INTERESTING POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE.

New York Politics.

OUR GENESEO CORRESPONDENCE.

GENESEO, Jan. 24, 1855.

Letter from Governor Clark's District—The Coming Election, &c., &c.

Permit me, as a subscriber to your valuable paper, to give you an intimation of the manner in which affairs are conducted in this Gibraltar of whiggery. Through the misfortune of the elevation of Myron H. Clark to the first office in this commonwealth, this, the Twenty-ninth district, is unrepresented in legislative affairs. The result of the election called for the 30th must be considered very doubtful, when the power of the executive is brought to bear upon it. I would inquire if Gen. Bruce, Adjutant General B. F. Harwood, Clerk of the Court of Appeals; Garlinghouse, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Hicks, Deputy Clerk of the Court of Appeals, are sent on here at the expense of the State to instruct whigs to vote for Judge Loomis, the nominee of the fusionists, and a democrat. It is refreshing to see the leading hards and softs, woolly whigs, &c., all fraternizing together with one common object in view—the return of a Senator from this district favorable to the election of Wm. H. Seward; but I think the spirit of "Sam" will rise in judgment against them on the 30th.

A ratification meeting was held at the Court House of Livingston county, last evening, the 23d. The first speaker, Gen. Bruce; subject, "The Ghost of Sam and the virtues of Judge Loomis;" second speaker, Charles Hosmer, same subject continued; third speaker, a foreigner, lecturing the whigs on their duty.

Amos A. Hendee, Esq., was then called out, and made an elegant and able speech in opposition to the fusion, and in favor of the old platform of the whig party, which was reolied to by Gen. Bruce, Adjutant General of the State of New York, in a speech full of personality against Mr. Hendee, at the close of which the meeting was speedily adjourned without giving Mr. Hendee an opportunity to reply.

AMERICA.

Virginia Politics.

OUR LYNCHBURG CORRESPONDENCE.

LYNCHBURG, Va., Jan. 23, 1855.

Wise in Lynchburg—His Cold Reception—The Strength of the Know Nothings in Lynchburg—His Set Speech—The Danger of Northern Know Nothing Abolitionism to the Party South, &c.

Mr. Wise has been here and addressed the citizens of Lynchburg, as previously appointed in his card. His audience was a large one for the place, but the reception of his speech was by no means favorable to his chances of success. I am safe in saying that a majority of his listeners were Know Nothings, which was clearly manifested by the cold silence with which his remarks were received. The Accomac orator twisted and turned; was now full of animation, and now sedate and calm, but all to no purpose. None but the few, the office holders under the administration, and those who go party, black or white, good or indifferent, would join in the applause.

The speech itself was precisely the same as delivered at Petersburg, excepting the few lines of introduction, topic after topic, and almost sentence after sentence, and word for word. To report it would be to cut the Petersburg speech from the HERALD, and send it to you without alteration. The same quotations were made, the same readings from the sermon of James Freeman Clark, of Boston, the same application made of these readings, and all delivered with as nearly as possible the same gestures, intonations and theatrical flourishes. It is a set speech which Mr. Wise has, beyond doubt, prepared for the canvass, and in pity for his poverty of invention, notwithstanding his reputation as an orator, the people take it as all they could expect from the man.

Speaking of Know Nothingism, in this little town of Lynchburg there are eleven hundred Know Nothings out of a voting population of only fifteen hundred. No wonder Mr. Wise found it difficult to make headway against such a majority. Would'at his friends, from these Know Nothing statistics, best consult the interests of Mr. Wise in withdrawing him from the canvass, and sending him to France, as Minister in place of Mr. Mason? This is asked of, and the political indications of the day are so clear, that in them the most dull can read. Such an adoption of Mr. Wise by the administration would save him from the mortification of a most disastrous defeat. As to his prospects, a gentleman told me to-day, who was a member of the Staunton convention, and who voted for Mr. Wise in that convention, that "he stood no more chance than a stumped-tail bull in fly-time." This remark is more expressive than it is elegant, and I suppose means, in Virginia latitude, that the Accomac bull, shorn of his political consistency, is, figuratively speaking, without a tail, while the Know Nothings come down upon the hartless animal in clouds. His bellowings at present give rare sport to the members of the new and predominant party, like the antics of a monkey exciting merriment in a menagerie. It would be balm to a dyspeptic invalid to be permitted to join in the hearty laughter of the Know Nothings, when in meeting assembled, they take up, sift and examine the little eloquence and less logic of the harangues of the democratic nominee. Everywhere throughout the State the Know Nothings are sanguine of success, and consider Mr. Wise of no moment in their election. This is not an overdrawn picture, for I know how little Mr. Wise is feared. So much for this orator of Virginia, whose favorite theme is the "fleshing of his sword in Northern traitors, and his determination not to yield till the blade is broken in his hands."

In regard to the abolitionizing of the Know Nothing party, I have something to say, as I suggested in a letter heretofore. The only rock upon which the party can possibly split is lamenting the party at the North. If this ever takes place, if anti slavery sentiments gets the upper hand at home, which God forbid, then down goes Know Nothingism in the South. I am led to these suggestions by the following resolutions, two of a series adopted at the late convention of Know Nothings in Massachusetts:—

Resolved, That we hail with hope and joy the recent brilliant success of the republican party in the States of Maine, Iowa, Indiana, Pennsylvania and Ohio, and we trust these victories are a foreshadow of others soon to come, by which the free States shall present one solid phalanx of opposition to the aggression of slavery.

Resolved, That in the present chaotic condition of parties in Massachusetts, the only star above the horizon is the love of human liberty and the abhorrence of slavery, and that it is the duty of all anti-slavery men to rally round the republican party, as an organization which invites the united action of the people on the transcending question of slave dominion, which now divides the Union.

These resolutions, coming from a State convention of Know Nothings in the North, have excited some debate upon the subject in the councils here, and well they might. They are strong, clear and outspoken freesoilism, which will destroy the party so soon as it becomes linked with it. Such resolutions as these in Massachusetts, and the return of Seward to the Senate in New York, will do something towards creating a suspicion here that Northern Know Nothings are not sound upon national principles. And not only here, but in the North itself this anti-slavery principle, if adopted by the Know Nothings, will divide and distract the party. Thousands of Know Nothings in New York to my knowledge would damn the party in its birth, and scatter it to the four winds of heaven before they would yield it up and themselves with it, to become an array against the South and the perpetuity of the Union. So far the Know Nothings of the State of New York have been a national party, and this is well known here, and the young political giant is rapidly growing and developing in consequence. In the last election the party threw over Myron H. Clark solely upon the ground of his freesoilism. Had he been a national whig he would have been adopted by the Know Nothings after his nomination by the whigs. His free soil tendencies made him unpalatable to the American party, however, and they, in preference to adopting him (although a *quasi* Know Nothing), with the certainty of success, they risked defeat with Daniel Ullman, a silver grey proslavery candidate, dyed in the wool. This nomination established in the South a confidence in the national tendencies of the party North, and, as a natural result, it at once took root here, grew powerful, and is now flourishing, as I have already told you. Let not this confidence be violated. Engraft upon the Know Nothing party North the compromise of 1850, the constitution and the Union, the whole "Union, one and indivisible," and the South, with every State almost, will add to the victories already achieved. 1776.

Texas Politics.

OUR AUSTIN CORRESPONDENCE.

AUSTIN, Texas, Jan. 13, 1855.

The following ticket was elected here to-day:—

For Mayor.....J. T. Cleveland.
For Alderman, Ward 1....James Jackson.
For Alderman, Ward 2....Ed. Finnin.
For Alderman, Ward 3....Joseph Harrell.
For Alderman, Ward 4....M. A. Taylor.
For Alderman, Ward 5....T. H. Tumey.
For Alderman, Ward 6....O. Wilcox.
For Recorder.....James Long.

There was very little opposition to the candidates. All the above candidates are regular Know Nothings

Miscellaneous Political Intelligence.

THE TWENTY-NINTH SENATORIAL DISTRICT.

Ontario and Livingston counties, in this State, have, of a sudden, become one of the most important political battle grounds in the country; and it is impossible to disguise the fact that upon that arena is to be tested the strength of "Sewardism" in this State. To save Seward there, the whig party has been utterly broken up, and what is left of it has been buried in the arms of Chester Loomis, an old democrat, who promises to go for Seward's re-election if the people will give him a vote in the State Senate. It is a fair field and a clear fight amongst the most intelligent farmers of the State, and we look to the result with a lively interest.

The Albany *Journal* (Seward,) says of the election.—The canvass in Ontario and Livingston for Senator promises to be an active one. The "Hindoos" having, by means of their secret organization, taken that district by surprise last fall, are confident of success by a similar process now. It is not known, outside their lodge rooms, whom they intend to run.

On the other hand, the people, irrespective of party, have nominated the Hon. Chester Loomis as their candidate. We should have preferred to have seen a regular whig candidate in the field, but as the "first families" of Canandaigua have succeeded in disorganizing the whig party, our friends seem inclined to cast their votes in favor of a free soil temperance democrat, instead of embarking in a political "Borriobcola Gha" mission.

We find the following description of the candidate of the Seward men in the Ontario *Repository*:—

The fusion candidate for Senator, Chester Loomis, is a barnburner of the strictest sect, was a federalist of the olden time, and a violent opposer of the war of 1812. This, we believe, his friends will not undertake to deny. It was meet that his valorous opposition to the American party in 1812 should be rewarded; and he is, therefore, appropriately selected as the candidate to oppose the American party in 1855. A man whose whole sympathies and feelings were with England when the United States were engaged in a just war with that country for her tyrannous exercise of power—her impressment of American seamen—is a proper person to select as a standard bearer for the party which now arrays itself against American interests, American rights, privileges and preferences. The nomination of Judge Loomis is just the fittest one that could possibly have been made. His foreign sympathies and high respect for the potentates of Europe, including the Pope of Rome, eminently fit him for the service he is expected to render, in case he is elected.

The *Repository* also says that Dr. Thompson, of Albany, the man whom Gov. Clark has promised to appoint Health Officer at New York, (worth $30,000 a year,) is at Canandaigua, having taken the contract of electing Loomis, in the Twenty-ninth Senate district. Dr. T is accompanied by Gen. Bruce, one of the Governor's military family. The Health Officer in expectancy, it is believed, will not hesitate to meet all necessary disbursements with promptitude.

The Rochester *American* says:—The whig party of the Twenty-ninth Senate district, composed of the counties of Ontario and Livingston, where it used to be the strongest, has, under the lead and management of the central junta here, been swallowed up in barnburnerism. An important election is about to come off there for Senator. But it has been decided by these managers to have no whig candidate, and so the Whig Convention was disbanded, and the party with it. The whigs of Ontario and Livingston are expected to fuse, and run with the barnburners of the anti-canal radical sort, and vote for Chester Loomis.

THE ORDER OF KNOW SOMETHINGS—THEIR PRINCIPLES AND PLATFORM.—For some time past there have been rumors about an organization similar in some respects to the Know Nothings, but based upon anti-slavery principles. The Cleveland correspondent of the *National Era* gives some account of this movement in the State of Ohio. The writer says that the equivocal character of the K. N.'s on the slavery question has created uneasiness in many minds; and the proscription of foreigners as a whole, without regard to the question whether they are Catholics or Protestants, is also regarded by many as unjust and unwise. The friends of republican principles in Ohio have, therefore, resolved to establish an order, to be familiarly known as the Know Somethings. The following is given as an outline of its platform:—

1st. Opposition to all forms of tyranny over the mind and body of man.

2d. Neither nature nor the constitution of our country recognizes the right of man to property in man.

3d. Principles and character, not birthplace, are the true standard of qualification for citizenship.

4th. No man shall receive our votes, unless known to be opposed to the aggressions of popery and slavery.

5th. No slave territories; no more slave States.

6th. All federal offices, so far as practicable, to be filled by a direct vote of the people.

Popery is regarded in the light of a political despotism under a religious mask, and treated accordingly. It is not recognized as a religion, any more than Mormonism or Buddhism, as it always makes the civil authority subservient to the ecclesiastic, where it has the power, by virtue of its claim of infallible supremacy.

Of the mode of operation of this new order, the following account is given:—

"The new order, unlike the Nnow Nothings, proclaims its existence and principles to the world. Each member is at perfect liberty to divulge his own connection with it, but not the names of others, without their assent. It skulks into no garrets, out-houses or woods, in which to hold its meetings, but enjoys the use of comfortable halls and lodge rooms of other societies, paying for the same. It is true the members sit with closed doors, but this is deemed expedient and wise for the present. It will eventually hold open meetings for discussion and lectures, and invite the general attendance of the public, similar to those of the Odd Fellows or the Sons of Temperance. But a certain degree of secrecy will always, perhaps, be necessary for its harmony and efficiency.

It is not the purpose of the Know Somethings to make separate and independent nominations of candidates, where men representing their principles are presented by 'outsiders' for support. The grand and fundamental aim of the new order is to form a league of freedom, of men who will stand by cherished principles, in evil as well as good report—men who will not be blown about by every new wind. The order makes no war upon the constitutional rights of the slave states, but it will resist the aggressions of the slave power by every legal means within its reach, and insist on confining it to its present state limits, at all hazards.

A State Council is organized and in active operation, issuing charters to applicants, who are pouring in from town and country. In due time you shall hear more of the Know Somethings.

JOHN C. BRECKENRIDGE RECOMMENDED AS A CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR OF KENTUCKY.—At a meeting of the democrats of Muhlenberg county for the purpose of appointing delegates to the State convention, which is to be held at Frankfort on the 12th of March, the following resolution was passed:—

"Resolved, That while we leave our delegates uninstructed as for whom they should vote, we cannot refrain from suggesting to the favorable consideration of the convention the names of Hon. John C. Breckenridge, of Fayette, as a proper candidate for governor, and Thos. C. McCreery, of Daviess, as a suitable candidate for Lieutenant Governor; but whilst we thus intimate our preference for them, we would not disparage the claims of many other equally talented and trustworthy gentlemen of our party."

CONVENTION IN GEORGIA.—A convention is to be held in Atlanta, Ga., on the 22d of February, for the purpose of nominating a candidate for Governor on strictly temperance principles.

ANOTHER PEOPLE'S CONVENTION.—An anti-slavery, free soil abolition disunion meeting, under the title of the People's Convention, will be held in the Third Congressional district of New Hampshire on the 8th of February, to nominate a candidate for the United States House of Representatives. It will assemble at West Lebanon.

KNOW NOTHINGISM A RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION.—A Memphis, Tennessee paper, gives the following rich case of a Know Nothing outrage and trial:—

An amusing trial came off yesterday morning, before Judge Hill, in which a Mr. Kilne, a Know Nothing, was the hero.

The facts of the case, from what we could learn, were simply that Mr. Kilne had been divulging the secrets of Know Nothingism, and had been overhauled and cowhided by a man from Holly Springs; during which operation two men who, while pretending to assist Kilne, were really holding him while his antagonist was standing behind him operating with the cowhide. The circumstance occurred several days ago, on Main street, just opposite the Second Presbyterian Church.

Kilne, Green and Armstrong in Court—Wm. C. Carr appeared for Kilne, and Walter Coleman, for Green and Armstrong.

Carr—Mr. Kilne, do you belong to the Know Kothings?

Kilne—Yes, sir.

C.—When did you join them?

K.—Sometime last summer.

C.—Is it a religious or political institution?

K.—A religious institution, sir.

C.—What religion is it opposed to?

K.—Opposed to all religion, sir.

C.—Did you ever see either Mr. Green or Armstrong?

K.—I saw Mr. Green.

C.—Did you ever see anybody else there?

K.—Yes, sir. I paid the money to Judge Hill there when I went in.

C.—Mr. Kilne go on now and tell all you know about the Know Nothings.

K.—I have obligations, sir, and can't tell you anything more.

C.—Is Know Nothingism against Baptism, Methodism or Catholicism?

K.—Its against all of them, sir.

C.—Is it opposed to Catholicism?

K.—It's opposed to all of 'em, but none in particular—it's a religious institution, sir.

C.—Did these men strike you?

K.—I didn't see the feller that whipt me; he was behind, and Green and Armstrong, my friends, were trying to help me up; while they were holding me down. I didn't see the feller at all.

The Court fined Green and Armstrong $5, and discharged them.

The War Department has received advices of the death of Capt. Thomas G. Montgomery, of the Fourth Infantry, U. S. A., at Stallacoom, Washington Territory, on the 22d of November last.

Dramatic and Musical Matters.

EVENTS OF THE WEEK—ANOTHER DEBUTANTE—THE CALIFORNIA AND AUSTRALIAN DRAMA—FOREIGN ITEMS, ETC., ETC.

The city theatres during the past week have not given us much of novelty. The most interesting event was the appearance at the Metropolitan, last Saturday, of Miss Mary Agnes (Camoens) as Constance in the "Love Chase." It is stated that Miss Camoens has not only never acted before, but that she has never seen this comedy played. It was a fair performance, and a very successful *début*, the lady being called out after the second act, and again at the fall of the curtain. Miss Camoens will be a fine actress with practice. She is, unless when imitating the gestures and attitudes of a distinguished American actress, easy and graceful. She has a nice perception of character, a good figure, an expressive face, and a voice of exceeding power and sweetness. She displays some affectation in her sudden vocal transitions; time will cure all that. Two points of her acting were particularly good—the scene with Wildrake, where she rallies him on his musical criticism, and that wherein he informs her of his intended marriage. Her exit in this scene should have been more subdued, and a little more repose would have improved the whole performance. If Miss Camoens will carefully avoid imitations, remember to speak to the person with whom she is conversing on the stage, and avoid more than one attitude or gesture to express one passion or fact, she may safely hope to win dramatic laurels, and this is saying a great deal in her favor. Her successful *début*, altogether unannounced as she was, must be gratifying to her friends and the lovers of the American drama generally. The piece was very smoothly played throughout. Mrs. Archibold's Widow Green was a capital performance, and she was called out.

"The Virgin of the Sun" was brought out at the Metropolitan and played through the week. It was well gotten up and well played, but it did not draw. Miss Gertrude Dawes had a benefit on Thursday night, when Miss Blake made her "first appearance on any stage," as Fanny Sparks in a farce called "The Water Witches." The regular dramatic performances at the Metropolitan have been suspended for the present, and it will be opened as a circus to-night, by Sands' and Nathan's double company. The list of their company includes many distinguished equestrians.

AT THE BROADWAY THEATRE, "Cinderella" has completed its second week, and is announced for a third. Last week there was a change in the cast. In consequence of the illness of Mr. Whiting, the part of the Baron has been played by Mr. Horncastle, and Alidoro by Mr. G. Rea. A localized English farce called "Bona Fide Travellers" was produced on Wednesday night. Miss Josephine Gougenheim made her first appearance since her illness, and played the part originally sustained by Mrs. Keeley, at the Adelphi. Miss Gougenheim was received with hearty applause. "Cinderella" and "The Omnibus" are announced for to-night.

AT BURTON'S THEATRE, Mr. Barnett's new comedy, "Our Set," has drawn full houses since Wednesday. The acting in this piece is all good, and Burton is immense. To-night "Our Set" and the clever French drama "Isabella." The cast of the drama is a very strong one.

AT WALLACK'S there has been nothing new during the week. Mr. Brougham's play, "Night and Morning," has been given every night, to the gratification of good houses. This evening, Mr. Lester, the stage manager, has his benefit, and puts up a strong bill, "Town and Country," and "The Critic," both of which will be played for the first time in this theatre. Mr. Lester would have a full house on his own merits, and for this bill there will certainly be a crowd.

AT THE BOWERY THEATRE there have been no novelties. To night Mr. and Miss Charles commence an engagement. They appear in "Ireland as it Is" and "Irish Assurance and Yankee Modesty."

AT BARNUM'S MUSEUM, Mr. J. R. Scott continues to play as a star, supported by Mr. C. W. Clarke, Miss Meatayer and others. "Macbeth" is the attraction for this evening.

AT MECHANICS' HALL, Wood's Minstrels announce a tempting programme for this evening, including a burlesque on "Robert Macaire."

AT CHINESE HALL, the Buckley Minstrels give tonight their new burlesque on the opera of "Lucia;" also a pleasant selection of songs, &c.

AT HOPE CHAPEL, Mr. Donaldson's excellent band announce a good programme.

Mr. E. S. Conner, a well known American tragedian, is in town.

THEATRES IN OTHER CITIES.

PHILADELPHIA.—Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Baker took a farewell benefit at the Chestnut on Saturday, appearing in "Satan in Paris," and "David Copperfield." "Midsummer Night's Dream" was still very successful at the Walnut. Josh Silsbee commences at the Chestnut this evening. On Saturday, at the City Museum, Mrs. D. P. Bowers played Juliet to Mr. McDoncugh's Romeo.

BOSTON.—The *Times* of Saturday says:—

The operas during the week were "Norma," "La Favorita," and "Don Pasquale," the off nights, Tuesday and Thursday, having been devoted to comedy by the stock company of the theatre, and ballet divertisements by Ciocca, Soto, &c. "Norma" is to be produced this afternoon, and on Monday evening, Mozart's "Don Giovanni" will be performed.

At the National, the performances have been of a much more pleasing character than last week. The repulsive "Jack Shepherd" gave way to the drama of "Green Bushes," "French Spy," "Queen of the Abruzzi," the "Marriage of the Queen," &c., some old and some new, but all of which have proved attractive, and M'lle Duret has gained considerable in public favor, and appeared to great advantage in her various characters.

At the Museum, Mr. E. L. Davenport has still further established his claims to public favor by his excellent acting during the past week. The plays of "S. Marc," "The Stranger," "Black Eyed Susan," and "William Tell," have been performed generally in good style, and the house has been packed every night.

PORTLAND, Me.—Mrs. Farren and Mr. W. Marshall are playing a very successful engagement.

BUFFALO.—"Ida May" has been dramatized, and was brought out here on the 23d inst.

CHARLESTON, S. C.—Coney and his trained dogs are the stars at present. The *Standard* speaks highly of Ducy Barre's dancing and Mr. Duffield's singing. The Peck family were announced to give a concert last Friday.

NEW ORLEANS.—Miss Julia Dean's new play at the St. Charles seems to have been successful. The plot is thus described:—

The Duke of Mantua, (Duff) dies, leaving to the care of his Minister of State, Ferdinand, (Hield,) his two daughters, Mary (Miss Dean) and Bianca (Mrs. Stuart). The first, as his legitimate child, is his successor, though the other is her elder. Circumstances throw both of them at different times into contact with Leon, (Pope), a young prince of Germany, neither knowing his rank, and both are in love with him; he with Mary. Coming to Mantua to seek Mary, having only met her before, ignorant of her high position, at a convent, he is sent for by Bianca, who offers him her hand and heart, and, if he will aid her in obtaining it, Mary's throne. He seems to accede to the proposition, but only to temporize, and so save the duchess. But he is taken with the conspirators, and is condemned to die. Mary, thinking him false to the love between them, declines to pardon him at Bianca's request, though she, the guiltiest of the conspirators, is pardoned. But finding Leon true, she connives at his escape, and on his being retaken, arbitrarily determines to save his life. Meanwhile, the northern prince, to whom her father's dying will allied her, but of whom as a husband she would not hear, turns out to be this very Leon, who, the time arriving for him to declare himself, brings the piece to a happy end. This piece has several very effective situations, and may be considered as a remarkably well constructed play, viewed dramatically. The first act informs the auditor very clearly of the relation of the heroine, and the second that of the hero, to the other characters and to the plot. The second also brings about the death of the duke and the succession of the duchess; leaving the remaining three acts for the principal action of the play, as in the "Ion" of Talfourd. The consequence is, that the most of the first two acts are more descriptive than dramatic, but this is amply made up for in the others.

Mr. C. Pope lately had a benefit at the St. Charles, and was well patronized. Mr. J. B. Roberts has been playing at the Pelican. Miss Robertson was announced to appear on the 23d. The Gabriel Ravel troupe are at the St. Charles. M. Godard still continued his Sunday balloon ascensions. The Campbell Minstrels were in their tenth week at the Southern Opera House. A new comedy, "Les Cœurs D'Or," was announced for last Sunday night at the Orleans, and Dan Rice was to take Sebastopol for his benefit at the Hippodrome, on the same day.

CALIFORNIA.—Dates to January 1. Mr. Stark had a benefit at the American on Christmas night. He made a speech, saying that he was going to Europe in the spring. Mr. Henry Sedley, the young American actor, made his first appearance in California at the American, on the 26th ult., in "Hamlet." The *Era* says:—

His performance was pleasing, and altogether creditable to the young actor, who gives ample promise of rapid advancement in his profession. He is evidently a close student, and in juvenile tragedy will be a very valuable acquisition to the boards of the American, where we hope to see him often. In the "Stranger," on Wednesday evening, Mr. Sedley confirmed the good opinion of those who witnessed his *début*. Mrs. Woodward, who has lately returned from a visit to the Atlantic States, played Queen Gertrude, Mrs. Haller and Elvira, during the past week, taking a benefit on Friday evening, when she appeared as Lucrezia Borgia and Lady Macbeth. Miss Josephine Fiddes made her first appearance on any stage on Thursday evening, essaying the part of Juliet, with Mr. Sedley as Romeo, and Mr. Neafie as Mercutio. Miss Fiddes is very youthful, and well favored in form and feature. She did exceedingly well for a debutant, and so far realized all just expectation.

Mrs. Sinclair has been presented with a diamond necklace, ($3,800,) by some of her admirers in San Francisco. The *Era* has given a biographical sketch of her, from which we quote the subjoined particulars:—

The gross receipts at the Metropolitan during the first six months of her management amounted to $218,792; expenditures during the same period of time, $205,944; receipts in the last half year, as nearly as can be ascertained, $171,707. Total receipts for twelve months, $390,499. The total of yearly expenditures is not given. The receipts of certain nights and weeks are remarkable:—

Barney Williams' first week	$14,230
Barney Williams' second week	12,708
Bateman Children's first week	12,877
Miss Heron's first week	9,343
Thillon's first week	8,583
Thillon's second week	8 801
Madame Thillon's first night yielded	3,005
Mr. and Mrs. Williams' first night	3,027
Bateman Children's first night	2,369
Kate Hayes' (in Norma) first night	2,562
Kate Hayes' (in Norma) second night	1.314
Madame Bishop's (in Norma) first night	2,392
Italian Opera Troupe (Barili Thorne) first night	1,947
Mrs. Sinclair's benefit, 7th June	3,197
Firemen's Charitable Fund, June 9, about	5,000

Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams were playing at the Metropolitan, and the Italian opera was announced to give a performance at Sacramento on the 2d instant.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA ABROAD.

LONDON.—There had been nothing new up to the last steamer's sailing. "Eugenie," a new drama by Bourcicault, failed at Drury Lane——Charles Kean was to produce an original adaptation of Casimir Delavigne's historical play of "Louis XI," at the Princess' on the day the steamer left, (13th January), read here by Bourcicault some time since.——Jullien terminates his concerts for this season, at the Italian Opera House, on the 2d of February, with a grand *bal masque*.

PARIS.—Mr. Berton, the actor who succeeded Bressant some years since at the theatre in St. Petersburg, and more lately took his vacated place at the *Gymnase* in Paris, was condemned by a French tribunal to pay fifty thousand francs damages for breaking his engagement at the Czar's theatre. He had been absent from Paris for a number of years, and obtained leave of absence from the director in St. Petersburg to return to France to remain a stated time. The time passed, and Berton, desiring no more to leave Paris, wrote to the Emperor to absolve him from his engagement. Through one of the deputies, General Guedeonoff, he received answer that his wish should be granted under condition of an indemnity of one hundred thousand francs to the theatre Impérial de la Russie. In the first judgment Berton was condemned to pay fifty thousand francs; subsequently a zero was removed from the aggregate; and now the General Guedeonoff has been good enough to state that he may pay the fine as reduced to the dramatist's association at Paris, equivalent to not paying it at all. The cause as called in the tribunal was piquant to hear in the present state of affairs—The Emperor of Russia against M. Berton—actor, and created a lively sensation. But all parties are pleased at the termination—"Good enough" that the justice of his claim has been virtually acknowledged, and Berton that he gets off in reality scot free.

The Theatre Français has just lost by death M'lle Rimblot. She was a handsome person, whose principal occupation was to be substitute for M'lle Rachel, when the latter lady was absent from Paris.

"Il Trovatore" has made a great hit, and Verdi has made many more admirers by it.

AUSTRALIA.—Mr. C. R. Thorne had a benefit at the Royal Victoria, Sydney, on the 6th of October. He played Rob Roy, and Haversack, ("The Old Guard.")

A new vaudeville theatre, at Collingwood, Australia, was opened on the 19th of October—tickets, $10.

Catherine Hayes was to appear at Ashley's amphitheatre, Melbourne, shortly after the leaving of the steamer. She was then singing at Sydney.

Mrs. Brougham took a benefit at the Queen's theatre, Melbourne, and appeared in "London Assurance" and "The Rough Diamond."

Lord Elgin's Administration of the Affairs of Canada.

[From the London News, Jan. 7.]

Canada for some years past has enjoyed the enviable privilege of belonging to the few favored countries which, according to the apothegm, are happy enough "to have no history." Seldom mentioned in Parliamentary debates, and occupying but a slender portion of the space appropriated to colonial intelligence in our own columns, the condition of that limb of our empire almost ceased to attract public attention on this side of the Atlantic, but was on that very account only the more peaceful and prosperous. The story of his eight years administration of affairs in the colony, as Lord Elgin told his Liverpool audience, was a "simple tale, and easily told." Simple, indeed, since it could deal only with increasing population, advancing industry and expanding resources—unless, to vary the theme, the narrator should refer to extinguished feuds and forgotten outrages; to class distinctions obliterated, and national animosities assuaged; in fine, to all the political and social changes which have passed over our Canadian fellow-subjects, and converted them from a mere aggregation of hostile and exclusive races into a united, orderly, and self-governed community. Incidents like these may appear tame and spiritless to readers satiated with the stirring scenes of the battle field; but they constitute the happiest materials for the history of nations. It is a bright omen for England that her colonial annals are every year becoming more full of them.

"Scarcely fifteen years ago two of the highest spirits among British politicians successively sank and died beneath the pressure of the "Canadian difficulty." Lords Durham and Sydenham brought to the task powers of no common order, and addressed themselves to the work of pacifying Canada in a spirit alike statesmanlike, firm and conciliatory. They both found it, politically speaking, a chaos of jarring and discordant elements. On every side were signs of repulsion, dissonance and strife. Between the Upper and Lower Provinces there were disputes of privilege. Between the Anglo and French population there were hatreds of race. Old colonists were wroth when new comers from the mother country were preferred to official posts; and more recent arrivals from England either surrounded themselves with the most obnoxious forms of Tory exclusivism, or became the most fervent and outspoken admirers of American republicanism. Along the southern frontier on one side were bands of Papineau "Liberals" and refugees from the States; on the other side were crowds of "sympathisers," prompt to encourage any band of desperadoes who seemed willing to break out in actual revolt, and ready enough to give them material aid afterwards, as they did to the rebels in Navy Island. In the Assemblies of the two Provinces, the symptoms of disturbance took a more constitutional, but an equally perplexing, shape. Incessant motions respecting the separation of the legislative and judicial bodies; the grasp upon the colonial revenues; the responsibility of the executive and its functionaries; and the interminable question of the ecclesiastical reserves, kept both houses of assembly for years in a state of chronic excitement, caused in both divisions of the colony a stoppage of supplies, and resulted in a rebellion—formidable, but of brief duration—in which the civil governor relegated the whole direction of affairs to a military commandant. Predictions were then rife, both at home and in the colony, that the tenure of Great Britain over her great North American dependency would not be found worth six months' purchase.

The story reads almost like a chapter of ancient history, so completely has the condition of the colony changed since 1838. Yet, though Lord Elgin, on becoming Governor General in 1847, found the gigantic difficulties which were so ably dissected in the pages of the celebrated "Durham Report" almost extinct, it would be difficult to say precisely how they were actually conquered. Lord Durham himself, and his valued successor, died from disappointment or fatigue before they could accomplish much more than lay down a few rules, and trace out some foundations for future completion. A series of just and impartial measures, the union between the Provinces, and the wise concession of self-government in all that relates to internal administration, have gradually taken the sting out of many of those points of dispute, concerning which hostile factions in former times were wont to shake the State with their dissensions. Of the rest, some have faded through the lapse of time, others are obliterated in the general advance of the colony in wealth and importance. The hearty co-operation of the Home Ministers in the work of improvement has never been wanting; and much of their recent policy has proved eminently prudent, because it was so judiciously abstinent on the score of interference with the self-ruling privileges of the Canadians. But circumstances—or, rather, the natural development of results and capabilities among an active people, surrounded by a fertile soil—have done far more than any merely political contrivance could effect towards removing the old hindrances to Canadian prosperity. To these agencies it is chiefly owing that, while Lord Durham failed in his efforts to make Canada peaceable, Lord Elgin but ten years later was able to prescribe, and within very respectable limits to realize, as the object of his government, that of "placing the colonists in such a position, politically and economically, as to leave them nothing to envy in the condition of any other people on the face of the earth."

Nothing shows the improved status of the Canadian colonists in every respect more strikingly than the comparison, to which Lord Elgin afterwards invited attention, between them and their neighbors in the States, now and at former periods. Not many years since, the proximity of the great republic was believed to be fraught with manifold danger to Canada. It was considered almost a moot point whether the colony would be absorbed bodily into the States by summary process of annexation, or would be impelled by the contagion of their example to a declaration of independence on its own account, or would have its wealth and substance sucked away through the overpowering activity of Brother Jonathan. The two first-mentioned perils lay rather within the interest of the Imperial Legislature, and were canvassed there not a little. The last danger furnished matter for anxious thought within Canada itself, giving rise to many propositions for protective and aggressive measures, calculated, as the inventors imagined, to secure the industry of the colony from being swamped by American manufactures. Time, as usual, has shown the worthlessness of such contrivances, as well as the futility of the fear that prompted them. At present, the comparison between the two countries would turn the other way. The past year has certainly proved rather disastrous in the States, presenting an unusual paralysis in their commercial system, and darkened by more than its fair share of catastrophes, moral, material, and mercantile. But taking an average of some years last past, we shall find that Canada has expanded in all the elements of wealth quite as rapidly as the United States themselves. Her population, her agricultural products, her manufactures, her commerce, her industrial enterprizes of all descriptions—everything except extent of territory, which she does not want—are becoming developed in a ratio generally equal, and, in some instances, even larger than that of her republican neighbor. Her prosperity, moreover, at the present moment rests on a sound and natural basis, while much of the apparently exuberant wealth so ostentatiously displayed in the trading circles of New York, Baltimore and other commercial cities of the States, is more than suspected of being purely speculative. Thus it happens, that while labor is becoming over-abundant in the United States, insomuch that wages have fallen to a distressing extent, and no fewer than thirty thousand emigrants returned thence back to Europe again because they found no profitable employment, Canada still invites immigration, holding out to almost any number of laborers the certain prospect of easy subsistence and ultimate independence as the reward of industry. Thus, again, among the last acts for which Lord Elgin received the thanks of the colonists before his departure, was the final conclusion of the Reciprocity Treaty, securing a practical freedom of trade between the United States and Canada, and leading to that unchecked interchange of products and manufactures which the Canadian industrials have now learnt to anticipate with desire instead of apprehension.

One crowning incident in the governorship of Lord Elgin remains to be recorded. During his term of administration in Canada the last traces of the old political feud between the English and French races in its population have become effaced. Towards the close of that period the fiercer antagonism existing for centuries between the respective nations in Europe has been replaced by the most cordial amity. As the symbol of this new union on both sides of the Atlantic, the late Governor-General is the bearer of the noble gift, amounting to £20,000, which, as our readers already know, has been subscribed in equal proportion by the French and English members of the Canadian community for the Patriotic Fund. In this fact is proof presented in its most tangible form, that Lord Elgin, in quitting Canada, has left behind him a prosperous, a united, and a loyal people.

MARITIME INTELLIGENCE.

All packages and letters intended for the NEW YORK HERALD *should be sealed.*

ALMANAC FOR NEW YORK—THIS DAY.

SUN RISES.....7 13 | MOON SETS.....5 01
SUN SETS.....5 13 | HIGH WATER.....5 56

Port of New York, January 28, 1855.

ARRIVED.

Steamship Empire City, Windle, New Orleans via Havana 4 days 18 hours, to M O Roberts. Experienced a very heavy gale off Hatteras.

Ship Northumberland, Spencer, London, and Portsmouth 35 days, with mdse and 81 passengers, to Griswold, Morgan & Wiley.

Ship Dreadnought, Samuels, Liverpool, Jan 6, with mdse and 217 passengers, to D Ogden. Jan 7, off Bardsey Island, passed ship Orient, Hill, from Liverpool for New York; same time, passed ship Universe, Cave, from Liverpool for New York; 8th, off Tuskar, passed ship Lightning, Enwright, from Liverpool for Australia; 10th, off Cork, spoke brig Edward & Ann, from Palermo for Liverpool.

Ship Constellation, Allen, Liverpool, Dec 28, with mdse and 215 passengers, to Kermit Cleveland & Co.

Ship Galena, Dennis, New Orleans, 11 days, with mdse, to Wm Nelson & Son. Experienced heavy weather from NW.

Bark Kosmos (Brem), Wenke, Bremen, 39 days, with mdse and 169 passengers, to Oelrichs & Co. Jan 16, lat 41 42, lon 61 20, passed steamship St Louis, hence for Southampton and Havre. The K experienced heavy weather; lost sails, spars, &c.

Bark Phœnix, Seaver, Trinidad, Cuba, Jan 3, with sugar, &c, to Yznaga & Etulain. Jan "23d," lat 37 30, lon 73 54, passed ship Chase, steering SSW [ship Chase, White, old hence 24th for Charleston.]

Bark Sarah Jane, Saunders, Savannah, 6 days, with cotton, &c, to Sturges & Cleavman & Co.

Brig Warren Brown (of Wells, Me), Bartlett, Attakapas, 19 days, with sugar and molasses, to Sturges & Co. No date, lat 28, saw brig Aralia, steering NE. The W B has experienced heavy weather; started deck load, stove bulwarks, &c.

Brig Sitka (of East Machias),