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PROPRIETOR AND EDITOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery—IRISH ASSURANCE AND YANKEE SOCIETY—IN THE ROUGH—SERVANTS BY LEGACY—COLUMBIA'S SON.

BURTON'S THEATRE, Chambers street—LIVING TOO FAST—PLAYER'S PLOT—BLIGHTED BEING.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway—CAPTAIN OF THE WATCH—FASHION.

METROPOLITAN THEATRE, Broadway—EQUESTRIAN PERFORMANCES—Afternoon and Evening.

AMERICAN MUSEUM—Afternoon and Evening—ALL THAT GLITTERS IS NOT GOLD.

WOOD'S MINSTRELS, Mechanics' Hall—472 Broadway

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

DONALDSON'S OPERA HOUSE, Hope Chapel, 718 and 720 Broadway.

New York, Saturday, February 10, 1855.

The News.

By the arrival yesterday of the steamship Atlantic, from Liverpool, we have seven days later intelligence from Europe. The news which she brings from the seat of war is more of a suggestive than of a positive character, and will be found fully commented upon in our editorial columns. The important announcement of Lord John Russell's resignation, and the anticipated dissolution of the English ministry, also receive their due share of observation. The debates in the English Parliament on these latter events are given at great length, and will be read with interest, as they expose in a clear light the causes of the failures in the Crimea. Commercial and monetary affairs in Great Britain were in a very perturbed state. Several failures in the shipping and tallow trade are reported, and others were daily apprehended. The ministerial changes had caused a decline in consols of three-quarters per cent, and the decrease in the stock of bullion continued. The limited stock of staple articles of American produce prevented any decline in prices.

Merchants, before 'Change hours yesterday, had scarcely had time to receive and read their letters brought by the Atlantic. As far as cotton and breadstuffs were concerned its effect was not fully developed. The sales of the former were confined to some 300 a 500 bales, and the market, if any noticeable change existed, was somewhat easier. Flour was firm, with moderate sales. Corn was held above the views of buyers. Provisions were in fair demand, and pork was sold at better prices for old and new mess. Beef was also in fair demand, with sales of hams as high as $18. The news from Europe, with the blocked up state of the wharves and slips from snow and ice, interfered with the loading of vessels, and hence freight engagements were light, but rates were steady.

Mr. Breckenridge, of Kentucky, recently appointed and confirmed as Minister to Madrid in place of Mr. Soulé, yesterday announced, in the House of Representatives, that he had declined the honor. Our Washington correspondent informs us that Hon. Augustus C. Dodge, of Iowa, has been appointed in his stead. As his term in the Senate expires on the 4th of March next, and as the Iowa Legislature has refused to re-elect him, there is no doubt but he will accept the mission.

In the United States Senate yesterday thirty six Senate and twenty four House private bills were passed without objection being made. The motion to re-consider the vote ordering the engrossment of the bill for the relief of the claimants of the privateer Gen. Armstrong was taken up, debated, and adopted—24 to 17. Mr. Benjamin stated his intention of moving sundry amendments, but Mr. Clay moved to lay the bill on the table, which was carried—22 to 19. After an executive session the Senate adjourned.

In the House, after an explanation from Mr. Faulkner, of Virginia, of his vote against suspending the rules to allow the introduction of anti-Know Nothing resolutions, during which he reprobated secret political associations, the bill remodeling the diplomatic and consular system was taken up and passed—143 to 33. A bill was reported from the Naval Committee, authorizing the construction of seven sloops-of-war. It was referred to the Committee of the Whole. In committee, the consideration of the Colt Patent Extension bill was resumed. Mr. Edgerton gave a history of the charges of corruption, and advocated the extension. Mr. Clingman opposed the bill, saying that it violated all sound principle. Instead of Col. Colt losing money by his invention, it was shown by the Commissioner of Patents that he had already made a million dollars by it. As for the denial of outside efforts being made to control legislation on this matter, he knew of ten or twelve persons who had been employed for that especial purpose. Mr. Eddy also opposed the bill, and stated that it was true that not less than ten or fifteen thousand dollars had been expended in efforts to procure the extension of the patent. A motion to strike out the enacting clause was agreed to, in which the House afterwards concurred by a vote of 111 to 68. After this summary ejectment of the bill, an adjournment took place.

Nothing of interest occurred in the New York Senate yesterday. The resolution relative to the Lemmon slave case was made the special order for Tuesday. In the Assembly, a resolution was presented accepting the invitation of the Ten Governors to visit the institutions of this city on the 27th inst. An inquiry was ordered into the action of the Harlem Railroad Company charging extra fare on way passengers. Everything is now arranged for the passage of the prohibitory liquor law, at least so far as the Assembly is concerned. The bill is now in the hands of the select committee, who are to report complete, and the final vote will be taken on Wednesday next. Both houses adjourned till Monday evening.

The government at Washington has remitted the order made by Judge Ingersoll, to condemn to the United States the British steamship Alps, for smuggling. The penalty to which Capt. Nye, of the steamship Pacific, was rendered liable, in consequence of his steward being convicted of smuggling watches, has also been remitted.

Proceedings have been commenced against the Spanish Consul—damages laid at $10,000—for an assault and battery on the young Cuban, Hernandez, in the late attempt to remove him from this country to Cuba. Carnobeli, the agent who acted in the affair, has been arrested for the same offence, and held to bail in the sum of $2,000.

The united democratic societies of this city—French, Hungarian, Polish, Cuban and Haytien—celebrated last evening, at the Tabernacle, the sixth anniversary of the deposition of the Pope and the formation of the Roman republic. A full report is given in this paper, together with a translation of the speech of Professor Foresti.

A fire broke out in the dry goods store of Warner & Loop, No. 19 Barclay street, between three and four o'clock yesterday morning. The fire appears to have originated from a disjointed smoke pipe, leading from the furnace to the flue in the undercellar. The Fire Marshal has the case under investigation. Last night, shortly before eleven o'clock, a fire was discovered in the fruit store of Edward F. Gardner, No. 24 Fulton street, it was very soon extinguished. A report of both fires will be found elsewhere.

In the Board of Councilmen last evening, a resolution appropriating five hundred dollars to each ward having an organized relief association was offered by Mr. Coleman and referred. The Finance Committee was directed to make inquiry as to the feasibility of purchasing the Eighth avenue railroad. The original grant to the company reserves to the city the right of such purchase at ten per cent advance upon the first cost. The special committee on the contested election in the Fiftieth Council district reported in favor of admitting Bernard Gaffney to his seat in the Board. The report was accepted.

General Shields is spoken of as a candidate for the lower House of Congress from the Eighth district of Illinois. A vacancy occurs in this district by the choice of the Congressman elect to the seat in the United States Senate to be vacated by the General on the 4th of March next.

The Senate of Illinois and the House of Representatives of Indiana both passed prohibitory liquor laws yesterday.

We give elsewhere an interesting account of the proceedings of a meeting at Tammany Hall last evening, to which the particular attention of our hard and soft shell democratic readers is directed.

Blow-Up in the English Cabinet—Curious Disclosures.

The resignation of Lord John Russell and the proximate dissolution of the Aberdeen ministry are events which will come upon no one with surprise. The one announcement is a certain prelude of the other. As it is the instinct of the rat to desert a crumbling house, so it is that of the most pliant and time-serving of politicians to abandon his colleagues just when they have most need of his support. In the face of a motion of inquiry into the conduct of the war in the Commons, and of another for the impeachment of the ministry in the Lords, the brave hearted whig statesman thought it time to cry *sauve qui peut*. We question, however, whether his reputation for manliness, generosity of feeling or political honesty will be much enhanced by the reasons which he assigns for his defection. He should have taken this step sooner, or not at all. The man who, with his eyes fully opened, as he admits his were, to the disastrous results of the defective organization of the ministry, and the marked incapacity of the statesman who was more particularly charged with the conduct of the war, could give his tacit sanction to such a state of things, by his continuance in office, seems to us infinitely more culpable than those who regarded the matter from a prejudiced, and consequently a narrower point of view. His conduct in any aspect of the case does not exhibit a very large share of moral courage.

The disclosures to which this act of political perfidy has led, furnish, however, a useful moral. They expose the baseness and selfishness inherent to all forms of government in which aristocratic institutions prevail. Here, in the testimony of one of the members of the English Cabinet itself, we see with what heartless and unscrupulous indifference the interests of the masses are sacrificed to those of the privileged few. In the very crisis of England's agony, when she is expending her life blood in desperate and profitless efforts—profitless because of the lukewarmness and incapacity of those who are placed at the head of her councils—we find the *amour propre* of an individual allowed to preponderate in the scale against her most precious interests. To save the Duke of Newcastle the mortification of dismissal, the English nation are compelled to submit to the disgrace of checks which are equivalent to disastrous military defeats, and to the gradual and almost certain annihilation of an army which they have reared with difficulty, and which it will take them years to replace. So strong are the ties of aristocratic and class interests that we find a man like Lord John Russell, who pretends to the character of a patriot, tamely looking on at the consummation of these calamities, rather than wound the feelings of the Minister at War or disturb the constitution of Lord Aberdeen's cabinet. He only resolves to fulfil what would be regarded by another man as a stern act of duty, when a motion for inquiry threatens the existence of the ministry. Such facts as these will go far to confirm the notion that is fast obtaining hold of the public mind in England, that a constitutional monarchy is but a political delusion as regards the interests of the masses, and that the only two governments worth living under are either a republic or a despotism.

Of the result of Mr. Roebuck's motion—the first night's debate on which will be found at length, in our columns—there can be but one opinion. The universal voice of the English people, as expressed through their journals, has pronounced the verdict beforehand. The ministry will be disgracefully beaten. No other issue seems to us possible. The nation will not now be satisfied with such a partial modification of the present ministerial organization as that, the denial of which has led to Lord John Russell's resignation. Out must go the whole crew of Russian sympathisers, political trimmers and apprentice statesmen, who have managed pretty nearly to wreck the vessel of State. For a great crisis strong minds and strong energies are necessary, and, with one exception, these qualities are not to be found in the present Cabinet. In that one instance, if they had been left to act uncontrolled in their proper sphere, much of the disasters and grief which have overwhelmed the public mind of England would have been averted. With a pilot like Lord Palmerston at the helm, this mournful chapter of English history might have been spared.

To this man the English people naturally look with eagerness in their extremity. In the Aberdeen Cabinet he has never been regarded as a cordial or fitly placed element, and his sudden secession at one period was rightly interpreted into a disapproval of the influences that swayed it. His return to office was a concession, as is well known, made against his feelings, and in compliance with solicitations from a high quarter. We would probably be correct in assuming that this sudden resignation of Lord John Russell is occasioned by a secret understanding with the Home Secretary, although the latter, in his speech in Parliament, gently affects to chide it. The position of the two statesmen is one of peculiar delicacy as regards the sovereign, and it required some dexterous manœuvre to extricate them from it. Lord John Russell had continued too long in the ministry for the safety of his political reputation, and Lord Palmerston was unwilling to resign, lest it should be said that he was endeavoring to profit by the feeling so generally manifested in favor of his being placed at the head of the government. By the resignation of the former, on the ground of Lord Aberdeen's refusal to make this change, Lord John endeavored to cover his mistakes by a show of patriotism, whilst Lord Palmerston was saved the necessity of uttering a *nolo episcopari*. These are probably the secret motives of a step which seems to us otherwise difficult to account for on the grounds of necessity or personal feeling, seeing that but little credit will be awarded to its author for any very patriotic impulses.

The next steamer will in all probability bring us the news of the resignation of the Aberdeen ministry *en masse*, and of the appointment of Lord Palmerston to the Premiership. Without that office his tenure of the Ministry of War would be next to useless in the present emergency. To do anything more than his predecessor has accomplished, he must combine in his person the two offices, and thus obtain an absolute control over all departments connected directly or incidentally with the war. It is to the absence of that power that the failure of the Duke of Newcastle is in some degree ascribed—for he is not without ability, and is besides a man of untiring industry. Of the members of the present Cabinet, we apprehend that but few will be found in the new administration. The people are tired of a coalition of talents which only serve to neutralize each other, and will prefer a ministry of less brilliant parts but more earnest and patriotic purpose. As to Lord Derby we do not see much probability of his serving under Lord Palmerston. He is too proud and self-willed to do that, and he is besides more a man of words than of action. In re-organizing the ministry it will probably be necessary to admit a larger proportion of the democratic element than usual in it. The evil influence of the aristocratic system on the conduct of the war, and the shameful nepotism which has been exhibited in connection with it, will lead to a violent explosion unless some effort is made by the new government to lop off or effectually neutralise those abuses. We fear, however, that Lord Palmerston with all his energy, all his unquestionable ability and all his thoroughly English feeling, will be unable in this respect to divest himself of the prejudices of his class. The remedy must come from the people themselves. Until they sweep away the distinctions which oppose rank to merit, and which place the prizes of an honorable ambition only within the reach of a privileged few, they must ever expect to be the victims of corruption and treachery.

The Crimean Campaign.

It is many months since we pointed out that the invasion of the Crimea was likely to terminate like the last invasion of Russia forty-two years ago; and that Sebastopol might be to the British what Moscow was to the French. The analogy seems just now to have been discovered in England. The London *Times* already remarks that those who want to know what is going on at Balaklava must read the accounts of the retreat from Moscow. There is no dreadful conflagration bursting out on all sides and driving the foreigners into the pitiless storm and drift; but in all other respects the position of the British army is as wretched as that of Napoleon's in 1812. Out of 54,000 English soldiers who have been sent out in the highest state of discipline and equipments, only 14,000 remain. Of these, about 12,000 are barely fit for field duty, and only 2,000 are said to be in a condition to fight. One hundred men die daily. In spite of the outcry that has been raised, actually nothing has been done towards enabling the troops to withstand the rigor of the climate—nothing towards the making of roads; nothing towards the procuring of comforts. Shiploads of clothing, food, and stores lie rotting on the wharves at Balaklava, and cannot by any process be carried to the heights above. Starvation and profusion are separated by a distance of about two miles. Both are in such an extreme that the whole history of war contains nothing so horrible as the sufferings of the army; and ships arriving from England with cargoes of the very things that are most wanted, are obliged to return back for want of some authority at Balaklava to receive them. It is estimated by men apparently well able to judge, that by the 15th of March the whole British army will be destroyed; and many parties are already clamorous for the recall of the expedition.

Nothing less than this would have convinced Great Britain of the utter folly and absurdity of the system on which the British army is conducted. It has long been usual for officers of the British infantry and cavalry to buy their commissions, and to buy promotion from grade to grade afterward. The artillery and engineers pass a sort of examination, and when a man in these corps is really anxious to learn his profession, some poor facilities are afforded him to do so. But it is contrary to the practice of the service for officers of the line to interfere in such matters. They are expected to be rich or noble—in every case to be gentlemen, but nothing more. The consequence is that for many years Great Britain has not contained a more thoroughly incompetent and useless set of men than the officers of her army. Perfect gentlemen in manners—when they do not fall into the habit of gambling, drinking, and so forth—they know positively nothing. Their lives are spent in the drawing room or at the mess table. Delightful companions and very popular with young ladies, as soldiers they are as worthless as the wooden target at which their men are taught to fire. Like that counterfeit, they never flinch from danger, but stand firmly to be shot: but like it, to expect counsel from them would be ridiculous. Of the science of war, of the duties of an officer in the field, of the thousands of matters with which a soldier should be conversant, in order to make head against the enemy and protect the lives of his men, they are wholly, helplessly ignorant.

These are the men whom England sent out to command her brave soldiers. In their hands she placed their lives, and the consequence is that after a campaign of a few weeks, forty thousand out of fifty-four thousand are under the sod or in the hospitals; and though three battles have been won, the failure of the campaign has come to be admitted on all sides and the expediency of the withdrawal of the troops openly debated. From day to day, a fresh Inkermann may be expected, and though it is hard to say what may be the issue of a combat between the Russians and French, no one can doubt what would be the effect of a bold sortie on the weak English lines. There are doubtless other points besides that one on which an attack might be made. There are, indeed, many reasons for believing that the withdrawal of the force under Liprandi from the line formerly occupied in the valley of the Tchernaya has been nothing but a *ruse* intended to delude the besiegers into an extension of their ground.

That these things are well known and fully appreciated in England will be seen by the speeches republished elsewhere, and the Cabinet movements which have just taken place. Whether they will lead to the correction of the real evil remains to be seen. The spirit of conservatism is very strong in all European countries; and the Horse Guards have strong friends in Parliament. For years and years, enlightened men have urged the reform of their system, the abolition of the plan of selling commissions and promotions, and the adoption of some rules obliging officers to learn their business. But the aristocracy has been too strong for the reformers. The army was a convenient nursery for the stupidest of the scions of nobility; they would not give it up. So long as peace lasted the most ignorant lord's son was competent to discharge the duties of an officer; and the rulers of England thought it would be time enough to think of change when war broke out. They resisted reform, accordingly; rather increased than diminished the power of rank and wealth in the army; sold ensigncies, companies, colonelcies; and now they find they have sold their army and their country's honor into the bargain.

We have no wish to draw invidious comparisons, but contrasts will force themselves on the mind on such occasions as these. It has long been a favorite answer of Englishmen, when questioned about their costly war establishment, to say that their position in Europe required them to maintain a hundred thousand men in arms to defend their country, at an expense of a hundred millions a year or more. They have sneered at the insignificant army of the United States, and expressed uncommon curiosity to know what we should do if we became involved in war. It is not ten years since that contingency happened. On that occasion, the total available force of the United States was something like seven thousand men. Before a year was over, more than three hundred thousand had volunteered to serve; and we were enabled to make two invasions of the enemy's country, to fight three battles in one, and six in the other, to storm three of the strongest forts in America and the world, and to seize the enemy's capital. The country invaded was full as unhealthy as the Crimea. Indeed the cold of Balaklava is not nearly so deadly as the fevers of the Rio Grande or the vomito of Vera Cruz. Yet not one disaster occurred to check the ardor of our troops; and the mortality from disease was not much greater than it would have been had they been quartered in barracks in the same latitudes. In comparing this simple record with that of the British campaign in the Crimea, the true secret of the difference is disclosed at once. Our officers were mostly West Point men: theirs idle noblemen or the sons of rich merchants and landholders, who know nothing of their trade. This explains everything.

THE ILLINOIS SENATORIAL ELECTION—NEBRASKA AND THE ADMINISTATION.—The election of Trumbull, anti-Nebraska man, as the United States Senator from Illinois, in the place of Gen. Shields, follows close upon the heels of Wilson from Massachussetts, Seward from New York, Harlan from Iowa, and Durkee from Wisconson, all anti-Nebraska, anti-slavery men, tried and proved.

Illinois, under the whig and democratic dispensations, was good at almost any day for fifteen or twenty thousand democratic majority. Judge Douglas, two years ago, could have carried the State by a popular vote of not less than twenty-five thousand. Why this dreadful falling off? Why was General Shields so unceremoniously thrown overboard, even by his own party? The answer is plain. It was the spoils policy and the Nebraska bill of the administration, which have have swept out the Pierce democracy from New Hampshire to Missouri, not sparing even Illinois. The spoils policy of Mr. Pierce, sending out as our ministers abroad, such men as Belmont, the German Jew, Owen, the English socialist, Soulé, the French refugee, and O'Sullivan, the Irish filibuster, and huckstering in every possible way for the Irish Catholic and foreign vote; it was this policy which roused up the Know Nothings against the administration. It was that desperate expedient of the Nebraska bill that roused up all the anti-slavery people of the North, of all grades, against Pierce, his Cabinet, his administration and his partizans. It was the spontaneous combination of these two elements of hostility that has resulted in the astounding disasters to the administration, its favorites and its party throughout all the North. The spoils policy of poor Mr. Pierce was the beginning; but the end is not yet.

When Pennsylvania is revolutionized by twenty thousand majority; when New Hampshire wheels to the right about; when Indiana goes with the anti-slavery movement, against all the power of the spoils, and all the force of democratic discipline; when Illinois turns against Judge Douglass upon the Nebraska question, and his twenty-five thousand majority is swallowed up in an anti-Nebraska Legislature; when even Michigan is turned upside down, and General Cass is instructed by the State Assembly to take the back track against the Nebraska bill, it cannot longer be denied that the administration, in the attempt to save itself, has pretty thoroughly destroyed the democracy of the Northern States.

From this extraordinary popular Northern reaction it is also manifest that the administration, elected upon the basis of the Union sentiment of the whole country, has destroyed that sentiment, and rendered next to impossible any national conservative party movement for the approaching Presidential election. It is manifest that we shall have a sectional campaign—anti-slavery in the North, pro-slavery in the South.

The only hope is in the good sense of the independent masses of the people. The late anti-slavery elections express the paramount sentiment excited in the North against the Nebraska bill. It is not abolitionism—it is not a spirit of interference with slavery in the States—it is opposition to the extension of Southern slavery, and to the introduction of slavery into the Territories where it has not previously existed. The Nebraska bill was a constitutional act, repealing an unconstitutional interdict. But the measure was abrupt—the Missouri compromise had stood the test of thirty-four years of agitation, and the South had acquiesced. Mr. Pierce, who wished to clear himself of his free soil affiliations to the satisfaction of the South, was driven to this expedient of repeal. The results are before him. His only reliance now is Henry A. Wise, an old whig, the deadliest enemy of President Van Buren, turned democrat to save Van Buren's successor in office.

Small now are the chances for Cuba, or another slice of Mexico, or Dominica, or the Sandwich Islands. The rebound of the Nebraska bill has knocked all these projected acquisitions out of the category of the administration. Its foreign policy is thus wholly revolutionized, and its high-flown pretensions have vanished in the clouds of dust and smoke of the late elections. We are thus thrown into a new political epoch, with the old parties broken to pieces, the administration down, the anti-slavery sentiment up, and the Know Nothings uprising here and there, like a ground swell, and breaking upon the rock of anti-slavery.

The prospect is a sectional campaign—anti-slavery on one side, pro-slavery on the other. In this view, it is the best course for the South to provide for the chances of an election by the House of Representatives. The necessity of conciliation and compromise may restore harmony to the Union. A scrub race is the only chance.

THE LATEST NEWS.

BY MAGNETIC AND PRINTING TELEGRAPHS.

From Washington.

HON. AUGUSTUS C. DODGE NOMINATED MINISTER TO SPAIN.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9, 1855.

Young Dodge, just defeated for re-election to the Senate from Iowa, was to-day nominated as Minister to Spain. It is the most extraordinary diplomatic appointment yet made.

HON. AUGUSTUS C. DODGE CONFIRMED AS MINISTER TO SPAIN—APPOINTMENTS—CONFIRMATIONS BY THE SENATE, ETC.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9, 1855.

The continued illness of Mrs. Breckinridge, now unwell in this city, rendered it impossible for Major Breckinridge to leave for Spain, and he therefore yesterday resigned the commission which he had accepted as Minister thereto; whereupon the President nominated Augustus C. Dodge, U. S. Senator from Iowa, for that position, and to-day Mr. Dodge was confirmed in such by the Senate.

S. S. Cox, editor of the *Ohio Statesman*, was nominated as secretary of legation at Lima, Peru, vice John B. Miller, of New York, whose nomination was withdrawn.

The statement that General Cushing has any interest in the Nicaragua Transit Company is untrue.

The following confirmations were made by the Senate yesterday:—Benjamin O. Pickett, Postmaster at Maysville, Ky., (not Marysville, Cal.); Samuel P. Collins, Pa., Consul for Morocco, vice George V. Brown recalled; George H. Ambrose and Nathan Olmey, of Oregon, Agents for Indians in Washington Territory; Charles H. Morrison, Receiver of Public Moneys at Ouachita, La., vice Peyton G. King resigned; Robert Benquerel, Register at Opelousas, La.; Robert D. Haden, Receiver at Columbus, Miss., (not in Illinois, as reported yesterday); George K. Child, Chief Coiner of the Mint at Philadelphia, vice Peale removed; Philip Laney, Surveyor at Burlington, Iowa, vice Carpenter resigned; Martin Russell, Surveyor at Troy, New York, vice Brownell resigned.

UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT.

WESHINGTON, Feb. 9, 1855.

No. 67.—Joseph Jassige et al., plaintiffs in error, vs. James Brown et al., trustees, etc. Argument continued by Merrion and Lord for defendants, and concluded by Bartlett for plaintiffs.

Latest from the State Capital.

FRED DOUGLASS IN THE ASSEMBLY CHAMBER—THE TEMPERANCE BILL—EXTRA FARES ON THE HARLEM RAILROAD—THE LEMMON SLAVE CASE—SEWARDITES BURNT IN EFFIGY, ETC., ETC.

ALBANY, Feb. 9, 1855.

The moment the House was called to order this morning, it appeared evident that the majority had concocted some programme not laid down in the regular order of business. Motions were made, *seriatim*, to lay all regular orders on the table, down to motions and resolutions, and all adopted.

Before, however, the grand object was arrived at, Mr. O'Keefe rose and said he held in his hand a respectful communication addressed to him, which he desired to present to the House.

"Read for information," "Let us know what you mean," "We want to hear it read," &c., resounded from all parts of the hall.

Mr. O'Keefe said—Mr. Speaker, I will read the letter. He read as follows:—

DELAVAN HOUSE, Friday, Feb. 9, 1855.

TO THE HON. DAVID O'KEEFE, Member of Assembly:—

Will you please ask the use of the Assembly chamber on Wednesday evening; and, if engaged, on Friday, for Frederick Douglass to speak? Subject—"The Rights of Man." And oblige your obedient servant,

STEPHEN MYERS.

Mr. O'Keefe moved that the privilege be granted, which was seconded by Mr. Stevens. There is no reason why this privilege shall not be granted. He hoped it would be done.

Mr. Waterbury took the same view. He admired talent, whether in black or white men.

Mr. Magee objected to giving the use of the chamber.

A Member inquired which Douglass wanted the use of the chamber?

A Voice—Frederick Douglass. The House, during the last ten days, has been filled with abolitionists, and we may as well admit the most interested champion.

Mr. O'Keefe said that as the Temperance Society had used the chamber, it should in justice be given to Douglass.

Finally, after half an hour spent in a colloquial manner, the request was unanimously granted. So on Friday evening of next week, this abolition Legislature will have the satisfaction of listening to a speech from Fred Douglass, the most talented of them all.

The unfinished business on the Temperance bill was then taken up. This was upon taking a vote whether the bill should be referred to a select committee to report complete. This was unexpected by its opponents, as a large number left the city yesterday afternoon, not expecting such a movement until Monday. Various propositions were submitted to stave off the question—the ayes and noes were called on the most simple, which consumed an hour and a half of time. Finally, under the stern operation of the previous question, the resolution was adopted. It amounts to this: that the prohibitory law, containing twenty-six sections, only three of which have been before the Committee of the Whole, is referred to the Temperance Committee to report complete. This precludes any amendment whatever, and the members will be compelled to vote upon the entire bill, as originally introduced, and as published in the HERALD at the time. The committee are instructed to report back the bill on Monday next, and the final vote is to be taken upon it on Wednesday, the 21st inst.

The manner in which its friends remained united today is a convincing fact that the bill will pass the House on the very day which they have selected. So it will be perceived that the election of Seward will not have the effect of defeating the prohibitory law, as many imagined would be the case.

There is to be an inquiry into the reasons why the Harlem Railroad Company charge extra prices upon certain way passengers. A large number of bills were introduced, very few of any general importance.

The Senate held a short session, less than an hour. There are to be more speeches on the Lemmon resolution; and it is understood that the new Senator, Mr. Goodwin, intends to take the floor in answer to some strictures made against his particular friend "Sam." If he does not carry the war into Africa, then his looks very much betray him. Both houses very judiciously adjourned over to Monday next

Burning members in effigy continues. Yesterday morning the Hon. Mr. Littlejohn and the Hon. Mr. E. Cole were presented with such distinction in Greenbush, opposite this city. Those are the constituents of the latter gentleman.

"Sam" has crept into the Young Men's Association of this city, and during the day yesterday, whilst the election for officers was pending, it was feared he would enter "Sebastopol." The allies, however, mustered in sufficient force to repel the attack, and the intermeddling, officious invader was compelled to retreat for a twelvemonth.

The reason why another respite of a week is granted to Phelps by the Governor, is for the reason that his Excellency has been unable to examine the testimony in relation to his sanity.

The Pennsylvania Senatorship.

HARRISBURG, Feb. 9, 1855.

The Americans are holding a caucus this evening, to agree upon a candidate for Senator in place of Cooper. The candidates are so numerous that it will probably be late before the caucus will be able to make its selection.

Departure of General Wilson from Boston for Washington.

BOSTON, Feb. 9, 1855.

General Wilson, the new Senator elect from this State, left here yesterday afternoon for Washington. He was enthusiastically cheered by a large number of his friends who had gathered at the depot to take leave of him.

At Worcester, a delegation of anti-slavery men greeted him, and a speech was made by W. W. Rice, Esq., to which General Wilson briefly responded, saying he knew the principles which the people of Massachusetts cherished above all others, and that he should strive faithfully to uphold them.

A Bank Cashier Missing.

CHICAGO, Feb. 9, 1855.

N. C. Roe, cashier of the Phœnix Bank of this city, indicted for forgery, has left for parts unknown.

Fatal Accident at Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 9, 1855.

Walter Giles, a bookbinder, about fifty years of age, was accidentally shot this afternoon in a tavern, by a young man named Thomas J. Everett, who carelessly fired off an old musket, not knowing it was loaded. The shot took effect in the head, and it is thought mortally.

Progress of Temperance.

PASSAGE OF THE LIQUOR BILL IN THE ILLINOIS SENATE.

CHICAGO, Feb. 9, 1855.

The Senate to-day passed the Liquor bill by a vote of seventeen to seven.

PASSAGE OF THE LIQUOR BILL IN THE INDIANA HOUSE.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 9, 1855.

The Maine law passed the House at Indianapolis to-day, and is now the law. Great rejoicing at Indianapolis in consequence.

PROSECUTION OF LIQUOR DEALERS IN CINCINNATI.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 9, 1855.

The Grand Jury have found bills against twenty-five liquor sellers, and are not yet through. They have also indicted the managers of prize concerts.

From Chicago.

NOMINATION OF THE HON. JAMES SHIELDS FOR CONGRESS—THE RAILROADS, ETC.

CHICAGO, (Ill.,) Feb. 9, 1855.

The Hon. James Shields has been announced as the democratic candidate for Congress, from the Eighth Congressional district, now vacant by the election of Lyman Trumbull to the United States Senate.

The Chicago and Mississippi Railroad will probably be open to-day. The mails for St. Louis, and along the line of the road, have accumulated in a sufficient quantity to load up one freight train. They have been stored in warehouses for the past three weeks. Over one hundred tons of mail matter were on hand for Springfield and St. Louis.

The Illinois Central Railroad will most probably be open to-day also, and then all except the Military Track and Galena Air Line will be in good order.

Canadian Affairs.

COLD WEATHER—APPOINTMENTS—ELECTIONS—RIOTS.

TORONTO, Feb. 8, 1855.

The weather here is very dull and cloudy. There was a slight fall of snow to-day. The thermometer stands at fifteen degrees above zero.

The steamer Chief Justice ran aground on her way here from Niagara. Her passengers were landed safe by means of a rope from the vessel to the shore. Efforts are still making to lighten and get her off.

Messrs. Henry Sulmer, J. P. Litchfield, M. D. Richards and Louis Richards have been appointed Judges from Lower Canada, for the selection of products from Upper Canada for the Paris Exhibition.

HAMILTON, Feb. 8, 1855.

It has been snowing slightly here to day, with an easterly wind. The thermometer stands at 20 degrees above zero.

Yesterday, on the Great Western Railway, a brakeman, name unknown, was frozen to death while at his post on the platform of a car. When the train stopped he fell from it dead.

MONTREAL, Feb. 9, 1855.

Weather has greatly changed. The thermometer which has ranged for the last three days at more than 20 degrees below zero, now marks 22 degrees above. Snowing slightly. Business dull. Money market depressed.

QUEBEC, Feb. 8, 1855.

There was considerable voting at the municipal election to-day in the St. Peter and Champlain wards. Maxham, a defeated candidate, has entered a protest against the election, on account of threats of violence, &c.

Several citizens were cruelly beaten with bludgeons. The military were called out to restore order and quiet, but they did not act.

Hearn, a man who was convicted of taking part in the Gavazzi riots, and who was fined £25 for doing so, has been elected from the Champlain ward.

A New Yorker's Baggage Robbed.

TOLEDO, Feb. 9, 1855.

Williams, alias Harrison, was arrested to-day, charged with having robbed the M. S. Railroad baggage car of a trunk, containing $4,000 worth of bank drafts, belonging to S. M. Clark, of New York.

The Bark Maryland Ashore.

BOSTON, Feb. 9, 1855.

The bark Maryland, from Palermo for Boston, with a cargo of oranges, lemons, nuts and sumac, went ashore yesterday on Ipswich Beach, and is now full of water. Her crew were saved by life boats.

Markets.

PHILADELPHIA STOCK BOARD.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 9, 1855.

The money market is unchanged. Stocks are dull. Reading 38¼; Morris Canal 14¾; Long Island Railroad 16; Pennsylvania Railroad 43¼; Pennsylvania State Fives 85¾.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 7, 1855.

COTTON—Prices unchanged; demand active at previous rates. Sales 11,000 bales. Coffee—no change in price, but business active; sales 7,000 bags. Freights to Liverpool 7-16d.

Fire Marshal's Office.

INVESTIGATION OF ARSON CASES—TWO OF THE ACCUSED PARTIES HELD TO ANSWER.

Before Justices Davidson and Connelly.

THE CASE OF CHARLES CLAIR.—On the morning of the 1st of February a fire took place in the dwelling apartment of Charles Clair, on the fourth floor of the tenant house 519 Pearl street. The circumstances at the time were of a very suspicious character, and the police arrested Clair on suspicion of knowing something about the arson. The accused was taken before Justice Connelly, who directed the Fire Marshal to make a thorough investigation, and the evidence showed (which we give in substance) that Clair was insured for much more than his household goods were worth, and, independent of that, he endeavored to procure an additional $500 insurance from another company. The carpenter repairing the building testified there was two distinct burnings of the premises. One hole was burnt through the centre of the floor, and another hole was burnt through the floor in a closet, and the closet burnt to pieces. These facts, together with other circumstances of suspicion brought before the Justice, caused him to hold the accused for the action of the Grand Jury.

THE CASE OF FRANCIS MURPHY.—In this case the accused kept a grocery store at the corner of Eighteenth street and Seventh avenue. The evidence before Justice Davidson showed that Murphy, on last Sunday morning, at about one o'clock, was seen to come from the rear yard of his store and pass on his way home in Seventeenth street, and in less than ten minutes the store was discovered on fire. The fire was also shown to have originated in a very singular part of the store, in a jog between the grocery and liquor counters, on some boxes some three feet from the floor. It was shown that Mr. Murphy had an insurance of $700 on his stock and fixtures; he is also proprietor of another grocery store in Seventeenth street, over which he resides. Mr. Murphy, on his examination, admitted he was in the store on the morning in question; said he struck a light, and and then went into the stable to feed his horses, returned back to the store, put out the light, and then locked the door. The evidence for the defence showed that the horses had been fed twice that night. It was also shown by witness that Mr. Murphy on other occasions had visited the store after it had been closed, but on this Saturday night his clerk, after closing the store at 12 o'clock, went home with Mr. Murphy, and he (Murphy) returned alone to the store, and was seen to leave by the policeman, who spoke to him at about 1 o'clock. Upon these facts, together with other circumstances sworn to before the court, Justice Davidson held the accused to answer, and the whole matter will be laid before the Grand Jury.

Brooklyn City Intelligence.

CAPTURE OF A RIVER THIEF.—A person calling himself John Jackson, but whose real name is supposed to be Sullivan or Mulligan, was captured in Jay street, yesterday morning, about three o'clock, by officer McConnell, of the Second district police, on suspicion of being a burglar. It appears that the prisoner, with three others, boarded the brig A. H. Wass, lying at the foot of Jay street, and gained an entrance into the state room, which was occupied by the captain, Daniel M. Smith, who, being aroused, seized a revolver, when the fellows ran out. He followed them on deck, but they had already reached shore, when he fired four shots and called for the police. Officer McConnell hearing the alarm and seeing a man running up the street, arrested him and took him to the station house, where it was ascertained that he had received a pistol wound in the arm. The captain soon after arrived and identified the prisoner as one of the party he saw on board his vessel. A physician was called in and the ball was extracted, when the prisoner was conveyed before Justice Smith, at the City Hall, and was committed to jail to answer any indictment that may be found by the Grand Jury.

Naval Intelligence.

The sloop of war Levant sailed from Malta Jan. 15 for the westward.

The frigate Constitution, Commander Rudd, was at Maleira January 6, to sail in two or three days for Canary Islands.

THE NEW STEAM FRIGATE NIAGARA.—This steamer, the largest of the six now in course of construction under the last appropriation of Congress, is progressing rapidly at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, under the management of Mr. Geo. Steers, her modeller. Her machinery is being built at the foundry of Messrs. Pease & Murphy, of the Fulton Iron Works, the contractors. The immense boilers—four in number—will be ready to be taken from their works in about six weeks. They contain about 8,000 copper tubes, weighing alone about 56,000 lbs. The engines are also in a state of forwardness, and the valves, sea linings, air pump pistons, junction pipes, piston