

NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, JR., MANAGER.

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

Volume XXXII. No. 117

AMUSEMENTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE. Broadway, near Broome street.—LITTLE HANCOCK. Matinee at 1 1/2 o'clock.—FANCHON.

NEW YORK THEATRE. Broadway, opposite New York Hotel.—FRIDIA. THE ROYAL MILKMAID.—MR. AND MRS. PATER WHITE.

GERMAN STADT THEATRE. 45 and 47 Bowery.—ZULEN HANCOCK. THE KING HENRY.—THE GOSWOLDERS.

OLYMPIA THEATRE. Broadway.—CROW DIAMOND.

IRVING HALL. Irving place.—MR. AND MRS. HOWARD FALLS. GRAND FAREWELL CONCERT BY M. P. WINDY.

STEINWAY HALL. Fourteenth street and Fourth avenue.—GRAND BENNETT CONCERT BY M. P. WINDY.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS. 86 Broadway, opposite the Metropolitan Hotel.—THE BROTHERS STEPHENS.

WELLS & IRON'S MINSTRELS. 79 Broadway, opposite the Metropolitan Hotel.—THE BROTHERS STEPHENS.

FIFTH AVENUE OPERA HOUSE. Nos. 2 and 4 West Twenty-fourth street.—GRIFFIN & CHERRY'S MINSTRELS.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE. 20 Bowery.—COMIC VOCALIST. NEGRO MINSTRELS. BURLINGTON. BALLET DIVERTISSEMENT.

CHARLEY WHITE'S COMBINATION TROUPE. At Mechanics' Hall, 422 Broadway.—A VARIETY OF LIGHT AND LAUGHABLE ENTERTAINMENTS.

HOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE. Brooklyn.—ETHIOPIAN MINSTRELS. BALLADS AND BELLESQUES.

NATIONAL HALL. Harlem.—PROF. HART'S SOBER MAGNET.

THE HENRY TAUBER. Union Hall, corner of Twenty-third street and Broadway, at 8.—MOVING MIRROR OF THE FUTURE.

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY. 618 Broadway.—HEAD AND RIGHT ARM OF FRODO.—THE WASHINGTON TWIN.—WONDERS IN NATUREL HISTORY, SCIENCE AND ART.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF DESIGN. corner of Twenty-third street and Fourth Avenue. EXHIBITION OF PICTURES AND SCULPTURES BY LIVING ARTISTS.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Saturday, April 27, 1867.

REMOVAL.

The New York Herald establishment is now located in the new Herald Building, corner of Broadway and Ann street.

THE NEWS.

EUROPE.

The news report by the Atlantic cable is dated yesterday evening, April 26.

Peace rumors were freely circulated on the Paris Bourse and a financial reaction ensued.

It was said, tended towards concession to France on the Luxembourg question.

King Leopold, of Belgium, is reported to have taken to Napoleon a Russian plan for the neutralization of Luxembourg.

Prussia refuses to entertain lengthy Parliamentary discussions on the Luxembourg affair in order to avoid "further complications."

Consols closed at 91 for money in London.

All American securities advanced during the day.

Fifty-twenty closed at 69 1/2 in London, and 72 1/2 in Frankfurt.

The Liverpool cotton market closed very active at an advance, middling uplands rating at 11d.

The trade report from Manchester is favorable.

Breadstuffs firm and advanced. Provisions firm. Produce unchanged.

Our special correspondence from Rome shows that the revolutionary movement has given exciting evidence of a renewal of action in the shape of posted placards from the National Committee, in which the people of the city were duly informed of the programme of the leaders and advised how to demean themselves while they await the moment to strike.

Garibaldi, it is thought, will resume the command.

The great strategic value of the possession of the fortress and territory of Luxembourg in the event of war between France and Germany is set forth in an article in a German journal which treats of the available points for an invasion of France, and vice versa of an invasion of Germany from France, the aggressive power concentrating its force at Luxembourg.

The emigrant exodus from Ireland to the United States is rapidly increasing to a full tide, nine steamships engaged in the transport having left Queenstown harbor alone within a few days.

The Imperial French yacht Jerome Napoleon in returning to Havre a couple of weeks since brought on deck from England a small sailing yacht of about ten tons burthen which Prince Napoleon got built at Cowes.

THE CITY.

The steamer Louisiana, from Liverpool, which has been detained at Quarantine by the Board of Health since Thursday, will, it is said, be permitted to come up this morning.

Seven deaths have occurred among her passengers since leaving Liverpool, mostly children of the German emigrants, from fever and dysentery.

The examination of witnesses in the Gardner will case was continued yesterday at the Richmond County Court, Judge Lott, of the Supreme Court, presiding.

Henry Beckman, one of the heirs, and David L. Gardner, contestant, testified. Occasional portions of the testimony, which allude to the political squabbles between the contestant and Mrs. Julia Tyler and her family, are spicy and interesting.

In the United States Circuit Court yesterday, before Judge Shipman, the case of the United States against Lacion Brown, a pension claim agent, and others, was resumed.

The defendants are charged with forging a false certificate, or widow's pension claim, on which they drew the sum of \$401, the amount of a government pension due a widow named Bridget McArdie.

The case for the prosecution and for the defence being closed, Judge Shipman will sum up this morning at half-past ten.

Part I. Superior Court, and the Common Pleas General Term adjourned yesterday for the term.

An appeal was yesterday heard in the General Term Common Pleas from a decision of the Court below in the case of Thomas J. Jones vs. The Firemen's Fund Insurance Company.

The plaintiff had insured his stock of fireworks, which was destroyed on the 25th of August, 1865, with the defendants, and they disputed payment of the insurance on the ground that he had violated an ordinance of the Common Council regulating the storing and keeping of such goods, and also that they only insured common fireworks, and not brilliant colored fire.

The Court directed the jury to bring a verdict for the plaintiff, and the insurance company appealed from that decision. The Court reserved its decision.

In the Superior Court, Part I, yesterday, an action was brought by Charles B. Duryee to recover \$5,000 damages from Joseph W. Duryee for the death of his daughter, which was alleged to have been caused through the negligence of a driver of the defendant.

The child was passing along Cherry street on February 28, 1866, when the defendant's horse, which had been left standing on the sidewalk, while the driver removed some boards, which prevented him from going into defendant's lumber yard suddenly started and ran over her, thereby causing her death. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff for \$750 and five per cent allowance.

In the Supreme Court, Chambers, yesterday, a motion was made in the case of Allen vs. Bridges, to strike out portions of the answer on the ground of irrelevancy.

The action is brought for conversion of \$2,000 worth of property in North Carolina, in the year 1862, after the subversion of United States authority, and the property was purchased at a sale under the Confiscation act, by virtue of a decree of a State court. The motion was denied.

The General Term and Circuit of the Supreme Court adjourned yesterday sine die.

The splendid Steamship City of Baltimore, Captain McKeigan, belonging to the Iman line, will leave pier 45 North river at noon to-day for Liverpool via Queenstown.

The mails for the United Kingdom and the Con-

tinents, via Queenstown and Liverpool, will close at the Post Office at half-past ten o'clock A. M.

The National Steam Navigation Company's steamship Louisiana, Captain Harrington, will sail from pier 47 North river at noon to-day for Liverpool, calling at Queenstown and land passengers.

The New York and Havre Steamship Company's steamer Mississippi, Captain Sumner, will leave pier 46 North river at noon to-day for Havre, calling at Southampton, England. The mails for France will close at the Post Office at half-past ten o'clock A. M.

The Hamburg steamship Borussia, Captain Franzen, will sail from Hoboken at twelve o'clock M. to-day for Southampton and Hamburg. The mails for the German States, via Hamburg, will close at the Post Office at half-past ten o'clock A. M.

The first class steamship George Cromwell, Captain Yall, of H. B. Cromwell & Co.'s line, will leave pier No. 9 North river at three P. M. to-day for New Orleans direct.

The Empire line sidewheel steamship San Salvador, Captain Nickerson, will sail from pier 13 North river to-day at three P. M. for Savannah, connecting at that port with Florida steamers.

The steamship Saragosa, Captain Crowell, of Leary's line, will leave pier 13 East river at three P. M. to-day for Charleston.

The Police Commissioners, undeterred by the recent action of the Common Council, are busily engaged in preparations for issuing licenses to pawnbrokers, hackmen and others, in accordance with the new law transferring to them authority over such matters.

A carpet bag containing three counterfeit plates, \$20,000 in counterfeit fractional currency, and \$10,000 in State money, was dug up on Staten Island yesterday by Marshal Murray, the secret of its burial place having been divulged by a convict named Stewart, now serving out a ten years' sentence in the Albany Penitentiary.

A well attended sparring exhibition in behalf of George Green, the late contestant of the "Cast Iron Man," was given last evening at Lincoln Hall, Thirty-third street and Fifth Avenue.

The stock market was firm yesterday. Gold was heavy and closed at 135 1/4.

The markets for foreign merchandise were unsettled to some extent by the violent fluctuations in gold yesterday, and prices were in many cases rendered entirely nominal.

The business in most commodities was very moderate. Domestic produce was irregular. Petroleum was rather more active and closed firmer.

Cotton was more active but entirely nominal. The receipt of more favorable news from Europe, coupled with orders to purchase, excited the market, and prices for middling uplands fluctuated between 25 and 26 cents, with sales at both prices, the market closing nominal at the outside price.

On "Change flour was 10 cents higher. Wheat No. 2, a higher, closing quiet. Corn No. 2, a little lower. Rye No. 2, a higher. Pork and other provisions were firm. Freights were dull. Whiskey was quite nominal. Petroleum was decidedly lower.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Reliable accounts from the deserted camp of Cherokee Indians, thirty miles from Fort Larned, confirm the report of the burning of three stations on the Smoky Hill route, and the killing and burning of the bodies of three men. The settlers in the vicinity had been apprised of the murderous designs of the Indians, and General Custer's command was in hot pursuit of the savages.

A large force of Indians was at last accounts concentrating in the vicinity of Fort Benton, and a regiment of troops had been sent from Helena, Montana Territory, to oppose them. At Fort Mitchell a party of soldiers crossed the river, surprised an Indian camp, and succeeded in killing seven of the savages. The Indians, however, eventually forced the soldiers to retire within the fort.

The Treasury Department has received from General Swayne a report of the capture of J. M. Parkman, President of the First National Bank at Selma, Alabama, charged with robbing that bank recently of \$100,000.

The Japanese Commissioners arrived at Washington last evening, and were escorted to their quarters by an attaché of the State Department.

The United States Supreme Court Room at Washington was crowded yesterday by notable lawyers and other spectators to listen to the pleas in the Mississippi and Georgia injunction cases. The Attorney General opened the argument in opposition to the Georgia petition for an order to prevent the execution of the Reconstruction acts of Congress in that State, contending that the questions at issue were political in character, and could only be reached by political remedies.

Mr. Charles O'Connor replied, arguing that the acts referred to were unconstitutional and void, and that, therefore, the court may order an injunction in general terms. At the conclusion of Mr. O'Connor's remarks the cases were laid over till Friday next, when Robert G. Walker will speak for the State of Mississippi.

By an act recently passed by the Legislature of Jamaica, all vessels laden with ice, coal, fresh fruit, poultry, fish or butter, or which do not discharge cargo, but only land passengers and baggage, and all vessels in ballast, are exempt from the payment of tonnage dues.

The anniversary of the Old Fellowship was celebrated yesterday in various parts of the country. The demonstration at Washington consisted of a procession, an oration, and an entertainment in the evening. The receipts of the Order for the past year throughout the country amounted to \$1,100,000.

Southern Reconstruction the Battle Ground of Political Parties—Issues in the Future.

A lively contest has already commenced among political parties and politicians for the Southern vote and the balance of power which that is expected to give. It will increase in intensity as the process of reconstruction goes on, and we may expect it to become pretty firm by the time the Southern States shall be declared ready and prepared for readmission to Congress. This contest, in all its phases, is exceedingly interesting, particularly to the statesman who studies the present for the purpose of divining the future.

Old parties, which were thought to be dead and buried, and existing parties, which are decaying and on the eve of expiring, raise their heads with the hope of a prolonged existence through the new political elements and new state of things. At present the negro seems destined to hold the balance of political power, or rather the party that may be able to control the negro vote. The democrats and the republicans, and even the old whigs and the few remaining secessionists, are coquetting with Sambo and making the greatest efforts to get his ballot. These four millions of people, who three or four years ago were slaves, and who hardly know their right hands from their left, have become all at once a great power in this mighty and proud republic. What a revolution! There is nothing like it in the history of nations. While in Great Britain the mass of the white race—of that great Anglo-Saxon race which has shown so much intellect and capacity for self-government—are not deemed fit to have the suffrage, we have given it to the negroes just set free from slavery. This has not been done out of love for the negro, nor because he is deemed intelligent enough to have the suffrage, but because the politicians want to use him.

The Northern democrats hope their ancient allies of the South, who constituted the majority in former times, may be able to bring over the negroes to them. The old Southern whigs are earnestly at work, and are really making some headway in some of the States, to get the black vote with a view to supremacy in the South, and probably with a view to support the moderate republicans against the radicals. The republicans of both the conservative and radical stamp have earnestly begun a sort of missionary campaign to convert the new-born American citizens of African descent to their party and views. This is all for political power—the offices and spoils in the future.

In this struggle it is not very easy to foresee the result; for, as we said, the circumstances are novel and unprecedented. Still, looking at all the movements referred to and at the signs of the times, the radicals appear to have the best chance of succeeding. Wendell Phil-

lips, the great apostle and pioneer of radicalism, has proclaimed his political gospel, and, doubtless, the lesser lights and less advanced of his party will follow him as they have followed heretofore. Revolutions, it is said, never go backwards; certainly they rarely stop until they culminate in the most extreme measures. The military bill of Congress for the reconstruction of the South is declared by Wendell Phillips as "one step only," and that "the element that was coming next (that is in the progress of radical measures), would say to the South that the negro should not only have the ballot, but forty acres of land under his feet."

He holds, too, that the South is not in a condition to be reconstructed yet—that it should be held "by the police power of the nation (the military) for five or seven years, until the seeds of republicanism are planted beyond the possibility of harm." To this, he says, "the spirit of the people is already compelling Congress" to come.

Here we see, then, the programme of this bold leader of republican radicalism—the South to be kept out until the radicals secure a long lease of power, and a large portion of the lands of that section to be given to the negroes. He does not urge confiscation in direct terms; but he must mean that. How could forty acres of land be given to each negro without? Will the republican party or the majority of that party in Congress follow the lead of Wendell Phillips? That is the important question. Heretofore they have followed him, though more or less tardily, and though he has been a little in advance of them. Will Phillips' radicalism make such progress by the time—say next winter—the Southern States shall be ready under the military reconstruction acts of Congress to be restored, to shut the door against them for five or seven years? Will "the spirit of the people," under radical instruction and influence, compel Congress to this course? Mr. Phillips believes so. We shall see. Next winter we shall know whether the radicals can triumph on the Phillips platform, or the conservative republicans have the courage and power to defeat them.

Such are the issues looming up prominently just now, to change, modify or consolidate parties. Reconstruction is the great question of the day, and on that the fight will be made. But there are other great questions that will come up shortly to overshadow old ones. Whether this one of reconstruction be disposed of or not by the restoration or prolonged exclusion of the South, the new issues cannot be kept long in the background.

First will come questions relating to our national finances, the currency, banks, the public debt and how to pay it, and a sound, equal and economical system of taxation. After that territorial expansion and political control of the whole of the North American continent. The negro will soon have fulfilled his mission as the all-absorbing element in political warfare. Parties will be formed upon the new issues named. There will be a demand from the people for a reduction of the burden of taxation and of the expenditures of the government. They have borne heavy burdens during the war, and under that transition state of circumstances resulting from the war which we are passing through; but they will not consent to bear these in times of peace. Any party that may attempt to keep us in that condition will be ignored. Any party that takes for its platform a reduction of taxation and an economical administration of the government will secure the favor of the people. The New England policy of a high tariff for the benefit of capital and a few manufacturers, which has governed the country for some time, will certainly be repudiated. The great and growing agricultural States of the West and South will never consent to be the hewers of wood and drawers of water for these local and selfish interests, and they will be powerful enough to dictate a broader and more liberal policy of their own. The infamous system of national banks, which takes from the producing classes the profits of their industry, and twenty millions a year from the Treasury, cannot be tolerated long. It is clear from the proceedings in Congress during last winter and this spring, and from the tone of the press, that public opinion against this system is growing mightily. Nor will the capitalists of the Eastern and Atlantic States be able to resist the views of the West and the people generally with regard to the currency. The clamor for forcing specie payments, whereby the bondholders and the few rich may increase their wealth, and all the rest of the community be plunged into bankruptcy and ruin, will certainly be resisted. Such are the issues which will divide and reorganize political parties in the future. Sectional and local interests must yield to those of the people generally; and upon this question the popular voice will be irresistible. We agree with Wendell Phillips that "the millions of voters and the great journals are more the government than the machine at Washington," and, we will add, than any party of a sectional or mere political character. The highly interesting problem is, then, what party hereafter will gain and hold the popular vote on the great and new issues that are looming up. Will it be the republican party, reorganized and purged of its New England sectionalism and radicalism, or some new one? There is a lease of fifty years' power for any party formed on the right basis and upon the questions to which we have referred.

The Alabama Claims.

The object of the Japanese mission has given rise to a good deal of speculation. The guidelines are at a loss to conjecture what particular motive they have in visiting us just now. There are no points in dispute between us, we do not ask to have any new ports opened, and we are satisfied that when the foreign commerce of the empire takes its full extension we shall have a fair share of it. What, then, ask the curious, is the special business with us of these accomplished diplomats, Commissioners Fukusawa Ukiyohy and Matsuhino Judaju? We think we can enlighten them on the subject. From some admissions that were gleaned from them previous to their departure for Washington it would appear that they have come here (probably at the request of the English government) to offer their mediation on the Alabama claims. They have evidently studied up the subject, and, so far as we can gather, their views are entirely in our favor. By all means let the question be referred to them for decision. These Asiatics have a summary way of disposing of knotty points which European and American diplomats would do well to learn.

Further Development of the Trouble in Europe—The Treaty of Prague to be Torn Up.

France makes a significant point against Prussia in charging her with the violation of the treaty of Prague—that treaty which ended the war of last summer, with the broad declaration "in future there shall always and forever be peace and amity between the King of Prussia and the Emperor of Austria." The perpetual peace and amity was of course understood as contingent upon the fulfillment of all the conditions of the treaty by the respective parties; and should there be any failure to do whatever the treaty required, then of course it would be held as null the moment its abrogation suited the interest or convenience of either Power. This is the bait that France now throws to Austria. Austria is told that with all proper regard to good faith, and without any violation of the sentiment of Europe, she may now declare herself free from the conditions of that onerous and humiliating treaty; nay, that by declaring it null she may come in for a share of the world's good opinion as a champion of popular right. Section five of the treaty transferred to Prussia the Austrian rights and claims upon the duchies, subject to the condition "that if the population of the northern district of Schleswig, by a free vote, should make known their desire to be united to Denmark, said district should be ceded to Denmark." Prussia has never complied with this condition by giving the populations a chance for their free vote, and thus has not performed her part of the treaty.

By this point made in the *Moniteur* Napoleon prepares the public mind of France for an Austrian alliance and offers to Austria the opportunity to fight the battle of German supremacy over again under wondrously different auspices. Last summer Austria was crushed between the upper and nether millstones of Prussia and Italy. It has been alleged that Italy did but little in that war. That is true; but the apprehension of what she might do did a great deal. There is a relation between Sadova and Custozza. Had the fine army under the Archduke Albert, which the latter battle kept in Italy, been with Benedek, it is conceivable that the peace made would have been of a different character. Let us suppose now another war, with Italy out of the way—which France would insure—and with the fine army that Austria now has moving shoulder to shoulder with the magnificent army of France—all can see, in view of such a possibility, how readily the hard conditions of the treaty of Prague would be crammed down the throat of the Prussian Premier. Austria is better prepared for war now than she was this day a year ago. Reorganization has been an incessant labor through every hour since her great reverse. She has an additional element of strength, also, in the new conditions upon which Hungary stands. Hungary, then disaffected—almost ready for revolt—is now a unit of loyalty. Within a short time the Emperor has restored its constitution to the ancient kingdom; and the Diet, as a substantial sign of good-will, has given in return sixty-five thousand new troops. Indeed, if the Emperor were to call upon his Hungarian subjects to sustain the empire, there seems every probability that we would have a repetition of the great spectacle of the reign of Maria Theresa—Hungary rallying for the prosecution of a German war.

France and Austria would together put in the field a tremendous fighting force, and their advance would start again the half smothered vitality of the Kingdoms of Hanover and Saxony. Prussia is weak there, and even at her greatest strength she could not cope with the united power of such foes. Perhaps, with these foes once in line against her, we should soon learn something more definite of the Prussian alliance with Russia. If there be such an alliance, and it should result in bringing Russian soldiers once more on the battle fields of Central Europe, the trouble will then assume greater proportions. It will be a struggle dividing Europe geographically into Northern and Southern Powers; and against Russia and Prussia we shall see marshalled France, Austria, Italy and Spain, with, perhaps, a Moslem army across the Pruth and the Danister, waging war in its own extravagant way. It is doubtful whether Bismarck would venture acts that may raise such a storm. The least doubtful result of such a tremendous war would be the devastation of Germany and the total disruption of the partly consolidated power now gathering around the Prussian throne. Austria has declared her agreement with France in this dispute in no doubtful terms, and it is highly probable that the last German fury against Napoleon will be notably modified as the spectre of a Franco-Austrian alliance is developed to the proportions of which it is capable. It is only doubtful whether Austria and France will give the Prussian the chance to retire when he has once advanced so far.

The Experimental Elevated Railroad.

We learn that active preparations are being made to build forthwith the experimental elevated railway which the Legislature has authorized the West Side and Yonkers Patent Railway Company to construct along Greenwich street for a distance of half a mile from its southerly extremity, near Battery place. The power to do this is positive; but the further extension of the railway along both sides of Greenwich street to Ninth avenue and along both sides of Ninth avenue or through the block between Ninth and Tenth avenues to the Harlem river will depend on the practical success of the experimental road. And this will be decided upon by three commissioners, two of whom are to be appointed by the Governor and one by the Croton Aqueduct Board of the city of New York. If after due inspection and examination the commissioners shall approve of the structure, plan and operation of the road, the company is empowered to complete the line to its full extent. The experimental section must be finished within one year from the passage of the act (legal delays excepted), and the extension, if authorized, so far as confined to the limits of New York, within five years thereafter. The railway is to be operated exclusively by means of propelling cables, attached to stationary engines placed beneath or beyond the surface of any street through which it may pass. All three of the companies incorporated by the law of 1866 and respectively entitled the West Side and Yonkers, the Broadway and Yonkers and the East Side and New Rochelle, are controlled by a single Board of Directors, and virtually form but one company, of which W. S. Gurney

is President, C. T. Harvey Engineer and General Manager, and W. H. Appleton Treasurer. The route of the first company, from the Battery to Harlem, has already been indicated. The object of the second is to construct a single track railway upon a similar plan to that of the first, on Broadway, from the Battery to Sixty-fourth street, and thence to Yonkers, parallel to the west side line. The route of the third will also begin at the Battery and extend through Pearl street, the New Bowery and the Bowery to Third avenue, and thence on or between Third and Second avenues to the Harlem river and to New Rochelle. The success of the first company involves that of the other companies, and will lead to a complete revolution in the system of locomotion for New York. Our citizens will have from end to end of the island speedy, cheap and safe means of transit, which will not obstruct the streets. The Herald has often insisted upon the necessity and immense advantages of some such project as that authorized by the law which the Legislature passed on the 19th inst., and the Governor signed on the 23d. It has been in favor of a railway that should run above and through the blocks and be arched over on the cross streets. If the experiment of the west side road proves successful the principle of elevated railways will be established.

The English Reform Bill—Mr. Gladstone's Defeat.

In yesterday's issue we published extracts from the last debate on the English Reform bill. The great point of the debate was whether or not Mr. Gladstone's amendment should be inserted in the third clause of the government bill. A fair effort had been made on both sides to have a full house and to make a trial of strength between the government and the opposition complete. In a house in which five hundred and ninety-nine members were present the government had a clear majority of twenty-one, and Mr. Gladstone's amendment was consequently lost.

But what was Mr. Gladstone's amendment? It will be remembered by our readers that the Reform bill introduced by the government proposes to extend the franchise to all householders in boroughs who have personally paid their rates up to a stipulated time, and who have been for the space of two years resident in the borough in which they propose to vote. The great objection to the government proposal is that it rests on no principle. It is the shadow of reform without any of the substance. Apparently liberal, it is really conservative. If it ever pass into law, which is doubtful, it will admit within the limits of the franchise a certain class in one parish, and exclude from the franchise the same class in the parish adjoining. No one ventured to reply to the stinging remark of Mr. Bright that, while the bill would "give twenty-eight thousand additional votes to Sheffield, it would shut out thirty-six thousand in Birmingham." Reform on such a principle, to say the least of it, is not worthy of the name. The secret of the inequality lies in the fact that the practice of compound rating prevails in all the English boroughs, but prevails in different boroughs on different principles. In some boroughs householders only of the very humblest class compound their rates with their landlords. In other boroughs householders paying as high as fifteen pounds of rent, and even higher, compound with their landlords. But according to the government Reform bill no compound householder can vote, because no compound householder personally pays his rates. Mr. Disraeli has only been able to get over the difficulty by saying that it will be an easy matter for the householder to make such an arrangement with his landlord as shall entitle him to the full privilege of the franchise. No reply, however, was given to Mr. Bright, who showed that in such a city as Birmingham it would be impossible to retain on the roll of voters even those who were at present entitled to vote, except by an entire revolution of the municipal system of government. Mr. Gladstone's object was to remedy this evil. To accomplish this end he introduced an amendment to the effect that in boroughs a figure should be fixed, say five pounds, rating on what would be equal to about six pounds rental, below which the franchise should not extend, and above which it should be enjoyed without any qualification whatever. This plan, whatever might be said against it, would at least have the advantage of making the franchise rest upon a fixed and well understood principle. In a full house, as we have said already, Mr. Gladstone's amendment was negatived by a majority of twenty-one.

It is impossible to look at this reform question as it now stands without feeling convinced that the interests of party have been throughout and are still consulted to a far greater extent than the interests of the people. The question which is now being settled within the walls of Parliament is not whether a large portion of the English people shall be fully admitted within the pale of the constitution, but whether for the next thirty years the government of England shall be conducted by whigs or Tories. In a fair, honest, stand-up fight Disraeli is no match for Gladstone. As a trickster, however, the palm must be yielded to the Tory leader. Gladstone has suffered defeat—a defeat all the more complete and humiliating because he has condescended to fight with weapons in the use of which he was not skilled. The Reform question, however, is as yet far from settled; and whether it be true or not that Mr. Gladstone, in disgust with the conduct of his party, has resigned his position as opposition leader, we shall expect to hear of keener debates within and greater commotion without the walls of Parliament before the government measure shall have passed into law.

Shaky Foundation of the United States Treasury Department.

It appears that the Treasury building in Washington is in a very shaky condition, a portion of one of the brick walls having fallen in, and the foundations are reported as gradually sinking under the weight of the machinery and hydraulic presses. An apt illustration might be made between the building itself and Mr. McCulloch's financial system. The dead weight of the national banks produces about the same effect upon the finances of the country as the hydraulic presses do upon the walls and foundation of the building in Washington. The misfortune which has fallen upon the bricks and mortar may possibly overtake the Secretary's system, if he does not improve upon it. While deploring the looseness with which the

financial department of the government is conducted in a general way, we cannot too much admire that carefulness of detail exhibited on Thursday in the Printing Bureau of the Treasury Department, when all hands—fifty males and seven hundred females—were detained in temporary custody because a sheet of paper possessing "no commercial value" was missing. With such diligent officials as the head of the Printing Bureau, having a single eye to blank sheets of paper, we should suppose that there would be no danger of plunder, corruption or default creeping into the Treasury Department; yet we hear occasionally of the robbery of bonds and currency even down to the fractions.

Negroes for Office—Equal Rights.

At a meeting of colored and white republicans in Washington on Thursday night the former made a considerable figure. They entered into the debate, which was about nominations for the local office of Register, in a very lively manner. One of the speakers said that the distinguished Senator from Massachusetts, Mr. Sumner, had sent for him for the purpose of urging that one colored man at least should be elected to the City Council of Washington as a suggestive and fitting example to the South. That is right. We think, however, that there ought to be more than one; that there ought, in fact, in accordance with Mr. Sumner's radical doctrine of equal rights, to be a fair proportion, according to the relative vote of the whites and blacks. And why not a negro Mayor, if the negroes have a majority of the votes, which is probable? There is a smack of insincerity in this recommendation for only one black member of the City Council, when the large negro vote is taken into consideration. The radicals seem disposed to dodge the consequences of their theories. We insist upon holding them to their platform of equal rights. The majority of the Washington City Council and Mayor should be black, according to the vote. There should be, also, at least six negro Senators and twenty negro Representatives in Congress from the Southern States when they are reconstructed. Indeed, to have everything on perfect equality, we must have now and then a negro President of the republic. Equal rights is the order of the day. Nothing like equal rights for a progressive nation like ours.

A Fearful Warning.

Ten thousand tailors in Paris are reported on a strike for higher wages, with numbers of men belonging to other trades. Why these strikes? The extraordinary rise in house rents and in articles of food of all kinds. Why this extraordinary rise in all these things? It arises from the "great expectations" of all concerned in reference to the grand Exhibition designed to draw the pleasure seekers and the spare change of all nations to the French capital. Upon these expectations, it appears, house rents and provisions have gone up to such awful figures in Paris as to frighten away hundreds and thousands of people who had otherwise intended a trip to the Exhibition from all parts of France, the Continent, the British islands and America, North, Central and South. The chances of a terrible European war are operating in the same way to the prejudice of Napoleon's rare-show. These strikes among the tradesmen of Paris are the first symptoms of serious danger from the failure of this grand speculation; and, peace or war, this prevailing spirit of discontent, among these elements of combustion, involves to the Emperor a fearful warning.

More Missionaries for the South.

Hon. William D. Kelley, of Philadelphia, and Senator Nye, of Nevada, and some other electioneering Northern radicals are shortly to follow the example of Senator Wilson, and "stump the South" in behalf of the extension of the republican party of the North from the Potomac to the Rio Grande. These are small beginnings; but as the first of the Southern reconstruction elections, under the laws of Congress, will not occur for several months, there is yet plenty of time for a thorough canvassing of the five military districts by all parties concerned. Still it is somewhat remarkable that from our Northern copperhead democracy, who assume to be *par excellence*, the expounders and defenders of Southern rights, not one single missionary has so far been appointed or volunteered to commence the work down South of regaining to their party its old Southern balance of power. It is strange, too, that none of the ultra-abolition leaders, Wendell Phillips and such, and none of our Northern Women's Rights women, white or black, have yet plucked up the moral courage, or curiosity, or patriotism for a stumping tour "among the pines" of the Carolinas or the canebrakes of Arkansas. We had supposed that with the very first opening the Northern copperheads and abolitionists, and all these Northern reformers, of all colors and sexes, would be found, like the wild geese in the fall, winging their way southward; but for some reason or other they all hang back. What scheme of Tammany and what sagamore of the Church of the Puritans can explain to us this mystery?

Talking It Over.