NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway, near Broome street.—ALADDIN, THE WONDERFUL SCAMP—CINDERELLA.

NEW YORK THEATRE, Broadway, opposite New York Hotel.—THE TICKET OF LEAVE MAN.

THEATRE FRANCAIS, Fourteenth street, near Sixth avenue.—ITALIAN OPERA—LA TRAVIATA.

GERMAN OPERA, Olympic Theatre, Broadway.—FAUST.

STEINWAY HALL, East Fourteenth street and Fourth avenue.—POPULAR VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT—OPERA NIGHT.

DODWORTH'S HALL, 805 Broadway.—PROFESSOR HARTE WILL PERFORM HIS MIRACLES—THE HEAD IN THE AIR—THE INDIAN BASKET TRICK—PROTEUS.

SANFORD'S MINSTRELS, 585 Broadway, opposite the Metropolitan Hotel.—IN THEIR ETHIOPIAN ENTERTAINMENTS, SINGING, DANCING AND BURLESQUES.—THE OCEAN YACHT CLUB.

KELLY & LEON'S MINSTRELS, 729 Broadway, opposite the New York Hotel.—IN THEIR ABNEG, DANCES, ECCENTRICITIES, BURLESQUES, &c.—THE TWO PRIMA DONNAS—CINDER-LEON—MADAGASCAR BALLET TROUPE.

FIFTH AVENUE OPERA HOUSE, Nos. 2 and 4 West Twenty-fourth street.—GRIFFIN & CHRISTY'S MINSTRELS.—ETHIOPIAN MINSTRELSY, BALLADS, BURLESQUES, &c.—JUST BEFORE THE BROKE OF DAY.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Bowery.—COMIC VOCALISM, NEGRO MINSTRELSY, BALLET DIVERTISSEMENT, &c.—SHAN MAC CULOUM, THE IRISH REFUGEE. Matinee at 2½ o'Clock.

CHARLEY WHITE'S COMBINATION TROUPE, at Mechanics' Hall, 472 Broadway.—IN A VARIETY OF LIGHT AND LAUGHABLE ENTERTAINMENTS, CORPS DE BALLET, &c. THE STAGE STRUCK CHAMBERMAID.

MRS. F. B. CONWAY'S PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn.—MARRIED LIFE—THE OCEAN YACHT RACE—ARTFUL DODGER.

HOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn.—ETHIOPIAN MINSTRELSY, BALLADS AND BURLESQUES.—THE BLACK CROOK.

MR. GEORGE VANDERHOFF'S READINGS—At Reformed Dutch Church.

COOPER INSTITUTE, Eighth street.—DR. HERBERT'S ILLUSTRATED LECTURES ON HEALTH TO GENTLEMEN.

THE BUNYAN TABLEAUX, Union Hall, corner of Twenty-third street and Broadway.—MOVING MIRROR OF THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS—SIXTY MAGNIFICENT SCENES.

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway.—HEAD AND RIGHT ARM OF PROSSE—THE WASHINGTON TWINS—WONDERS IN NATURAL HISTORY, SCIENCE AND ART. LECTURES DAILY. Open from 8 A. M. till 10 P. M.

DERBY'S NEW ART ROOMS, 815 Broadway.—GRAND EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS.—ROSA BONHEUR'S HORSE FAIR.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Wednesday, February 13, 1867.

THE NEWS.

EUROPE.

By special telegram through the Atlantic cable, dated in London on the 12th instant, we have a full report of the great Reform demonstration made in that city on the previous day. It was an immense moral force display, the banners, mottoes and music being exceedingly significant of the rapid progress which is being made in the way of constitutional revolution in Great Britain. Mr. Disraeli has outlined the parliamentary plan of the Cabinet on the reform subject. During the delivery of his speech the galleries of the House were filled with distinguished visitors, but Parliament was greatly alarmed by the reception of a despatch stating that the Fenians had "taken" the city of Chester. It appears there was an irruption of some fourteen hundred Irishmen hailing from Liverpool, Manchester and Ireland into that city, and an attack on Chester Castle was feared. The Commander-in-Chief left the House in haste and posted to the Horse Guards, but no outbreak occurred, and the invaders have, it is said, departed.

The entire Italian Cabinet has resigned. South Germany has adopted an army plan similar to that of Prussia. The Turkish Cabinet is being reconstructed. Reports have been received in St. Petersburg of the satisfactory progress of the Russo-American telegraph.

Consols closed in London yesterday at 90⅞ for money. United States five-twenties were at 73 3-16. On the Frankfort Bourse United States securities closed at 74⅝, and were quoted in Paris at 72¾.

CONGRESS.

In the Senate, yesterday, Mr. Sherman, from the Committee on Finance, reported a bill authorizing and directing the Secretary of the Treasury to issue temporary loan certificates for the purpose of redeeming and retiring any compound interest notes outstanding. Mr. Chandler gave notice that he would introduce a bill to-day to repeal all existing tariff laws and to impose a uniform tariff of fifty per cent ad valorem on all imported goods. The bankrupt bill was taken up and Mr. Sumner desired to offer an amendment preventing rebels from becoming voluntary bankrupts. A sharp debate ensued on this proposition and also on the subject of maltreatment of Union men in the South, in which Mr. Doolittle took occasion to say that Jack Hamilton had taken a free woman to La Grange, Texas, and held her as a slave until he was compelled to liberate her. Mr. Conness said he was determined to submit no longer to Mr. Sumner's lash. After further debate the proposed amendment was declared out of order, and the bill was passed by twenty-two yeas to twenty nays. It now goes back to the House for concurrence. Bills amending the act providing for the safety of passengers in steam vessels and temporarily increasing the pay of army officers were reported from committees. A bill to regulate the disposition of an irregular fund in the custody of the Freedmen's Bureau, and a joint resolution to facilitate the settlement of claims for stores furnished the army were introduced. The bill to authorize the acceptance of League Island was taken up, and the Senate took a recess. Upon reassembling a quorum was not present, and the Senate adjourned.

In the House a bill and a resolution relative to the mercantile marine were introduced. The consideration of the bill reported on Monday from the Select Committee on the New Orleans Riots was resumed. After considerable skirmishing, two hours was granted the opponents of the bill for debate. Mr. Boyer first addressed the House and was followed by Mr. Harding of Kentucky, who, in speaking of the outrages on Unionists in the South, cited the Lindsly child murder, the murder of two old women in Maine, and other cases as greater than any perpetrated in the South. He said that Blackburn, who roasted his step-child over a red hot stove, and Probst, who murdered a family near Philadelphia, were federal soldiers, and most of the criminals in the North had been in the federal army. After a speech from Mr. Eliot, and an unsuccessful attempt at filibustering, the vote was taken and the bill was passed by yeas 113, nays 48. In the evening session the bill to establish military governments in the South was taken up, and Mr. Kelley addressed the House in its advocacy. He was followed by Messrs. Maynard, Allison, Garfield and others. Pending consideration of the bill, the House adjourned.

THE LEGISLATURE.

In the Senate yesterday bills were introduced to regulate the use of certain vessels in New York harbor and authorizing the construction of a bulkhead railway in New York. Bills to prohibit employment by corporations conveying passengers for hire of drunkards, to prevent the spread of the rinderpest, and others of a local character, were passed.

In the Assembly several bills relative to matters of a private or local character were passed and the Constitutional Convention bill was made a special order for Thursday. A concurrent resolution that the House adjourn on Friday until the 25th inst. was laid over.

THE CITY.

The Legislative Committee on Commerce and Navigation held their final session yesterday, at Washington Hall, Williamsburg. Mr. Wall, one of the directors of the Williamsburg Ferry Company, made a lengthy defence of the company, and evidence was taken in reference to the Greenpoint ferry. The committee then adjourned to Albany.

A little after five o'clock yesterday morning a fire broke out in the dry goods store of S. B. Chittenden & Co., at the southeast corner of Broadway and Leonard street, and destroyed the building and its valuable contents, entailing a loss of over $1,000,000, and of $900,000 in the stock of goods alone. A number of other buildings were damaged, swelling the entire losses to nearly $1,500,000, which is mainly covered by insurance, every company in this city being more or less interested.

The closing exercises in the public evening schools throughout the city took place last evening. They were of an exceedingly interesting character and highly creditable to the manner in which these establishments were conducted. The attendance at all was large.

The third lecture of the course on Brazil and the valley of the Amazon was delivered at the Cooper Institute last evening by Professor Agassiz. His subject was, "The Ancient Glaciers in the Tropics."

We publish this morning a description of the various markets of New York city.

The United States bonded warehouse on Water and Clinton streets was entered on Saturday or Sunday night, and $12,000 worth of silks and satins, belonging to A. T. Stewart & Co., was stolen.

Justice Connolly presided at the Fourth District Court yesterday in place of Justice Kelly, and, on taking his seat an officer of the Metropolitan Police attempted to remove a prisoner whom he had previously conducted into the court. Justice Connolly peremptorily forbade any such removal, however, and severely reprimanded the officer and the sergeant who had permitted it. He then dismissed the prisoner, who was charged with being drunk, and informed him that if he was detained any further by the police he would have a right of action and could recover damages for such detention. The Board of Police Justices met yesterday and adopted resolutions inquiring of their legal adviser whether the late order of the Superintendent, Kennedy, was binding upon the police force, and whether the magistrates are obliged to assume the extra duties imposed upon them by the suspension of business at Justice Connolly's court. Superintendent Kennedy was notified by Justice Dowling yesterday to appear at the Tombs Police Court to answer to a charge of libel preferred against him by Justice Connolly.

George Wriegler, charged with the murder of a man named Bansa, in November last, was tried in the Court of Oyer and Terminer yesterday, and being found guilty of manslaughter in the third degree, was sentenced to the State Prison for two years and a half. The principal evidence for the prosecution, being that of Catharine Fuller, formerly mistress of the prisoner, was ruled out, Judge Ingraham deciding that if the parties lived together as man and wife, whether actually married or not, neither of them could give evidence for or against the other.

James B. Freeman, Inspector of Internal Revenue, and James Miller have been held by Commissioner Betts to await the action of the Grand Jury on the charge preferred against them of having levied "black mail" to the amount of $150 from Henry Budelman, of Harlem. The facts of the case have been repeatedly reported in the HERALD.

An action was brought in the Court of Common Pleas yesterday against the Marine Bank by William Poppe to recover a sum of money which was deposited in the bank as a "margin" upon borrowed gold, but which, upon the tender of the gold so borrowed, the bank refused to return to the plaintiff. Case still on.

In the Marine Court yesterday, in the case of Bussing vs. Walshe, which was an action to recover compensation for services in having attended the defendant and rubbed him with hog's lard for the cure of rheumatism, Judge Alker rendered a decision dismissing the complaint.

Judge Russel disposed of seventeen cases yesterday in the General Sessions. George Clarke, Edward Weston and Henry Pearsall were each sent to the State Prison for five years, on the charge of being notorious thieves.

The stock market was firm but dull yesterday. Gold was strong, and closed at 137⅛, after selling at 137¾.

The markets were irregular yesterday, especially at the Produce Exchange, but there were few radical changes in prices. Imported goods generally commanded full prices. Cotton closed firm. Coffee was in fair demand at full prices. On 'Change flour was quite irregular and lower. Wheat was dull and heavy. Corn declined 1c. a 2c., while oats were dull and lower. Pork ruled dull and heavy, while beef was steady, and lard dull and heavy, with a downward tendency. Freights were firmer. Whiskey was more active at an advance. Naval stores were quiet, but steady. Petroleum was unchanged. Wool was moderately active at former prices.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Mexican Minister at Washington has letters from Matamoros of the same date as the news published yesterday, which give him reasonable foundation for the belief that the story of Juarez's capture is untrue.

The water during the recent freshet in Vermont rose as high as the second story of a hotel in West Hartford, and a daughter of the proprietor was drowned. The wall of a paper mill at Greenville, Conn., was undermined by the freshet and fell into the river yesterday. The damage by the heavy rains in the southeastern portion of Connecticut is estimated at $200,000.

The anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birthday was celebrated by the New Jersey State Legislature yesterday by orations and eulogies. A portrait of the murdered President was presented to the body, and was hung up in the hall of the Assembly.

A marble bust of Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated with impressive ceremonies at the Academy of Music in Louisville, Ky., yesterday. Governor Bramlette presided, and ex-Attorney General Speed delivered the oration, being followed in short addresses by Generals Thomas and Davis.

The schooner Garland, from New York, was wrecked in Chesapeake bay on Saturday night and one of the crew was drowned.

The bark Cuba was stranded on the East Bank in a heavy drift of ice yesterday, while starting on her trip to Havana, and her keel was stove in. She was at last accounts thought to be rapidly going to pieces.

The brig T. W. Rowland, which left Savannah on the 3d inst. for Carthagena, was burned at sea the same night. The crew took to the small boats and were brought to New York.

The Missouri Senate rejected, by a large majority, yesterday, a bill which proposed to submit to the people for decision a proposition to ratify the decision of the Supreme Court in the test oath case and removing the franchise disqualification of rebels.

A bloodless prize fight came off yesterday morning in the vicinity of Naugatuck Junction, Connecticut, between Horatio Bolster, of Connecticut, and William Warburton, of England. Bolster won the fight in six rounds, which occupied ten minutes time. Warburton struck a foul blow in the last round.

Sam Collyer has agreed to fight either Barney Aaron or William Kelly next May for $5,000 a side.

Four stores were destroyed by fire in Rutland, Vermont, on Monday night.

A convention assembled in St. Louis yesterday for the purpose of improving the Mississippi.

THE THREE TIER RAILROAD PROJECT.—The Three Tier Railroad project has been reported favorably by the Railroad Committee of the Assembly, and we are told that there is a prospect of the passage of the bill. The plan contemplates the running of three roads through the blocks, in a straight line from the Battery to the Park, between Broadway and the next parallel street on the west side; one underground or through the cellars; one on the surface, as in Vesey street, and one on the first floor, crossing the streets on bridges. The plan is absurd upon its face. It would cost more to buy the property than half a dozen roads could pay for. It would injure the adjoining houses in every street through which it passed. Injunctions would be piled upon it so high that it would take a hundred locomotives to drag it out from under them. The truth is that all these plans are chimerical. The three tier, the aerial and, above all, or below all, the underground humbug, should be kicked out together by the Legislature, and provision made for building eight or ten roads upon arches, through the blocks and over the houses. This system of city railroads prevails in Europe and answers admirably. It is just what New York needs and is the only feasible method of relieving the overcrowded streets. Nothing but lobby intrigue and jobbing stand in its way, and this the people understand.

THE OCEAN YACHT RACE.—In another column we print the log of the Vesta; and as we have previously published those of the Henrietta and Fleetwing our readers have therefore now before them a complete detailed account of the great race as a whole. We believe this concluding part will, if possible, increase the interest which has been so generally taken in the now celebrated race across the Atlantic.

Senator Chandler's Indictment Against the President—Another Sign.

"Melas and I are trying to deceive each other," said the great Napoleon, in one of his crisp little epigrammatic letters to Josephine. The same game is now going on at Washington, not only between President and Congress, but between the several parties and factions of Congress. They are all trying to deceive each other. There is strategy in politics as well as in war, and the report of the House Committee on the New Orleans riot on the same day with Mr. Chandler's indictment in the Senate against President Johnson were strategical movements against the coalition which is manœuvring to bring together the two ends of Pennsylvania avenue.

Senator Chandler says that if President Johnson had no legal authority to appoint provisional civil Governors over the rebel States, such appointments on his part render him liable to impeachment; that if Mr. Johnson, without authority in law, has restored to Southern States and railroad companies the rolling stock, &c., of any road or roads, the property of the United States obtained as captures made in war, he ought to be impeached for that; that if he has unlawfully stopped by his orders the collection of the district tax levied upon the rebel States, he ought for that to be subjected to impeachment; that if he has retained in or reappointed men to office without submitting their names to the Senate, or after their rejection by the Senate, it is a matter for impeachment; and in regard to the President's plan of Southern restoration, says Mr. Chandler, "he has no more right to a plan than my horse." Finally, he says that the removal by impeachment of a President who has violated the constitution "would produce about the same amount of excitement in the country that the removal of the Custom House officers in the city of New York would produce, and no more." And so Mr. Chandler hoped that his resolution proposing an inquiry as to the legality of those provisional civil Governors of Mr. Johnson would be adopted. Mr. Fessenden, however, suggested that as the members of the Senate might possibly be called upon to act in the capacity of judges upon charges of impeachment against Mr. Johnson, it was proper that they should hold themselves free from any commitment on the subject; and so the resolution was properly laid on the table.

But for all this the radical Senator from Michigan gained his point, in a little lift to the Judiciary Committee of the House, charged with the duty, in their discretion, of making up a case of impeachment. The report and bill of Mr. Eliot, of Massachusetts, in the House on the New Orleans riots look to the same object. In both cases it is the ghost of old Hamlet reappearing to young Hamlet, only "to whet thy almost blunted purpose." The impeachment party find it necessary to keep up their fire, to reproduce vividly in both houses the sins and transgressions of Andrew Johnson, and to show how clearly he is a subject for impeachment, in order to head off the countermovement for a compromise, whereby, upon the basis of the President's surrender, the impeachment may be bridged over by a new bill.

On the other hand the old "King of the Lobby," Thurlow Weed, finds time to drop for a moment the negotiations for his lobby perquisites in the Custom House and Naval Office in order to join with John C. Green and others in a petition to Congress remonstrating against the threatened impeachment, and "praying the adoption of measures that will promote the peace and prosperity of the Union," as if any thing could be adopted better calculated to secure such measures than the removal of the deadlock which keeps Congress standing still. But still the question recurs, why all these dodges and delays in Congress, when the case is so clear against the Executive, the authority to impeach him so express and ample, and when the republicans have more than a two-thirds vote in each house? Do they fear that if Mr. Johnson is pushed to the wall he will try the trick of Louis Napoleon with the French National Assembly of 1851? No. But there are several republican aspirants and Presidential cliques who want a clear field for a year or so longer to perfect their plans, and the impeachment and removal of Mr. Johnson in precipitating the Presidential election, might spoil most of these plans in the spontaneous movement of the people for General Grant and in his election.

As the law now stands, with the removal of Mr. Johnson the President of the Senate would temporarily take his place, but the Secretary of State would be required to provide at once for an election by the people. Now, we suspect that the pipelayers of Chief Justice Chase and the admirers of Secretary Stanton, and the friends of several other Presidential aspirants, lying back in the shade, are not ready to meet the contingency of an election by the people before the regular time. Hence they are inclined, like Mr. Bingham, of Ohio, to patch up a truce or a treaty of peace with President Johnson in order to gain the time required to organize their little working committees all over the country in view of the regular Republican National Convention. While everything remains unsettled this man may have as good a chance as that man or the other man; but if you remove President Johnson General Grant is brought forward at once by a sort of spontaneous combustion, and all competitors are cast aside.

But still the necessities of the republican party may bring them to this alternative. Mr. Johnson is their apple of discord. His removal will, at least for the time, put an end to their dissensions, while his retention in office can only serve to widen them, do what else they may. In surrendering he will be like the sagacious Dutchman who got down from his horse only to get on again better; if his surrender is accepted it will only be the admission again of the harmless looking wooden horse into Troy. Eliot's bill, based upon the New Orleans riots, looks like impeachment; but from present indications even this bill in the short interval of this Congress to the 4th of March will fall through between the two houses, and the whole business of reconstruction and impeachment will devolve upon the new Congress which meets on that day.

SIGNIFICANT STATEMENTS FROM RUSSIA.—The *Invalide Russe* is taken up with the details of the strength of the Russian army. Now, on a peace footing, it musters seven hundred thousand men. On a war footing it would number about twelve hundred thousand. The *Invalide* shows that in six weeks the army could be put upon its war footing and that in the course of this year three hundred thousand breech-loading rifles and three hundred rifled field guns will be finished. The French papers are desirous to know against whom these weapons are to be used. Against the enemies of Russia, of course.

The Gathering Storm in England.

Our special cable despatches from England this morning are of unusual interest and full of significance. Steadily and surely the great reform movement presses forward, and in its progress develops more and more the revolutionary spirit that mixes with it and threatens in the end not only to demand a voice in the government to those who are at present denied the rights of freemen, but to sweep away the class whose feet have so long pressed heavily upon the necks of the people. Our correspondent sends us a graphic account of the great reform procession in London on the 11th instant, which has already been briefly mentioned in our former cable despatches. As a demonstration of the power and determination of the people it was striking and impressive. The military training of the men, the inscriptions on the banners, the sullen silence with which the immense crowd recognized and passed the once popular princes of the blood royal, the cheers and salute which were given as they filed past the American embassy, can have but one meaning. Tweny thousand earnest men were in the procession and hundreds of thousands on the line of march, all evidently in sympathy with the objects of the demonstration. The flags of France, Italy and the United States were carried in the ranks, and these and the banners evinced the disposition of the reformers to court the fellowship of all the elements, not of progress only, but of revolution. Among the inscriptions were the following:—"Disobedience to tyrants is a duty to God;" "Put your trust in God, but keep your powder dry;" "Liberty to those who dare demand it." The Fenian element was evidently mixed up and in harmony with the movement.

The same evening there was a scene of intense excitement in the House of Commons, the details of which show how deep an impression the proceedings of the day had made on the minds of the aristocracy, and illustrate the prevailing alarm, which any outbreak would swell into a panic. The House was crowded to hear the speech of Disraeli in relation to the resolutions designed to be offered by the government on the 16th instant to test the sense of the Commons on the subject of reform. During the session a report reached the House that Chester, an important garrison town near Liverpool, and at no great distance from Manchester, had been surprised and captured by the Fenians. The Duke of Cambridge, the Commander-in-Chief of the Army, who was present, posted off to the Horse Guards, and all was dismay and confusion. The alarm was in a measure unnecessary for while there appears to have been a demonstration at Chester, no actual outbreak took place. The fact that there was a gathering of a hostile character there simultaneously with the reform procession is, however, of much significance. The clouds are gathering thick and fast over the old aristocracy of England, and the storm may burst forth at any moment.

Police Justices and the Police.

The conflict between the jurisdiction of Police Justice Connolly and the Superintendent of the Police force, Kennedy, has become a matter of controversy and excitement. The facts in the case, as far as they are developed, appear to be very simple, and are based entirely upon the activity of certain members of the police force in carrying out the Excise law. The keeper of a livery stable to which a barroom is attached, and his clerk, were engaged on a Saturday night in settling their accounts in the office, after the "witching hour" at which the Excise law declares that all places where liquor is sold must be closed. Two policemen knocked at the door and were admitted. They immediately proceeded to arrest the proprietor of the stable for a violation of the law. He protested against the arrest and assured the officers that his bar was closed and that he was simply attending to his financial business with his clerk. Nevertheless one of the officers presented a pistol at his head and carried him off before Mr. Justice Connolly, exercising unnecessary violence and using most offensive language in the transit from his office to the police court, although the arrested party expressed his willingness to go with the officers. These facts we gather from the affidavit of the complainant subsequently made before the Justice in due form of law, when he preferred a charge of assault and battery against the two policemen. With this affidavit before him, it is difficult to conceive how the Police Justice could refuse to entertain the charge. If the same accusation had been made against private citizens, substantiated by an oath, in proper form of law, Judge Connolly would have been compelled in obedience to the statute which created his office, and the oath by which he is bound, to commit them. According to the facts elicited he acted most leniently to the police officers, exercising an amount of clemency and consideration which probably few citizens, not wearing the uniform of police officers would receive in any court presided over by a Police Justice. But it appears from the statement of Judge Connolly that his friendly ruling in the case was met in a stubborn spirit. The accused parties refused to give bail, refused to present any explanation or to appoint counsel to answer the charge of assault and battery, pleading that they were ordered to pursue this course by their superior officer. In this perplexed condition of affairs Judge Connolly was coerced in the performance of his duty to commit them temporarily to prison, from which he speedily released them. The Superintendent of Police, Mr. Kennedy, forthwith ordered that the members of the force should not take any more prisoners before Judge Connolly, but should take them to the police headquarters, Mr. Kennedy reserving to himself the right to decide upon the tribunal before which they shall be examined.

These are the facts in this curious case of conflicting authority as we can gather them from the records, and we have no remark to make upon them further than this, that if we had any executive authority to control the government of this city no such absurd conflict between the police authorities and the police judges could possibly occur, and that this occurrence only shows the want of such a controlling power. If we had a board of control directing our municipal affairs Judge Connolly and the other police justices would be as quiet, as calm, as equitable in the discharge of their judicial functions as anybody at this side of the throne of Rhadamanthus on the Pandects of Justinian, and Mr. Kennedy would be as scrupulously legal and well behaved in his conduct as he is now fussy and foolishly demonstrative. Under such control both police officers and police judges would have to keep on the straight path of justice and common sense, whereas now they are left to the guidance of their own vagaries, with just such results as we observe in this conflict of authority between Connolly and Kennedy.

Military Movements in Mexico.

The news from Mexico published in the HERALD yesterday shows that the imperialist and republican forces have approached each other or come in conflict on the great interior line of communication between Durango and the city of Mexico. The accounts are conflicting, as usual, but we think we can, by the aid of our Durango correspondence, understand the situation sufficiently well to state the probabilities of the case. One account, by the way of New Orleans, states that a gentleman who left Monterey on the 5th instant brought information that the bells were ringing and that there was great joy in that city in consequence of a victory the liberals had gained over the imperialists under Miramon, near Aguas Calientes. The same news had been received officially at Matamoros. On the other hand a despatch from Galveston, with dates from the Rio Grande up to the 7th instant, states that while rejoicings were going on in Zacatecas in honor of Juarez, Miramon suddenly appeared with two thousand troops, which caused Juarez to flee from the city and Miramon to take possession and follow in pursuit. It is also reported that Juarez had been captured. Looking at this muddled and conflicting news from an impartial standpoint we think there has been a conflict of arms on the line mentioned. We must wait for the next news to know whether or not Juarez was captured and which party was successful.

According to our correspondence referred to Miramon was at Queretaro, defending the line of communication to the city of Mexico against the liberals. Juarez was marching his forces on the same line with a view of reaching and capturing that capital; but Miramon standing in his way at Queretaro, he ordered a general movement against the imperial general at that place. Escobedo was ordered to march from San Luis Potosi on Queretaro. Another chief had been ordered from Zacatecas and one also from Guadalajara to the same objective point. It is said that Miramon, in this predicament, resolved not to fall back on or in the direction of the city of Mexico, but to advance upon the liberals and surprise and fight them in detail. If he has gained the victory reported, it has been done this way. If he has taken Zacatecas he has done so by a flank movement by the way of Aguas Calientes. But then the question arises how did he get past the liberal force at Guadalajara? Besides, would he dare to move so far from the capital, which was his base, and leave the liberals between himself and that city? There has probably been an engagement on the line referred to, and Miramon may have had a temporary success; but we are still in doubt as to the nature of the movement and the result.

Disraeli's New Reform Plans.

Our most recent intelligence from England justifies the verdict which we had already pronounced on the great tory leader. Too wise either to disregard the clamor for reform or to commit the government to a particular measure, Disraeli has decided upon a middle course which is admirably suited to the exigencies of the occasion. The plan according to which he means to arrive at a settlement of the question will take the form of resolution. The initial step in this process, and before the government commits itself in any way, even in the shape of suggestions, will be to take the sense of the House as to whether reform is or is not necessary. In the event of the House deciding in favor of immediate reform, which it may be taken for granted it will do, resolutions will be submitted for the consideration of members, the government not pledging itself to stand or fall by their rejection or acceptance. There can be no doubt that this is the most sensible course which could possibly be adopted in the circumstances. A more perfect reform may in this way be carried than could have been secured by any government measure. It has this advantage besides—it will put the leaders of the great liberal party on their good behavior. The people will have an opportunity of judging whether they prize more the possession of power and the emoluments of office or the settlement of reform. Mr. Gladstone is too honest a man to offer factious opposition, but he will watch with a jealous care Mr. Disraeli's every movement. As matters now stand Disraeli must be credited with the honor of having outflanked his opponents, and we shall not be surprised if he conduct this vexed question to a satisfactory issue.

The Tariff Bill—A Chance for a Flank Movement by the President.

The war of the rebellion taught the American people practically the value and effectiveness of flank movements. It was the flank movement of Stonewall Jackson that compelled McClellan's forces to seek safety under the protecting fire of the gunboats on the James river. It was Grant's famous flank movements that drove Lee's army from the Wilderness to Richmond, and through Richmond to the closing scene at Appomattox Court House. Flank movements are as useful in politics as in the field, as an old political campaigner like President Johnson ought to know; and he has just now a brilliant opportunity to execute one on the majority in Congress which may materially change the relative position of the contending parties. That bill of abominations—the new tariff measure—will in all probability go to him for his signature. Let him return it without his approval, and he will turn the current of popular opinion now setting so strongly against him in his favor, and there is no foreseeing where the tide may carry him in the end. The Tariff bill is framed in the interest of the wealthy manufacturers of New England, Central New York and Pennsylvania, who are already dividing fifty per cent profit annually. It is an outrage upon the Western and Atlantic States, and the people will rejoice over its defeat. It is a measure to make the rich richer and the poor poorer. The President has refused his assent to many bills that have met public approval. Now let him return to Congress one to which the people, with the exception of a few privileged monopolists, are opposed, and enact the part of "Monsieur Veto" to his own advantage.

The Territorial Reorganization Bill.

Mr. Eliot's bill for the reconstruction of Louisiana passed the House yesterday by a vote of 113 yeas to 48 nays. It will no doubt prove the basis for the reconstruction of all the excluded States. The work unconstitutionally attempted by the President, and in which he has so signally failed, will now be constitutionally and thoroughly done by Congress. This puts the matter of reconstruction in its proper position and promises a speedy settlement of the question. If the Senate will act promptly on the bill and send it to the President over ten days before the close of the session it may prove the solution of all the difficulty between the Executive and Congress. Should Mr. Johnson veto it there would no longer be any doubt as to the duty of Congress to remove him by impeachment in the way of the peaceful restoration of the Union. Should he make up his mind to sign it the two departments of the government can henceforth go on harmoniously together and close up forever the quarrelling and squabbling that have too long disgraced us in the eyes of the world.

Our City Railroads and Their Management.

We publish to-day a curious and interesting history of our city railroads, which affords some insight into the way in which those money making corporations are managed. It will be a good chapter for our country legislators to study now that they are asked to vote away another batch of valuable franchises to the hangers-on of the lobby. The city railroads have been a rich placer in the hands of the speculators at Albany, and they have worked it indefatigably for a number of years. How it is done is shown in the report. The Assemblymen from the rural districts, who are living on three dollars a day at the State capital, little dream of the large fortunes made by the lobby out of these railroad charters. The Third Avenue road one year divided eighty-four per cent among the philanthropic gentlemen who managed to secure that "little local bill." Half a million dollars of its stock is rumored to have been given away for nothing. It pays a very heavy dividend steadily, and probably no one really knows the extent of its profits. All the roads have been converted into jobs, and it is well known that one-half the stock has to be given away before a charter that is of any value can be secured. Yet the public are put to every annoyance and inconvenience conceivable on nearly all the lines. An insufficient number of cars are run, and not one-third of the people who ride on the city roads are accommodated with seats. If the city owned the roads and run or leased them, as should be the case, proper regulations could be enforced and the fare made as low as the running expenses would warrant.

Constitutionality of the Test Oath.

We publish in another column the decision of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia in the case of Colonel A. B. Magruder, who had applied for admission to the bar without taking the test oath on the ground that the oath, so far as attorneys were concerned, had been declared unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court. It will be remembered that the latter decision was carried by only a majority of one, the minority being of opinion that the rule should be maintained. We were of the opinion at the time, and so expressed ourselves, that the question was not within the province of the court to decide absolutely. It will be seen by the judgment rendered by the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia that this view is fully borne out by it. Judge Carter in his decision says that the question is one for legislation and not for legal adjudication. It is so involved in political controversy that it must be referred to the political power of the nation itself. This is the common sense as it is unquestionably the correct legal view to take of the question. It will set at rest a number of other issues which were about to be started in the event of the decision being favorable to the applicant.

Passage of the Bankrupt Bill in the Senate.

The Senate yesterday reconsidered its former action on the Bankrupt bill and passed that important measure by a vote of 22 yeas to 20 nays, ten Senators being absent or not voting. Now let the House concur at once in all the amendments made in the Senate and secure the final passage of the bill. It is too important a measure to risk its defeat for any side issues. If it shall be found defective it can be altered and amended hereafter; but let it at least have a trial in the shape in which it has passed the Senate. The session is near its close, the country demands a general bankrupt law and the House should make sure of it now that it is in its power to do so.

THE BEHRING STRAIT TELEGRAPH.—It will be seen from our cable announcements of to-day that the Russian-American telegraph makes satisfactory progress. Lieutenant Colonel Knox, the HERALD correspondent in connection with the expedition, had the honor of waiting on the Emperor of Russia day before yesterday, and was able to inform his Imperial Highness that the line on the Asiatic side would be completed as early as July next. The youthful giant of the North and the youthful giant of the West, on whom the future of the world so much depends, will thus at an early day be materially knit together. Let us hope that this outward and visible union may be but the sign and seal of a union of heart and arm which shall prove advantageous not merely to the two nations immediately concerned, but to the world at large, in the new era of progress on which we are entering.

THE RECENT FRESHET.

The River Rises to the Second Story of a Building in West Hartford, Vt., and a Young Lady is Drowned.

BOSTON, Mass., Feb. 12, 1867.

A despatch from Concord, N. H., says that while the river was so blockaded with ice at West Hartford, Vt., yesterday, the water rose as high as the second story window of Mr. Williamson's hotel. The oldest daughter of Mr. Williamson, the proprietor of the hotel, was drowned while trying to escape to the depot.

Destruction of Property by the Freshet in Connecticut.

NORWICH, Conn., Feb. 12, 1867.

The end wall of the nearly completed paper mill of Campbell, Hall & Co., at Greenville, having been undermined by the freshet, fell into the Shetucket river this evening, damaging the mill to the value of $20,000. Several workmen had a narrow escape. The mill was being finished in the highest style, and was one of the finest structures in the country. The whole building is in danger. The total loss by the freshet in this section of the State will reach $200,000.