NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR AND EDITOR.

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Volume XIX.....No. 41.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery—UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway—MY YOUNG WIFE AND MY OLD UMBRELLA—A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM.

BURTON'S THEATRE, Chambers street—A PRETTY PIECE OF BUSINESS—A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM.

NATIONAL THEATRE, Chatham street—Afternoon and Evening—UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway—SOLDIER'S COURTSHIP—FOLLY AS IT FLIES.

AMERICAN MUSEUM—Afternoon—THE STRANGER—Evening—GAMBLER'S PROGRESS—THE PHENOMENON.

BROADWAY MENAGERIE—SIAMESE TWINS AND WILD BEASTS.

CHRISTY'S AMERICAN OPERA HOUSE, 472 Broadway—ETHIOPIAN MELODIES BY CHRISTY'S MINSTRELS.

WOOD'S MINSTRELS—Wood's Minstrel Hall, 444 Broadway—ETHIOPIAN LIVERTIES.

BUCKLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, 539 Broadway—BUCKLEY'S ETHIOPIAN OPERA TROUPE.

BANVARD'S GEORAMA, 586 Broadway—PANORAMA OF THE HOLY LAND.

BRENNER GALLERY, 563 Broadway—Day and Evening.

BIGNOR BLITZ—STUYVESANT INSTITUTE, 659 Broadway.

ACADEMY HALL, 563 Broadway—GRAHAM'S OPTICAL EXHIBITIONS OF THE SEVEN MINE MIRROR.

HOPE CHAPEL, 718 Broadway—JONES' PANTOSCOPE.

BRYAN GALLERY OF CHRISTIAN ART—848 Broadway.

New York, Saturday, February 11, 1854.

One Week's History

THE WEEKLY HERALD, containing a complete epitome of the week's intelligence from all quarters of the world, will be published at nine o'clock this morning. Price sixpence. To be had at the counter in wrappers and ready for mailing.

The News.

We learn that private advices are in town, brought by the Pacific, of more favorable news for peace, from Russia. It is conjectured from the latest despatches from Vienna and St. Petersburg, that the Czar is disposed to renew negotiations in some form, and it was supposed that something tangible would result from the modified tone of the Czar. Strong efforts have of course been made to effect a peaceful solution of the difficulty between Turkey and Russia, and, in the hopes of the friends of peace, these despatches may have been written. But as they come from good authority, we deem it our duty to state that such advices have been received.

The news from Washington this morning contains many features of great interest, particularly to New York readers. Our correspondent writes that the nomination of John O'Sullivan as Charge to Portugal, was transmitted to the Senate on Thursday, and met with strong opposition from Mr. Brodhead. Gen. Cass, it is understood, will support the appointment, and it is consequently thought that it will be confirmed. The famous Gadsden treaty was sent to the Senate yesterday; but that body declined to go into executive session, with the view of ordering it to be printed, despite the urgent solicitation of Gen. Rusk, who is warmly in favor of it. By way of a preliminary proceeding, this certainly looks dubious for the monstrous scheme of the New York Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company, who desire the government to expend twenty millions of dollars for a barren, uninhabitable desert, merely in order to secure them a route for a road. But let us await the action of the Senate on this extraordinary project to fill both the pockets of Santa Anna and a number of American railroad speculating politicians.

A number of private bills were disposed of in the Senate yesterday: after which the consideration of the Nebraska question was resumed, and Mr. Truman Smith finished the speech which he commenced on the day previous. In the course of his remarks he declared, notwithstanding his opposition to the proposed repeal of the Missouri compromise, that he had no sympathy whatever with the anti-slavery agitators, and had a fling at the President for having taken John Van Buren and his free soil allies to his bosom. From the frequent bursts of laughter produced by Mr. S. it will be seen that his speech was rather more of the comical than argumentative order. Mr. Weller having secured the floor, the body adjourned till Monday.

An attempt was made in the House of Representatives to resuscitate the Deficiency Appropriation bill which was killed on the day previous; but after a spirited debate the proposition failed by a vote of thirty-five to one hundred and thirty-four—nearly four to one. Mr. Houston, the chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, thereupon asked permission to report a new bill, to which objection was made. There now seems no other alternative for Mr. Houston to pursue than to resign his position at the head of the committee, thus following the example of ministers in the British Parliament, who always vacate when their schemes are voted down. The reappointment of Mr. H. to his old post, at the commencement of the session, was considered as an indication that the appropriations would be of the economical order, but events have proved that they are not in consonance with the views of a large majority of his compeers. But why was so much time actually wasted by the House in amending the bill, when it must have been apparent that it would in the end be defeated?

Yesterday being the last day of the session prior to a recess until Thursday next, little business was transacted in either branch of our State Legislature. Several bills were reported, among which we notice three or four in which our citizens are interested, viz: to aid the Deaf and Dumb Institution, for a penny savings bank, to amend the Mechanics' Lien law, and to tax the stock of insurance companies. The Senate ordered the bill for the temporary improvement of the canals to a third reading, and the temperance bill to a select committee, to be reported complete, after which the measure is to remain the special order until disposed of. Quite an exciting discussion took place in the Assembly relative to the contest for the seat from the third district of this city. The committee appointed to investigate the matter reported that Mr. P. H. McGuire, national democrat, was entitled to the seat, and that the sitting member, Mr. D. W. Clark, free soil democrat, must vacate. The report was made the special order for Friday next. Both houses adjourned till next Wednesday evening at seven o'clock. During the interim the election will be held for the amendment of the constitution, so as to provide means for the completion of the canals. In order that voters may the more fully understand the present condition of the State works, and thereby thoroughly prepare themselves to take part in this important election, we would recommend them to carefully peruse the report of the late State Engineer, published in another part of this paper.

Wm. Pitt Fessenden has been elected to the United States Senate by the Maine Legislature.

We to-day publish lengthy details of late and very interesting intelligence from South and Central America, embracing accounts of the progress of the Darien Ship Canal Exploring Expedition, mining, political, religious, commercial and general news from Chili, Buenos Ayres, Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru, Nicaragua, &c. By the instructive and entertaining letter of Mr. Nelson, detailing the explorations made by the officers of the British ship Virago, it will be seen that the party have discovered the existence of an extensive plain hitherto unknown, and watered by large rivers not set down on any map. The company crossed the Isthmus of Darien in eighteen hours, and from the tenor of their report there appears little doubt of the feasibility of constructing the proposed canal, although such an undertaking will meet with many obstacles, both from the broken nature of the country and the hostility of the Indians, particularly on the Atlantic side, where they are reported to be arming with the intention of making a desperate resistance to the encroachments of the whites. New discoveries have been made of extensive beds of precious metals, and of quarries of fine marble, in Chili. So far as appearances are concerned the miners of that country are in a most flourishing condition; but the generality of the people there, as in nearly every other part of South America, are kept in a perpetual state of excitement by political and religious feuds, in consequence of which a majority of them are likely to remain poor and miserable until they are enlightened by the Americans and English. Even who are fast taking up their abode among them. The inhabitants of Valparaiso have been much pleased with the announcement that they are hereafter to be supplied with North American ice at the rate of four cents per pound, which is cheaper than they can procure frozen snow from the Cordilleras.

By way of Panama we have received a letter from our Melbourne correspondent, and have files of Australian papers to the 18th of November. The news, though not very important, is varied and interesting. We have additional particulars respecting the occupation of New Caledonia by the French, and the probable consequences of that act on the convict system of England and her policy toward the Polynesian Islands. A Sydney correspondent of the Melbourne Argus reports the abandonment of the Orange river sovereignty by the British. Active preparations were making to colonize the banks and drive a trade along the sides of the newly explored Murray river. A very exciting sailing match had taken place on the waters of Port Phillip, between the American schooner Pride of the Sea—built by George Steers—and the English yacht Lelia, in which the latter was far distanced. Captain Forde, U. S. A., of Salem, Mass., died of fever in Melbourne on the 30th of October. A party of Americans had contracted with the corporation of Melbourne for cleaning and watering the streets of that city, from which we presume that they are enterprising New Yorkers, who are aware what a sinecure such speculators enjoy at home. A number of United States newsboys had landed in Melbourne, and created quite a jealousy amongst the newspaper folk by their eager business habits. The last trade reports and gold circulars are given.

Advices from Kingston, Jamaica, to the 28th ult., announce that the House of Assembly and Board of Council were in session. On the 24th ultimo the Hon. Mr. Porteus called the attention of the latter body to the recent "Emancipado" order of the Captain General of Cuba, and urged that the labor market of Jamaica should be replenished by a government importation of the negroes freed thereby. It was resolved that a deputation from the Board should wait upon the Governor of Jamaica, and request him to put himself in communication with the English Consul at Havana on the subject, with a view to ascertain how far advantage could be taken of the African liberation policy of Spain.

In a communication from the Comptroller to the Board of Aldermen, that functionary recommends a revision of the ordinances prescribing the powers and duties of several departments. The Comptroller states that several heads of departments have been in the habit of lodging the public money received by them in banks, and placing the interest to their own credit, instead of to the credit of the county. The reformers will doubtless look to this.

The Reverend Samuel Osgood delivered a lecture last evening before the members of the Mercantile Library Association, upon "Our Old Men and Our Young Men." The reverend lecturer had a very large audience.

Rev. E. H. Chapin delivered a lecture last evening on the life of John Hampden, but owing to the want of room, we are compelled to omit reports of this and two or three other lectures which we have in type. If possible we shall publish all of them tomorrow.

Our telegraphic despatches contain various accounts of maritime and railroad accidents, political, commercial and general news, to which, as well as to a large amount of other interesting matter, we cannot afford space for particular reference.

The Cunard steamship Africa is nearly due at this port, with three days later advices from Europe. She is now in her fourteenth day.

The Spoilsmen at Washington and Albany.

We draw particular attention to the very able and lucid report of Mr. Engineer McAlpine on our works of internal improvement in general and the proposed canal enlargement in particular. A perusal of this excellent document cannot fail to convince every one that had the enlightened policy pursued by De Witt Clinton and his contemporaries been steadily followed up to the present day, the New York canals would by this time have furnished not only ample means for their own enlargement and completion, but a surplus fund over and above all charges. Had the tolls been kept at the rates that existed some years ago, they would now be pouring several millions into the State treasury, and instead of promising to become a drain upon the public would have provided our State government with all the money it required. The reduction of the tolls benefited no one but the forwarders. The public derived no advantage from it, as it made no sensible alteration in the price of produce; and as, according to Mr. McAlpine, the railroads could not compete with the canals for the carriage of bulky articles, it conferred no benefit on the State. The traffic would have been the same, if there had been no diminution of the tolls. It was done simply in order to put money into the pockets of the forwarders who were in league with the politicians and schemers at Albany; and the consequence now is that we are called upon to raise ten millions and a half to make up the deficit caused by their reduction.

We have on more than one occasion sketched the doings of the spoilsmen at Washington. Our calculations on the subject of the public plunder in the way of patent renewals, railroad and other stock-jobbing schemes and slices of the surplus revenue, have enabled us to fix the sum for which politicians are now scrambling at something like five hundred millions of dollars. It would seem that the prospect of so much plunder has fired the imagination and excited the cupidity of our State politicians at Albany. They naturally enough think that if the lobby members and knaves at Washington have five hundred millions to divide between them, the like classes at Albany ought at least to contrive to share some beggarly pittance of ten or twelve. And as the State Legislature has no patent monopolies to grant, no public lands to give away, no surplus revenue to spread before the political jackals, the only thing they can do is to squander the canal revenues under the present constitution and then ask the people to run into a fresh debt of ten millions for the pretended purpose of enlarging them. Accordingly we find them jovially ratifying the amendment passed last session, and coming forward hat in hand to the people with a request for ten millions of money to complete the private fortunes of the speculators, contractors and stock jobbers at Albany, under pretence of completing the canals.

It has been generally estimated that when public moneys pass through the hands of such men as these, about one half is usually pocketed by the contractors, speculators, politicians, members of the Legislature and editors favorable to the scheme. This estimate is a liberal one, perhaps too liberal to the State; it would be well for us if the public works always got half the amounts voted to them. With this experience fresh in their minds, the people of this State will be called upon next Wednesday to say whether or no they will sanction a new loan of $10,000,000, or in other words whether they will put $5,000,000 of money into the pockets of the politicians, spoilsmen, editors and others who are interested in carrying through the amendment. If the people think these parties deserve a reward from the public for their devotion to party interests and private speculations, let them have it by all means; though perhaps it would be more straightforward to call things by their names, and vote five millions of hard cash directly to the operators. It must not be supposed that we are exaggerating the case. Most of our readers recollect the beautiful division which was made of the nine millions formerly voted for the enlargement of the canals, and rescued by the Court of Appeals from the jaws of the speculators and spoilsmen who were to have had such a pretty per centage thereon. Nor has it been entirely forgotten that some of the present editors or proprietors of the New York *Daily Times* figured in the list of the would-be sharers in that slice of the spoils. It is well to bear these reminiscences in mind as we read the apologies now published by our Seward cotemporaries for the proposed amendment. The most charitable can hardly help thinking that many of the defenders of the scheme have as good reasons for their present as they had for their former course.

In point of fact, the canal system of this State is thoroughly understood by every one, and it will not be as easy to throw dust in the eyes of the public as these newspaper editors believe. The present plan of enlargement was adopted by the people after mature deliberation, and the bulk of our citizens are still as firmly convinced as they ever were that it is the only sound, proper and judicious one. If, with the glorious traffic now carried on between the seaboard and the West, with the splendid business of which the canal enlargement party boast so loudly, the New York canals cannot provide a fund for their own completion, as provided by the constitution, then they do not deserve to be completed. Had they belonged to private individuals, we have not the smallest doubt that they would by this time have furnished ample means for their enlargement and completion. They have not done so, simply because the wire pullers at Albany did not desire that they should; as they would then have had no opportunity of plundering the State of four or five millions of dollars. These plunderers ought now to be taught that the people will not be deluded any longer. The old system recognized by the constitution is the only safe one. We must adhere to it; and, while we give to the politicians at Albany due credit for having matured a scheme which certainly leaves the most impudent of the Washington operations far in the shade, we must use the power we have retained in our own hands to prevent these spoilsmen robbing us of five millions of dollars.

What is this Legislature which calls upon us to incur a fresh debt of $10,000,000? In all our experience we never remember to have seen a more utterly worthless and abandoned set of politicians assembled together. Men sent to the Legislature by corruption, by mistake, by every means and every influence except that of character, integrity or talent: the outgrowth of fanatical agitation, and the apostles of every absurd ism that unrestrained license of opinion ever begat: blind preachers of teetotalism, crazy apologists for women's rights, lunatics born so, and lunatics made so by spiritualism: such are the individuals who represent us at Albany, and propose to run us in debt ten millions more. Shall we vote to plunge ourselves and our children into debt to raise money for such men as these—for legislators like Mr. Leigh, who has distinguished himself so signally by his base, vulgar and ridiculous attack on the barroom of the St. Nicholas Hotel—one of the best and most magnificent hotels in this or any other country?

The people will answer. We say, let the canals complete the canals. If they are properly managed, and let alone by schemers and spoilsmen, they can do it.

PUBLIC OPINION IN THIS METROPOLIS ON THE NEBRASKA QUESTION.—Upon every great question for the last fifteen years, since the independent press became a power in the land, the position assumed by the leading journals of this metropolis, whose circulation gives them the largest access to the public mind, has invariably foreshadowed the ultimate action of Congress. The political revolution resulting in the election of General Harrison, the annexation of Texas, the war with Mexico, and the compromise measures of 1850, which were respectively the great issues of their day, were each and all first foreshadowed by the metropolitan press of New York.

How stands the question now with regard to Nebraska? We are as yet only upon the threshold of the agitation of this subject; but the position of our daily city journals of the English language already indicates the success of the bill of Mr. Douglas. From the best returns that we can command of the aggregate circulation of our English dailies for the Nebraska bill and against it, they foot up as follows:—

DAILY CIRCULATION.

For the Nebraska Settlement.		*Against it.*	
HERALD	55,000	Tribune	15,000
Sun	33,000	Times	19,000
Journal of Commerce	5,000	Post	1,500
Day Book	700	Commercial	3,000
National Democrat	700		
True Democrat	500	Total	38,500
Total	94,900		

DOUBTFUL.

	Daily Circulation.
Courier and Enquirer	1,500
Express	3,000
Total	7,500

RECAPITULATION.

	Daily.
Aggregate circulation for Nebraska	94,900
Do. do. against the bill	38,500
Majority for Nebraska	56,400
Add doubtful to opposition	7,500
And the excess for the bill is still	48,900

The HERALD, as usual, was the first to take ground upon this great question, and that position upon the subject which furnishes the reasons, the propriety, and the certainty of the passage of the bill. It is but two or three weeks since this momentous issue was sprung upon the country; but instantly the independent press hit upon the conclusion, as indicated in the failure of the Tabernacle meeting, and the rapid progress of the bill in the Senate. The Senate debate shows that more progress has been made in two weeks in the discussion of this subject, than was made in two years upon the measures of 1850; the discussion of these measures, however, had prepared the Senate and the country for a clear understanding of this matter, and all the constitutional points involved in it. But in 1850, as in 1854, the Wall street journals were first among the opposition. The *Courier and Enquirer*, however, in the former case, after discharging its anti-slavery editor, and after making an apology to the public, wheeled into line on the side of the adjustment. And so will it have to do before this present controversy is ended. The *Journal of Commerce*, which was also among the anti-slavery pleaders in the outset of the agitation of 1849-'50, has, on this occasion, taken Time by the forelock, following prudently in the wake of the HERALD.

We have no doubt of the passage of this bill, no more doubt than we have, upon the setting of the sun, that it will rise the next day, and so continue to do till the day of judgment beyond which it is not necessary now to go. We do not derive our conclusions from the press of New York, but we say that our metropolitan daily press gives in the aggregate the earliest foreshadowing of the drift of public opinion and Congressional action. In thus reflecting public opinion, the independent press, especially, has, of late years, exercised, and will continue to exercise, a great power over the politicians, spoilsmen, and Presidential cliques, and aspirants of the country. It is a power which acts upon many even of the old fogies, with the force of an electrical battery, galvanizing them into new life, and urging them into the progressive spirit of the age.

THE SCARLET LETTER AGAIN—MR. GALBRAITH'S STATEMENT.—We publish elsewhere in this paper the statement of Mr. Benjamin Galbraith, in reply to the last publication of Mr. John Cochrane upon the free soil Scarlet letter of General Pierce of 1848. The memory of Mr. Cochrane, we suspect, will be much refreshed by the reading of this statement. It is perfectly conclusive. Mr. Galbraith adheres to the original facts of his conversations with the Surveyor of the Port. He re-affirms that Mr. Cochrane did admit that he had seen the letter "not a great while since," that he would look it up, and that it did sympathise with the Van Buren free soilers of 1848. If it were necessary, we could produce two other witnesses to sustain the testimony of Mr. Galbraith; but we consider his statement a complete settler of the matter at issue. But to satisfy the public curiosity, and to settle the question beyond all cavilling, why does not the President permit Mr. Cochrane to put his hand in his breeches pocket and bring out that letter—that mysterious letter—that Scarlet letter—to the light of day. Till that is done the public judgment must be that it is a free soil Van Buren Buffalo platform letter, which, if brought out, would establish the nomination and the election of General Pierce as a fraud upon his party, and a fraud upon the country. The non-appearance of the letter, or its sudden disappearance, is enough, and betrays those free soil proclivities and associations, on the part of General Pierce, which may yet result in treachery from the White House on the Nebraska question, unless the South and the friends of Douglas are shrewd and vigilant. Let the South look to the White House and the Cabinet with a jealous eye, till this Scarlet letter is brought out. Why not give us the letter?

THE ISTHMUS OF DARIEN—IMPORTANT NEWS.—We publish to-day an interesting letter from Robert Nelson, of the British surveying expedition, detailed from the ship of war Virago, on the Pacific side, to make an exploration across the Isthmus of Darien, with the view of ascertaining the advantages or disadvantages of that isthmus for the excavation of a ship canal between the two oceans. The report goes very far to sustain the representations of Dr. Black, which resulted in the despatch a few weeks since of the sloop of war Cyane by our government, for an official survey of the route indicated between the bay of San Miguel on the Pacific, and the bay of New Caledonia on the Atlantic side. From the reports of the British surveying party, it appears that the party crossed the country until they got within about eight miles of the Atlantic, of which ocean they had an excellent view. They encountered a plain of some twenty-two miles in length, and in no part of it did they find the elevation greater than fifty feet above the level of the sea.

If this report is confirmed by Lieut. Strain, of the Cyane surveying corps, and by the French expedition detailed for the same purpose to the same quarter, then is the question of the route for the great interoceanic canal between the Atlantic and Pacific a "fixed fact." That it will be confirmed we have no reason to doubt. We shall wait, however, with great interest the more thorough exploration which will unquestionably be made of the whole route, from end to end, by our own expedition.

WORK FOR DECAYED POLITICIANS.—We learn that E. B. Hart, Esq., and others have been appointed a sub-committee, by the National Democratic Committee at the Stuyvesant Institute, and instructed to solicit subscriptions for a weekly journal that has suffered much in the hardshell cause, and is even now in the jaws of death. Mr. E. B. Hart was once a member of Congress. He figured subsequently as a candidate for the Navy Agency, but having been unsuccessful in the endeavor, he seems to have turned his attention to the calling of a newsboy. We are glad to see that a respectable business is at length opened for decayed politicians; a vocation which will keep them out of mischief and beggary, and may at the same time prove congenial to their old tastes. It pleases us so much that if Mr. Hart will call on us, we don't mind proving our friendship for the national democracy, by trying to obtain for him a route of the HERALD, or if this cannot be had, the early sale of some of our extras. This, we imagine will be more permanent and profitable than canvassing for his present employers.

EXCLUSIVE NEWS AGAIN.—We published exclusively, the other day, the text of the copyright treaty pending before the United States Senate. Why do not our cotemporaries, who raised such a clamor against our first exclusive report of that Mexican treaty, why do they not come out and pronounce this copyright treaty also a hoax?

Supreme Court—General Term.

Hon. Judges Mitchell, Roosevelt and Morris, present.

THE EXTRADITION CASE.

FEB 10.—*In the Matter of Alexander Hailbronn.*—This case, which comes up now on application on behalf of the accused for a warrant under the State law, (Revised Statutes, sec. 80, chap. 9,) to prevent his removal out of the State, was called on to-day, but was again postponed. The argument is fixed for Wednesday next.

Governor Crosby, of Maine, was qualified on the 8th instant, and delivered his inaugural address.

The Troubles of Criticism—Another Appeal from an Actor.

In our notice of the performance of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at the Broadway, we alluded to Mr. Davidge, who personated Bottom, in the following terms:—

In the comic underplot, the great character, as every one knows is Bottom the weaver. It was taken by Davidge on Monday, and a great deal of talent displayed in the rendering. Still it is impossible to endorse him as Bottom until first, he learns his part thoroughly, and secondly, his grotesque action and comic exclamations approach a little nearer to nature.

Mr. Davidge is not satisfied with this, and writes us the following letter:—

FEBRUARY 8, 1854

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

SIR—An article in this day's issue of the HERALD, purporting to be a criticism on "Midsummer Night's Dream" at the Broadway theatre, does me the favor ingeniously to qualify some little praise it would bestow on my personation of the character of Bottom, by asserting that I was in perfect in the text.

With the opinion that you or any censor of the press may entertain of my poor ability in the various characters I am called upon to sustain of course I have nothing to advance. I must presume them to be given with the conviction that you are right and I am wrong; but I do most vehemently protest against a charge of being imperfect in the words; and in justice to myself request you to state in what part or portion of the play you discovered the delinquency.

I am ever ready to admit the freedom of the press in the drama, as well as in every other other branch of art, and do not suffer my equanimity to be ruffled in the slightest degree by either prejudice or conviction; but a charge like the one in question would subject me to a very questionable reputation in other cities of the Union.

Waiting yours, I am, sir, yours, obediently,
WM. DAVIDGE.

P S.—Both Mr. Barry and Mr. Wright, the prompter, bear testimony to my position in this matter.

We are quite willing to comply with Mr. Davidge's request, and to point out "in what part or portion of the play" we "discovered his delinquency." It was generally in his part in the fifth act (Shakspeare's version), which he had not studied sufficiently, and did not know by heart. It was particularly in the dialogue between Pyramus and Thisbe, which Mr. Davidge could never have got through without the assistance of the prompter. It was particularly in the verses beginning "O grim looked night!" when spectators in the orchestra heard the prompter better than Mr. Davidge seemed to do. It was particularly in another portion of the same scene, when Mr. Davidge stopped short entirely, having forgotten his part, and the whole house laughed at his predicament. It was likewise particularly in the scenes where Mr. Davidge as Bottom, being transformed into an ass, and not aware of his own transformation, committed the unpardonable solecism of braying, and thus showed his very superficial acquaintance with Shakspeare's meaning. It was likewise particularly in act III, scene 1, (Shakspeare's version,) when Mr. Davidge blundered in his dialogue with the fairies, and required assistance both from the performers on the stage and the prompter. When in reference to these crying faults we simply observed that Mr. Davidge had not "learned his part thoroughly" we submit that we dealt with him with a leniency in which we were not as critics entirely justified. We are the more inclined to regret it, as a comparison between Mr. Davidge's Bottom and that of Mr. Burton was perhaps due to the public, and would have enabled us to point out in a few words how very far the former was from what might have been expected from a leading comedian at a metropolitan theatre.

LIQUOR AGENCY OF NEW BEDFORD.—The liquor agent of New Bedford has just published his quarterly report of the work done in his department for the three months ending on the 23d of January. The following figures show the result:—

	Purchased.	*Sold.*	*On hand.*
Brandy, gallons	218	199	276
Rum, do	1,348	956	638
Gin, do	367	283	289
Wine, do	102	161	225
Claret wine, do	6	9	12
Alcohol, do	197	180	121
Three months business	2,211	1,788	1,562

One thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight gallons of liquor, or about one hundred and thirty-five thousand doses, as appears by the above, were sold in New Bedford during three months for medicinal purposes, exclusive of ale and porter, which are not included in the table, but which bore their proportion in amount sold to the other medicines. New Bedford must be a very unhealthy place.

Marine Affairs.

QUICK PASSAGE.—The new clipper ship Red Jacket, commanded by Capt. Asa Eldridge, late of the steam yacht North Star, whose arrival at Liverpool was reported in the English papers on the 25th ult., is stated by letter to have arrived up to Liverpool on the 24th, having made the passage from city to city in the astonishing short time of thirteen days and one hour and a half. She left here on the morning of the 10th January, and arrived at the Bell Buoy on the 22d—twelve days—without the loss of a rope yarn. She is a fine vessel of 2,434 tons register, built by Mr. Geo. Thomas, of Rockland, and is on her first voyage, and not yet coppered. She is owned by Secomb & Taylor, of Boston, and was despatched hence by Mr. Wm. T. Dugan. The Liverpool *Courier* thus notices her performance:—

Yesterday, the splendid new American clipper Red Jacket, Captain Eldridge, (late of the Liverpool packet Roscius,) arrived here from New York, after having made the unprecedented run (for a sailing vessel) of thirteen days one hour and twenty-five minutes. She is one of the handsomest vessels we ever beheld, possessing, with the greatest symmetry of model immense strength and carrying capacity. Below we give her log:—

	Miles.		*Miles.*
Wednesday, 11th Jan.	103	Wednesday, 18th	319
Thursday, 12th	150	Thursday, 19th	*413
Friday, 13th	265	Friday, 20th	374
Saturday, 14th	311	Saturday, 21st	242
Sunday, 15th	217	Sunday 22d	300
Monday, 16th	106	Monday, 23d	371
Tuesday, 17th	121		

* "The main brace was spliced" on the strength of four hundred and thirteen miles, being the greatest distance ever run in twenty-four hours by anything afloat.

MESSRS. FRASE & MURPHY, Fulton Iron Works, foot of Cherry street, East river, have just commenced an engine of 64 inch cylinder and 8 feet stroke, for a steamship of 900 tons burden, now building at the yard of Mr. Wm. H. Webb, and intended for the island of Cuba.

ANOTHER MUTINOUS CREW.—During the past day or two a part of the crew (eight,) of the ship Jennie W. Paine, Capt Robert Norton, which vessel recently arrived in our harbor from New York, having become mutinous and refused to perform duty, the Consul of the United States at this port has twice visited the vessel for the purpose of examining into their complaints. The result of the matter, we learn, is, that yesterday the eight disorderly men were ordered to be placed in irons, and kept so until they express their willingness to perform their duty.—*Panama Star, Jan 24.*

The Loss of the San Francisco.

THE NOBLE CONDUCT OF CAPT. STAUFFER.

Below we give the modest letter of Capt. Stauffer, to the consignees of the packet ship Antarctic, which speaks for itself. The letter of Messrs. Zerega & Co. also shows that Capt. Watkins had gone to London, to confer with the American Minister in reference to the best means of providing for the return of the United States troops and others to the United States:—

LIVERPOOL, Jan. 24, 1854

MESSRS. ZEREGA & CO.:—I beg to inform you of the arrival of the Antarctic in the river on the 23d inst., where I am compelled to remain until the 28th, owing to the tides.

On the 24 inst., in lat 39 40, lon 62, fell in with steamship San Francisco and took from her the captain, purser, two officers, three lieutenants, and a scout one hundred and ninety United States government troops, which detained me about fifty-four hours. Your obd't servant,
(Signed) GEO. C. STAUFFER, Ship Antarctic.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK HERALD.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10, 1854.

Will you please publish the above letter we received by Pacific, from Capt Stauffer, being all the information he gives us for his noble part in the rescue of the unfortunate passengers of the San Francisco, by which it would appear that his modesty is only equalled by his intrepidity and good heart.

We learn further from our correspondents, Messrs. A. Dennistoun & Co., that Capt. Watkins has gone to London, to see the American Minister in regard to providing for the unfortunate. In the meantime, all the parties remain on board the Antarctic.

Any comments you may make will be appreciated by your obedient servants, ZEREGA & CO.

Naval Intelligence.

The frigate St. Lawrence remained at Callao Jan. 12, all well.

The surveying steamer Corwin, detailed to make a survey of the Florida reefs, put into Savannah 5th inst., from this port, short of coal, having been delayed by strong head winds. She would leave again immediately after coaling.

The United States store ship Relief, now at New York, is preparing to take out stores to the Brazil squadron. The following officers have been ordered to her, viz:—Lieut. Commanding, Stephen C. Rowan; Acting Master, Samuel P. Coster; Passed Midshipmen, James S. Thornton, Walter Queen, and David B. Harmony; and Passed Assistant Surgeon, James H. Gould.

Board of Supervisors.

His honor the Recorder in the chair.

FEB 9.—The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

THE CORONERS' BILLS.

The report of the committee in favor of paying the bills of the four Coroners, amounting to $4,305 87½, and also $326, the bills in the same accounts for post mortem examinations, was adopted, and the accounts ordered to be paid; also in favor of paying John Ives, late Coroner, for fees in defending the case of Tityam vs. the Coroner, for false imprisonment, $250—ordered to be paid.

PAYMENT FOR DEFENDING A FUGITIVE SLAVE.

The report of the committee in favor of paying E. D. Culver $309 expenses incurred in defending the prosecution of one Boland, claimed as a fugitive, was adopted.

The committee reported adverse to a bill from the Bloomingdale Asylum, for want of proper authentication.

Adjourned to Monday next.

The Scarlet Letter Again—Mr. Galbraith's Statement.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK HERALD.

MR. EDITOR—My statement of the conversations between my self and Mr. Cochrane, respecting "that Scarlet Letter," appears to be quite unpalatable to that gentleman, and has elicited from him some remarks which he, doubtless, intended should pass for a contradiction of the truth of my statement, but which are, in fact, a very clumsy attempt to blink the question, and crawl out of the dilemma in which he is confessedly fixed. My statement is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. I have nothing to add thereto or subtract therefrom; it states exactly what took place at my two interviews with Mr. Cochrane, and I now repeat it: "I saw Mr. Cochrane soon after this, and I asked him if he had the letter which was written by Franklin Pierce, in 1848, to the meeting held in New York in that same year, for the purpose of ratifying and confirming the proceedings which had lately taken place in the Utica or Buffalo convention, and the nominations which were there made, in his possession. Mr. Cochrane said he had the letter referred to. I then asked him if he would give it to me, and he said he would if he could find it, but that it was some time since he saw it, and that he hardly knew where it was, but that he would look for it and send it to me. Not having received it, I saw Mr. Cochrane again, and he told me he had not yet found it, 'for,' said he, 'I have been moving my office from Wall street to Trinity Building, and my papers have got somewhat disarranged, but I am sure I have it, and will find it for you; I saw it not a great while since: I opened a roll of papers, and in that roll of papers there I found this identical letter, written by Franklin Pierce to the ratification meeting in 1848.'

"I then asked him as to its contents, and he said he did not recollect very distinctly, but to far as he recollected it was a general approval of the course that had been pursued, and the nominations made at the Utica or Buffalo Convention in 1848.

"I then asked him why it had not been read and published at the time or immediately after the meeting. He said he did not know, but he supposed it was because the officers of the meeting, and he particularly mentioned Judge Waterbury, considered Franklin Pierce a man of so little note or influence at that time that to read or publish a letter of his would do no good to them whatever, and hence the reason of it being thrown aside, along with a number of others, as entirely worthless, until he became President of the United States."

To this Mr. Cochrane, after a vast amount of redundantade, which he mistakes for wit, says:—

"Mr. Galbraith's statement shall be fairly and fully encountered.

It is untrue that I stated to Mr Galbraith that I had the letter referred to.

It is untrue that Mr. Galbraith called on me a second time.

It is untrue that I said I am sure I have it, and will find it for you.

It is untrue that I said I saw it not a great while since.

It is untrue that I said that I opened a roll of papers, and in that roll of papers there I found this identical letter, written by Franklin Pierce to the ratification meeting in 1848.

It is false that I said the letter, so far as I recollected, was a general approval of the course that had been pursued, and the nominations made at the Utica or Buffalo convention in 1848.

It is false that Benjamin Galbraith asked me why the letter had not been read and published at the time, or immediately after the meeting.

It is false that I said I did not know, but supposed it was because the officers of the meeting, particularly Judge Waterbury, considered Franklin Pierce as a man of so little note or influence at that time that to read or publish a letter of his would do no good to them whatever, and hence the reason of its being thrown aside, along with a number of others, as entirely worthless, until he became President of the United States.

I did say that a letter was received from General Pierce; that it *must* be among my papers.

I did say that I recollect having seen some years ago a roll of papers, which on opening I discovered were letters received at the meeting of 1848, but I did not examine them, but put them away, and had not since been able to find them.

I was aware when General Pierce's letter was received that the Buffalo Convention had not been held. I was also aware that Judge Waterbury was not an officer of the meeting of 1848, and yet Benjamin Galbraith represents me as uncertain of the first fact and sure of the last."

And this, in the opinion of Mr. Cochrane, is FAIRLY and FULLY encountering my statement. It shows what his notions of fairness are; why, he has not ventured to deny the truth in *substance and effect* of a single sentence in all my statement, but has contained himself to denying that I give his precise words. This hair-splitting and trifling with truth is just what may be expected from a man of Mr. Cochrane's calibre.

"It is untrue I said *I had the letter*," says Mr. Cochrane; and almost in the same breath he admits "*I did say* a letter was received; it *must* be among my papers."

Oh! Mr. Cochrane, if in your practice at the bar you had caught an adverse witness first denying he had a *letter*, and next admitting it *must* be among his papers, how would you have declaimed on his obvious *prevarication*! And what shall be said of you, who set out to *fairly and fully* encounter my statements, attempting to shield yourself by distinguishing between saying *I have* and *I must have*? But all Mr. Cochrane's fair and full encountering is of this or a similar character; for, not content with his dishonorable equivocation, he has *garbled* my statements, perverted their obvious and legitimate meaning, and then appealed to facts capable of proof *aliunde* to confirm his allegations.

"It is false," writes Mr. Cochrane, "that I said that the letter, so far as I recollected, was a general approval of the course that had been pursued, and the nominations made, at the Utica or Buffalo convention in 1848."

Here his full and fair encountering amounts to this, and this only: that he denies saying Utica or Buffalo; and then, to lend force to his denial, he says, "I was aware when General Pierce's letter was received that the Buffalo convention had not been held;" and from this he wishes it to be inferred that it was impossible he should say *Utica or Buffalo*, inasmuch as the Buffalo convention had not been held; he may safely deny he said Utica or Buffalo for this simple reason: that I do not charge him with having so