# NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR AND EDITOR.

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Volume XXI ............................ No. 79

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway—Timour the Tartar—Cataract of the Ganges.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway—Milliners—Terpsichore—Elf-King, or Wealth and Poverty.

BURTON'S THEATRE, Chambers street—Taking the Chances—That Blessed Baby—Fortunio.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway—John Bull—High Life Below Stairs.

LAURA KEENE'S VARIETIES, Broadway—Camille—Novelty.

BROADWAY VARIETIES, 472 Broadway—Black Eyed Susan—Perfection—by the Juvenile Comedians.

WOOD'S MINSTRELS, 444 Broadway—Ethiopian Performances—Robert Macaire.

BUCKLEY'S BURLESQUE OPERA HOUSE, 539 Broadway—Negro Minstrelsy—Court of Ice-Burg.

EMPIRE HALL, No. 596 Broadway—Tour of Europe and Siege of Sebastopol.

**New York, Thursday, March 20, 1856.**

### Mails for the Pacific.

THE NEW YORK HERALD—CALIFORNIA EDITION.

The United States mail steamship George Law, Captain W. L. Herndon, will leave this port this afternoon at two o'clock, for Aspinwall.

The mails for California and other parts of the Pacific will close at one o'clock.

The NEW YORK WEEKLY HERALD—California edition—containing the latest intelligence from all parts of the world, will be published at eleven o'clock in the morning.

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

### Notice to the Public.

Advertisers are requested to condense their business notices into as few words as possible. Space is valuable, and our columns are crowded. Economy in words is economy in money.

### The News.

An accident happened on the Hudson River Railroad yesterday, by which Mr. Woodbridge, Sergeant-at-Arms of the Assembly, Mr. Ellis, of this city, and several other persons, were severally injured. Brief details of the accident may be found under the telegraphic head.

In the United States Senate yesterday Mr. Clayton concluded his speech on Central American affairs. With regard to our difficulty with Great Britain on this subject, Mr. Clayton adopted the idea put forth in the HERALD recently, that for an amicable settlement of it we must appeal from the British Ministry to the British people. Respecting the seizure of the Transit Company's steamers by the Nicaraguan government for alleged indebtedness, Mr. Clayton said that Mr. Vanderbilt denied such indebtedness, as the charge was utterly false. The Military Academy appropriation bill was passed, and the Deficiency bill was debated until the adjournment. In the House the debate on the Kansas contested election case was brought to a close, after a discussion of ten days' duration. The application of the Committee on Elections for power to send for persons and papers in the dispute between Governor Reeder and General Whitfield was rejected, and the substitute of Mr. Dunn adopted in its stead by a vote of 101 to 92. This substitute authorizes the Speaker to appoint a committee of three to proceed to Kansas and investigate all the facts, charges and statements connected with the return of the rival candidates.

Several matters of importance came before the Legislature yesterday, for the particulars of which we refer to our despatches elsewhere. The Senate adopted a resolution that the Legislature adjourn *sine die* on the 9th of April, at which date the one hundred days allowed by law for the session will have expired. Both houses adjourned at an early hour to enable members to attend the funeral of Mr. Permelee, the late Mayor of Albany.

A compromise has, it appears, been made in the suit of Ogden versus Astor, which was brought for the recovery of between three and four hundred thousand dollars, alleged to have been due to Mr. Ogden, the partner of the late John Jacob Astor, previous to or about the year 1820. Mr. Ogden was in China, and transacted business for Mr. Astor there, being entitled for his services to one-fifth of the profits. He has since deceased, and his brother sues for the amount which it is claimed is due as his share of the profits, with interest from the date on which it was payable. The amount for which it has been compromised, is, we understand, $125,000. It may be interesting to know that Mrs. Anne Cora Ritchie is a daughter of the claimant.

Both branches of the Common Council were in session last evening. In the Board of Aldermen a resolution calling on the Corporation Counsel to report whether or not it is compulsory on the city to make application to the Legislature for power to levy the usual taxes, was adopted. The resolution of the Councilmen repudiating the contract made by the Mayor for cleaning Broadway, was concurred in by a vote of eleven to nine. The Broadway Railroad question occupied the time of the Councilmen. A very decided opinion was expressed against Mr. Sharpe's project, but not against every plan for a railroad in that street, in regard to which the Board appeared to be about equally divided.

The Councilmen Committee on Railroads had a meeting yesterday to hear parties relative to the construction of a railroad in Broadway. A large number addressed the committee in opposition to the measure, among whom was A. T. Stewart and Dr. Francis. D. Dudley Field, Esq., submitted several legal points aiming to establish the validity of the grant to Mr. Jacob Sharpe and others, now waiting confirmation before the State Legislature. The meeting was numerously attended, and greater interest shown as to the probable action to be taken by the committee than at any previous meeting of committees upon the same subject of prior boards.

Last night about nine o'clock a fire broke out in the extensive seven story building known as the Union Steam Works, situated at the corner of Twenty-second street and Second avenue. The greater part of the premises was gutted, destroying most of the property therein. The building was occupied by various machinists, together with Marston & Knox, firearms manufactory. The total loss may be estimated at about $80,000, a portion of which is only covered by insurance. Before this fire was extinguished another occurred nearly opposite, in a tenement house, burning out the apartment of James Moran. The firemen being close at hand the flames were extinguished before spreading beyond the room in which it originated. An account of the fires will be found elsewhere.

A young lady named Rachel Wells obtained a verdict yesterday of $2,500 against Captain Eleazer Crabtree, Jr., in an action for breach of promise of marriage. This presents a curious anomaly—in one Court a party is suing to be relieved from his partner, whilst in another a lady sues for damages because she did not get a partner.

The Commissioners of Emigration met yesterday, but adjourned without doing anything of importance. 6,725 emigrants landed at this port during the present year up to the 19th instant—9,935 less than last year. The amount of overdraft in bank is $95,866 27.

The supposed slaver Falmouth was not searched yesterday, as proposed, on account of the weather, but will be to-day. The papers in possession of the District Attorney, it is said, show conclusively who the offending parties are. The case excites a good deal of interest.

The sales of cotton yesterday reached about 2,500 bales, in which was one line of 1,000 bales, sold in transitu. The article on the spot was firm while in transitu quotations were somewhat irregular. Flour was inactive, and holders of common grades refused further concessions. Medium to good and extra grades were quite steady. Wheat was quiet and nominal. There was a good demand for prime yellow corn, and included in the sales were 20,000 bushels, to arrive, at 70c. Pork sold at $15 75 a $15 87 for mess, and $14 62 for prime. Rio coffee was sold at full prices. 350 hhds. sugars sold, to go out of market, at 7¼c. Large sales of currants were made day before yesterday, which amounted to about 100,000 lbs., chiefly on private terms, and part at 22c. Freights were steady, with moderate engagements. About 1,000 bales cotton and 7,000 a 8,000 bushels grain, in bulk, were engaged for Liverpool, at rates stated in another column.

### New Movement in Central America.

From the Havana came news a day or two since that the British fleet had been ordered to concentrate itself upon the Central American station. San Juan is apparently the point indicated as a centre of operations. What is the motive of this new movement? Has the British government any real intention of using force to expel General Walker? Is the concentration of the fleet a menace to American interests?

Both of these questions are best answered in the negative. At the time the orders to the fleet left England the situation of Walker—his triumph over the native aristocratic party and the establishment of a nucleus of stable government in Nicaragua—were known in London. At the same moment the British government was much embarassed by the position of the Central American dispute with this country—not caring, and indeed, not daring, in the face of the attitude of the British people, to embroil the two countries for the sake of the Mosquito myth, but yet seeing no honorable means of escape from the difficulty. Under these circumstances, the establishment of a new authority in Nicaragua offered a new resource. General Walker might be willing to accept the protectorate of the Mosquito Indians, discharging the British government from the trust it held; if he did, the latter would avoid a collision with the United States, and at the same time be spared the sacrifice of dignity which a deliberate withdrawal—under American menace—would involve. That this idea was immediately embraced and acted on, and that the fleet is now ordered to the coast in order to support the British negotiators, appears to be the most plausible explanation of the movement.

It derives a fresh corroboration from the attitude of the British Consul and Vice-Consul at Realejo and Leon—Messrs. Manning and Glenton—who have both made haste to acknowledge Walker, and profess the greatest friendship for his administration.

From the time Walker's decree relative to Kinney was made public, it was quite evident that he would settle the Mosquito question. It was also evident that he would settle it—whether intentionally or not, it matters not—agreeably to the views entertained by the people of the United States, and expressed by the administration of General Pierce. That is to say, it was clear that he would not suffer any British protectorate to be erected or maintained over any part of the dominions of the sovereign State of Nicaragua.

If our surmise with regard to the real designs of the fleet be correct, this object may, perhaps, have been already gained. Every one will be glad if it has. The English may attempt, as they did in Texas, to establish a footing in Nicaragua, or at least to excite hostility between that State and this Union; but the attempt is not likely to be vigorous, and is sure to be unsuccessful. Now, who will come forward and settle the question of the Bay Islands, so as to put an end to all the wild talk about war and throat-cutting?

A MOST EXTRAORDINARY CASE—"CAN SUCH THINGS BE?"—Recently Colonel Richardson, United States Marshal of the district of California, was assassinated in the streets of San Francisco by one Charles Cora, an Italian and a notorious gambler. Shortly thereafter the fat official vacancy arising from Richardson's death was filled by President Pierce, in the appointment of a Mr. McDuffee to the responsible office in question. Now, it appears, from the San Francisco *Bulletin* and other California papers, that this aforesaid Cora was the partner or associate of McDuffee in "the hell" of the latter; and that Van Read, who, it is alleged, was at the same time a partner in McDuffee's gambling house, was busy in hunting up testimony to get Cora clear of the law, while McDuffee was absent, having come on to Washington to get the office made vacant by Cora's bloody hand. Can this be possible? We hope that, with the full developements of the facts, the case will not appear so horrible in any light.

From an article in the Washington *Star* upon the subject, however, adopting the foregoing as the probable facts in the matter, the plea is put in that the President, in making this appointment, was deceived, and that on discovering the dreadful mistake McDuffee was promptly dismissed; but this justification is hardly satisfactory. If this man be as black as he is represented, it is strange that not one of the three California members of Congress should be cognizant of the fact. Or did the President apply to them for information of the man? Or do they, as Californians, concur in considering the profession of gambling a venial offence or a legitimate business, as it seems to be considered in Washington, from the centre to both ends of Pennsylvania avenue? These are questions which should be answered. In any aspect of the case as it stands, from the admissions of an administration organ, the appointment affords a striking example of the shameless recklessness of this model administration in its distribution of the spoils.

REDUCTION IN THE PRICE OF GAS.—The Manhattan Gas Light Company give notice that on and after the first day of October next, an important reduction will be made in the price of gas. This early notice is given so that persons who desire to introduce gas pipes in their houses may have an opportunity to make their contracts with the gas fitters, so as to have the work done either in May or while the families are absent in the summer. Gas light will now be the cheapest as well as the best light. The burners in ordinary use now consume three and a half to four feet of gas per hour, which will cost about one cent, and give as much light as ten or twelve sperm candles. The public is pretty well aware of this, and houses with gas fixtures command much more rent than those without them. Let the landlords and tenants both take this hint.

TERRIBLE TIMES ON STATEN ISLAND.—The people of Staten Island have lately been in a tremendous ferment. It seems that several of the town auditors of Richmond were convicted of malfeasance in office, and sentenced to fine and imprisonment. Several other persons were convicted of inciting a riot at the last election, and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment. It appears that these persons were political friends of the Governor of the State, and he pardoned the whole lot. This action on the part of the Governor places the Staten Island people at the mercy of rowdies and corrupt politicians, and there is naturally much indignation at the course pursued by Governor Clark. Indignation meetings have been held—the Governor and the Health Officer, Mr. Thompson—have been burned in effigy in every town in the county of Richmond, and an attempt will be made to bring them to trial before the High Court of Impeachment.

These facts are very suggestive. In this city we cannot convict a public officer of malfeasance be the proof ever so clear. The District Attorney acknowledged this at the time of these Staten Island convictions, and wiped everything off the record. In another county a jury is found that will convict and then the executive steps in with a pardon, as a reward for political services. He has been guilty of a gross abuse of his powers in thus interfering in the local affairs of the county of Richmond, and most certainly deserves all the censure that the people of that county have heaped upon him. We were very well aware that the Governor was a bitter partisan, but thought he had more sense than to stain his administration with an act like this.

THE BILL FOR THE ADMISSION OF KANSAS.—We publish to-day the bill introduced into the Senate by Judge Douglas, providing for the admission of Kansas into the Union as a sovereign State, when she shall have within her borders the requisite population for the representation of one full member in the popular branch of Congress. The bill provides the usual liberal allowances to the new State, (when ready to come in,) in the way of public land grants, salt springs, &c.; but cuts off from the western end of the Territory a small strip of mountains and valleys about equal in size to one-half the area of the six New England States, a slice which we suppose Mr. Douglas intends to appropriate to the Indians.

In the meantime, the Robinson free State movement in Kansas has been perfected, even to the election of two Senators to Congress, from which we infer that the single object of this Senate bill is to admonish Robinson, Lane, Reeder & Co., that they are entirely too fast; and that as ninety-three thousand population will be required, instead of some twenty odd thousand, to make good the Kansas title to State sovereignty, the free State party may as well make up their minds to wait for a year or two longer. This, we take it, is the whole intent of Mr. Douglas, and we presume that his requisition for population will at least be made the law of the Senate. Thus a wide margin is opened for Kansas emigrant aid movements, North and South. Seventy thousand squatters still wanted. Keep up the fire.

THE DISPUTED JUDGESHIP.—The case of Mr. Davies, who claims the seat on the Supreme bench made vacant by the death of Mr. Justice Morris, has given rise to proceedings which have brought that Court into contempt. Our readers will remember that the Court of Appeals decided upon so much of the case as came before it in favor of Mr. Davies; that Justices Roosevelt and Clerke disagreed with the Court of Appeals, and recognised Mr. Peabody as having the exclusive right to the seat. This state of things has put suitors to much inconvenience, and turned our highest Court into a bear garden. We are glad to learn that the Legislature has taken the matter up, and that it would be heard before the Judiciary Committee of the Assembly. Witnesses have been subpœnaed, and Justices Roosevelt and Clerke will have the privilege of being heard before the committee by counsel, to justify themselves, if they can. Whether the conduct of these Judges in ignoring a decision of the Court of Appeals will be sufficient cause for their removal from office it will be for the Legislature to decide. The power to remove them is found in the subjoined section of the constitution of this State:—

Sec. 11. Justices of the Supreme Court and Judges of the Court of Appeals may be removed by concurrent resolution of both houses of the Legislature, if two-thirds of all the members elected to the Assembly and a majority of all the members elected to the Senate concur therein. All judicial officers, except those mentioned in this section, and except justices of the peace and judges and justices of inferior courts not of record, may be removed by the Senate on the recommendation of the Governor; but no removal shall be made by virtue of this section, unless the cause thereof be entered on the journals, nor unless the party complained of shall have been served with a copy of the complaint against him, and shall have had an opportunity of being heard in his defence. On the question of removal the ayes and noes shall be entered on the journals.

In the Senate proceedings will be taken against Mr. Peabody for usurping the place he claims to hold. We trust that this matter will be settled at once. The whole affair is disgraceful from beginning to end.

*Apropos* of the subject: Judge Strong in his remarks the other day did not intimate, nor mean to intimate, that Judge Rockwell, of Kings county, doubted the right of Judge Davies to act as Judge; on the contrary, that Judge Rockwell regards such right as unquestionable.

GEN. WALKER'S FORCE IN CENTRAL AMERICA.—A letter from Granada in the New Orleans *Delta*, gives the following as a correct list of the number of men in the service of General Walker in Central America, capable of duty:—

| | Men. |
|---|---|
| At Granada, Col. Frye's command numbers, | 247 |
| At Leon, Col Skeretts' | 353 |
| At San Carlos, Capt. Linton's | 83 |
| At Castillo, Lieut. Baldwin's | 98 |
| At Chinendaga, Lieut. Col. Saunders' | 115 |
| At Rivas, Major Brewster's | 147 |
| At Masaya, Capt. Averat's | 91 |
| Convalescents in various hospitals | 28 |
| Total | 1,262 |

—besides a corps in Granada, composed of Quartermaster and Commissary clerks, citizens, &c., numbering 136 men.

It is further stated that fresh troops to the number of one thousand are already on the way, and the next steamer will bring us the intelligence that Walker has two thousand of the best fighting men in the world under his banners. With such a force he can defy all Central America.

A MEMORABLE CONGRESS.—One of our NIGGER WORSHIPPING cotemporaries boasts that this will be a memorable Congress. We do not doubt that it will be, in useless agitation, Buncombe speeches, and log rolling intrigues for fleecing the public treasury. In these respects it promises to a very memorable Congress.

THE LAW OF STORMS.—The snow storm which opened upon us in New York early yesterday morning, interfered with a political meeting in Washington the previous evening. We have noticed through this past winter that every seaboard nor'east snow storm of any considerable extent has invariably commenced at Washington from six to eight hours before its opening here—thus establishing the law that these nor'easters advance from the South over the undercurrent of wind which issues from them. We repeat, then, that this meteorological law may be appropriated to the highest commercial advantages along this coast, in telegraphic warnings to the shipping of approaching storms from a point even so near as Washington or Baltimore. Why cannot Professor Meriam here, and the Commissioner of the Patent Office at Washington, in conjunction, turn their attention to some practical results on this subject? We dare say that such experiments through six months would be worth all the cold terms and heated terms and earthquakes of a hundred years observations.

WE TAKE IT BACK.—That roseate paragraph about spring, which we gave in yesterday's HERALD, has turned out to be a little in advance of the season. It is not quite time for Panama hats and linen trowsers yet. Very early yesterday morning, spring left town for the South, and winter came back in the shape of a protracted snow storm, which has made things rather uncomfortable. But we must hope for the best, and trust that to day will be quite equal to Tuesday. At the same time, we may be permitted to suggest, mildly, that winter, not content with lingering in the lap of spring, has positively sat down in it.

## THE LATEST NEWS.

### BY MAGNETIC AND PRINTING TELEGRAPHS.

### From Washington.

THE RESULT OF THE KANSAS DISPUTE IN THE HOUSE—JUDGE DOUGLAS AND HIS OPPONENTS.

WASHINGTON, March 19, 1856.

Dunn's proposition was seized with great avidity by the nigger worshippers, and they declared after its passage that they preferred it infinitely more than they did the original proposition. The commissioners to be appointed by the Speaker, it is thought, will be the following gentlemen:—Dunn, of Indiana; Boyce, of South Carolina, and Hickman, of Pennsylvania. As to the last named gentleman, an effort will be made to select some other Pennsylvanian.

Mr. Douglas will speak to-morrow in reply to his colleague, and in support of his report. I understand to-day there will be an attempt made by the nigger worshippers to get him into a personal difficulty. He will be fully prepared for any emergency.

### More Railroad Accidents.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT ON THE HUDSON RIVER RAILROAD—SEVERAL PERSONS INJURED.

ALBANY, March 19, 1856.

The train which left New York at 12 o'clock to-day, on the Hudson River Railroad, was thrown from the track when about three miles below this city, by the breaking of some of the running gear of the first passenger car. The first and second passenger cars were pitched down an embankment into a field, landing bottom up.

Geo. B. Woodbridge, Sergeant-at-Arms, of the Legislature, had both legs broken.

Joseph Ranney, of Greenbush, one leg broken.

Reuben Ellis, of New York, injured internally.

A Mr. Ellis, from Fair Haven, N. Y., had his ancle broken.

A lady, name unknown, was severely burned by the stove.

Many others were slightly injured.

Among the passengers in the first car, who escaped injury were the Rev. Dr. Osborn, Rev. C. Phillips and Rev. S. Deusen.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE BALTIMORE AND PHILADELPHIA RAILROAD.

PHILADELPHIA, March 19, 1856.

A collision occurred between two freight trains on the Baltimore and Philadelphia railroad last night, near Havre de Grace.

The collision occurred at Aberdeen, at about 10 P. M. One of the trains left Baltimore at 6 o'clock and the other, an extra freight train, about an hour afterward. The advance train was delayed, waiting for the mail train to pass, and the usual signals were displayed, but in consequence of the thick snow storm, they could not be seen by the engineer of the rear train; hence the collision. George D. Godwin, the conductor, was killed instantly; Wm. Todd, brakeman, lingered till he was brought to Havre de Grace. The deceased have each left a family. Mr. Flynn was but slightly injured.

### The Philadelphia Catastrophy.

PHILADELPHIA, March 19, 1856.

The late steam ferry boat catastrophe keeps the public mind much excited. The crowds on the wharves to-day have not diminished in witnessing the progress of those engaged in looking for the missing bodies. There have been found this afternoon Mary Massey, Charles Sharp and Elisha Hutchinson, which swells the number to twenty-four already found. The loss will not fall far short of sixty persons. The hull of the ill fated steamer is being raised this afternoon near Camden, and it is thought that several bodies will be found therein.

### Steamboat Destroyed—Probable Loss of Life.

NEW ORLEANS, March 19, 1856.

It is reported here that the steamboat Alabama, plying on the Red river, has been totally destroyed; that the boiler burst, the boat took fire and was burned to the water. A number of persons were injured, according to the account, and several are missing.

### Marine Disasters.

LOSS OF SCHOONER MOUNTAIN SPRING.

BOSTON, March 19, 1856.

A letter dated coast of Africa, Feb. 5, reports the loss of the whaling schooner Mountain Spring, of Provincetown, which was capsized in Cintra bay, January 8. Her master, Capt. Young; a boatsteerer, named Center, and a cabin boy, named Miller, were saved; all the rest on board perished.

DISASTER TO THE BRIG PEERLESS.

HALIFAX, March 19, 1856.

The brig Peerless, Hilton, seventy days from Cardiff, bound to New York, put in here yesterday short of provisions. Spoke brig Erie, on the 17th, twenty miles south of Sambro, sixty days from St. Domingo, bound to Boston, short of provisions. She had lost all of her crew with the exception of three, and intended putting into Liverpool, N. S.

### The Virginia Legislature.

RICHMOND, March 19, 1856.

The Virginia Legislature adjourned to-day.

The weather here is very mild. A few flakes of snow fell yesterday.

### Prohibitory Liquor Law Constitutional.

DETROIT, March 19, 1856.

Seven of the eight Judges of the Supreme Court of Michigan have affirmed the constitutionality of the Prohibitory Liquor law of that State, which is similar to the law of New York.

### Fire at Holyoke, Mass.

HOLYOKE, Mass., March 19, 1856.

The dry house of the Hadley Falls Company was destroyed by fire this afternoon. Loss slight.

### The Weather and the Snow Storm.

PHILADELPHIA, March 19, 1856.

Weather snowy, slushy and very disagreeable, and all outdoor business operations are suspended.

BALTIMORE, March 19—Noon.

It has been snowing here all night. The weather is mild, and there is some appearance of clearing off.

WASHINGTON, March 19—12 M.

The snow storm here ceased at 10 A. M. There is little on the ground, it having melted nearly as fast as it fell. The clouds are now breaking.

WHEELING, Va., March 19, 1856.

The ice gave way below here to-day, but gorged. The weather is quite mild, and there are indications of rain. There is every prospect of navigation opening immediately.

ALBANY, March 19—10 P. M.

Snow has fallen steadily all day. There are now indications of rain.

BOSTON, March 19, 1856.

Snow has fallen here densely since three o'clock this afternoon, but melted almost as soon as it touched the ground. This evening there are indications of rain.

### THIRTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

### Senate.

WASHINGTON, March 19, 1856.

The Senate passed the Military Academy appropriation bill.

CENTRAL AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

Mr. CLAYTON, (K. N.) of Del., concluded his remarks on Central American affairs. He stated, on the authority of Mr. Vanderbilt, the President of the Transit Company, that there never was any act on the part of that company which in any manner encouraged Walker's invasion of Nicaragua. He referred to Walker's seizure of the company's property, amounting to nearly a million of dollars, and read letters from Mr. Vanderbilt to Secretary Marcy, in which the former asks for the interposition of the United States government for redress. The seizure was made on the ground that the company was indebted to Nicaragua. He (Mr. Vanderbilt) denied such indebtedness, and refused to submit to the award of arbitrators, as the charges were utterly false. With regard to the settlement of our differences with England three propositions had been made. Arbitration could not be countenanced because the passage of the isthmus was necessary for us and not for Great Britain, and because, with an impartial umpire, our case would be clear. Abrogation of the treaty would give a chance to Great Britain to get possessions where she could annoy us, and as to giving notice to Great Britain to vacate the premises, it was not proper to do so at present. He proposed to continue the negotiation with the hope of bringing Great Britain to reason by argument. Meanwhile, we should arm in our own defence, protect our coast, build fortifications and increase our navy; not, however, to make our country rival Great Britain. We should take time to do this. It is our right to do so, war or no war. This is the worst time we could engage in a war with Great Britain. She is armed *cap-a-pie*, capable of throwing 40,000 troops from the Crimea on our coast, and with the greatest naval equipment ever known in the history of the world, while we are almost defenceless. If Great Britain should see we are resolved to enforce our rights by pursuing the doctrine laid down by Washington—"in time of peace prepare for war"—should see we are building up our fortifications and naval power, the people of England will compel their government to yield its positions. Since the publication of the correspondence between Lord Clarendon and Mr. Buchanan, public opinion in England has been rapidly tending towards an acknowledgment of the justice of our construction of the treaty. He (Clayton) had received on this point such information as left no doubt of the fact that our appeal must be from the British ministry to the British people, who wish to engage in no unjust war with us. At any rate, be the consequences what they may, if we are driven to the alternative—disgraceful submission or war—we must fight. We could not, however, believe there was any real danger of war. If Senators and representatives stand firm and present an undivided front—if we all agree on our rights and manifest a determination to enforce them—they will be respected. The British people will turn any ministry out rather than fight with such a nation as ours.

THE DEFICIENCY BILL.

The Deficiency Appropriation bill was then considered. Three hundred thousand dollars was appropriated to continue the Washington aqueduct.

Mr. HAMLIN, (dem.) of Me., made an ineffectual effort for an appropriation to the various Custom Houses and marine hospitals.

Adjourned.

### House of Representatives.

WASHINGTON, March 19, 1856.

THE KANSAS CONTESTED ELECTION CASE.

Mr. BOWIE, (nat.) of Md., spoke against Mr. Reeder's position in the Kansas case, and against granting power to send for persons and papers.

Mr. HICKMAN, (dem.) of Pa., said it was admitted that there had been an invasion of Kansas by armed forces from Missouri, and the rights of the people virtually subverted. Had not the committee the right to inquire into these facts? He attributed the present troubles to the repeal of the Missouri compromise, but he would not vote for its restoration. It was basely and ignominously destroyed—had gone into the arms of debauchees, been deflowered, dishonored, polluted, and cannot be restored to its original sanctity and purity. He could not, therefore, again take it in his arms. He looked forward to the day when those instrumental in this act of wickedness and folly would repent in sackcloth and ashes.

The House then voted under the operation of the previous question.

Mr. BENNETT, (dem.) of Miss., had moved to amend the committee's resolution to send for persons and papers, by substituting Joseph H. Bradley and Sidney S. Baxter as Commissioners, clothed with full power to take testimony.

The House adopted, by a vote of 104 against 91, in lieu of Mr. Bennett's proposition, Mr. Dunn's substitute, which provides that the Speaker appoint a committee of three of the members of the House, to proceed to Kansas and take testimony, appropriating $10,000 to pay their expenses, and requesting the President to give them military protection if necessary.

Mr. COBB, (dem.) of Ga., said—As there was now no remaining proposition which ought to be adopted, he moved to lay the subject on the table. Negatived by 93 against 100.

Mr. Dunn's proposition, in lieu of the original resolution, to send for persons and papers, was then adopted, by 101 against 92.

YEAS—Messrs. Allison, Ball, Barbour, Barclay, Henry Bennett, Benson, Billinghurst, Bishop, Bliss, Bradshaw, Brenton, Buffington, Burlingame, Campbell of Pa., Campbell of Ohio, Chaffee, Clark of N Y., Clark of Conn., Clawson, Colfax, Comins, Corode, Cragin, Cumback, Damrell, Davis of Mass., Day, Dean, Dick, Dickson, Dodd, Dunn, Durfee, Edie, Edwards, Emrie, Flagler, Galloway, Giddings, Gilbert, Granger, Grow, Ball of Iowa, Hall of Mass., Harlan, Harrison, Haven, Hickman, Horton of N. Y., Horton of Ohio, Howard, Hughston, Kelsey, King, Knapp, Knight, Knowlton, Knox, Leiter, Mace, Matteson, Meacham, Miller of N. Y., Millward, Moore, Morgan, Morrill, Mott, Murray, Nichols, Norton, Andrew Oliver, Parker, Pettit, Pike, Pringle, Ritchie, Robbins, Roberts, Sage, Sapp, Scott, Sherman, Simmons, Spinner, Stranahan, Thorington, Todd, Tratton, Tyson, Wade, Wakeman, Walbridge, Waldron, Washburn of Wis., Washburn of Ill., Washburn of Me., Watson, Welch, Woodruff, Woodworth—101.

NAYS—Aiken, Allen, Bell, Bonnell of Miss., Bocock, Bowie, Boyce, Branch, Brooks, Broom, Burnett, Cadwalader, Campbell of Ky., Carlile, Caruthers, Caskie, Clingman, Cobb of Ga., Cobb of Ala., Cox, Craige, Crawford, Davidson, Davis of Md., Dowdell, Edmundson, Elliott, English, Eustis, Evans, Faulkner, Florence, Fuller of Me., Goode, Harris of Md., Harris of Ala., Harris of Ill., Herbert, Hoffman, Houston, Jones of Tenn., Jones of Pa., Kelly, Kennett, Kidwell, Lake, Letcher, Lindley, Lumpkin, Alexander K. Marshall, Humphrey Marshall, Marshall of Ill., Maxwell, McMullen, McQueen, Miller of Ind., Millson, Oliver of Mo., Orr, Paine, Peck, Phelps, Porter, Quitman, Ready, Ricaud, Richardson, Ruffin, Sandidge, Savage, Seward, Shorter, Smith of Tenn., Smith of Va., Smith of Ala., Snell, Stewart, Swope, Talbot, Taylor, Trippe, Underwood, Vail, Valk, Walker, Warner, Watkins, Wheeler, Whitney, Winslow, Wright of Tenn., Zollicoffer—92.

Adjourned.

### Arrival of the Florida at Savannah.

SAVANNAH, March 18, 1856.

The steamship Florida has arrived here after a passage of sixty hours from New York.

### Markets.

PHILADELPHIA STOCK BOARD.

PHILADELPHIA, March 19, 1856.

Stocks are steady; quotations as follows:—Pennsylvania 5's, 83¾; Reading Railroad, 45⅜; Long Island, 15¼; Morris Canal, 14¾; Pennsylvania Railroad, 45¾.

CHARLESTON, March 19, 1856.

Cotton firm. Sales to-day, 3,500 bales.

### Our Washington Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, March 19, 1856.

*The Vanderbilt Circular—The Transit Company's Old Plea Against the Intervention of our Government to be Pleaded Against its Claim for Redress—Discussion in the Cabinet on the Sound Dues Question.*

The Vanderbilt circular, as published in Monday's HERALD, is considered here as an effort, on the part of the writer, to force the government into taking sides with the parties complaining. Its tone is marked by the same confident character that distinguishes the generality of Mr. Vanderbilt's letters, when dictating or directing affairs, and which is seldom acceptable, even to private parties who have to act under them for a common livelihood. If Mr. Vanderbilt is really serious in his declaration to let the Transit Company's boats lay at their wharves until our government has sufficient time to examine into the Walker outrage, I am clearly of opinion that some time will pass before they again see Nicaragua.

Under the direction of counsel, the late Transit Company denied, in the most formal manner, any responsibility to the government of the United States, contending that it was a private company, and claimed only protection of the government from which it derived its charter, which was Nicaragua. This official affirmation is in the possession of the State Department, and is ready for Mr. Vanderbilt's examination, should that gentleman have the curiosity to see it. If time and the cost of travel to this city and back again to New York be an object to Mr. Vanderbilt, he can save both by putting confidence in the assurance here given, that his complaints will receive from Mr. Marcy no further attention than a polite suggestion to refer them from Washington to Nicaragua, as the United States can have nothing to do in the matter. It is doubtless a discomfiture, and a breaking up of plans and arrangements to the company, but it will have to look elsewhere than to Washington in its affliction for sympathy, as none exists here; no, none whatever.

The Cabinet had under consideration yesterday the Sound Dues question, and if my authority can be relied upon, the Danish government will have at least another year's respite before our vessels will attempt a free entrance into the Baltic.

### Court Calendar—This Day.

SUPERIOR COURT—Special trial term.—Nos. 1274, 1275, 1411, 1520, 1563, 1698, 1644, 1645, 1649, 1653, 1714, 1751, 1847, 1850, 1862, 1875, 1902, 1904, 1906, 1911, 1914, 1916, 1946, 1953, 1956, 1959, 1962, 1985, 1996, 1999, 2001, 2013, 2018, 2022, 2025, 2040, 2046, 2050, 2062, 2064, 2065, 2073, 2084, 2087, 2091, 2092, 2103, 2104, 2114, 2115, 2216, 2131, 2138, 1235.

SUPREME COURT—Circuit.—Nos. 213, 253, 214, 336, 104, 346, 363, 364, 79, 387, 368 to 372.

SUPREME COURT—Special Term.—Nos. 111, 17, 89, 56, 60, 108, 169, 185, 243, 136, 85, 90, 91, 137, 157, 158, 175, 186, 222, 199.

EMANCIPATED SLAVES COMING TO NEW YORK.—The late L. B. Leavell, a wealthy citizen of Elkton, Ky., by will provided for the emancipation of several of his slaves, and disposed of the entire residue of his large estate—said to be worth at least $200,000—to three or four of them, who, by the provisions of the will, are to be removed to the city of New York as soon as practicable.

### Opening Day.

To-day the different millinery and dressmaking establishments in the city are thrown open to the public, and their new styles and fashions for the ensuing season submitted to inspection.

Opening day, as it is called, is always a day of unusual bustle and animation, an era in the fashionable calendar—a day to date from and to look forward to—and, after the dreary, protracted winter we have passed, this spring opening was expected with more than ordinary interest. Had it been a rampart against bad weather, or a barrier that winter could not overleap, it could not have been more anxiously desired; and now, though it has arrived, the newly fallen snow still whitens the ground, and "winter lingering chills the lap of spring." Nevertheless, we think the various exhibition rooms will be as crowded to-day as they have ever been heretofore on similar occasions, for in a matter of such moment ladies are not to be frightened by a few snow flakes or rain drops. Indeed, we expect and hope they will be out in full force to-day, for when we reflect on the time and labor and thought that has been bestowed upon the artistic creations they are expected to examine and admire, the mere act of flitting from place to place loses its frivolity and becomes elevated to the dignity of a high moral duty. There is not much probability, however, that such a time-honored custom will be disregarded, for what affords such facilities for observation and comparison—what such displays of contrasts and combinations—what such a multiplicity of objects and variety of colors, as the showroom of a fashionable modiste on opening day? This season the display is expected to be fuller and more brilliant than usual, for the preparations have been more extensive, and the importations of foreign fashions have been carried on on a larger scale. For weeks past the workrooms of the different establishments have been in constant commotion, and their occupants busy as a swarm of bees in summer time, modifying foreign fashions to suit native tastes, and changing ideas and inspirations into shapes and forms. To-day we will have the great result.

These semi-annual exhibitions exercise a considerable influence on the trade of our city. They sound the first note of preparation for the coming season. They are suggestive of a change, and this idea involves the necessity of preparation. At these periods, too, the country dressmakers and milliners, who resort to New York in order that they may be *au courant du jour* in matters of fashion, make heavy purchases, and return home hampered and laden down with city goods. Add to this the made up articles that are sold and the orders for additional supplies that are given to-day, and we will find that these "openings" act not only on the busy fingers of industry but on the national currency, impelling both to quicker motion. Therefore, may they flourish, and long may they be numbered among our institutions. Long may New York continue to be the grand receiving and distributing reservoir of native and foreign fashions.

### Burton's Theatre—The New Comedy.

A new American comedy was acted for the first time last evening to one of the fullest houses of the season. "Taking the Chances" is the old story. Mr. Parker Pomeroy (Russell) is a wealthy New York grocer, with a Mrs. Pomeroy (Mrs Holman), who desires to be fashionable, and gets a Mrs. Fitz Fungus (Mrs. Parker) to help her. The politics of the family are in the care of Mr. Diogenes Duff (Moore), a politician, who is very anxious for the safety of the Union and a fat office. Miss Blanche (Mrs. C. Howard), the only hope of the Pomeroys, is a young lady whose head has been turned by sensation novels, and who has found her affinity in the person of Mr. Flashington Flighty (Perry)—the usual style of light comedy gentleman, with good clothes, manners supposed to be polished, and no money. The hero of the piece—Peter Pomeroy (Mr. McVicker)—is a New Hampshire boy on a visit to New York. He is an old lover of Miss Blanche, who is about to runaway with Flighty. The cute Peter, however, suspects Flighty, and proves him to be a swindler and already married. Miss Blanche becomes sensible, all at once, and gives her "hand and heart" to Peter.

The dialogue contains some pretty hard raps at "good society," female novel writers, and newspapers that report fashionable parties, and is strongly American in its sentiment. The characters are good outlines, but lack that completeness which is requisite for long life on the stage. In fact, the comedy is very much the same (though a little more refined) as other pieces of the same school, evidently written more for a good Yankee part than for perfect comedy. And we are glad to say that the author has not deemed it necessary to caricature the part, but that Peter Pomeroy is a Yankee that every New England man can see with pleasure. His truth, rough, vigorous honesty, strong common sense and patriotism are strongly depicted, and were fully brought out by Mr. McVicker, who gave us a glorious piece of acting—easy, natural, exceedingly humorous, and quietly artistic. What the more serious part would have been, had not Mr. Perry been reckless, careless and imperfect, we cannot say. He was visited with the deserved disapprobation of the audience. Mrs. Howard looked and acted very well, and the same may be said of the rest of the company, with the exception above noted. The piece was quite successful—audience seemed highly delighted—Mr. McVicker was called out three times—and after the curtain fell he announced the comedy for repetition. The author is Mr. Charles Gayler, of this city.

OPENING LETTERS.—Considerable excitement was caused in and about the Post office yesterday by the arrest of one of the letter carriers attached to the "Bowery Post office" so called, charged with having opened quite a number of letters belonging to other parties, while on his way from the said "Bowery" office to the Post Office in Nassau street.

It appears that the movements of this carrier, while coming down Nassau street, attracted the attention of several citizens, who followed him, and saw him break open the letters in a very bold manner, examine them hastily, and then, on arriving at the Post Office, drop them into the letter box. Mr. Fowler, the Postmaster, happening along at that moment, learned the facts, and the carrier was rather unceremoniously invited to walk into the office, where he was confronted by his accusers who had witnessed the opening process. Meanwhile, a search was made for the mutilated letters referred to, and some of them were found inside the office, and still open. But the accused stoutly denied the charge, notwithstanding his acts had been observed, in broad daylight, by no less than four or five highly respectable and disinterested witnesses.

The case, we understand, is to come before a United States Commissioner for investigation.

### Compliments of the British Government to Dr. Kane and his Associates.

The following message and correspondence were recently transmitted to the United States Senate by the President of the United States:—

WASHINGTON, March 17, 1856.

I transmit to Congress the copy of a correspondence which has recently taken place between her Britannic Majesty's Minister accredited to this government and the Secretary of State, in order that the expediency of sanctioning the acceptance by the officers of the United States who were in the American expedition in search of Sir John Franklin of such token of thankfulness as may be offered to them on the part of her Majesty's government for their services on the occasion referred to may be taken into consideration. FRANKLIN PIERCE.

WASHINGTON Dec. 8, 1855.

SIR—Her Majesty's Government have lately received information of the return of Dr. Kane from his expedition in search of Sir John Franklin, and her Majesty's government have also been apprised of the safe return of the searching squadron under Captain Hartstein.

This intelligence has afforded sincere pleasure to her Majesty's government, and I now, by the instructions of the Earl of Clarendon, have the honor to offer to the American government the cordial congratulations of the British government on the safe return of Dr. Kane and his gallant associates from their hazardous enterprise.

I have already expressed to Dr. Kane himself, and requested him to communicate to the officers and crews of the vessels under his command, the assurance of the sincere gratitude of the British government and nation for their generous exertions, and also to Mr. Grinnell, who liberally advanced the necessary funds for the undertaking; and I am further instructed to express to the government of the United States the best thanks of her Majesty's government for the friendly aid which they afforded to the expedition.

Her Majesty's government feel desirous to present some acknowledgment to Mr. Grinnell, and to Dr. Kane and the other officers of the American expedition, as a memorial of the sense which they entertain of their arduous and generous services; and her Majesty's government trust that the government of the United States will not withhold their permission to such of those officers as are in their service to accept any token of thankfulness which may be offered to them by the British government.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you, sir, the assurance of my high consideration.

JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, Dec. 18, 1855.

SIR—I have had the honor to receive your note of the 18th instant, offering the congratulations of her Majesty's government on the safe return of Dr. Kane and his companions from their expedition in quest of Sir John Franklin, and the thanks of her Majesty's government for the aid afforded to the expedition by the government of the United States. You also express a hope that this government will not withhold its permission for such officers of the expedition as were in its service to accept such token of thankfulness as might be offered by her Majesty's government. In reply I have the honor to acquaint you that, by the constitution of the United States, the power to give the permission referred to is exclusively vested in Congress. A copy of your note, however, and of this reply, will be submitted for the consideration of that body.

I avail myself of this occasion, sir, to offer to you a renewed assurance of my high consideration. WM. L. MARCY.

To JOHN F. CRAMPTON, Esq., &c., &c.

### Brooklyn City News.

CONSECRATION OF A JEWISH SYNAGOGUE.—On Sunday last the Jews of Brooklyn consecrated an apartment which they have rented at 155 Atlantic street, as a temporary