THE NEW YORK HERALD.

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NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

Reported Massacre of Troops.

IMPORTANT FROM FORT LARAMIE—A DETACHMENT OF SOLDIERS SLAIN BY THE SIOUX INDIANS—THE FORT IN DANGER—REINFORCEMENTS ORDERED, ETC.

ST LOUIS, Sept 8, 1854.

The following highly important despatch has just been received in this city, by special express from Fort Leavenworth:—

Lieutenant Fleming states that on the 18th of August an Indian Sioux killed an ox belonging to an emigrant train, close to Fort Laramie. The head chief reported the fact to him (Lieut Fleming) and offered to give up the offender; whereupon Brevet Second Lieutenant Grattan, with the interpreter, Sergeant Favor, Corporal McNulty, and twenty privates, were sent to receive him. Lieutenant Fleming subsequently learned that the whole detachment were massacred, without exception. How the deed was done, and the immediate cause of the attack were not clearly known at the time the express left. It, however, had been ascertained that the Indian chief was among the killed, but the total number killed had not transpired.

The Indians are reported to be extremely hostile, and the fort was considered in great danger. Reinforcements had been ordered to Fort Laramie.

The Grand Lodge of the I. O. of O. F.

BALTIMORE, Sept. 10, 1854.

The Grand Lodge of the United States of I. O. of O. F. were in secret session all day on Saturday, and did not adjourn until late at night. It will continue in session until Tuesday. A large number of the delegate have left the city, and there is now but a bare quorum left. At the meeting the motion to abolish the degree of Rebecca was rejected.

The President's Return.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10, 1854.

The President and his family arrived last evening, much improved in health.

Maine Election.

The annual election for State and County officers and members of Congress in Maine will take place to-day. The cutting up of parties and the fusion of factions have broken up entirely the old party lines and landmarks, and rendered such a complete political chaos throughout the State as to defy all calculation in regard to the probable result of the present contest. The parties are divided into fusion whigs, anti-fusion whigs, fusion democrats, Morrill temperance democrats, Nebraska wild-cat democrats, anti Nebraska old line democrats, anti-Nebraska anti-Morrill democrats, free soilers, fusion free soilers, hook and ladder democrats, and many others; but we believe the following are the only candidates who have been nominated for the office of Governor:—

Dem—Albion K Parris. *Whig*—Isaac Reed.
Liberal Dem—Shepley Carey. *Free Soil*—Anson P. Morrill.

It is not expected that there will be an election of Governor by the people, and the choice will, therefore, again devolve upon the Legislature, where a coalition will have to be formed in order to effect a choice. The following are the Congressional candidates:—

Dis.	*Dem.*	*Whig and Anti Nebraska.*
1—Samuel Wells.		John M Wood.
2—Wm K Kimball		C. J Gilman, John J Perry.
3—Jonathan G. Dickerson.		G. W. Farley, Ebenezer Knowlton.
4—George Rogers.		Samuel P. Benson.
5—Samuel H. Blake.		Israel Washburne, Jr.
6—Thos. J. D. Fuller.		Noah Smith, Jr. James A. Milliken.

In the Fourth district the liberal democrats have nominated Asa Smith. The above are all anti-Nebraska men.

Visit of a French Man-of-War to our Harbor.

A French war steamer called the Acheron, put into our harbor on Friday last and cast anchor off the Battery. As soon as this was known there was great excitement among certain classes of our citizens, who looked upon this unexpected visit from one of the contending powers in the European struggle as something unaccountable and mysterious. A French man-of-war in New York harbor!

What does she in the West,
When she should serve her sovereign in the East?

was asked by many. It was quietly spoken about that she had only stopped here to take a peep about our bay to see if any Russian flags were floating above Russian decks, and if so quietly to lay by till she could catch them outside of Sandy Hook. To see if the report of her arrival was really true, numbers yesterday took themselves to the Battery; and sure enough there rode upon the waters, just off Castle Garden, a rather small, rakish looking craft, with the tri color floating from her mizen gaff. Of the spectators, some pronounced her too small to give rise to any fears, and others with a significant shake of the head, said "Sometimes the smallest dogs were the worst to scouger."

To learn the object of this visiter, who she was, and where she last hailed from, we boarded her on Saturday afternoon, and had an interview with her gentlemanly commander. She comes here, not to play the spy, neither with charged cannon eager for combat, but simply through the innocent desire of obtaining something to eat. Men of war will get hungry like other people, and when the larder is empty it must be supplied. The most valliant man would make but a sorry show with an empty stomach; and it is a law of nature, alike applicable to all nations, that the soldier will fight the best who is the best fed.

The steamer Acheron came into our harbor nine days out from St. Pierre and Miquelon, Newfoundland, and bound for France. She sailed in the company of two other French vessels of war; but all running short of provisions, it was determined to make for New York for a supply. The Acheron, being a steamer, distanced her companions, and is now hourly expecting them up the bay. The Acheron is commanded as follows:—

Captain.....Bona Christave.
Second Captain.....Mr. Genne.
First Lieutenant.....Mr. Le Roy.
Second Lieutenant.....Mr. Pallas.
Doctor.....Mr Merlin.
Commissary.....Mr. Ronjier.

This steamer is now very old, and is not expected to do much service. She was built in 1834, being new in her twentieth year. She is, moreover, quite small, her burden being only 480 tons. She carries a crew of ninety-one men, all told, and eight cannon—thirty-four pounders. Besides these she has on board several small brass pieces, which might be of use in close combat. Standing upon the deck of the vessel one sees around him a good supply of muskets, pistols, boarding pikes and cutlasses; but they all have a rusty look about them, indicative that they have never been called into service and don't expect it. Everything on board wears a democratic aspect, with none of the "quarter deck exclusiveness" which usually belongs to war vessels. Servants and sailors, gunners, petty officers and cooks, all mingle together, and are found fore and aft, below decks and above. This equality is a peculiar characteristic of the French nation. Napoleon, in his day, taught all in the national service to feel that they were men, however humble their position, and superiors were taught to treat them accordingly. This lesson has ever since been preserved, and perhaps there is now more freedom between the commanders and men of the French nation than of any other. The Acheron is built like our clippers, and is no doubt good in a chase. There is one large steampipe on the main deck, all the machinery being below, beyond the reach of the balls of an enemy. The commander of the Acheron is unable to say how long he will remain with us, being directed by the Commodore on board one of the vessels which he is expecting. His belief is that all will sail for France as soon as the provisions necessary are taken on board. Europe is calling home her warriors.

Brooklyn City News.

STREET PREACHING.—There was no street preaching yesterday in the City Park, as on previous Sundays, in consequence of the unfavorable state of the weather, the preachers, as well as the audience, preferring indoors to the open air.

ROBBERY.—The grocery store of Henry Baker, on the corner of Dean and Bocrum streets, was feloneously entered on Saturday night and robbed of $80, belonging to the clerk, Mr Harmon Rhode, and $14 which belonged to the proprietor. Several articles, valued at about $30, were also taken. The thief, it is supposed, was secreted in the place when the store was closed. No detection.

FOUND DROWNED.—The body of a man was found in the water at the foot of Warren street, yesterday morning. He was about five feet ten inches in height, dark complexion, long black hair, a small bald place on the crown. The clothes consisted of blue shirt, striped pantaloons and heavy boots. The Coroner was notified.

Dramatic and Musical Matters.

The hot weather last week had a tendency to thin out the audiences at the theatres, but we have a prospect of cooler breezes, and a difference of twenty degrees in the thermometer will make a perceptible difference in the box sheets. The opening of Burton's and Wallack's theatres has already been described in the HERALD. No novelty has been presented at either house. Mr. Burton has appeared as Micawber, Bob Acres, Jem Baggs, and several other of his peculiar parts—characters in which he is without a rival. The auditors at this house on Saturday evening were treated to a capital performance of William in "Black Eyed Susan," by Mr. Charles Fisher.—At the Broadway Theatre, Miss Davenport has closed her very successful engagement of twelve nights. On Friday she had her benefit, when three acts of "Camille" and three acts of "London Assurance" were done.—At the Bowery Mrs. Hamblin has appeared in Lord Byron's tragedy, "Sardanapalus."—No novelties at the National or at Barnum's.—The New York Theatre will open next Monday, with a legitimate play and a ballet. There will be an opening address, and the "National Anthem" will be sung by the company. Miss Makeah, an aspirant for histrionic honors, will make her *début* at this house, as Parthenia, on the second Monday in October. She is said to be a well educated woman, and an excellent reader.—Niblo has been drawing full houses, as usual, with the Ravels. This company will soon depart on a tour to San Francisco, South America, and Havana. W. A. Moore, their agent, stage director at Niblo's, will sail on the 5th proximo to make arrangements for their appearance in California.

At Castle Garden, this evening, Bellini's grand opera, "Norma," is to be played with this cast:—Norma, Madame Grisi; Pollio, Signor Mario; Adalgisa, Signorina Donovani; Oroveso, Signor Susini. Madame Grisi is said to be the very best Norma, in every respect, on the lyric stage. She has made the part her own, as Mrs. Siddons did with Lady Macbeth. A great house is expected at the Garden this evening.

At the Broadway theatre, this evening, Mr. E. L. Davenport will make his first appearance since his return from Europe, as Othello; Iago, by Mr. Conway; Cassio, by Mr. Gallagher (a recent addition to the company), and Desdemona by Madame Ponisi. Mr. Davenport was considered a good actor seven years ago; and, no doubt he has improved very much by long practice in a good school. During his engagement a drama called "Saint Marc," written by the author of "Civilization," will be brought out. Mr. Davenport will play during six nights at the Broadway theatre, and he will be succeeded by Mr. Forrest, who commences an engagement on the 18th inst. A new farce, first played at the Haymarket, London, and entitled "As Like as Two Peas," will be played at the Broadway this evening.

At Burton's theatre, this evening, a new farce will be played. It is called "Heads or Tails?" and was written for the Olympic, London, by J. Palgrave Simpson. Mr. Jordan, Mr. Johnston, Mr. A. Andrews, Miss Lee and Mrs. Hough are included in the Burton cast. "Sweethearts and Wives" will also be played, Mr. Burton as Billy Lackaday.

The Ravels will appear in "Mazulm," (its last night,) this evening, at Niblo's. M'lle Mathias will also give her divertissement, introducing seven national dances.

At Wallack's theatre the new farce, "Heads or Tails?" "Popping the Question," and "A Phenomenon in a Smock Frock," are announced for this evening. Senorita Soto will dance "El Olo."

At the Bowery, this evening, Mrs. Hamblin will play the Countess, in "Love." A popular afterpiece is also to be given. Mr. C. Pope plays Huon, in "Love."

At the National theatre, this evening, Mr. C. W. Taylor's adaptation of "Fashion and Famine" will be played for the first time. The whole company is included in the cast; and Miss Cordelia Howard, the Eva in "Uncle Tom's Cabin," has a part in the piece. "The Middy Ashore," and "Aladdin," are also announced, with Mr. J. R. Scott and Miss Hathaway in the principal parts.

At Barnum's, this afternoon and evening, interesting dramatic performances are announced.

At Wood's Minstrels, No. 444 Broadway, this evening, a new burlesque on "Robert Macaire" is announced. At 472 Broadway the bill is a tempting one.

The Buckleys, at 539 Broadway, will produce a new burlesque on "Lucrezia Borgia." This company have been very successful in former attempts, and this promises to be no less fortunate.

At Stuyvesant Institute, No. 659 Broadway, Sandford's Minstrels announce a first rate bill for this evening.

The sports at the Hippodrome are still attractive. Several novelties are announced for this week.

The Battery enlargement, adjoining the Castle Garden, will present a busy appearance this morning. The great circus of Messrs. Spalding & Rogers gives its first performance there at three o'clock this afternoon, and a regiment of the operators of the establishment will be erecting the huge *marquée* this morning. On Saturday night they exhibited in Brooklyn, and yet before midnight the entire paraphernalia was taken down and packed away, and this morning it will appear on the spot where a few months ago ships rode at anchor. The circus is eminently a democratic institution, with its admission of twenty-five cents only, and always peculiarly grateful to the bone and sinew of the land, with its low prices and exciting sports. There is a hint, by the way, in the management of this circus, worthy the rumination of the most veteran managers of other places of amusements—the price of admission is low and uniform, and the capacity of the tent is enlarged in the proportion of the reduction of prices, with a perceptible increase in the receipts. In Brooklyn, on Friday and Saturday, besides the multitudes who could not gain admission to the over-crowded pavilion, there must have been 4,500 visiters at each night exhibition. Here is $1,100 received nightly, in addition to large afternoon houses.

PHILADELPHIA.—Miss Heron has been playing at the Walnut street theatre. She will be succeeded to-night by Miss Davenport. Miss Lizzie Weston has played Ganem, in the burlesque of that name. Mr. John Weaver had a benefit at the Chesnut street theatre on the 9th. Mr. Dempster is giving concerts at the Musical Fund Hall, and Blitz is exhibiting at Columbian Hall. The City Museum opens this evening with "As You Like It," and "Sketches in India." The following is a list of the company:—

Mr. J. E. McDonough, Mr. B. G. Rogers, Mr. J. E. Nagle, H. A. Langdon, T. J. Worrell, McBride, Burgess, S. H. Hemple, T. Knight, Hood, Ryner, Marshall, Whaley, Wier, May, Bradford, Jones, T. Bartram. Mrs. Rayner, Mrs. F. N. Drew, Mrs. E. Thayer, Miss E. Wood, Mrs. H. A. Langdon, Miss Baker, Miss Fielding, Mrs. Forrester, Miss Lewis, Miss Norton; Miss Louisa Pray, principal danseuse. J. E. McDonough, stage manager.

BALTIMORE.—Miss Julia Dean has been playing at the Museum, and Miss Howard, with Henry Farren, at the Front street.

BOSTON.—Mrs. Woodward has closed her engagement at the National, and she will soon return to California. Mr. Farren and Miss Howard commence an engagement this evening at the National. Mrs. Charles Howard will commence a short engagement at the Museum to-night. The new Boston Theatre will open with "The Rivals;" F. Gilbert as Sir Anthony; Mr. Dampsfort as Captain Absolute; Mr. Carver as Sir Lucius; Mr. Wood as Acres, Mr. Daly as Faukland, Mr. Fiske as David, Mrs. Barrow as Lydia, and Mrs. Smith as Julia. Mr. Gilbert will speak the opening address.

CINCINNATI.—Mr. R. Johnston has appeared at the National as Geoffrey Dale, in "The Last Man." Mr. Debar and M'lle Vallee are underlined.

BUFFALO.—The Gabriel Ravel Troupe are at the Metropolitan.

ROCHESTER.—Mr. E. Eddy has been playing at the theatre here, during the past week.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—The new theatre under Mr. Forbes' management has been opened for the season. The company consists of Messrs. J. H. Oxley, J. Dunn, J. D. Grace, E. Varry, H. O Pardey, W. Loveday, Mesdames W. C. Forbes, H. Clark, E. Grattan, Miss Julia Miles, &c.

LOUISVILLE, KY.—Bates' theatre opened on Monday last with the play of "Love's Sacrifice"—Mrs. A. Knight taking the character of Margaret Elmore, and Mr. J. G. Hanley that of Matthew Elmore.

CLEVELAND, O.—Mr. and Mrs. Richings have been playing here. Mr. W. L. Ayling and wife, well and favorably known in the Eastern theatres, have been engaged in the stock company of the Athenæum.

NEW ORLEANS.—We learn, says the New Orleans *Picayune*, that Mr. B. De Bar, the manager of the St. Charles theatre in this city, has engaged his company for the coming season. It is to consist of the following persons:—Messrs. Wm. Hield, C. Pope, T. Duff H. O. Pardey, L. Bernard, J. S. Wright, J. Hamilton, T. Kemble, W. Davis, J. W. Clifford, H. Schoolcraft, W. Boyle, E. Brucciani, T. St. Clair, G. Howard, J. Raymond, J. Clarke, B De Bar; Madames Mary Stuart, T. Duff, L. Bernard, A. Waldauer, T. Kemble, W. Davis, C. Booth, T. Nixon, G. Howard, F. Millons; Misses V. Kemble, J. Schoolcraft, A. Schoolcraft, C. Courtney, Mlle. M. Vallee; C. G. Chelsey, treasurer; A. Wauldauer, composer and leader of the orchestra; T. C. Nixon, scenic artist. The French opera *troupe* will be as strong as ever, and we are glad to see that there is to be comic as well as grand opera presented by the management of this season. A series of grand balls is to be given at the Orleans also, which will greatly add to the gay attractions of the winter. Mr. Placide is making arrangements that cannot fail to make the Varieties more attractive than ever. He has secured the services of his brother, H. Placide, for a considerable portion of the season. The American theatre has been put in complete repair, and now looks outside and inside like a modern building. It is to be opened early in the season by the German company, that, during a portion of last winter, gave so much satisfaction to intelligent audiences. Of course, Dan Rice will be here in the order of events, to re-open the Amphitheatre, and there will be the usual succession of musical and other entertainments provided for our enjoyment as the season deepens.

HARTFORD, CT.—Mr. Wyatt has leased the theatre for a year, and he opens it this evening.

CALIFORNIA.—Theatricals were in a bad way at the last accounts. Yankee Sullivan was announced to give sparring exhibitions at the Metropolitan, and since Miss Keene's departure for Sidney, the Union, now called the People's theatre, has been kept open by Messrs. Wheatly and Hann. We see no accounts from the actors in the interior of the State.

Police Intelligence.

ARRESTED ON CHARGE OF MANSLAUGHTER.

On Saturday evening an unfortunate accident took place in Nineteenth street, by which a little girl, about eight years of age, named Mary Kincard, was killed. It appears that a milkman, named Thomas Lynch, was serving one of his customers—Mrs. Davis, at No. 100 West Nineteenth street—when some difficulty arising between them as to a debt outstanding, the milkman emptied the milk from her pitcher back into the can, and threw the vessel to her, which struck the little child in the head, who was waiting for some milk, and was consequently standing close beside the wagon, producing a shocking wound. The little child was picked up insensible, and conveyed to the residence of its parents, where she lingered until nine o'clock that evening, when she died from the injuries thus made at the hands of the milkman. Captain Stevenson, hearing of the singular and melancholy affair, got a warrant issued for the arrest of Lynch, who was arrested yesterday, and on being conveyed before Judge Bogart, at Jefferson Market, was locked up to await the action of the grand inquest. The coroner will hold an inquest on the body to day.

Burglary in the First Degree.—A colored man, named Thomas Simondson, was arrested about one o'clock yesterday morning, on a charge of burglariously entering the dwelling house of J. Niblo, 180 West Forty-second street, with intent to commit some crime therein. He was taken before Justice Stuart, who committed him for examination.

Charge of Highway Robbery and Rape.—James Haughry, eighteen years of age, an Irishman; Thomas Dailey, nineteen years of age, born in Albany; and William Oxford, born in Westchester county, were on Saturday arrested on a charge of having met a young woman named Mary Farrell, in First avenue, near Twenty-fifth street, between twelve and one o'clock on Saturday morning, and all of them having violated her person and robbed her of her ear-rings, which were found on the persons of two of them on their arrest. They were taken before Justice Stuart, who committed them for trial in default of $500 bail each. Mary Farrell was committed as a witness.

Grand Larceny.—Maria Childs, an unfortunate girl, was arrested on Saturday by officer Casey, of the Fourth ward, on a charge of stealing $205, the property of Cornelius McCauley, residing at 26 North William street. It appeared McCauley was decoyed into a house of ill fame, where the robbery was committed. The girl admitted having stolen the money, which she says was only $48. $43 of the money was found on her person. She was taken before Justice Clarke and held for trial.

Using a Slung Shot.—Officer Kavanagh, of the Sixth ward police, arrested a man yesterday, named Jermiah Shea, charged on the complaint of James Sullivan, of 75 Mulberry street, with having inflicted on him a blow with a slung shot. The prisoner was taken before Justice Clarke, at the Tombs, who committed him for trial in default of $500 bail.

Theft by a Workman.—Carl Weishayut was arrested on a charge of stealing silver clippings and filings from his employers. The accused was suspected, and in his possession was found six dollars' worth of the property. On his arrest he admitted having taken a quantity before, for which he obtained from a Jew, whose name he would not disclose. $18. He was committed in default of bail.

Keeping a Disorderly House.—On Saturday afternoon Lieut Cargill and a posse of the Ninth ward police made a descent upon a reputed house of prostitution, kept by Rosetta Eytinge, No. 24 Grove street, where they arrested the proprietress and six females of rather doubtful chastity. The parties arrested were brought before Justice Stuart, at Jefferson Market, who held Miss Eytinge to bail in the sum of $1,000 to answer the charge. The girls were, upon being reprimanded, discharged from custody.

Burglary.—Florence Meyer, a German, was arrested by Officer O'Brien, of the Reserved Corps, on Saturday night, charged with having burglariously entered the store of Augustus Smith, corner of Hester and Orange streets, and stealing therefrom property to the amount of $100. The prisoner, on being taken before Justice Bogart, was committed for examination.

Personal Intelligence.

Senator Douglas is to address the citizens of Joliet, Will county, Ill., to-day.

ARRIVALS

At the St. Nicholas—W. W. Corcorane, Esq., Washington; Dr. E. Petticolas, Richmond; Col. Hardee, West Point; Hon. R. J. Fisher, York, Pa; Capt P. A. Key, Louisville; Capt. Edwards, Buffalo; C. B. Lansing, Albany; H. White and lady, Syracuse; John Stephens, Esq., London; Col. Burnley and family, Kentucky; E. Bryant, do.; Hon. J. Boyce, Louisiana; Col Misfarland, South Carolina; Hon. E. Burroughs, Michigan; Dr. C. Blake, Sonora; Judge Langden, Scotland; Col Gibbs, Mississippi; T. A. Crozier, St. Johns; Saml Wetherell, Baltimore; Gen. Fletcher, Florida; D. W. Foster, St. Louis.

At the Metropolitan—Hon H. L. Drake, Maine; Hon. H. Nood, Quebec; Gen. James Penn and family, Memphis. Gen. Wetherill, Philadelphia; Nathaniel Eaton, Trinidad de Cuba; T. L. Nayson, British Army; Capt. Hackstaff, Ct.; A. de Allo, Mexico; Stanhope Prevost, Lima; Col. John O'Fallon, St. Louis; T. P. Painter and family, Florida; Thos. T. Stewart, New Orleans; A. Y. Bananger and family, Ohio; Saml. G. Savage, Hartford.

At the Irving—Capt. A. L. Ackley, Auburn Mass.; Rev. S. G. Lawrence, Salem, Mass.; W. H. Lathrop, Savannah, Ga.; E. C. Cross, *Daily Times*, Cincinnati, Ohio; Hon. E. Johnson, Ohio; W. C. Strowbridge, San Francisco; Israel A. Clay, Virginia; G. D. Meschem, Utica; A. Bennett, Jackson, Mich.; Wm. Kile, Paris.

Obituary.

COL. SAMUEL B DAVIS, a well known citizen of Wilmington, Del., died on the 8th inst., aged about 90 years. He formerly spent much of his life on his sugar plantations in Louisiana, where Mrs. Gen Gaines, then a little girl, became a member of his household, and remained with him until her elopement and marriage. During the war of 1812 he commanded a company of volunteers at Lewes, Del., and for his repulse of the British was voted a sword by the Legislature of that state.

The Literary World.

The great autumn trade sales of New York and Philadelphia have just been brought to a close. That of New York ended ten days ago, and the Philadelphia sale, commenced immediately after, is now about finished. These sales of books rival any in the world. The first one was established in New York, as an annual publishers' exchange, about the beginning of this century, and from that time the gatherings of the trade in this city, as well as the amounts of their transactions, have increased with almost every season. The sales just concluded have been unfortunate for the publishers, but to a certain extent advantageous to buyers, though there was very little "duplicating" either here or in Philadelphia, and the quantities of books disposed of have consequently been comparatively small. For this result, a variety of reasons may be mentioned. Besides the prevailing scarcity of money in all parts of the country, an erroneous impression as to the prevalence and dangerousness of the cholera kept many buyers from New York, where Messrs Bangs had, in compliance with the wishes of a considerable number, expressed a year ago, appointed the sales for a period one month earlier than usual. The supplies bought in the spring, too, were larger than the circumstances of the summer warranted.

A city contemporary recently started a story that some quarrel had occurred between the literary executors of Mr. Webster and Fletcher Webster, and that one of the consequences of this quarrel had been the entire surrender of the Webster papers in the hands of those executors to the son of the deceased statesman, who, it was announced, in substance, would "edit them to suit himself." We have the best authority for alleging that this entire statement, with all its spectous particularity, was without any foundation in truth whatever. The thoroughly able, accomplished, and judicious historian of Spanish literature, Mr George Ticknor, one of Mr. Webster's most cherished and most trusted friends, is one of these literary executors, and has in preparation his "Memoirs and Correspondence," assisted, of course, as occasion offers, by the other members of the commission, between all of whom and Mr Fletcher Webster the most cordial feelings have at no time failed to exist. Undoubtedly, Mr. Fletcher Webster has been, and frequently will be, consulted in the business; and there is no reason to suppose that his views or wishes in regard to it will, in any particular, be opposed to those of the executors. The important duty of preparing the "Memoirs and Correspondence of Daniel Webster" is altogether in good hands, and it will be finished as rapidly as may be with due necessary care. The story trumped up by our contemporary was perhaps suggested by a rumor which we have reasons for believing to be well grounded, that Mr. Fletcher Webster is preparing one or more volumes of "Personal Reminiscences" of his illustrious father—a work which it is to be hoped he will lose no time in offering to the public.

The "Lives of the Chief Justices of the United States," just published by Mr. George Van Santvoord, author of a recent "Life of Algernon Sidney," is a work of great interest and most decided excellence, both as to points of style and of judgment. The five Chief Justices of the United States have been John Jay, John Rutledge, Oliver Ellsworth, John Marshall and Roger B. Taney; and of these it is remarkable that Jay is the only one who has hitherto been the subject of anything like a complete biography.

The Pennsylvania Historical Society, at Philadelphia, have raised a fund by personal subscriptions, each of twenty dollars, for publishing after the manner of the Camden, Shakespere and Calvin societies, important manuscripts and rare books respecting American history. The first volume which the committee of the publication fund propose to issue, is a detailed account of the celebrated expedition against Fort Du Quesne, under General Braddock, in 1755. The basis of the work will be several original journals, by officers of rank, who were in that disastrous campaign, obtained by Mr. Joseph R. Ingersoll while American minister at London, from the British Museum and other repositories. To this will be added an introductory sketch of the general causes which led to the expedition: the whole to be enriched with notes and illustrations, taken for the most part from contemporary authorities, including documents on the French side of the question, from the archives of Paris.

A scheme somewhat similar is proposed in this city. "Norton's Library of American History" will consist of rare works relating to the revolution and its causes, edited in the most careful manner, and handsomely printed. The first volume will contain Lee's "Campaign of 1781 in the Carolinas," with notes by that indefatigable and accurate historical student, Professor George W. Greene, who has special facilities for such contributions, in the voluminous papers of his great relative, General Nathaniel Greene.

The religious public will be pleased to learn that the Rev. Dr. Van Vechten, of Troy, is engaged in the composition of the life of the greatest pulpit orator ever known in this country—the celebrated Dr. John M. Mason. It is surprising that no one has ever before attempted such a work, for which there must be abundant materials. We know nothing of Dr. Van Vechten's special qualifications for the task he has undertaken, but if they are at all equal to his subject, his Life of Mason will have an extraordinary success.

In the way of lighter literature, nothing has appeared for some time better than the spasmodic tragedy entitled "Firmilian," by Professor Aytoun, a son-in-law of the late glorious Christopher North, of Blackwood's Magazine. It is a burlesque exhibition of the poetry run mad of Alexander Smith, the infidel ranter, Bailey, and the "Life Drama" and "Festus" school generally. It is witty and humorous, while imitating most successfully the extravagances which it exposes to derision. There has been nothing in its way more delightful since Gifford's "Baviad and Maeviad," and Horace Smith's "Rejected Addresses," and the best qualities of both those very different productions seem to be combined in it.

There is no end to editions of Shakspere. England cannot boast as many from the death of the immortal bard till now, as this country has furnished in the last twenty-five years. The newest and most magnificent of all American editions, is one just started, in quarto, to be issued in numbers. It is to be amply and beautifully illustrated with portraits, in character, of the most distinguished English and American actors of the present century.

"The Better Land, or the Believer's Journey and Future Home," is a sort of echo of "The Pilgrim's Progress," pleasantly written by the Rev. Augustus C. Thompson, of Roxbury, Mass., now travelling in the East: in its kind a very good book.

The very clever wife of the late Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs, Don Calderon de la Barca, has just transmitted to this city an elaborate Life of St Ignatius, which in the course of the winter will be published in two octavo volumes. Madame Calderon is well known as an author by her interesting work on social life in Mexico, and she is much esteemed in American society for her abilities and womanly virtues. In a recent letter to one of her friends in New York she says, naively, "We shall pass some time, perhaps, in France, where we are now living." Very likely, from present appearances at Madrid, though there is no knowing what a day may bring forth among such a peculiar people.

M. J. G. Shea, a son of the amiable John Augustus Shea, formerly connected with the New York

has devoted several years of careful and intelligent research, in the Jesuit's College in Montreal, and elsewhere, to the subject of Roman Catholic Missions in America; and he will soon bring out a very interesting work on the subject, altogether more full and particular than any ever yet published.

"Mr. Phineas T. Barnum, showman," promises us his Memoirs and Confessions, and pledges his fame for their perfect honesty: he "will make a clean breast of it;" he will give us all the facts about his celebrated contemporaries, Joyce Heth, the Fejee mermaid, the woolley horse, the herd of buffaloes, Tom Thumb, and Jenny Lind, as well as accounts of the purchase and management of the American Museum, the travelling circus, the menagerie, agricultural experiments, experience in banking, intercourse with crowned heads and their household ministers, &c. &c. Barnum's experiences have certainly been rather rich, as well as various; and as he was once an editor, and knows the art of paragraphing as well as hoaxing, his book will sell—all the better for its honesty, if, in his old age, the showman has come to Franklin's conclusion as to the policy of this rare quality.

Great Flareup in the Judiciary.

FRACAS BETWEEN JUDGE CLARKE AND CAPTAIN HOPKINS OF THE THIRD WARD POLICE.

On Sunday morning, about one o'clock, the Third ward station house was the scene of a funny occurrence enacted between Captain Hopkins of that ward and Police Justice Clarke, now sitting on the bench at the Halls of Justice, in which some very hard words passed, and blows were given, it is alleged, on both sides, and all on account of persons arrested for drunkenness and disorderly conduct. It appears Captain Hopkins had a man arrested, named Eckhard, for drunkenness and disorderly conduct, whereupon Eckhard's friends, sons of Judge Clarke, went to that magistrate, and obtained a written discharge from him at the hour of half past twelve A. M. on Sunday morning. Captain Hopkins refused to let the man go on this piece of paper, and no other recourse presented itself to the friends of Eckhard for his release, but to rouse up the magistrate, and bring him there in person. This was soon done; and on Judge Clarke making his appearance, which he did at two o'clock, an altercation took place between him and Captain Hopkins, as to the right of the latter to refuse discharging a prisoner at the written request of the former. From words the affair grew still more serious for on Judge Clarke's attempting to release the prisoner, Capt. Hopkins stepped in between them and denied the power or right of Judge Clarke to act in that manner. Blows were then given and both parties clenched, but were soon separated—not, however, until Captain H received several severe scratches on the neck and jaws. After some parley and negotiations on both sides, all parties, with the exception of the Captain, left the station house.

Yesterday a warrant was issued for the arrest of Captain Hopkins by Justice Clarke, charging him with having committed a violent assault and battery on Mr Eckhard; but he was not arrested up to a late hour last evening, although he was in the vicinity of the chief's office nearly all day.

The affair thus far has created a great sensation among the police captains and politicians generally; and the right of a police captain to hold a prisoner when the written discharge of a magistrate was presented, was discussed pro and con.

The parties concerned in this ludicrous affair have come forward and made separate statements to the public concerning the origin and details of the whole affair. Captain Hopkins comes out boldly and signs his own statement, while, on the other hand, Judge Clarke's side of the case is represented by "an Eye Witness," which we opine was written at his suggestion by either his son or son-in-law, as both of these gentlemen were with Eckhard on the eventful Sunday morning. The following statements will be no doubt read with great interest:—

CAPTAIN HOPKINS' STATEMENT.

During the burning of the store No. 273 Greenwich street, at 12 o'clock, on Saturday night, a policeman Hope arrested and conveyed to the station house Chas. Eckhard, who was intoxicated and disorderly. Hope made a complaint against him, and he was detained. After the fire was extinguished, I returned to the station house, and at about 1 o'clock, a son of Justice Clarke came there with an order from his father for the release of the prisoner, which I refused to notice, being instructed so to do by general order No. 253, issued by the Mayor and Chief of Police. The young man then left, and at about 2 o'clock Justice Clarke came to the station, accompanied by his two sons and son-in-law, and striking his fist upon the desk, demanded the prisoner and complainant to be brought before him. I offered to bring the prisoner up, in order that he might be admitted to bail, and did so, when the magistrate ordered his release. I refused to release him, unless the case was adjudicated. He then told him to go. I refused to let him go, and ordered the doorman to lock him up, and proceeded to assist him. Justice Clarke then arose from his seat and seized me by the throat, tearing the flesh from my neck. His sons and son-in-law then interfered and took him from me and from behind the railing. The doorman then came towards me with the prisoner, and Justice Clarke again attacked me, seizing me by the throat. I seized and held his hands until his sons again took him from me. The doorman was then proceeding down stairs with the prisoner, and I was again attacked by Justice Clarke, but his sons prevented him doing me any further injury. Justice Clarke then stated in a very excited manner, that he would remain in the station house all night, and take the prisoner with him in the morning, and he also said, "You are a scoundrel, and I am boss here." After remaining about an hour he again demanded that the accused and the complainant should be brought before him—I refused to send for the complainant, but volunteered to make a complaint myself rather than have the magistrate annoying me and the reserve corps, who were sleeping up stairs. He then took my complaint and ordered the prisoner to find bail to keep the peace, before ten o'clock that morning. He also reprimanded him, and told him that I had acted perfectly right. The accused was very impudent to the magistrate, when, after hearing the complaint, he threatened to lock him up. The magistrate told him that he was yet drunk, and had he obeyed the Captain and the officer he would not have been arrested and been the means of putting him and his sons to this trouble. He further said that he knew the Captain, and that he would do nothing wrong. On leaving the station, the magistrate told me that he would see me again in the morning. Officer Hope went to the Police court in the morning, when Justice Clarke told him that he had done perfectly right in arresting Eckhard, and asked him if he would have arrested him if I had not been there, to which he replied that he would have done so.

JAS. A. P. HOPKINS,
Captain Third Patrol District.

JUDGE CLARKE'S SIDE OF THE QUESTION—A STATEMENT OF FACTS.

On Saturday night last, as Charles Eckhard, a bookbinder, a young man of respectability, was walking, between the hours of 11 and 12 o'clock, in Greenwich street, in the company of Nathaniel Bott, a son-in-law of Judge Clarke, they discovered smoke issuing from the premises 273. They burst open the door and gave the alarm. The firemen were soon upon the spot and the fire extinguished. At No. 271 lived an acquaintance of these young men, with whom, on whose stoop, they commenced a conversation. While Eckhard was giving a detail of the fire Captain Hopkins, of the Third ward, came up and ordered Eckhard to hush up. E. replied that he would not; he was not interfering with any person. Captain H. then caused his arrest, pulling him violently off the stoop. He was taken to the Third ward station house. His friends proceeded to the residence of Judge Clarke, who well knew Eckhard. Judge C. sent a written discharge for Eckhard to Captain Hopkins, by his son. Captain H. refused to read it, and threatened to lock up the messenger. Again Judge C. was visited. He got up from his bed and repaired in person to the station house. Eckhard was brought up. Judge Clarke ordered his discharge, and directed him to appear before him in the morning to answer any complaint that might be preferred against him. Captain Hopkins refused to discharge him. Judge C. told him to go. Captain H. interfered to prevent his departure, when the Judge stepped in between them and was struck at by Captain Hopkins. Taking the Captain by the throat, Judge C placed him in his place, swore him, and upon the evidence discharged Eckhard, who then went home. In the morning Eckhard procured a warrant for Captain Hopkins, and the matter will be investigated.

Now, Mr. Editor, the above facts can be proved by several unimpeachable witnesses. Judge Clarke, worn out by severe labor, during the past hot weeks, both at Jefferson Market and the Tombs, might well, when taken weary and exhausted from his bed at midnight, have expected courtesy and respect from a subordinate. Are not some of our police, intoxicated with their authority, grossly abusing and exceeding it? Is a policeman more than a man, at whose command respectable citizens must cease to speak in the open streets or be subjected to imprisonment and disgrace? AN EYE WITNESS.

Political Intelligence.

VERMONT ELECTION.—Returns from 186 towns have been received, which give Foyco, whig, a majority for Governor, of over 9,000. The coalition (whig, anti Nebraska, freesoil, and Maine law) will have three fourths of the House of Representatives; and the entire senate is whig and anti Nebraska. The three whigs, supported by the coalition, are elected to Congress—Meacham by 3,000 or 4,000 majority; Morrill by 400 or 500; and Smith by 2,500.

It is stated that the election of the Hon. J. C. Dobbin, as United States Senator from North Carolina, has been definitely arranged, and that Mr. Mallory, of Florida, will succeed him as head of the Navy Department.

THE RAIN STORM YESTERDAY.

THE WELCOME RAIN

Welcome, good friend—thrice welcome—
Welcome as the flowers of May.

"The heated term," the long "heated term," the ever memorable, drought-creating, famine-producing, hope destroying, death-dealing, and paralyzing "heated term" of 1854, is extinguished. It expired with the last of the dog-days. A word or two upon this point.

On Saturday last, in the coolest and breeziest part of the HERALD office, the thermometer stood, at one o'clock, P. M., above ninety and rising. But a glance at the sky through Fulton and down Nassau street, satisfied us that there was a "good time coming," and near at hand. Clouds were gathering—honest rain clouds, heavy, massive, voluminous, and watery. We had been apprised by telegraph of copious storms up along the