great obstruction to trade, and the serious danger to life and limb, springing from the increased number of stages that ply in the lower part of the city, and praying that all stages be prevented from passing below Vesey and Ann streets, with the exception of two from each line, to be employed in running between that point and the lower portion of the city.

This wonderful idea, it seems, owes its paternity to the prolific brain of Mr. J. N. Genin, who has of late been turning his attention to the removal of street obstructions, and has succeeded in solving and demonstrating the difficult mathematical problem known as the *pons asinorum*. Mr. Genin is a first rate hand at adorning the outside of a gentleman's head; but we are not quite sure that he is so capable of operating on the machinery of the inner portion, and we cannot see much to recommend in the plan which he has proposed. It is quite clear that if it were acted on by our city authorities, it would cause such a collection of omnibuses to the north of Vesey street, that Broadway would be there completely blockaded, and passage for other vehicles would be impossible, although it might have the effect of giving the proposed relief to the lower portion of the street, and of constituting a great focus of business contiguous to the museum and hat store; but only to make the obstructions in the upper part of the street, and the danger to life, tenfold greater than they are at present.

We ourselves do not profess to be *au fait* in street management, nor to have deliberated so much on the matter as Mr. Genin may have done, but yet we think we could suggest a better arrangement than this, and that is to pursue the plan adopted in London, Paris, Vienna, and other continental cities, and which consists in distributing the stage routes through all the parallel streets that can be made to communicate with the several termini. For instance, we would say, let three-fourths of these lines which run in Broadway to the South Ferry be compelled to take various routes, instead of allowing all to crowd on the one thoroughfare. Some might be made to go through Greene or Mercer street into Church street, thence into Greenwich or Washington; others through Laurens, Wooster, or Thompson street into West Broadway, and thence also into Greenwich or Washington; and others through William or Nassau street, while the Broadway and Fulton Ferry lines might run some through Pearl street, and some through Orange, Mulberry and Mott streets, crossing Chatham, and down James or Roosevelt into Cherry or Water street. The Bowery lines might be also arranged similarly, and the Second and First avenues might be made to run through Chrystie and Allen streets into Division, East Broadway, &c. We only, of course, give a rough sketch of what we propose for the purpose of relieving the main thoroughfares; but the plan might be systematized, and made to work well, by our city legislators. Thereby the human tide would be more proportionately distributed through our streets, and business and trade would look up in those back streets which are now comparatively unfrequented.

We do not say that there are no serious objections to the carrying out of this proposal; but we think that those which do exist are such as may be obviated without great difficulty, and we therefore recommend its adoption by our municipal authorities, in preference to the plan of Mr. Genin.

NIBLO GOING TO EUROPE.—We understand that William Niblo, Esq., the very Napoleon of American managers, sails for Europe to-day, in the Pacific, for the purpose of engaging some new and magnificent novelties in his line, to bring over next spring, and keep this great western world moving onwards.

We recommend him to all our friends in Europe, as a gentleman and man of business of the most undoubted means and merit. If Mr. Beale, of London, had sent Catherine Hayes to the care of Niblo, he never would have lost his Irish Swan, and Catherine never would have been humbugged as she has been. We advise Niblo to look after Grisi, Mario, Lablache, or Sontag, in opera; and by no means to forget the beautiful Carlotta Grisi or the wonderful Cerito in the ballet. Something must be done.

Chit Chat.

The Hon. D. Webster, Secretary of State, arrived here yesterday, and is at the Astor House. He will remain several days, and see his friends. He delivers a lecture next Monday, at the Historical Society—but not on the Maine liquor law. What is his legal opinion on that important question? Barnum wants to know.

General Sam Houston left town yesterday for Ohio and Texas. His excellent lady has had a sweet young daughter, which she wants to present him with. The hero stops on the way, at Columbus, and gives a lecture on temperance—not on the Maine liquor law.

Governor Marcy, one of the jostling crowd of democratic candidates for the Presidency, is in town, on his way to Washington. What is his opinion on the Maine liquor law?

Lola Montes has reached Richmond, Virginia, and is creating quite a great political and artistic excitement in the "Old Dominion" and the South. The Richmond *Enquirer* says that she is sound on the "intervention question," and this is more than it would say of many of the candidates for the Presidency. We wonder if Lola Montes is sound on the Maine liquor law. Barnum wants to know.

Kossuth and Kinkel are both in Cincinnati. Neither can go South. The Countess Lansfeldt (Lola herself) has secured that section against all these orators on intervention. What is Kossuth's opinion of the Maine liquor law?

Young Mr. A. Braham, the smartest son of the celebrated old Braham, begins a round of concerts at the Tabernacle, on Monday night next. He will be assisted by Madame Bouchelle, the sister of Vincent Wallace, the composer. Madame B. is one of the sweetest singers of the day.

Police Intelligence.

Arrest of Shoplifters—Quantity of Property Recovered.—Yesterday afternoon, officers Weatherby and Maroney, of the Second ward, arrested two dew peddlers, named James Marcus and Israel Gumbinger, on a charge of stealing two dozen children's hose and a bundle of flags, in all valued at $7, the property of Robert Foulds, No. 97 John street. It seems that the accused parties went into the store under the pretence of purchasing goods to peddle, and while one was engaging the attention of the salesman, the other pocketed the property. They were about leaving the store when detected, and placed in the custody of the police, and were conveyed to the Police Court before Justice Lothrop, who committed them to prison for trial. Subsequently, it was ascertained that the rogues resided at No. 121 Mulberry street in the rear; their premises were searched, and a large quantity of goods discovered, consisting of silk ribbons, linens, cambrics, cloths, table covers, handkerchiefs, hosiery, new boots, &c. One pair of boots has been already identified, and owners are wanted for the other articles, as they are all believed to have been stolen. Apply to Mr. Stewart, clerk of police, Tombs.

Alleged as Suspicious.—A man known to the police as Henry Calvin, alias Charles Jenkins, was arrested by officer Leesbeck, of the Twentieth ward, on suspicion of having committed several larcenies; and at his residence the officer found on the premises a chisel, pistol, several skeleton keys together with two white crape shawls, several articles of jewelry, a gold chain, and other articles of jewelry, supposed to have been stolen. Owners are wanted for the property. Apply to Justice McGrath, Jefferson Market police.

Attempt to Pass Counterfeit Money.—On Thursday night officer Saidmore of the Tenth ward police, arrested two men named Henry Cook and Gollup Preninger, on a charge of attempting to pass a counterfeit three dollar bill, purporting to be genuine, on the Farmers and Mechanics' Bank Rochester. They were detected at the store of Anthony Zemandy, and were placed in the hands of the above named officer of police. On searching the prisoners, the officer found on their persons $61 in gold and silver coin. They were conveyed before Justice Simpson, who committed them to prison for a further hearing.

Burglary.—Some bold thief on Wednesday night entered the dwelling house No 68 White street, by forcing an entrance through the front basement window, and stole therefrom a cable basket, coat, hat, and several other articles, the property of Mr. L. W. Rickman. No arrest.

Naval Intelligence.

Extract of a letter dated Ponce, Porto Rico, Jan. 29, 1852.—The schooner Silas B. Shaw arrived here 17th inst. She has discharged a part of her cargo, but is at present assisting the U. S. sloop of war Cyane, which ran ashore on the 19th on a sand bar which puts out from Crab Island some five or six miles. The Cyane got off on the morning of the 21st without damage, or very little. She threw over five of her guns, and put several tons of shot on board the schooner. The schooner will weigh her guns; three are buoyed, and two not. The second mate of the schooner has gone to the ship to dive for the two guns sunk. I went up in the schooner with the crew of my vessel, to assist in getting under weigh.

J. BIGGINS, master of bark Eden.

The Holy Alliance of Teetotallers.

A meeting, in connection with this association, was held, last evening, at the Eleventh Ward Presbyterian Church. Nine-tenths of the audience were ladies.

Mr. LEVENS said that the subject of temperance was one of transcendant importance, and was not isolated; and that it proceed with great weight at the present time, and the community were beginning to feel it. It was a work that would require all their energy, and was not to be settled in a corner. It also had an interest in the commerce of the United States. The Fifth avenue would blow up the rum hogsheads of the Five Points. He had no idea of the strength of the cause, and many of its advocates were unknowingly simultaneous in their efforts. The commercial interests were beginning to assert their claims, and to send forth their champions in the cause. He did not wish to see the Maine law passed unless its advocates had good reason for what they were doing. He meant to understand the question in all its bearings and wished them to do so. Alluding to the right to restrain rum selling, he referred to the Mosaic code, in which it was laid down that the owner of an ox who was addicted to goring, was killed, together with the animal, when the latter gored a man so that he died, and instituted a comparison. Now, they did not intend to go so far as that; but they acknowledged the principle, which came from high authority. He referred to Blackstone's Commentaries, (vol. 1,) in which that writer explained the principles of municipal law—that every man parted with his natural rights for the purpose of receiving back protective laws, and to the observance of which he bound himself. He cited this eminent authority as an answer to arguments which had been used as to the legality of the sought for prohibition. It had been said that the law, if enacted, could not be enforced; in reply to that, he asked if the inhabitants of the United States were, or were not, a law observing people? Neal Dow had told him a remarkable fact—that no politician could live a single hour in Maine who should propose the abrogation of the Maine law. They had for their supporters the conservative portion of the community—they had Christians, who had before hesitated, and they had all classes of the community with them. He related the circumstance of a visit he had made to a lunatic asylum, and his observation of a lunatic drunkard there, and expressed his horror. He hoped soon to see the community clothed, and in their right mind."

Prof. SWEETSER addressed the assembly in a speech of great length, and which he repeatedly stated was only an abridgement of what he intended to say. He declared that every human and feminine virtue had been cast into the abyss of intemperance. He described in eloquent language the scenes in the life of a drunkard, and his condition in society, and the miseries he entailed upon his wife and children, and denounced the hypocrisy and sordidness of the rumseller. It lay with the audience to say whether or not a prohibitory law should be enacted for this State.

The Rev Dr DOWLING was next introduced. He remarked that the subject of temperance reform had assumed a new phase. They were now attacking the citadel itself. They had shown the community great principles and had compelled their consent to their success. They had accomplished to perform. They had shown that intoxicating liquors were not only unnecessary, but in every case were injurious to the health. He was convinced that a prohibitory law was the only means of suppressing the evils of intemperance. Men were fearful of injuring their political interests; but, he said, the community were in favor of the total prohibition of this traffic. In the divisions of party politics, men found it difficult to know for whom they should vote. If a man voted as a citizen and not as a Christian, then, when the devil got the citizen, what would become of the Christian? (laughter.) Nine-tenths of the crime which was committed might be attributed to the effect of intoxicating drink. The reverend gentleman amused the audience at some length, by the narration of anecdotes of the parable kind.

One or two other speakers followed, and a collection having been made to defray expenses, the assembly withdrew.

City Intelligence.

THE FIREMEN'S MEETING.—At the meeting held in Firemen's Hall, Mr. Baker of Engine Company No. 2, offered the following, and called for the ayes and nays upon the question:—Whereas, This body has been informed that certain ordinances, based upon the report in favor of a reorganization of the Fire Department, adopted at a meeting held October 17, 1851, were favorably reported to the late Board of Aldermen, at its session in November last, by a special committee to whom the subject of reorganization &c., has been referred; and, whereas, this body is further informed that said ordinances and accompanying documents have been referred to a special committee of the present Board of Aldermen, no action having been taken thereon by the late common Council, therefore—

Resolved, That this body re-affirms its adherence to the plan of reorganization contained in the report adopted in October last; and being firm in the belief that the passage of the ordinances alluded to would greatly promote the interest and prosperity of the Fire Department, it respectfully and earnestly requests the special committee of the Board of Aldermen to report in favor thereof, with as little delay as possible.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolution, with an extract from the minutes, be signed by the officers of this meeting and furnished to said special committee, and that they be also respectfully requested to transmit it to the Board when they make their report.

The preamble and resolutions were adopted by the following vote—ayes, 65; nays, 24.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY.—In consequence of Washington's birthday falling on Sunday, this year, the principal celebration will take place on Monday. In compliance, however, with the united requests of the Governor's Guards and the Continentals, the Rev. Dr. Dewling will preach a discourse in the forenoon of next Sunday, February 22, appropriate to the day and the occasion; and the above volunteer companies will attend, with their officers, at the Broadway Baptist church, Hope Chapel, opposite Washington place.

THE ORPHANS AND WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY.—The Randall's Island children will celebrate Washington's birthday on Monday next. Mr. Ripley and his boys will have a grand procession with banners, made by the little boys. The girls and the boys will recite several pieces written for the occasion. It will be a good time for the benevolent to make them a donation.

ATTEMPT TO COMMIT SUICIDE.—About three o'clock yesterday afternoon, Mr. John Florence, one of the proprietors of the hotel corner of Howard and Broadway, cut his throat from ear to ear, with a razor. He was soon after discovered bleeding profusely, and several physicians were immediately called in, one of whom dressed the wound. His recovery is highly improbable, as the windpipe is partially severed. Mr. Florence for some time past has been in poor health, and made up his mind to take a trip to Charleston, S. C., for his health, about an hour previous to the committal of the rash act, and had taken passage on the steamship Marion, for himself and wife. It is supposed that he must have been laboring under a fit of derangement at the time of committing the deed. He is a man of considerable property, and it is not probable that difficulties of a pecuniary nature could have induced it.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—Yesterday morning, about half past 8 o'clock Mr. Wm. M. Johnston, while on the fourth story of house No. 48 Ferry street, for the purpose of bringing down some willow ware, fell through the hatchway, and was instantly killed. He was about twenty-four years of age, was a member of Engine Co. No. 2, and had only been married a short time. The deceased was one of the firm of R. R. Johnston & Son, willow store, No. 56 Catharine street, and the store at which the fatal accident occurred was occupied as a storage for some of their goods. The unfortunate young man died in less than fifteen minutes after receiving the injury; his skull was terribly fractured. Coroner Lyes held an inquest on the body, and a verdict was rendered in accordance with the above facts.

ACCIDENT.—On Tuesday, a colored