NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OFFICE N. W. CORNER OF FULTON AND NASSAU STS.

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Volume XXII.....No. 294

AMUSEMENTS TO-MORROW EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway—FAUST—IL CAVALLO D'ORO.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway—THE CONSCRIPT—LES ABEILLES—THE PANTOMIME OF BOUBAS.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery—ROMEO AND JULIET—PRIDE OF THE MARKET—KING OF CLUBS.

BURTON'S THEATRE, Broadway, opposite Bond street.—MACBETH—THE IRISH BROOM-MAKER.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway—CAPRICE, OR LOVER AND HUSBAND—PAST AND PRESENT.

LAURA KEENE'S THEATRE, Broadway—BIRDS OF PREY—LEND ME FIVE SHILLINGS.

BARNUM'S AMERICAN MUSEUM, Broadway—AQUARIA GYMNASTIC FEATS—CHARACTERISTIC SONGS, CURIOSITIES, &c.

WOOD'S BUILDINGS, 561 and 563 Broadway—ETHIOPIAN MINSTRELSY, DANCING, BURLESQUES—MARRIED AND BURIED.

MECHANICS' HALL, 472 Broadway—NEGRO MELODIES, BURLESQUE—THE MOUNTEBANKS.

NEW OLYMPIC THEATRE, 514 Broadway—VARIETY, NEGRO BURLESQUES, CONCERTS, &c.—KING OF CLUBS.

EMPIRE HALL, 536 Broadway—PAINTINGS ILLUSTRATIVE OF DR. KANE'S ARCTIC EXPEDITION, &c.

New York, Sunday, October 25, 1857.

The News.

The steamship Baltic, which left Liverpool on the 14th inst., is now due at this port with four days later European news. She will also, in all probability, bring important intelligence from India.

The steamship Vanderbilt sailed from this port yesterday for Southampton and Havre, carrying out nearly six hundred passengers. The Atlantic, in consequence of an accident to her machinery, could not leave at her appointed hour, and will probably be detained three or four days. Postmaster Fowler telegraphed to Washington for authority to send the mails by the Vanderbilt, but the Postmaster General declined to interfere, saying that the responsibility of the failure to transmit the mails must rest upon the Collins line and the Navy Department. The mails were consequently left behind and taken back to the Post Office. In view of the present disturbed condition of commercial affairs the failure of the European mail is a circumstance to be deeply deplored.

The clipper ship Dreadnaught sailed from this port yesterday for Liverpool, with three hundred and forty passengers, the largest number ever taken in a sailing vessel from this country to Europe.

Captain Van Vleit, who left Great Salt Lake City on the 14th ult., has arrived at St. Louis. He states that the Mormons are unanimously of the opinion that the troops and government officers would never gain a foothold in Utah.

We have news from San Juan del Norte, Nicaragua, to the 20th ult. Our correspondent states that the provisional government had issued a decree summarily expelling from the country every American who had sided with Walker. Under its operation, however, all Americans, even the most worthy and inoffensive, were being driven away, and not more than half a dozen, located at La Virgin and San Juan del Sur, remained in the so-called republic. Nicaragua was rapidly recovering from the effects of the late war. The election for President was to have taken place on the 26th, and it was thought Gen. Martinez would be chosen. It was believed that Walker still had many friends in Nicaragua, but all his influential native adherents had been either banished or sentenced to penal servitude. We have a confirmation of the news of the expulsion of Mr. Casey Jones from Costa Rica by President Mora, under the suspicion of his being a spy in the interest of the filibusters. The Costa Ricans were in much alarm, having a wholesome dread of the projected Walker demonstration, and were making preparation for a stout resistance. Col. Schlessinger had left, *en route* for the United States.

Our correspondent at Nassau, N. P., writing on 10th of October, states that there was a good deal of fever consequent on wet weather prevailing. The weather had improved at last date. The mail packet from Nassau to St. Thomas came in collision with an American bark, and was so newhat injured by the shock, but reached port in safety.

An interesting chronological table of events in India, commencing with the Mahommedan invasion A. D. 1000, is given elsewhere. As affairs in that country at the present time are attracting much attention, this table will be found valuable as a reference.

The counsel for the Liquor Dealers' Association moved yesterday, in the Court of General Sessions, to quash one hundred and twenty-five indictments found by the present Grand Jury against alleged violators of the Sunday Liquor law. Recorder Smith granted the motion, observing that he would not feel justified in detaining the parties when the Grand Jury brought in the bills contrary to his express direction.

From the report of the City Inspector we learn that there were 410 deaths in the city last week, an increase of 17 as compared with the mortality of the week previous. The report presents no feature of special interest. The following table exhibits the number of deaths during the last two weeks among adults and children, distinguishing the sexes:—

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Week ending Oct. 17	72	67	104	102	410
Week ending Oct. 24	77	64	140	126	427

Among the principal causes of death were the following:—

	Week ending Oct. 17.	Week ending Oct. 24.
Consumption	72	77
Convulsions (infantile)	24	21
Inflammation of the lungs	16	24
Inflammation of brain	5	11
Scarlet fever	2	13
Marasmus (infantile)	46	41
Dropsy in the head	15	20
Stillborn	4	3
Croup	10	13
Cholera infantum	11	4
Bronchitis	1	7
Diarrhœa	18	15

There were also 9 deaths of apoplexy, 10 of congestion of the brain, 7 of dysentery, 11 of inflammation of the bowels, 7 of palsy, 9 of teething, 14 premature births, 24 stillborn, and 13 from violent causes, including 5 scalded or burned and 3 drowned.

The following is a classification of the diseases and the number of deaths in each class of disease during the week:—

	Oct. 17.	Oct. 24.
Bones, joints, &c.	4	3
Brain and nerves	71	94
Generative organs	6	2
Heart and blood vessels	16	12
Lungs, throat, &c.	117	111
Old age	4	3
Skin, &c., and eruptive fevers	18	21
Stillborn and premature births	31	38
Stomach, bowels and other digestive organs	115	107
Uncertain seat and general fevers	34	32
Unknown	1	1
Urinary organs	2	3
Total	410	427

The number of deaths compared with the corresponding weeks in 1855 and 1856, was as follows:—

Week ending Oct. 27, 1855	361
Week ending Oct. 25, 1856	366
Week ending Oct. 17, 1857	410
Week ending Oct. 24, 1857	427

The nativity table gives—307 natives of the United States, 76 of Ireland, 18 of Germany, 10 of England, 7 of Scotland, 3 of Italy, and 1 each of France, Poland, Wales, Switzerland and British America, and 1 unknown.

The Police Commissioners met yesterday morning and authorized General Nye to affix to his return to the late mandamus procured against the Board, the words, "By order of the Board." No other business was transacted.

The Virginia Synod of the Presbyterian Church yesterday, by a vote of thirty-two to three, resolved to withdraw from the General Assembly, in consequence of the action of that body on the slavery question. The Synod also approved of the action of the Convention of the church held some time since at Richmond, and resolved to join the new united Synod, which will meet at Nashville on the 12th of next month to perfect its organization.

James Rodgers, indicted for the murder of John Swanston, on the Tenth avenue, pleaded not guilty in the Court of General Sessions yesterday.

There was no new feature presented in the cotton market yesterday, and we can but repeat the old story, that in the absence of sales, prices were nominal. There was some less demand for flour, with rather more offering, while the transactions were confined chiefly to the local and Eastern trade. The market closed at a decline of 5c. a 10c. per barrel, chiefly on Sale and Western brands. Wheat was sold at full prices for prime to choice lots, while inferior and common grades were easier. Among the sales were about 30,000 bushels Chicago red spring at $1 00, for export. Common to good Southern white ranged from $1 25 a $1 35, and choice Tennessee white sold at $1 45; Milwaukie red at $1 09; Southern red sold at $1 20 a $1 30—the latter figure for choice. Corn was dull, with light sales of Western mixed at at 69c. a 70c. Small sales of mess pork were made at $20 50 a $21 00. Owing to the inclemency of the weather sugars were less active, but full prices continued to be maintained. Coffee was quiet and sales limited, while prices ruled quite steady. Freights were firmer for English ports, and about 40,000 bushels of grain, chiefly wheat, were engaged for Liverpool in bulk and bags at 6¾ a 6⅞ a 7d. and flour at 2s. 3d. The propeller Jason, for London, took flour at 2s. 6d., wheat at 10d. in ship's bags, rice at 37s. 6d. per ton, and cheese at 50s. Wheat was also engaged by a sailing vessel at 7d., and rosin do. at 2s. 6d.

The Virginia Senatorial Issue—Mr. Senator Hunter's Letter.

Mr. Senator Hunter, of Virginia, has at length come out and defined his position in reference to Kansas, Governor Walker and Mr. Buchanan. The letter of the Senator, however, which we lay before our readers this morning, we are compelled to say does not meet the exact necessities of his case. In fact, the only practical conclusion to which it leads us is that of a present doubtful support and a future contingent and factious hostility to Mr. Buchanan's administration.

This factious Southern ultra opposition was pretty broadly foreshadowed in various quarters, with the proclamation of Mr. Buchanan's inaugural and Cabinet—with the establishment of the raw fire-eaters' new organ at Richmond, Virginia, under the significant title of the "*South*," it became manifest that this foreshadowed hostility had already assumed the form of an extensive factious organization; and thus, with the approach of the Virginia spring elections for the State Legislature, the equivocal position of Senator Hunter as a democrat of the Southern ultra school was actively agitated inside and outside of the Old Dominion. It was well understood that Mr. Hunter was a candidate for re-election to the Senate; that the Legislature to be elected would have to pass upon his claims; and upon this issue, we believe, a Legislature was elected so decidedly favorable to Mr. Buchanan's administration as to be competent and willing to dispose of Mr. Hunter, yea or nay, as his exact position towards the administration might require.

The understanding that Gov. Wise was desirous of filling the place of Mr. Hunter in the United States Senate had very much to do with these aforesaid Virginia spring elections; and from the overwhelming popularity of the Governor as one of the earliest, most zealous and constant supporters of Mr. Buchanan, the new position of the Governor as a candidate for the Senate had a powerful effect upon the friends of Hunter. From that moment their policy was to conciliate the Wise party without reducing Hunter to the alternative of breaking ground either against the administration or the Southern ultras. A non-committal position like this, however, was out of the question; because, while the Virginia administration democracy were in favor of Gov. Wise for the next Presidency, they suspected that Mr. Hunter was a favorite of the Southern ultras, and that their game was to use him to break down the administration party in Virginia, as the first important movement in the erection of a purely sectional Southern Presidential organization.

Hence the hot war which for the last six months has prevailed between the Richmond *Enquirer* and other administration organs against the equivocal position of Senator Hunter on the one side, and the Richmond *South* and its echoes in defence of Mr. Hunter on the other side. Nor has the New York HERALD been a silent observer of this Virginia Senatorial imbroglio. Indeed, in a copy of the Richmond *South*, now before us, its vigilant fire-eating editor declares that in the HERALD "appeared the earliest demonstrations of hostility to Mr. Hunter;" that "that paper was the first to suggest a suspicion of his relations to the administration;" and that, from the course of this journal "in regard to the approaching (Senatorial) election in Virginia, we may adduce the most signal illustration of the HERALD's proverbial sagacity." Very well. If the New York HERALD has played the principal part in all this Virginia Senatorial squabble, we have an undoubted right to claim some share of the honor of persuading Mr. Hunter to show his hand.

But we regret to say that Mr. Hunter has failed to come up to our just expectations, and has equally failed in this remarkable letter to vindicate his character as a frank, comprehensive and enlightened statesman. He disapproves the proceedings of Governor Walker in Kansas, but thinks very well of Mr. Buchanan—all of which does very well as far as it goes. But at the precise point where Mr. Hunter should be most explicit there is a hitch in his loyalty. He says:—"What are the precise views of the President upon these questions I know not; I await their developement in the regular course. But should he differ with me upon these matters, I do not see how any practical issue can arise between him and those of his friends who entertain other opinions in regard to Gov. Walker's course." But we can assure Mr. Hunter that if he does not now perceive, he will, probably, before the winter is over, that it is upon "these matters"—these very matters—that a "practical issue" must arise.

For instance, let us compare the position assumed in this letter by Mr. Hunter with that of the President in his inaugural. And, first, we quote from the inaugural the Kansas policy of Mr. Buchanan. Speaking of the admission of Kansas into the Union the President says:—"It is the imperative and indispensable duty of the government of the United States to secure to every resident inhabitant the free and independent expression of his opinion by his vote. This sacred right of each individual must be preserved." This being accomplished, nothing can be fairer than to leave the people of a Territory, free from all foreign interference, to decide their own destiny for themselves, subject only to the constitution of the United States. "This sacred (elective) right of each individual must be preserved." Apply this test to a State constitution for Kansas. The Convention soon to meet to form such constitution was elected by less than one-fifth of the actual voters of the Territory. The Convention is thus a pro-slavery body, while, from the results of the late Territorial elections, it is clear that a very large majority of the voters of Kansas are opposed to the recognition of slavery. But had this Convention been elected by all the voters of Kansas, it still won'd stand in the position of only a committee from the people. "The sacred right of each individual" of the people in the organization of a republican government, to approve or reject the work of this committee, would still remain intact. This, we take it, is a fair interpretation of the inaugural of last March, and of the letter to the Connecticut clergymen.

But what says Mr. Hunter? He pleads the plea that this aforesaid Convention has the right to adopt a pro-slavery constitution and the right to send it up to Congress, without referring it to a vote of the people of Kansas. And, supposing this course is taken, what will probably follow? We venture to say, without a doubt, that the President and the conservatives supporting him in Congress will co-operate to send the Kansas State constitution back to Kansas, for the purpose of satisfying the people, not only of Kansas, but of the whole country. But where, in this contingency, shall we find Mr. Senator Hunter? He answers for himself. He will be found among the factious ultras of the South, in opposition to the administration and the conservative democracy. This, we take it, is the meaning of his whole letter of hair drawn technicalities and nice distinctions and quibbles.

We have not, as yet, received any opinions upon this letter from the Virginia democratic press; but we shall be surprised if it does not operate rather more seriously to damage Mr. Hunter among the administration democracy, instead of placing him in a more eligible position for a re-election to the Senate, than the equivocal attitude of silence which he has occupied for the last six months. He supports the administration with a why and a wherefore, and with conditions and reservations; but he adheres to the Southern ultras without reservation, and without a visible object except that of a Southern sectional party, outside of the administration. This is the present position of Mr. Hunter.

THE MONETARY CRISIS—ITS COMPARATIVE EFFECTS ON FREE LABORERS AND SLAVES.—If the effects of the terrible financial hurricane that is now careering over the whole country were to be confined to the breaking down of insolvent railroad companies, rotten banks and swindling stockjobbers, and to the contraction of the overblown credit system of the land, the visitation might be regarded rather as a blessing than as a curse. As it is, it will have many beneficial consequences. It will necessitate economy, and make extravagance unfashionable. It will reduce to their proper level those who in the late general prosperity of the country affected the airs of an old aristocracy. It will cause many bubbles to burst, and inflations of all kinds to collapse. For all these effects of the panic we could not be too grateful.

But one consequence has already flowed from it which is indeed deplorable, and the evil, we are afraid, will continue and increase during the coming winter. We allude to the cessation of work in many of the large factories and in almost all branches of trade, and to the forced idleness of thousands and tens of thousands who depend on their daily toil for their daily bread. It would be a very moderate estimate to take the number of persons who will be so disemployed during the coming winter in the principal cities of the North at 200,000; and these would probably represent a million mouths that will be crying for bread. On these unfortunates the financial crisis will bear with fearful effect. Luxuries can easily be dispensed with, and therefore those who will be deprived of them require no great sympathy; but when poverty and starvation come upon families, then, indeed, the trial is terrible. With a million of mouths crying for bread in our large cities we can hardly hope to escape scenes of disorder, riot and, it may be, pillage and plunder. We trust, however, that that dreadful anticipation will not be realized, but that humanity and benevolence will be exercised to such an extent as to prevent any one dying of starvation in our streets, and to guard against the perils of riot and pillage. Nevertheless, it is obvious to all that these dangers are not by any means imaginary. It is but too certain that the sufferings of the laboring classes in our cities for months to come will be great, and that thousands must endure the hardest privations.

How is it with our friends in the South? The Southern States have not escaped altogether the consequences of the present panic. There, too, it has paralyzed trade and commerce, closed up banks and depreciated State stocks, railroad stocks and every other class of paper security. Merchants there have failed, and traders been compelled to suspend. But the poor—the laboring classes—how is it with them? Are they exposed to the perils to which the laboring classes of the North are subjected? Is there any fear of a single man, woman, or child out of the three million of negroes there, dying from cold or starvation? Will any of them be driven to beg in the streets for bread, as many of our poor mechanics here will doubtless be? Will the poorhouses be filled to overflowing and the soup kitchens beleaguered by starving hosts? Let the canting, whining crew of Northern abolitionists answer these questions. Poorhouses and soup kitchens are institutions unknown at the South, and they will continue to be unknown there, even throughout the coming winter. The three millions of laborers at the South will not, we undertake to say, miss any of those necessities and comforts of life to which they have been always accustomed. They will be clothed, and housed and fed as heretofore, and will probably be ignorant of the fact that these are hard times.

In view of these facts—in view of the contrasted effects of the crisis on the free laborers of the North and the slave laborers of the South—how can any candid, common sense man, profess the belief that slavery is a horrible, atrocious, accursed, God defying sin—"the sum of all iniquities?" Doctor Cheever attributes our financial disasters to this very iniquity, and to the fact of the nation having accepted the decision of the Supreme Court in the Dred Scott case. But let him or any other abolitionist fancy to himself what would be the condition of these three million of slaves if they were to-day emancipated. What proportion of them would fall victims to cold and hunger during the coming winter? Let those philanthropists reconcile, if they can, the comparative comfort and the positive safety of these three million slaves with their creed that slavery is the sum of all iniquities. Without slavery there, thousands would perish of want; with it, there is not the slightest danger of one of them feeling the pangs of hunger. Would that we could say so much for our free laborers at the North. It is such a trial as this that opens men's eyes to things as they really are. Let abolitionists and anti-slavery men take the practical lesson that is herein offered to them, and we will hear of no more agitation on the subject of slavery.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE LATE ELECTIONS.—We have the official returns from thirty-three counties, of the late Pennsylvania election, and the popular vote for Governor this year as compared with the vote for President in these thirty-three shows the following party deficiencies:—

	Dem.	Rep.	K. N.
33 counties, official—1856	135,116	91,434	71,896
" " 1857	121,658	89,954	26,010
Loss	23,458	1,480	44,886

Now, these are very curious and very interesting figures; but the comparative results in the following detached counties are still more remarkable:—

	Dem.	Rep.	K. N.
Philadelphia—1856	38,221	7,092	24,684
" 1857	27,749	10,001	14,834
Loss	10,472	2,908 gain.	10,749 loss.
	Dem.	Rep.	K. N.
Berks—1856	11,272	1,037	3,866
" 1857	8,722	2,750	874
Loss	2,550	1,713 gain.	2,712 loss
	Dem.	Rep.	K. N.
Lancaster—1856	8,731	6,568	4,592
" 1857	6,485	7,690	1,236
Loss	2,246	1,122 gain.	3,356 loss.

Thus, in these three populous counties of Philadelphia, Berks and Lancaster there is a falling off in the democratic vote of 15,268; in the Know Nothing vote a loss of 26,817, and a republican gain of 4,903. Here, we see, that while the democrats have remained at home, the republicans have evidently received their reinforcements from the Fillmore vote of last year; the Know Nothing party in these three counties having almost wholly disappeared. Now let us take the republican stronghold of Allegheny county:—

	Dem.	Rep.	K. N.
1856	9,062	15,671	1,488
1857	6,610	7,687	846
Loss	2,452	8,984	632

Here in round numbers we have a republican loss of six thousand in a single county, and the solution is Pittsburg and this financial pressure. But the general results of the Pennsylvania election show that while the republicans comparatively have held their ground, the democrats have not come up to the polls, and that the Know Nothing party has fizzled out. Some fragments of it here and there have been gained by the republicans; but the bulk of it lies dormant, awaiting another shuffle of the cards. In Ohio, on the other hand, the democracy have gained from the losses of the Know Nothings; and the democrats will probably gain something in the approaching Massachusetts election, and very considerably in our own November contest, from the disintegration of Know Nothingism into its original elements.

Thus the philosophy of the late elections may be reduced into the limits of a nutshell—the dissolution of the Know Nothing party—the indifference of the democratic reserves to the local issues of these elections, and the desperate struggle of the republicans to keep their heads above water under the pressure of the new practical political issues, which, with this financial revulsion, are coming again to the surface. But for all this, the apathy of the Pennsylvania democracy will not do for the democracy of New York. They must work, and work with a will, or they will lose our November election.

A CROWNING STIGMA ON THE REPORT OF THE NAVAL RETIRING BOARD.—The proceedings of the Naval Courts of Inquiry have within the last few weeks disclosed some curious facts. In three or four instances where the cases of officers have been called on for investigation, the Judge Advocate has declined proceeding with them on the part of the government, stating that he had no charges to make against the parties demanding inquiry. Thus, in the cases of several officers retired from the service by the late Naval Board, the government comes forward and admits by implication that the disgrace inflicted upon them was unmerited, and that they have been wrongfully and maliciously punished.

Public opinion has long anticipated this judgment of the government officers. We have over and over again expressed our opinion that in the majority of cases, the Naval Retiring Board formed their decisions on mere hearsay gossip, and without such reasonable evidence as would be required to produce conviction in conscientious minds. But it is not only against justice that those decisions have sinned, but against constitutional rights and military law. A distinguished jurist and statesman of Pennsylvania—one who has filled a high position in the Cabinet of the federal Executive—in writing to a naval officer now under trial before one of the Courts of Inquiry, makes these observations:—

I have never heard the whisper of but one charge against you—that of your failing to join your ship when ordered to sea. For that delinquency, great or small, excusable or not, you submitted to a court martial, was tried, condemned and punished. Secretly to try you a second time, to punish you a second time, and to inflict a more severe punishment than the public and open court martial imposed, after hearing both sides, was, in my opinion, an outrage upon justice and a violation of principle—of constitutional right—of God's law—of the common law—and of the civil law. To punish a man the second time for the same offence is the very spirit and essence of despotism.

The above sentiments faithfully express the opinion entertained by the public of the results of the labors of the Naval Retiring Board. But how are we to remedy the injustice and suffering to which they have given rise?—how repair the injury that has been done to the service by the removal of so many competent and meritorious officers? It will be for Congress to determine this at its next session—if, indeed, it be not so infatuated with its own legislation as to persist in a wrongful course.

In the meanwhile something may be done by the profession itself to improve its *morale*, and to prevent itself being subjected to any further experiments of the same sort. Under an act of last Congress, there is now assembled at Washington a board of naval officers to codify the existing laws, and propose new ones; also, an entire set of internal rules for the detail of this duty. The task assigned them is very important, the navy having been long under the laws of Charles the Second's time—laws which were never suited to the genius and temper of our people. Will it not fall within the province of this board to define the offences, social as well as professional, which should bring naval men within the operation of penal legislation? It seems to us that the labors of the Naval Retiring Board would have been usefully prefaced, instead of followed, by a report from some such body as this. We appear to have begun our naval reforms at the wrong end, and, like all bunglers, are paying the penalty of our clumsiness.

THE POWER OF CONGRESS OVER THE CURRENCY.—The action of the democracy of Massachusetts again revives the much agitated question as to the meaning of that clause in the constitution which confers upon Congress control over the currency and the banks. Without discussing the various opinions which are and have been held on the subject, it may be safely said that the present position of affairs is not that state of things which was contemplated by the powers of the constitution. Whatever Congress can or cannot do, most certainly it was not the design of the constitution that the currency and banking of the country should be wholly in the hands of a few score private corporations, with neither capacity to know when to stop expanding, nor common sense to perceive when contraction had gone far enough, nor means to stand a sudden or popular panic. Whatever was meant, this certainly was not meant.

We cannot therefore go wrong, or do mischief by groping in the dark in search of a truer interpretation of the fundamental instrument.

It is certain, on the one hand, that we have financial revulsions here twice in a generation, on the average, while in England no severe and radical revulsion has occurred for thirty years; and, on the other, that the finance and currency of this country are controlled by private and irresponsible corporations, while those of England are controlled by the government. Whether there is here cause and effect, we leave to the public to judge.

It is quite plain that the suspension of specie payments, with its consequent evils, would have been avoided in this city had the government been able to issue ten or twelve millions of Treasury notes to relieve the money market and allay the panic. But, on the other hand, such resorts as these could only be available, as a rule, if they were accompanied with power in the government to control the expansion and contraction of bank credits. It may be questionable whether this object could be obtained, under our constitution, by any other method than by a government bank.

BUSINESS CHANGES.—Only a few weeks ago the transactions at the Clearing House in this city amounted to some twenty-eight millions daily; now they are not above eight. On the other hand, the cash transactions among the mercantile community have largely increased. Wholesale dry goods dealers have thrown open their stores to retail purchasers, and are said to be receiving more cash than they ever received before. It is probable that the increase in the cash transactions of the city is fully proportionate to the falling off in transactions on credit.

THE LATEST NEWS.

News from Washington:

WORK ON CUSTOM HOUSES TO BE CONTINUED—WORK FOR THE BROOKLYN NAVY YARD HANDS—THE FAILURE OF THE EUROPEAN MAIL—ENGLISH VIEWS ON THE CENTRAL AMERICAN QUESTION—PROCEEDINGS OF THE NAVAL COURTS, ETC., ETC.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24, 1857.

I am authorized to state that the Secretary of the Treasury will not suspend work upon the custom houses and other buildings now being constructed, but will prosecute them until the season closes. The amount subject to draft for public buildings now being constructed by the Treasury is upwards of six millions.

Hon. Wm. B. Maclay, of New York, waited on the Secretary of the Navy to-day, in reference to adopting some measure of employment for mechanics and laborers at the Brooklyn Navy Yard during the ensuing season. The Secretary feels much interest in the subject, and will do all in his power to forward this matter. He has ordered a survey of the frigate Brandywine, now lying in ordinary at the New York station. It is estimated that she can be repaired at an expense not exceeding that of the Savannah.

Postmaster Fowler telegraphed the Postmaster General to day that the steamer Atlantic had broken her machinery and would not be able to sail; that Vanderbilt offered to take mails and deliver them at Liverpool on the same terms as allowed the Collins line. The Postmaster General stated in answer, that the responsibility of failure was with Mr. Collins and the Navy Department. The department had no funds to pay out of.

Andrew Jackson Denby was to-day appointed surveyor of Norfolk, Virginia.

Hon. Thomas L. Clingman arrived here to-day, and is stopping at Willard's.

Official advices received here contradict the report that Lord Canning is about being removed as Governor of India. He stands high in the estimation of the English cabinet.

Several distinguished American officers are now here endeavoring to get into the British service in India.

Captain Hollins, of Greytown memory, succeeds Captain Tatnall, in the command of the naval station at Sackett's harbor, New York. Captain Tatnall is now flag officer of the East India squadron.

The reply of the British government to Mr. Cass' Central American proposition has reached Washington, but its purport is not yet known. The Honduras negotiations are no longer in the way.

Advices received by the Interior Department from Major Neighbors, Indian Agent in Texas, report the whole frontier quiet. Between two and three hundred Camanche warriors were seen west of the Pecos river, *en route* for a foray into Mexico. Many of the head men said they would settle down as soon as the reserve east of Red river was opened; but most of the young men were determined to continue their predatory excursions into Mexico. Major Neighbors reports that all captives are to be surrendered by the Indians, for fifty dollars each in presents, until the 20th inst., after which they would be taken from them without compensation. Hereafter Indians on the Texas reserves are to hold no captives.

The President has determined to build one of the new sloops of war at Norfolk, but whether inside or outside of the government yard is an open question.

In the First Naval Court to-day the case of Lieutenant Whiting was concluded. He will read his defence on Monday. The case of Commander Jones was taken up, and Captains Hunter, Yard and Mason and Lieut. De Haven testified on the part of the applicant. In the Second Court Surgeons Jeffries and Lansdale, for the government, testified to the physical fitness of Lieut. Morgan for the service. In the Third Court, in the case of Commander Ritchie, the government offered as evidence a transcript of the testimony of the applicant before the Third Court of Inquiry in Captain Lalemer's case, to prove that the applicant testified falsely on that occasion. R. Cooper, counsel for Commander Ritchie, objected to this evidence being received, but was not sustained by the Court; whereupon Mr. Cooper entered his protest, which was placed upon file.

The British government will take no steps in reference to the Nicaragua Transit, except in conjunction with the government of the United States. None of the alleged contracts with Costa Rica on this subject have been made with the countenance of England. Of all this our government is well informed.

The Massachusetts State Fair.

BOSTON, Oct. 24, 1857.

The Agricultural State Fair closed to day with rather a slim attendance. The exhibition has been every way comprehensive and interesting, but the inclemen of the season and inappropriate weather has prevented the general popular success which otherwise would have attended it.

Schooner Empire Ashore.

NORFOLK, Oct. 24, 1857.

The schooner Empire, from Philadelphia, bound to this port, is ashore near Cape Henry. Assistance has been sent to her.

Young Ladies' Riding Match.

ELMIRA, N. Y., Oct. 24, 1857.

The young ladies' riding match, of Chemung county, came off to day. The race was a dea mile one and was well contested. Miss Warbers, of Elmira, won the first prize and Miss Worden, of Johnson settlement, the second.

Departure of the North American.

QUEBEC, Oct. 24, 1857.

The Canadian Company's steamship North American sailed at two o'clock this morning, with upwards of 200 passengers, for Liverpool.

The Virginia New School Presbyterian Synod.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24 1857.

The Virginia Synod of the Presbyterian Church have adopted the report of the committee presented yesterday, recommending a withdrawal from the General Assembly, in consequence of the action of that body on the slavery question. The vote was 32 against 3. The nays were Messrs. Sunderland and Haskell, of Washington, and Dunning, of Baltimore.

The Synod adopted resolutions approving the resolutions adopted by a portion of the Church which lately met in Richmond, and pledging itself to cordially co-operate in the organization of the united Synod of the Presbyterian Church, to meet at Knoxville, Tennessee, on the first Thursday of next month.

The Utah Military Expedition.

ST. LOUIS, Oct 24, 1857.

Capt. Van Vleit, from Utah, Sept. 14, arrived here last night. He reports having met the troops composing the Utah Expedition, Sept. 22, two hundred and thirty miles beyond Fort Laramie—all well. He also met Colonel Johnston, Oct. 18, ninety miles from Fort Laramie, and Governor Cumming, Oct. 6, ninety miles beyond Fort Kearney. Some of the supply trains were within 140 miles of Salt Lake Valley, while others were far behind, and not likely to arrive this season. Capt. Van Vleit has travelled over twenty-four hundred miles since August 1. He was treated with much consideration by the leading men of Salt Lake City, but heard the expression of only one opinion, viz: that the troops and government officers would never gain a foothold in their dominions.

Heavy snow fell at Fort Bridges on the 15th ult.

Hon. J. M. Bernheisel, Delegate to Congress from Utah, accompanies Capt. Van Vleit. They leave for Washington to-day.

The California Wagon Road.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 24, 1857.

Messrs. Nichols and Reher, engineers of Magraid's wagon road train, have arrived here. They left Pacific Springs on the 7th ult., and think that the train will winter at Fort Laramie. They report the cattle of the government train dying fast, and the mules breaking down. Grass was very scarce. Col. Hoffman, Commander at Fort Laramie, denies having caused a Mormon train to be overhauled.

Republican Mass meeting in Boston.

BOSTON, Oct. 24, 1857.

Faneuil Hall was well filled to-night by the supporters of the Hon. N. P. Banks. The meeting was presided over by John P. Putnam, Esq., assisted by Charles Hale, S. A. Bradbury and numerous others. The secretaries were J. R. Marsh and A. B. Hardy. Addresses were made by the President and by Hon. Gideon Haynes and others. The latter, in the course of his remarks, referred to Senator Sumner as being, in capacity and intellect, as far superior to any man of South Carolina as heaven is higher than the earth, which was received with great cheering.

Hon. HENRY WILSON said the decision of the people of Massachusetts at the last election, which they are now called upon to renew, was in favor of universal freedom and liberty. In referring to the effects of the Dred Scott decision, he said the descendants of the Colored Battalion, who were publicly thanked by General Jackson for their bravery at the battle of New Orleans, were not entitled to the rights of citizenship. The Congress of the United States was as much under the control of the slave power as the French Assembly is under the dictation of Louis Napoleon; and John Davis, after long years of service in Congress, when about to retire from public life, stated that no bill or measure had been passed through Congress without its being understood it was to enure to the benefit and interests of slavery. Mr. W. referred to Mr. Pierce as going as deep in servility to the slave power as he could, but President Buchanan had found a lower deep in asserting that the constitution wherever it went into the Territories carried slavery with it. He then referred in highly eulogistic terms to Mr. Banks, claiming that Mr. Banks presided over the deliberations of Congress with ability second not even to Henry Clay.

Other speakers followed, and the meeting broke up about half past 10 P. M. It was a very enthusiastic gathering.

Markets.

PHILADELPHIA STOCK BOARD.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 24, 1857.

Stocks heavy. Pennsylvania 5's, 81; Reading Railroad, 13¾; Morris Canal, 31; Long Island Railroad, 7¾; Pennsylvania Railroad, 32.

MOBILE, Oct 23, 1857.

Cotton—Sales of the week 2,500 bales at 10½c. Receipts of the week 3,900 bales against 6,900 bales in the corresponding week of last year.

BUFFALO, Oct. 24—1 P. M.

Flour dull. Wheat active and steady; sales 4,000 bushels at 80c. for Chicago spring, 82c. for Milwaukie club, and $1 for white Indiana. Corn steady; sales 8,000 bushels at 57c. Oats firmer; sales 7,000 bushels at 35½c. Whiskey nominal at 18½c. Freights lower; 18½c. a 16c. for wheat to New York. Imports yesterday—15,000 bbls. flour, 112,000 bushels wheat, 24,000 bushels corn, and 15,000 bushels oats. Exports yesterday—120,000 bushels wheat, 24,000 bushels corn and 30,000 bushels oats.

The European Mail Steamers.

SAILING OF THE VANDERBILT—DETENTION OF THE ATLANTIC—HER MAILS LEFT BEHIND—SERIOUS INCONVENIENCE TO THE TRADING COMMUNITY.

The Vanderbilt steamship Vanderbilt sailed from this port yesterday, under the command of Captain Edward Higgins, for Havre and Southampton, carrying out nearly six hundred passengers and letter bags made up at the agent's office.

The Collins steamship Atlantic was to have departed at noon, under command of Captain Eldridge, carrying the United States mail for Europe, but a short time before her hour of sailing it was discovered that the "cross tail" to her machinery was cracked. This is a very ponderous piece, weighing about four tons, and will have to be taken out and replaced by a new one, now ready—a job of work which will occupy from three to four days.

At the time this accident was discovered a very heavy and important mail, made up specially for the Atlantic, lay on the dock at the foot of Canal street, and the agent of the Vanderbilt was notified of the fact, as well as of the accident to the steamer, with a request that the letters should be forwarded in the Vanderbilt. This message reached Mr. Torrance a few minutes before noon, just as the Vanderbilt was about to sail. Captain Higgins was immediately communicated with and requested to delay his departure until the actual state of affairs could be made known to the Post Office authorities. This was the more necessary, as the European mail made up for the Atlantic, was so very important at this crisis that its detention for a few days here must prove of serious inconvenience to the mercantile community both in the United States and England.

The Postmaster of this city having ascertained that the Atlantic would be detained for at least three days, telegraphed to the Department at Washington the state of the case, and added that Mr. Vanderbilt had offered to carry the Atlantic's mails for this trip for the same compensation paid to Mr. Collins per trip, and also that the Vanderbilt lay with steam up awaiting an answer.

After the Vanderbilt had waited for two hours the wires brought back the following reply:—

Responsibility of a failure is with Collins and the Navy Department. We have no funds to pay out of.

This message was received in New York at two o'clock yesterday afternoon, and in consequence of it the Vanderbilt set out at full speed for Southampton, leaving the mails of the Atlantic behind.

Nothing definite can be said as to the exact day on which the Atlantic will sail until Monday next. A new "cross tail" for her machinery is on the Coll