# NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR AND EDITOR.

OFFICE N. W. CORNER OF NASSAU AND FULTON STS.

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Volume XIX.....No. 119


AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway—SHANDY MAGUIRE—IN AND OUT OF PLACE—BARNEY, THE BARON.

BURTON'S THEATRE, Chambers street—THE TEMPEST—THE AUTOMATON MAN.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery—SOLDIER'S DAUGHTER—IRELAND AS IT IS.

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

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway—PRISON AND PALACE—HEART AT FAULT—FORTUNE'S FROLIC.

AMERICAN MUSEUM—Afternoon—HOT CORN. Evening, MATRIMONY—PARTITION SUIT.

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

WOOD'S MINSTREL HALL, 444 Broadway, ETHIOPIAN MINSTRELSY—Burletta of UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.

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

BROOKLYN ATHENÆUM—BUSCH'S GRAND CONCERT

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

WHOLE WORLD, 377 and 379 Broadway—Afternoon and Evening.

JONES'S PANTISCOPE—APOLLO ROOMS.

**New York, Monday, May 1, 1854.**

### Notice to Advertisers.

Our immense edition and the pressure of advertisements on our columns have become so great, that it is absolutely necessary to refuse all advertisements coming after ten o'clock at night, except those which from their nature cannot be sent in earlier in the evening, such as losses, accidents, deaths, &c. All other advertisements must remain over until the next day, unless sent in before the hour specified.

### The News.

We give on the first page accounts of the disasters occasioned by the recent heavy fall of rain. Although no proper estimate can at this time be formed of the loss, yet sufficient is known to justify the opinion that it will amount to millions. The immense Croton dam, upon which the city of New York is dependent for its supply of water, gave way before the flood. The various railroads leading to the city have been seriously damaged, bridges carried away, and factories destroyed. For some days the mails will be obstructed, and the telegraph lines have suffered considerably. The Sandy Hook and all the Eastern lines were down last night. Our readers are referred to the editorial article in another column for further remarks upon this subject.

The bodies of the unfortunate men who met their deaths at the fire in Broadway on Tuesday last, were followed to their last resting place yesterday by the Fire Department, delegations of firemen from the neighboring cities, and a large concourse of citizens. Indeed, the procession is allowed to have been the largest and most orderly that has occurred in this city for many years, notwithstanding the unpropitious state of the weather.

To-day has been appointed by the Canal Board for opening the canals of this State, but the unfavorable state of the weather having proved a great impediment to the work of repairing, and the occurrence of several accidents, will probably postpone for some days the commencement of navigation. In consequence of the accumulations of the two previous seasons remaining to be removed, the work upon the canals has been heavy this spring. The accidents spoken of being mostly on the eastern division of the line, however, the canals may be declared open, as boats can leave either end, and from most of the cities along the route.

We publish elsewhere a full report of the first sermon delivered by Archbishop Hughes in this city, since his return from Cuba. The subject is the obedience which is due to authority, in all its forms, from that which the slave owes to his master to the obedience of the child to his parent. In the course of his remarks on the relation that should exist between the master and the slave, the Archbishop takes occasion, incidentally, to allude to the [illegible] tion of the latter in the island of Cuba, which he considers preferable to his condition in the land of his birth.

We continue this morning the correspondence between J. Randolph Clay, our Minister accredited to the Peruvian government, and the Minister of Foreign Relations of Peru, relative to the navigation of the river Amazon and its tributaries. This immense river takes its rise on the Andes, in Peru, pursues a circuitous course of more than four thousand miles, and receives the waters of over three hundred tributaries. The right to navigate such of these confluent streams as lie within the boundaries of Peru is the point at issue. The vast importance of this right to our country is seen at a glance, and requires no elaboration. After the rejection by the Peruvian Congress of three treaties, formally negotiated by duly authorized agents of the governments, ratified by the United States Senate, and signed by the President, a fourth was finally agreed to, on the 26th July, 1851, by which the commerce of this country, in all the ports, territories and places of Peru, is put upon a like footing with the most favored nations. A treaty between Peru and Brazil was ratified on the 19th October, 1852, the former allowing certain privileges to the latter on the river and tributaries; and our Minister formally requested the Peruvian government to extend to the citizens of this country similar immunities and privileges. In reply, a decree was promulgated on the 15th April, 1853, which enacted that all nations having specific treaties with Peru were thenceforth to be admitted to the navigation of the Amazon; but in a subsequent explanatory decree, dated January 4, 1854, the Peruvian Minister contends that the treaty with Brazil is particular, and different essentially from that entered into with the United States, and he also contends that the treaty with the latter did not extend to the navigation of the tributaries of the Amazon—simply to the Amazon itself. To this construction Mr. Clay enters a spirited protest, arguing the subject with a fervor and warmth that the importance of the question naturally inspires. We shall continue the publication of the correspondence as soon as the state of our columns will permit.

Ex-President Fillmore was entertained at Charleston by a grand dinner and an excursion round the harbor. He proceeded to Augusta on Friday, and would proceed thence to Nashville.

Our despatch from Charleston furnishes intelligence from Nassau, N. P., to the 19th instant. The record of marine disasters is important to those interested in shipping, and shows that an immense loss of property has been sustained this season in that region. Salt raking was going on at Inagua, the weather being very favorable.

The tenth anniversary of the Protestant Episcopal Missionary Society was celebrated last evening. Bishop Wainwright presided, and delivered an appropriate address. The condition and progress of the society are very satisfactory.

We give on the inside the speech of Mr. Kennedy, on the Japan Expedition; Criminals in New York; ex-President Fillmore's Tour; News from Nova Scotia; Execution of Clough; Particulars of the Fire at Warrenton, Ga.; Fight with a Robber; Curious Affair in Arkansas; the remains of the Late Margaret Fuller; Letter from Leslie Combs; Affairs in China; Later from New Mexico; Letters from our correspondents at Washington, Old Point Comfort, and Boston; Court Reports; Financial and Commercial Intelligence, &c., &c.

### The Great Flood and Its Results—The Croton Dam Swept Away.

The recent heavy fall of rain has caused the most serious damage, and the loss by it is almost incalculable. In the north and northeastern part of this State there was a heavy deposit of snow, all of which has of course melted, and, joining with the deluge of rain, it has swelled the small mountain streams to torrents. These, rushing downward to the rivers, have overflowed their banks—innocent cascades have suddenly become mighty leaping torrents—the alluvial deposits on the river slopes have been mingled with the flood—and the result is a series of disasters to property to repay which millions of dollars will be required.

The various railways converging to New York, and having their course by the sea or by the river, such as the Hudson River Railroad, the Harlem, the Erie, the Camden and Amboy Railroad, and others, have been severely damaged by land slides, destruction of bridges, &c., and the detention of travellers, the mails and freight, will disarrange business to a most annoying extent. Not only property but life has been sacrificed, as will be seen by the accounts of the carrying away of an embankment on the Erie road at Stairway station, by which nine men were precipitated into the water, seven of whom were drowned, and of the land slide at Brooklyn Heights. Manufactories of all kinds will be obliged to suspend operations for several days, and the HERALD is suffering for the want of the required quantity of paper for its edition.

But the most serious effect of the storm, as far as the people of New York city are concerned, remains to be told. News was received in this city, at two o'clock yesterday afternoon, that the great dam over the Croton river had given way before the force of the swollen current, and that the supply of water for the aqueduct was consequently cut off until the damage could be repaired. The extent of this calamity may be imagined, when we consider the fact that the city of New York receives from the Croton river over twenty-five millions of gallons of water per diem, and that even this amount is no more than is actually needed to supply the wants of the citizens. Immediately after the receipt of this intelligence, the Croton Water Board was convened, and measures will be taken to repair the damage at once. There is a supply of water in the reservoirs sufficient for several days' consumption, and it is hoped that the dam may be repaired in two days' time.

In the meantime, the Mayor has issued his proclamation, informing the citizens of the state of affairs, and calling upon them to use their individual exertions in economising the amount of water to be used until it is announced that the dam is repaired. We will not attempt a description of the horrors and annoyances which must ensue in a great city like this should the supply of water be cut off, for an hour even. Every person must be fully aware of the dangers that menace us in view of such a state of things, and we trust that all good citizens will join with the authorities in their endeavors to bring about a careful husbandry of the supply of water now in the reservoirs.

We have given above but a hurried glance at the mischief which has been done by this almost unprecedented spring flood. Our columns contain such particulars as our reporters and correspondents were able to gather yesterday, but we fear that but half of the sad story has been told. We shall hear of nothing during the next week but land slides, railways demolished, mails and travellers detained, bridges swept away, telegraph lines disarranged; mills and manufactories stopped; but we trust that we shall have to record no more losses of life. The calendar of eighteen hundred and fifty-four is already a bloody record, reeking with the last wails of burned, drowned, and mangled men, women and children:

### The Funeral Yesterday—Our Fire Department.

Yesterday afternoon the shocking drama which commenced on Tuesday night was brought to a close by the funeral ceremony of the unfortunate men who were killed. The melancholy spectacle will long be remembered by those who witnessed it. It is due to the firemen to bear testimony to the excellent sense of propriety which pervaded the whole arrangements, and which harmonized admirably with the feelings of the spectators. There was no display, no pageantry, no noise; all was silent sorrow for the brave dead. Feeble as such attempts at consolation must seem to those who have lost a father, a protector, a friend, the demonstration was the only return a sympathising public could make to the bereaved families. It was more sincere, more deeply felt, perhaps, than any former funeral in this city.

And well it might be. For at least a century and a half, the New York firemen have filled a conspicuous, a responsible, and too frequently a perilous station in our society. Ever since the brushwood was cleared from Manhattan Island, we may say, the New York firemen have been risking their lives and undergoing hardships in saving the property of their fellow citizens. How often they have atoned for their daring in the fearful manner described so frequently during the past week, no one can tell. It is safe to conjecture that several times each year during the past century and a half some out of the gallant band have been hurried to a premature grave by the hand of sudden death. But whether it was some well known heroic spirit that fell alone, or whether wholesale destruction decimated the ranks of the volunteers, the grief which the disaster inspired never cooled the courage of the survivors. They followed their comrades to the grave and an hour afterwards would tread with unfaltering step the very peril in which they had met their fate. Whatever faults may be laid to the charge of the New York Fire Department—and what body of men has not its faults?—it can never be questioned or gainsaid that a more courageous, indefatigable and self-denying corps was never arrayed in this State. The hut of the poor man has ever been as sure of their aid as the palace of the *millionaire;* the tottering house, with their flimsy walls and cracking beams as the stoutest edifice ever erected. With unequalled opportunities for cowardice, they never have been known to shrink from their duty; with constant chances of plunder, their honesty is unimpeached; with endless occasions for rioting, their character stands high for order.

It must be as gratifying to the firemen as we feel it to be to us to pronounce this eulogium on the body, at a time when unequivocal symptoms of its approaching dissolution are already manifest. It would be well if we could say the same of all the other primitive institutions of New York, when the proper period arrived or their repeal, and the substitution of others better adapted to the age and the condition of society. The volunteer system of firemen will give way to another better suited to a city like New York, and to an era like the present. Unlike other public bodies we could mention, its corporate existence will determine, not from any radical vice in itself, or from any degeneracy among its members; but simply because, in a city counting six or seven hundred thousand inhabitants, and filled every year with the outpourings of the large cities of Europe, no possible volunteer fire department could work as efficiently as a regular paid fire brigade. With the honorable antecedents they have to look back on, the New York firemen can afford to admit that their continued existence could not but be fraught with danger to the interests they are the most deeply concerned in guarding. They will be the first to perceive the mischiefs arising from the necessary antagonism between the police force and themselves. Nor can they now be blind to the tremendous evils lurking under the present system of runners and scouts. Practices that have long been suspected have now been established beyond the probability of a doubt by the evidence at the inquest now sitting; it is proved that in one instance at least, individuals whose pretended connection with the fire department gave them access to places from whence the public was excluded, availed themselves of that facility to steal clothes. Nor is it possible by any vigilance to defeat the schemes of these miscreants, so long as the firemen are a volunteer body. A spirit of rivalry will always prevent their abandoning the employment of runners; and activity will always be a higher gratification than honesty among this class of men. Captains of an engine hurrying in breathless haste to a fire, will never refuse the assistance of a volunteer who offers to lend a hand at the rope; or prevent an apparently zealous spectator from helping to work the engine. It is in fact impossible to hinder strangers from mixing with the firemen under our present system. We doubt even whether under certain circumstances it would not be possible for a man of bad character and criminal designs to obtain admission into a regular fire company as a member. Such cases, if any exist, are obviously very rare; but if a shrewd thief set his wits to work to attain this distinction, he might possibly succeed.

We need not point out the extent to which the dangers flowing from this source might be carried. If one man has been detected with stolen clothes in his possession, how many others may have escaped? Who can tell what proportion of the property missing after one of our large fires may have been stolen, and what burnt? Even if we are guilty of exaggerating the extent of the practice, is not a feeling of security worth attaining at any cost?

We are glad to hear that the firemen are engaged in endeavoring to identify the man who was killed with Jennings' clothes in his possession. We have no doubt that it will be discovered he had no real connection with any fire company. The inquiry should lead them to another theme. The abolition of our present fire system is inevitable; from no one could a suggestion to that effect come with such good grace as from the firemen themselves. We who owe them a debt of gratitude might experience some reluctance in resorting to such a measure without ascertaining their views: if they took the initiative, they would act a noble and an equally wise part. Volunteer fire systems have had their day in New York; let the task of suggesting a fitting substitute devolve upon the volunteer firemen themselves.

### The Gadsden Treaty Swindle—The Administration and the Railroad Jobbers.

We understand that President Pierce, Secretary Marcy, and General Almonte, the Mexican Minister at Washington, were closeted together pretty much the whole of last Friday, in profound consultation upon the remnants of that magnificent railroad swindle known as the Gadsden treaty. They were probably debating the expediency of accepting the reduction made by the Senate, from twenty millions to ten millions, as the cash price for the several equivalents to be conceded by Santa Anna. We presume that there will be no difficulty in coming to an arrangement upon this basis; for Santa Anna wants money very badly, and the railroad jobbers interested want their rights of way and a few extra millions with which to turn their speculation to the best account in gulling credulous capitalists and in fleecing the innocent public.

As far as we have been able to ascertain, two millions of dollars will cancel all the *bona fide* claims of Mexican citizens against the United States, and of American citizens against Mexico. The batch of Mears and Gardner claims paid over under the last treaty, has strikingly illustrated the tendency to the most atrocious frauds in this business, so that, even by limiting the amount for claims to two millions, it is quite possible that half the amount may be swallowed up by other Gardners, and their legal, Cabinet and Congressional conspirators. But, setting apart two millions for claims, and taking the testimony of the late Boundary Commissioners—Mr. Bartlett, Col. Cooke, Major Emory, Gen. Kearney, Col. Fremont and others—the territory we shall acquire will be worth just nothing at all, being simply a wild, hideous, howling, God-forsaken desert. Consequently, the other eight millions of the new treaty will admit of an equal division of four millions for the right of way over the Tehuantepec route, and the right of way for the Pacific railroad, over Cooke's desert wagon route, or in that neighborhood.

Here, then, we shall have another remarkable exemplification of the beautiful flexibility of our federal constitution. It is unconstitutional to appropriate money out of the general treasury for internal improvements, although it is constitutional to appropriate the public lands to Western railroads. But while Congress have not the power to grant the ready cash for such enterprises within our own territories, it seems that the President, "by and with the advice and consent of the Senate," may take any amount of money from the treasury for the purchase of the right of way for speculating railroad companies in a foreign country. This is "whipping the devil round the stump" with a vengeance. That the constitution of the United States ever contemplated, or that its framers ever dreamed of such a thing as the purchase of railroad rights of way in Mexico, for the benefit of certain gangs of private speculators, is utterly preposterous.

Yet so it is. It is unconstitutional to relieve the poor lunatics of the country, by a donation of the public lands to the various asylums in which they may have found a refuge; but it is perfectly constitutional to vote away the public domain, by millions upon millions of acres, for Western railroad land jobbers. It is unconstitutional vote money out of the Treasury for clearing away the obstructions, for example, in the Hudson at Albany; but it is perfectly legitimate to appropriate ten, fifteen, twenty or even fifty millions, if need be, for the purchase of railroad routes for plundering speculators outside of the limits of the United States. Such are the constructions of the constitution under the auspices of this hybrid free soil and secession administration. Their stock jobbing and spoils-seeking affiliations, and their excuses and false pretences, based upon the innocent constitution, are alike iniquitous and detestable. Common sense repels the idea of their sincerity or their consistency.

There is, however, a marvellous rapacity for the plunder with the present spoils administration at Washington, very much resembling the insatiable *régime* of Martin Van Buren. While great objects of real utility are repudiated upon constitutional pretences, the most unprincipled cliques of plundering stock jobbers and spoilsmen are invited to batten upon the treasury, under the most fraudulent representations of public policy. One might suppose that the state of affairs in Europe would justify the strengthening of our navy, and of our coast and harbor defences, at the outlay of a good many millions of dollars, in order to be prepared for the possible contingencies of a world-pervading war, in which we may be ultimately involved. But, while our President, our Cabinet and kitchen cabinet, intent only upon the spoils, discard all projects which will not yield good dividends, they will move heaven and earth for a Gadsden treaty, though reduced to half its original profits. The purchase of foreign railroad routes for the benefit of official and outside speculators is thus perfectly legitimate, though we may get nothing in exchange except a mongrel empire in Mexico, after the fashion of Faustin Soulouque.

At this rate, by the year 1856 our treasury will be as empty as that of Santa Anna, our credit as bad, our spoilsmen as unscrupulous, and the checks and balances of our constitution as much a fable and a mockery as those of Mexico. Let the House of Representatives vote the supplies of the Gadsden treaty, and public plunder assumes the Mexican type. The next thing in order will be the election of our President at the point of the bayonet, in the squabbles of rival factions for the spoils. Such are the bitter fruits of our imbecile hybrid administration, whose only bond of cohesion is the public plunder. Such are the conspirators of the Gadsden treaty.

But we are admonished from Washington that the appropriations contemplated by this Gadsden treaty, when they shall come before the House will be very apt to encounter a formidable resistance, and a full exposure of all the facts and mysteries connected with the corrupt bargain, notwithstanding such exposure has been refused by the Senate. Col. Benton, it appears, intends to oppose the treaty appropriations—because the contracting parties have invaded the privileges of the House—because of the manner in which the bargain was concocted—because of its provisions and its objects. In furtherance of a searching investigation, Col. Benton also designs to move for a select committee, with power to send for persons and papers. And why not? Unless the thing is confessedly rotten and corrupt, can there be any reasonable objection to a sifting investigation into the secret history of this Gadsden treaty, and a thorough examination of all the parties concerned? When the treaty shall have been ratified, therefore, and Santa Anna and the stock-jobbers come before the House for their first instalment, let them have the committee and the investigation. In the Gardner case the money was paid over, and the investigation made afterwards. When the administration is too weak to resist the stock-jobbers, and when the Senate is deceived upon false pretences, the country looks to the House for the protection of the treasury.

### Progress of Newspaper Enterprise in the United States—Circulation and Advertisements of the Herald.

The growth of the newspaper press in the United States within the last eighty years, is without parallel in the history of its progress in any other country. Were the rapidity of its increase to be taken as an evidence of concurrent mental advancement, we would stand first amongst the nations of the world in the scale of intellectual superiority. In 1776 we could only boast of 37 newspapers throughout the whole of the Union; in 1810 the number had increased to 359, in 1826 to 640, in 1830 to 1,000, and in 1853 to little short of 1,500. With our comparatively limited population, we possess a greater number of journals than the whole of the European nations put together.

With us, too, the advertisement system was first developed to its legitimate extent. In Great Britain, announcements through the medium of the newspapers, in the form in which they are now published, did not become general until the beginning of the eighteenth century; but the heavy government duty charged upon them long retarded the full expansion of the system. In the reign of William the Fourth the remonstrances of the press procured a reduction of the duty from 3s. 6d. sterling to 1s. 6d. in Great Britain, and 1s. in Ireland, the single advertisement. Its immediate effect was to raise the number of advertisements for the three kingdoms, in the year 1841, from 1,021,943 to 1,778,957. In 1849 the number had increased to 2,109,179; and now that the duty has been removed altogether, another year or two will probably double the amount.

It is only of late years that the French press has devoted much attention to this, the most profitable source of revenue to a journal. The competition being formerly restricted to but a few newspapers, and circulation being almost exclusively relied upon for a return for the capital invested, but little effort was made to create a taste amongst the public for the facilities for transacting business afforded by the advertising system. The projectors and conductors of the great political journals of Paris—which alone possess any considerable circulation—were either too proud or too lazy to avail themselves of the advantages which this fruitful field of enterprise presented to them; and it was only when speculators offered to farm for this purpose a certain number of their columns, that they became sensible of the opportunities which they had neglected. Instead, however, of actively pushing this department, and deriving all the profit from it themselves, most of the leading journals leased, as it were, for a fixed sum, the advertising columns of their papers to a company of capitalists, and thus limited, absolutely, for a certain term of years, the amount of their receipts from this source. It will be readily understood, from these facts, why—there being intermediate interests to satisfy between the public and the newspaper proprietor—the advertisement system should not have obtained that full expansion and developement which, in a city like Paris—the centre of European civilization and refinement—was naturally to have been looked for. It will also serve to explain why there should be so little stability and certainty in French newspaper property. The French journals being purely political organs, and having no great advertising interest to fall back upon, are subject to fluctuations and reverses more sudden and violent than are elsewhere to be witnessed in the newspaper press.

We manage these matters somewhat differently here. We neither seek to raise State revenues from taxes imposed upon great public facilities, nor are our newspaper proprietors too proud or too idle to attend to the details of their own business. The consequence is, that whilst the number of advertisements published in Great Britain within the year, amount only to about 2,000,000, those published in the United States, exceed 10,000,000.

In comparing these results, we confess that we take pride to ourselves for having, in some degree, contributed, by our personal efforts and example, to stimulate the spirit of enterprise which has placed the American press in this proud position. As we labored ardently, untiringly and perseveringly for this object, our reward has been proportionate. This journal now stands at the head, not only of the American, but of the European, press both in point of circulation and advertisements. Our daily issue is upwards of fifty-five thousand, being fifteen thousand more than that of the London *Times*, and our number of Tuesday last contained upwards of thirty columns of closely printed advertisements, which, taking into account the smallness of the type in which they are set, will probably be found to be the largest amount of advertisement matter that has ever been printed in a single number of any journal, whether American or European. These advertisements are renewed every day, and present a complete and amusing epitome of all the daily wants, habits, interests, necessities, and occupations of the times in which we live. Most of the business affairs, and much of the pleasures and amusements, of life are transacted through their medium. Under the heads of each of the five chapters into which they are classified, you can effect almost any operation. If you want a wife, a partner, or a servant—if you desire to let your house "to a responsible tenant"—if you seek board which will not be starvation, and lodgings that will not be untenantable—if you are driven to give away your effects at auction for a third of what they cost you; or if, in short, you covet anything that does not enter into the ordinary categories of newspaper classification, you are sure to accomplish your object by a glance at our "Wants," "Tenants' Register," "Board and Lodgings," "Sales at Auction," or "Miscellaneous" columns. Should it be your lot to make an unhappy choice, you must not visit the blame on us. All that we undertake to do is to present you with a variety to choose from.

VETO OF THE LUNATIC ASYLUM LAND BILL—THE PRESIDENT'S REASONS.—According to our telegraphic advices, from Washington, the President of the United States, in a day or two, will certainly send back the Lunatic Asylum Land bill to the Senate, where it originated, with his veto and his reasons for it. The two houses have acted upon the principle that if they possess the power to vote away the public ands *ad libitum* to Western railroad land speculators, they have also the power to grant a portion of the public domain for purposes of public charity among all the States of the Union. It seems, however, that Gen. Pierce assumes to be a strict constructionist "of the straitest sect," and will place his veto upon this mighty nice distinction. The bill distributing ten millions of acres of the public lands to the various Lunatic Asylums of the country, gives away so much land for which no equivalent can be rendered to the Treasury; but the building of a railroad through the public lands enhances their value; and hence it is a sound policy to assist in making the road, by a grant of the alternate sections along the line.

This is to be the plea for the veto of the bill for the relief of the poor lunatics, and for the signing of the railroad land jobbing schemes, no matter what the amount of the public lands thus seized by the speculators, and no matter how numerous the grants thus made. Can anything in the way of political thimble-rigging be imagined more supremely contemptible than this paltry special pleading in behalf of the land swindlers. Take the President upon this plea, and the State of New York may rightfully claim of Congress a grant to the extent of eight or ten millions of acres of the public domain for the enlargement of the Erie canal; for what has contributed more to enhance the value of Western lands than this great outlet for Western produce? What Western railroad, or any dozen of them, is calculated to do more in still further enhancing the value of Western lands than the enlargement, without corruption, and under proper regulations, of this aforesaid Erie canal? Let the New York delegation bear this in mind, when any one of these Western land speculating schemes shall come up for consideration. And let every State or railway company interested in any canal or railroad line connecting our Atlantic seaports with the Mississippi valley, put in the saving plea that all these outlets of Western produce, and channels of emigration, inevitably contribute to increase the value of the public lands, and claim their share accordingly. If the public domain is to be absorbed by the land jobbers, let the "Old Thirteen" put in for their fair proportion. Why make fish of one set and fowl of another?

Is there any authority in the constitution for limiting these gratuities to Western land jobbing schemes? The public lands are the property of all the States of the Union, under the guardianship of Congress; and if the railroad and canal land jobbers are to have the monopoly of the choicest parcels, let the Eastern States insist upon a fair division among their public works which have operated, or may operate, to increase the value of the public lands in any section of the country. As we understand it, the constitution covers the whole Union, and if it does not authorize the granting of lands for charitable purposes, but does authorize gratuities for land jobbing monopolies, it does not limit this authority to the Western States, but extends it over the whole country.

Briefly, all these land schemes, the Homestead bill, Bennett's Land Distribution bill, and the charity bills—but worst of all, these land swindling Western railroad bills—are all outside the spirit and intent of the constitution. But we repeat, that if the canal and railroad jobbers are to have the monopoly of the land gratuities, the Eastern railroads and canals connecting with the West, are entitled to their full share. If the public lands are to be stolen from the treasury under cover of law, let there be honesty, at least, in the division of the plunder. That's all.

## OBEDIENCE TO AUTHORITY.

### The First Sermon of Archbishop Hughes on his Return from the South.

#### His Views on African Slavery, as Witnessed in Cuba,

&c., &c., &c.

Archbishop Hughes delivered his first sermon since his return from Cuba, in St. Patrick's Cathedral, yesterday to a numerous congregation, who were evidently rejoiced to see him again among them. He appears in the enjoyment of excellent health, the genial climate of the South having restored him to the full possession of his former energies. He took his text from the 10th chapter of St. John, beginning with the 11th and ending with the 15th verse:—

I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, and fleeth, and the wolf catcheth them and scattereth the sheep.

The hireling fleeth because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep.

I am a good shepherd and know my sheep, and am known of mine. And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold; them also I must bring; and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold and one shepherd.

The first words which shall find utterance on this occasion, as prompted by the feelings of the heart, are my part words of gratitude to Almighty God for his protection and good providence during the period in which I have been absent from the post that is so dear to my heart—gratitude to God for the accomplishment of the object of that absence; and I shall extend this expression of gratitude to the people among whom I have journed, for nothing could be more soothing to an invalid at any time, although to me so unexpected, as the attention and kindness which I everywhere received. I was not among strangers, but among friends; and a friendship so delicate, so studious to anticipate every wish, I never experienced, nor did I suppose possible. Towards those I should give public expression to my gratitude, I need not enter into details; but there is one in particular, the learned, the humble and saintly Bishop of Havana, to whom I feel under obligations which it will never be in my power to repay. Nor to those also should I express my gratitude, for it seemed as if every one conspired to take away from absence the feeling with which it is accompanied. I knew before I left that many prayers were offered for me; the orphans raised their hands and hearts to God; religious communities here—you, yourselves—all took an interest in the occasion which prompted my departure; and not only you, but, to my astonishment, I may say in the South, in the West, and in the East, prayers had been offered up constantly for a health and a life so important as mine. For all this I ought to be grateful—for my preservation from accident by sea and land. In the midst of multitudinous accidents God has protected me; nor will I say that it has been solely the influence of the delicious climates in which I have sojourned for a time, but still more to the prayers that God has heard and hearkened to—prayers that have been answered effectively. I am also grateful that during my absence nothing has occurred calculated to inflict deep sorrow. The faithful have persevered in that steady course of upright conduct which has won for them the respect of those who have no sympathy with their creed. The clergy, also, under the prudent guidance of him who is charged with the administration of the diocess in my absence, have deserved well of their flocks for their zealous care, and all that rises after those four months a subject of regret, is the absence of some to whom the people had been long in the habit of looking up for a certain amount of protection and patronage. Death, the destroyer, has been among you, and in this particular instance has selected from among the laity men advanced in life, whose zeal for the interests of the community to which they were so much attached, rendered them ornaments of this community. They have been called hence; and while we feel that their absence leaves a chasm, a void, we may not cease to hope that others will take their place in the high sphere of usefulness to which they had devoted a large portion of their lives, their talents and their means. This is the only regret I feel—to find that death has been among you, selecting from the laity those who might be least disposed to spare, and also from among the clergy those who were in the prime of their youth, whose years seemed to promise the commencement of a long career of usefulness in the service of God. But this is nothing new in the world—it is a continuation of what has been, and is but introductory to what will be; but God never permits us, even if we should be negligent in the performance of our duty, to remain long unadmonished, not merely by the word of the minister of religion, but by more direct warning—an intimation of what we are, whence we came, and whither we are tending. In the meantime, how pleasant it is to remember the words of the gospel—that we are sheep, and that our pastor is a good shepherd; that he laid down his life for his flock; that we are all under the guidance of his infinite wisdom and mercy! In reading this gospel, our minds are directed to a subject of exceeding importance to us, namely—that God, in whom are all attributes infinitely perfect, but one attribute which he has, without dividing himself of, communicated in part to his creatures. He is the pastor by excellence, yet he has divided or communicated that pastorship to others in the organization of the church; He has sent others on that same divine mission. He came to fulfil, not, it is true, to take part in that infinite atonement He alone could make; but he has constituted other pastors with him, who are acting by his authority and in his name, so that their pastoral care is undistinguished from his own. Thus it is that in all that pertains to religion, man, if disposed to do what is right, has ample ground of hope, because he has to deal with One who desires his salvation, and who has provided and brought within his reach all the means necessary to its accomplishment. Neither is it to be supposed that this power of pastorship is limited to those especially consecrated to the ministry—in fact, all power on the earth is of God, and whether it be that of the sovereign or the rulers, whether it be that of the father of the family—whether it be that of the owner of slaves, or that of the master of those who are temporarily placed in that position by their own voluntary act—there is throughout all this an extension of the pastorship of God, and it is that it may be employed for His glory that we find it thus distributed among men. Then, if men have this authority over others, whether it be over children or slaves, or servants, they have power, and that power is from God, and because it is from God it is to be respected, on the principle of conscience, by those who are subject to it. But as Christians, how would you mistake the nature of that power if you were to suppose it simply the result of good fortune, the recompense of your own industry, that you should be placed in the position of superior and master? No; it is not for this purpose that they are bound, by a principle of conscience, to hearken to your authority, to obey you in will in matters consistent with the will of God, but they know, if you understand their religion, that the power you exercise is but a portion of the supreme power that belongs to God. I would, therefore, call your attention to-day to this subject, because, on a proper understanding of it, and on a discharge of the duties it implies, depend the hope of the rising generation, the renovation of society, and the diffusion of the spirit of God through all classes. If God has given power to man, it does not follow that he is the owner or proprietor of that power he has it with certain duties, and, beyond all question, those who are constituted in power have, at the same time that the power is real—that it is from the source of all power—a responsibility connected with it which they will do well to pay attention to. Every one who regards the constitution of society must observe how God has insured its continuance by a reliance upon those who are, of those who come after them. Man at his birth is the most helpless of all living creatures, whether as regards the weakness of his body or the feebleness of his intellect; and it is for this reason that God has imparted those feelings to human nature which give play to all the noble impulses and affections that he has planted in our breasts. Is this be so generally speaking, that it is an obligation resting on the individual to show kindness to a stranger, how much more is it so in the domestic relations? Is not the father of the family invested with the power of God, so that he is a sovereign, commanding and expecting to be obeyed, as he should be? And if this be the case, the question is whether God has given him that privilege that he may go abroad for pleasure, while others are made to contribute to its gratification; the question is whether God has distributed his power among men for such mean purposes? Certainly not. No doubt he has a right to claim obedience; but at the same time there is a responsibility which God intended him to fulfil—that he shall extend to those under his authority, and who are liable to be influenced by him, every means by which they shall be enabled also to fulfil the purposes of their being towards him who created and who redeemed them—instruction where it is necessary—example, and, after example, correction. Oh! dearly beloved brethren, if Christian parents, and employers and masters were impressed with the dignity of their position, with a proper sense of the high trust Providence has deposited in their keeping, how would the whole order of society begin to be renovated by the practice of the primitive virtues!—how would servants be encouraged, being provided with the opportunities of learning the truths of their holy religion! It would be the high and glorious privilege of such superiors to furnish them with the means of enlarging their minds and becoming more and more grounded in the principles of their religion. Instruction! how sad and lamentable the reflection which this subject awakens when I look back upon my recent experience among those little kingdoms, those sovereignties of a family, where six or eight white persons occupied the mansion, and were surrounded by a large body of slaves, four and five and six hundred constituting one great family, in which the master was the sovereign, with a power immense for good or evil! I don't pretend to say that the responsibility of such a position is overlooked, for I have been delighted to perceive and find, in more than one place, that the owner felt the responsibility of his position, that he had procured the services of a clergyman, that instruction from day to day was going on among those who were dark in their spirit as in their complexion, and incapable almost of understanding, rendering their instruction a most discouraging task. Nevertheless, God knows their position, and does not hold them responsible for the neglect of opportunities they have never had. Seized in their own country—where they lived in ignorance of God—and transported from it, how glorious is the privilege of the master who in that position might introduce them to a knowledge of their real dignity, as the redeemed creatures of our common heavenly Father! While we all know that this condition of slavery is an evil, yet it is not an absolute and unmitigated evil; and even if it were anything more than what it is—a comparative evil—there is one thing, that it is infinitely better than the condition in which this people would have been, had the