NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR AND EDITOR.

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

Volume XX.....No. 94

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway—DAMON AND PYTHIAS. GOOD FOR NOTHING.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway—GRAND CONCERT.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery—MACBETH—SAILOR OF FRANCE.

BURTON'S THEATRE, Chambers street—JANET PRIDE—ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway—STATE PRISONER—PAUL PRY—KISS IN THE DARK.

AMERICAN MUSEUM—Afternoon—HEADS AND TAILS—VILLAGE GOSSIP. Evening—FLYING DUTCHMAN.

WOOD'S MINSTRELS—Mechanics' Hall—472 Broadway.

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

EMPIRE HALL, 596 Broadway—PANORAMA OF EUROPE.

New York, Thursday, April 5, 1855.

To Advertisers and Business People.

CIRCULATION OF THE NEW YORK HERALD FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 31, 1855.

Sunday,	March 25	49,620
Monday,	" 26	53,160
Tuesday,	" 27	66,960
Wednesday,	" 28	54,480
Thursday,	" 29	53,760
Friday,	" 30	56,880
Saturday,	" 31	55 680
Total		334,920
Average for six days		55,820

This is the largest daily circulation of any newspaper in Europe or America.

Mails for the Pacific.

THE NEW YORK HERALD—CALIFORNIA EDITION.

The United States mail steamship George Law, Captain G. V. Fox, will leave this port this 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 WEEKLY HERALD—California edition—containing the latest intelligence from all parts of the world, will be published at eleven o'clock this morning.

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

The News.

The election yesterday in Rhode Island resulted in the complete triumph of the Know Nothing State officers, Congressmen, everybody. The vote was a light one and all one way.

The steamship Baltic, which left Liverpool on the 24th ult. for this port, is now in her twelfth day out, and her arrival is momentarily expected. By this vessel we shall receive one week's later news from Europe. The steamship Union, Capt. Adams, arrived yesterday afternoon, from Havre 14th ult., via Southampton 15th, and Halifax April 1. She put into the latter place for coal. The U. experienced very heavy weather the entire passage, and passed several icebergs on the 27th ult., in lat. 45 36, lon. 47 30. Her news was anticipated by the Asia, arrived at Boston last Saturday. The steamship Atlantic, Capt. West, left her dock at noon yesterday for Liverpool, but was obliged to anchor at the Southwest Spit, owing to the low state of the water on the bar, caused by the prevalence of strong westerly winds for several days past. At nine o'clock last evening she proceeded on her voyage. She carries one hundred and seventy passengers and $1,276,257 in specie.

Messrs. Page & Bacon have published a card in the St. Louis papers of yesterday, announcing their intention to suspend business. They state that their assets largely exceed their liabilities, though not immediately available, every dollar of which shall be applied to the payment of their final debate in the Senate on Tuesday night on the Prohibitory Liquor law. The discussion occupied from four o'clock in the afternoon until midnight. Every Senator was in his place, and voted for or against the bill, which passed by a vote of 17 whigs and 4 democrats in favor, to 5 whigs and 6 democrats against it—21 to 11. To day it will probably come up in the Assembly, when the Senate's amendments will be acted on. The Albany *Evening Journal* closes its remarks on the passage of the bill with the following:—The bill in the shape in which it now returns to the Assembly embodies the general features of prohibition, search (of shops) and seizure, fines and punishment, as laid down in the laws of Maine, Massachusetts, and Connecticut. The amendments made to it by the Senate, since its passage by the Assembly, are substantially the following:—Fixing the 4th of July instead of the 15th of May, as the day for it to go into operation. Striking out the provision giving half the penalty recovered to the informer. Allowing (instead of one in each school district,) any number of persons to sell spirits for "medical, mechanical and chemical purposes," who can give adequate security not to sell for any other purpose, and who can prove unexceptionable moral character. Imprisoning for thirty days those who violate this provision, in addition to the fine of $100. Striking out the provision making the bondsman liable after the offending agent has been imprisoned. Allowing these agents to sell, for such purposes, to any person, instead of merely to inhabitants of the neighborhood. Striking out the provision allowing the complainant to carry up his case on appeal "in person," as well as by attorney. Providing that a magistrate shall not inflict more than one penalty upon the same person at one time. Striking out the provision that importers' packages shall contain not less than fifteen gallons.

A large number of bills were acted on in both branches of the Legislature yesterday. The bill increasing the capital of the Manhattan Gas Company passed to a third reading. An effort to reduce the price of gas to two dollars per 1,000 cubic feet, instead of two dollars and a half, unfortunately proved unsuccessful. The Ecclesiastical Church Tenures bill was passed by a vote of 93 to 9. There is a report that the Governor will be induced to veto this measure; but should he do so no doubt the bill would pass both houses by a constitutional vote. The Senate held an executive session and confirmed the appointment of Canal Auditor Marius Schoonmaker as Superintendent of the Banking Department in place of Mr. St. John. The new Canal Appraisers—Messrs. Parmelee, Wasson and Hall—were also confirmed. These officers are to pass upon the claims of the Rochester mill owners, involving certainly a quarter, perhaps a half, probably a million of dollars, in compensation for damages received by the diversion of the waters of the Genesee river for canal purposes. The harbor master appointments were not acted on. A motion to re-consider the vote confirming Health Officer Dr. Thompson was rejected, as was also an attempt to investigate the facts relative to the suppressed letter of the Governor withdrawing the Doctor's appointment.

James Ryan, [illegible], charged with the murder of Policeman Cahill, of the Eleventh ward, by shooting him, was acquitted yesterday, the evidence of identity not being, in the opinion of the Judges and the District Attorney, sufficient to send the case to the jury.

Some of the men who were discharged by the United States Commissioner from the charge of stealing flour from the Atlantic Docks, Brooklyn, have been indicted by the United States Grand Jury, and are re arrested.

Despatches from Cincinnati announce the subsidence of the election excitement in that city. There was no serious breach of the peace yesterday, and the presence of the military prevented any organized demonstration from either of the belligerent parties.

We have received a copy of a manifesto addressed by a "British American" to the people of the United States, which states that men are enlisted here for the British "Foreign Legion," and proceeds to show that there is law, right, equity, and everything else, in favor of the enlistment. It appears to have been published by authority, and is therefore an important document. We shall endeavor to find room for it to-morrow.

Mr. Daniel Ogden, one of our leading shipping merchants, a few days since addressed a letter to the Hon. William L. Marcy, Secretary of State, politely asking information of the department whether it would consider the employment of American merchant vessels in the transportation of troops and provisions to the Crimea for another government any violation of our neutrality laws. To this respectful inquiry the sage of the State Department briefly and in substance replied to Mr. Ogden, telling him that if he wished the opinion of the department it declined to give it, and told him rather abruptly that he had better consult his counsel. The Secretary must be rather out of humor about these troublous Cuban times. How about the firing into the steamer Daniel Webster by the Spanish vessel of war? What is the opinion of the State Department about that? Must her owners consult their counsel?

The Committee on Lands and Places, in a report presented to the Board of Councilmen last night, asked to be discharged from further consideration of a resolution in favor of curtailing the Central Park. The committee say that the many arguments advanced in favor of the Park in its present form have induced them to come to such a conclusion. Their report was referred to the Committee of the Whole, and we sincerely trust it will be adopted by the Board. The resolutions of the Board of Aldermen annulling all grants, licenses, rights or privileges to lay rails in Broadway, were received, but, without any debate, the Councilmen refused to concur in them by a vote of 31 to 19. Several members offered explanations of their votes, a sketch of which is given in another column.

Alderman Howard presided at a meeting of the Fire Department Committee of the Board of Aldermen last evening, when a number of complaints against companies for fighting against each other, assaulting individual members, running on sidewalks, &c., were carefully investigated. The chairman announced the suspension of a foreman, assistant foreman, and other firemen, for two months. A report and list of names are given. The committee will meet again next Wednesday.

The committee appointed by the Board of Aldermen to inquire into the nativity of the members of the Police Department, met yesterday afternoon and examined a large number of witnesses. The principal object, however, appeared to be to find out the birthplace of the Chief of Police; and for this purpose they summoned others before them who are not in any way connected with the department. Among these was an old lady, named Sherlock, who was an acquaintance of the Chief's family, and who testified to the fact that his father was a native of England. She was not so certain, however, of the birthplace of the Chief; but of one thing she was certain—that "he was a son of old Mr. Matsell." The members of the committee do not seem to agree, and indulge occasionally in allusions which are anything but complimentary. The equanimity of Alderman Briggs was somewhat disturbed by the entrance of Alderman Brown, who desired to know what was going on, and who refused to leave until it pleased himself. Alderman Tiemann was examined at his own request in relation to "that coat;" but nothing definite was elicited in regard to its ownership.

The sales of cotton yesterday were large, having reached about 5,000 bales—part supposed to have been in transitu. The market closed firm. Flour sold to a fair amount, without change of moment in prices, except for Canadian, which sold freely at better prices. Southern good white wheat sold at $2 45 a $2 50. Indian corn, sound white and yellow, sold at 102c. Pork and hogs slaughtered at the West, again closed at higher rates; old mess sold at $15 25 a $15 31, afterwards held at $15 37; and new sold at $17 50. Other provisions were in good request, without change of moment in prices. About 1,200 bales of cotton were shipped for Liverpool, compressed, at 5-32d. Other things were slack. About 800 tierces of beef for London, small and large, at 3s. a 3s. 6d.

The Commercial Revulsion in California—Commercial Blunders.

The revulsion in California is spreading. Merchants as well as bankers are failing; it is quite certain by this time that the Pacific coast is to have its 1837 at once. With what amount of disaster it may be accompanied, it is hardly possible to conjecture. We have seen enough of California life from those who have returned to these States to know that as a general thing the social habits of the Californians were not well adapted to encounter a period of hardship or monetary stringency. At San Francisco, almost every man lived beyond his means. Dealing in gold, constantly engaged in receiving it, weighing it, shipping it, recording it by the million, they had come naturally enough to think lightly of eagles and their aliquot parts, and having earned them easily, parted with them freely. Their houses were magnificent, their style of living wholly incommensurate with the legitimate profits of business, and unsuited to the age of the State. When they travelled hitherward, they challenged notice by their lavish expense, until the vulgar belief arose that a Californian was necessarily a rough-bearded man, with an inexhaustible purse of dollars and a never-failing knife. The events of the past few weeks are dispelling the delusion in only too lamentable a way. There is something very mournful in the account of the miners at Sonora assembling, breaking open the vaults of Adams & Co., and distributing the funds discovered therein through the hands of a committee, to the holders of certificates. Too certain it is that the resources which ought to be available to meet the present emergency have been wasted: that the money which ought to be used to pay off debts and stave off bankruptcy has long ago found its way to the Atlantic States in payment for silks and satins, rich furniture, and magnificent plate, for all the thousand expensive luxuries that civilized industry is ever ready to supply to uncivilized extravagance.

Yet let us not play the Pharisee over the misfortune of the youngest daughter of America! The history of California is our own. Her faults are those of no State more conspicuously than New York. If she has emasculated her young energy by wasting money, so has New York. For every temple to extravagance in San Francisco, there are a dozen here. For every spendthrift from the Sacramento to the Pacific beach, we can count a score. Not many months ago, the bell sounded for New York, and men loaded with wisdom and experience, saw in the signs of the times clear symptoms of a second 1837. It has not come. But who shall say that the danger is past? At the hour we write, a fresh failure affords lamentable ground for suspecting that the patched up settlements effected by the bankrupts of last year were unsound and cannot be carried out. A few more such, and the panic would revive with greater fury than before. On so slender a basis is private credit resting that a few failures wou'd be quite certain to precipitate a crisis far worse in its consequences than that of September.

It is, indeed, a condition of our commercial being that there should be crises and revulsions at regular intervals. Extravagance hastens and multiplies them; but no thrift or frugality could prevent them altogether, so long as the currency remains in its present condition. When the constitution was framed, the power was given to Congress to "regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several States." How has this power been used? By an incredible fatality,—of which the cause must be sought in the financial disasters of the colonial history of these States and of the revolutionary period—this power has been almost wholly neglected by Congress. A bankrupt law has been passed twice (under a separate provision of the constitution), but for specific purposes, and for a limited period which has never been prolonged. A tariff or rather about twelve tariffs have been adopted since the Revolution, the first having for their sole object to levy a duty to support the government, some of the later ones superadding and indeed subordinating to this the futile desire to protect certain specific interests here by a tax on all others. But with these exceptions, commerce has been practically unnoticed by the United States. The important power respecting the "coining of money," in other words the establishment of a currency, has been wholly neglected and unused. The States have done their best to make amends for the inaction of Congress by delegating to others powers which the constitution denied to themselves. Though they were expressly debarred from "emitting bills of credit," they made no objection to chartering banks with power to emit such bills, and the consequence is that there are at present in round numbers twelve hundred banks in the United States wholly independent of the federal authority on a point which it was the design of the constitution Congress should forever control.

It seems probable that much of our commercial trouble may be referred to this anomaly. Had Congress, instead of drawing a division line between its own financial straits and those of the country, and providing for the one by a public bank while the others were left to seek any system they pleased, had Congress boldly followed the example of the greater States of Europe, and regulated the currency once and forever by a formal act, covering the whole ground, and not to be altered or contravened by any authority short of Congress itself, it seems highly probable that the revulsions which have checkered our commercial history at regular intervals since 1816 might have been averted. At all events, one class of solid institutions—solid banks—might have been secured. Folly, foreign disaster or extravagance would still of course have ruined merchants; but they could not have affected the banks, working under an invariable federal law, and the commerce of the country would have possessed a unity and a strength that would have defied ephemeral causes of trouble. We see one of the consequences in the periodical bank expansions, followed by corresponding contractions; the more violent of which amount to crises. Another consequence of this feature of federal policy has been that whenever the merchants or manufacturers have [illegible] the currency system, and run to Congress for help, that sagacious body has immediately gratified them by tinkering the only power it had left, the revenue power. It would pass a new tariff. The story of the French monomaniac who went about with his pockets full of Opera tickets, distributing them to every one who made any request to him of whatever nature, and could not be persuaded that he had not acted charitably in giving them to a poor starving beggar woman with two babies in her arms, was a fair type of Congress. According to its majority a new tariff was sure to relieve any distress. Like the inevitable calomel of the old school physicians, it was good for everything; if it didn't answer, the reason was that the dose had not been large enough. Every one knows what the result of this style of calomel practice was, and how invariably the physician used to say, as he walked behind the coffin: A few larger doses might have saved him! This is exactly what we have been hearing from the manufacturers and other protectionists for ever so many years. When they got into trouble, having borrowed more money than they could repay and been suddenly called upon for it by the banks, they ran to Congress for aid. Mr. Clay or some other great political economist gave them a tariff with high duties, and they returned home in high glee. But very soon it was apparent that the only result of the high tariff was to make it a trifle harder for farmers and others to live; that it poured money into the government coffers, not the manufacturers'; and that the latter, balanced as before between bankruptcy and plethora by the capricious bank system, were as badly off as before. Then they would go again to Congress and complain that the dose had not been large enough, the duties not high enough. If Mr. Clay and his friends were strong at the time, the larger dose was made up and passed; and again, after a short while, the protectionists found themselves worse off than ever.

What better history of our tariffs need we than this? What plainer explanation both of the periodicity of commercial crises, and of the eccentricity of the commercial legislation of Congress?

No EXCITEMENT.—The trials of Theodore Parker and other abolitionist rioters at Boston has not, it seems, created the excitement that was expected. The public can't be expected to feed on excitement of this kind always; there must be a reaction.

MORE TINKERING.—Why don't the Legislature give us an entirely new city charter, instead of their little bits of tinkering at the old concern. These politicians, of all parties and factions, are the most arrant of tinkers.

LIGHT WANTED.—What has become of the Special Committee of the Assembly appointed to investigate the conduct of a portion of the Legislature on their late drunken frolic at Blackwell's Island? Let us have some light.

ITALIAN OPERA AT THE ACADEMY AND ELSEWHERE.—The Opera at the Academy languishes. It does not pay expenses. The managers are, however, good for all salaries, which is something new compared with former experience in operatic direction. But the administration is feeble, and has not sufficient force of nerve. The Chevalier Wikoff's advice, if he has given it, seems to have been either ineffective or unheeded. In the midst of this distress we are informed that another Italian Opera speculation is to be commenced here immediately, and that the principal artists will arrive by the European steamer now due at this port. Is this affair going to be a feeble imitation of the *fiasco* at the Academy, or not? In fact the German Opera, of all the foreign Operas, appears to be the one that best succeeds.

THE LATEST NEWS.

BY MAGNETIC AND PRINTING TELEGRAPHS.

Card of Messrs. Page & Bacon.

ST. LOUIS, April 4, 1855.

Messrs. Page & Bacon have published a card stating their determination to close their doors, and assuring their friends that their assets largely exceed their liabilities, although they are not immediately available, and that they will be faithfully applied to the payment of them.

The failure of Messrs. Page & Bacon produces no excitement here, and does not at all affect other banking houses.

Latest from the State Capital.

THE NEW CITY CHARTER AND POLICE BILL.

ALBANY, April 4, 1855.

The metropolis is now well represented in the lobbies. Well known New Yorkers—politicians, gamblers, *et id genus omne*, make the State capitol look familiar and home like. What are they here for? Why, the new city charter, the liquor bill, the police bill, and those $20,000, to be sure. The amendments to the charter will give you, perhaps, a new set of Police Commissioners. Their names are included in the draft:—The Mayor, dem.; James F. Freeborn, whig; James M. Sweeny, dem., and Welcome R. Beebee, whig. This looks fair; half and half. Beebee and Freeborn are Sewardites to the backbone. Sweeny is nephew to Senator Barr, the immortal hard shell, and brother of Peter B. Sweeny, Esq., your public administrator; and the Mayor is for good city government. That is all right. Senator Barr, it is said, is opposed to the new police bill. Will not this damage the prospects of Mr. James M. Sweeny? *Nous verrons.*

PASSAGE OF THE TEMPERANCE BILL IN THE SENATE—CONFIRMATION OF MR. SCHOONMAKER AS BANK SUPERINTENDENT — PASSAGE OF THE CHURCH TENURES BILL IN THE ASSEMBLY, &C.

ALBANY, April 4, 1855.

The prohibitory bill, so called, which has excited such unparelleled interest since the 1st of January, both inside and outside the Legislature, was finally disposed of at midnight on Tuesday. From four o'clock yesterday afternoon until twelve at night, the friends of the bill, with great credit, allowed, by unanimous consent, the introduction of all the amendments desired by its opponents contenting themselves with voting down all propositions to amend.

The vote on the bill was finally taken, and it passed, 21 to 11; the same number of votes it received last year, and the same Senators on each side, except that Senators Lansing and Hitchcock changed positions. The bill could not be engrossed in season to return it to the house to-day. It will be received there to-morrow.

The secret session was conducted with a great degree of decorum and propriety, and pains were taken not to allow the outsiders to know the transactions until near the time the doors were thrown open. The confirmation of Schoonmaker, as Bank Superintendent, was effected at the first vote—21 to 11. The Canal Appraisers, according to the Rochester programme, were confirmed. An attempt was made to reconsider the vote confirming Thompson, but failed, and he proceeds to Staten Island forthwith. Dr. Bartlett has learnt previous to this time that the Governor withdrew Thompson's name before the secret society voted upon it. The name of Brainard, one of the harbormasters on the slate for New York, was withdrawn, and he was nominated for Brooklyn. There was no attempt made to consider any of the harbormasters. That matter will probably be settled on Friday. A motion was made to institute a committee to ascertain the facts relating to the non-delivery of the Governor's withdrawal of Thompson. A majority refused to investigate. The matter will now be brought before the open Senate, where the people will have an opportunity of judging from the debates.

The House exhibited considerable emotion this morning, when it was ordered to take the final vote on the Church Tenure bill. Mr. O'Keefe, Mr. Maguire and Mr. Munday, severally made motions to recommit for amendment, as they stated. The discussion of each notice consumed quite a quantity of time, during which some disrespectful and severe language was indulged in between Mr. Petty and Mr. O'Keefe. Finally under the [illegible] question, the bill was read, and members called. The name of Mr. Blatchford was called three times, but he refused to answer each time. Motions were made to compel the Sergeant at Arms to bring him before the bar of the House, others declaring him in contempt of the house, but the Speaker refused to entertain either of the motions.

The bill passed by a vote of 93 ayes against 9 nays. His Excellency will be importuned by Mr. Seward and all the Catholic clergy, to withhold his signature. Whether he signs the bill or not, it will make no difference; if he refuses, both houses will pass it over his head.

Mr. Leigh gave notice in the House this morning that he intended to introduce a bill to amend the charter of the city of Albany. Whether this movement has anything in it relating to the sale of liquor under the old Dugan charter, does not yet appear. But from the course taken by Mr. Crosby in the Senate, residing in Albany, to interfere with the laws and regulations of New York city, we think that Mr. Leigh is perfectly justifiable, being a New Yorker, to attend to the affairs of the Albanians, and see whether their charter or laws do not require amendment, alteration, modification, or repeal.

The Election Riots in Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, April 3—Evening.

The excitement in this city is on the increase. The Germans refused to give up the cannon, consequently fighting has commenced over the canal, and it is reported several have been killed. The Germans are mostly armed, and fortified within houses, while the American party are also well prepared. The probability is that matters will be measurably postponed until the morning, when, it is hoped, the present bitter feeling may have somewhat subsided.

April 4—A. M.

Nothing of special importance transpired after our last despatch last night. This morning a large crowd assembled in the Fifth street market place, and the greatest excitement was manifested. The military are under arms awaiting orders. The Germans have agreed to deliver up the cannon at ten o'clock this morning, and if they do so, it may prevent a collision.

APRIL 4—10 o'clock.

We have had no fighting to day. The Germans delivered up the cannon they had taken possession of, but retained the wheels belonging to it. The parties then fell to quarrelling about the latter.

The military, under the direction of the Sheriff, marched over the canal and took possession of the wheels of the cannon, and this having been accomplished the crowd dispersed, and matters are rapidly quieting down. No further disturbance is now apprehended.

It is understood the Know Nothings will hold a meeting to night to express their views with reference to the late proceedings.

The Victorious Know Nothings.

REJOICINGS AT NEW HAVEN.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., April 4, 1855.

The sons of Sam fired thirty-one guns here this evening, in glorification on of their victory at the late election. A procession is now parading the streets, calling on the various successful candidates, who reply with appropriate speeches.

KNOW NOTHING TRIUMPH AT COLD SPRING.

COLD SPRING, N. Y., April 4, 1855.

The Know Nothings, in the election in this place today, carried everything before them.

SUCCESS IN MISSOURI.

ST. LOUIS, April 4, 1855.

The Know Nothings, in the municipal election at Jefferson City, were entirely successful.

Affairs in Wisconsin.

THE LIQUOR LAW AGAIN VETOED—JUDICIAL ELECTION.

BUFFALO, April 4, 1855.

The Wisconsin Legislature has adjourned *sine die*. Governor Barstow has vetoed the Prohibitory Liquor law which was passed subsequent to his first veto, and was divested of the clauses to which he had previously objected.

The returns of the election for a Judge of the Supreme Court in Wisconsin strongly indicate the choice of Judge Cole.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION IN KENOSHA.

KENOSHA, Wis., April 4, 1855.

At the municipal election here yesterday Sholes, the free soil and temperance candidate for Mayor, was elected by thirty seven majority.

From Trenton.

THE NEW JERSEY VETOED BANK BILLS PASSED.

TRENTON, (N. J.) April 4, 1855.

The Senate to day passed, over the Governor's veto, the charters of the following banks:—Freehold Bank, Hunterdon Bank, Gloucester County Bank, at Woodbury—each by a three-fifths vote. The Perth Amboy Bank was passed by a majority. A question having arisen whether a bank charter, after a veto, must have three-fifths (as in the first passage), or simply a majority, and Col. Alexander, the President of the Senate, having given an opinion in favor of the three-fifths vote, and Hon. Wm. L. Dayton in favor of a majority vote, a resolution was passed requesting the President of the Senate to sign the Perth Amboy Bank bill, and he signed the same.

A joint meeting for the election of State Treasurer, Keeper of the State Prison and some minor officers, will be held to-morrow.

Accident to the Steam Propeller Totten, Etc.

PHILADELPHIA, April 4, 1855.

The steamer Quaker City has arrived here from Charleston. She reports passing, on Monday, the Alabama, from New York for Savannah. On Tuesday spoke the steam propeller Totten, from Charleston for New York, with the loss of propeller standing in for the land under canvass.

California Land Claims.

IMPORTANT DECISIONS BY THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT.

WASHINGTON, April 4, 1855.

In the case of the United States, Appellants, vs. Archibald A. Ritchie, an appeal from a decree of the District Court for the Northern District of California, Judge Nelson recently delivered the opinion of the United States Supreme Court, of which the following is a condensed summary:—

The Board of Commissioners to settle private land claims in California, ordered that Ritchie's claim to a tract of land known by the name of "Suisin Company," comprising about 18,000 acres in the county of Solano, should be confirmed—this decision was appealed from in the above District Court, but it was decided on the 8th of November, 1853, to confirm the decision of the Board of Commissioners, hence the appeal to the United States Supreme Court.

Judge Nelson first set forth the requirements of the act of Congress of March 3, 1851, upon the subject under which the appellees claimed that the removal of the proceedings from the Board of Commissioners to the District Court was defective, but the Judge considers that certain sections of the act of 1851 were repealed by the act of 31st August, 1852, thereby removing the alleged defect. After disposing of some other objections in regard to certain informalities in the transfer of the case from the Board of Commissioners to the District Court, Judge Nelson comes to the merits of the case, and recapitulates at length the title to the lands in question, tracing them from the possession of Francisco Solano, an Indian, who had them under cultivation as early as 1832 or 1833, and whose right to them was confirmed by the constitutional Governor of the Department of the Californias by the official decree in 1842, through the hands of Manuno Guadalupe Vallejo, who held them from 1842 to 1850, to the possession of A. A. Ritchie, the appellee, who purchased them on the 29th of May, 1850, for the sum of $50,000. The objections taken to the validity of the title are, that Solano being an Indian, was not competent, according to the laws of Mexico, to take and hold real property, and hence the grant was void. Secondly, that if Solano was competent to hold real estate, still the grant is void, on the ground that the tract known as the "Suisin," belonged to the Mission lands in California, which the public authorities of that department had no power to grant. Reference is then made to the plan of Iguala, and a decree of the first Congress of Mexico, declaring the equality of civil rights, whatever may be their race or country, under which the Court decides that Solano was one of the citizens of the Mexican government at the time of the grant to him, and that as such he was competent to take, hold and convey real property the same as any other citizen of the republic. In regard to the second objection, that the tract in question belonged to the mission lands, the conclusion is that there appears to be no foundation for it, and that under certain laws of Mexico the authorities were empowered to deal with those missions the same as with any other portions of the public domain. The Court, therefore, affirmed the decree of the District Court.

In the case of John Charles Fremont, appellant, vs. the United States—an appeal from the District Court of the United States for the Northern District of California—Chief Justice Taney delivered the opinion of the United States Supreme Court; in substance as follows:—

The Court bestowed much attention upon this case, as many claims to land in California depend upon the same principles, and will, in effect, be decided by the judgment of the Court in this case. A preliminary question, as to the jurisdiction of the District Court, having been decided in the foregoing case, the Court proceeded to examine the validity of the claim upon this appeal.

After a lengthy disquisition upon the practice in regard to grants of land in Louisiana and Florida, when those territories were first ceded to the United States, and how far the proceedings in those cases would apply to such as that now under consideration, the Judge comes to the question of the validity of the grant to Alvarado of the tract of land known by the name of Mariposas, which was the point in controversy, and arrives at the conclusion that the grant to Alvarado gave him a vested interest in the quantity of land therein specified, and that said interest was not forfeited by a failure to comply with certain conditions, as to the survey and settlement, attached to the grant, the state of the country, from wild Indians rendering a compliance with the conditions quite impracticable. That Col Fremont's purchase of the lands in 1847 was perfectly consistent with his rights and duties as an American officer and citizen, the country in which he made the purchase being at the time subject to the authority and dominion of the United States and that the fact that he was not a citizen of Mexico could in no way impair the validity of the conveyance to him. That the subsequent discovery of gold mines on the land had nothing to do with the title, and that the survey must now be made under the authority of the United States, in the form and divisions prescribed by law for surveys in California, embracing the entire grant in one tract. Upon the whole, it is the opinion of the Court that the claim of the petitioner is valid and ought to be confirmed. The decree of the District Court must therefore be reversed, and the case remanded, with directions to the District Court to enter a decree conformably to this opinion.

Colonel Fremont's claim is thus recognized by the Supreme Court.

From Boston.

COLORED CHILDREN TO BE ADMITTED TO THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN MASSACHUSETTS—TRIAL OF THE ALLEGED RIOTERS IN THE BURNS CASE—FAST DAY, ETC.

BOSTON, April 4, 1855.

The House to-day passed a bill admitting colored children into any of the public schools, and the act will probably pass both branches with slight opposition.

Up to noon to-day no progress had been made in the trial of the alleged rioters in the Burns rendition case. Arguments are being heard upon the motion made yesterday to quash the indictments. The jury were dismissed till Monday.

The House has assigned Tuesday next for a hearing of the reports of the Commissioners, relative to the removal of Judge Loring.

To-morrow being the annual fast day in Massachusetts, all business will be suspended, and the daily papers will suspend publication.

The weather here to day has been clear, mild, and spring-like.

The Cincinnati Slave Case.

CINCINNATI, April 4 1855.

Judge McLean discharged the United States Marshal, to day from custody, and remarked that the order of Judge Perker, by which he was committed to jail, was illegal.

Fatal Railroad Accident.

PORTLAND, (Me.,) April 4, 1855.

The freight train on the Androscoggin and Kennebec Railroad ran off the track this afternoon. Mr. Hussey, the engineer, was killed, and several of the cars demolished.

Fire in Cranston, R. I.

PROVIDENCE, April 4, 1855.

The dry sheds attached to the print works of Jeremiah Knight 2d, in Cranston, were destroyed by fire about 1 o'clock this morning. About one thousand pieces of goods were destroyed. Loss, $6,000. Insured.

Arrival of the Southern Mail.

BALTIMORE, April 4, 1855.

The Southern mail as late as due from all points of the South has been received. We have New Orleans papers of Wednesday and Thursday last, but we find no news of importance in them.

Markets.

PHILADELPHIA STOCK BOARD.

PHILADELPHIA, April 4, 1855.

Money is easy. Stocks are steady. Reading, 42¼; Morris Canal, 14¾; Long Island Railroad, 10½; Pennsylvania Railroad, 43⅞; Pennsylvania State 5's, 87¼.

NEW ORLEANS, April 3, 1855.

The letters per the Atlantic come to hand this morning. Our cotton market shows no change, middlings being quoted at 8½c. a 8¾c., with sales to day of 13,500 bales. Cotton freights to Liverpool, ⅝d.

CHARLESTON, April 4, 1855.

Our cotton market is firm, and the prices are as high as at any time during the season. The sales to-day foot up 2,750 bales, at from 7¾c. a 9¾c. per lb.

Know Nothing Victory at St. Louis.

We learn by telegraph from St. Louis, that the city election in that place on Tuesday, resulted in an entire victory for the Know Nothings—their ticket being elected by 1,100 majority.

Army Intelligence.

MILITARY EXPEDITION AGAINST THE UTAH INDIANS.

We hear from New Mexico as late as the 25th Feb., that a force of from seven to eight hundred men in all, were organized at Taos to proceed immediately against the Utahs.

This force, under the command of Colonel Fauntleroy, United States First Dragoons, is deemed adequate to subdue any body of the Indians that can be brought together before the summer months. The scene of operations being exclusively in the Rocky Mountains, the troops will encounter cold of Arctic severity, which, whilst rendering the expedition comfortless in prospect, holds out the best hope for the success of the enterprise.

Some thirty or forty of the most noted woodsmen in the whole Western World are said to be numbered with the command—among whom are Captain St. Vrain and Kit Carson.

FROM HAYTI.—Advices from Port au Prince of March 1st, state:—This place is very sickly; the fever is raging, particularly among the shipping.

Died, on board the schr. D. C. Brooks, Feb. 21, Capt. Benjamin Johnson, of Sullivan, of fever; Feb. 16th, Nicholas G. Stover, a seaman, of Sullivan; 17th, James White, of Sullivan, the steward. The former chief mate, Mr. Stover, would go home as Captain of the schooner.

The D. C. B. arrived yesterday, and has anchored at Quarantine.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE BY A GERMAN COUNT.—A German count named Ziegenhors, shot himself in the head with a pistol, at Albany, on the 3d instant, by which he was so much injured as to render his recovery doubtful. Cause—unrequited love.

FIRE IN SCHOHARIE COUNTY.—On the first instant five dwelling houses and the Lutheran church were destroyed by fire in Middleburg, Schoharie county. Loss $12,000.

COURT OF APPEALS, APRIL 3, 1855.—32. Concluded. 31. Willis against Forrest; exchanged with 28, and on argument. John Van Buren, counsel for appellant; E. L. Fancher, counsel for respondent. 41, 47. Reserve for April 12. 84, 86. Struck off.

Burton's Theatre—"Janet Pride."

A drama, in "two prologues and three acts," called "Janet Pride," written by Mr. D. L. Bourcicault, was played, for the first time in this city, at this theatre last evening. It was first performed at the Metropolitan theatre, Buffalo, during the last summer season, but was not successful. It was next produced at the Adelphi theatre, London, about two months ago, and, at the last accounts, had been performed thirty-five times. Annexed is the cast of characters at Burton's and at the Adelphi:—

	Burton's.	Adelphi.
Richard Pride	Mr Burton	Mr. B. Webster.
Jane Pride, his wife	Mrs. A. F. Baker	M'me Celeste.
Black Jack	Mr. Fisher	Mr. C. Selby.
Sergeant Grey	Mr Canoll	——
Minnie Grey	Mrs. Burton	Miss M Keeley.
Bernard	Mr Moore	Mr. Paul Bedford.
Dickey	Mr. H. Jordan	Mr. Keeley.
Mr. Heriot	Mr. Andrews	Mr. Parsell.
George Heriot	Mr. Marchant	Mr Garden.
Doctor Roberts	Mr. Holman	——
Janet, daughter of Jane and Richard Pride, servant to Bernard	Mrs. A. F. Baker	M'me Celeste.

The author of "Janet Pride" has used the materials of several other people with the most charming sang froid, and has made an effective though heavy piece. The first act is from a drama called the "Foundling of Paris"—a magazine story, called "Life in the Bush," forms the materials for the second—in the third and fourth there is a little from the "Somnambulist," and the bills inform us that the facts regarding mesmeric phenomena, illustrated in the third act, are well known to the scientific world. Really, Mr. Bourcicault should give us his "authorities," in the shape of marginal notes, on the bills of the play!

The plot is tortuous, involved, improbable and unsatisfactory. Richard Pride, the principal character, is a gentleman addicted to brandy and water, forgery, robbery, murder, and other pleasant amusements. He steals his wife's savings—she puts her child in the box of the Foundling Hospital. She then dies; Pride is arrested for forgery; sent to Australia, remains there for twenty years with a pleasant fellow of his own stamp, bearing the suggestive name of Black Jack. The last named jolly dog kills a sentimental sergeant, who is obliging enough to inform the convict as to all his affairs. Pride kills Jack, and assumes the sergeant's uniform; gets his discharge; returns to England; attempts to ruin his own daughter (not knowing her); is discovered by somnambulism and clairvoyance; gets repentant, sentimental and affectionate, and commits suicide. A cheerful story—only four deaths by violence, including two murders! There is no comedy about this piece. A spasmodic attempt is made to put some funny lines into Dickey's mouth, in the third act, but they are not at all humorous. The language is all commonplace, and the play has nothing to recommend it except its effects and situations. These seem to be forced in the old melo-dramatic style—people are put to a good deal of trouble for no good reason. Thus, the robbery case against Janet is a most clumsy affair—a clever lawyer with an intelligent detective would pull it to pieces in five minutes—but Mesmerism must be resorted to in order to give a "startling effect" for the last act. The time of performance last night was three hours and a half—an hour too long. The prologues might be omitted altogether without serious detriment to the author's reputation or the manager's pocket. It has been well got up at Burton's. A portion of the scenery is new, and quite effectively painted.

The acting was generally good. All the small parts were well filled up, and the piece was played perfectly, carefully, and smoothly. Mr. Burton's Richard Pride was not a great success. When this most excellent comedian essays tragedy, he does not fail, because there is no such word with him, but his performance is always unequal. His first and last scenes last night were good; in the second act he was hard and unnatural; in the third and fourth acts he gave a vivid, but sometimes exaggerated, picture of the besotted scoundrel. Mrs. Baker was rather too slow and pedantic at first, but warmed up with the part, and acted finely. Portions of her scene at the hospital were very expressively played. Mr. Moore's Bernard was good, as far as it went, but the part seemed too much for him. His attempt at the French accent was a failure. Mr. Fisher had a small part, which he played artistically. The other parts do not amount to much, but were all respectably played.

There was some applause at the fall of the curtain, and Mr. Burton was called out. He announced that the play would be performed again this evening.

THE PYNE AND HARRISON TROUPE give a concert in Brooklyn this evening.

THE NEW STEAMER COMMON