NEW YORK HERALD.

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway, near Broome Street.—SOLON SHINGLE—LIFE INDIAN. Matinee at 1½ o'Clock.

WOOD'S THEATRE, Broadway, opposite the St. Nicholas Hotel.—ATONEMENT; OR, THE CHILD STEALER.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC (THEATRE FRANCAIS), Irving Place.—L'AIEULE.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 585 Broadway, opposite Metropolitan Hotel.—ETHIOPIAN SINGING, DANCING, &c.—WHO KILLED COCK ROBIN?

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Bowery.—SINGING, DANCING, BURLESQUES, &c.—ADVENTURES OF A NEW YORK DETECTIVE. Matinee at 2½ o'Clock.

GEORGE CHRISTY'S—OLD SCHOOL OF MINSTRELSY, BALLADS, MUSICAL GEMS, &c., Fifth Avenue Opera House, Nos. 2 and 4 West Twenty-fourth street.—THE COBBLER'S FROLIC. Matinee at 2½ o'Clock.

BRYANTS' MINSTRELS, Mechanics' Hall, 472 Broadway.—DAN BRYANT'S NEW STUMP SPEECH—NEGRO COMICALITIES, BURLESQUES, &c.—U. S. MAIL.

HOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn.—ETHIOPIAN MINSTRELSY—BALLADS, BURLESQUES AND PANTOMIMES.

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

IRVING HALL, Irving place.—GRAND CONCERT OF THE NATIONAL CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC.

HOPE CHAPEL, 720 Broadway.—CORRIE'S ILLUSTRATED TOUR OF SCOTLAND.

WITH SUPPLEMENT.

New York, Saturday, March 3, 1866.

THE NEWS.

CONGRESS.

The proceedings of the Senate yesterday were important, including the adoption, by a vote of twenty-nine to eighteen, of the Reconstruction Committee's resolution, adopted by the House some days ago, excluding the Southern representatives until their States shall have been declared by Congress entitled to representation. Petitions were presented for an international copyright law between this country and Great Britain, for the election of President by direct vote of the people, to abolish color and race distinctions in the exercise of the elective franchise, and for an increase of the pay of naval officers. A resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to report on the expediency of calling a national convention to consider constitutional amendments was introduced and ordered to be printed. A resolution of the Ohio Legislature in favor of giving volunteer officers the positions to be created by the increase of the regular army was presented. Senator Doolittle took occasion to contradict in emphatic language the statement of a Washington paper that during his recent speech in New Haven, Connecticut, he was hissed and silenced for disparaging Mr. Sumner. The bill granting land to aid in the construction of a railroad from Springfield, Missouri, to the Pacific coast, the provisions of which will be found in our report, was passed, and the consideration of the resolution for the exclusion of the Southern representatives was then again resumed, and occupied the remainder of the session. Lengthy speeches were made in opposition to it by Messrs. Cowan, Davis and Doolittle, and in favor of it by Messrs. Fessenden and Wilson. Other Senators also participated in the debate, which was earnest and animated, and finally a vote was taken, with the result stated at the commencement of this paragraph. The House having already voted similarly, this decides that for the present no representatives are to be admitted to Congress from the States which were identified with the rebellion. The Senate adjourned till Monday.

In the House of Representatives communications were presented from the Secretary of the Navy, giving a list of naval chaplains, and from the Secretary of the Treasury, furnishing a statement of the cost of printing and advertising for his department. Bills were introduced to afford additional security to life on board steam vessels and to amend the seventy-eighth section of the Internal Revenue act. A memorial from white citizens of Alabama, making a statement of their deplorable condition, praying that the national troops be not removed, and protesting against the organization of the State militia, and a petition from freedmen of Georgia, asking for the elective franchise, were presented and referred. Leave was asked, but not granted, to introduce resolutions of inquiry relative to the strength of the regular army and in regard to Mexican matters, and a constitutional amendment rendering ineligible for the Presidency, Congress, the commissioned positions in the army and navy, and other national offices, all persons who voluntarily took part in the rebellion. The Military Committee was instructed to report on the expediency of giving the government bounty to volunteers of 1861 and 1862 who, after over a year's service, were discharged on account of physical disabilities contracted in the performance of duty. A bill to construct a ship canal around Niagara Falls was reported from the Committee on Roads and Canals, read twice and recommitted. The bill to relinquish government title to certain lands within the city of San Francisco was passed. A bill to encourage education in agriculture and the mechanic arts was introduced, read twice and referred to the Agricultural Committee. The remainder of the session was consumed in continued discussion of the bill passed by the Senate to protect all persons, without regard to color, in the enjoyment of their civil rights. The debate was a long one, and several members took part in it, Mr. Rogers, of New Jersey, again affording amusement by some of his quaint remarks and announcement of antediluvian opinions. No vote was taken, and further consideration of the bill was postponed till Thursday next. It is expected that hereafter evening sessions will be held for the transaction of business. The House will hold a session to-day for general debate on the President's message.

THE FENIANS.

Great excitement prevailed among the Irish population of the city yesterday regarding the Fenian news from their fatherland. It is generally regarded by them as morally certain that the war is now raging in Ireland. There is an immense sale of the Fenian bonds, and new circles are starting up rapidly. The Sweeny movement is, it is said, to operate as a flank, while the other branch of the Brotherhood takes the enemy in front. Both divisions are understood to be acting in concert. The present struggle is looked upon by Irishmen as the final fight for their disenthralment. Meetings were held in various portions of this city and the surrounding cities last night, at which great enthusiasm and a determination to be prompt in aiding the battle for Irish nationality were manifested. Calls have been issued for immense Fenian demonstrations at Jones' Wood on tomorrow and at Cooper Institute on next Friday evening.

Throughout the country the Fenians are swayed by the same feelings which move their brothers in the metropolis, and our telegraphic despatches show that energetic measures are being concerted by the Order in all the principal cities and towns.

THE LEGISLATURE.

A large number of matters received attention in both houses of the Legislature yesterday; but the majority of them were of only limited interest. The annual report of the Governors of the New York Hospital was presented to both branches. In the Senate a petition of stockholders of the Metropolitan Railroad Company, asking for an underground grant, was presented. Several bills were introduced, and a few were ordered to third reading. Among the former was one authorizing our City Comptroller to borrow money for the Metropolitan Fire Department, in anticipation of taxation, and among the latter was that incorporating the New York Association of Exempt Firemen.

In the Assembly, among several bills passed was that empowering the managers of the Five Points House of Industry to bind out children. The bills for the better protection of seamen in this port, to regulate the transportation of railroad way freight, and to incorporate the association for the erection of monuments to soldiers, were reported from committees. A number of new measures were introduced, including bills for railroads in Twenty-ninth, Columbia and other streets of this city, to incorporate the Harlem River and Port Chester Railroad Company and the Travellers' Club of this city, to regulate the use of piers and slips between Broome and Delancey streets, for the better protection of life on steamboats, and for a survey of the ancient mounds and earthworks of the States. Notices were given of bills for the erection of Highland county and for the incorporation of the Brooklyn Mutual Gaslight Company. A resolution declaring that it is the duty of our government to demand Maximilian's immediate departure from Mexico was introduced and referred.

THE CITY.

The new Metropolitan Board of Health held their first meeting, with closed doors, yesterday afternoon, at which Mr. Jackson A. Schultz was chosen President and Mr. Benjamin F. Manierre Treasurer. Several important sanitary measures were adopted, and new offices were created. A report of the proceedings appears in this morning's HERALD Supplement. The Board adjourned till Monday next.

The special committee of the Board of Supervisors appointed to investigate the charges brought against the Committee on the new Court House by Supervisor Ely held a meeting yesterday afternoon. Mr. Ely was examined; but his testimony was of little importance; for he stated that he knew nothing of the alleged corruption of his personal knowledge, but that he would wish other witnesses to be examined. The committee adjourned till Tuesday next.

The Constitutional Union General Committee met last evening at Masonic Hall, for the purpose of hearing the report of the special committee delegated to wait on the President and present him with the resolutions of the Cooper Institute meeting. The committee reported through their chairman, Mr. Davies, who detailed all the circumstances in connection with their cordial reception by the President. Addresses were delivered and a strong determination to sustain the President to the last was manifested.

The Morris Fire Insurance Company litigation came up in a new shape before Judge Barnard, in the Supreme Court, chambers, yesterday. Mr. E. A. Stansbury, President of the company, was fined one thousand dollars for contempt of court, in not transferring the effects of the corporation which he represented to Mr. John K. Hackett, who has been appointed receiver. It also appeared on the papers, as charged, that Mr. S. H. Hammond, Deputy Attorney General, was guilty of misconduct in attempting to have Mr. Stansbury appointed receiver, in place of Mr. Hackett, having procured an order to that effect from Judge Miller, of Albany, under alleged fraudulent representations. Judge Barnard has written a spicy letter to Judge Miller, relating the facts. In giving his decision yesterday the Judge made some pertinent remarks, which are given, with a full report of the case, in our Supplement sheet.

A verdict of seven thousand dollars was given yesterday in the Supreme Court, before Judge Foster, against Messrs. Stearns, Donau & Co., for damage alleged to have been sustained by Mr. Valentine Fink, by the defendants knocking down part of his house, No. 87 Eighth avenue, in making additions and repairs to premises adjoining. Judge Foster gave a severe lecture to one of plaintiff's counsel at the conclusion of the trial.

The motions for new trials in the cases of Gonzales and Pellicer, convicted of the murder of Senor Otero, and sentenced to be hanged on the 9th inst., were yesterday granted in the Supreme Court in Brooklyn, and the cases were remitted to the Court of Oyer and Terminer, as is more fully explained in our Supplement sheet. It is expected that the new trials will be commenced within two weeks.

In the United States Commissioner's office yesterday, before Commissioner Osborn, a man named William Gorman brought a claim for wages against the proprietors of the steamer Leo, plying between Savannah and New York. The case was dismissed, as it appeared the defendant had gone on board at Savannah for the purpose of working his passage to this port, for which he was unable to pay.

William Cane was yesterday remanded by Commissioner Osborn until Monday next on a charge of passing a counterfeit of the fifty dollar Treasury notes on Madame Bell and Gustave A. Doerge, keepers of a concert saloon on Broadway.

Richard Muhlstadt, alias John Muller, was tried yesterday before Judge Shipman and a jury for having attempted to pass a counterfeit fifty cent currency stamp on the keeper of an apple stand in the Bowery. The jury disagreed, there being eleven for a conviction and one for an acquittal. Edward Moran was found guilty of having in his possession counterfeit fifty cent fractional currency with intent to pass it. He was remanded for sentence till Thursday.

A singular case was developed yesterday in Justice Ledwith's police court. A cook and waiter named E. B. Madden, who has been in the employ of several families in this city, was arrested and arraigned on charge of stealing an overcoat from the residence of General Aspinwall, in University place. On searching the prisoner two letters, written by himself, were found in his possession, in one of which, addressed to the British Minister in Washington, Madden complains that he has been severely persecuted by agents of the American government, and requests to be assisted in returning to England. The other is addressed to Mr. R. M. Blatchford, of this city, and in it the writer, after giving a list of distinguished American statesmen with whom he has had the honor of corresponding, declares that he has received a commission from Heaven to assassinate President Johnson, and wishes the President to be warned of his fate, so that he may prepare for death.

A man named Lawrence Griffin was on Thursday arrested in this city and sent to Queens county for trial on charge of being concerned in the murder of Robert Mitchell, mate of the schooner John Boynton, in Long Island Sound, near Riker's Island, in December last.

The annual commencement of the Medical College of the New York University was held last evening in the chapel of the University building, Washington square. The degree of doctor of medicine was conferred upon seventy-nine members of the graduating class.

Complete accounts of the Purim ball, at the Academy of Music, and the ball of the Seventy-ninth Highlanders, at Irving Hall, both of which took place on Thursday evening, but the reports of which were crowded out of our yesterday's issue, appear in this morning's HERALD Supplement sheet. The Purim ball was a magnificent affair, and the Academy was crowded on the occasion by the beauty and fashion of the metropolis. Though not so pretentious as the other, the Highlanders' entertainment was a gay and most enjoyable one.

The Inman steamship City of London, Captain Mirehouse, will sail to-day at noon for Queenstown and Liverpool, from pier No. 44 North river. The new steamship England, of the National line, for Liverpool via Queenstown, also sails to-day. The steamship Allemania, Captain Trautmann, for Southampton and Hamburg, sails from her dock at Hoboken at twelve o'clock to-day. The mails for the above vessels will close at the Post Office at half-past ten o'clock A. M.

The fine steamship Neshannock, Captain Winchester, of the Cromwell line, will sail at three P. M. to-day for New Orleans direct, from pier No. 9 North river.

The favorite fast sailing steamship Flambeau, under the command of Captain William B. Eaton, will sail to-day, from pier 36 North river, at three P. M. precisely, for Savannah.

The Empire Sidewheel line steamship San Jacinto, Captain Leveland, will sail for Savannah to-day at three P. M., from pier 13 North river.

The stock market showed diminished buoyancy yesterday, but closed steady. Gold weakened to 135⅝ at the close of business.

With few exceptions merchandise continued dull and depressed yesterday, in sympathy with the fall in gold. But a limited business was done either in foreign or domestic goods, though groceries, breadstuffs, and a few articles were sold quite freely. Cotton was in demand and firmer. Petroleum was dull and nominal. Groceries were firm. On 'Change flour was firmer, with a very fair demand. Wheat was higher. Corn was steady. Pork was lower. Lard was dull and heavy. Whiskey was firm.

MISCELLANEOUS.

It is said that the special Treasury agents and subagents in the South will soon all be withdrawn and their operations brought to a termination.

At the banquet given in Cornwall, Canada, on Thursday night, to the Canadian Ministry, speeches were made by members of the Provincial Cabinet. Mr. MacDonald stated that the confederation of the provinces would certainly take place within a few weeks, and said that the Canadian militia had now two thousand well drilled officers to lead them. Mr. Galt, in speaking of the failure of all efforts to renew the Reciprocity treaty, said that trade relations with the other provinces, South America and Europe must be cultivated, but advocated a continuance of friendly intercourse with the United States, in the hope of the ultimate restoration of commercial advantages. The Canadian Trade Commissioners, in search of West Indian markets, have received a warm welcome in British Guiana. A grand banquet was given them in Georgetown on the 20th of January, and the plans suggested by the commissioners were heartily endorsed. One of the delegates stated that the interview he had with Secretary Seward at St. Thomas left him no hope of the renewal of reciprocity.

General Pope has issued an order to provide for the greater safety of persons crossing the Plains. Points are designated where trains are to rendezvous, organize and equip, and from these no train of less than twenty wagons, protected by thirty armed men, will be allowed to proceed. All travellers will be compelled to comply with the provisions of this order.

William A. Browning, formerly President Johnson's private Secretary, and recently appointed Secretary of Legation to Mexico, died in Washington yesterday.

Full particulars, with the evidence taken in the coroner's inquest, are furnished in our Supplement of to-day, regarding the death of Thomas J. Swift, of Morrisania, who, as alleged, was beaten to death on Monday last, at Melrose station, on the Harlem Railroad, by a switchman named Michael Lahy, who has been committed to jail at White Plains, to await the action of the Grand Jury of Westchester county.

The "Grand Idea" of Napoleon in Mexico—The Danger to France.

The full report of the recent suggestive speech of Marshal Forey in the French Senate on the Mexican question, which we published yesterday, is an argument in support of Maximilian and his empire which, whether officially or unofficially presented, leads to an unfavorable construction of the gracious and rose-colored legislative address of the Emperor Napoleon. The obligations devolving upon France in regard to Maximilian, French citizens and the native adherents to his cause in Mexico, as submitted by Marshal Forey, cannot be reconciled with the theory of an early departure of the French troops. The Marshal says:—"In my opinion it would be highly dangerous to recall our troops immediately;" that "if our army is recalled from Mexico all the Frenchmen in the country will be obliged to return with it;" that "we must continue to lend them our support and aid them to sustain the power they have chosen;" that "it may become necessary to send fresh troops to Mexico;" that "at least those which are there must be kept there, and it may also become necessary to make further pecuniary sacrifices," and that "I have too much esteem for the great American republic to believe that it would prefer a republic of plunderers and bandits in Mexico instead of a monarchy of honest men, based upon the principles of civilization."

These are the views of an honest soldier, the original leader of the French expeditionary corps to Mexico, and as such charged with the designs and the confidence of his Emperor. Marshal Forey understands the situation of Maximilian, his difficulties and his necessities, and the duties which, by his position, are imposed upon France. But, transcending in importance all these incidental considerations, in the judgment of the outspoken Marshal, is "the grand idea" of Napoleon which underlies this Mexican adventure. This "grand idea" is the alpha and omega of the Marshal's speech. Thus the Emperor, in undertaking this expedition, "was impelled by a grand idea," and, "I ask myself, has this grand idea been well understood by the country?" and again, "France cannot wish to incur the reproach of having misunderstood the grand idea of the Emperor;" and yet again, "should we allow a money consideration to jeopardize the success of this undertaking, based, as it is, upon a grand idea of the Emperor?"

Now we know that the "nephew of his uncle" is a man of grand ideas—yea, even "Napoleonic ideas." We have seen some of them splendidly carried out, too, at home and abroad, in Paris, at Cherbourg, in the Crimea and in Italy, to the credit of his empire and the glory of France; and we know that the grandest of all ideas to Frenchmen are "gloire" and "victoire." But what is this grand Mexican idea of Napoleon? There is neither glory nor victory in it. According to his original letter of instructions to Marshal Forey it is a strong foothold of "the Latin race" on this continent against the ambitious designs of the Anglo-Saxon race; or, in other words, a check in Mexico against the advancing power of the United States. According to Marshal Forey, it is the rescue of Mexico from the anarchy of republican institutions, and the placing of her suffering people under the established law and order of a monarchy. But whatever may be the "grand idea" of Napoleon, it is manifest from all that has been said on the subject on both sides, that he has no idea of withdrawing the empire from Mexico, whatever he may say of his troops, and that the government and people of the United States have no idea of recognizing that empire as the Mexican government.

The late correspondence between Mr. Seward and Druyn de Lhuys establishes these facts—that the idea on the one side is that this imperial experiment in Mexico must be abandoned, and that the idea on the other side is that Maximilian is destined to establish his dynasty on Mexican soil; and that fair promises, masterly delays and the chapter of accidents most likely to follow, will in good time leave us not even the shadow of a republican government as a pretext for withholding a recognition of the empire. With this recognition the "grand idea" of Napoleon would soon be developed in the creation of a naval depot on the Atlantic and on the Pacific side of Mexico, and in some isthmus line of communication, by railroad or canal, securing to France a strong military and commercial balance of power in both oceans; and a check in the occupation of the continent in that quarter against any further advances of the republican institutions or ideas of the Anglo-American race.

Fortunately, however, against the fulfilment of this "grand idea" stands that adverse American grand idea of the Monroe doctrine—the fixed and irrevocable attitude of the United States touching this European usurpation of Mexico. The magnanimity of France in coming to the rescue of our next door neighbors from the anarchy of institutions adopted from our example, may be a "grand idea;" but to us, under all the circumstances of this intervention, it is exceedingly offensive. Regarding it as a movement against the United States, like that proposed some years ago by Russia for the division of the estates of "the sick man" of Turkey, the case admits of no half-way compromise. We may grant a liberal term of grace; but this Franco-Austro-Mexican empire must be removed, and the republic must be restored. To this end Napoleon is bound to come to an understanding between his prestige and his safety. The American people shrink from the thought of a rupture with our ancient ally, and the magnificent cession of Louisiana attaches them to the name of Napoleon. Let not Napoleon, however, presume too far upon the past against this dangerous offence of Mexico.

We desire peace with France. We need it and we expect it. War between the two countries at this crisis would be disastrous to both. But experience justifies the belief that while our government would survive the trial, the French Empire would probably be superseded in the struggle, as well as the Mexican, by the republic. From such a war England would secure the world's commerce as a neutral, and the people of France, from the suspension of her foreign trade, would almost certainly, from the pressure of their sufferings, be drawn into the fierce redress of the barricades. In a word, this "grand idea" of Napoleon in regard to Mexico is a grand mistake. It looks not to peace, but to war with the United States and the prostration of the commerce and industrial enterprises of both countries, to the aggrandizement of England, their hereditary enemy. We desire the return of our old relations of friendship with France; but they are simply impossible while Maximilian and his imperial establishment remain in Mexico. The abandonment of this "grand idea" is essential to peace and the safety of Napoleon and his dynasty.

Ireland in Rebellion.

The news from Europe by the Asia brings the remarkable, though perhaps not quite unexpected fact, that a third part of the British empire is in a state of revolution. The writ of habeas corpus has been suspended all over Ireland by an act of both Houses of Parliament, hastily passed, and as speedily signed by the Queen at eleven o'clock the same night. This cannot be regarded in any other light than a voluntary declaration by the government that Ireland is engaged in a rebellion which cannot be suppressed by the agency of civil law, and that the government is compelled to resort to military force in order to keep that portion of the United Kingdom in unwilling subjection. This is an admission which strong governments are not accustomed to make. Indeed, it is the last thing any government would be likely to do except in a very serious emergency. Therefore we are bound to accept the fact that Ireland is at the present moment in rebellion. The Lord Lieutenant, it appears, declared that he would not be responsible for the consequences which he foresaw as the result of the widespread Fenian conspiracy unless the habeas corpus act was suspended. It appears, furthermore, that the first movement of the authorities after the suspension of the writ was to arrest and imprison a number of officers who lately served in the American army during the war, now sojourning in Ireland, along with hundreds of others, supposed to be connected with Fenianism. The London *Times* declares that the special object of this action is to secure the persons of these American citizens.

Remembering the outcry raised by the English press, and the denunciations of English statesmen when Mr. Lincoln suspended the habeas corpus at a time when rebellion raised its head against a just and truly fraternal government in this country, we may well question the consistency of the act of the English government now; and when Mr. Labouchere gives notice in the House of Commons that he will call attention to the inadequacy of the neutral laws to enable England to fulfil her "international obligations" towards foreign countries, now that it is the British ox which is gored, we are reminded how faithlessly these obligations were regarded during our civil war. Scrupulous as England is in the observance of neutrality when she is in a scrape, she countenanced the fitting out of privateers against American commerce, fostered the designs of notorious rebels in Canada, recognized belligerent rights in the insurgent States, and in every way assisted rebellion in this country. It may be that in the face of all these flagitious proceedings the British government will require the United States to interpose its authority to suppress Fenianism, and endorse the misgovernment which has driven Ireland into rebellion.

But suppose that our government does not find itself bound to do anything of the sort, or even should be disposed to demand the release of these American citizens who have served under our flag on the battle fields of the South? What then? Has England any claim upon us that she should seek our co-operation in crushing a people in their struggle for freedom? Has she any argument to show why we should not interpret neutrality as she has interpreted it in the case of the Southern rebellion? These questions may arise out of the present disturbed condition of things in the British empire, and it may seem the best policy in our government to let the Fenians alone just for the present. Should the time come to recognize belligerent rights, we have a good precedent to follow in the conduct of Earl Russell at the commencement of our troubles, and the present English administration can hardly quarrel with us for adopting its own idea of "international obligations towards foreign countries."

But, apart from any speculations as to future contingencies, we have to deal now with the fact that the British government has declared Ireland ungovernable by civil law, and this means revolution. It is admitted in Parliament, it is declared from the throne, it is established by the suspension of the habeas corpus, that a deep-rooted conspiracy is sapping the foundation of a portion of the British empire, which requires all its military power to suppress. That is enough for the beginning of the drama. How it will shape its future remains to be seen. It must be brief to be decisive, whichever way it ends.

THE NEW HOBBY.—The radical journals have found a new explanation for all the ills that afflict humanity. If anything goes wrong in the world now, it is because of the President's veto and the President's speech. To these causes, says one of the number, "may be attributed the disgraceful demonstrations on unoffending blacks which have been made under the shadow of the Capitol." This "disgraceful demonstration" was a drunken row at Georgetown, in which some niggers were beaten. It is not shown exactly how this fight depended upon the veto, but that does not matter. It is enough to be assured upon high radical authority that one was the direct, inevitable consequence of the other. The public is now furnished with an idea that will enable it to understand all the troubles and disturbances that take place in the Southern States. If whiskey gets into the brain of any boisterous fellow and he thrashes an impudent nigger, it is the veto. If an idle freedman dies starved rather than earn his bread and butter, it is on account of the veto. If labor throughout the South is utterly demoralized, what better explanation of it can there be than the President's veto? The same class of journals in former years used slavery to a magnificent extent in this way. Everything that went wrong did so on account of slavery. Human depravity, vice and misery of every class and character were the results of slavery. The President's veto will now explain all the misfortunes of the country quite as well.

DELEGATIONS AT THE WHITE HOUSE.—Committees and delegations from all parts of the country, representing all manner of interests, still continue to press themselves upon the President and urge his consideration of their personal interests. While he is worn down by night and day labors to restore the country, they intrude upon him to glorify themselves and advertise their business, as if that was the only question now to be considered. Two delegations waited upon him on Thursday last, one of which, headed by the steamboat king of Detroit, Michigan, endeavored to get the President committed to their scheme for the manufacture of iron and steel. Their address to the President was conclusive evidence that they did not appear there to aid him or strengthen his hands in the work of restoration, but to secure executive assistance in favor of class legislation, which would specially benefit them. The President, however, is a shrewder man than they evidently took him to be. They talked about money making and specialities, as if that was all there is in this world. Mr. Johnson, on the other hand, quietly heard their story, and, when they had concluded, gave them a chapter on patriotism which it is to be hoped they will profit by and keep away from the White House with their schemes to advance their own private interests hereafter.

They were full of ideas about iron and steel hid away somewhere—they did not seem to know exactly where—but if Congress would increase the duties on those articles, in a few years it would be developed where this iron and steel is. President Johnson very significantly replied that there was another object in which they were vitally interested, and that is, "the thorough restoration of the government. The full and complete reconciliation of the country ought to be a precursor to all movements." This, in his view, is what is necessary to "produce the development of the manufacturing, the commercial, the agricultural, and the other industrial interests of the country." On this point he gave them sound and practical advice, which not only that delegation but all others can profit by. The currency tinkers, the specie payment doctors, and the contraction howlers, from the Secretary of the Treasury down to the *Tribune*, will find the plan of the President set forth in this speech as the only feasible and practical mode of averting the evil which they pretend to see, and the only true mode of disposing of this vexed question. As the President very wisely said, "the restoration of the government is the greatest stimulant that can be applied, not only to the manufacturing, but all other interests of the nation." The chairman of the committee seeing that he was not likely to secure an endorsement of his special interests in this way, started off on a dodge about importations from Europe, but the President soon brought him back to the question, and he must have left the White House fully convinced that he could not make a tool of Andrew Johnson. In short, the iron and steel delegation found more than their match this time.

PETROLEUM AS A SOURCE OF REVENUE.—The public will receive new light and the petroleum interest a fresh impetus from the report—copious extracts from which we give to-day—of the committee appointed by the Revenue Commission to investigate the subject of petroleum as a source of revenue. It appears from this report that the internal revenue accruing from petroleum the past year amounted to nearly three millions of dollars, and that, with the present excessive duty on crude oil thrown off, it is estimated that the revenue receipts the present year will, from a tax of twenty cents per gallon on refined, amount to the round sum of six millions of dollars. This statement will, no doubt, be received with much satisfaction by the people, who as yet are almost entirely unaware of the actual resources of the country now in course of practical development. The committee deserve much credit for the completeness of their report on this interesting subject. The proposition to abolish the tax altogether on crude oil is a wise and just one, for any person who has visited the oil regions must be aware of the injurious operation of that onerous tax upon the labor of many poor men who are or have been engaged in working wells that produce but a few barrels of oil per day. Hundreds of these small wells have been abandoned, and although individually the loss may be small, yet the aggregate would make a very handsome figure in the sum of our national wealth. By taking off this tax on crude oil Congress will be acting justly towards many worthy and industrious men who have been pioneers in developing oil territory, and who have invested their all and devoted their best energies to the business. It is not every one who bores for oil who becomes a millionaire, and upon those who are unfortunate Congress should impose no crippling and unnecessary burdens.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION ABOUT INSURANCE COMPANIES.—We perceive that Mr. Curtis, member from the Third district of this city, has introduced a bill into the Legislature, relative to insurance companies, requiring them to make weekly statements under oath, similar to the present system of bank statements, showing the amount of insurance outstanding, amount of unpaid claims against the company, the amount of cash on hand, &c. We believe this to be a wise measure, and one that will have a salutary effect in protecting the community against the impositions of rotten and bogus insurance companies. It may put the sound companies to some inconvenience, but that objection cannot weigh against the great public good that will flow from the weekly publication of the condition of the various companies. People will then be able to judge for themselves which are the solvent and well managed companies, and not be obliged to grope in the dark on the subject.

THE CITY CHAMBERLAIN AND THE CITY FUNDS.—The city of New York has sometimes as high as two millions of dollars lying idle in the hands of the City Chamberlain. No interest accrues upon this large sum, and the public receive no benefit from it in any way whatever. This is all wrong. We are glad to notice that a bill is before the Legislature requiring the City Chamberlain to deposit the city funds in some interest paying institution; and there are plenty of sound ones ready to accept the trust. This will save the tax payers from twenty to thirty thousand dollars per year. But what is the use of a City Chamberlain, any how?

THE NEW MODE OF NATURALIZATION.—The threat of the Spanish government to hang all foreigners who may be found serving on Peruvian or Chilean vessels has been very promptly met. Dictator Prado, of Peru, has issued the following proclamation, which effectually disposes of this subject by declaring that all foreigners thus serving are naturalized Peruvians:—

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT, POLICE AND PUBLIC WORKS.

MARIANO YGNACIO PRADO, Supreme Provisional Chief of the Republic.

DECREE.

ARTICLE SOLE.—All foreigners who may serve on any Peruvian and Chilean war vessels, or on those of any Power allied to Peru or Chile, whether belonging to the navy or intended for privateers, shall be considered as naturalized Peruvians. In any of said cases naturalization is obtained by the simple fact of the acceptance of their services.

The Secretary of State for the Department of Government is charged with the execution of this decree.

Given at the Government House in Lima, this 24th of January, 1866.

MARIANO Y. PRADO.
J. M. QUIMPER.

The United States adopted a similar course during our recent war, allowing all foreigners who enlisted in our armies to become citizens without the preliminary five years prescribed in all other cases. As Secretary Marcy demonstrated in the case of Kosta, we were fully prepared to protect our naturalized citizens at all hazards, and Peru is ready to do the same. The world has already acknowledged the great principle upon which Prado's proclamation is based, and this ends the silly threats of Spain.

VERY COOL STATEMENT, BUT NOT AT ALL PLAUSIBLE.—The Washington correspondent of the radical organ in this city says there is a report that President Johnson had sent an autograph letter to Sumner, apologizing for the delicate allusion made to that Senator in his famous speech on the night of the 22d of February. Looking at the President's character, the report must have had a very limited circulation—probably not beyond the garret of the correspondent. But the same veracious writer, thinking such a statement too strong a dose to be swallowed, adds that such a course has probably been suggested to the President. We should like to be present when any one would venture to suggest to Andy Johnson that he should take back anything he said so well. The scene would be highly interesting. Perhaps it would be as well to suggest that the President apologize beforehand for what he is going to say. This would be standing on Joss Havens' platform, as laid down by that philosopher, to preserve harmony in his club. Each member was to apologize six months in advance of using disagreeable language, upon the same principle of giving notice of motion in Congress, so that when a member should be well abused he was bound to bear it meekly and without offence. Let President Johnson, therefore, adopt this excellent rule, apologize in advance to the radical leaders and then give it to them hip and thigh as they deserve. By all means let him adopt Joss Havens' platform.

FIRE AND MARINE LOSSES FOR THE PAST TWO MONTHS.—The heavy fire and marine losses during the months of January and February of the present year have borne hard upon weak insurance companies. In January there were seventy-three fires, where the loss at each amounted to $20,000 and upwards, and the total value of the property destroyed was within a trifle of $7,000,000. There were forty-six of the same class of fires in February, attended with a loss of nearly $5,000,000, making about $12,000,000 for the two months. To this must be added at least $3,000,000 worth of property destroyed where the loss was less than $20,000 at each fire. The marine losses for the same time aggregate $9,000,000, and the losses by steamboat disasters on our lakes and rivers to a million more. Here is a total of $25,000,000 for two months! Strong companies will, of course, weather these periodic seasons of disaster, but weak ones must inevitably go under.

WORKING OF THE FREEDMEN'S BUREAU.—We are in the receipt of numerous communications attesting to the injurious working of the Freedmen's Bureau in Southern States. It is charged that the chief agents rely upon irresponsible, prejudiced and ignorant subordinates for information respecting the condition of the freedmen, and accuse the planters of exactions and tyranny when such charges are altogether false and unwarranted. It is alleged that the agents of the Bureau interfere in the most arbitrary manner in the engagements between the employer and free laborer, and carry their interference to the extent of depriving planters altogether of help when they offer the highest wages they can afford to pay. In one case the testimony of a subordinate in the Bureau in Georgia, who had been reprimanded by his superior officer for gross misconduct, was taken, to the prejudice of the well intentioned planters in several entire counties. This should not be permitted. We suggest to those having good grounds for complaint to present their cases to the authorities in Washington and see whether a corrective cannot be applied.

NEWS FROM CHINA.

Continuation of the War Between the Imperialists and the Rebels—An Important Success, and also a Severe Defeat of the Latter—Two Thousand of them Reported Killed—Attack on the Catholic Missions, &c.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 1, 1866.

The ship Oriole brings Kong Kong dates of January 8. The New English mine would be opened in the latter part of March.

Neufelt was reported to have gained a success north of the Yellow river, and to have possession of the Chuctow district. Pucaw, who held a high position under Gordon, had been sent to operate against Neufelt south of Shantung, and was said to have opened the campaign with a successful battle, killing two thousand rebels.

Prince Kiung had been restored to power and to the favor of the Empress.

The schools and chapels of the Catholic Mission at Ye-Young had been burned down by a mob. A foreign missionary inside was killed, and the people of the mission were maltreated. The government had accorded the French Minister ample satisfaction for the outrages. The war steamer Fusiani, built in New York for the Japanese government, arrived at Hong Kong Dec. 30.

Quarantine Appointment.

ALBANY, March 2, 1866.

The Governor has appointed Hon. Thomas B. Van Buren, of New York city, to be a Commissioner to confer with the Secretary of the Treasury relative to the erection of quarantine warehouses, under chap. 598 Laws of 1865, in place of Jackson Schultz, resigned.

Arrival of the North American.

PORTLAND, March 2, 1866.

The steamship North American, Captain Wm. Kerr, from Liverpool Feb. 15, via Londonderry 16th, arrived here at half-past ten this evening. News anticipated. Purser McLaughlin reports February 13, latitude 53, longitude 21, passed a steamer supposed to be the Hibernian, bound West.