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JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR AND EDITOR.

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ADVERTISEMENTS received every day.

Volume XX, No. 396

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway—LADY OF LYONS—MR. GARDNER'S BURLESQUE PARTY.

NEW YORK GARDEN, Broadway—MRS. PIERCE—CINDERELLA.

BOVEY THEATRE, Bovey—REARMOUL—SAILOR OF FRANCE.

BURTON'S THEATRE, Chambers Street—THE MAN OF MANY FRIENDS—JOHN OF BARRIS.

WALTON'S THEATRE, Broadway—THE MAN OF MANY FRIENDS—JOHN OF BARRIS.

METROPOLITAN THEATRE, Broadway—LA CLAY DE MALAGA—LA LEIDA HERNANDEZ—SAN JUAN DE ALBARRAN.

THEATRE DE LA BOULEVARD, Boulevard—THE MAN OF MANY FRIENDS—JOHN OF BARRIS.

WOOD'S MINSTRELS, 444 Broadway.

BUCKLEY'S BURLESQUE OPERA HOUSE, 530 Broadway—BURLESQUE OPERA AND BURLESQUE THEATRE.

MELANCHOLY HALL, 472 Broadway—PROF. MACHALAN'S BURLESQUE OPERA AND BURLESQUE THEATRE.

EMPIRE HALL—TOWN OF ESCAPE—SIEGE OF SEBASTOPOL.

New York, Saturday, October 27, 1855.

The News.

The European mails brought by the steamer Africa reached this city yesterday afternoon. The letters will be ready for delivery at the Post Office this morning. Financial affairs formed the principal topic of discussion in the London press prior to the departure of the steamer; and in order that our readers may be well informed upon this important subject, we have devoted a large portion of our space to-day to the reproduction of articles from our foreign files, treating the question of the present and prospective condition of monetary matters in every conceivable phase of fact, suggestion and speculation. Of war news we have nothing of importance that was not embraced in our telegraphic summaries published on Thursday and yesterday. All Europe was anxiously waiting for intelligence of the bombardment of Odesa. We may, therefore, confidently look for exciting accounts by the next arrival. The letter of our correspondent at Madrid is very interesting. The Cortes opened on the 1st inst. A lively session was expected. The apprehended alliance with the Allies would, it was understood, meet with energetic opposition. A change in the cabinet was regarded as inevitable. The sale of the lands of the clergy proceeded quietly and profitably, notwithstanding all purchasers were threatened by the Pope and priests with unpleasant consequences in the world to come.

We have news from Venezuela to the 4th inst. Our private letters from Caracas are to the 28th ult., and from Lagunera to the 2d inst. Col. Ramon Soto, aide-de-camp to Santa Anna, had arrived at Caracas, to obtain the permission of the Venezuelan government to allow the ex-Dictator of Mexico to land and reside near the capital of Venezuela. It was thought that President Monagas would refuse the application. In that case Santa Anna would be compelled to proceed to his old estate near Cartagena. Our letters state that the cholera was raging in various parts of Venezuela, and that thirty to forty deaths occurred daily at Caracas.

We have received a brief telegraphic despatch from New Orleans, stating that later advices from Mexico report that Gen. Alvarez had resigned the Presidency, and that Gen. Comonfort had been chosen in his place. This event has been expected for some time, and will create no surprise. We have Tampico dates to the 4th inst. The news is interesting. A portion of the citizens had made an attempt to abolish the Ceballos tariff by vote. This was resisted by the majority of the people with success. They also held a meeting and appointed a new town council, as they thought that the old members had conspired with the factionists. Before the news of the Alvarez election had reached Tampico much anarchy prevailed in the city, and Gen. Juan B. Tracinio had assumed the military command of the place. The British brig Faithful was burned outside the bar of Tampico—no lives lost. From the Bahamas we have files of Nassau (N. P.) papers to the 4th inst. The news is unimportant. The report of the fall of Sebastopol was received on the 6th, and caused much popular rejoicing. Benjamin Butler, chief clerk in the dry goods store of Palacios & Company, was drowned near Hog Island on the 4th inst. Several military deserters confined in Nassau prison had made a desperate assault on a deputy keeper, and then attempted an escape, but they failed.

We have news from Santa Fe, New Mexico, to the 1st inst. Mr. Gallegos had been re-elected delegate to Congress. The Indians had ceased their depredations, and a treaty had been agreed to by the Apaches. The famous Kit Carson, who has been acting as Indian agent for the government, had been suspended from his duties. Owing to several telegraph reports having been received yesterday from various sections of the cotton region, of a killing frost having occurred very extensively over the country, the market became excited, and the sales embraced between 4,000 and 5,000 bales. The market recovered nearly all the previous decline. Flour opened firm, at the previous day's prices, but was less buoyant at the close. Wheat was in good demand for export, and good rice was firmer, while other descriptions were without important change in prices. Corn closed at 50c, a 9/16c; the chief sales, however, were made at the inside figure. Pork was rather active, but prices were without material variation. Freight was firm, with fair engagements. To Liverpool, about 30,000 to 40,000 bushels grain were engaged in bulk and bags, at 11c a 1 1/2c.

The proceedings of the United States Agricultural Society at Boston yesterday were unusually interesting. The number of visitors is estimated at fifty thousand. In the afternoon two thousand persons partook of a banquet, under a magnificent display of tent, at which speeches were delivered by half a dozen distinguished gentlemen, among whom were Edward Everett and Robert C. Winthrop. We give full reports of the remarks of these eminent speakers, and also an account of the affair, which was one of the most brilliant ever witnessed in this country. The exhibition closes to-day with three grand rotting matches.

The Daily Reformed Synod adjourned sine die yesterday. The question of the admission of the North American Classis, which was laid on the table the day previous, was called up again, and elicited another very able and able debate upon slavery. It was finally settled by the majority ordering the slaveholders out of the house. A report of the discussion may be found in another column.

The members of the bench and bar will meet this morning at ten o'clock, to express their views on the loss of the community Java sustained in the death of Judge Morris, of the Supreme Court. The case of Passmore Williamson was yesterday again brought before Judge Kane, of the United States District Court, at Philadelphia, on an application for leave to read a petition from the respondent. Permission was granted counsel to argue the point whether the court could hear a petition embracing a narrative of facts, or arguing reasons in favor of the release of an individual imprisoned by the necessary legal action of the court, and the argument was proceeded with.

The Presidential Election—A Blast from the Cabinet Organ—The Democratic Party.

The Washington Union has favored us with a leader upon the next Presidency, in which the whole issue is narrowed down to a contest upon the slavery question, and in which it is finally declared that the only party of safety to the constitution and the Union is, and will be, the national democratic party. Now, as we understand it, the Washington Union is the avowed organ of the Pierce administration; and when it speaks of the national democratic party it means that democratic party of Northern free soilers and Southern secessionists set up by Mr. President Pierce in the appointment of his Cabinet, his Ministers abroad, his Custom House officers, and other subordinates. It is this mixed commission of spoliens, of which the Cabinet is the basis, that the Washington organ is speaking about when it tells us that our only reliance is the democratic party. This being the case, the question is next suggested, what prospect is there for the democratic party entering into the Presidential contest upon the acts and the merits of our present delectable democratic administration? Upon this precise point we propose briefly to fill up the principal hiatus in the twaddling harangue of the Cabinet organ.

First, then, we undertake to say that there is a general impression, scarcely less than a universal resolution, as by common consent, among the masses of the democracy, North and the South, that Mr. Pierce, his Cabinet and his administration, are done for—that they are to be ignored and superseded in the campaign of '56 by a new democratic shuffle and cut—a new ticket from the national convention at Cincinnati. This we verily believe is the general understanding among the masses of the democratic party. Rebellion has broken up the party, and it continues broken up to this day, upon this absurd test of fidelity to Mr. Pierce and his Cabinet. This defection has gone so far that even Col. Forney must be aware that the Tylerizing of Mr. Pierce is the first essential to the reunion of the great but scattered democratic family. We dare say that Mr. John Cochrane, who, in grateful consideration of his fat office, "carries the President in his arms," has no more idea of a re-nomination of Mr. Pierce, or of the nomination of any member of his Cabinet for the succession, than has Benjamin F. Butler or Preston King, who have abandoned both the Cabinet and Kitchen Cabinet, and enlisted in the Seward Holy Abolition Alliance.

It is manifest on every hand that the campaign of '56 will hinge upon the slavery question; it is altogether probable that the democratic party will be reorganized upon a conservative platform against the sectional crusade of Seward and the black republicans. But slavery will not be the sole issue of the contest. There will be some practical administrative questions involved in it, such as the necessity of retrenchment and reform in the disbursement of the spoils of the Treasury—reform in our diplomatic appointments, and in our foreign policy; and a reform embracing something more of moral courage, consistency and honesty in our domestic affairs than anything which has signalized the Presidential career of the chief of New Hampshire. And as the democratic party can realize nothing but a dead loss in endorsing the Koszta letter, the Cuban diplomacy of Mr. Pierce, or the bombardment of Greytown; and as the dispensation of the spoils since the 4th of March, 1853 from the appointment of Marcy and Jeff Davis to the dismissal of Reeder, is a sore subject, none of these things will be available democratic capital for the succession. They must all, therefore, be publicly repudiated or quietly ignored at the Cincinnati reunion of the scattered detachments of the democratic church.

We close, accordingly, with an amendment to the Presidential manifesto of the Cabinet organ. It says there is but one party that does or can defend the constitution and the Union against the anti-slavery disunionists, and that that is the national democratic party. Our amendment is that the first essential to the reunion and success of this party is some definite repudiation of Mr. Pierce, his Cabinet and his administration. The party expect it; the Cincinnati Convention must fulfill this expectation or be certainly defeated. This is the great democratic issue. What says the Washington Union?

MR. WISE ON HARD SHELLS, SOFT SHELLS AND HALF SHELLS—A MOST LEARNED EXPLANATION.—Hon. H. A. Wise of Va., electrified the hard shells and their late Metropolitan ratification, with a long, enthusiastic letter on democratic principles, recognizing the hard and their Syracuse platform, as embodying the genuine principles of the true democratic faith. But the gem of this long and ecstatic letter is a learned description of the mutations of the crab from the hard shell to the soft, and vice versa. Read it:—

You must not wonder that your democratic friends in Virginia are often confused by names and things in New York. We wish to see a united democracy there, and we wish to see the friends of democracy in New York and soft, and half shells, and the ideas we form of them are best illustrated by a subject of natural history. We have a crab, a sea fish, with fins and claws at both ends, and it can run either end foremost. Like him this is the hard shell, and it is called a "hard shell" because it is hard, and it is called a "soft shell" because it is soft, and it is called a "half shell" because it is half hard and half soft. In that state it is the hard crab proper. At another time, catch him and crack his claw—when he is half hard and half soft, and you will find that he will separate and can be detached from the inner shell or from the claws. He is then called the "soft shell" because he is soft, and he is called a "half shell" because he is half hard and half soft. In that state he is the half crab, and it is called a "half shell" because it is half hard and half soft. In that state he is the half crab, and it is called a "half shell" because it is half hard and half soft.

The ALDERMAN HERRICK CASE.—The result of the trial of Alderman Herrick is just what every one expected; or if they did, that the case would proceed to a termination without some nullifying incident. Of the offence charged against the Alderman we are now bound according to the common law to consider him innocent; for after a full and fair trial, he has not been proved to be guilty. The fact is not very flattering to the jurisprudence of the age; but such as it is, we must take it.

The moral of the whole business is, first, that laws against corruption and legal machinery to carry them into effect cannot be relied upon to check the vice. Corrupt men are never so utterly friendless as to be caught and punished. They may be accused and even brought to trial; but it is as certain as the diurnal motion of the earth that before the penalty is inflicted some accident will occur to release them from custody and suspicion. Corruption, it is to be hoped, will only be met hereafter in the manner in which such vices should be corrected—namely, by the general reprobation of the community as testified at the ballot box. Those who seek to have an honest city government or State government will next week discover what honest men are upon the tickets, and will vote for them irrespective of party. The other lesson taught by the Herrick case is that Grand Jurors must be more careful in

ly changed from soft to a hard shell, as we presume, the late speech of Prince John Van Buren, at Oswego (who has been hard, peeler, buster and soft), will convince him. Mr. Wise is great as a political letter writer, but his proper vocation is natural history; and we hope he will next enlighten us concerning "that same old oom." Gen. Webb says he is dead—Corporal Brooks says he "still lives." What says Mr. Wise?

PRIVILEGED CLASSES—A NEW TACK.—Gov. Seward rubs nearer to the wind than any other political navigator in this country. He navigated the higher law plank right in among the breakers of the Constitution, and he is now astride of "the privileged classes"—the slaveholders of the South. There are plenty of dough faces who believe that Mr. Seward is a great hypocrite and demagogue in this instance, as in nearly all others where he has moved forward in advance of his abolition associates with a new theory. He has discovered that the slaveholders are a privileged class in this republic of absolute freedom; and he proposes that the higher law shall be applied, like Murat's scythe of equality, to cut off all heads down to the negro level. After hearing so much of the slave oligarchy, the slave power, and its fierce aggressions, it was natural to expect that somebody would find a privileged class. That it has existed in the country for more than seventy years—speaking freely by its press and in the halls of legislation—that its labor has entered into the common field of production, and its fruits into the pockets of every Northern manufacturer, importer and jobber—that it has paid its taxes into the general treasury—that it even fought the battles of the Revolution, and furnished its ablest generals and some of its wisest counselors—that it entered into a political compact with the dough faces for a perpetual union of the States on settled principles of reciprocal interest—it is, perhaps, a little strange that this privileged class was not sooner discovered. But it must be remembered that it is only once in an age that mankind is furnished with such statesmen as Seward and such philosophers and patriots as Greeley and Garrison.

Those who consented to allow three-fifths of the negroes to be counted as a basis of representation in Congress, and covenanted to surrender fugitive slaves, and made these covenants a part of the organic laws of the republic, were dough faces; and those who secured those covenants were a privileged class. Since then we have grown wiser, and but for the effort on our part—on the part of the abolitionists—to set aside our obligations, to refuse to fulfill our contracts, we should say more honest. At this point there is a little confusion. The wisdom of the abolitionists has given us the higher law, a blessed dispensation intended to repeal such provisions of the federal constitution as may conflict with either our interests or our prejudices; but it is a misfortune that three-fourths of the North and the entire South believe that dispensation to rank exactly on a par with those of Joe Smith and Brigham Young, and to proceed from the same ethereal fountain as Fourierism and the delectable free love concern which lately enjoyed the attention of the police, and which Greeley has so perseveringly attempted to introduce in this community. But aside from the constitution and the higher law, Mr. Seward is positive that he has found a privileged class. For instance, the slaveholders regard their slaves as property, three-fifths of whom are counted as a basis of representation in Congress. Here is an exclusive and a peculiar privilege at once; as in the free States population alone is a basis of representation.

In the North, free negroes, who are generally useless members of society—who are proscribed by the laws, degraded in the social scale—are thus counted in the population and represented in Congress. The North is the nursery of emigration. It receives thousands and hundreds of thousands, many of whom do not understand our language—more know nothing of our institutions, have no right to vote, but are still a part of our population and represented in Congress. Now, if this is no offset to the three-fifths basis of slave representation in the South, it is a fact which goes far to show the equities of our political system and the equivalents secured to all parties by its theory and its practice. But let us suppose that Virginia abolishes slavery. She has five hundred thousand slaves—three hundred thousand of whom are counted in her Congressional census. It is clear that if she should abolish slavery she would be entitled to two more members. The same principle applied to the entire slave States would give them more than twenty additional members. It would appear from this practical showing that Mr. Seward's "privileged class" is not much of an affair, after all. His remedy would add to their privileges without changing the character of the population. In truth, the North have a decided advantage in the organization of the government. Labor constitutes an essential part of government everywhere; and it will be remembered that in the North its entire labor and its great asylum of European emigration, its vagrants and its paupers, are represented in Congress, while the "privileged class" of the South has only three-fifths of its orderly and most productive labor counted.

THE FRENCH CONSUL, at this port, in accordance with instructions from his government, publishes a card reminding the merchants of Boston of the risk they will incur in purchasing Russian built ships at this point. The following is the French regulation upon the subject:—

SHIPS OF HOSTILE ORIGIN, or which have been the property of the enemy, are not to be reputed neutrals or allies unless authentic acts issued by public officers are found on board certifying that the date of the sale made to some subject of the allied power or to a neutral was before the beginning of hostilities, and unless these acts of transfer are locally registered at the office of the principal officer of the French at this port of exhibition, and signed by such officer or his deputy.

THE CASE OF PASSMORE WILLIAMSON. PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 25, 1855. Messrs. Meredith and Gilpin again applied to the United States District Court to-day for permission to read a petition from Passmore Williamson.

MR. VAN DYKE opened the reading, and Judge Kane refused to hear any petition from Williamson except one for permission to purge himself from contempt of court. After considerable discussion the Judge granted the respondents leave to argue the question whether the Court can hear a petition arguing in favor of his release from a person in contempt. Mr. Gilpin opened the argument and was followed by Mr. Meredith. The case is to be continued to-morrow morning.

DEATHS DELINGS. BOSTON, Oct. 26, 1855. The Rev. Mr. Worrell, a Baptist minister, of Melrose, of some celebrity, while passing over Charlestown bridge, a few days since, was so badly injured by coming in contact with a wagon that he died yesterday. He was an eloquent preacher.

DEATH OF JUDG WHIFFLE, OF MICHIGAN. DETROIT, Oct. 25, 1855. The Hon. Charles W. Whipple, Justice of our Supreme Court, died in this city this evening.

DEATH OF AN EDITOR. MONROEVILLE, Oct. 26, 1855. Wm. D. Starr, for thirty three years editor and proprietor of the Sentinel and Witness, died here this morning of disease of the heart. He retired last night to bed in his usual health, with the exception of a slight cold, and was found dead by his wife at 6 o'clock this morning. Mr. Starr held the office of Collector at this port. He leaves a wife and seven children.

Interesting from Mexico. REPORTED RESIGNATION OF ALVAREZ AND ELECTION OF COMONFORT TO THE PRESIDENCY. ALVAREZ. NEW ORLEANS, Oct. 25, 1855. Later advices from Mexico report that General Alvarez, owing to his advanced years and feeble health, had resigned the Presidency, and that General Comonfort had been chosen in his place.

NEWS FROM ST. THOMAS. BOSTON, Oct. 26, 1855. We have dates from St. Thomas, via Halifax, to the 23d inst. Some Anna had recently paid a visit to that island, accompanied by his daughter and a numerous suite. He was waited upon by the Governor and all the leading dignitaries of the island. The United States Consul also paid his respects to the ex-President of Mexico.

NEWS FROM NEW MEXICO. ST. LOUIS, Oct. 25, 1855. The Santa Fe mail arrived at Independence on the 22d inst., with dates to the 1st of October. Mr. Gallegos had been re-elected delegate to Congress. There was a strong anti-American feeling prevalent in the country.

ADDITIONAL FROM THE PLAINS. ST. LOUIS, Oct. 25, 1855. We have received dates from Fort Laramie to the 20th ult. Colonel Cooke has been ordered to the command at Fort Riley. General Harney was to leave Laramie on the 29th, to establish a fort at White Earth River, with a view of chastising the Minnesota Indians, the most hostile tribe in the country.

THE CANADA OUTWARD BOUND. HALIFAX, Oct. 26, 1855. The Cunard steamship Canada arrived here from Boston at 4 o'clock this morning, and sailed again at 5 o'clock for Liverpool.

THE WINTER FASHIONS. THE FURS WORN BY THE LADIES OF NEW YORK. NOTHING marks the change of seasons so unmistakably as the display of goods in the different business streets of the city, and at the present moment a five minutes' walk in any given direction will prove conclusively that winter is coming.

AMERICAN MASS MEETING AT ALBANY. ALBANY, Oct. 26, 1855. A large and enthusiastic meeting was held at the Capitol this evening, to ratify the nominations of the American party. Erastus Brooks, of New York, and S. G. Haven, of Buffalo, were the principal speakers.

AMERICAN MASS MEETING AT UTICA. UTICA, Oct. 26, 1855. The American party held a meeting here, at Court Hall, to-night. About 400 people were present. Mr. Hammond delivered an address, which was enthusiastically received.

AMERICAN JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS. COLD SPRING, N. Y., Oct. 26, 1855. The Americans at Peekkill to-day nominated Charles Ganun, of Putnam county, for Justice of the Sessions Court for the Second Judicial District.

MANCHESTER POLITICS. BOSTON, Oct. 26, 1855. The whigs of Suffolk county had their ratification meeting in Faneuil Hall this evening. Between two and three thousand persons were present.

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