

NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR AND EDITOR.

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

VOLUME XX. THIS EVENING. No. 18

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE, BROADWAY-CINDERELLA-MARY ANN.

BOWERY THEATRE, BOWERY-CROOK OF GOLD-JACK SHEPHERD-KIT CARSON.

BURTON'S THEATRE, CHAMBERS STREET-LIVING TOO FAST-CHICK AND HER MATE-CUP-NOTE YOUR NAME.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, BROADWAY-NIGHT AND MORNING-A LADY AND A GENTLEMAN.

METROPOLITAN THEATRE, BROADWAY-EQUESTRIAN PERFORMANCES-SANOS.

AMERICAN MUSEUM-Afternoon-As Like As Two Peas-In Living Too Fast, Evening-Wallace-Suites.

WOODS' MINSTRELS, Mechanics' Hall, 472 Broadway.

BUCKLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, 239 Broadway-Buckley's Ethiopian Opera Troupe.

HOPE CHAPEL, 715 and 720 Broadway-Donaldson's Serenades.

New York, Friday, January 19, 1855.

Mails for the Pacific.

THE NEW YORK HERALD-CALIFORNIA EDITION.

The United States mail steamship, North Star, Capt. Warrack, will take this port to-morrow afternoon at two o'clock, for Aspinwall.

The mails for California and other parts of the Pacific, will close at one o'clock.

The New York Herald-California edition-Containing the latest intelligence from all parts of the world, will be published at eleven o'clock to-morrow morning.

Single copies, in wrappers, ready for mailing, sixpence. Agents will please send in their orders as early as possible.

The News.

In the United States Senate yesterday a message was received from the President urging the adoption of measures to suppress the hostilities of the Indians along the overland route to California.

Messrs. Gwin and Weller, of California, and Rank, of Texas, warmly seconded the recommendations of the President, and the subject was committed to the Military Committee, who will report a bill without delay organizing a force of three thousand mounted men.

The letter of H. M. Rufus Choate, resigning his post as Regent of the Smithsonian Institution, elicited severe criticism from Mr. Mason and Mr. P. A. B. and was partially justified by Mr. Douglas.

The letter was finally laid on the table and the Judiciary Committee was directed to inquire what action is necessary respecting the Institution.

The House has a special committee on this subject, and between both the facts regarding the management will no doubt be arrived at. The bill remitting penalties incurred by emigrant ships in certain cases was passed. The Judicial Reform bill was postponed till next December.

The bill granting bounty lands to old soldiers was taken up, and upon a proposition to amend, Mr. Brodhead stated that it was so overloaded with amendments he should offer a substitute. It is quite probable this scheme will prove an utter failure.

In the House yesterday a message from the President, similar to that received in the Senate, respecting the hostility of the Indians, was referred. In committee the consideration of the Pacific Railroad bill was resumed.

A motion to lay the subject of the tabs was negatived by a vote of 64 to 127. The bill was finally reported to the House, when Mr. McDougal, of California, moved as a substitute the proposition for three roads-Central, Southern and Northern.

This project was matured by the select committee of the Senate, and has been endorsed by a similar committee of the House. Pending the motion the House adjourned, to afford the friends of the bill an opportunity for conference.

We publish this morning the new prohibitory liquor bill, now before the Legislature. It differs in many particulars from that which we published some days since, although their main features are the same.

In the Senate, yesterday, a bill was introduced for the suppression of gambling, particularly policy playing. A synopsis of its provisions is given elsewhere.

We also publish the bill relating to the conveyance of real estate of testators and intestates, and the bill for the appointment of executors and administrators, and for the sale of real estate to pay the same.

The bill prohibiting the circulation of foreign bank notes under the denomination of five dollars, passed a third reading. The business in the Assembly was unimportant. The letter of our Albany correspondent contains the latest news from the State capital. Read it.

When it was announced in St. Louis that the doors of the banking house of Page & Bacon were closed, there was a sudden upheaving in all the modifications of finance and trade, and business men ran to and fro, with utter amazement pictured upon every countenance; banks and brokers were burst upon every side, and bills and drafts were thrust upon them by crowds of eager creditors.

The shock was tremendous; and, though all seemed to feel a sympathy for Messrs. Page & Bacon, and the other respectable banking houses of St. Louis, yet very few could be restrained from making their demands upon them, and contributing thereby to increase the excitement. The result was the stoppage of two or three other houses, and the shaking, perhaps, of the whole banking business of the city.

At last accounts, however, the panic had nearly subsided, and the conviction that the suspension of Page & Bacon was only temporary, had caused a return of confidence among the citizens, and financial affairs resumed their quiet aspect.

In another part of to-day's paper we have given a number of extracts from the St. Louis papers, which will show how the panic raged in that city when the announcement was first made that Page & Bacon had closed their doors.

Last night a disastrous fire occurred in the Bowery, between Grand and Hester streets. Six buildings were completely destroyed. A number of persons were rescued from the flames, and several were severely injured. A full account of the disaster is given in our paper.

A petition was presented to the Board of Aldermen last evening, praying that the sum usually allocated for the celebration of Washington's birthday be appropriated to the relief of the suffering poor. No action was taken on the matter.

The Clerk of the Common Council was empowered by a resolution to employ Dr. O'Callaghan to translate the volume of Dutch records now in the office of Mr. Valentine, in this city. A resolution was adopted to refer to a special committee the portion of the Mayor's message relating to the location and building of the new City Hall. The Board refused to concur with the Councilmen in paying the fees of lawyers who defended the contestants of that body.

The subject of tendering a gold medal and the freedom of the city of New York to Commodore Perry, for his successful mission to Japan, was brought up, and, after some discussion, lost, for want of a constitutional vote. The annual report of the Street Commissioner was transmitted to the Board, and will be found in the proceedings, in another column.

Yesterday George W. Pearcey, the newly appointed police justice to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Judge Stuart, was sworn into office, the County Clerk administering the usual oath. Justice Pearcey will take his seat at the new police court of the Fourth district when the court room is finished.

A meeting of Longshoremen was held at Tammany Hall last evening, when it was resolved to accept a reduction of one shilling a day upon their wages, but to resist the two shilling reduction required by the merchants. A full report of the proceedings is given elsewhere.

Last evening Lieut. Viole, of the Navy, delivered a lecture before the Geographical Society, on "Texas, and the Topography of the Rio Grande." At the Mercantile Library Mr. Kapp delivered a lecture, in German, on the "History of the German

Settlements in Western Texas." Dr. Jones delivered a lecture before the Mechanics' Institute, on the necessity of establishing a Consumption Hospital. These lectures, which are very interesting, are given in to-day's paper.

The Board of Supervisors was in session yesterday. Isaiah Keyser and James Daniels were appointed assessors respectively in the Nineteenth and Twenty-first wards.

At a meeting of members and trustees of the late Public School Society, held last evening, a report of a committee previously appointed, favorable to the publication of a history of the Society, under the authorship of Wm. Oland Burns, was adopted.

The work will be prepared under the supervision of Messrs. George J. Trimble, Joseph B. Collins, Dr. Pierson, Hiram Ketchum, and Mr. Eaton. A report of the remarks of the speakers at the meeting may be found elsewhere.

An official account of the total loss of the ship Tiquon, on Havana Shoals, on her voyage from Bharghate to this port, is given in another column. The vessel and cargo are understood to be insured in Wall street.

A destructive fire occurred in South Brooklyn early yesterday morning, occasioned by a defective fuse, as is supposed. Five stores were consumed, and one person was badly injured. The particulars are given by our reporter.

A resolution directing inquiry into the expediency of requiring military companies to be composed of two-thirds American was adopted yesterday in the Pennsylvania Senate.

Councilman French, of Cincinnati, who opposed the public reception of Mr. John Mitchell, was burned in effigy by his fellow-citizens on the evening of the 17th inst.

Cotton closed yesterday with an upward tendency in prices, though sales on the spot were confined to only 400 to 500 bales, while about 2,500 were sold in transit. Flour was quite dull for common grades of State, which sold at \$8 50 a \$8 75-the latter for straight brands. Western and Southern, of all kinds, were also easier. Canada sold at \$12 a \$9 35, in bond. A small lot of Southern fair white wheat sold at \$2 20. Corn was heavy and lower. Sales of Southern yellow were made at \$1, and at the close buyers held lower views. Western mixed was nominal. Provisions were without change of moment. Feights for grain to Liverpool were firmer, and 6d. a bid. were demanded for it, in bulk and in ships' cargo.

The Know Nothings of the North-Movements on the Slavery Question.

We published, some days ago, the inaugural message of Mr. Gardner, the Know Nothing Governor of Massachusetts. Our readers will remember that upon the Nebraska question he betrays the wrath of a free soiler, and boldly declares himself in favor of the restoration of the Missouri compromise. We give to-day an extract on the slavery question, from the inaugural of Mr. Pollock, the Know Nothing Governor of Pennsylvania, in which we are informed that Pennsylvania, in her late election, has repudiated the Nebraska bill, re-affirmed the Missouri interdict, and decreed a radical modification of the Fugitive Slave Law, notwithstanding that the Governor has no recommendation to make upon the subject.

These declarations, "by authority," from the elect of the Know Nothings of the North, go very far to show that this new American party are still embarrassed, to a considerable extent, by the widely diffused anti-slavery sentiment of the Northern States, and especially with the remains of the anti-Nebraska epidemic, which entered so largely into the late elections from Massachusetts to Kansas. The same free soil concessions have been exhibited in the late nomination, by a caucus of the Massachusetts Know Nothing Legislature, of General Henry Wilson, heretofore a leading anti-slavery man, as their candidate for the United States Senate. There has been a rebellion, however, and a split upon this nomination, and the final result will probably be the election of a Senator less decidedly tainted with anti-slavery antecedents and principles than Wilson. At all events, the trouble concerning this gentleman, shows that the Know Nothings of Massachusetts are aware of the importance of maintaining, as far as possible, in this Senatorial election, the attitude of non-intervention upon the slavery question.

In these Know Nothing messages of Messrs. Gardner and Pollock, and in this nomination of Wilson, there is a manifest disposition to conciliate the free soil and anti-slavery sentiment of the North. Nor is it surprising that this should be the case, considering the fact that the Know Nothings entered into the late elections side by side with the anti-slavery forces rallied throughout the North upon the anti-Nebraska furor. In the outset, all great revolutions are crude and unnumbered, more or less, with incongruities and inconsistencies. So this new party, from the throes of partisanship, comes into the world somewhat lacking the elements of perfect symmetry and harmony, although the banding possesses a vigorous vital system, and all the requisites of superior many strength. Now, the anti-Nebraska agitation is dying out-the popular mind soon wears of impracticable abstractions. Public opinion in these United States is eminently practical and utilitarian, national, patriotic and conservative. A little resolution and unity of action on the part of the Northern Know Nothings are all that is now wanted to cleanse their skirts of the last remaining vestiges of anti-slavery doctrines and affiliations.

Since our November election there has been some trouble among the Know Nothings of this State, traceable to the slavery controversy. Hence those outside Know Nothing lodges, the object of which is a diversion from this new party in favor of the re-election of Wm. H. Seward. And so, in Iowa, an anti-slavery whig has been elected to the United States Senate, from the support of the Know Nothings, in the place of Dodge, Nebraska administration democrat. Such combinations of anti-slavery men and Know Nothings have had in view the great object of "crushing out" the present imbecile spoils coalition at Washington, and in this light they may be considered as the necessary preliminary steps in clearing the track for the projected national revolution of 1856.

But, the administration and its spillover having been utterly demolished in the North, and the anti-Nebraska excitement having thus been appropriated by the Know Nothings to a good purpose, and this free soil agitation itself having subsided into a comparative calm, the issue has come for the Know Nothings of Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, New York, and the whole North, frankly to extend the right hand of fellowship to the South, upon the safe and conservative doctrine of absolute non-intervention upon the subject of slavery. This is the policy which they have indicated in certain late utterances. It is certainly their only policy for a national campaign.

Mr. Pollock may perhaps be excused in declaring that the people of Pennsylvania have given a verdict in favor of the Missouri restriction, free soil, and a modification of the Fugitive Slave Law, inasmuch as he recommends no action upon the subject. Mr. Gardner, on the

other hand, goes beyond the line of safety, in urging, as a Know Nothing, the repeal of the Nebraska bill. That bill has become a law. The Territories of Kansas and Nebraska have been duly organized, and are in successful operation under this law. The act itself rests upon the constitution-the supreme law of the land. The Missouri interdict is an unconstitutional enactment. Congress has no more right to interdict slavery in a Territory than in a sovereign State. No such power is granted; and the powers not given to Congress are expressly "reserved to the States and the people." The Nebraska bill was unquestionably a desperate expedient of the administration to recover its lost ground in the South, and as an offset to its free soil Van Buren affiliations in the distribution of the spoils; but the law is none the less constitutional. It will, therefore, stand, and sensible men, even of the anti-slavery societies, have pretty generally abandoned the idea of its repeal, as an impracticable absurdity.

The Nebraska bill, then, has transferred the question of slavery in the Territories from Congress to the people of the Territories themselves. There it belongs-there the issue must be decided. The South are willing to abide the result, and the free soil emigration societies have accepted the challenge. The question, then, of slavery or no slavery in Kansas and Nebraska, will depend upon the preponderance of Southern or free soil settlers; and so, henceforward, in all the other new Territories of the Union. Mr. Gardner, therefore, as an anti-slavery propagandist, in urging the restoration of the Missouri line, is off the track, upon an absurd issue; but as a Know Nothing, his position is utterly inconsistent with the national expectations of his party. Can the Massachusetts and Virginia Know Nothings co-operate upon the anti-slavery delusion of a restoration of the Missouri restriction? No. Or is it thought that the Nebraska bill can be repealed before the Presidential campaign comes on? No. Clearly, then, the State Council of the Massachusetts Know Nothings should repudiate, as soon as possible, the anti-slavery heresies of their over-excited Governor.

Regarding this Know Nothing movement as the result of a spontaneous reaction of the American people against the demoralizing and disorganizing corruptions of the old parties of the day-regarding it as the beginning of a sweeping and wholesome revolution in our party politics-we are satisfied that in the Presidential campaign this new party will occupy a platform eminently national, sound, and conservative. But the time has come when it should begin to slough off all its existing anti-slavery associations, and take the field, from Maine to Nebraska, on non-intervention upon Southern slavery. Governor Gardner and Governor Pollock have missed the mark. What say the Know Nothing State Councils of Pennsylvania and Massachusetts? Have they any interest in the Virginia election?

The Siege of Sebastopol.

It appears from the news by the Canada that General Canrobert was writing to his master the Emperor of the French, that "he expected to be able shortly to act on the offensive." This seems rather a singular remark for a general in Canrobert's position to make, encompised in the enemy's country, opposite one of his strongholds, within three hundred yards of his batteries. It is, however, quite natural and proper. If any such operation as a siege of Sebastopol were going on at this time-as some people in the country parts imagine-Canrobert's remark would have no meaning at all; but as really there is not, and never has been, any attempt to besiege that place, the only military operation now pending in the Crimea being the siege of Balaklava and the heights adjacent by the Russians, the hope expressed by the French general that he would "soon be able to act on the offensive," is quite opportune, and must have been cheering to his countrymen.

There never was a military operation which met with more contemporaneous comment than this Crimean expedition. From Dukes in Parliament to country editors, every one has had his fling at the allied leaders; and though many foolish things have been said, as always happens on such occasions, yet among the clapp netted shrewd criticism has been expressed. Thus it was undoubtedly a mistake to land on the Crimean shore, and march southward, without securing Perokop and the isthmus St. Arnaud tried to defend this by saying that he intended to take Sebastopol by a coup de main. If so, why did he not do it? Having abandoned the idea, why not then send ships to Perokop to intercept the arrival of the Russians who fought at Inkermann? It was likewise a blunder, after the capture of the heights of Alma, to waste time in burying the dead and so forth, instead of pressing on instantly against the north side of Sebastopol. It may or may not have been correct in a military point of view to make the flank movement to Balaklava instead of marching directly forward; but the latter was the more rapid manoeuvre, and the chances are that it would have been more successful than the plan which was adopted. Having occupied the heights to the south and east of Sebastopol, it was a deadly mistake on the part of Lord Raglan to lead the reitablis near Balaklava in the hands of troops who could not defend them; and a worse one, when they were taken, to sacrifice the light brigade, in an unskillful attempt to save the day. It was an error for which he can never atone to leave the extremity of his line at Inkermann undefended by works and artillery; so as to invite the Russians to come up the first dark night or foggy morning, and attack the British in their own lines. If the gallant English soldiers had not fought that day as well as they did-and history affords few parallels to their heroism-nothing could have saved the whole allied armies from being driven into the sea.

So much for military manoeuvres. On another side, the management which has characterized the camp and commissariat arrangements fairly surpasses belief. For days and days the British army, with a fleet of seven hundred vessels lying within call, millions of money ready to be paid out at home, and a friendly country where everything could be bought within forty-eight hours sail, actually subsisted on half rations. The men who fought at Inkermann had not breakfasted. Their clothing was in rags, and fresh supplies were not to be had. The wind blew down their tents, and no one seemed to know how the evil was to be provided against. Their horses died of fatigue and hunger. Not half enough doctors were at hand to tend the wounded. No one had thought of making durable gravelled roads as the Russians had, and consequently the very food and clothing and munitions of war and medicines which

were landed at Balaklava could not be carried up to the soldiers on the heights.

It is doubtful whether a fine army was ever so utterly sacrificed by its leaders. We learn that the London Times calls for the recall of Lord Raglan, and recalled most assuredly he should be. His age may be some excuse for his failure to take advantage of the victory at Alma, but nothing but sheer incompetency can account for his blunder at Balaklava, his want of foresight at Inkermann, and his uniform neglect of the welfare of his army.

But after Lord Raglan is recalled, and some new man sent to take his place, what then?

From the best information we can obtain, it appears that the southeast side, or city, of Sebastopol was never in so strong a condition as at present. The allied batteries have done it no harm, and the Russian garrison has wrought night and day at the defences. The array of artillery that has been mounted on the inner Russian batteries is immense, the garrison strong; the leaders confident. Well, suppose an assault is made in spite of these obstacles. The moment the assault begins, Liprandi, who with his army is completing the investment of Balaklava on the north, attacks the allies on that side, drives in the Turks, and takes the assaulting troops in flank. Meanwhile, the mines which under-ride all the Russian works are sprung, hundreds of pieces of artillery never ceasing the while to rain shot and shell on the stormers. Suppose they succeed, however; lose some ten thousand men, burst into the town, and engage in a hand to hand conflict with forces at least equal in numbers. Suppose victory still remains with them, and the courage and strength which served them so well at Inkermann enable them to drive the Russians from battery to battery, from street to street. The garrison flies across the river, leaving the town in flames and ruins. On the north side, the great fort-the strongest in the Crimea-opens fire on the city; and in the midst of the crashing mines and blazing houses, the allies, weakened by their losses and overcome by fatigue, are exposed to a fiercer fire than they have yet encountered-Liprandi all the while pressing on their rear.

Who can say whether the issue of such a victory as this would not be far more disastrous than any defeat? Moscow would be a slight reverse in comparison. Yet it is of all things the most natural and likely to occur.

The people of England and France may well wish their army safe back again.

AMERICAN OPINION ON THE WAR IN EUROPE.-Much diversity of opinion prevails with regard to the sentiment of the United States on the war with Europe. One set of writers believe that the American people are at heart opposed to the allies, that five out of six side with Russia in the contest. Another suppose that the real feeling of this country is favorable to Great Britain, but that various reasons, among others the old party-political fashion of courtiering the Irish, prevent its finding a free expression. Among the former class are to be found nine-tenths of the politicians, including those who influence the administration organ at Washington, and many Southern men, who have not forgotten the attempts of the British aristocracy to interfere with slavery in the Southern States. Among the latter are ranged all the merchants on the seaboard, whose interests are intimately interwoven with those of their correspondents and customers on the other side of the water. The rest of the American people are considered by the spokesmen of each of these two great divisions as belonging to their party.

We are not aware that any decided expression of opinion from the masses has yet been made public on the question. Certainly no journal has openly espoused the cause of Russia; and though several here and there have spoken for the allies, they have no claim to be considered leading exponents of public opinion. Our impression, therefore, is, that the American people have not departed from their position of neutrality, and that they look with tolerable indifference upon the struggle. Some little Russian bias may be given to the tone of the press by the very decidedly western tone of the journals of France and England from which we derive our accounts of the war; but nothing more. To us it seems a struggle for territory, a quarrel of ambition; and we see no reason for allowing our sympathies to be engaged either on the side of the despotic Czar or the despotic Napoleon.

Still, as this opinion of ours seems to be exciting some controversy both here and in England, it would perhaps be well that the truth should be elicited, and the real feeling of the United States brought to light. This could best be done at a public meeting; to be addressed by the advocates of both sides, and to be conducted with that order and decorum which New York meetings are so peculiarly conspicuous. Fairness would require that Irishmen of the exile order, whose hatred of England is their chief stock in trade, should be excluded, as well as the rabid sort of Englishman who comes over here to make a livelihood, gets money as fast as he can, and never ceases to abuse "the vile Yankees." The meeting should be of the Know Nothing character; and after discussing the question thoroughly, its sense should be taken by resolutions covering the whole ground. In this way, foreigners as well as natives would be saved from the blunders they now make when they speak of American opinion on the war.

PROBABLE CHANGES IN THE BRITISH CABINET.-It is said that the post of Secretary at War in the British Cabinet will shortly be offered to the Earl Dalhousie, who is at present acting as Governor General of India. Dalhousie is chiefly recommended by his energy and vigor of intellect; he acts more rapidly than other men think, and seldom notices obstacles till he has surmounted them. Such a man is much needed at present in England. Another change, which a break up of the present ministry is likely to bring about, is the promotion of Lord Elgin, late Governor of Canada, who is pretty sure of succeeding Lord Dalhousie, or of entering the Cabinet as Colonial Secretary. He is a man of undoubted ability, and is well known on this side the Atlantic.

ARRIVAL OF MR. SOULE.-M. Pierre Soule, ex-minister to Spain, may be shortly expected to arrive in this city on his way home. When he left this for Madrid he convulsed the quiet people of these regions with a filibuster speech, announcing his intention to offer Spain either one hundred millions or war for Cuba. He will appear as the leader of a filibuster move-

ment against Mexico; and what with his duels, and his disappointments, and his astonishing intrigues in Spain, may be expected to have something to say that will be quite worth hearing. Mr. Morey has no idea of the treat that is in store for him.

THE LATEST NEWS.

BY MAGNETIC AND PRINTING TELEGRAPHS.

Interesting from Washington.

THE KNOW NOTHING AND THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN.-SAM HOUSTON'S CHANCES.-MOVEMENTS OF THE DEMOCRATS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18, 1855.

The Presidential movements have begun to show themselves in the federal city. The Know Nothings in town have held several secret meetings, and sections of the old political parties are in motion, preparing for the extraordinary contest that is to take place in 1856.

The leading movement is made by the Know Nothings. They have met in several places to talk over the prospects of the new party, and concert measures to bring out Sam Houston as their candidate. Among the leaders in this movement now here is Thomas Shannahan, who is a delegate from your city. Mr. S. is the well known speculator and zealous friend of Mr. Houston. It is thought that the chances of the Texas statesman are superior to those of his competitors; and I understand that among those who support Gen. Houston's claims is Geo. Law, capitalist and contractor of New York. It is said that he will furnish capital to any amount to carry on the operations of the campaign, and it is further asserted on good authority, that Mr. Law is a thoroughly educated financial operator, has already paid down the first instalment. This is deemed very important by the knowing ones, and is having its effect. They say that Geo. Law never makes an investment in any operation that he does not succeed in making a small fortune by it, and they have strong faith in his run of luck. He is considered a fortunate man in his investments, and he Commodore Vanderbil, succeeds in all his undertakings. Shannahan, I learn, will soon return to New York, with fresh spirits for the approaching campaign.

The democrats are talking of taxing up Senator Horry, of Virginia. He is considered a strong man. Forney and the friends of Buchanan are busy; they have one or two Wall street bankers to back them up. The advocates of Morey are not a few. On the other hand, Pierce looks forward to a re-election. It is natural to suppose that he will make an effort at John Tyler did, appropriate all the revenue, surplus, custom house officers, post masters, &c. &c., to himself.

There is a curious fact told me by a Know Nothing democrat, in connection with these movements: All the aspirants for the Presidency look to Wall street for funds-to fill up political banks. I think I have seen something of this in the Herald several weeks ago. The politicians have lists of the great capitalists of your city. Opposite their names the amount of their wealth is given, and whether or not they are likely to make political investments. George Law, Com. Vanderbil, with two or three others, are set down at \$5,000,000 each, and good politicians. Stephen Whitney is rated at \$5,000,000, and William B. Astor at \$20,000,000; but they are not considered good political financiers. I will send fuller particulars by mail.

UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM NEW HAMPSHIRE-VALUABLE PAINTINGS-THE PACIFIC RAILROAD BILL.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18, 1855.

The Star has received private information that Governor Baker, of New Hampshire, has tendered the Senatorial seat vacant by the death of Mr. Norris to John S. Wells.

Several chief d'ouvres of Murillo, Corregio, and other masters, were brought from Spain during Revolutionary times by the late R. W. Meade, of the United States navy, who elicited the admiration of connoisseurs during the past week, in the rotunda of the Capitol. They are to be disposed of for the benefit of a daughter of Mr. Meade's, residing in this city, after an opportunity has been given to the public for an examination.

The friends of the Pacific Railroad bill held a meeting, this evening in the House of Representatives, to secure unity of sentiment in their action on the bill to-morrow, in the House.

UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18, 1855.

No. 52.-Ferdinand Clark vs. Benjamin C. Clark, et al. Appeal from the Circuit Court, District of Columbia, Justice Catron delivered the opinion of the court, affirming the decree of the Circuit Court, with costs.

No. 53.-Wm. Fontaine vs. Wm. Iverson. Appeal from the Circuit Court of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Justice Rich delivered the opinion of the court, affirming the decree of the Circuit Court, with costs.

No. 1.-The United States vs. Daniel W. Cox, et al. Appeal from the District Court of the Eastern District of Louisiana, Chief Justice Taney delivered the opinion of the court, reversing the decree of the District Court, remanding the cause with directions to dismiss the petition.

No. 43.-John Fishers, administrator, appellant, vs. Moses Wazner, et al. Argument concluded by Mr. Phillips for the appellant.

Interesting from Albany.

THE TENURE OF CHURCH PROPERTY-AN EXECUTIVE MANDAMUS-THE FUNDS OF SAVINGS BANKS-THE CONVEYANCE OF REAL ESTATE-THE STATE GENUS.

ALBANY, Jan. 18, 1855.

A very orderly and dignified session both branches of the Legislature to-day. In the Senate a large number of petitions were presented in relation to the tenure of church property, and in favor of the proposed act, Patman's bill-and several others, one from eight hundred German residents of Rochester, written in their own language. As no Senator could read the petition, Mr. Bishop explained the nature of its contents. Senator Barr was rather anxious to have it read.

Mr. Pratt reported a bill making provision for the erection of an executive mansion. It is rather doubtful whether the present Legislature will authorize the expenditure of a hundred thousand dollars for that purpose, at a time when the Comptroller is compelled to "lean his back against the wall" of the Canal Authority, to raise the means to pay members their three dollars per diem.

Several bills are on the table, making payments to persons having convicts lodged in their houses. One of the bills is a bill to amend the law relating to the tenure of office of the State Auditor, and the order of discharge, which, at the request of Mr. Spencer, was laid over, viz.:

Resolved, That the savings banks in the counties of New York and Kings report to the Senate, within twenty days from the passage of this resolution, the amount of funds they each had on deposit any of the banks of the State on the first day of September, last, and the first day of October, 1854, and the first day of January, 1855.

The Senate passed a resolution to proceed to the election of United States Senators on the 6th day of February. There was no opposition.

Mr. Field introduced a bill of considerable importance, as follows:

An act amending sec. 31, title 4, chap. 6, part 2, of the Revised Statutes, relating to conveyances of real estate of testators and intestates.

Sec. 1. The thirty-first section of title 4, chap. 6, of the second part of the Revised Statutes, shall be, and is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Sec. 2. Such conveyances shall thereupon be executed to the purchaser by the executor, administrator, or by the person so appointed by the Surrogate to make such sale, or by such acting executor or administrator, as shall be designated by the Surrogate in the order of confirmation, and shall contain a reference to the proceedings before the Surrogate relating to the sale, and a brief statement of the substance and legal effect of the order authorizing the sale, and the order confirming the same, giving the date of such order and directing a conveyance; and they shall be deemed to convey all the estate, right and interest in the premises, as the testator, intestate or decedent, or as the person so designated, owned or interested at the time of his death, in, and discharged from all claim for dower of the widow of such testator or intestate.

The business of the House was important. The bill making provision for taking the State census, was passed. It provides that marshals shall be appointed in each election district, and finish up the work between the first of June and first day of July.

From Cincinnati.

JOHN MITCHELL'S OPPOSITION BURN IN EFFIGY-EX-CITIZENSHIP AMONG THE YAK FATHERS, &c.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 18, 1855.

Mr. French, the Councilman who opposed the reception of John Mitchell by the city authorities, has introduced a resolution to that effect, which was adopted in his honor, and was burned in effigy last evening.

The City Treasurer has begun to detain the property of those merchants who have refused to pay their taxes, and much excitement has been created by the move ment.

Despatches from New Orleans state that Schultz, Hadden & Loring have resumed business.

Lard is in good demand, and 1,000 bbls. have been sold at 14c.

New York exchange is dull at one per cent premium.

Fire in Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 18.-P. M.

A fire broke out about 7 o'clock this evening, in the store of Smith & Keach, oil, gas and lamp dealers, and is now burning brightly.

Through the great exertions of the firemen the fire was confined to the building where it originated. The store of Messrs. Smith & Keach was destroyed. Loss \$50,000. Covered by insurance.

Important Know Nothing Movement in Pennsylvania-George Law Talked of for the Presidency.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 18, 1855.

Since the inauguration of Judge