NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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

Volume XXX.....No. 65

AMUSEMENTS TO-MORROW EVENING.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Irving place.—ITALIAN OPERA—LA FORZA DEL DESTINO.

WINTER GARDEN, Broadway.—HAMLET.

NEW BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—ROMEO AND JULIET—POVERTY AND WEALTH—HONEST JOE.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway.—TICKET OF LEAVE MAN.

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway.—THE STREETS OF NEW YORK.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—DAME TROT—OLD REGIMENTALS—MILLINER'S HOLIDAY.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.—NIGHT AND MORNING.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway.—TOODLES—FORTY WINKS.

BARNUM'S MUSEUM, Broadway.—TWO MAMMOTH FAT WOMEN—LIVING SKELETON—DWARF—GIANT BOY—THE WORKMEN OF NEW YORK—Day and Evening.

BRYANTS' MINSTRELS, Mechanics' Hall, 472 Broadway.—ETHIOPIAN SONGS, DANCES, BURLESQUES, &c.—THE GYGES.

WOOD'S MINSTREL HALL, 514 Broadway.—ETHIOPIAN SONGS, DANCES, &c.—PETROLEUMANIA, OR OIL ON THE BRAIN.

SALLE DIABOLIQUE, 585 Broadway.—ROBERT HELLER'S MIRACLES—GYGES.

VAN AMBURGH & CO.'S MAMMOTH MENAGERIE, 539 and 541 Broadway.—Open from 10 A. M. to 10 P. M.

HIPPOTHEATRON, Fourteenth street.—EQUESTRIAN, GYMNASTIC AND ACROBATIC ENTERTAINMENTS—MOTHER GOOSE.

AMERICAN THEATRE, No. 444 Broadway.—BALLETS, PANTOMIMES, BURLESQUES, &c.—JENNY LIND.

HOOLEY'S MINSTRELS, 199 and 201 Bowery.—SONGS, DANCES, BURLESQUES, &c.—LIVE INGIN.

DODWORTH HALL, 806 Broadway.—BURNETT'S EVENINGS OF MIRTH AND PATHOS.

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway.—Open from 10 A. M. till 10 P. M.

VANNUCHI'S MUSEUM, 600 Broadway.—MOVING WAX FIGURES. Open Day and Evening.

New York, Sunday, March 5, 1865.

THE SITUATION.

Information has been received in Washington of the arrival at Fayetteville, North Carolina, on Cape Fear river, of the advance of General Sherman's army, and also of the gunboats sent up from Wilmington by Gen. Schofield. Fayetteville is sixty miles south of Raleigh, and one hundred miles northwest of Wilmington.

A despatch has been received by the Mayor of Oswego, in this State, from Governor Fenton, advising him that the War Department has been informed from Halifax that the rebels in the British provinces are preparing for a raid on Oswego and Rochester.

Reliable intelligence from Mobile to the 6th of last month is furnished us in our New Orleans despatches. From this it would appear that the rumors so plentiful some time ago, to the effect that the rebels were evacuating that city, were groundless. On the contrary, a gentleman who left there at the above mentioned date says the garrison was being largely reinforced and the rebel defences were being strengthened. Gen. Beauregard was in Mobile on the 4th of February, and made a speech to the people, in which he expressed the utmost confidence that the place would be held. Gen. Gordon Granger was in Pensacola, Fla., on the 11th of February, and reviewed the national troops there.

The armies before the rebel capital still remain undisturbed by active operations. The rains which have prevailed there for some days have put the roads in very bad condition and rendered movements very difficult. During the temporary repose the paymasters are busily engaged in liquidating the pay arrearages of the armies of the Potomac and James. Deserters still pour in, and bring additional reports of rebel preparations for the abandonment of Richmond and Petersburg. The exchange of prisoners is progressing as rapidly as possible on James river.

The rebel cavalry leader General Forrest has recently issued an address to his troops, recounting what he claims as having been accomplished by them during the past year. He boasts that they have fought fifty battles, and, with a loss in all of only four thousand of their own men, have killed and captured sixteen thousand Union troops, taken two thousand horses and mules, sixty-seven pieces of artillery, fourteen transports, twenty barges, three hundred wagons, fifty ambulances, and captured and destroyed much other property, in all amounting to the value of fifteen millions of dollars. He tells them there is to be no peace till the independence of their confederacy is acknowledged.

Two steamboat loads of Union prisoners were recently brought down by the rebels to the mouth of the Red river, where they were exchanged, and whence they were despatched to New Orleans. Others were on their way down the Red river when these arrived.

CONGRESS.

The Thirty-eighth Congress of the United States terminated at noon yesterday. Both houses continued in session throughout Friday night and during the greater portion of yesterday forenoon. A large amount of business was disposed of, and a number of matters were passed over for the action of the next Congress.

In the Senate, after much discussion, the Civil Appropriation bill, the Coinage bill and several private bills were passed. On the Amendatory Enrolment bill the disagreements with the House were insisted on. The joint resolution to permit the financial committees of the two houses to sit after the conclusion of the session, for the purpose of investigating the matter of trade with the rebel States, was tabled. While action on the bill to regulate commerce between the several States was pending, Hon. Andrew Johnson, Vice President elect, was escorted by Vice President Hamlin into the Senate Chamber, which was soon filled by a large assemblage, including distinguished officers of the government and foreign ministers. Mr. Hamlin then delivered his valedictory address, after which the Vice President elect made a short speech, took the oath and was installed in office. The Senate then adjourned. Immediately thereafter the President's proclamation convening the body in extra session was read, when the Senators elect were sworn in, after which a procession was formed, and all proceeded to attend the inaugural ceremonies.

The Senate, during yesterday, held an executive session, and among the appointments confirmed were all those of the New York Custom House, including that of Mr. Wakeman as Surveyor of the port.

In the House of Representatives the Senate joint resolution to the effect that our government will never on any conditions recognize the rebel debt was concurred in. The Senate amendment to the joint resolution changing from three to fifteen per cent advalorem the duty on printing paper was non-concurred in. On the Civil Appropriation bill also the House failed to agree with the Senate. The bills removing all disqualification of color in carrying the mails and concerning remuneration to the Illinois Central Railroad were passed. Many miscellaneous subjects were also acted on. Much noise and confusion prevailed during the closing scenes, as usual on such occasions, and the hour for adjournment found the members debating over the printing paper duty, which, with a number of other matters, goes over for final disposition to the next Congress. Speaker Colfax then delivered his farewell address, and the House of Representatives of the Thirty-eighth Congress reached its final adjournment.

We publish in this morning's HERALD a complete list of the bills passed and joint resolutions adopted by the session which has just closed.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

The celebration of our national triumphs was postponed in this city yesterday, owing to the rain storm which prevailed in the morning and throughout the forenoon. It will take place to-morrow (Monday), unless the weather should again be unfavorable, in which case it will be again postponed till the first fair day. This delay will no doubt have the effect of rendering the demonstration the more magnificent, by giving additional time to perfect the arrangements.

The inauguration of Abraham Lincoln for his second term as Chief Magistrate of the republic took place at the Capitol in Washington yesterday. The procession which escorted him from the Presidential Mansion was over a mile in length, and made a fine appearance. There was a grand display along the entire line of march, and flags and streamers were flying over the whole city, while the sidewalks, doors, windows, and every spot which could command a view of the procession as it moved along the avenue were crowded with spectators. After the arrival at the Capitol, and previous to the inauguration of Mr. Lincoln, Andrew Johnson took the oath of office and was installed as Vice President of the United States, in the Senate Chamber, in the presence of the President, the Supreme Court Judges, the foreign ministers, members of Congress, numerous other persons holding prominent positions, and many private citizens and ladies. The occupants of the Chamber then proceeded to the eastern portico, where, before an immense throng of people, the oath of office was administered to Mr. Lincoln by Chief Justice Chase, and the Inaugural Address was delivered.

Governor Andrew Johnson, of Tennessee (now Vice President of the United States), issued a proclamation to the people of that State on the 25th ult., declaring that enough returns had been received of the vote on the new constitution to place the success of that measure beyond doubt, and that the alterations and amendments proposed (one of which is the total abolition of slavery throughout the State) have been ratified and confirmed by the vote of the people, and that said articles now constitute a part of the permanent constitution and supreme law of the State of Tennessee, and as such are hereafter to be so held and regarded by all the people thereof. The Governor also ordered an election for Governor and members of Assembly to be held yesterday, the 4th day of March.

The Governor of Vermont has called an extra session of the Legislature of that State, to meet on Thursday, the 9th inst., for the purpose of ratifying the constitutional amendment abolishing slavery.

The Saxonia, Capt. Trautman, sailed yesterday for Hamburg with a large number of passengers, among whom was Voightman, charged with forgeries on the Berlin and Hamburg Railroad Company, and given up to the Prussian government under the Extradition treaty. Mr. Schmidt, Jr., the Prussian Vice Consul, and his counsel, Mr. Lapaugh, were on board, and the Prussian prisoner was given into the charge of the captain and his officials. Capt. Trautman has been sixteen years in the service between New York and Hamburg, and is about to be rewarded for his long and efficient duties by a presentation to the command of the new steamer Alamania, which will make her first trip to this port on the arrival of the Saxonia at her destination. Capt. Wenke, of the steamship New York, had a band on board, which played excellent music as the Saxonia sailed majestically down the bay.

The Surrogate yesterday admitted to probate the contested will of Alexander E. Aeby, deceased. The property in question amounts to twenty thousand dollars, and goes to the sisters of the deceased. The summing up of the evidence in the contested will of E. P. Christy will be continued on Monday before Surrogate Tucker. The remainder of the Surrogate's will calendar stands adjourned to the 13th of March.

We are requested to state that the memorial presented to the Chamber of Commerce of New York on Thursday last, asking the aid of the Chamber in obtaining a subsidy from the United States government to establish a telegraph line between this country and Europe, did not come from the Atlantic Telegraph Company, but a company called the Ocean Telegraph, which has nothing whatever to do with the Atlantic Telegraph Company. Mr. James Spence, the rebel agent in Liverpool, is not now, and never has been, in any way connected with the Atlantic Telegraph Company.

The German Union republicans met last evening at Weill's Hall, in Chrystie street, to celebrate the success of the republican party, the triumphs of the national arms, the progress made in the abolition of slavery, and the inauguration of Mr. Lincoln for his second Presidential term. The meeting was large and enthusiastic, and was addressed by Dr. Nauman, Messrs. Henry Reihan, R. H. Chittenden, August Koch and others.

The mail agent on the Hudson River Railroad, who came down on Saturday afternoon, informs us that the Hudson river is now open from New York to West Point, and that above that point steamboats can easily force their way through to Poughkeepsie, as the recent rains have rendered the ice very soft. From Sing Sing to this city no floating ice is to be seen.

The Coroner's inquest was concluded yesterday in the case of William Smith, charged with causing the death of Daniel Lawrence, by inflicting on him various stabs, during a scuffle between the two on the night of the 25th ult., in a room at No. 126 Hester street. On the rendition of the verdict finding Smith guilty he was committed to the Tombs to await the result of the Grand Jury's investigation.

About eleven o'clock last night a fire was discovered in the building No. 68 Broadway, running through to and known as No. 17 New street. The flames spread very rapidly, and, owing to the open well hole, soon communicated to the upper floors, and at the time we write there is every appearance that the entire building will be destroyed. The entire loss on stock, it is supposed, will be about thirty thousand dollars. The building will be damaged to the extent of fifteen thousand dollars. The insurance could not be ascertained owing to the lateness of the hour.

A fire in a mattress manufactory at 99 West Broadway, yesterday forenoon, destroyed five hundred dollars worth of stock and slightly damaged the building. All was insured.

There was no session of either of the stock boards yesterday, and the gold room was closed. Gold was, however, quoted on the street at 199 a 200.

President Lincoln's Second Inaugural—The Negro Question.

The brief address delivered yesterday by President Lincoln, on the occasion of his second inauguration, gives us a passing review of his four years just expired, but furnishes no information as to his future policy. He says that, "Now, at the expiration of four years, during which public declarations have constantly been called forth (from himself) on every point and phase of the great contest which still absorbs the attention and engrosses the energies of the nation, little that is new could be presented." We are thus left to the conclusion that, having fully defined his policy and purposes heretofore in reference to the rebellion, the war, peace and reconstruction, he has nothing more to say.

We think, however, that some allusion by Mr. Lincoln to the late Hampton Roads Peace Conference, embracing a distinct declaration of the terms upon which the rebellious States and the insurgents thereof will be received back into the Union, would have been very gratifying to the people of the loyal States, and would have had a good effect among the Southern people directly concerned at this particular time. We are disappointed in the silence of the inaugural upon this subject, and also with its silence touching the Mexican question, Napoleon, Maximilian, Dr. Gwin, the Monroe doctrine, and the Baltimore platform, upon which Old Abe was renominated and re-elected.

The address is mainly devoted to the subject of slavery as the cause of the war, and to the astounding revolution upon the slavery question which the war has brought about. Mr. Lincoln accepts the war as a national punishment from the Almighty for the "offence" of slavery, and the destruction of the institution as His infallible will and purpose. "Fervently do we pray," says the President, "that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet, if God wills that it continue until all the wealth piled by the bondman's two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil shall be sunk, and until every drop of blood drawn by the lash shall be paid by another drawn by the sword, as was said three thousand years ago, still it must be said that the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether."

Now, this may be a strictly orthodox declaration, resting upon "the judgments of the Lord;" but is it calculated to do any good? We think not. How will it be construed by "the last ditch" leaders of the rebellion? They will construe it to their despairing followers as an official declaration from "the despot Lincoln" that it is his purpose to prosecute this war to the total extirpation of slavery, though it may involve the extermination of the white race of the South, and the destruction of their property, root and branch. Surely there is no wisdom in a declaration admitting this construction; nor can we find in it that "charity for all," which Mr. Lincoln recommends.

We had expected from this inaugural a different treatment of the slavery question; that Mr. Lincoln would deal with the institution as a thing already beyond the power of further mischief, and that, therefore, with the submission of the rebellious States, the remnants of slavery still existing within their borders could be safely left to the constitutional amendment before the States for the total abolition of slavery throughout the length and breadth of the land. It would be a natural inference, from the absence of even a passing remark upon this amendment, that Mr. Lincoln classes it with his emancipation proclamations, as nothing better than "the Pope's bull against the comet," and that only the sword can effect the abolition of slavery after all.

But we are inclined to receive this inaugural simply as the necessary speech which the occasion demanded—a little speech of "glittering generalities," put in to fill up the programme, and as nothing more. We grant that it is not quite up to the mark of the last imperial speech of Louis Napoleon; but it has answered its purpose. Mr. Lincoln has told us heretofore that he waits upon events, and is guided by them, and this being the case, his discourse of yesterday was only an effort at best to avoid any commitment upon any question affecting our domestic or foreign affairs, excepting the abolition of slavery. That question, being practically settled, he was free to discuss, and it has served its purpose of a tub to the whale.

Moving Times in the Metropolis—The Relations of Landlord and Tenant.

We published on Sunday a brief but very interesting sketch of the strike of the landlords and the dismay of the tenants of this metropolis. We publish this morning two communications upon the same subject—one from a real estate agent, who corroborates the article with which he finds fault, and the other from a gentleman who has resided in Paris, and has a remedy for the want of houses. Our sketch did not in the least exaggerate the exorbitant demands of real estate owners, and the troubles of those who are compelled to go house-hunting this year. The Scriptures tell us that "the foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head;" and this seems to be the case as regards several hundreds of the sons of men in this city at present. Landlords have added about four hundred dollars to their last year rentals, and people of moderate incomes do not know where to go. We propose to give both landlords and tenants a few timely suggestions, which they will do well to mark and inwardly digest.

In the first place, an attentive study of the advertising columns of the HERALD will show that the scarcity of houses to rent this year is rather more apparent than real. The tenants seem to think that man wants but little here below, but wants that little in a so-called fashionable neighborhood. If so, he can get it by paying roundly for it. There are houses to let even on Fifth avenue. There are furnished houses to let on Murray Hill. You can almost take your pick of fashionable localities if your purse is large enough to gratify your ambition to live among the nabobs. But it is impossible to live fashionably and live cheaply; and there is the real rub of the present troubles about house rent. So soon as a tenant gets over the absurd idea that he must reside within certain specified limits in order to be respectable, all the difficulties of his position vanish, and he is soon accommodated with very comfortable quarters. The discovery that a brown stone front near Fifth avenue is not essential to happiness is the beginning of a new and better era in the lives of many people.

Let us suppose that this era has begun, and that a house-hunter has resolved to be sensible. The question then is, Where shall he find a home? There are plenty of houses to rent on Staten Island for very reasonable sums, ranging from four to eight hundred dollars, according to size. Brooklyn has been so crowded with emigrants from the metropolis that a good house near the ferries cannot be had for much less than a thousand a year. But if the tenant is willing to go a mile or so back from the ferries he will find numerous houses, both in Brooklyn and Williamsburg, for an average rent of about five hundred dollars. In Jersey City the average is about seven hundred, and perfect little palaces can be obtained there for that rental. The ferry fare, it must be remembered, is not so large as the car fare in this city, and the walk from the ferry is excellent exercise. Still, we cannot advise any one to leave New York island. We have an abiding faith that it is, all things considered, the best place in the world for a residence. At Harlem, admirable houses are advertised for very reasonable rents. One may buy a house there for the rental of a house in a fashionable street. Around the Park many beautiful residences are offered for five hundred dollars a year. Besides these, we see fine, old-fashioned houses offered for rent in the down town wards, which were once centres of fashion, but are now rather out of date. Yet one may live there quite as agreeably as up town, and at about half the expense. It is evident, then, that the real trouble is not so much in the scarcity of houses as in the foolish ideas about fashion entertained by tenants.

But, on the other hand, it is undeniable that the landlords have displayed little sense and a great deal of extortion in their tremendous rise in rents. Houses which were rented last year for eight hundred dollars now bring twelve, and one thousand dollar houses now bring fifteen or eighteen hundred per annum. Those houses are not, strictly speaking, of the first class; but they are in good locations, and have all the modern improvements. Now, the class of people who occupy such houses cannot afford to pay such high rents. They may promise to pay; but the landlords will certainly suffer in the end. We heard a conversation on a street car the other day which illustrates this point. "Why, Jack," said one passenger to another, "how can you afford to pay twelve hundred dollars a year rent? Your salary is only two thousand." "I know that," replied the person addressed; "but I must have some place to live, and after I've paid the first quarter I'll trust to Providence for the balance." This trusting in Providence will not pay the landlord. It will result in a lawsuit, and perhaps an ejectment. Then the landlord will have a lawyer's bill and an empty house on his hands, and may comfort himself with the reflection that he ought to have let his house to a good tenant at a reasonable rental. More than this, the present rage for high rents will cause capitalists to build houses for speculation, as they pay better interest than petroleum stock. About ten thousand more small houses are needed, and according to the style in which New Yorkers overdo matters, about twenty thousand will be erected. Perhaps our architect's idea may prove popular, and numerous residences be built on the Parisian plan. Then we shall have to chronicle a strike of the tenants and the dismay of the landlords. Taxes upon real estate will be very high and rents very low. Let the landlords be less grasping and the tenants less crazy about fashion, and we shall get over this 1st of May very nicely. Next year the tables may be turned and all wrongs righted.

Louis Napoleon's New Book—Dynastic Delusions of the Emperor.

The many who will persist in regarding Louis Napoleon as merely an Emperor, in the common sense of the word, do him far less than justice and take their observations of his character from a standpoint which must forever prevent their forming a true appreciation of his motives and the probable outcome of his acts. He is essentially a philosopher who speculates in systems of government; a literary man who, happily or unhappily for himself, has obtained power to test the various dynastic theories which he has formed during a dreamy life, by the arbitrament of fleets, armies, edicts and schemes of finance—all the moral and material resources of a powerful but fickle people. To the subjects of government as a science, and the perpetuation of dynasties as an art, he would seem from his earliest days to have devoted all the energies of a plodding but not brilliant intellect—an intellect in which we find the infidelity and audacity which marked the France of twenty years before his birth, curiously contrasted with an almost reverential study of the lessons of history, and a touchingly credulous acquiescence in whatever may appear to be the necessities which those lessons would impose.

That faith in the "Napoleonic star" which, with the stronger Uncle, was in great part a theatrical assumption, designed to give confidence to his followers in times of peril, would seem to have been accepted by the weaker Nephew as a religious truth—a truth both historical and philosophic, on the sufficient basis of which a permanent imperial dynasty for France may with safety be constructed. For this theory he seeks support in the analogies of history—his retrospection continually studying and reproducing the motives and maxims of his Uncle, as in the volume entitled "Napoleonic Ideas;" and his slow intellect never seeming to tire of analyzing the lives of Julius Cæsar and Charlemagne, as the two great military and imperial characters in whose designs and successes may be found the closest parallels to the achievements of the elder Napoleon. For the written results of his researches into the history and times of Charlemagne, Parisian rumor says we may have yet some years to wait; but already we know there is in press a "History of Cæsar" from Louis Napoleon's pen—the design of this last imperial literary effort being, as we imagine, to prove: That as the First Napoleon was, in his conquests and final fate, a rather close counterpart of the First Cæsar, so in the Second Napoleon we may expect to see revived the peaceful glories, irresistible sway, artistic and material progress and consolidating influences of the Augustan era.

For this conjecture as to the object and intended moral of the forthcoming work, we have no other ground than a pretty accurate study of Louis Napoleon's character and a just estimate of the circumstances under which he writes. Occupying the most perplexing and unstable throne in Europe, a prey to physical maladies and devoured by a desire to perpetuate his dynasty in the person of his son, the French imperial *litterateur* flies to his pen, at once as a relief from oppressing cares and as an instrument which may be made useful in giving popularity to his ideas. That the views which, we doubt not, his edition of Cæsar will be found to contain are plausible on their face, is not to be denied. As the Roman conqueror laid the foundations of his greatness by victoriously carrying the eagles of his country over France, Spain, Germany and Britain, while at home all was mutiny and chaos in the expiring republic of the municipality of Rome, so the elder Napoleon dazzled the eyes of France by his successes in Italy and elsewhere, at a period when the democratic government in Paris had become the very incarnation of oppression without purpose and imbecility from which there could be no appeal.

In the manner of their obtaining imperial power—for Cæsar had long held it in fact, though assassinated under a suspicion of desiring to assume it in title—there is the strictest possible analogy between the histories of the first Roman and the first French emperors. Both were first class military conquerors, and both poor statesmen; both had achieved triumphs abroad while chaos ruled at home; both were called upon to return and assume the direction of affairs by the all but unanimous cry of a people who could nowhere else see any hope of stability; both committed the mistake of believing themselves the creators and not the creatures of the circumstances by which they found themselves surrounded; and both paid the penalty of their lives—Cæsar, the more happy, under sudden blows, and Napoleon in the long exile of St. Helena—for having failed to realize that the time in which each lived was not the proper time for the experiment of personal aggrandizement which each attempted.

Different epochs and conditions of society call for and produce new forms of government. Rome had originally been governed by kings, of whom Tarquinius Superbus was the last. Then came four hundred years of a so-called republican government, which was just terminating, utterly effete and exhausted, when Cæsar stepped upon the stage. It was not a republic in any true sense, the municipality of Rome giving laws to the empire, but a few aristocratic families holding the votes of all other Roman citizens in complete subjection. Cæsar judged a change of government to be imminent, and in this he was right; but he contemplated a return in his own person to the former system of a kingship, and here was his error. Nations, no more than individuals, repeat in the progress of their lives the passions or the follies of past eras. Rome did not want a king; and, speaking by the hand of Brutus, Cæsar was bloodily rebuked for supposing he could make himself a successor to the last of the Tarquins. But Rome did want a change of government; the hour had become ripe for producing a new system of rule; and in the person of Augustus, and with the title of "Imperator," or general-in-chief, borrowed from the camps and only suggesting military ascendancy, the Roman people passed cheerfully under the yoke of an empire—that being the form of government which most clearly realized their aspirations for universal conquest.

In France and with the elder Napoleon the case was different. There the kingship of the Capets, accompanied by the oppressions of a feudal aristocracy, had become effete, and all Frenchmen needed a change. The republic, in the days of its infancy, was assailed by powerful combinations of foreign foes and domestic traitors. It absolutely needed for its guidance through that bitter period the firm hand and absolute will of a successful military chief. This want the elder Napoleon supplied; and history tells us how generous was his welcome, how boundless the homage, almost the idolatry, France poured at his feet. But as Cæsar, mistakenly, under similar circumstances, supposed Rome to need a king, so Napoleon, misled by his vanity and personal ambition, thought France must need an emperor. Here was an egregious folly, only to be pardoned for the severity of the penalty which it evoked. France in making a republic in Europe had fulfilled her needs. Her new system was not worn out; indeed, it was only in its infancy, as it is even yet. That new experiment has since been interrupted by foreign accidents—a few generations in the history of a nation being comparatively as brief as the fainting fit of a moment in the life of a young child. In throwing off the Bourbon and Orleans dynasties, and accepting Louis Napoleon as emperor by the voice of universal suffrage, France well knows that she is returning fast towards her intermitted experiment of a democratic republic. It is her destiny, she feels, to live under the new form of government that she was the first to create in Europe—the present emperorship of Louis Napoleon being no more than a mask or curtain behind which the forces of her nationhood are preparing for a return to the completion of their interrupted dream.

Nations never go backward on their tracks, nor can dissimilar causes in their history, any more than in the history of individual lives, produce similar results. Charlemagne tried to revive the Roman imperial system in his own person, conquering all Europe west of the Danube and calling it the "Empire of the West," the Roman Power having then removed its capital to Constantinople, and being well content with recognition as the "Empire of the East." That Western Europe needed a change of government Charlemagne clearly saw, and as a military conqueror he was accepted in the iconoclastic spirit. His revival of an empire was successful for his own stormy and troubled lifetime; but the moment that powerful repressive influence had been removed, the nations saw a new thing—the feudal system—rise up in Europe; that very feudal system which has since been swept away in blood and fire by the first throes of the French revolution. Like Cæsar thinking of returning to the ancient Roman kingship; like Charlemagne hoping to reconsolidate in his own dynasty the early Roman empire; like the First Napoleon, forgetting that his purple was but tolerated as a portion of his military uniform, and that his true character was that of the armed hand of a democratic republic—we now see Louis Napoleon dreaming of a French empire which is to endure and be perpetuated in his family, and painfully writing books to prove that in himself is revived the Augustan era which only came to Rome after nearly four hundred years of an aristocratic republic.

If the present Emperor of the French be alive half a dozen years from now, he will be quite likely to appreciate the philosophic truth of this article—a philosophy not spider spun from dreams, and discolored by personal aspirations, as is his own, but drawn with disinterested candor from an application of mere common sense principles to the great teachings of historical experience. In the beheading of Louis Capet, France signified her conviction that a republican form of government was essential to her progress. That wish, in any orderly sense, has never yet been gratified, Europe conspiring to forbid the experiment, and France having for a brief time to accept an "imperator," or absolute commander-in-chief, as her only safeguard. The wish for the republic, however, has not died out, nor can France forego the idea until the idea shall—in the course of centuries perhaps—have fulfilled its mission. Louis Napoleon may translate books and write commentaries to prove himself a new Augustus, and to convince the French people that under his dynasty alone can their happiness be thoroughly developed. The whole thing is nonsense, however—the nonsense of a selfish and not large-minded dreamer, who has so much at stake in the game that he does not dare acknowledge, even to himself, how hopelessly and inevitably all the chances are against him. Whoever is alive ten years from now will see France peacefully and proudly pursuing the republican experiment from which she was compelled to desist, more than half a century ago, by the arms of the Holy Alliance. Louis Napoleon, meanwhile, may fancy himself a new Augustus; and we have no doubt that, in this light, his forthcoming volume may prove extremely instructive and amusing.

More Recruits or a Draft—Ten Days' Grace.

The communication of Brigadier General Hinks, Acting Assistant Provost Marshal and General Superintendent of Volunteering, which we published yesterday, addressed to Supervisor Blunt, is of most importance to every citizen in this community. The General acknowledges the success of the Supervisors' committee in procuring volunteers to be greater per diem than on any previous occasion; he acknowledges the services, the great services, of the committee, and the ability evinced in securing recruits for the army, and says:—"While yourself and a few persons have labored faithfully and efficiently to produce the desired result, the expectation of a general interest being aroused" has failed, and then makes his appeal direct to the citizens of New York to use their individual exertion in assisting the committee to fill our quota without the necessity of resorting to a draft. General Hinks is not a citizen of New York; he can feel no especial interest in our affairs, and it can make but little difference to him, personally, what policy is adopted in reference to the filling of the quota. His appeal, then, is all the more forcible and deserving of attention; and it should bring the blush of shame to the cheek of every citizen who sits at his ease on this momentous question and neglects or refuses to raise a finger towards raising our quota of men. Is a draft desirable? Is it well to set this vast city into a whirlwind of excitement by the enforcement of a conscription?

It is a question, then, as General Hinks well says, which rests wholly with the people of this great metropolis. The Supervisors' committee has done all it can do; has been even more successful in procuring men than on any previous occasion; but even this success, great as it is, the General tells us, is not sufficient; and he gives us ten days' grace, before enforcing the draft, to see if something more will not be done by the citizens generally. It is a question which now rests with them—with property holders, with moneyed men; in fact, with all. The people must now bestir themselves; meetings should be called in every ward to encourage enlistments. Every man, and woman, too, should make himself and herself a recruiting agent, determined to bring at least one recruit to the committee.

Our moneyed men and moneyed institutions must respond to the appeals of the Comptroller to come forward and subscribe to the county bounty loan—one of the best seven per cent loans in the market. Let general activity be displayed in every quarter; let a general response be made to the appeal of General Hinks; let our Supervisors' committee make its appeal to the people of New York, and let the press raise its united voice in behalf of the cause, and our word for it Chairman Blunt will be enabled to announce our quota full before the close of the present month. But if nothing is done except what the committee is doing—recruiting its hundred or so a day—if the people are determined to make no exertion, and all hands are bent on sitting quietly by with folded arms, indifferent to results, why, then, the draft must come, let the consequences be what they may.

SHERMAN.

Sherman's Advance at Fayetteville, N. C.

OUR SPECIAL WASHINGTON DESPATCH.

WASHINGTON, March 4, 1865.

Authentic information—not from the Richmond papers—has been received that General Sherman's advance has reached Fayetteville, N. C. We already had the information that the gunboats sent by General Schofield had arrived at that point, which is about equi-distant from Wilmington and Newbern.

News from Fortress Monroe.

FORTRESS MONROE, March 3, 1865.

The steamers Glaucis and Neptune arrived here this afternoon from Smithville, N. C. The captains of both of these steamers reported having encountered during the trip up the coast very heavy northeast gales. They sailed from Smithville on the 1st inst. at one o'clock A. M., and shortly before they left, the steamer General Meigs arrived from Wilmington, N. C., bringing the report, which was generally credited by army and navy officers stationed at Smithville, that a portion of General Sherman's army had arrived at and was marching through Wilmington, N. C., from which it is conjectured that a junction with General Terry's army has been effected.

Owing to the thick fog in the bay the mail boat James T. Brady, from Washington, D. C., due here at seven o'clock this morning, did not arrive here until three o'clock this afternoon.

MORE TROUBLE ON THE NORTHERN BORDER.

Contemplated Rebel Raid on Oswego.

OSWEGO, March 4, 1865.

Major Grant has received a despatch from Governor Fenton, stating that the War Department at Washington have received information from Halifax that the rebels in the provinces are contemplating a raid on Oswego and Rochester. A public meeting is to be held in this city this afternoon to take such action in the matter as may be necessary.

International Exhibition in Portugal.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

CONSULATE GENERAL OF PORTUGAL, NEW YORK, Feb. 28, 1865.

I have the honor to transmit you the enclosed card relative to an international exhibition to be held in the city of Oporto, Portugal.

Considering the affair as one worthy of public notice, I take the liberty of soliciting your valuable assistance through the newspaper you so ably conduct. I remain, sir, with regard, your obedient servant,

A. M. DA CUNHA PEREIRA SOTTO MAIOR,
Consul General.

CARD.

An International Exhibition of the products, machinery, and all other objects appertaining to universal industry, will be inaugurated in the city of Oporto, Portugal, in August next; wherefore the Consul General of Portugal in the United States hereby invites the farmers, manufacturers and inventive genius of this country to contribute to said exhibition with whatever articles they may deem appropriate.

Further particulars may be obtained at the Consulate General of Portugal and at Mr. L. E. Amsinck's, 31 Broad street, New York.

A Popular City Loan.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

NEW YORK, March 4, 1865.

As there is a prospect of the city funds running low in the way of the Bounty Loan, would it not be well to advocate a popular loan. I am satisfied that if the popular loan was started it would be taken up speedily, as almost every person interested would invest. Have it from ten dollars upward.

K. H. J.

ITALIAN OPERA—MATINEE.—The weather yesterday was anything but inviting or propitious for a *matinée*, yet the Academy made a very fair show. Although not crowded, the house looked bright and blooming. Martha was very well sung by Miss Kellogg, Mlle. Morensi and Signors Lotti and Weinlich. To-morrow evening *La Forza del Destino* will be given for the fourth time. That this is the very finest of all Verdi's works is a conviction which becomes strengthened the oftener we hear it. It is overflowing with musical gems. The duett, for tenor and baritone, in the third act, is delicious, perhaps one of the best *morceaux* in any of Verdi's operas. The part of Preziosilla, the Gipsey and Vivandiere, is a magnificent one, both in the music allotted to it and the brilliant dramatic exuberance which it admits of. In scenic effects the opera has few, if any equals, and in justice to Mr. Maretzek and his scenic artists it must be said that these effects are very finely, indeed grandly, presented. We observe that *La Forza* is announced for two more nights this week. Why not run it for Tuesday in place of *Faust*? Or, if the managerial arrangements do not admit of it, *Lucia* might be substituted. *Faust*, once so popular, has almost exhausted itself, and people begin to weary of it. We had an excellent proof of the popularity of *Lucia* at the last *matinée*, when, despite the disagreeable weather, there was not standing room to be had. We cannot but think that *Lucia* or *Linda* would be more acceptable on Tuesday than *Faust*.

Portland Mayoralty Nominations.

PORTLAND, Me., March 4, 1865.

The republicans have renominated Captain Jacob McLellan for Mayor, and the democrats have nominated Captain Cyrus Sturdivant.