

NEW YORK HERALD.

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ADVERTISING RATES... THE NEW YORK HERALD... PUBLISHED DAILY... TERMS...

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

- BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway—SOPHIA'S SUPPER... BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery—FORTUNE'S FALLOUT... NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway—BOHEMIAN GIRL...

New York, Wednesday, January 3, 1855.

The News.

The steamship Star of the West, arrived yesterday, brought us eight days later intelligence from California. She had on board about six hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars in specie, which will leave one million, four hundred thousand to be brought by the mail steamer, to make up an average semi-monthly shipment.

New Year's day was celebrated in Washington with unusual hilarity. The politicians abandoned their plots and counterplots, and entered into the festivities of the occasion with such zest that it will probably require the balance of the week before they again get into good working condition.

The legislative bodies of this State and this city assembled yesterday, and completed their organizations. The message of Gov. Clark is published in to-day's paper, and in case any of our readers should be deterred from its perusal by its great length, they are referred to the editorial columns, where its main points are recapitulated, together with such comments as they suggest.

The financial exhibit of Governor Clark will be found to be intensely interesting, suggesting, at it does, the very possible necessity of resort to increased taxation to meet the requirements of the treasury. There is a falling off in the canal revenues of over one hundred and ninety-four thousand dollars, the result of bad management, the drought, short crops, railroads, and other causes too tedious to mention.

The absorbing question of the Maine liquor law next demands the attention of our new Governor. Here our expectations are not realized. Here there is a wonderful falling off from that formidable bill vetoed by Governor Seymour. Governor Clark disowns his own battling. He does not recommend it, nor any thing like it; but, as nearly as we can make him out, he has fallen back upon the platform of Judge Bronson.

with the system of polygamy practiced by the natives. The local papers oppose the policy of the government with great severity. We copy from the London Times, of the 10th, the text of the new treaty of alliance between Austria and the Western powers. Although its meaning is less obscured by reservations than her protocols in the previous negotiations, it does not appear to us to advance much the cause of the allies.

Accounts from Texas state that Gen. Houston will resign his seat in the Senate at the expiration of the present session. The Indians on the frontier were becoming more tractable, the six companies of rangers ordered out by the Governor having had the effect of making them solicitous for peace.

The four market was again firmer yesterday, and sales were made to a fair extent, at about 12 1/2 a 25c. per bbl. advance. White Michigan wheat sold at \$2 38, and Southern do. at \$2 28. Indian corn was also better, with sales of Western mixed at \$1, and Southern white at \$1 02. Rice was at \$1 38. The stock of old pork in this market on the 1st inst., was 43,236 bbls., which was larger than was anticipated.

The sixth anti-slavery lecture of the season was delivered last evening, in the Tabernacle, by the Rev. Henry W. Bellows. The subject taken by the speaker was "The pro-slavery testimony of the Northern conscience cross questioned." Our report is crowded out.

The first message of our new Governor, Clark, is before our readers. It is a rather long, prosy document, but full of substantial facts and statistics to all classes of the people of this great Commonwealth. Our readers will peruse it carefully, and study it for themselves, and shape out their expectations of our new State administration accordingly.

The Governor is somewhat philanthropic in regard to the discipline of our State prisons, and his suggestions under this head may be turned to good practical account by judicious legislation. Upon the public schools, also, he betrays his benevolent disposition, and his great sympathies for the rising generation.

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roads in cities and towns he is as non-committal as Martin Van Buren. On rivers and harbors and a high protective tariff he is a whig of the year 1836, and a firm believer of special bounties to manufacturing monopolies, at the expense of the whole community.

The Governor is true to the Saratoga platform, and the resolutions of the conglomerated Syracuse and Auburn conventions touching the Nebraska bill. He recommends, accordingly, to the Legislature, the most decided action for the restoration of the anti-slavery interdict of the Missouri compromise, to the end of arresting the extension of slavery and the increase of the representation of the South in the two houses of Congress.

Upon the whole, this first message of our new Governor is an instructive document. It shows that the Maine liquor law is to be sacrificed for the re-election of Seward—that a desperate effort is to be made to overshadow the Know Nothing excitement in a fierce revival of the anti-slavery agitation, and that the Seward platform for 1856 is the improvement of rivers and harbors on a grand scale by the federal government, a high tariff of special bounties for the enrichment of manufacturing corporations, and war without quarter against the South, the extermination of slavery, and the disruption of the Union.

Mr. Fernando Wood has commenced his duties as Mayor with a message which is likely to create some stir. For the first time for many years a Mayor has been found with sufficient nerve to point to the true cause of our recent municipal troubles, and to claim for himself a measure of authority commensurate with the responsibility of his office, and the necessities of the city.

Another OSTEND CHAPTER.—Our special telegraphic advices of this morning give us some highly interesting additional facts touching the Ostend Convention, and the Buchanan, Soule and Kitchen Cabinet league against Marcy. It seems that this conspiracy are drawing their tools around their victim with unabated industry; but that he has resolved to fight it out against Buchanan and his Ostend alliance, Cushing, Jeff. Davis, Forney and the whole Kitchen Cabinet. This is right. Marcy must fight it out.

LAST OF THE HARD SHELLS.—Our telegraphic despatches from Washington inform us that the Albany Argus has been bought up by the administration. How much? and who pays?

THE LATEST NEWS.

BY MAGNETIC AND PRINTING TELEGRAPHS. Very Interesting from Washington. MORE OF THE INSIDE HISTORY OF THE OSTEND CONVENTION, AND OF THE INTRIGUES OF BUCHANAN VS. MARCY FOR THE SUCCESSION—MARCY HOLDING FAST.

The following particulars of the Ostend convention will be found interesting and truthful. My statement challenges official denial. The absence of consistency, and the abandonment of American policy, as shown in the official despatches from the State Department in this city, gave birth to the Ostend convention. The proper move to make had been a subject of consideration between Soule, Buchanan and Mason, for some weeks before the meeting of the convention.

It is, as Mayor Wood remarks, intolerable to think that in ten years the expenses of the government of this city have increased two hundred and fifty per cent; and to see, as every one does, that under a load of six millions of annual taxes, we live in the worst managed city in the world. Negligence, fraud, and flim are and have been for years the leading characteristics of our municipal arrangements.

Whence has this arisen? It was usual, a couple of years ago, to impute all the evils of our government to the defects of the charter and the villainy of the men who administered it. Well, the charter has been amended under the advice of the Reform Committee, and of the old municipal officers not one remains. Has the city improved? Why, the streets are dirtier than ever: the police is as useless, the laws are as constantly violated, the taxes are increasing at a more rapid rate than at any previous period.

Mr. Wood has been elected Mayor under a storm of abuse that might well have crushed an abler man. Notwithstanding all, he obtained a majority over his opponents, and has entered upon the discharge of his duties. He begins by stating—that none of his predecessors dared to avow openly—that the charter is bad and the sooner we revert to the old one of 1836, the better it will be for the city; and he continues by declaring his intention of interpreting the present charter by the light of his own understanding, and exercising as large a share of authority as he can possibly find warrant for in that bad law.

FIDDLING FOR THE POOR.—A scheme is on foot to get up a grand ball for the benefit of the starving poor of New York. As it is to be patronized by many of the "first families," it will, no doubt, if carried into effect, be a grand affair, wherewith brilliant toilettes will be seen in great profusion and to the best advantage. The question is, will this sort of thing relieve the surrounding distress? The misery now pressing upon New York has grown out of the extravagance of a few rich people, who, spending thousands for balls and similar luxuries, set an example to others who could worse afford it, and thus in the end made prodigality the rule and economy the exception in New York homes.

REMOVED RESIGNATION OF MR. RICKLES.—THE COMMONWEALTH BANK IN TROUBLE.—SUPREME COURT PROCEEDINGS. WASHINGTON, Jan. 2, 1855. The Star of this city says that Mr. Rickles' return to the United States was preceded by his resignation.

NEW YEAR'S DAY IN WASHINGTON. WASHINGTON, Jan. 1, 1855. The weather here to-day has been extremely fine, and every one seems to be seeking pleasure. The receptions by the President, the members of the Cabinet, the foreign ministers, and private citizens have been very large, and the day has been more generally and extensively observed than heretofore.

Late and Interesting from the Cape of Good Hope. BOROX, Jan. 1, 1855. The ship Minster, arrived at this port, brings Cape of Good Hope news to Nov. 4. Accounts from the frontier state that there were fears of another Kafir war. It was alleged that the Kafirs were endeavoring to stir up the Fingoes to rebellion, the English having attempted to interfere with their system of polygamy. Ac. Active watch was kept by the natives beyond Orange river sovereignty had refused to allow further trading of the British with the interior of Africa, saying that they would kill all their elephants.

Later from Texas. NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 30, 1854. Advice from Texas state that Gen. Houston will resign his seat in the U. S. Senate at the end of the present session. The yellow fever is prevailing at Lavaca. The Indians of Texas are disposed to make peace and settle on the lands reserved for them.

From Boston. INAUGURATION OF THE NEW GREY GOVERNMENT—FIRE—ARRIET, ETC. BOROX, Jan. 1, 1855. The new city government was duly inaugurated here this forenoon, for the year 1855. Chief Justice Shaw administered the oath of office to the Mayor elect, Dr. Smith, who then qualified both branches of the Common Council.

From New Orleans. BURNING OF THE MERCHANTS' INSTITUTE—THE POST-CHIEF-RAILROAD—ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMSHIP PHILADELPHIA AND DANIEL WEBSTER. NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 30, 1854. The loss by the destruction of the Merchants' Institute in this city is estimated at \$70,000, of which \$20,000 is covered by insurance.

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Massachusetts Legislature. BOSTON, Jan. 2, 1855. The Legislature of Massachusetts will assemble to-morrow. The Know Nothing National caucus to-night nominated Henry W. Benchley, Esq., of Worcester, for the Presidency of the Senate, and C. L. Cox, of Lynn, for Clerk. Mr. Gifford, of Duxbury, will probably be the assistant clerk.

The Legislature of Pennsylvania. HARRISBURG, Jan. 2, 1855. The organization of the House took place here this morning. On the first ballot for Speaker, Henry K. Strong, the whig and native American candidate, was elected, receiving 76 votes—scattering 21. The Senate met at 3 o'clock this afternoon, and made three unsuccessful ballots for Speaker, with the following result:—

Know Nothing Victory in Iowa. OWASCO, Jan. 2, 1855. At the charter election, held here to-day, the Know Nothings elected their entire ticket.

Failure of a Banking House. PITTSBURGH, Jan. 2, 1855. The banking house of Gen. Larimer, of this city, failed to-day.

The Legislature of Illinois. CHICAGO, Jan. 2, 1855. The Legislature of this State organized at Springfield to-day. Thomas Turner, Esq., the anti-Nebraska candidate, was elected Speaker of the House, and E. T. Bridges, Clerk.

Movements of Steamships. ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMSHIP AUGUSTA. SAVANNAH, Jan. 2, 1855. The steamship Augusta arrived here from New York yesterday (Monday) evening. THE STEAMSHIP SOUTHSTAR AT CHARLESTON. CHARLESTON, Jan. 2, 1855. The steamship Southstar, Captain Thomas Ewen, arrived here from New York at three o'clock this (Tuesday) morning.

From Schenectady. PARTIAL DESTRUCTION OF AN ENGINE HOUSE ON THE NEW YORK CENTRAL RAILROAD, BY FIRE. SCHENECTADY, Jan. 1, 1855. The engine house of the New York Central Railroad at this place took fire at an early hour this morning, and was partially destroyed. The damage to building and locomotives is about \$3,500. It will cause no interruption of the business of the road.

Southern Mail Arrangement. COLUMBIA, Jan. 1, 1855. The following mail schedule has been decided upon, and will go into effect in a few days—From Kingsville to Columbia the mail to be conveyed by the cars from Charleston to Kingsville in coaches, time, 30 hours; and from Columbia to Augusta in coaches—time, 15 hours. The great Northern and Southern mails are thus to pass through Columbia.

Markets. NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 30, 1854. The cotton market is firm. The sales to-day amount to 4,500 bales, and the sales of the week to 35,000 bales. The stock on hand is 177,000 bales. The receipts for the week foot 15,000 bales. Middling we quote at 8 1/2c.

The Ten Government. ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD FOR THE ENSUING YEAR—MAYOR WOOD SEEKING INFORMATION—INDIGNATION OF THE TEN GOVERNORS. A meeting of the Board of Ten Governors was held yesterday at 4 P. M., at the Rotunda in the Park. Present, Messrs. Draper, Smith, West, Henry and Duke. Joseph S. Taylor and Daniel E. Teaman, the newly elected governors, took their seats as members of the Board for the coming year.

Mr. West offered the following, which was adopted:—Resolved, That the thanks of the Board be tendered our late President, Simon Draper, Esq., for the able, faithful and impartial manner in which the office pertaining to the station he so satisfactorily filled by members of the past history of the Board. Over twenty citizens of respectability had been connected with the government of charitable institutions of the city of New York. It was an experiment, and might be not so successful as we have seen. There was a serious responsibility resting on all the members of the board, and when they would leave their office they would be held to account by the public for the acts done therein. He would be glad to decline the proffered honor, as it was understood that hereafter the office of chairman would be filled alternately by members of the party in power.

A motion that the declaration of Mr. Draper be accepted was carried. A new ballot was gone into, and Mr. Draper was elected President for the coming year. A ballot for Secretary was then had, and Mr. Duke was elected.

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