

NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

THEATRE: The Grand Opera House, the Park Theatre, the Bowery Theatre.

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compared with the importations of the corresponding week in 1856.

The steamer Baltic, due at this port from Liverpool, had not made her appearance off Sandy Hook up to a late hour last night.

The telegraph reports that a heavy snow and rain storm has been raging for the last two days on the Atlantic seaboard.

To the north of us, snow has fallen profusely; but in this city and to the south of us, rain has prevailed extensively.

It would be difficult to conceive of a more dreary and dismal Sunday than yesterday was in New York.

The rain, which was incessant, was in those fine small drops that seem every moment about to melt into mist.

And which have the peculiar and unpleasant property of thoroughly saturating every article of clothing in the shortest possible space of time.

The streets were almost entirely deserted, and the churches presented a beggarly account of empty pews.

During the day quite a gale was blowing. We hear of no disasters at sea, except that to the propeller Bowman, from Norfolk to New York, which went ashore on Deal beach; her crew were saved, and the vessel will probably be got off.

The New York stockholders of the New York Central Railroad Company held an adjourned meeting on Saturday, and nominated for reelection all the directors except the representative from Utica.

Mr. E. G. Fale, of New York, the latter gentleman declining to serve. A letter recommending a series of reforms to the new directors was adopted.

The meeting persistently refused to pass a vote of thanks to the present Board. Our report of the proceedings will be found to be interesting.

Mr. Charles Stetson, the President of the Ohio Life and Trust Company, has returned to Cincinnati, after an attempt to investigate the affairs of the branch of that concern in this city.

He has published an account of his inquiries and observations, which we give elsewhere. In this document we have an authoritative confirmation of what was previously well understood.

namely, that the affairs of the Trust Company have been so managed, or rather mismanaged, that it is utterly impossible to make any intelligible and satisfactory report concerning them.

The sales of cotton on Saturday embraced about 200 bales in lots, to spinners, based upon middling uplands, at 11 1/2c; good middling do. at 11 1/4c, and middle fair at 11 1/8c.

Close closing irregular, however, on the higher grades. The previous advance in the price of flour was sustained, while sales were made to a fair extent, both to the domestic trade and for export.

Wheat was inactive and sales quite limited. The chief transaction consisted of Virginia wheat at 40c. Corn was firmer for old, while new was dull and lower, sales of all kinds being limited.

Pork was heavy and lower, with sales of new and old light weight mess, Albany inspection, at 116 1/2c, and full weight do., at 117c; light prime was at 115c.

Sugars were in fair request, with sales of about 500 600 lbs. Cuba muscovado and Porto Rico, at steady prices.

Coffee was steady, with light sales. Freight engagements were light and rates unchanged.

The Thirty-fifth Congress—A New Epoch in our Political History.

The Thirty-fifth Congress of the United States meets in Washington to-day, and from all the signs, necessities and revolutionary movements and tendencies of the times, political, financial and commercial, with the assembling of this Congress we enter upon a new and most important and momentous epoch in the history of the country and of civilization.

The business calendar that will be presented to the two houses will cover an infinitely wider margin for agitation and legislation than the schedule of any preceding Congress since the organization of the government.

Considering, too, the disintegration of our old parties and party platforms, and the revolutionary proclivities of sections, factions, and politicians of all sorts, we stand upon the threshold of this new Congress utterly unable to conjecture the drift of its proceedings, or the results which may follow, of good or evil, to the American people.

Yet we are not without a strong presentiment that the general results will be good, for we have the nucleus of law and order, peace and harmony, and wholesome reforms and retrenchments, in the careful, sagacious and honest administration of Mr. Buchanan.

Of the heavy and diversified catalogue of government measures and projects which will be broached in the two houses during this long session, the following will doubtless form the principal topics of the President's Message:

1. Our foreign relations, including, especially, our Central American affairs, our present suggestive relations with Mexico, and some information of our present and prospective relations with China.

2. The treasury, its receipts, expenditures, estimates and probable deficiencies, and a call for a loan or an issue of treasury notes to meet these deficiencies, and a modification of the tariff.

3. The Kansas Lecompton constitution; the Minnesota and Oregon State organizations; the affairs of Mormondom, and the proceedings for the new Territories of Dakota, Columbus and Arizona.

4. An increase of the army, an increase of its pay and a heavy increase of its appropriations; the Pacific Railroad; the Indian tribes; our frontier and seaboard defences.

5. An extensive correction of the retired list of the late despotic Naval Star Chamber Board.

6. Some reforms in our ocean mail steamship service, and some large extensions of the Post Office land service.

Then a number of important miscellaneous measures will be brought up in Congress, which may or may not be alluded to by the President, such as the Homestead bill, a bill for a government printing establishment, patent law reforms, bank reforms, river and harbor improvements, public building investigating committees, and inquiries and calls for information concerning the Walker filibusters.

But the first great and overwhelming subject in both houses will be Kansas. The desire to get the President's Message on this subject facilitated very much on Saturday night the democratic caucus nominations for the House officers. These nominations were the result of an armistice on all sides upon the Kansas question, by common consent, so as to get the Message, that ground might be broken without delay upon this Lecompton constitution.

This business may be settled in a few weeks, or it may be expanded into a fierce sectional agitation of several months. It may utterly break up the democratic party, or it may put the party fairly upon its legs again, slim as the prospect for this happy result appears at present. From the actual opening of the ball we shall be better enabled to judge of its probable duration and consequences.

The Congress printing will be the next great bone of contention, and will doubtless supersede for some time even the exigencies of the treasury. When they come up, however, they must necessarily lead to a very full and free discussion of the causes and world-wide consequences of this financial and commercial crisis, and to numerous projects and expedients for the modification

tion of the tariff, and the restoration of our banks, currency, trade and exchanges to a healthy and uniform system.

We do not suppose that the administration is prepared to enter upon a Bentonian crusade against the State banks, with a view to the destruction of all banks, and the establishment of a universal and exclusive specie currency.

That thing is a myth—a Bentonian humbug; and whatever may be the powers of Congress, the States have so long and so far been permitted each a carte blanche in relation to banks and banking, that it is too late in the day to attempt seriously to interfere with these practically conceded State rights.

The administration, financially, will have enough to do to provide for the increased, and still increasing demands of the treasury; but in the matter of a treasury loan, or an issue of treasury notes, and in the modification of the tariff, much may be incidentally done for the financial and commercial relief of the country.

The two houses will meet to-day at twelve o'clock; and the day's proceedings in each will probably be limited to the organization, and the appointment of a joint committee to wait upon the President and inform him that the two houses have assembled, that there is a quorum in each, that they are duly organized, and are ready to receive any communication which he may have to make.

An adjournment usually follows, in which event the Message will be the first thing in order—after prayer and the reading of the journal—to-morrow morning. Possibly the Message may be read to-day, but we shall be content with the ordinary custom; and, in anticipation of a smooth organization, we expect to lay the full programme of the administration before our readers before the next setting of the sun.

We expect an excellent Message; but whatever it may be, it will stand hereafter as the initial point of a new and most important and momentous epoch in our political history.

All the results of all the revolutionary movements, revisions and reactions—political, financial and commercial—of the last six, nay, of the last fifty years, will be concentrated in the parties, sections, factions and projects of this our Thirty-fifth Congress.

We enter the vestibule to-day to a series of the most pregnant movements and measures of the nineteenth century; for never before has the whole civilized world been so deeply as it is now involved and interested in the affairs of this great confederacy.

THE TROUBLE IN THE NEW YORK CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY—BACKROSE WANTED.—The New York stockholders of this company lack energy.

They started a hue and cry for another representative in the Board of Directors, stating that as New York held five-eighths of the stock, she ought to have at least three directors out of thirteen.

But whether or not they have been frightened by the cavalier treatment of President Corning, who is said to carry this road, where Commodore Stockton carries the State of New Jersey, this demand has been abandoned, and a ticket has been nominated, including all the old directors, with but two exceptions.

One of these is Mr. Edward Fale, who declines to serve, and the other is the director from Utica, who is left of the ticket without any reason being assigned. But, as will be perceived from our report of their proceedings of Saturday, they have humbly set forth in a communication to the directors the reforms which they "recommend."

They were about, in their profound knowledge of the affairs of the company, to pass laws "governing the directors," when some astute genius discovered that the directors "can do pretty much as they please," and these resolutions are presented in the form of "recommendations." One or two sensible men finally pointed out to their brethren with more money than brains, that they were "entirely in the hands of the directors, and the only remedy for abuses was to turn out the directors and elect men in whom they could have confidence."

How can moneyed men expect to profit by their investments if they express no care for them until they turn out to be almost worthless? Here is a body of stockholders confessedly without a knowledge as to who are the custodians of their property—as to the legislative provisions affecting the same—as to how the road is conducted, and many other minor matters. Thus the Central road proves a "road to ruin," and the stockholders seem to be not much the wiser until their money is gone.

The meeting on Saturday, however, did two sensible things: first, to express a fear of getting into the hands of the Legislature; and second, to refuse an endorsement of the present management. A grand flare-up is prophesied for the annual meeting at Albany, on the 8th or 9th inst. We can only reiterate our recommendation to "look out for the developments."

THE DEMOCRATIC CONGRESSIONAL CAUCUS ON THE CONGRESS PRINTING.—From the proceedings in the democratic caucus at Washington last Saturday night, on the question of the Congress printing, it is evident that when that subject is fairly broached we shall have some rare sport. This printing embraces a clear profit to the happy recipient of about a hundred thousand dollars a year—four times the amount of the salary of the President of the United States.

Here, then, is plunder worth having; and we may depend upon it that there will be a terrible squabble about it. Some of the democratic organ grinders of the "rural districts" have discovered that their claims as party men are just as good as, if not better than, the claims of Mr. Harris, or Mr. Wendell of the Union. Besides, Mr. Wendell of the Union, has too many irons in the fire, and the strength of his lobby combinations is operating very naturally towards a combination movement against him.

The Kansas question itself will hardly cover a more comprehensive field of research than this Congress printing; and the rich spoils involved make it certain that the whole field will be explored. We may, therefore, when the subject is tapped, expect some very curious disclosures touching the success of Wendell in the last, and seriously affecting the chances of the Union with the present Congress. A hundred thousand dollars of public plunder, per annum, for even two years, is worth fighting for; and we think if this printing is to go for the good of the party that some of the country democratic editorial President makers, who have been living for years and years upon three hundred subscribers, and government pay amounting to fifty or seventy-five dollars a year, should have a finger in this Congress pie. That's all.

THE HON. BOOBY BROOKS is busy getting up an exhibition of dancing, for the benefit of the poor and bankrupt people of the Fifth avenue. The Hon. Booby is to dance the newly invented "political promenade on one leg"—the bonus being \$5,000 to keep his "thirty-third edition" a going.

The Foreign Policy of the Administration—What it Should Be.

Congress meets to-day, and the Message of the President will soon be before the public, giving us probably some inkling of what will be the foreign policy of Mr. Buchanan's administration.

It is to be hoped that it will avoid the errors and the weaknesses of its immediate predecessor, and exhibit a firm and uniform course, consistent with our high position as a nation, and with the great destiny that is before us.

No time ever more urgently demanded the establishment of a truly American policy in our diplomatic intercourse with foreign nations than the present, though, doubtless, the administration of poor Pierce had a more propitious one to establish it, had it been equal to the occasion.

The constant increase in the importance of American questions to the whole civilized world, and their evident tendency to seek a solution in Washington, is one of the marked characteristics of the present age.

While our relations with most of the countries of Europe are confined to the occasional discussion of commercial questions, and the performance of the petty chores of diplomatic intercourse, those with Cuba, Mexico and Central America involve the problem of the march of empire, which is our inheritance, and the extension of the political freedom, social order and material prosperity, that thrive under our institutions.

It is the recognition of this great destiny that is urging itself upon the present administration, as it did upon the last; and circumstances are combining to force us to assume that moral preponderance in the questions appertaining to this continent that belongs to us from our geographical position and the rapid development of our commerce and population.

Mexico and Central America are looking anxiously to the fate of our government to guide them in the future; and the new Ministers sent to the latter republics by England and France are ordered to proceed to their posts by way of Washington, in order to learn, if possible, what that fat will be.

The safety of the transit routes across the isthmuses of America for the commerce of the whole world, the peace and order of the discordant communities that occupy those regions, and the future permanence of the present material prosperity of Cuba, all depend upon the proper exercise of our influence over them and towards the other nations of the world. This is a great responsibility, and should neither be undertaken lightly nor weakly carried out.

Both the measures and the men should be well chosen; and the country expects that as the administration has not been in haste to develop its policy, it will exhibit no lack of energy and ability in adopting its course.

The situation of all the leading Powers of Europe is one that lends itself to the proper exercise of an American policy on our part. England is called upon to meet the exigencies of a financial crisis at home, to re-organize her empire in India and open the avenues of industry to its oppressed and starving millions, and to re-establish her trembling influence in China and throughout the East.

Louis Napoleon will find his attention fully engaged in the maintenance of his power and restraining the revolutionary tendencies—greatly increased by the want of employment—of a people whose history shows them to be politically a compound of the tiger and the monkey.

Spain is vibrating between revolution and absolutism, and has little power to waste on an active intervention in American affairs. Whether we accept it now or at some future day, the leading influence in all American questions must be ours, and the administration that understands and employs it will make its mark upon the history of the world.

We do not advocate any limitation of the policy pursued by President Pierce in our Spanish and Spanish-American relations. Toward Spain he began with the boastful message about the Black Warrior affair, and ended with a Dodge, while the just claims of our citizens have been ignored, and the communications of our Minister at the Court of Madrid passed over in contemptuous silence. We want no more Gadsdens, Wheelers, Bowlins, Moscos or Carey Joneses sent to the Spanish-American republics, where events that affect our national interests are daily transpiring; but we want a high and noble policy, and men that can comprehend its bearings, and the true tendency of our future, to fill the missions to those countries. Let the Clayton-Bulwer treaty be abrogated, and we shall have no trouble with England; let men who understand the language and the customs of Spain and her former colonies be sent there, and we shall have no trouble with them.

But if we have neither a policy nor diplomatic ability in our foreign intercourse, we shall make no progress, and continue the same snarl in our foreign relations that the last administration was so successful in creating.

GENERAL WOOL AND SENATOR DAVIS.—We publish elsewhere a letter from General Wool to the Flag of the Union, a Mississippi journal, by which it will be seen that the correspondence between these two gentlemen, in relation to the delay in presenting the sword voted by Congress to the first named, has already reached the fifth remove, or "counterscheck quarrelsome," as defined by Touchstone. It will be remembered that this testimonial to General Wool, after having been prepared in accordance with the act of Congress, was allowed to remain a long time in the War Department, and was there when Secretary Davis turned that department over to Secretary Floyd.

The new Secretary caused the sword to be at once forwarded to General Wool, with a handsome letter, and Senator Davis has endeavored to shield himself from the suspicion that attaches to his motives for delaying the presentation of the testimonial ordered by Congress, upon the plea that Congress did not prescribe the manner in which the presentation was to be made.

Several letters have already passed between General Wool and Senator Davis, in which the Shakespearean gradations of "the retort curled," "the quip modest," "the reply curlish," and "the reproof valiant," have all been duly gone through with, and the matter will now, it seems, be called up in Congress. Let us have the whole truth about the affair, gentlemen; the public wishes to know if Senator Davis has suffered the petty investigations of personal malice to influence his official conduct as Secretary of War.

ORGANIZATION OF THE GREAT LOBBY AT WASHINGTON.—We learn that the lobby was organized yesterday at Washington, with the appointment of O. B. Matteson as Chairman, and A. S. S. Simonton as Secretary. They are now ready to receive contracts.

The Coming Struggle in Spanish America—Return of the Incas and Zipas.

We learn from Havana that the wife of Santa Anna had arrived there, and that her coming was looked upon as the forerunner of the advent of the ex-Dictator himself, probably on his way to Mexico.

We have commented quite recently upon the condition of affairs in Mexico, and our readers are perfectly well aware of the disorganized condition of that republic, and the probable coming struggle between the Dictator Comonfort and the ex-Dictator Santa Anna.

But there is a great under-current in the movements that affect Mexico, Central America, and all of the republics of South America, that is not so evident at first glance, because it does not lie upon the surface of things. Yet it is the undeviating tendency and the growing menace of all those countries, for it is nothing less than the recovery of political power and social supremacy by the aboriginal and inferior races that still inhabit the countries of Spanish America.

The white race has amalgamated with the Indian and the negro to such a degree that it has largely diminished in its influence, and now seems to be on the verge of annihilation.

A succinct citing of facts will prove this. In Mexico we see the native Indian overrunning the northern provinces of Sonora, Sinaloa, Durango, Zacatecas, Coahuila and Leon, and the southern ones of Yucatan, Oajaca and Guerrero, while the ascendancy of this race in the halls of Congress is becoming daily more evident.

In Guatemala the Indians elevated Carrera, a half breed, to power, and now are turning against him. Nicaragua has elected Martinez, a mulatto, to the Presidency; and everywhere in Central America the mixed blood of the negro and the Indian is superseding that of the white.

In New Granada the political power of many of the provinces is in the hands of negroes and Sambos; in Venezuela Monagas holds despotic power through the blacks and Indians; in Peru the native races inhabiting the mountains pay no respect to the government at Lima, and from time to time make their forays upon the civilized settlements; Bolivia is rent with a civil war, in which both parties have appealed to the native races; in Chile the theory of popular representation is rapidly extending to them; while in the immense pampas from the eastern slope of the Andes to the waters of La Platte, the aboriginal tribes are strong and organized, keeping the white settlements in frequent alarm.

This is a true picture of the rapid disintegration that is going on in those countries, and their steady return towards the rule of the Montezumas and the Atabalpas, the Zipas and the Incas. It is the knowledge of this that is leading the white element to seek new blood and a re-invigoration by an infusion from abroad.

One party, of which Santa Anna is now likely to become the representative, seeks this new blood from Spain; and another, that has as yet no representative man, looks for it to come from the active communities of the United States. In each of these divided streams there is another subdivision—one portion looking to a return of the rule of Spain, of the establishment of that of our government, and the other desiring only the advent of individual reinforcements in the shape of private expeditions from Cuba or New Orleans.

Santa Anna leads the one, as he did in his last term of power in Mexico, when he imported a large number of Spanish officers, but no soldiers; and Walker heads the other stream, seeking to organize it without native aid. The former is assisted by the Spanish government, but has no great body of people to support him; while the other is opposed by our government, but can obtain any quantity of recruits from the sympathizing multitudes of our population.

These movements are but in their germ, but they will grow and grow continuously until one or the other triumphs. In the continued advance of the native races we perceive the certain dissolution of all widely extended political organization there, and the conflict for power between the American and Spanish filibusters.

Should Queen Christina again come into the field—as is not improbable—and fit out from London or from Havana a new Flores expedition to put some one of her daughters by her second marriage on an American throne, we see no reason why the movement should not succeed. If Walker gets a new foothold in Central America under present circumstances, he, too, stands a good chance for success.

The strife will then be but just begun, and a new element may, perhaps, be added to it by the migration of Brigham Young and his Mormons to Northern Mexico. The result of all this will be that the United States will have to come in and take possession of the territory, governing it as England does India, but we hope with greater wisdom. These are not speculations that look to a distant day for their verification; within one generation many of the present governments of Spanish America will be dissolved and replaced either by American or European dominion. One generation only has elapsed since their independence, and yet how greedily have they retrograded!

APOLY.—A little six-by-nine, dirty-looking sheet, which calls itself the newspaper representative of la belle France in New York, is very much offended because, in describing the political knowledge or character of the French, we called it "half man half monkey."

We believe this is a slight mistake in philosophical accuracy, and we apologise accordingly for the error. We meant to say that the political character of the French nation is a historical development consisting of "half tiger half monkey"; and that, never being, like the Anglo-Saxon race, capable of self-government, they must always have a master to manage them, like Henry the Fourth, or Louis the Fourteenth, or Napoleon I., or Napoleon III., in order to make them enjoy a political civilization, or prevent them from taking off each other's heads, as they did in the time of Robespierre.

The advanced civilization of the French people in many other respects we acknowledge, especially in the fine arts, such as cooking, dancing, dressmaking, painting, music, theatricals, philosophy, infidelity, &c., &c., &c.

THE HON. BOOBY BROOKS is displeased with our remarks on Tiemann's election. He loses his temper, and uses very naughty language—quite unbecoming a sensible booby, as he is. Before and since the recent election, we have treated Mr. Tiemann with the respect due to his known qualities and character, both as a politician and paint manufacturer.

The Hon. Booby and his confederates monopolized all such epithets as "forger," "thief," "rascal," "scoundrel," "scamp," "villain," "knave," &c., &c. These terms belong only to a past civilization, or a very low strata of existing society. They may be on a level with the

tastes of the Hon. Booby and his associates in the vulgar section of the Fifth avenue; but we cannot descend so low. Meantime, we still ask—where is he, Mr. Tiemann? and when is that bill of advices 'bising to be paid?

YANKEE ENTERPRISE VS. SPANISH COMMERCIAL WISDOM.—At the present day there is no leading civilized nation which adheres so closely to the system of high protective duties as Spain, and there is none which is more victimized by smuggling in all its forms. The one begets the other, and both tend to commercial isolation and