NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR AND EDITOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway—CORIOLANUS.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery—SIX DEGREES OF CRIME—JUMBO JUM—IRISH KNOW NOTHING.

BURTON'S THEATRE, Chambers street—COMEDY OF ERRORS—LEGERDEMAIN.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway—ELOPEMENTS IN HIGH LIFE—BOLD DRAGOONS.

AMERICAN MUSEUM—Afternoon—MY WIFE'S DIARY—LOTTERY TICKET. Evening—DEAF AS A POST—LADY OF THE LAKE.

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 AND SIEGE OF SEBASTOPOL.

FERRAN'S BURLESQUE OPERA HOUSE, 663 Broadway—ETHIOPIAN OPERA TROUPE.

New York, Thursday, April 26, 1855.

News for the Pacific.

The steamship Northern Light, Captain Tinklepaugh, will leave this port to-morrow afternoon, at 3 o'clock, for Punta Arenas.

THE NEW YORK HERALD—California edition—containing all the latest news by mail and telegraph from all parts of the world, will be published at eleven o'clock to-morrow morning. Agents will please send in their orders as early as possible.

The News.

The steamship Africa, with a week's later advices from Europe, arrived at Halifax on Tuesday night. The news is important. The Vienna Congress re-assembled on the 8th, but broke up after a brief sitting, leaving the impression on the public mind that the conference had dissolved. A remarkable document had appeared in the *Moniteur*, giving a detailed account of the military expeditions of the allies during the war. It created a profound sensation, and caused the idea of raising the siege of Sebastopol to be regarded in London with much favor. Our readers will find these points of the news reviewed at length in the editorial columns.

There is nothing of importance from the Crimea. The reported battle at Eupatoria, and the death of Omer Pacha, are not confirmed. We have nothing concerning the movement of troops at the camp before Sebastopol on the morning of the 25th ult.; but Russian agents at Vienna reported that a sanguinary engagement took place on the 26th.

The advance of the allied Baltic fleet reached Ekenore on the 1st inst. The floating ice, however, would prevent any movement for several weeks. The Russians awaited the re-opening of the campaign in the Baltic with an army of 120,000 men, and three hundred guns afloat.

The British government had proposed a new loan, supposed to be fifteen millions, and the funds had fallen to 91½. Louis Napoleon and the Empress had arranged to arrive in London on the 16th inst. They were to remain in England a week. Spain was tranquil, and the government had effected a loan of five million dollars. Pope Pius IX. has had a narrow escape with his life from the accidental falling of a beam. Two Cardinals were injured.

Before the receipt of the foreign news yesterday, about 2,000 bales of cotton were sold at firm prices. After it came to hand no sales were reported. Flour was easier, with rather less activity in the market. Wheat continued scarce and firm. Corn sold to a fair extent, both on the spot and to arrive, without change in prices. Pork was easier for old mess and firmer for new. Sugars were again active, with sales of about 2,000 hogsheads at full prices. Whiskey advanced to 36c. a 37c., with sales of 800 barrels.

The Africa brings intelligence of the loss of the steamship North Carolina, which sunk after being in collision with another vessel off Holyhead. The North Carolina was a new screw steamer, on her first voyage from Philadelphia for Liverpool. Her voyage commenced unfortunately, she having returned in distress to the Delaware, after sailing thence on the 4th February. She finally sailed on the 20th March. She was built in Philadelphia in 1854, of 700 tons register, and valued at about $40,000. Her owners were Messrs. Heron & Martin, of Philadelphia. The vessel and cargo are insured in Philadelphia and Baltimore. An office in Wall street had $6,000 on the cargo, but the policy was cancelled on her putting back. She was loaded with provisions, corn and naval stores, and carried some passengers. This is the third Philadelphia and Liverpool steamer lost within about twelve months. The previous ones were the City of Glasgow, which sailed from Liverpool March 1, and never more heard of, and the City of Philadelphia, a new vessel on her first voyage, lost last September, at Cape Race.

We publish in another column the statement of Dr. Charles A. Peck, relative to his arrest and imprisonment in Cuba. He states that his treatment was very harsh, and he makes a claim on the government of Spain for compensation. Our last advices from Cuba prove that the Spanish authorities there are actually deluded into the belief that the United States is about to declare war against Spain. The idea, preposterous as it is to those who know the vacillating policy of our administration, produces the utmost activity in all branches of military preparation and means of defence. Provincial militia are put in order, volunteers are enrolled and drilled, negroes are armed, and the regular peninsular army is increased to three times its usual force. We translate a somewhat remarkable article published in the *Diario de la Marina*, announcing the expected arrival of reinforcements from Spain, which will make the regular garrison of the island amount to thirty thousand men, and place the Spanish government—as the *Diario* boasts—in the rank of the first military power of America. We look upon that honoring boast as a challenge to war. It can hardly be construed in any other light. Shall it be accepted?

Our correspondent at Maracaibo furnishes some interesting news from Venezuela. The government had taken the preliminary steps for getting up a war with New Granada. A desire to check revolutionary tendencies had led to this course. The Know Nothings are very strong in that region, and their method of dealing with foreigners is a remarkably vigorous one. Not long since every foreigner in the city of Coro was driven out. They escaped to Curacoa. A Maracaibo paper justified this harsh proceeding, and also counselled the Venezuelan Congress to pass laws prohibiting foreigners to traffic in the country. The strongest opposition seems to be directed against the Germans, who are threatened with a general massacre if they do not emigrate.

We have dates from Mexico to the 18th inst. Engagements between small parties of the insurgents and government troops are reported, in which the latter are declared to be victorious.

A very curious case developes itself in the Fire Marshal's investigation, respecting the arson perpetrated at the St. Louis Hotel, in Chambers street. An account is published elsewhere.

The Committee of the Fire Department met last evening and decided on suspending all the private men of Engine Company No. 17, except one, for three months, for their attack on Engine Company No. 44, on the 17th of February last. The officers of No. 17 were suspended for six months. The action of Alfred Carson, Chief Engineer, in refusing to give their engine to Company No. 33, was censured. The case of Engine Company No. 47 was again postponed.

From the report of the proceedings of the Commissioners of Emigration, given elsewhere, it will be seen that the total debt of the commission is over $100,000. This is owing, of course, to the decreased emigration this year compared with other years. A lengthy report was submitted, in which the Commissioners endeavor to exculpate themselves from the charges brought against them by Mayor Wood, of remissness of duty to emigrants in not preventing runners from defrauding them. The report was laid on the table, in order to notify his Honor to be present at the next meeting of the Board, to substantiate his charges, or withdraw them if he could not. Reference was made to certain frauds committed on emigrants by so-called respectable shipowners, who furnished these poor people with brass coin for gold. Letters and affidavits criminating the swindlers will soon be published.

The case of Henry Carnell, the murderer of Chas. M. Rosseau, in Dey street, in March, 1851, the circumstances of which are no doubt fresh in the minds of our readers, came up in the Court of Oyer and Terminer yesterday. After some explanation respecting the absence of important witnesses, and the impossibility of again convicting the prisoner of murder, the Court accepted a plea of guilty of manslaughter in the fourth degree, and passed sentence of four years imprisonment in the penitentiary.

Mayor Parmelee, of Albany, has issued his proclamation of what he intends to do with reference to the new liquor law. Heretofore the power to grant licenses in Albany has rested solely with the Mayor of that city. Mr. Parmelee concludes his manifesto as follows:—"While it (the Maine law) continues in force, I shall endeavor, so far as may be, consistent with other official responsibilities, to discharge all duties devolved upon me by this law. And if it is deemed advisable to present for legal decision any question arising under it in relation to the city charter, I shall grant such licenses as may be necessary for that purpose."

Brigham Young, the High Priest of Mormondom and Governor of Utah Territory delivered a long and impassioned harangue to the Latter Day Saints at Great Salt Lake City, on the 18th February. He commenced with reviewing the persecutions sustained by the faithful, eulogizing Jo Smith, as in duty bound, extolled the patriotism of the Mormons during the war with Mexico, and gradually developed the motive and object of his discourse by a disquisition on the right of Congress, under the constitution, to interfere with the religion of the Mormons, poligamy included. Brigham says no power or authority in the government can lawfully or righteously molest them in the peaceable and quiet enjoyment of their religion, poligamy, of course, included. We shall publish this important manifesto of Gov. Young's in a day or two.

The European War—The Reduction of Sebastopol Considered Hopeless by Louis Napoleon—Probable Failure of the Vienna Negotiations.

The news received by the Africa is rather of an extraordinary character. Were it not for the immense war preparations which we hear of being vigorously pushed forward on both sides, it would seem as if there was some disposition on the part of the allies to cave in. In a remarkable official document, occupying five columns of the *Moniteur*, Louis Napoleon enters into an explanation of the military operations of the allies since the commencement of the war, defends his own plan of the Crimean campaign, and points out the immense difficulties of the siege of Sebastopol, under present circumstances.

Such a document, emanating from such a source, at the most critical point of the Vienna negotiations, is naturally looked upon by the advocates of peace as indicating a desire, if not an intention, on the part of the allies to raise the siege. Although it is certainly liable to such an interpretation, we think that there is an antecedent fact which would fully explain the necessity of some such publication on the part of the French Emperor. The pamphlet attributed to the pen of his cousin, and which, if not written by him, bore evidence to an intimate knowledge of the Emperor's ideas and plans in connection with the Crimean campaign, had somewhat damaged the reputation for sagacity and prudence which the latter had acquired. That it was written under feelings of personal pique and was somewhat highly colored, did not detract from the general accuracy of its facts and conclusions. The manifesto in the *Moniteur* is, therefore, probably intended to remove the unfavorable impressions which this exposé of military blunders had created. How far it succeeds in accomplishing its purpose we are of course unable to judge until we have the text of the document before us.

There is something extremely curious, too, in the turn which the Vienna negotiations are taking. We are told that the Congress resumed its deliberations on the 8th, but adjourned again after a sitting of one hour, no period having been fixed for its next meeting. The reason suggested for this, (by implication,) for no positive statement is made on the subject, is, that the Russian representatives had not received the instructions for which they had referred to St. Petersburg. Now, the previous adjournment had taken place on the 26th, so that between that day and the 8th, on which the next meeting took place, a period of thirteen days had elapsed, amply sufficient, one would think, to enable Prince Gortschakoff and his colleague to carry on a lengthened correspondence with Count Nesselrode! When we couple with this circumstance the fact that, although between the period of the last adjournment and the sailing of the Africa another six days had elapsed without our hearing anything further of these instructions, or of any time being fixed for the resumption of the sittings of the conference, we cannot help reiterating the opinion which we recently expressed, that these negotiations have arrived at a dead lock, and will prove an utter failure.

How any other expectations could have been formed from them has been always to us a matter of surprise. The very bases on which they were founded were suggestive of insuperable difficulties. In evincing a disposition to treat on those bases, it is absurd to suppose that Russia was ever actuated by any sincere desire for peace. If we refer back for a moment to the interpretation given by the late Czar to this very third point in the *aide memoire* of the allies, it will be seen that he never had the slightest intention to concede anything which could substantially affect the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea. As this point is but too frequently overlooked in the newspaper discussions to which these negotiations give rise, we think it necessary to revert to the text of the Russian interpretation:—

3. Revision of the treaty of the 13th July, 1841, to attach more completely the existence of the Ottoman empire to the balance of Europe. I do not refuse to come to an understanding in formal conferences for peace on the means which the three courts may propose to put an end to what they call the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea, on condition that, in the choice of these means, there be not one of a nature to infringe upon the rights of sovereignty of my august master on his own territory (*chez lui*.)

How, in face of such a declaration, the allies could hope to come to any understanding consistent with the objects which they professed to have in view, and without which in reality all their efforts and their sacrifices will have been thrown away, it is difficult for people unversed in the resources of diplomatic ingenuity to comprehend. There is no condition which they could insist upon as seriously essential to the reduction of Russian supremacy in the Euxine, which would not have entered within the category of exceptions taken by this clause.

What, then, was the object of the Emperor Nicholas in consenting to treat at all if he was seriously determined to adhere to this interpretation? The motive is apparent. The allies had succeeded in casting loose the ancient ties of friendship and gratitude that had bound Austria to him, and it became necessary for him to do something to win her back again. By consenting to the points affirming the independence of the Principalities and the free navigation of the Danube, he conciliated her material interests, and afforded her a motive for refusing to be a party to any invasion of the integrity of his dominions. This policy Alexander has strictly carried out, and we are much mistaken if the difficulties that have arisen at the present moment in reference to this third point are not owing as much to Austria as to Russia herself. It is well known that the former Power will not consent to the razing of the fortress of Sebastopol, and without that condition no other guarantee can be effective.

Coupling these facts with the extraordinary document in the *Moniteur* to which we have just referred, an inference might certainly be drawn from them in favor of the probabilities of peace. But against that conclusion we have the certainty that Russia will never yield, except to superior force, any condition that will infringe upon her sovereign rights or which will be injurious to her national honor. The allies dare not carry out any negotiation at present which will not deeply wound both. The popular feeling of both England and France would rise in an indignant outburst against such pusillanimous conduct on the part of their rulers. Necessity urges forward nations as well as individuals in the blind path of destiny, and gloomy and terrible as is the prospect, there seems no other alternative left open to the belligerents than to persevere in the course in which their ambition and their cupidity have engaged them.

The Liquor War.

The war begins to-nigh. This evening the prohibitionists are to meet at the Metropolitan theatre to concert measures to carry the Prohibitory Liquor act into effect. It is expected that the Lieutenant Governor will be present, and will deliver a speech in favor of the law as explicit as his letter to Mr. Richardson, and as eloquent as his caucus speech for Seward is said to have been. True, the paper he conducts is shaking in the wind, trying to conciliate the liquor dealers on the one hand and to keep up with the editor's personal declarations on the other; but this is a mere matter of subscriptions and advertisements. The Hon. Henry J. Raymond has too much at stake to allow the threats of a few hotel keepers and wine merchants to frighten him from the stand he has taken. Common decency will not permit him to betray the cause, after his written adhesion to it has raised him to the second place in the gift of the people of New York. No, no: there is no such baseness yet among public men. The Lieutenant Governor will be there, and will say like a man why he helped the liquor law through the Senate, and how it should be enforced. He is none of your double-faced, white-livered turncoats who make any pledge and promise any thing for place, then gulp down promises and pledges and all, when their own ambition has been served, and the hour of trial comes. Not at all: he will be there.

It will certainly be an anomalous spectacle to see the house so lately filled with a good humored audience in search of pleasure and intellectual enjoyment, crammed, as it doubtless will be, with bigots and fanatics with sour and vinegar aspect, glowering and frowning upon each other. There they will be, taking counsel by what shortest method they can utterly ruin an odd hundred thousand of their fellow-citizens. A strange sight! If there were any sense or moderation at all among the temperance fanatics, their first resolution on would be to the effect that, the ignorance of the framers of the Prohibitory law having rendered it wholly inoperative, the agitation was postponed for the present, and would be taken up at the next session of the Legislature. No legal authority of any standing entertains the smallest doubt as to the legal effect of the law; it must in any event be null and void as to foreign liquors, whether the Legislature have or have not the right to prohibit their sale. But the fanatics will not be satisfied with this. They require that the point should be tested, cases made, tried, and carried up to the highest court of the United States, where they will probably be decided—not on the real legal points at issue—but on the blunders of the framers of the law. Hence for three or four months at least, the whole community will be kept in a state of wild excitement: disturbances are not unlikely to occur among those classes who can least brook an interference with their social habits; and all the while, more liquor than ever will be drunk if the sound moral sense of the people does not step in and save them from themselves. The police will be powerless. The Mayor will be powerless. There will be no check or guarantee for the public in the shape of licenses Altogether, the prospect is that New York will be a scene of rioting, drunkenness and profanity during the whole of the controversy.

STILL A CHANCE FOR MR. DICKINSON.—The Putnam County *Courier*, in speaking of the scattered democracy, says:—

Whether a union be effected or not, we hope national democrats will stand firm by their principles, and in the midst of the general fusion and confusion, it is not altogether impossible but that, with such a sterling standard bearer as Hon. Daniel S. Dickinson, they may triumph over all.

"Not altogether impossible!" Modest man. Why not call out your champion, and make him write a letter, if you intend to do anything for him. Bring him out. See how "Live Oak George" is running since they have brought him out.

SQUATTER SOVEREIGNTY—QUEER DOINGS IN KANSAS.—Not satisfied with Gov. Reeder, some of the squatters of Kansas have issued a call for the election of a Governor by the people. Meantime, Gov. Reeder has left for Washington to report progress, it is said, against those recent electioneering transfer caravans of the Missourians. The end of all this business is yet to come. We shall see what Mr. Pierce can do for the Governor meantime.

WHAT'S IN THE WIND.—W. H. Seward is again at the Astor House. It looks curious on the heels of the Maine Liquor law. Who's to be cheated now?

VERY DOUBTFUL IN BOTH CASES.—First, whether Lord Raglan will take Sebastopol; second, whether Com. McCauley will capture a Spanish cruiser. Let the new filibustering legion hold on for a few days. Don't scare off the administration.

HARD TIMES A HUMBUG.—The furniture of Count Foster was sold the other day, when armchairs brought as high as thirty-nine dollars, and china vases a hundred and fifty dollars a piece. Keep up the carnival. No telling what may come next.

THE LATEST NEWS.

BY MAGNETIC AND PRINTING TELEGRAPHS.

Flare-up in Kansas.

GOV. REEDER DEPOSED—A NEW PHASE IN SQUATTER SOVEREIGNTY.

ST. LOUIS, April 25, 1855.

The copy of a handbill, headed "People's Proclamation," is just received from Kansas, dated April 9. It was not circulated until after the departure of Gov. Reeder. It reads as follows:—

Whereas, Gov. Reeder has shown himself incompetent and unfit for the duties of his position; and, whereas, the appointment of a man to the Governorship, without consulting the choice of those to be governed, is an arbitrary exercise of power; the citizens of Kansas have, therefore,

Resolved, To hold an election at Leavenworth on the 28th inst., to elect a person to succeed Governor Reeder, whose removal will be solicited.

Calls have been made for delegates from each district, to meet at Leavenworth on the 28th, to select a suitable person to fill the office, whose name is to be forwarded to the President for appointment.

The California Senatorship.

WASHINGTON, April 25, 1855.

A private letter from California, dated March 31, confidently predicts the re-election of Senator Gwin the first week in April.

Later from Mexico.

NEW ORLEANS, April 25, 1855.

The steamer Orizaba has arrived, with dates from Mexico to the 18th. Several skirmishes have taken place between the insurgents and the government, in which the latter were victorious.

The Liquor Law.

BOSTON, April 25, 1855.

The *Evening Telegraph* states that Mayor Smith has expressed his determination to enforce the new Liquor law, and that he will soon issue a proclamation to that effect.

Removal of Postmaster Kendall.

NEW ORLEANS, April 24, 1855.

It is reported that R. L. Adams, who was appointed to fill the place of Postmaster Kendall, has declined accepting it.

Judge Phelps not Injured.

ROCHESTER, April 25, 1855.

The gentleman injured at Canandaigua on Monday last, was D. Pillsbury, Esq., and not Judge Phelps, as was reported.

Removal of the Pennsylvania Capitol.

HARRISBURG, April 25, 1855.

Resolutions passed the House this afternoon to remove the seat of government to Philadelphia.

The Ship Carpenters at Buffalo on a Strike.

BUFFALO, April 25, 1855.

A slight disturbance was created at the docks here yesterday, in consequence of a strike among the ship carpenters for higher wages. To-day the strikers are better organized, and are parading the streets, accompanied with a band of music. The procession numbers six hundred and fifty men. Some difficulty is apprehended, as the strikers seem disposed to interfere with those who are still at work.

Murder Trial.

POUGHKEEPSIE, April 25, 1855.

The jury in the case of George Lake, the murderer, returned a verdict to-day that he is at present insane. Lake was indicted for the murder of his wife and two children about two years since, and found guilty and sentenced to be hanged, but the Court of Appeals granted him a new trial. He will be sent to the asylum until sane and then be tried again for the offence.

Departure of the America.

BOSTON, April 25, 1855.

The America sailed from this port this afternoon with 148 passengers for Liverpool, and 14 for Halifax. She takes out $878,266 in specie.

The Steamer Southerner.

CHARLESTON, April 24, 1855.

The steamer Southerner arrived here at eight o'clock this morning.

Lake Navigation.

ERIE, April 25, 1855.

The propeller General Taylor has just arrived from Detroit. Navigation is open to this port.

Canal Navigation.

RONDOUT, April 25, 1855.

The Delaware and Hudson canal is open. Some of the boats frozen in the canal last fall arrived here this morning.

Markets.

PHILADELPHIA STOCK BOARD.

PHILADELPHIA, April 25, 1855.

Money unchanged Stocks heavy. Reading, 42⅞; Morris Canal, 14; Long Island Railroad, 16½; Pennsylvania Railroad, 45⅝; Pennsylvania State fives, 87.

NEW ORLEANS, April 24, 1855.

Our cotton market is dull. Prices are easier, but not quotably lower. Sales to-day, 2,500 bales.

CHARLESTON, April 23, 1855.

The cotton market is firm. The sales of the day foot up 1,000 bales, at prices ranging from 8¼c. to 10c

BALTIMORE, April 25, 1855.

Corn has advanced 3c. per bushel. Sales to-day, 20,000 bushels, at $1 10½.

City Intelligence.

THE WORTH LEGION.—There are now nearly one hundred names enrolled at the Cooper House of persons desirous of paying a friendly visit to Cuba. Application has been made to Governor Clark for informal commissions for the officers of the Legion, and it is understood he has expressed himself willing to do so, provided the Legion will enter the first division New York State Militia as ununiformed regiment. The propriety of accepting this offer is to be discussed at the next meeting of the board of officers. It is understood that whatever conclusion is arrived at, the men, as soon as a sufficient number is collected, will be uniformed, and thoroughly drilled. Wherever the money comes from, there is certainly plenty of it in the funds of the Legion; and they are determined to fill up their ranks as soon as possible. Should they ever be engaged in an expedition, they will, no doubt, give as good an account of themselves as did the New York Volunteers.

COMMITTEE OF INVESTIGATION ON THE INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND.—The committee of the Board of Councilmen, of which Dr. Raney is chairman, appointed to investigate the condition of affairs in the Asylum for the Blind, assembled in the committee rooms of the institution yesterday afternoon, and proceeded to their investigation. The committee were shown through the entire building. This committee originates from a petition to the Board of Councilmen, from a large number of blind people stating they are out of work, and asking the city to grant them relief. The committee found but very few people employed in the manufacturing departments of the building, and but little work being done. The reason given by the institution, is, that owing to dull business the institution has run short of funds, not being able to sell its stock. The sales of the institution for the months of January and February, of this year, have been between three and four thousand dollars less than the sales of the same months last year. Owing to this, the institution was compelled to discharge its blind men, who have appealed to the city for assistance. The institution has on hand now about twelve thousand dollars worth of manufactured stock, and if they could sell this, they would be enabled again to employ the blind who are suffering for want of work. This stock consists of rugs, mattings, handboxes, carpets, all manufactured from the very best material, and in the best manner. Will not our wholesale tradesmen, in their purchases, give the preference to this institution, and by this means give work and relief again to a hundred or more poor blind men and their families.

FIRE IN AVENUE B.—On Tuesday night, shortly before 12 o'clock, a fire occurred in the segar store of S. Brand, at No. 12 avenue B. A servant woman, named Emilie Seppsitz, was in the store at the time; the smoke was seen coming from the top of the door. Some of the neighbors rushed into the store, and with a pail or two of water extinguished the fire. It was noticed that fire was burning in two distinct places in the store—suspicion was aroused, and Lieut Hicks, of the Seventeenth ward police, ordered the woman into custody, on suspicion of setting the store on fire. Mr. Brand has an insurance of $500 on his stock and fixtures, in the Granite Insurance Company. The stock in the store is estimated at less than $200. The woman was taken before Justice Welsh, who detained her to await the investigation of the Fire Marshal.

A PRESENTATION.—A handsome silver pitcher was presented yesterday to Mr. George Kellock, Clerk of the Board of Ten Governors, by the employes in that department under his charge. It is a tastefully ornamented piece of work, and is alike creditable to the givers and the receiver.

ITALIAN OPERA—WILLIAM TELL.—The eighth performance of "William Tell" drew a fine house last night, despite the *dolce far niente* tendency of the weather during the day, and the showers which fell towards evening. The house was not a fashionable one, in the strict sense of the term, and we presume that the *habitués* of the opera are holding themselves in reserve for a grand *coup* on the last night, Friday. The performance was a very meritorious one. All the artists sang and acted as if their hearts were in the brilliant and elaborate music and the stirring libretto. The next opera is the "Trovatore of Verdi," which is to be produced on Monday.

The Fire Department Committee.

NEW ASSISTANT ENGINEERS—ENGINE COMPANY NO. 17 SUSPENDED—THE CHIEF ENGINEER CENSURED—CASE OF ENGINE COMPANY NO. 47 POSTPONED.

The Fire Department Committee of the Board of Aldermen met in the City Hall, at half-past 6 o'clock last evening—Alderman Howard in the chair.

The committee called up the consideration of the late resolution of the Board, with regard to the propriety of reporting an ordinance appointing four Assistant Engineers for districts in the upper part of the city, running as far as Harlem.

The CHAIRMAN explained the nature of the suggestion with respect to the securing the services of engineers for these districts, as by the plan of general election they may be left unrepresented at the meeting of the Fire Department Board. He would be happy to hear suggestions from any of the department on the subject.

Mr. THOMPSON, foreman of No. 53 hose, would prefer that the Committee of the Fire Department should carry the plan into effect themselves. Their committee had already considered it, and he thought that they would report a suitable ordinance. He thought that it would be more proper for legislation to emanate from the Board of Engineers and Firemen. They had already prepared the heads of the ordinance, and were only waiting for the new edition of the collated laws of the department in order to perfect the law they proposed. They proposed two engineers for Harlem, instead of one.

It was decided that the committee would report in favor of referring the resolution to the Committee of Engineers, with the suggestion of adding one engineer for Manhattanville, and having two in Harlem.

Mr. LEVERICK, of No. 7 hose, stated a case against Hook and Ladder No. 12 building a new house on a corporation lot, in the neighborhood of Fourth avenue and Thirteenth street, as its limits were not properly defined. He exhibited a copy of a ground plan from the Comptroller's office in order to show that the city did not with good title own the plot alongside the house of hose No. 7. He wanted to be made certain that No. 12's company would not pull down the house of No. 7.

The committee decided not to take any action in the matter.

Mr. HARRISON, foreman of engine No. 17, attended with respect to the charge of Engine Company No. 44, which was partially heard by the committee at its previous sitting. He had not his roll book with him, but stated that all the men, except James Richards, were out on the night in question, the 17th of February, and that the company numbered thirty-one members.

JOHN WHITE, of engine company No. 17, sworn—Is assistant foreman; was at the fire in East Broadway on 17th of February; met No. 44, and when on the sidewalk he was assaulted by one of the men of No. 44; he chased him off, and then two other men attacked him; they fell down, but he did not strike them; the foreman was ahead at the time; he did not see the men struck; he did not strike the men with a trumpet; he struck at them, but could not say if he hit any person.

Mr. HARRISON, of engine No. 44, was called out during the muss, and saw men belonging to No. 17 first assaulting his men; they stopped the jumper of No. 17 first.

PETER MALONEY, of No. 44, swore that Mr. White, of engine No. 17, knocked him down with his trumpet on that night.

ABRAHAM BLOOM was examined on the part of engine No. 17, for the purpose of showing that the men of No. 44 were the aggressors.

LEWIS JONES, of No. 44, swore that No. 17 were the assailants; he picked up Maloney's cap.

After a good deal of swearing on both sides, the committee decided that all the privates of engine company No. 17 (with the exception of James Richards) should be suspended for three months, and the officers, foreman and assistant for six months.

The CHAIRMAN announced that in the case of Engine Company No. 33, vs. Alfred Carson, Chief Engineer, the committee was compelled to decide that the Chief Engineer was wrong in refusing No. 33 their engine, and thus disobeying a resolution of the Common Council, sanctioned by the Mayor—a proceeding he was not justified in,

The case of Engine Company No. 47, was postponed until next Wednesday, when a decision will be given.

The committee adjourned to next Wednesday evening.

Fire Marshal's Investigations.

ATTEMPT TO BURN THE ST. LOUIS HOTEL—ARREST ON SUSPICION OF ARSON—REMARKABLE DEVELOPEMENTS ATTENDING THE CASE.

A fire occurred in the St. Louis Hotel, No. 103 Chambers street, on Monday morning, between 3 and 4 o'clock, the 23d inst. It was discovered in a bedroom on the first floor of the rear building. The Fire Marshal's examination of the premises on the morning of the fire showed conclusively the burning to have been the act of an incendiary, the main facts of which have already been published, in reference to the means used by the incendiary to effect arson. It will be recollected the wall of the unoccupied house adjoining, on Church street, had been broken through in two places, thus giving access to the underneath flooring of the hotel premises, in which had been lodged a quantity of small sticks of pine kindling wood, to which the match had been applied. The fire had burnt through the floor, and was extending rapidly through the room when discovered. The alarm was given, and the firemen arriving in good season, extinguished the flames. The Fire Marshal, from certain facts elicited during a brief examination, was led to suspect that Henry Hart, a young man formerly porter in the hotel, was in some way cognizant of the burning of the premises; and accordingly measures were taken to ascertain his whereabouts, and on Tuesday he was taken into custody, under the following order issued by Judge Stuart:—

This will authorize Alfred E. Baker (the Fire Marshal) to take and keep in custody Henry Hart, charged with a felony. It is also to direct that officers Martindale and Hervy shall act, aid and assist Mr. Baker in the discovery of evidence tending to implicate the said Hart in the offence of which he stands accused. S. H. STUART, City Judge.

APRIL 24, 1855.

On the above warrant of commitment, Mr. Baker conveyed Hart to the Third ward police station house, there placed him in the custody of Lieut. Goodenow, and procured the services of Sergeant Martindale. It will be well to show here that on the 3d of April, Mr. Haskins, the proprietor of the hotel, discharged Hart from his service. A dissatisfaction took place on the part of Hart on his discharge in reference to the wages. Hart claimed $10 a month, and Mr. Haskins contended he was only entitled to $6 a month; at any rate the latter amount was all Mr. Haskins paid him, and the following receipt was signed by Hart:—

COPY OF RECEIPT.

NEW YORK, April 3, 1855.

Received of M. L. Hart payment in full for work, from December 1 to April 3, 1855. H. HART.

Mr L. Hart is the name of the bookkeeper and agent in the employ of Mr. Haskins. On the night of the 3d instant, the door of the wine cellar was forced open, and the faucets of the brandy and gin casks turned on, letting the liquor escape into the cellar, destroying about $300 worth. Suspicion at once rested on Hart, as he was known to have made some indirect threats against Mr. Haskins. Howevever no notice was taken by Mr. Haskins in reference to the loss of the liquor; the servants in the house were not cognizant of it; as by keeping it a secret, Mr. Haskins believed something would develope itself, whereby the guilty party could be brought to justice. Accordingly, one day last week, Mr. Hart, the bookkeeper of the hotel, received an anonymous letter by the pennypost, of which the following is a copy:—

NEW YORK, April 14, 1855.

DEAR SIR—I deem it necessary to inform you for the good of all parties, that if you had paid what you owed, your "brandy and gin" would have been saved. For it is a sin that cries to heaven for vengeance to defraud laborers of their wages.

P. S. We shall meet again when and where you least expect it. G. ****

Directed—Moses L. Hart. St. Louis Hotel, 101 and 103 Chambers street, New York.

On the inspection of this letter, the similarity of the writing to that of Henry Hart led the proprietor of the hotel to suspect Hart to be the person who wilfully destroyed the liquor, and accordingly he went before Justice Connolly and entered a complaint, and a warrant was issued for Hart's arrest on a charge of malicious mischief, but the officer holding the warrant, not knowing his whereabouts, failed to make an arrest. On Tuesday morning the Fire Marshal called on Justice Connolly in reference to the case, and asked the magistrate to see the letter supposed to have been written by Hart. On inspection of the letter Mr. Baker discovered a stamp of a public office on the envelope. This fact at once satisfied the Marshal that Hart was the author of the letter. He then proceeded to Hart's lodging room in Leonard street, accompanied by Sergeant Martindale; they there found two trunks and two carpet bags. In one of the trunks was found several envelopes of the size, and bearing a similar office stamp to the one enclosing the anonymous letter. In this trunk there was also found two handsome coats, a pair of pantaloons and a vest, together with a lot of valuable books. In the other trunk was found upwards of $30 in gold and silver, an opera glass, a gold watch and chain, a gold bracelet, pair of gold sleeve studs, and three breastpins. All these articles were taken charge of by the police, and subsequently claimed by the boarders of the St. Louis Hotel, the articles having been stolen from their rooms during the time Hart was employed in the hotel as porter. From the fact of the anonymous letter having been traced to Hart as the author, and the self-evident fact that whoever committed the arson was well acquainted with the premises, together with other facts and circumstances, throws the suspicion of the authorities on the accused, who is now in close custody on the charge. The investigation by the Fire Marshal is progressing.

Personal Intelligence.

Senator William H. Seward is at the Astor.

DEPARTURES.

For Richmond, &c., in the steamship Roanoke—E. Richardson, J. F. Burroughs, John Elliott, Henry Schaffer, Jacob Nottingham, A. P. Vosburg and lady, Jacob R. Velk and lady, Charles Middleton, Miss Johnson, E. Kirtland, T. Peck, W. B. Simpson and lady, Mrs. Irvan, Charles M. Clark, Alexander McDougall, George Peacey, lady and child; A. J. Ward, David Molenaar, Mrs. Margaret Hare and child, John Parks and lady, George Culver, J. H. Davison, and 17 in the steerage.

For Savannah in the steamer Alabama—James A. Demour, C. Sharp, J. M. Harris, William O. Price, J. C. Brown, E. F. Lasak and lady, Albert Brett, Capt. F. Z. Tucker, E. Durand Mrs H. Robinson and 2 children, C. B. Churchill, Miss C. M. Corker, W. Lamont, Edward Frost and lady, J. F. Winslow, and 6 steerage.

From Havre, in ship North Wind—Mr Mouns, Mr Lesneur, Madam Lesneur, Miss E Lesneur, Mr Mounarst, Mr Arelburg, Mr Sheible, Miss Mary Sheible, Miss R Weser.

Jersey City Intelligence.

FATAL RAILROAD ACCIDENT.—Last evening as the 8 o'clock Newark train was on its way to Jersey City, it ran over an unknown man who was walking upon the track about two miles from Newark, and broke both of his legs and cut his head severely. He was taken on board of the train, and while on his way to the New York Hospital, died just after he had been taken across the Jersey City ferry. He had on a very long gray overcoat, such as is often worn by Irish emigrants. He could not speak after he was injured.

THE NATIONAL TELEGRAPH LINE, between this city and New Orleans, has been placed in excellent order, and dispatches its business with commendable promptness. Yesterday the Africa's news was placed in New Orleans by this line, and was published in the regular evening journals connected with the associated press, in that and all other cities between Nova Scotia and Louisiana.

Sale of Pews in the Fourth Avenue Presbyterian Church.

The pews in the Fourth avenue Presbyterian Church, of which Rev. Dr. Parker is pastor, were put up for sale at auction last evening, and the privilege of selection disposed of at a premium on the minimum price of each. The terms were one-third cash, one-third in six months, one-third in twelve months, with interest from the day of sale, and the scrip not to be issued till the day of final payment. The sale was conducted by H. H. Leeds, auctioneer. There were not more than a hundred persons present, and the premiums ranged from $5 to $25. The following are the prices of the pews, their numbers, the names of the purchasers, and the premiums paid for them:—

No. Pew.	Price of Pew.	Prem.	Purchasers.
107	$400	$25	Mr. Fitch.
5	110	20	Mr. Skiddy.
85	1,000	15	Dr. Post.
86	1,000	15	Dr. Post.
58	1,000	15	Mr. Wheeler.
45	800	10	Mr. J. M. Talbot.
46	800	10	Mr. J. M. Talbot.
47	800	10	Mr. J. M. Talbot.
10	450	10	Mr. J. M. Talbot.
3	50	10	Mr. J. M. Talbot.
87	1,000	5	Mr. Sackett.
98	800	5	Mr. Conklin.
123	400	5	Mr. Stoun.
120	250	5	Mr. P. S. Thompson.
106	500	5	Mr. Smyth.
100	800	5	Capt. Brumway.

About half a dozen were taken at par, and at the conclusion of the sale notice was given that the pews would be disposed of by the Trustees at the prices marked on the diagram of the church, and which varied from $30 to $1,000.

Superior Court—Part Second.

Before Hon. Judge Campbell and a Jury.

THE DEMOCRATIC GENERAL COMMITTEE OF 1852 RESURRECTED AND AT THE BAR OF JUSTICE.

APRIL 25.—*Joseph W. Howard and Chas. Brown, vs. Theodore Martine and others.*—The trial of this cause was resumed this morning by the introduction, on the part of the plaintiffs, of the original bill of items upon which the action was first brought. There was a goodly attendance of the "faithful," who seemed, apparently, to enjoy the exhumation of their doings during that memorable campaign with considerable gusto. The plaintiffs' counsel having rested,

Mr. D. D. Field, on the part of defendant Martine, moved to dismiss the complaint, on the alleged ground that they had failed to prove any