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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING. SIRLO'S GARDEN, Broadway—See Spectacles on the Clockmaker's Hat.

WOOD'S MINSTRELS, 444 Broadway—European Minstrel Party.

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Principles and Practices of the Fillmore and Pierce Administrations.

Those ardent supporters of Mr. Fillmore who promise the country so much on his accession to the Presidency, and themselves so much more, know very well that it will not bring one particle of reform to the administration of public affairs, however much it may benefit themselves.

Mr. Fillmore's administration was quite distinguished by bold and dashing attempts on the Treasury, which would have been entirely successful but for the Argus eyes of the independent press.

There was another interesting event which occurred during his administration—the Gardner swindle—in which some of his leading and most esteemed supporters figured largely.

And there was still another operation equally on a grand scale, in which Mr. Fillmore was a party, involuntarily we fully believe, and that was the guano speculation, which originated with some of Mr. Webster's immediate friends.

These three memorable examples of his executive watchfulness are matters of history, although his biographers skip over the chapters in which they are recorded.

HEALTH OF THE CITY.—Since the HERALD set itself to work to secure the health of the city, much has been done under the good of public opinion thus excited into action.

THE VIGILANCE COMMITTEE OF SAN FRANCISCO. We publish to-day a communication from Mr. Maloney, one of the exiles from California, banished by the Vigilance Committee.

Similar statements and letters from correspondents, and the numerous extracts from the San Francisco papers, already published in the HERALD, will aid the public in arriving at the truth in this remarkable episode in the career of California.

DEFEAT OF MAYOR WOOD IN THE SYRACUSE CONVENTION.—The small vote which Mayor Wood obtained in the Syracuse Convention for the nomination for Governor has greatly surprised his friends here.

Mr. Wood received Mr. Buchanan with some cold on his return from Europe, and renewed the personal and political relations with him which had grown out of their association together in Congress.

What effect this singular policy will produce between this and election time it were hard to say. While the democrats at Syracuse are celebrating the coalition of the hards and softs, it may be that a worse split than the last is taking place in the party, and will completely sever the Custom House interest from the corporation interest before November.

THE REASON PERHAPS WHY GOVERNOR SHANNON RESIGNED.—We make the following extract from a letter published in the Freeman of this city, from one of the Latter Day Saints who has been travelling in Mississippi.

LETTERS.—Nothing marks the decline in the character of our political men better than some traits which the men at present figuring on the political stage are constantly exhibiting.

PERSONAL ATTACKS ON PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES.—It is amusing to witness the contortions of many of the mean disreputable papers in the support of Fillmore and Buchanan when the chance has been so free in using is carried to their own lips.

THE BOSTON PRESS AND THE NEW YORK NEWS, for instance, both published a romantic story of Mr. Buchanan's early loves, of the sorrowful death of the lady and of the danger he encountered himself.

tered himself. Straightway these love tales travel through the country—are used by Mr. Buchanan's friends as electioneering documents, and become a legitimate subject of comment for the independent press.

GEORGE LAW'S LAST WORDS TO SCROGGS AND FILLMORE.—We have received another and probably a parting letter from George Law, purporting to be addressed to us, but in reality containing a reply to the famous General Gustavus Adolphus Scroggs—a title which is now generally supposed to be a mere nom de plume or nom de guerre adopted by Millard Fillmore, the candidate of the Know Nothings, at present reposing in Buffalo.

THE KNOW NOTHING OR AMERICAN PARTY was a sudden emanation of the popular mind, and if its managers had possessed the slightest good sense or discretion, and nominated some new and original candidate at Philadelphia—some such man, for instance, as George Law—it might be at this moment the greatest, most powerful and most wonderful party that has ever risen to existence in this land.

POLITICIANS, NOT STATESMEN.—Nothing marks the decline in the character of our political men better than some traits which the men at present figuring on the political stage are constantly exhibiting.

Mr. Toombs says that "the election of Fremont would be the end of the Union and ought to be." On the other hand, Mr. Wendell Phillips is opposed to the republicans and Fremont because "they will retard the dissolution of the Union."

Meanwhile, the leading Southern journals—not the obscure ones—but such journals as the Charleston Mercury, rejoice over the Summer outrage, as "it will be likely to convince the North of the impossibility of remaining a united country."

From the ravings of these infuriate madmen it is quite refreshing to turn to Col. Fremont, who really seems to be the only sensible man in the Presidential party, for he has said nothing and written but one short letter, very modest and plain spoken in favor of the Union—the whole Union.

The News from Mexico—The Religious Discussion in that Republic.

The question of toleration of religion, which at present has produced some disagreement between the Mexican Congress and government, presents some anomalous features unknown in former controversies elsewhere on this exciting topic.

Both parties to this issue are anxious for immigration from abroad in order to people the vast tracts of unoccupied lands in the republic; and both admit that this immigration must be Protestant. The deputies contend that without toleration no European immigrants will come, and in order to induce them to come religious freedom ought to be established.

From Washington. THE NEW GOVERNOR OF KANSAS—ELECTIONEERING DOCUMENTS, ETC. Col. Geary has accepted the appointment of Governor of Kansas, and will proceed thence as soon as his instructions are made out.

MARKETS. COTTON has been in steady demand during the week, with moderate sales at unchanged prices. WHEAT was quiet at 60 cents, and the market was not very active.

OUR PHILADELPHIA CORRESPONDENCE. PHILADELPHIA, AUGUST 3, 1856. About noon the firmament lowered, and all eyes were cast towards heaven for rain, which is now falling most copiously, and may continue without intermission until the bowels of the earth are moistened and saturated by its benign influence.

THE HERALD'S correspondent states that the Dudley Observatory, which is announced to be dedicated at the time of the meeting, is not yet equipped with astronomical apparatus; and that the State Geological Hall, also to be dedicated, is not entirely completed, and the vast collections in Natural History, belonging to the State, have not yet been deposited in their place in the building.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE. Col. John B. Geary, of New Hampshire, has declined the appointment of Secretary of Minnesota Territory. Letters from Heligoland state that the Grand Duke Nicholas, Inspector General of Engineers, said a visit to the island was a most agreeable one.

tered into before a civil magistrate. At present it is not only a contract but a sacrament, to be solemnized before a priest and between communicants of the Romish Church. All other marriages are by law made prostitution. Making all marriages contracted before a magistrate legal, would render Protestants equal in all respects as regards legal rights and privileges to the Catholics, and in fact establish religious privileges as fully as they now exist in the United States.

CHOTON WATSON. It appears, from the judicious and well timed report of Mr. Van Schaick, of the Croton Water Department, that the supply for the city has greatly diminished during the hot weather. The shovel and broom departments were quite willing to have their duties performed by the Croton Board, but the Board having a wide awake officer at their head, have shovelled back the filth of the streets upon those whose business it is to clear it away.

THE LATEST NEWS. BY MAGNETIC AND PRINTING TELEGRAPHS. From Washington. THE NEW GOVERNOR OF KANSAS—ELECTIONEERING DOCUMENTS, ETC. Col. Geary has accepted the appointment of Governor of Kansas, and will proceed thence as soon as his instructions are made out.

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