NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR AND EDITOR.

OFFICE N. W. CORNER OF FULTON AND NASSAU STS

TERMS cash in advance.
THE DAILY HERALD 2 cents per copy—$7 per annum.
THE WEEKLY HERALD every Saturday at 6¼ cents per copy, or $3 per annum; the European Edition $4 per annum to any part of Great Britain, and $5 to any part of the Continent both to include postage.
ALL LETTERS by mail for Subscriptions or with Advertisements, to be post paid, or the postage will be deducted from the money remitted.

Volume XIX.....No 57.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery—UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway—SMOCKING EVENTS—A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM.

BURTON'S THEATRE, Chambers street—A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM—OUR BEST SOCIETY.

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

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway—THE LOVE CHASE—A PRETTY PIECE OF BUSINESS.

AMERICAN MUSEUM—Afternoon—NICOLO FAMILY—HAPPY MAN—Evening—THE OLD BREWERY.

BROADWAY MENAGERIE—LILLIPUTIAN KING—MAMMOTH LADY AND LIVING TRAINED ANIMALS.

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

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

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

BANVARD'S GEORAMA, 596 Broadway, PANORAMA OF THE HOLY LAND.

RHENISH GALLERY, 563 Broadway—Day and Night.

SIGNOR BLITZ—STUYVESANT INSTITUTE, 559 Broadway.

ACADEMY HALL, 663 Broadway PERHAM'S GIFT EXHIBITIONS OF THE SEVEN MILE MIRROR.

BRYAN GALLERY OF CHRISTIAN ART—843 Broadway.

New York, Tuesday, Feb 28, 1854.

Mails for Europe.

THE NEW YORK HERALD—EDITION FOR EUROPE.

The royal mail steamship Canada, Capt. Stone, will leave Boston on Wednesday, at noon, for Liverpool.

The WEEKLY HERALD (printed in French and English) will be published at half-past nine o'clock this morning. Single copies, in wrappers, sixpence.

The European mails will close at a quarter to three o'clock this afternoon.

Subscriptions and advertisements for any edition of the NEW YORK HERALD will be received at the following places in Europe:—

LIVERPOOL...John Hunter, No 2 Paradise street.
LONDON....Edward's, Sandford & Co., No. 17 Cornhill.
Wm. Thomas & Co., No. 19 Catherine street.
PARIS.....Livingston, Wells & Co., 8 Place de la Bourse.

OUR AGENTS IN PARIS, FRANCE.

We beg leave to state to our readers and patrons in Paris, and Europe generally, that Mr. B. H Revoil, 17 Rue de la Banque, Paris, *is no longer connected* with the NEW YORK HERALD, either as correspondent or agent.

Messrs. Livingston & Wells, 8 Place de la Bourse, are our only agents in Paris, both for advertisements and subscriptions.

The News.

Gen. Cass made a lengthy speech in the United States Senate yesterday, in defence of his course with regard to the Nebraska-Kansas question. Though he regretted that the subject had been brought up, and that he was compelled to make known his position thereupon, he nevertheless should vote for the bill. This was expected, the General having already committed himself in the celebrated Nicholson letter, and in recent speches, to the effect that the Missouri act is unconstitutional, and should be declared null and void. Mr. Cooper followed in opposition, taking the old track of Seward, Chase and company, that the passage of the measure would produce greater reprobation and excitement than the adoption of any other act. Mr. Brodhead replied to his colleague, and declared that the bill was perfectly in accordance with the sentiments uttered by him (Mr. B.) eight years ago. In the course of the day Mr. Chase presented an informal amendment, providing for the election of a Governor and other public officers and members of the Territorial Legislature.

The free soilers throughout the Northern States are unceasing in their endeavors to create an excitement on the Nebraska question; but despite all their efforts a great, an overwhelming majority of the people appear to look upon the bill pending in Congress as an act justly due to the good sense of the inhabitants of the Territories, and one that is calculated to sustain them in their rights as independent freemen who are capable of choosing such laws as will best subserve their own interests. Not satisfied with sending some twenty or thirty remonstrances against the abrogation of the Missouri compromise act to the Senate yesterday, the free soilers also transmitted petitions for the repeal of the Fugitive Slave law, the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, and the amendment of all laws taking slaves in payment for debts. These documents, which were duly received and tabled, show upon their face how much faith may be placed in the assertions of various leading free soilers in and out of Congress, that they are willing to abide by the compromises of 1850.

Railroad speculators did a prosperous business yesterday. No less than eight bills, granting lands for as many railroad projects in the South and West, passed the Senate. While the members of the new States were in a good humor with their success, Mr. Dawson moved that the bill granting land to all the States for the support of the indigent, insane, deaf, dumb and blind, be taken up. This was agreed to, and after a short debate the subject was postponed. A substitute for the bill rewarding the San Francisco rescuers was informally presented. It provides that gold, silver and bronze medals, with suitable devices, shall be given to those who participated in the humane duty instead of rewards in money. How unfavorably the action of Congress concerning this matter appears when compared with the course pursued by the British government in similar cases.

The House of Representatives, after a short consultation, postponed the election of a printer in the place of the late General Armstrong till to-morrow. Much anxiety prevails as to the result of this election, it being understood that a direct attempt will be made to overslaugh the administration candidates, of whom there are several, and elect a new man, who is not objectionable to either the soft or hard shells or any other faction. Should this movement be consummated, it is believed that there will be a decided change in the tone of the vacillating government. Mr. Florence, we observe, has proposed to abolish the system of maintaining party organs at the expense of the nation by the establishment of a government printing office.

An unsuccessful effort was made in the House to avoid the necessity of sending the bill for the construction of six first class steam frigates, which passed the Senate unanimously, to the Committee of the Whole. The motion failed by ninety-one yeas to forty-eight nays—it requiring two-thirds of those present to suspend the rules. The measure, therefore, goes to the bottom of the long calendar of bills to be acted on in committee, and may not be reached for months, notwithstanding the immediate urgency for placing our naval power in a condition to meet any emergency that may arise. With a war pending in Europe, and an open acknowledgment on the part of England and France that they will not hesitate to set at defiance the Monroe doctrine with regard to intervention in the affairs of this continent, we find forty-eight Congressmen unwilling that the proper steps should be taken to effectually protect both our national honor and our maritime commerce. That a majority of the members really appreciate the necessity of strengthening the navy is evident from the vote on the foregoing question, as well as by the adoption of a resolution requesting information as to whether, and if so, how many of the steamships employed in the ocean mail service can be converted into men-of-war?

Señor Gallegos, the delegate from New Mexico, appears to be in trouble all around. The difficulty as to his right to a seat having at last been decided in his favor by the proper committee, a motion was yesterday made that he be allowed an interpreter, as he did not understand a single word that was spoken in the House. Objection was made, apparently on the ground that he was not worse off—particularly at certain times when the body is in an uproar of confusion—than a majority of those who really do understand the English language.

We have a great variety of very interesting miscellaneous items from Washington to-day. The Senate has confirmed two or three unimportant consulships, but those at Havana and London remain unfilled. Indeed, it is intimated that the administration is holding back these berths as bribes to gain votes for those measures favored by the President and the Cabinet. The Supreme Court has decided in favor of the legality of the late Mr. McDonogh's will. Ex-Senator Tallmadge presided at the Spiritual Convention; but the session was private, and nothing has transpired as to the wonders performed and the revelations made.

A large number of bills of considerable importance to the interests of this city were passed and otherwise disposed of by the Legislature yesterday. Among those introduced in the Senate, was one to repeal the charter of the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company. The Senate spent most of the day in discussing and amending the temperance bill. The clause providing compensation for complainants and informers was struck out—consequently complainants and informers will have no other than a high moral duty to incite them to exertion. The Assembly adjourned at an early hour, in consequence of the death of Mr. Monfort, whig member from Dutchess county.

A despatch from Louisville positively denies that Hon. J. J. Crittenden has declared against the Nebraska bill.

The storm on Saturday night did considerable damage to canal, railroad and other property in the vicinity of Easton, Pa. It was also very severe in some parts of the South, both in the interior and along the coast. Some vessels were slightly damaged and others detained. The steamers for this port were unable to leave Charleston and Savannah till Sunday morning.

Quite an interesting debate took place in the Board of Councilmen last evening, relative to a bill lately introduced in the State Assembly, which proposes to create a permanent Board of Commissioners of Estimates and Assessments for opening streets, &c. Resolutions were adopted objecting to the passage of any such law, and authorizing the appointment of a committee of five members to proceed to Albany and protest against the intervention of the Legislature in matters properly belonging to the Aldermen and Councilmen. A large amount of routine business having been disposed of, the Board adjourned till next Monday.

It was an agreeable surprise last evening, to find that for once the Aldermen waived the pleasure of listening to their own eloquence, and in lieu thereof transacted a large amount of business. Numerous papers from the Board of Councilmen were passed upon in a rapid and most satisfactory manner. The nomination of George G. Glazier in the place of Mr. Arcularius, was received by the Board, and referred to the Committee on Salaries and Offices. We trust that, with past examples before them, the Board will thoroughly examine the qualifications of this gentleman before they confirm his appointment to the office of Commissioner of Streets.

A meeting of some two hundred members of the fire department took place last evening, in the chamber of the Board of Alderman, to discuss the new ordinance on the subject of separating that department from the Common Council. The meeting unanimously resolved to recommend the committee to report favorably on the ordinance to the Board. We give a sketch of the proceedings in another column.

The late Elliott Cresson bequeathed one hundred and twenty-seven thousand dollars for charitable objects in Philadelphia.

Besides many columns of advertisements, to-day's inside pages contain a report of the proceedings of the Trial relative to the Police Uniform; Police Intelligence, including an account of the riot on the Five Points, and the stabbing affray in Twenty seventh street; Communication concerning the vacant Police Judgeship; Political and Miscellaneous Letters from Connecticut, Albany and Virginia; The extension of Telegraphs to Africa; Commercial, Theatrical and Local Intelligence, &c.

The Nebraska Bill in the House.

As the crisis approaches, the symptoms of Cabinet disaffection thicken. Common report already ascribes to the President the design of disclaiming the Nebraska bill as an administration measure; and no one seems to believe that either the *Union* or its masters are in earnest in the support they have hitherto afforded to Senator Douglas's project. To us it seems a matter of very little consequence, so far as the permanent interests of the country are concerned, how the Cabinet prompts, or how the House votes. Whether the Nebraska bill is or is not passed at this session of Congress, the question it involves will not be finally settled till the people pronounce their verdict upon it at the polls. The action of this session of Congress may alter the shape it will assume in going to the people. In the one case, we should be called upon to ratify the repeal of an unconstitutional law; in the other, to censure the faint-heartedness of our representatives for having failed to effect that repeal. But in whatever form the question may be put, we may rest assured that it will arise, and that no final action will be taken upon it until the people have spoken out at the polls. The debates and votes in the Senate and House of Representatives are the mere written complaints, pleas and replications necessary to make up the issue: no judgment can be rendered till the country has been empannelled as a special jury, and the case tried upon its merits before them.

We view therefore with less concern than we should otherwise have felt, the manœuvres by which Mr. Pierce and his Cabinet are attempting to conciliate their ambition with their principles. Pushing the bill forward with one hand which is seen, while they draw it backward with the other which is concealed, the President and his advisers may possibly congratulate themselves on playing an exceedingly adroit game so far as they are themselves concerned; but they cannot, one way or the other, affect the practical interests at stake. One needs only to look at the magnitude of the principle involved, and the spirit evinced by the combatants on each side, to convince oneself beyond doubt or question that the course pursued by the Congress now sitting at Washington will exercise no material influence on the final adjudication of the power of Congress over slavery in new States or Territories. They may vote down the Nebraska bill, or place on record their formal disapproval of the Missouri compromise; neither position can be regarded as part of our national policy, until an appeal has been taken thereon, and the popular sentence registered.

We, for one, rejoice that Nebraska has raised the question of Congressional non-intervention in a direct tangible shape. We have never ceased to warn the American people that so long as there existed a loophole through which the slavery controversy might be introduced into Congress, just so long would strife, contentions, and bad feelings embitter our national councils. It is sheer madness to expect that the abolitionists will be cured of their fanaticism, or that the South will yield her rights under the pressure of menace or insult. Continual jarrings will confirm both in their position of antagonism; peace is impossible short of a thorough exclusion of the topic from the legislative halls at Washington. Every fresh acquisition of territory will arouse the quarrel anew. Should an opportunity of annexing Cuba, or part of Mexico, or Canada, or any other territory occur, the old slavery battle will have to be fought over again, and as the dangers of these battles increase in proportion to their frequency, they might not unreasonably come to be deemed grave if not fatal objections to any new acquisitions of territory at all. Thus this slavery controversy—if we allow it to exist any longer—may prove at last an insuperable barrier to the due extension of the republic, and the natural fulfilment of our manifest destiny.

These considerations bid us rejoice that, at this early stage of our national career, when no distracting causes can operate to divert men's minds from the principle at issue, and no foreign or domestic embarrassments complicate the difficulty—the question whether or no Congress shall have any voice in prescribing the institutions of new States or Territories, should have arisen fairly, frankly, and plainly. We are glad that it should have come up in such a shape that men can vote upon it understandingly, without misapprehension, fear, or favor. And as we care not a rush for the private motives which may have been instrumental in the introduction of the measure, so we are utterly indifferent to its effects on individual politicians, and look only to the beneficial results which will flow from the final decision of the people on a question fraught with infinite importance to the country at large.

That decision may possibly be adverse to the views this journal has uniformly advocated. It may, in the opinion of those who coincide with us, involve a tacit breach or an open violation of the constitution under which we live. If so, the triumph of the anti-slavery party will not rest here. If the fanatics, among whose leaders Garrison, Seward, Giddings and Gerrit Smith stand conspicuous, succeed in drawing away from the side of constitutional loyalty a sufficient proportion of the people to defeat the repeal of the Missouri compromise, they will certainly not be content with that victory. The advantage they will have gained will be merely as a stepping stone to other more signal attempts on the rights of their fellow citizens. Having excluded slavery from new Territories they will next assail it in the old States. Men who upheld the unconstitional Missouri compromise will not scruple to trample the constitution itself under foot. If, by exaggerated pictures of the horrors of slavery, they can persuade a majority in the North to sustain them in the present controversy, they will next ask of that majority to send an abolition President to Congress, and amend the constitution so as to insist on the abolition of slavery in the South. The men of the North, thus appealed to, will then find themselves in an awkward dilemma. They will either be compelled to retrace their footsteps and abandon their leaders—a most unlikely and distasteful proceeding—or they will see the necessity of exerting the power they now possess to elect such a man as Seward or Garrison to the Presidency, and assail slavery in its stronghold.

This is where the arguments of the anti-Nebraska advocates necessarily lead. This is the consummation which the opponents of the measure are confidently expecting. A consummation so disastrous that the most vivid fancy cannot presume to portray its horrors. Disunion and war, at the outset. The total annihilation of all our projects of national greatness. A relapse from the condition of one of the greatest Powers on the earth into that of two and perhaps more petty, shattered, dislocated States, possibly crippled by intestine feuds, and animated—not by our present expanded generous spirit of enterprise—but by a petty provincial jealousy one of each other. The destruction of all the manufactures and all the foreign trade of the North. A tremendous decline in real estate and other representatives of value. A prostration of our foreign credit. An irreparable fall in our home finances, our banking institutions, our stocks. The obliteration, forever, of the glorious names of American citizen, and United States. Such is the future the opponents of the Nebraska bill are preparing for us!

OUR FOREIGN POLICY ON COSTUME—FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF INSTRUCTIONS.—The confidential disclosures from the State Department, touching the difficulties experienced by some of our diplomats in enforcing the Franklin-Marcy costume upon the courts of Europe, and the unscrupulous violation of their instructions by others of our diplomatic corps, were very astonishing to everybody. But the Premier omitted the case of Edwin De Leon, our new Consul-General to Egypt, whose case, as a flagrant violation, out-and-out, of the letter and spirit of Marcy's circulars of June last, is the most astounding case of all.

In Sunday's HERALD, in a letter from a correspondent "up the Nile," we published a description of Mr. De Leon's official reception by the Viceroy of Egypt. He was dressed in state—he rode to the Viceroy's palace in a state carriage, he was received in the most perfect style of oriental magnificence, he returned to his hotel in a style so stately and royal as to surprise the Egyptians—he kept up the pageant in a corresponding style for several days; and the only plea put in for his justification is, that all the Consuls-General of all the other great powers do so, and the United States, to maintain their prestige at Cairo, must do the same thing.

Now this thing should not be allowed to pass. The law laid down in the circulars of June last should be enforced until superseded or abrogated by some new arrangement, just as the Missouri compromise has been declared by Judge Douglas to be "superseded by the principles of the legislation of 1850." But till it is superseded, the law should be enforced. Instructions, and a suit of clothes from the State Department of the exact fabrics, stripe and cut prescribed in the circulars of June last, should be sent out by the next steamer to De Leon; and an accompanying protest should also be sent to Abbas Pacha against classing this republic of the United States of America and the monarchical powers of Europe, upon the same footing, in the matter of coats and breeches. What can be achieved in behalf of republican principles in Egypt, we should like to know, if our representative there can't be distinguished by his dress from the Imperial Consul of Louis Napoleon or the British Consul General? Nothing at all. We call upon the Secretary of State to enforce the law, and we shall stick to him while there is a patch upon his breeches. Carry out or repeal the law. Let us have something definite in our foreign policy, even if it is confined to old clo'.

The Anglo French Conspiracy Against the United States.

It is well, before our sympathies take root on the Eastern question with either side, that we endeavor to ascertain whether we have not some more direct and immediate interest in the pending European combinations, than that which we feel as common lovers of liberty and enemies of despotism. We believe that the United States are, in point of fact, as directly concerned in watching and if need be in intervening in the progress of affairs in Europe as any nation on that continent. Not from any stake in the fate of Turkey, which may perish or thrive without affecting us in any way; but simply because the power which is now being arrayed against the projects of the Czar may to-morrow be wielded against us. Because that prospect is no longer a mere conjectural possibility, but has been converted by the published correspondence of one British minister and the published speech of another into an imminent and threatening probability. The language used by Lord Clarendon in the House of Lords places it beyond a doubt that the present British Ministry intend to carry out to the letter the significant intimation given by Lord John Russell in his correspondence with Mr. Everett. They intend, after having settled the affairs of the East to their satisfaction, to turn their attention to Cuba, and to make use of their alliance to prevent the accomplishment of any scheme by which that island might fall into our hands. The evidence of this intention is too clear to admit of dispute.

What steps it may be due to our national credit to adopt in order to banish the notion of any such conspiracy from the minds of the French Emperor and his English allies, is matter for future discussion. For the present, the discovery ought at least to suggest a fresh examination of the Eastern question. If England and France openly own to a design of impertinent interference in the affairs of this continent, the presumption is that they are acting on the same unwarrantable principle in the East.

If we separate the Eastern question from the treaties, and the *ultimata*, and the protocols and the hundred petty disputes which have arisen incidentally in the course of the controversy, it will be found to be neither more nor less than a religious quarrel. The hereditary feud between the worshipper of Christ and the followers of Mahomet is at the bottom of the whole. Whatever may be the personal motives of the Czar, the agent that is swaying the Russian people towards war is religious zeal; and in like manner if the Turks are fighting for their homes they are contending still more fiercely for their faith. The Greek Church in the East now stands in a position very analogous to that occupied by the Latin Church in the West eight or nine centuries ago. Then in Gaul, Germany and Spain, as now on the confines of Asia, a conflict arose between the humanizing and civilizing influence of Christianity and the dark superstitious spirit of Moslemism. That conflict lasted for upwards of a century; and more than once during its existence, the issue was doubtful. Christianity triumphed at last. The Moors were driven from Spain, and the red cross was carried even to the walls of the Saracen ports in Asia. From that day to the present, Mahomedanism has been unknown in Western Europe; and the consequence of its extirpation has been the unparalleled progress of the Christian nations of that clime in power, wealth and civilization. The beginning of the struggle between the Czar and the Sultan looks very much like a repetition of the same contest. Moslemism still holds one of the noblest countries in Europe. It is an invader there, and has erected its mosques on the site where the temples of Christ's church once stood. Centuries have passed over since it retreated to Turkey as its last foothold: and during the whole of this time the wild races in Russia have been gradually growing in power and intelligence under the influence of the doctrines of the Greek Church. They now occupy a position very similar to that of the people of Western Europe in the tenth century. Proximity of situation and frequent border disputes have brought these two antagonistic elements into direct collision. And the war that is growing out of this collision is like those between the Crusaders and the Saracens and Moors, simply a contest between Christianity and Moslemism, civilization and superstition.

It is on the side of the latter that England and France are found. These two Christian nations are seen on this momentous occasion, embracing the cause of Mahomedanism and superstition, and laboring sturdily to prevent the flow of Christianity and civilization into Turkey. If they succeed, the cause of human progress may be delayed for centuries.

Is it fitting that we should follow their example, and allow a jealous animosity against a single man to delude us into a course so inconsistent with our mission among nations? And can we not, if we are satisfied that the cause of civilization is the cause of the Greek Church, discover some means of evincing our real feelings in a practical manner?

HEROISM AT SEA.—It has been our pleasing duty to record within the last few months, in connection with the maritime disasters that are unfortunately so prevalent at this season of the year, numerous instances of self-devotion and heroism that reflect honor upon the profession of the sailor. The circumstances of the loss of the San Francisco placed in bold relief the conduct of a number of individuals, whose exertions in the cause of humanity have since been rewarded, not only by civic ovations, but by more substantial tokens of public approval. The importance and magnitude of the calamity, and the fact of there being such a number of United States troops on board that ill-fated vessel, naturally attracted to the conduct of those parties the full measure of attention that it deserved; and when we find similar actions passed over in silence, merely because they afford no opportunity for the display of ostentatious generosity, it becomes our duty as journalists to endeavor to remedy the indifference manifested towards them by placing them fully in evidence before the public.

We published a few days since an account of the loss of the ship Columbiana, of New York, and also of the British brig Frederick, and of the rescue of their crews by the packet ship Cornelius Grinnell, Captain Fletcher. In that statement but slender justice was done to the conduct of the men belonging to the latter vessel, who nobly volunteered at the risk of their lives to take off the crew of the Columbiana. From information gathered from Capt. Fletcher, we find an opportunity of repairing the omissions of the brief narrative that first reached us, and of giving full credit to the parties who so nobly distinguished themselves upon that occasion. The Captain states that when he discovered the Columbiana to be in distress he bore down to her, and found her in a sinking condition, but still likely to float some hours longer if nothing more gave way. On rounding under the wreck's lee, he saw it was next to certain destruction to lower a boat, although the boatswain, Edward Bunting, gallantly offered to go in her. He therefore hove the ship to under bare poles, in order that he might not drift out of sight of the wreck. A light was then set in both ships, and they lay in sight of each other all night. When morning dawned he bore down to the wreck again, but was prevented from giving her any assistance by a violent hail squall that no boat could have withstood. About three o'clock in the afternoon the weather moderated a little, when he passed to the windward of the wreck and hove to, in order that he might be able to run down and rescue his boat's crew in case of their getting swamped. A boat was then lowered, and the following men volunteered to go in her:—Edward Bunting, boatswain; Sturins Purdy, seaman, (formerly a captain in the British merchant service;) James Smith, John Kesley, and William Hughes, seamen. The boat, fortunately, proved staunch and seaworthy, and, although they had a considerable distance to row, the men reached the wreck in safety, and succeeded in getting on board about one-half of the Columbiana's crew by hauling them through the water. The same operation was successfully performed a second time, and the remainder of the crew of the sinking vessel was safely transferred to the Cornelius Grinnell. This gallant feat was effected under every possible difficulty and disadvantage, night setting rapidly in, and the gale increasing in fury.

Three days afterwards Captain Fletcher fell in with another vessel in the same condition (the British brig Frederick.) and Bunting and his gallant shipmates again distinguished themselves by their readiness to volunteer upon the same service of danger. The captain and crew of the disabled vessel were safely taken off from the wreck.

Acts like these deserve some more substantial token of public approval than a passing commentary in the press. If it were right to award honors and rewards to the saviours of the sufferers by the San Francisco, it is equally incumbent upon us to show the gallant sailors of the Cornelius Grinnell that their conduct is not the less appreciated because the circumstances attending the disasters that called it forth have created less excitement in the public mind. We think that some immediate steps should be taken to manifest that feeling, and to give to these brave fellows some solid evidence of it. A suggestion of Captain Fletcher's seems to us as good a mode as any of carrying out this idea. He proposes that a fund should be raised for their benefit, the interest of which they should be entitled to draw during their lives. As each life drops off the lapsing interest should go to swell the portions of the survivors. After their deaths the capital fund might either be made the basis of some general system of rewards of a similar character, or be transferred to one of our local institutions. There is the germ of a philanthropic project in this idea. Will the puling sentimentalists who twaddle about imaginary social evils assist to carry it out?

ANOTHER GREAT STATE PAPER IN EMBRYO.—We are informed that the protest of the English and French Ministers near our government, against the apprehended policy of Russia of engaging American vessels for privateering operations against the commerce of England and France, is all the talk at Washington; but we are also informed that the answer of Secretary Marcy to the said protest "has not yet transpired."

We have only to say that from the gravity of the complaint made, from the importance of the question involved, as a question of national policy and of international law, we shall look in due time for a tremendous State paper from Secretary Marcy on this subject. We are in no hurry for it—those Russian privateers are not yet on the stocks, and the Nebraska question just now overshadows everything else. Let our Premier take his time, consult thoroughly the law of nations as laid down by Vattel, Grotius, Puffendorff, and Bynkershoek, consult our shipbuilders, especially Commodore Vanderbilt, of the North Star, consult all the Russian agents in the country, and consult most particularly the policy of England and France upon American affairs; and then he may set himself down and rattle off a letter which will eclipse the Koszta letter, or cast even those splendid circulars upon diplomatic costume into the back ground. Give the Premier time, and we shall have a great document on Russo-American privateering.

POLICE UNIFORM.—Judge Roosevelt's decision, which we give in another column, settles the question whether the police are or are not to be uniformed. John Shea, a policeman, refused to obey the orders respecting uniform, and contended that the Commissioners had no right to control the costume of the police. Judge Roosevelt very properly decides that they had. Independently of the legal reasons adduced by the learned Judge in support of his view, it must be evident to all that a uniform is likely to effect more toward increasing the efficiency of the police than any other reform that could be suggested. We may rest assured that fewer robberies and fewer assaults will be committed, now that no coward policeman can skulk out of view. Plain clothes were a mask under which the grossest derelictions of duty could be committed with impunity.

The only question now remaining open is whether the appointment of the Chief of Police shall rest with the Commissioners, or be transferred to the Mayor and Aldermen, or finally as some insane demagogues seem to wish, be handed over to the grog-house politicians. The sooner it is disposed of the better.

A CALL UPON JOHN M. CLAYTON.—General Amos P. Granger has caused a letter to be published, which he has addressed to Senator Clayton, of Delaware, upon the Nebraska question. General Granger asks him, "What are you about to do? Do you intend to violate a compact more sacred than the constitution itself?" And he says, too, if not misinformed, that Mr. Clayton "is to record his vote in favor of the Nebraska bill." And we should not be surprised if he did, nor astonished if he didn't. Mr. Clayton spoke almost by the week upon the affairs of Central America; but thus far he has remained remarkably silent and circumspect upon Nebraska. But the vote, in a day or two, will probably define his position. General Granger says the whole thing is but "a miserable raffle for the Presidency." Perhaps it is; we shall soon see whether the ex-Secretary of State has any investment in the capital stock of Douglas and the administration, or otherwise. We incline to think that ever since the fall of General Taylor's Cabinet, Mr. Clayton has been gradually getting disgusted with the whig party. Curious times these. Where will all the old politicians bing up? Who knows?

OVERLAND TELEGRAPH TO SAN FRANCISCO.—We have received the Senate report and accompanying bill, making a conditional grant of the right of way and two million acres of the public lands to Hiram O. Alden and James Eddy, for the construction of an underground telegraph of two wires, from some point on the Mississippi or Missouri river to San Francisco—the company to have regular working stations at intervals of every one hundred mile along the entire route—the land warrants for the two million acres of land not to be issued till the telegraph is completed, and then in consideration of eight thousand words per month for the line, without charge to the government, forever. Charges, otherwise, not to exceed ten dollars for ten words from end to end of the line—additional words seventy-five cents each. News from San Francisco in one hour's time would be one of the *desideratum* now required by the press.

Obituary.

DEATH OF LIEUTENANT JOHN MATTHEWS, U. S. N.—By the latest accounts from Commodore Perry and the Japanese squadron, we have intelligence of the death of Lieut. John Matthews, of the steam frigate Susquehanah, who, together with several seamen, is said to have been lost in a boat belonging to the squadron; but no further particulars of the sad event are given. Lieut. Matthews was a native of this State. He entered into the service Feb 22, 1838, and in May, 1844, received his warrant as Passed Midshipman. On the breaking out of the Mexican war, we find him on board the Vixen, which, with her consort the Spitfire, was engaged in the capture of Tampico, Alvarado, Tobasco, Laguna, and Tuxpan; at all of which places Lieut Matthews distinguished himself. In the attack upon the Castle of San Juan d'Ulloa by the Vixen and Spitfire, he, in company with the late Lieut James Parker, nobly worked the long gun on the Vixen, and received the warmest eulogiums from his commander and associates. The service has sustained an ordinary loss in the death of this excellent and promising young officer, who, as will be seen by reference to the navy list, out of fifteen years standing in the navy has passed eleven of them at sea. Personally, Lieut. Matthews was extremely modest and prepossessing—a most estimable man in every respect, and warmly beloved by an extensive circle of friends, who anticipated for him a long career of honorable service.

The Nebraska Bill Again

MEETING OF GERMAN CITIZENS.

A meeting of Germans, principally residents of Bloomingdale, was held last night in Thirty second street, between Sixth and Seventh avenues, to express their views in relation to the Nebraska bill. The following is the call of the meeting:—

MASS MEETING AGAINST THE NEBRASKA BILL.—All German citizens of Bloomingdale are earnestly requested to meet on Monday, Feb. 27, at half past seven in the evening, at Mr. P. Biegen's brewery, Thirty second street, between Sixth and Seventh avenues, to take the Nebraska bill into consideration.

Joseph Berbier, Jacob Schumann, Peter Muller, Peter Biegen, Jos. Muller, Charles Lonso, Philip Holts.

Although the hour appointed for the meeting was half past seven o'clock, it was near nine before it was organized. When our reporter arrived he found about forty persons assembled in the saloon, engaged in drinking lager bier and smoking.

Finding it impossible to remain more than five minutes at a time without danger of suffocation, we were compelled to make for the door very often to inhale the fresh air. At last, about a quarter to 9, after drinking innumerable glasses of lager bier, the forty persons went up stairs and held a meeting, over which Mr. Berbier was appointed President, Mr. Weinseth officiating as Secretary. Messrs. Fischer, Shaus and Kuhn, who were appointed a committee on resolutions, presented the following, which were adopted without discussion:—

Resolved, That the citizens of Bloomingdale are against slavery and the Nebraska bill.

Resolved, That the committee of three shall report on the foregoing resolution at the mass meeting on Friday, to be held at Washington Hall.

After the adoption of the foregoing resolutions, the meeting adjourned.

Marine Affairs.

THE STEAMSHIP CRESCENT CITY sailed yesterday for New Orleans via Havana, with fifty nine passengers and $100,000 in specie on freight.

SHIPBUILDING ON THE MERRIMACK IN 1853.—During the past year nineteen vessels, of different sizes, were built upon the river, measuring 10,758 tons. The following are the names, tonnage, builders and owners:—

Ship Highflyer, 1 200 tons, by Currier & Townsend, for D. Ogden and others, New York.

Yacht Ocean Bride, 50 tons, by Lowell & Sons, Salisbury, for D. Childs and others, Lynn.

Yacht Golden Eagle, 50 tons, by E. P. Lunt, for George Perkins and others.

Bark Naiad Queen, 315 tons, by Manson & Fernald, for James Blood and others.

Bark Wildfire, 315 tons, by S McKay of Amesbury, owned in Boston.

Schooner John and Frank, 88 tons, by Bickford & Son, Salisbury, on their own account.

Ship Guiding Star, 900 tons, by John Currier, for Moses Davenport and others.

Yacht Wild Ranger, 45 tons, by E. P. Lunt, for Benjamin Lunt.

Ship Constitution, 1,200 tons, by Currier & Townsend, for Messrs. Bantin and others.

Schooner Tekoa, 150 tons, by Joseph Coffin and owned by the same.

Schooner William H. Fitts, 58 tons, by William H. Fitts, Salisbury, for himself.

Ship Whistler, 900 tons, by George W. Jackman, Jr., and owned in Boston.

Schooner Spray, 40 tons, by D. Lowell, Salisbury, and owned in Lynn.

Ship John N. Cushing, 650 tons, by John Currier, for J. N. and Wm. Cushing.

Ship Jabez Snow, 1,200 tons, by Currier & Townsend, for Jabez Snow and others, Boston.

Yacht Daniel C. Baker, 50 tons, by Daniel Lowell, Salisbury, owned in Lynn.

Ship Dreadnought, 1,400 tons, by Currier & Townsend, for D. Ogden and others, New York.

Ship Star King, 1,100 tons, by Geo. W. Jackman, Jr., for the builder, and parties in Boston.

Ship Volant, 900 tons, by John Currier, for Capt. Micajah Lunt and the builder.

Schooner Fearless, 140 tons, by Manson & Fernald, owned in Plymouth.

It will be seen that Messrs. Currier & Townsend are the greatest builders, having launched nearly half the tonnage during the year. The prospect now is that there will be more building in 1854 than in any previous year.—*Newburyport Herald.*

City Intelligence.

THE RIGHTS OF BUTCHERS.—A meeting of a special committee was held yesterday in the room of the Councilmen at the City Hall, to hear Mr. DeVoe, who contends that his rights as a butcher have been taken away from him. The facts are these:—Mr. DeVoe, for the last twenty years, has occupied a stand in Jefferson market, with the privilege of a passage by it, granted to him by the Market Committee when he first entered the market. He has enjoyed this privilege till within a short time, when it was taken away from him by Mr Goodenson, who has the charge of the city markets, and who has ordered this passage to be stopped up, much to the injury and inconvenience of Mr. DeVoe, and as Mr. DeVoe thinks, to gratify the personal enmity of one or two persons in the market. The aggrieved party at once applied to the Common Council for redress and the Board appointed a special committee to hear the case and inquire into it. This joint committee met yesterday to hear the parties. Mr. DeVoe stated his injuries, and what he wanted, and Mr. Goodenson replied, justifying himself for his action in the premises. Mr. Theodore E Tomlinson, on the part of Mr. DeVoe, made a few remarks; after which the committee adjourned to Jefferson market, to view the premises for themselves.

NEW YORK HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—An adjourned conversational meeting of this society was held last evening at their rooms, No. 600 Broadway. There was a very slim attendance of members. After an hour of social conversation, the meeting organized, Shepherd Knapp in the chair. There being no reports of committees to be read, Mr. Mead proceeded to read a brief essay on the Azalea. The essay gave little information in regard to the plant in question, but referred in general terms to the growing taste in this country for private conservatories and the cultivation of rare exotics. The Azalea, he said, was a genus of plants belonging to the natural order *Ericeæ*. The shrub was a native of Persia, and also indigenous to the northern part of this continent; it was remarkable for the beauty and fragrance of its flowers. The genus was esteemed by some botanists as the same as the rhododendron. He thought it not unlikely that this beautiful flower would get into very general favor with both practical and amateur horticulturists. The essayist thought that the lovers of horticulture was becoming more general in our midst, and augured well for the refinement and morals of a community imbued with such a taste. After some conversational remarks among the members the meeting adjourned.

UNSAFE WALLS.—The ruins left by the fire in Pearl, Elm, and Duane streets, owing to the violence of the winds yesterday, gave great alarm to persons living in the neighboring tenements. Complaint was made to Captain Brennen, of the Sixth ward, who prevailed on the Mutual Hook and Ladder Company, No. 1, to turn out and pull them down, which they did despite the pelting of the storm, and did not desist until they had levelled them with the ground.

Jersey City News.

INCREASED RAILROAD AND FERRY ACCOMMODATIONS.—During the coming season it is contemplated by the New Jersey Railroad and Transportation Company to make a great expenditure of money in improvements for the accommodation of the business of the various railroads which concentrate in Jersey City. It is designed to erect a new railroad, piers, ferry houses, machine shops, and depot buildings upon the present ferry and depot premises; also to widen the Bergen cut, so that there can be two additional tracks laid through the cut, with straightened curves. Other work will be done, and altogether the expense will reach at least $600,000. As soon as the weather will permit the work will commence. Their object is to accommodate the rapidly increasing business of the railroads which terminate in Jersey City.

PUBLIC MEETING.—This evening a meeting of citizens will be held, at the First Reformed Dutch Church, to oppose an extension of the charter of the Camden and Amboy Company, now pending in the Legislature.