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PROPRIETOR AND EDITOR.

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Volume XXI.....No. 66

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway—HERNE THE HUNTER, OR THE FOREST FIEND AND THE DEMON HORSE.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway—THE SCHOOLMASTER—TERPSICHORE—ELF KING.

BURTON'S THEATRE, Chambers street—URGENT PRIVATE AFFAIRS—WINTER'S TALE.

LAURA KEENE'S VARIETIES, Broadway—TWO LOVES AND A LIFE—NOVELTY.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway—GAME OF LIFE—THE REVIEW.

BROADWAY VARIETIES, 472 Broadway—BLACK EYED SUSAN—WANDERING MINSTREL—BY THE JUVENILE COMEDIANS.

WOOD'S MINSTRELS, 444 Broadway—ETHIOPIAN PERFORMANCES—HAPPY MAN, OR TREATY WITH JAPAN.

BUCKLEY'S BURLESQUE OPERA HOUSE, 539 Broadway—NEGRO MINSTRELSY—COURT OF ICE-BURG.

BROADWAY ATHENÆUM, 654 Broadway—PANORAMIC PICTURES OF CHINA AND JAPAN.

BROADWAY TABERNACLE, Broadway—STEPHEN H. BRANCH'S ORATION AND CONCERT.

New York, Friday, March 7, 1856.

The News.

The steamship Africa is now in her thirteenth day out from Liverpool. She brings three days later European news.

We publish to-day a complete programme of the Paris Conferences, including the basis of negotiations, a map of the proposed rectification of the Russo-Turkish frontier, affecting the freedom of the Danube, and interesting biographical sketches of all the members of the Congress. These details will assist our readers materially in comprehending the points that may arise from time to time in the course of these important deliberations, and the views taken of them by the respective plenipotentiaries. The antecedents of some of the latter will surprise those who are not familiar with the elements of which modern diplomacy is constituted.

In the United States Senate yesterday Mr. Brown introduced a bill providing for the construction of a railroad and telegraph line from a point on the Mississippi river south of latitude 37 to the Pacific at San Francisco. It was referred to the special committee on the Pacific Railroad. The bill making the ordinary appropriations for fortifications was passed. The bill providing for new works of defence was laid aside. A resolution directing the Committee on Foreign Affairs to consider the expediency of reporting a bill effectually abrogating the treaty with Denmark, and repudiating the payment of the Sound dues, was adopted. In the opinion of Messrs. Seward, Crittenden, Sumner, Fessenden, Collamer and Stuart, the action of our government with regard to the Sound dues has been altogether wrong, inasmuch as treaties are part of the supreme law of the land, and can only be abrogated by the joint act of both houses of Congress, approved by the President. Messrs. Mason, Cass and Toucey dissented from this view of the matter. In the House the first report from the Court of Claims was received. It consisted of bills making appropriations for the payment of claims, together with the evidence and judgment of the Court in the several cases. A wide difference of opinion existing as to the disposition to be made of the papers—some wanting them referred to the Committee on Claims, while others contended that the action of the Court superseded the necessity of so doing—the subject was passed over. The Military Academy and Invalid Pension Appropriation bills were passed. The House then proceeded to debate the proposition of the Committee on Elections, for power to send for persons and papers in the Kansas contested election case. It is reported that ex-Gov. Reeder is himself the author of the report of the majority of the committee upon the Kansas controversy.

Nothing of special importance happened in either branch of the State Legislature yesterday. In joint meeting Messrs. George W. Clinton and Robert W. Kelley were elected Regents of the University.

The Massachusetts House of Representatives on Wednesday, by a vote of 103 to 149, refused to repeal the act which confers upon jurors the right of judging of deciding the question of the constitutionality of any law. This is important to the people of that State, especially so far as it bears upon the enforcement or non-enforcement of the Maine Liquor law. Under the law sought to be repealed jurors have invariably, we believe, decided adversely to the constitutionality of the prohibitory enactment.

The democratic members of the New Jersey Legislature have united in expressing their preference for James Buchanan as a candidate for the Presidency. They do so without desiring at all to interfere with the views of delegates who may be chosen by the people.

The Know Nothing State Convention of Rhode Island, for the nomination of State officers, will assemble at Providence on the 11th inst. The nigger worshippers' convention will meet on the 12th.

A convention, composed of delegates from the various societies of Irishmen, met last evening to make arrangements for celebrating the anniversary of St. Patrick. A report of the proceedings may be found in another column. From the number of associations represented, and the feeling which prevailed at the meeting, we incline to the belief that the natal day of the patron saint of Ireland will be celebrated this year with greater enthusiasm than we have witnessed at any time previous.

The testimony in the case of Commissioner Ebling, whose second trial upon a charge of bribery has created considerable interest, was concluded yesterday in the Court of Sessions. The case will be given to the jury this morning.

A paper by Commodore Perry on the Bonin Islands was read before the New York Geographical and Statistical Society last evening by Rev. Dr. Hawks.

Mr. Joseph Roberts, of the firm of Virtue, Emmons & Roberts, is among the passengers who left Liverpool on the missing steamer Pacific.

It is said that Mr. Banks, of Virginia, editor of the *South Side Democrat*, and disappointed aspirant to the Clerkship of the House of Representatives, will be appointed Minister to Turin, in place of Mr. Daniel, who is shortly expected to arrive home.

Cotton was active yesterday, with sales of about 5,000 bales, part in transitu. Prices were heavy, and the turn of the market was in favor of purchasers. Flour was active, without change in prices. Further sales of Canada wheat, not previously reported, were made at $1 80 a $1 85. Red Tennessee sold at $1 69 a $1 70. Corn was in pretty quick demand, at prices ranging from 68c. a 70½c. for yellow and white Southern. Oats were active, and closed firmer. Pork was inactive, with sales at $15 87 a $16 for mess. Lard was active, at steady prices. Sugars sold to the extent of 600 hhds. and 400 boxes. Coffee was in fair demand, with sales of Java at private terms. Freights were steady. To Liverpool about 27,000 bushels of grain were engaged at 7½d. in bulk, and 8d. in ship's bags. To Hamburg about 55,000 bushels of grain were engaged at 11d. a 11½d. Rates to Havre were unchanged.

The Four Great Progressive Nations of the World.

There are four progressive nations in the world, beyond whose limits all is retrograde. Two of these nations belong to the Anglo-Saxon race; one to a combination of the old Teutons, Romans and Gauls; the fourth to a combination of the Sclavonic and various Asiatic races. There is no instance at the present day of any progress made by members of any African or any pure Asiatic, or any indigenous American race; nor is there any vitality to speak of in the remains of the old dominant races of Europe, the Greeks or the Romans.

The United States, England, France and Russia are progressive. They are all aggressive and expanding States; they are the States which figure as molesting the peace of their neighbors; they command the trade of the world and the sea; they are the source of all invention, energy, and nearly all social developement.

There is, however, a vast difference between them. Each appears to be the type of a particular stage of human progress and developement. The United States are the type of pure democracy. In them birth is of no value whatever. The State itself is not of much consequence. Men live and die, do business for a life time and make a fortune or lose one, or live apart from trade, and never once hear of the government. That may be in the hands of politicians, of rogues, who seek to feed on the public; it matters not, even they cannot do much mischief. Nominally the basis of the United States government is the ruling power of the people; practically, it is the powerlessness of the government. A stranger judging of the progressiveness of this country would be apt to ascribe it to the extraordinary freedom from restraint enjoyed by the people: he would be apt to say that their energy, being diverted from futile political disputes, is naturally thrown into useful channels—hence the advancement of the nation.

But what would he say about Russia? That, too, is a progressive country, as eager for extension and aggrandizement, as menacing to its neighbors, as the United States. But its progressiveness cannot certainly arise from freedom. In Russia there are not only no free institutions, nothing in the shape of representation of the people, or even deference to their will; but there is no free press, no books, no popular diffusion of learning, no individual existence, we might almost say. There the government is everything—the people nothing. The government initiates, carries out, completes—the people look on. It is said, in some respects, to be a paternal government—almost as paternal as that of Austria before the Verona Conference; self-interest demands no less. It takes care of its people as a planter cares for his slaves—as a farmer cares for his cattle. They are its riches, and their loss would be fatal. What progressiveness Russia exhibits must be due apparently to the high developement of the vigorous natures of the members of its court and aristocracy.

France is also a progressive country. In matters of science, France progresses faster than any other nation. She stands at the head of many of the fixed sciences, and much nearer the head of the speculative sciences than Americans would be generally willing to admit. Her misfortune in having so wild a love for military glory has rendered her efforts in search of republican freedom failures up to this moment. Yet it is quite plain France is a democracy at present. Far more of a democracy, for instance, than England, which boasts of its freedom, or than Germany. France is not now an aggressive country, needing dynastic good will; but for the last twenty years she has done nothing but conquer territory, and keep her neighbors in terror. Her progressiveness evidently grows out of her people. So does that of England, which is nearly as progressive a country as that of the United States. It is not sufficiently known in this country that many of the cities of England, such as London and Liverpool, have increased during the last ten years as fast as New York or Buffalo. The population of England does not progress as fast as it might, because there is a want of elbow room for men to settle and bring up large families; and, besides, emigration operates as a powerful check. But the wealth of England is always on the increase; so is her trade, so is her shipping, so is her agriculture, so is her industry. There is no sign anywhere of a diminution of her vitality. Yet England, under the name of a constitutional government, is probably the purest oligarchy the world ever saw. Englishmen fancy they are free; it is only foreigners who can see that the British empire and its government are the heirloom of some twenty families. Still, with all this incubus, England progresses, and is decidedly an aggressive, dominant nation.

These four nations have the world's fate in their hands. Africa will never be worth writing about. Asia is revolutionized on one side, and partly Anglicised—partly Russianized on the other. The Southern nations of Europe will not for many generations be able to play any other part than that of spectators; nor will their old dependencies in America. On the future relations of the United States, Russia, France and England, the peace, progress and prosperity of the world depend.

KANSAS IN CONGRESS—WHITFIELD VS. REEDER—BILL FOR PURIFYING THE ELECTIONS.—The anti-slavery majority of the Committee of Elections of the House of Representatives at Washington have presented a long report to that body upon the contesting claims of Whitfield vs. Reeder, as the delegate from Kansas. In this report the said majority conclude their arduous labors by requesting of the House the authority to send for persons and papers, in the further investigation of the respective claims of Whitfield vs. Reeder to the contested seat.

Mr. Stephens, of Ga., of the minority of said committee, presented a counter report against granting the authority asked for; but suggesting, in lieu of such authority, the appointment of a Board of Commissioners to proceed to Kansas to take the required testimony in the premises.

We decline the publication of either of these reports, because they are too long for the space at our disposal; because our readers are well acquainted with all the acts, facts and arguments of both sides; because this Whitfield and Reeder controversy has become a perfect bore; and because we shall probably have the matter of both reports argued *ad nauseam*, off and on, for months yet to come, in the House, and in the newspapers. The majority substantially contend that the Kansas Legislature enacting the law under which Whitfield was elected the Territorial delegate to Congress, was a bogus Legislature, put into power by an armed force of Missouri "border ruffians," and that Whitfield's election was also secured by a similar invasion of lawless outsiders. Hence the declared necessity for an examination of persons and papers. Mr. Stephens, on the other hand, contends that the election of Reeder was an extra election, without authority of law; that Reeder, as Governor of the Territory, in various acts recognized the legality of the Legislature he now declares to be spurious; and that to proceed to the examination of persons and papers in reference to the validity of the said Legislature, would be making the House not only the judge of the qualifications and returns of its own members, but also of the members of the Territorial Legislature and the State Legislatures, which would be assuming a power not properly pertaining to the functions of the House, &c.

Now, it strikes us that neither Whitfield nor Reeder, under a rigid application of the law, is entitled to a seat in Congress as the legitimately elected delegate from Kansas. There was certainly no law for the election under which Reeder claims the place; and that the law was violated by both parties in the election of Whitfield, there can be no doubt. In this view, the only satisfactory plan for settling this dispute is to send both Whitfield and Reeder back to Kansas for a new trial, and to provide for the election of a delegate according to the requisitions of the fundamental Territorial law.

To this end, hereafter, the Committee on Territories have reported a bill providing:—

Sec. 4. A fine of not less than twenty nor more than one hundred dollars, and an imprisonment of not less than two months nor more than six months, against any person in the Territory unlawfully voting at any election therein; and a fine of not less than one hundred dollars and not exceeding five hundred dollars, and an imprisonment of not less than three months nor more than one year, against any person or persons who shall come into any election district in the Territory in armed and organized bodies, for the purpose of controlling such election.

Sec. 5. Provides a punishment of not less than six months nor more than two years, and the fines of section 4, against each of such armed and organized individuals for voting in any Territorial election.

Sec. 6. Punishes any election judge wilfully conniving at a violation of the foregoing provisions with a fine of not less than fifty dollars nor more than three hundred dollars, and an imprisonment of not less than six months nor more than one year.

The prosecutions under this act to be in the Criminal Territorial Courts having jurisdiction of felonies or misdemeanors, &c., &c.

We presume that the *bona fide* squatters of the Territory, pro-slavery and no slavery, will have no objection to a law of this kind; and if the NIGGER WORSHIPPERS of Congress believe that it will operate to their advantage they can well afford to compromise the matter by sending both Whitfield and Reeder back to the "squatter sovereigns" for a new trial. We suspect, however, that the Reeder party of Congress, in asking for this power to send for persons and papers, are in for a small speculation, and that the "spoils" are more their object than the vindication of the laws. We shall see.

City Politics.

CONSTITUTION HALL WHIGS.

The Whig General Committee held their monthly meeting at Constitution Hall last evening. With the exception of the adoption of by-laws and the appointment of standing committees for the year, no business of importance was transacted. The following resolution, offered by J. R. McConnell, of the Twelfth ward, was adopted:—

Resolved, That we recommend the immediate organization of the State Central Committee for the purpose of organizing the State preparatory to calling a State Convention.

FILLMORE WHIGS.

The Executive Committee of the National Fillmore Club also met last evening, and changed the name of the club to the "No. 1 National Fillmore and Donelson Club of New York." The constitution was so altered as to organize an executive committee of the club, to be composed of the seven officers of the club and one member from each ward club who joined this central organization. The committee on procuring permanent headquarters reported progress. Charters were granted to the Nineteenth Ward Club; the *National Fillmore* and Donelson Club of Johnstown, Fulton county, N. Y.; and do. of Elmira, N. Y. After transacting some other business and reading correspondence, the club adjourned.

BROADWAY HOUSE WHIGS.

This body met last night at their headquarters, but adjourned without affecting anything in particular, owing to the absence of ex Recorder Tallmage and other of their principal men. Gen. Hall, Justice Welsh, W. G. B. Milliken, and other well known old fashioned whigs were in attendance, but had not the courage to act on their own hook. Our reporter learned that an address and resolutions to the old line whigs had been prepared, the purport of which was that they were resolved to stand by their guns, and not declaim either for the nigger worshippers or the Know Nothings, either for Fillmore or Fremont, should be be nominated. The address takes strong conservative ground and calls on all good whigs to rally on an independent platform.

SOFT SHELL GENERAL COMMITTEE.

This body held its usual monthly meeting last night—Robt. Kelly in the chair—but adjourned early, after having transacted a little routine business. The approach of the time of meeting of the Cincinnati Convention will no doubt quicken the action of the softs before long.

The American Consul at Leipsig.

LEIPSIG, February 1, 1856.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Every one here is surprised that Mr. James Reily, from Texas, who last September received his appointment as Consul for this city, in the place of the late Dr. Flügel, the elder, by your government, has, during the last five months found no time to arrive at his post; and I am, on my part, almost inclined to share the general impression here, that the nomination of Mr. Reily is but a nominal one, and is intended to favor the interests of the present Consul, Dr. Flügel, Jr., who, for the last seven months, has been left in the administration of this office, in contravention of the regulations of the new Consular law, as he is a Saxon subject and no American citizen.

BERNHARD KAMPTON.

Theatres and Exhibitions.

BROADWAY THEATRE.—"Herne, the Hunter" will close his long and prosperous career at the Broadway to-morrow evening. This announcement will crowd the house to-night.

NIBLO'S GARDEN.—The comicality of the "Schoolmaster" commences the entertainments this evening. Mlle. Robert and the ballet corps follow in "Terpsichore," and all will conclude with the "Elf King."

BURTON'S THEATRE.—Shakspere's comedy of a "Winter's Tale," which has proved immensely attractive, will be repeated this evening, together with the farce of "Urgent Private Affairs."

LAURA KEENE'S VARIETIES.—"Two Loves and a Life," and "Novelty" continue to fill this elegant theatre every night with large, fashionable and delighted audiences. Both pieces till further notice.

WALLACK'S THEATRE.—Mr. Brougham's popular comedy entitled the "Game of Life," and the musical farce of "The Review," will be presented to-night. They are admirably cast.

BROADWAY VARIETIES.—Those miniature artists, the Wood & Marsh juvenile comedians, will this evening repeat the drama of "Black Eyed Susan" and the farce of the "Wandering Minstrel."

WOOD'S MINSTRELS.—George, Pierce and other popular members of the troupe will to-night render several of their peculiar songs and dances—closing with the farce of the "Happy Man."

BUCKLEY'S SERENADERS.—The hall of this famous band of minstrels is every evening thronged by persons who express the liveliest satisfaction with the new burlesque, the "Court of Ice Burg."

CHINA AND JAPAN.—The beautiful paintings of views, manners, &c., in these countries may be seen at the Athenæum, 654 Broadway.

STEPHEN H. BRANCH will to-night give an entertainment at the Tabernacle, in the course of which he will deliver an oration descriptive of his recent exciting pilgrimage to Europe. Some delicious music may be expected from Paul Julien and August Cockel, who have volunteered for the occasion.

THE LATEST NEWS.

BY MAGNETIC AND PRINTING TELEGRAPHS.

From Washington.

GEN. PIERCE IGNORED IN VIRGINIA—THE SARDINIAN MISSION.

WASHINGTON, March 6, 1856.

Accounts from Virginia represent Gen. Pierce as almost ignored at the late Convention. He is said to be the last choice of the State.

It is rumored that A. D. Banks, of Virginia, late defeated candidate for Clerk of the House, has been tendered the mission to Sardinia, vice Daniel, who will be home in a few weeks. F.

THIRTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

Senate.

WASHINGTON, March 6, 1856.

RAILROAD AND TELEGRAPH TO THE PACIFIC.

Mr. BROWN, (dem.) of Miss., introduced a bill for the construction of a railroad and telegraphic line from a point on the Mississippi river south of latitude 37 to the Pacific at San Francisco. The bill grants about 40,000,000 acres of land, for which the company are to pay 50 cents an acre before obtaining title, and are to be required to deposit $500,000 as security that the work shall be faithfully performed. According to the provisions of the bill, within eighteen months one hundred miles of the road must be completed, the government to pay $600 per mile for carrying the mail until the road is finished, and for ten years thereafter, and such reasonable sum as the Secretary of War may determine for carrying troops, munitions of war, &c. The road is to be forfeited within ten years, and all lands excepting those paid for to revert to the United States. The bill grants the right of way four hundred yards wide; gives no exclusive privilege, but allows any company to construct roads when and where they please, and obtain such favors from government as they can. Referred to the Committee on the Pacific Railroad.

Mr. WELLER, (dem.) of Cal., said the committee would endeavor to report next week.

THE FORTIFICATION BILL PASSED.

The Senate passed the usual Fortification bill. The bill providing for new fortifications was postponed.

THE DANISH SOUND DUES.

Mr. Sumner's resolution, directing the Committee on Foreign Relations to consider the expediency of some act of legislation to effectively abrogate the treaty with Denmark, and to repudiate the payment of the Sound dues, was then considered. The bill to be reported is to be concurred in by both houses.

Mr. SUMNER argued that the notice given by the President, by direction of the Senate in executive session, for the termination of the treaty, was defective, inasmuch as treaties are part of the supreme law of the land, and can only be abrogated by the action of both houses of Congress, approved by the President.

Messrs. SEWARD, FESSENDEN, COLLAMER, CRITTENDEN and STEWART sustained Mr. Sumner's views, and Messrs. MASON, TOUCEY and CASS opposed them.

The resolution then passed, and the Senate adjourned to Monday.

House of Representatives.

WASHINGTON, March 6, 1856.

THE COURT OF CLAIMS—APPROPRIATION BILLS PASSED.

The SPEAKER submitted a communication from the Court of Claims, enclosing bills making appropriations for the payment of certain private claims, together with the evidence and the judgment of the Court in the several cases.

This is the first case of the kind originating under the act creating that tribunal.

A debate followed regarding the proper disposition of the bills. As a precedent is now to be established, one side contended they should be sent to the Committee on Claims for examination, while the other argued that the action of the Court superseded the necessity of so doing.

Without coming to a conclusion on the subject of reference, the House passed the Military Academy and Invalid Pension bills.

THE KANSAS ELECTION CASE.

The request of the Committee on Elections for power to send for persons and papers in the Kansas contested election case was considered.

Mr. BOYCE, (dem.) of S. C., thought that the effect of irrelevant matter in the majority report of the committee was calculated, though perhaps unintentionally, to still more inflame the public mind on this agitating question. The committee had given undue confidence to rumors. He did not believe that taking testimony in Kansas by commissioners would be attended by such sanguinary consequences as the committee apprehended. The testimony should be taken among the people of the Territories who are at home attending to their business, and who have something else to do than running here on a crusade of evidence. He contended that the act under which General Whitfield was elected was legal. The office of delegate to Congress was created by the Kansas-Nebraska act, and whoever claimed it should show that he was elected under the original law, which is not the case with Mr. Reeder, who was a traitor if he gave members of the Legislature certificates of election when he did not believe them entitled to seats. He had better, by far, have retreated to the forest of Fort Leavenworth, than falsified his position.

Mr. BINGHAM, (nigger worshipper) of Ohio, said the committee, in asking for power to send for persons and papers, desired only to elicit the truth, which can wrong no man. This is demanded by the interests of nations and the sacredness of law, which has been violated. It is not claimed in the report of the minority that this power is not within the discretion of the House. The only question is whether sufficient cause is apparent to authorize such an investigation. It is evident, from the memorial, that either Mr. Whitfield or Mr. Reeder claims the seat in violation of law. The simplest and most credulous man in the House cannot believe it was legal to hold two elections within the same month, and that the legal voters would go through the farce of voting for Mr. Reeder if they had already voted for Mr. Whitfield. It struck Mr. Bingham that in one of these elections the organic law was wantonly trampled on and disgraced; and if this is true, it concerns all the people in the land to know it. The question is, have the people of Kansas chosen Whitfield, or have they been interfered with by invading armies, and is Mr. Whitfield here in violation of the law and by the acts of lawless invaders?

Mr. Bingham proceeded to make out the probable cause for sending for persons and papers, saying the usurpers assuming to be the legislators of Kansas had violated the organic act of the Territory. He severely criticised their acts in support of slavery, which support, he said, was the utterance of sentiments unfavorable to freedom, and in other respects violated the federal constitution. Adjourned.

Latest from the State Capital.

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE NEW YORK HARBOR COMMISSION.

ALBANY, March 6, 1856.

A deputation from the Chamber of Commerce of New York appeared to-night before the Committee on Commerce and Navigation of the Senate, and the Committee of Ways and Means of the House, on the subject of the Harbor Commission.

James Depuyster Ogden, Esq., stated briefly that the object of the deputation was to urge on the Legislature the deep importance of the question to the citizens of New York and the Union at large, and the necessity that existed for the completion of the work commenced by the Harbor Commissioners.

Mr. Lyman Odell, Chairman of the House Committee, stated that although the committee had reported a resolution for the repeal of the act creating the commission, they did not actually contemplate the immediate abolishment of the commission, but desired to bring up the matter for discussion before the House, believing, as they did, that the power of the commission, both as to its existence and business, was too indefinite and unlimited.

Remarks tending to show the vast importance of the Commission to the whole State, as well as to New York city, were made by Messrs. Geo. W. Blunt, A. A. Low and Moses H. Grinnell.

The Committee of the House stated that the remarks of the delegation had enlightened them on some subjects, and the impression made seemed decidedly favorable to the Commission.

The Canal Board have made the following appointments:—Levi Beardsley, Collector at Oswego; C. W. Allen, Collector at Schuylerville; John Meigs, Inspector, New York.

ELECTION OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY—ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO SWINDLE THE STATE—COURT OF APPEALS, ETC.

ALBANY, March 6, 1856.

Nearly the entire session of this day was consumed in both houses in the election of two Regents of the University, in place of Jabez D. Hammond, deceased, and Philip S. Van Rensselaer, resigned. Ten several ballots were had in joint convention, which resulted in the election of George W. Clinton, national democrat, of Buffalo, and Robert Kelly, Van Buren barn burner, of New York. In the Senate, the republicans united with a few democrats, to beat the Know Nothings. In the House of Assembly, the Know Nothings voted for the democratic candidate, to prostrate the whig republicans—the democrats receiving the benefit of both fusions.

There is a project for another enormous swindle of State property. The State is the owner of nearly sixty acres of land at Oswego having a water front, and the managers of the Oswego and Binghamton Railroad Company have a bill before the House for the disposal of it at certain rates, and to particular parties, by the commissioners of the Land Office. The bill as originally drawn, was intended to swindle the State out of this property; but the keen observation of Mr. Dashler has compelled the conspirators to submit to amendments, whereby the property shall be sold to the highest bidders, restricting the railroad company to only such quantity as may be absolutely necessary for their depots, &c. If this property is judiciously managed, it will place hundreds of thousands of dollars in the State treasury.

It is currently reported about the city to-day that the Court of Appeals will stand equally divided—four to four—upon the constitutional question of the prohibitory law. The bill before the House repealing the law, and introducing some new features in the old license laws, meets with considerable favor, and will pass that body, and may possibly the Senate; and in the latter body there has been no test question taken indicative of the opinion of Senators.

The weather is extremely cold to-day, as blustering and unpleasant as any of the season, with occasional snow storms, keeping the sleighing in excellent condition.

NEW YORK LEGISLATURE.

Senate.

ALBANY, March 6, 1856.

PETITIONS.

Against a wet basin between Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth streets.

For the erection of Unadilla county.

For a new county from parts of Delaware and Chenango.

Of the Odd Fellows Order, for an act of incorporation.

REPORTS.

By Mr. UPHAM—For an amendment to the act incorporating companies formed to navigate lakes and rivers.

By Mr. Z. CLARK—To restore the laws for the preservation of deer.

By Mr. NOXON—To amend the Revised Statutes relative to property liable to taxation; also, against legalizing the special conditions of leases.

Mr. SICKLES gave notice of a bill to authorize the widening of Battery place; also, to incorporate the Harlem River and New York Suspension Bridge Company.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Mr. C. P. SMITH—Relative to property conveyed by aliens.

To amend the charter of the Nassau Water Works.

To provide for the completion of Division avenue, Brooklyn.

For the better security of persons furnishing or repairing machinery, by creating loans on machinery furnished for buildings, &c.

The Albany and Susquehanna Railroad bill being in order for final passage, was, on motion of Mr. Wadsworth, recommitted.

REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY.

The two Houses then went into joint convention, and balloted for Regents with the following result:—

For George W. Clinton, 86; E. W. Leavenworth, 48; Robert W. Kelly, 3; Mr. Inland, 3; Mr. Grow, 2.

Mr. George W. Clinton was declared elected, and a second ballot was proceeded with to select a Regent to fill a vacancy. The vote stood:—Robert W. Kelly, 85; E. W. Leavenworth, 54; Mr. McCombi, 2; Mr. Kirby, 2; Mr. Seldon, 1.

When the candidates were nominated, Mr. Stephen R. Kirby received the entire vote of the Americans, who subsequently voted for Mr. Kelly in order to defeat Mr. Leavenworth.

Adjourned.

Assembly.

ALBANY, March 6, 1856.

There was nothing of interest in the proceedings until the election of Regents of the University came up, when the House chose Geo. W. Clinton and Robert W. Kelly.

Accident on the Philadelphia and Baltimore Railroad.

PHILADELPHIA, March 6, 1856.

The morning train from Baltimore met with an accident to-day, when about five miles above Wilmington. The driving wheel gave way, throwing the engine from the track. The fireman was severely hurt, and the mail agent was thrown from the window of the car, but escaped with slight bruises. None of the passengers were injured. The engine was rendered a complete wreck, and two passengers cars were forced up an embankment, and considerably shattered. The wreck on the track prevents the passage of trains, but passengers are sent through by changing cars.

Fatal Railroad Accident.

MONTREAL, March 6, 1856.

Two engines and a snow plough ran off the track on the Grand Trunk Railroad, yesterday afternoon, near Stanns, twenty miles above Montreal. One man was killed and two others badly wounded. Their names have not transpired.

The Defalcation of the City Treasurer of New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, March 5, 1856.

Col. Garland, the defaulting treasurer, has been held to bail in the sum of $500,000, in default of which he was sent to prison, with two accomplices, who also failed to obtain $25,000 bail each. The examination will take place on Saturday.

The American Board of Foreign Missions.

ALBANY, March 6, 1856.

The Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions, in session this morning, debated on the third resolution reported by the select committee. The resolution related to the management of the India missions.

In the afternoon Mr. ELY presented a report from the minority of the Select Committee, taking ground against the resolution reported by the majority. The debate was then resumed and continued until the recess, at 7 P. M.

Ratification of the American Nominees.

MUSCATINE, March 6, 1856.

The Fillmore and Donelson nominations have been unanimously ratified by the Iowa American State Convention.

Troy Municipal Election.

TROY, N. Y., March 6, 1856.

The newly elected Common Council of this city consists of fifteen Americans, six democrats and one whig. Mr. Slocum, the American candidate for Mayor, received 386 majority.

Fire at Watertown, Mass.

BOSTON, March 6, 1856.

The paper mill of Leonard Whitney & Son, in Watertown, was burnt last night. Loss $12,000. Insurance, $6,000.

Railroad Obstructions.

BUFFALO, March 6, 1856

The Lake Shore and Buffalo and the New York City and Niagara Falls Railroads are nearly impassable in consequence of the recent snow storm. A train over the Central road arrived this morning twenty hours behind time. A despatch from Dunkirk reports the Erie road in the same condition.

Arrival of the Florida at Savannah.

SAVANNAH, March 5, 1856

The steamer Florida arrived here last night from New York. She was detained on the passage by a severe snow storm.

Vessels in Distress.

PROVINCETOWN, (Cape Cod,) March 6, 1856.

The following named vessels are in the ice back of Long Point, and, unless the wind changes soon, they will go ashore:—Schooners Oread, Edith, Estella, Samuel Appleton, West Wind, Anna E. Cox; brigs Rideout, Amanda Jane, Shibboleth and Caroline. Also, three schooners—names unknown. No assistance can reach them.

The Southern Mail.

BALTIMORE, March 6, 1856.

New Orleans papers of Friday of last week are to hand, but they contain no news of importance.

Markets.

PHILADELPHIA STOCK BOARD.

PHILADELPHIA, March 6, 1856.

Stocks dull. Pennsylvania State fives, 84¾; Reading, 45¾; Long Island, 15¾; Morris Canal, 14¾; Pennsylvania Railroad, 45¾.

BALTIMORE CATTLE MARKET.

BALTIMORE, March 6, 1856.

At our cattle market to-day, 600 head of beeves were offered, of which 100 were driven Eastward and the remainder sold at $7 a $10 50—the latter for extra. Hogs declined—sales at $8 25 a $8 50.

NEW ORLEANS, March 4, 1856.

Cotton—Sales during the past three days 40,000 bales, at advanced rates. Middling, 9⅝c. a 9¾c.

NEW ORLEANS, March 5, 1856.

The Baltic's news had an unfavorable effect on our cotton market. The sales to-day have been 4,500 bales. Prices easier, but not quotably lower. The market dull. Molasses, 24c. Coffee, 11⅞c. Sugar, 7⅝c. Freights of cotton to Liverpool, 11-16d.

CHARLESTON, March 5, 1856.

The cotton market is improving. Sales to-day 4,600 bales, and during the past three days 10,000 bales.

The Kansas Emuete.

MATERIAL AID IN CONNECTICUT.

HARTFORD, Feb. 25, 1856.

Inclosed we hand you three hundred dollars, (the receipt of which you will please acknowledge), for the destitute in Kansas, which we hope will reach them in time, and do them as much good in consuming as it has us in collecting. The oppressive movements in Kansas are touching the same chords in Connecticut that moved our fathers in the Revolution. While we pray earnestly for tranquillity through forbearance, we are equally earnest for firm, united resistance in the hour of peril, if it must come. With the united purpose of resisting the inhuman aggressions of slavery, we remain

JOHN G. MIX,
JOHN M. RIGGS,
J. F. JUDD,
ROSWELL BLODGETT.

STEAMBOAT BOILER EXPLOSION.—LOSS OF LIFE.—From the officers of the steamboat R. L. Cobb, Captain Northam, which arrived from Camden, we learn that on the 21st instant the boilers of the steamboat Sarah, Captain Stearling, exploded at the mouth of the Trinity river. Captain Stearling was missing, and several of those saved were severely wounded, one having his leg broken. It is feared, too, that yet others may have lost their lives, but full particulars are not yet obtained. The boat is a complete wreck, sunk to her hurricane deck.—*New Orleans Picayune, Feb. 24.*

City Intelligence.

BROADWAY CLEANED AT LAST.—The vigorous action of Mayor Wood, in advertising for proposals to clean Broadway, has had the effect of waking up Commissioner Ebling to a sense of his duty. Last night the Commissioner put large gangs of laborers to work on the dirt hills he has so recently erected, and they were soon levelled and carted off to the Park, Battery and other dumping places. Our citizens will, no doubt, be surprised this morning at the altered appearance of our great thoroughfare. As Broadway is now provided for, it would be well for Mayor Wood to advertise for proposals to clean the business portion of the city down town—South, Front, Fulton, West, Washington, Greenwich and other streets that are in a deplorable condition and cause great annoyance and expense to business men. If Mayor Wood would take the initiative, no doubt but that Mr. Ebling would see the propriety of cleaning them forthwith.

THE KINGSTON CALAMITY AND THE NATIONAL GUARDS.—It will be remembered that at the encampment of the Seventh regiment, (National Guards,) at Kingston, last summer, a woman was accidentally shot, and her child, which was in her arms, was killed by the bullet, after it has passed through the woman's breast and arms. This untoward accident created a great sensation among the members of the corps, and the ball which was to take place the same evening was intermitted, and all the subsequent festivities that were projected, were put a stop to. One thousand dollars was raised by voluntary subscription, and given to Mrs. Castle, the injured woman, and she was brought to this city, where she received the best medical attendance, and eventually recovered the full use of her arms; everything having been done for her that the kindness of Col. Duryea and the men under his command, could suggest. But it appears that Mrs. Castle, or her friends, at least, were not satisfied, and a suit has been commenced against Col. Duryea for five thousand dollars, which that gentlemen does not intend to pay if he can help himself as he thinks his command did all that could be required of them. The case creates considerable interest in Kingston, where the suit has been commenced.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.—The Board of Fire Commissioners, the Committees on Fire Department of the Common Council, and committees lately appointed from the representatives of the Fire Department and Board of Foremen and Engineers, met for organization last evening, at Firemen's Hall, Mercer street, preparatory to entering upon their duties for a reorganization of the laws regulating the Fire Department of the city of New York. John H. Brady, chairman of the Councilmen's Committee on Fire Department, was elected permanent President. No other business was transactad. The following constitutes the Committee of Conference:—Fire Commissioners—Charles McDougal Wm Cartwright, Nelson Brown, James Lordlow, W. H. Fitzgerald. Aldermen Committee—Wm. Tucker John Clancy, Peter P. Voorhis. Councilmen Committee—John H. Brady, J. Kennedy, G. Merritt, John Baulch, J. S. Smith. Board of Foremen and Engineer Committee—Wm. Lines, Hose Company No. 9; Samuel Forsyth, Wm. Winter, Engine Company No 11; John Gillaler, Engine Company No. 55; John Slower, Hook and Ladder No. 4. Representatives Committee—H. Fanning, Hose Company No. 28, Julien Botts, Engine Company No. 38; David Rudd, Hose Company No. 36; John A. Smith, Engine Company No. 51; Samuel Burbons, Hose Company No. 24. The committee will meet every Saturday evening, at Firemen's Hall. Several months will be requisite to complete the labor assigned them.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.—A meeting of this body was advertised to take place yesterday, but in consequence of the President and a number of the members being at Albany to prevent the passage of an act abrogating the Harbor Encroachment Commission, the Chamber adjourned over to meet on the call of the chairman. It is proposed to pass resolutions expressive of the feeling of the Chamber on the present diplomatic complications between this country and England, in response to similar expressions of feeling on the part of the English and Scotch merchants.

STEPHEN H. BRANCH'S ORATION—A RUSH FOR THE TABERNACLE.—Mr. Branch will deliver an oration at the Tabernacle, Broadway, at 8 o'clock this evening, taking for his subject his "European tour in search