EUROPE.

Special Telegrams to the Herald.

The Russo-American Cession Treaty Ratified by the Czar.

John Bright in Final Rally Against the Derby Reform Bill.

Count Bismarck's Difficulty on the Luxemburg Peace Treaty.

Arrests of Insurgents in Spain and Trial of "Traitors" in Ireland.

A British Base in the Gulf of Mexico.

Prussian Designs for the Absorption of Holland.

&c. &c. &c.

BY THE CABLE TO MAY 16.

THE RUSSO-AMERICAN TREATY.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE HERALD.

The Cession Treaty Paper Ratified by the Czar—Despatch of the Document to Washington, &c.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 15, 1867.

The Emperor Alexander, of Russia, signed and ratified to-day the state paper treaty, by virtue of which the empire cedes the territory lately known as Russian America to the people and government of the United States.

M. Wladimir Bodisco, First Secretary of the Russian Legation in the United States, has been commissioned to set out from here and take the perfected document to Washington.

THE REFORM BILL.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE HERALD.

Monster Meeting of the Leaguers—Mr. Bright's Opposition to Lord Derby's "Concessions"—A Rally Against the Third Reading, &c.

QUEEN'S HOTEL, LONDON, May 15, 1867.

A numerously attended and very impesing meeting of the reformers of England was held in St. James' Hall, in this city, to-day.

The assemblage was called with the view of supporting a proper and well adjusted plan of household and lodger franchise, and some of those present were inclined to accept what are known as the Cabinet "concessions" on these points.

Mr. John Bright attended, and delivered an address to the assemblage. He argued very forcibly against the Disraeli bill and its amendments, and showed that in mere justice to the will of the people, as expressed at this and other meetings, the liberal members of the House of Commons should reject the measure altogether by voting against it unanimously at the third reading, and thus compel the Cabinet to remit the question of reform to the people at large in the new.

THE PRESS DESPATCHES.

THE PEACE TREATY.

Prussian Difficulty of its Execution in Luxemburg—Bismarck Wants Time.

BERLIN, May 16—Evening.

The *North German Gazette*, the organ of Prime Minister Bismarck, says that the final execution of the treaty signed at London and the evacuation of the Fortress of Luxemburg by Prussia will be difficult with in the month prescribed by the London Conference, and that Prussia will need more time.

THE SPANISH INSURRECTION.

Arrests of Catalonian and Other Revolutionists.

LONDON, May 16, 1867.

Reports have been received here from Madrid that a large number of persons, engaged in the recent disturbances in Catalonia and other parts of Spain, have been captured, and arrests are constantly being made by the police and soldiery.

THE FENIAN TRIALS.

More Insurgents Before the Special Commission.

DUBLIN, May 16, 1867.

The Fenian prisoners Flood, Duffy and Cady are now on trial before the special commission.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

The London Money Market.

LONDON, May 16—Noon.

Consols opened at 92 3-16 for money.

AMERICAN SECURITIES.

The following are the opening rates:—

United States five-twenties	72¾
Illinois Central shares	76¾
Erie Railway shares	42¾

LONDON, May 16—Evening.

Consols closed at 92¾ for money.

AMERICAN SECURITIES

Closed at the following rates:—

United States five-twenties	72¾
Illinois Central shares	76¾
Erie Railway shares	41¾

The Continental Bourses.

LONDON, May 16—1:30 P. M.

The quotations of American securities are unchanged.

FRANKFORT, May 16—Evening.

United States bonds closed to-day at 77¾.

The Liverpool Cotton Market.

LIVERPOOL, May 16—Noon.

The cotton market to-day appears quieter, and a shade easier. The sales of the day are estimated at 10,000 bales.

The following are the opening prices:—Middling uplands, 11¾d. a 11¾d.; middling Orleans, 11¾d.

LIVERPOOL, May 16—1:30 P. M.

The cotton market has become more active, and quotations are firmer. It is now estimated that the sales to-day will reach 15,000 bales.

LIVERPOOL, May 16—Evening.

The cotton market has been active, but prices during the day were irregular and fluctuating.

The following are the authorized closing quotations:—Middling uplands, 11¾d.; middling Orleans, 11¾d. The sales of the day foot up 15,000 bales.

Liverpool Breadstuffs Market.

LIVERPOOL, May 16—Noon.

The market for breadstuffs is quiet and unchanged. Corn steady at 42s. for mixed Western. Wheat—White California, 14s. 6d.; No. 1 Milwaukee red, 13s. 9d. per cental. Barley, 4s. 9d. per 60 lbs. Oats, 3s. 7d. per 45 lbs. Peas, 43s. 6d. per quarter.

LIVERPOOL, May 16—Evening.

The breadstuffs market is easier. Corn has declined 6d.; sales mixed Western at 41s. 6d. per quarter. Wheat—Quotations unchanged. Barley and oats steady at previous quotations.

Liverpool Provisions Market.

LIVERPOOL, May 16—Noon.

No change in the provision market is reported. Pork, 77s. 6d., and beef, 125s. per bbl. Bacon, 39s. per cwt. Lard, 52s. Cheese, fine American, 63s. per cwt.

LIVERPOOL, May 16—Evening.

The provisions market is generally unchanged, except for beef, which has advanced to 127s. 6d. per bbl. for extra prime mess. Pork steady at 77s. 6d per bbl. Other articles quiet and unchanged.

Liverpool Produce Market.

LIVERPOOL, May 16—Noon.

The produce market is quiet and steady. Ashes, 34s. for pots. Rosin, common Wilmington, 6s. 6d.; fine American, 13s. per cwt. Spirits turpentine, 35s. 3d. Petroleum, spirits, 11d.; refined, 1s. 3d. per gallon. Clover seed, 57s.

LIVERPOOL, May 16—1:30 P. M.

American tallow is 3d. higher; sales at 48s. 9d. per cwt.

LIVERPOOL, May 16—Evening.

Tallow firm at 43s. 9d. per cwt. Common Wilmington rosin has advanced to 7s. per cwt. Spirits turpentine, 36s. 3d. Petroleum—Prices unchanged. Ashes, 34s. for pots.

The London Markets.

LONDON, May 16—1:30 P. M.

The breadstuffs market is steady. Corn—Sales mixed Western at 42s. per quarter. Quotations of sugar unchanged; No. 12 Dutch standard, 24s. 3d. Linseed oil, £39 10s.; sperm, £131; whale, £39. Crude Calcutta linseed, 65s. Linseed cakes, £9 15s. per ton. Iron is firm at 53s. 6d. per ton.

LONDON, May 16—Evening.

Sugar steady at previous quotations. The iron market is not so firm; Scotch pig is quoted at 53s. per ton. There is no quotable change in other markets.

The Antwerp Petroleum Market.

ANTWERP, May 16—Evening.

The petroleum market is dull and prices are declining. Standard white closed at 42 francs 50 centimes per bbl.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

LIVERPOOL, May 16, 1867.

The steamships Hecla and Kangaroo, from New York, May 1, and City of Washington, from New York, May 4, have all arrived out.

DETAILS BY MAIL TO MAY 5.

By the steamship Java at this port, we have the following interesting details of our cable advices, dated to the 5th of May, in which we are specially informed of the really critical situation of affairs existing in the old world, notwithstanding the then approaching assemblage of the London Peace Congress and the almost general acceptance of the belief of the settlement of the Luxemburg question.

CORK, May 16, 1867.

The Prussian bark Hans, Captain Gosan, which sailed from San Francisco on the 9th of January, arrived at this port to-day.

ENGLAND AND THE MONROE DOCTRINE.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE HERALD.

Cuba and Canada—Britain's Object in a War with Spain—The Idea of Seizing Cuba—Confederation in Canada—Annexation of Mexico.

LONDON, May 1, 1867.

Should England, as a result of the Tornado case or any other difficulty, go to war with Spain, the first thing we shall most likely do will be to seize Cuba and the Philippine Islands. We have many good reasons for this, especially in the case of Cuba. These two sets of colonies are the most valuable Spain now possesses. How it has come to pass that we have not annexed them in former wars it is difficult to understand. Perhaps it was from policy—in view of some future dispute, when we might have her at an advantage. In case of a war between us and Spain, we think that you might take the opportunity of "taking care" of Cuba from purely secularization motives. Spain, foreseeing this, might sell you the island cheap as the price of your alliance. It would therefore be as well for us to forestall you, and seize and annex the island at once, which, we believe, must, sooner or later, if left in the hands of its present masters, fall by the sheer force of geographical and political gravitation into the vast mass of the United States, like an aerolite, to the earth, and we should make that act all. If Spain goes to war with us we forbear "looming in the future," as Mr. Disraeli says, whole fleets of Alabamas fitted out in your ports under Spanish colors and sallying forth to sweep our commerce from the seas. So we may as well be beforehand with you both.

Such an acquisition as Cuba would cap years of Russian America, for we should get it for nothing except a few merchant ships, while you are believed to have given seven millions of dollars for an uninhabitable region. We think your Russian grapes are sour. Cuba is a most valuable and rich island, which British enterprise would convert into a metaphorical gold mine. We should get it as cheap as we got Gibraltar, and we should make a sort of Western Gibraltar of it. It would indemnify us for the loss of Canada, which we all see must go—not necessarily to you, but from us. When she has fully realized the danger of our connection she will separate and set up as an independent State, unless you annex her first; but you will not do that, for you think it "better as it is." You have a pull upon us. It is only on the point of honor that we are for the connection at all, for it is both valueless and a burden besides. Still, we argue in our own minds, "if Canada has, as we admit, the right to separate and become independent if she pleases, why are not we to have, on our side, the reciprocal right of severing the connection if we see fit?"

If Spain drives us to war in defence of our honor and our interests, she can of course stand no chance with us. We have the largest army in the world—in cost, that is. Its cost this year is over £15,000,000 sterling, or $75,000,000. In mere number of men it is small, but then our "thin red line" has marched to victory ere now over the prostrate armies of the world. "Rule Britannia." We have only about 200,000 soldiers in all, of whom between 60,000 and 70,000 are in India. There are the militia and volunteers, and 10,000 drilled London policemen, including the city force, but these we do not count in a foreign war. But it is not our army that we rely on. Our fleet is not only the biggest in the world in cost, but in ships and men also. Our fleet costs us in round numbers £11,000,000 sterling, or $55,000,000 a year. We have a fleet of 500 men-of-war and an iron-clad navy of some forty ships (besides those building), manned by upwards of 60,000 men. Half a dozen of these iron-clads are over 6,000 tons, driven by engines of 1,500 or 1,400 horse power (nominal). Though being broadside ships, they will hardly carry more than two hundred-pounders, still our Woolwich gun, of that calibre, will send the Palliser chilled shot through anything. Some authorities believe that the smallest iron-clads of the fleet (like the Research, of 900 tons and carrying only four heavy guns) are the most really formidable of them all.

Spain's army is as small in men as in money. From 280,000 men in the palmy days of her pride, she has shrunk to 150,000 now; but it is mostly at home, so that it is superior (numerically) to ours, which is scattered all over the world. The Spanish navy is a mere dwarf. They have about 100 ships, including three iron-clads, manned by 13,000 sailors and 3,000 marines. The whole expenditure of the Spanish government is about £20,000,000, or only £5,000,000 more than the cost of our army alone, and £6,000,000 less than our army and navy together, which cost £26,000,000.

The Canada Defence bill, called the Canada Loan bill, has been read a third time in the Lords and passed. Earl Russell, who is now, politically, nowhere, tried to create a sensation and recover lost ground by making a "Rule Britannia" speech. His argument is curious. Because we, fifty years ago, with the supremacy of the sea and the alliance of all Europe, were able to defend Portugal, comparatively close at home, from France, almost as far off from her (so far as accessibility is concerned) as ourselves, therefore we are now equally able to defend Canada, three thousand miles off across the ocean against you, who are only separated from us by an imaginary boundary line, and when, with your monitors to encounter, we might not be able even to approach Canada without fighting every inch of the way. Earl Russell's temerity and amazing self confidence won for him in earlier days the reputation of being ready to perform the operation of lithotomy or to take the command of the British fleet at a moment's notice. He is now, in his old age, ready to undertake the defence of Canada, which Mr. Lowe, or somebody expressing his views in the *Times*, ridicules as being an infinitely more difficult task than either.

The *Spectator*, which was as friendly to you—to the Union—through the war as the *Saturday Review* was hostile, the *Spectator*, in its last number, speaking of Mr. Gladstone's defects as a leader and future prime minister, says that the chief objection to him is that in case "France or the United States should insult us," he might not be found equal to the occasion—might not have nerve enough to do his duty. Nobody thinks of anybody else, not even Russia, injuring or outraging us, but only you and France, and to be a thorn in your side and France's side is an infinite recommendation to us, throwing the mantle of forgiveness and condonation over any amount of international sins. The greed and violence of Prussia, for instance, is pleasing to us because it checkmates our old enemy, France. This is not confined to the people or to private society, but blurts out in that most decorous region, the House of Lords. When the Canada Loan bill passed the third reading lately, Earl Russel, *apropos* to nothing, lugged in the United States by the head and shoulders, and declared we would repel any wanton, wicked and unprovoked attack that you might make upon us. The idea that you might invade Canada in a fair and honorable way in the regular course of war, a war, perhaps, not even begun by you, never seems to enter people's heads; but the invasion must be treacherous, base, underhand, and I know not what. Lord Russell whipped himself into as great a fury as when some years ago he incontinently seized his goose quill and proclaimed to the world that England had cut France, and was looking out for new friends, because Louis Napoleon had acquired Savoy and Nice. What business have you and France to be in such bad odor with us? A diplomatist here made a good joke the other day. Asked how it was we did not interfere to prevent France trying to get Mexico, and you from restoring the Union, he replied that our business was to stand neutral, lest, when we were engaged with the one, the other might attack us at the back.

THE SITUATION IN HOLLAND.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE HERALD.

Bismarck's Diplomacy for the Absorption of the Kingdom—Consolidated Germany to be Made the Great Maritime Power—The King of Holland Alarmed—His Luxemburg Sale Plan and Napoleon's Aid—Why Belgium and England Incline Towards France, &c.

PARIS, May 1, 1867.

Some of the French journalists have discovered a cause for alarm and inquietude in the ambitious and "audacious" schemes of Bismarck to annex Holland to the Germanic Confederation—that is, to Prussia. And in bringing to light the new intrigues of Prussia they have discovered the secret reason of the lately proposed cession of Luxemburg to France. Luxemburg was to have been relinquished by the Grand Duke in order to save Holland, and France was to be, and is to be, the savior. Since Sadowa and the brilliant results that followed to Prussia, the dream of a great German nation, powerful at home and respected abroad, is rapidly being realized through the bold and vigorous policy of Bismarck. He has made Germany, at the head of which is Prussia, the first nation in Europe, and he now desires to make her a maritime power, the rival of France and even of England. But to accomplish this object he needed for his empire a grander reach of territory on the seas and more harbors. Frankfort, Hamburg and Kiel are his, but they were not sufficient for various potent reasons, and he naturally turned his attention to the acquisition of the needed territory. He could not and did not overlook the little Kingdom of Holland, with its fine harbors of Rotterdam and Amsterdam, and its far distant and rich colonies in all parts of the globe.

With a promptness and directness which characterizes his diplomacy he began his approaches secretly and quietly in Holland, and the results begin to appear whenever his mole-like undermining crops out. The same motives were invoked in his correspondence with the Dutch government that were advanced by him to justify the annexation of the Elbe-Duchies to Prussia, and to demonstrate the necessity of a reorganization of Germany, both of which were necessary to give to Prussia the means to fulfil her providential mission, and to make Germany a grand maritime power, capable of dominating in the Baltic and in the North sea, and to balance all rival influences. He argued that the Dutch are of a German race; their origin confounds itself with that of all the German population; their traditions, their beliefs, their habits, their manners and customs assimilate to those of the Germans of the North, and on all occasions when the independence of Germany has been menaced, the Dutch have made common cause with the Germans. Holland has been constantly in the North the bulwark of Germany against the hostile enterprises of France, which has ever been the rival of Germany; a rival always dangerous, frequently prosperous, and which is constantly aggrandizing itself at the expense of Germany.

There is between Holland and Germany such an identity of interests, which depend in one way or another each upon the other, and finally, the law that compels people of the same race to unite together to form grand and powerful agglomerations, will not permit Holland to remain separate from Germany for a long period.

Holland has in abundance colonies that Germany needs and which it should have, and Germany will be to Holland a faithful and devoted protector, which will guarantee it against all the accidents which it may foresee and against all the ambitious designs born or to be born. Germany will not be complete as long as Holland is separate, because it will not be able to develop itself as a maritime Power. Holland holds the lower course of the Rhine and the Meuse, and the mouths of those rivers, and Germany is not able to reach the shores of the North Sea without traversing its provinces and without its consent.

The Zuyder Zee would be for Germany a precious resource in times of peace, as well as in war. Germany to-day claims that all that part of Holland which is situated on the right bank of the river Meuse, and which forms two-thirds or less of the kingdom of Holland, is a natural dependency of Germany, which it embraces and envelopes on the east and south.

The grand ports of Holland—Rotterdam and Amsterdam—are really German ports. These two cities have had in other times an importance which is now lost, and can only be recovered when Holland is annexed to Germany and becomes a part of the confederation of the States of the North. Holland itself is not what she has been, and is only a State of the third class, and she is fated to grow still weaker. The only way to arrest this sad and fatal end is to come into the Germanic fold.

There are some of the considerations urged by Bismarck to induce Holland to unite with Germany. They have been steadily and peremptorily refused by the King and his Government, and now the tone of the Prussian Government has become menacing and sharp. Prussia has threatened force if her wishes are not complied with, and the Dutch, with their old courage and patriotism welling up from their phlegmatic depths, have determined not to be overrun and destroyed. They threaten to break the dykes and overflow the lovely plains of the low countries if it is necessary, and perish before becoming dishonored. That noble spirit of Dutch patriotism and self-sacrifice which has adorned and often the pages of its brilliant history is alive to-day, and cannot be extinguished. But if every man in that glorious little commonwealth was a giant, what could be effected by the Dutch alone against the tremendous power of Prussia with her new legion? They would soon go to destruction.

In this trying position what could the King of Holland do but to seek aid from without, and what could be more natural than that he should ask of his neighbor, Napoleon, the needed assistance? He did apply, and was promised every assistance, but of course on conditions. Napoleon is not in the habit of running a risk for every one without a quid pro quo. He takes Savoy and Nice for his pay in aiding Italy to establish her freedom from Austrian rule; he probably hoped to get remunerated for his trouble in put Max on his throne in Mexico, and he certainly did not propose to assist Holland without getting a solid return. Luxemburg was the property of the King of Holland, and he made that over to Napoleon in consideration of the latter's promise to preserve Holland from Prussian aggrandisement, and to maintain its independence and rights in all their integrity.

Prussia baulked in her high handed attempt to frighten Holland into surrendering up its autonomy, now creates a great row because France wants to add to her territory. Whatever the result, France may be counted upon to maintain Holland against Prussia, and it is no less to the interest of England that the haughty, ambitious, overbearing Prussians should not command the North Sea. Belgium is not less interested in the proper settlement of the question of Prussia's wild claims, and we may naturally range her along with France and England as the ally of Holland.

The feeling in Holland is of course strongly against annexation to Prussia, and the people declare they never will permit it. They are unanimous for the defence of their territory, and all parties are of perfect accord. "The Dutch," says Mr. Green Van Prinsterer, who writes the pamphlet on the subject of Prussia's designs, "will oppose the courage of a free people to the iniquities of force." "Singly, if it needs be, with a trust in God we will not be backward more than our fathers were before us in a disproportionate contest and not without hope of success. More than one page of our annals demonstrate that moral force reverses the calculations founded solely on numerical strength."

Thus it will be seen that the covetous and ambitious design of Prussia is at the bottom and is the sole cause of a difficulty which will plunge all Europe in a war before a twelvemonth, no matter how it may be adjusted by a Congress. The affair is only put to rest for a brief period by the skilful treatment of the diplomatists.

DUMAS, SENIOR, AND MLLE. MENKEN.

[From Galignani's Messenger, April 29.]

A curious affair in which those two persons are mixed up, came yesterday before the Civil Tribunal of the Seine. Miss Menken, the actress, of Mazeppa notoriety, wishing to play a speaking part, and if possible to have a male and female personification in the same piece, applied to M. Alexandre Dumas, who agreed to write a drama founded on Sir Walter Scott's "Monastery." In the course of their communications the two parties met at the gallery of M. Liébert, a photographer, who took their portraits, both on one card, in various poses, some of them in very familiar attitudes. Considerable numbers of these were issued and had a large sale, but unfortunately the attention of the press was attracted to the pictures and some rather severe remarks were made, and the approaching marriage of the celebrated pair was even announced. Upon this report coming to the knowledge of M. Dumas he commenced an action against the photographer upon the ground that these pictures were sold without his permission, and that in fact the portraits were only taken for a fancy, and never intended for publication.

Miss Menken also stated that she should never have consented to such a cause, as she was under a bond to another photographer not to allow any portraits of herself to be sold but such as he should take, and that since the others had appeared she had been obliged to compromise with him at the cost of 500 francs for the breach of her agreement.

On the other hand, M. Liébert affirmed that the photographs were taken in the ordinary way for public circulation, and produced his books in which all his sitters were entered, and which showed that, instead of being paid for by the two persons taken, they were marked for general sale. He stated, moreover, that with regard to one of them, in which M. Dumas was in his shirt sleeves, that gentleman had said when being taken:—"This is the first time I have been photographed in this style, and you will see it will be a great success." M. Liébert declared that, he had pursued the ordinary course under such circumstances, had submitted proofs to both parties, M. Dumas had obtained seventy-five copies at first, and letters from him were produced asking for more. Miss Menken had been promised one thousand, a great number of which she had received, and M. Liébert contended that he would not have gone to all that trouble and expense if he had not expected to realise a profit on his work.

The Court postponed its judgment for a week.

AMUSEMENTS.

The Ristori Matinee for the Ladies' Southern Relief Fund.

There have been many balls and other entertainments given in the metropolis for the above laudable object, but few, if any, so brilliant, so successful and so largely attended as the matinée which Madame Ristori gave yesterday at the French theatre. But as the appreciation which an artist wins from the public is not to be measured only by the number but more by the intelligence of the audience, we may add that a more truly fashionable assemblage has rarely been congregated together at a matinée. The ladies were decidedly in the majority, and the masculine eye became dazzled with the array of beauty and fashion whenever it risked a furtive glance towards parquet, box or balcony. The well known English play of Macbeth has undergone an entire transformation—nothing spectacular, however—in the Italian version. The scissors has been to work at the first two scenes of the first act, part of the third and the entire fourth scene in the second act, and the fourth and fifth acts are dovetailed into one. It is a pity that the Italian translator did not end the play with the grand sleep-walking scene of Lady Macbeth, and dispense with Dunsinane and the undignified combat between Macbeth and Macduff. Lady Macbeth proved an ordeal of no ordinary magnitude to Madame Ristori, as the memories of those present doubtless reverted to other great representatives of the same character, who made it a lifelong study. But no one could witness her superb acting in the famous sleep-walking scene without according her the meed of superiority. Nothing could surpass it in intensity and effect. The audience seemed spell-bound from the moment she entered, with a taper in her hand, revealing to the affrighted doctor and attendant the story of her hideous crime, by each self-accusing whisper of her troubled dream, to that last heartbroken sob of despair, "What's done cannot be undone." The dilated, yet sightless, eyes of the conscience stricken sleeper; the hard, troubled breathing; the statuesque and terrible attitude when she hears in imagination the knocking at the gate; the fruitless attempt to wash away the indelible stain of blood; the broken sentences, the purport of which thrills her hearers with horror; the choking sob with which she gasps forth almost inarticulately, "Here's the smell of blood still; all the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten this little hand;" and the suppressed torture of spirit, the smouldering volcano of remorse and passion that rages in her breast, formed a picture so terrible that each eye seemed fascinated with it while it remained on the stage. The eager, intense attention which such a wondrous piece of acting demanded from every eye in the audience was to some degree painful, and when the picture was withdrawn, their feelings found vent in enthusiastic applause. At the recall of the great artiste, a handsome flower basket was presented to her. After the sleep-walking scene the curtain should have fallen, for what fallowed was tame and distasteful in the extreme. To-night Madame Ristori appears for the last time in America in the great *rôle* of Medea.

Farewell Banquet to Madame Adelaide Ristori.

Last night a small but brilliant assembly of the friends and admirers of the great tragedienne, who for the past eight months has been so prominently before the American public, gave her a farewell banquet at Junch's, Broadway. The banquet was got up under the auspices of the Italian evening school committee, and was one of the most fashionable and *recherché* of the entire season. Madame Adelaide Ristori, her husband, the Marquis del Grillo, and her charming daughter, Mlle. Bianca del Grillo, were present. Without Jenkinsizing in the slightest particular, we can assure those who were not fortunate to be present that both the celebrated artist and her interesting family were dressed in excellent taste and were remarkably wanting in the slightest approach to affectation, or what is termed the extreme of fashion. The calm dignity of the great artist, which we have so frequently remarked before the footlights, is not lost, but softened down to a sort of magnetic power in society, and her beautiful daughter is ever the centre of an admiring circle. During the banquet a gold medal was presented to Madame Ristori, on which the following inscription was written. On one side:—

"Performance for the benefit of the Italian schools of New York."

On the other side:—

"To Madame Adelaide Ristori. The Italians of New York."

The following address accompanies the medal:—

MADAME—This model commemorates the performance which you have given for the benefit of the Italian schools of New York. We offer it to you as a pledge of our gratitude and of the admiration which you have awakened in us of your rare talents and the gifts of your noble heart. Accept it also as an expression of our profound respect, and may it always remind you that the Italians of New York have recognized you as a most eminent artist and as a lady of noble feelings.

Madame Ristori returned thanks in the warmest manner through an interpreter. The entire affair was a perfect success. Many other eloquent addresses were made.

French Theatre—M. Juignet's Benefit.

We are glad to see that a benefit is to be given to M. Juignet at the French theatre on the 18th. Most of the members of his old company, with Signor Bettini and several other Italian artists, will assist on the occasion. The entertainments are to exhibit of two French comedies (*L'Homme Blasé* and *Les Mémoires de Richelieu*) and a musical intermède. It is scarcely necessary for us to add anything to this announcement. M. Juignet has been long associated with the French theatre in this country and is deservedly popular with its habitués. The unfortunate circumstances attending the last theatrical season destroyed the results of six years' hard labor in trying to place it on a permanent basis. He therefore deserves all the sympathy and support which can be rendered him on this occasion.

The Stadt Theatre.

The audience at the Stadt theatre last evening was one of the largest of the season, the occasion being the production by Carl von Holstei of Much Ado About Nothing, for the benefit in common of Dawison and Theodor L'Arronge. Dawison appeared in the part of Benedict, which was managed with his usual skill, L'Arronge appearing as Ambrosius—a part of which he made the most, and was several times called out. Miss Irschick played well as Hero in the comedy, and Mr. Fritze appeared to advantage in the *rôle* of Claudio. Miss Steglich-Fuchs also rendered the Beatrice of the comedy with exceeding happiness. The interest of the audience was of course centred upon Benedict (Dawison), and Ambrosius (L'Arronge), than which a couple of happier impersonations have not for a long time been witnessed on the New York stage. Both were repeatedly called out by the delighted audience, the pantomimic acting of Dawison in the scene in which he sets the eavesdropper calling forth roars of laughter, and that of L'Arronge, in the repetition of *Ich ein ESel*, being greeted with equal favor.

Old Bowery Theatre.

The attraction at this popular resort last evening was the dramatic novelty, Degrees in Crime, or Wine, Women, Gambling, Theft and the Scaffold, a play not wanting in spectacular effects of rather thrilling interest, and bidding fair to outstrip the ghost in popular favor. Mr. William Marden appeared as Julio Dormilly, Coburn appearing as the banker, Mason as the gamester and Mrs. Wilkins as Madame Doroet. Besides this attraction, the capital little drama, the Lost Son, was played as a concluding piece, Marden playing as Philip, the sailor, and Miss Reignolds appearing as Clara. The audience was, as usual at the Old Bowery, very large and very enthusiastic.

The Japanese.

Maguire and Risley's imperial troupe of Japanese will appear at the Brooklyn Academy of Music at two o'clock this afternoon. Their wonderful feats have not lost attraction in the eyes of the public, to judge from the crowded houses they draw every night, and in the City of Churches they will doubtless attract as large an audience as they have in the metropolis.

NEWS FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA.

MONTREAL, C. E., May 15, 1867.

Letters from Mr. Alston, the Registrar General of British Columbia, state that action has been taken by the Legislature with reference to admission in the dominion of Canada. The Legislative Council passed unanimous resolutions in favor of admission upon equitable terms. The Governor in a speech proroguing the Legislative Council said—I am about to communicate with the Secretary of State and Governor General of Canada respecting the wish you have expressed to enter into confederation with the Eastern provinces of British America. He states that the public debt is $960,000; the estimated revenue for the year is $700,000, but the actual revenue will be in excess $500,000.

MICHIGAN CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

DETROIT, Mich., May 16, 1867.

In the Constitutional Convention to-day considerable progress was made in the appointments of committees. The temperance delegates expect to secure a clause in the constitution prohibiting the manufacture and sale of spirituous liquors.

THE CHARGES AGAINST JUDGE KING, OF MISSOURI.

ST. LOUIS, May 16, 1867.

The charges against Judge King, who is being tried before the State senate with the view of impeaching him, are in substance, that he instructed a grand jury that when crimes and misdemesnors had been committed by persons while in regular or irregular confederate service, such persons could not be indicted or punished; that he dismissed the grand jury in Clay county without cause and suspended the Sheriff; that he ordered the Coroner of said county to summon the Grand Jury of conservative men and no radicals; that he issued writs of mandamus, compelling the Board of Appeals in said county to register as qualified voters persons who had been reported by said Board; and that he instructed a Grand Jury in Clay county that no bills of indictment could be found against persons who might be charged with perjury, in falsely taking the oath prescribed by the constitution. The respondent sets up a general denial to each of the allegations, and explains at length the circumstances surrounding his judicial action.

BROOKLYN INTELLIGENCE.

MASONIC AID FOR THE SOUTH.—At the dedication of the new rooms of Crystal Wave Lodge, F. and A. M., at No. 159 Fulton avenue, on Wednesday night, $58 was raised for a needy lodge in the South.

RECOVERED.—The body of Henry Estler, the boy who jumped from the bark Louis, during the fire at Archer's store house on Monday night, was found in the water at the Atlantic Dock basin yesterday morning.

A NEW MASONIC HOME.—The subject of establishing a Masonic Home for aged and indigent Masons and their families has been under discussion for some time. On Wednesday a committee consisting of Mr. H. A. Sprague, Dr. W. O. Lewis and Mr. A. C. De Merrit visited the county institutions for the purpose of ascertaining how a building such as the Fraternity have under consideration should be constructed and conducted. The committee were much pleased with their visit and will report to the Board of Relief.

THE PROPOSED BRIDGE OVER THE EAST RIVER.—A meeting of the incorporators of the proposed bridge across the East river was held at four o'clock yesterday afternoon at the rooms of the Brooklyn Gas Company, in Remsen street, near Court. Mr. Alexander McCue was called to the chair. The Committee on Permanent Organization reported in favor of the following gentlemen as officers of the association:—President, Henry C. Murphy; Treasurer, William C. Rushmore; Temporary Secretary, T. B. Meyers. The report was approved. The following gentlemen were appointed as a Committee on Surveys:—Mess. Andrew H. Green, Martin Kalbfleisch, Alfred M. Craven, Seymour L. Husted, John H. Prentice, Henry G. Stebbins, Isaac Van Anden, Alexander McCue and Samuel Booth. On motion of Mr. William Hunter, Jr., the following were appointed a Committee on By-laws:—Greenville T. Jenks, T. Bailey Meyers and Anthon W. Benson. The following gentlemen were appointed a Committee on Finance:—William Hunter, Jr., John Roach, William Marshall, John P. Atkinson and Smith Ely, Jr. The meeting then adjourned.

AN ALLEGED FEMALE PICKPOCKET COMMITTED FOR TRIAL.—Catharine Martin, thirty-five years of age, arrested some time since on a charge of picking the pocket of Mr. John Duffy, of No. 112 Gold street, W. D., of a wallet containing $300 in Treasury notes, was yesterday adjudged guilty of the offence by Justice Dalley, who committed her to the county jail to await the action of the grand jury. The particulars of this case have been heretofore published. The only direct evidence of guilt on the part of the accused was that given by a young man named Isaac Shereck, who saw in her possession several small bills and one of the denomination of $100 a short time after Mr. Duffy missed his wallet. Catharine states that she is a native of Yonkers, resides in New York city, is a dressmaker by occupation, and pleads not guilty.

DROWNED IN A CISTERN.—The body of Louisa Kenner, a child five years of age, was found in a cistern at the rear of its parents' residence, 196 Johnson street, E. D., at a late hour on Wednesday night. Coroner Smith yesterday investigated the cause of the death, when it appeared that the child was missed by its family in the latter part of the day and the police notified. Its body was found by its father in the position stated about midnight. It being evident that death resulted from drowning by an accidental fall, the jury rendered a verdict to that effect.

THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT.—The new and elegant rooms recently fitted up at the Wall House, Fourth street, for the above association, were dedicated last night. The attendance on the occasion was large. Mr. Bennett, President of the association, conducted the interesting exercises, which were opened with a duet, "In the Pale Moon," by Misses Ella Thursby and Anna Waring. Rev. Mr. Bracket read the sixty-seventh Psalm and offered up a prayer. Rev. Dr. E. S. Porter delivered the opening address. He was followed by Rev. Messrs. Guion, Joslyn, Payne and others, and the interesting exercises were brought to a conclusion at a late hour, the assemblage being dismissed with the benediction.

MEETING OF THE FIRE COMMISSIONERS—IMPORTANT ACTION.—The Fire Commissioners held their regular monthly meeting at their rooms, No. 9 Court street, last evening, Commissioners Campbell, Stryker and Barrie being present. The case of Engine Company No. 9 against Engine Company No. 5, which was to have been tried, was adjourned at the request of the foreman of the former company, who was not ready to go on with it. The charges preferred by the foreman of Engine Company No. 14 against the foreman of Engine Company No. 17, charged with riding men on the apparatus, was dismissed. The committee appointed by the Board of Officers to confer with the Commissioners in the matter of altering some of the grades and reinstating certain firemen who were recently expelled for violation of the rules, have failed in their efforts, the Commissioners being determined to adhere to their original decision and to enforce their rules and regulations to the letter of the law. A complaint was received by the Commissioners from the Chief Engineer against the engineers of steamers, charging the latter with neglect of duty and blowing the whistles while returning from fires. The foreman of Engine Company No. 21 sent in a protest against the action of the Commissioners in sending back certain objectionable members to duty in that company, and asking that the matter be brought before the Board of Appeals. The Commissioners will give these matters due consideration. The following are the Commissioners elected for the ensuing year at an election held on Tuesday night:—Felix G. Campbell, Walter Barrie, Jr., Abiah B. Thorn, W. H. Beerum and Robert G. Bergen. The latter named gentleman was elected in place of Burdett Stryker, who has held the position for the past nine years, but declined a renomination.

LONG ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.—There was a special meeting of the Long Island Historical Society held at their rooms, No. 16 Court street, last evening, a large and fashionable audience of ladies and gentlemen being present. A paper on "Early Reminiscences of Brooklyn," which was read by Mr. De Voe, of New York, giving an exceedingly interesting sketch of that city from its earliest date, showing the manners and customs of former times, its primitive settlers and its steady advance with the progress of events, together with numerous biographical sketches of old Brooklynites—many of whose descendants were in attendance during the reading of the paper—formed the entertainment and engrossed the undivided attention of the assemblage. At the conclusion a vote of thanks was returned Mr. De Voe by the society for the gratifying entertainment which he had afforded them.

ACCIDENTS.—A boy named William Kinsbury, six years of age, while climbing on a furniture cart in front of the residence of his parents, 86 Carll street, last evening, fell and fractured his ankle to such an extent as to render amputation necessary.

William Walsh, a boy five years old, residing at 97 Gold street, fell off a cart yesterday afternoon and broke his right arm.

STATEN ISLAND INTELLIGENCE.

ALLEGED ASSAULT AT CLIFTON.—Thomas Gaffeny appeared before Justice Garrett, at Stapleton, yesterday, charged with feloniously assaulting Mary Josette, at her house on New York avenue, Clifton. He was held in bail for $1,000.

TRIAL FOR MURDER IN TROY.

TROY, N. Y., May 16, 1867.

The trial of J. B. Thompson for the murder of T. H. Bailey, which was to take place on Monday next, has been postponed until November.

Died.

LEONARD.—In Harlem, at the residence of her son-in-law, Peter E. De Mille, MARTHA ADAIR HATSTRAD, relict of John Leonard.

Notice of funeral to-morrow.

(*For other deaths see Ninth page.*)

A.—Commercial Enterprise.

Among the many things for which New York merchants are famous is the magnitude of their enterprises, and the far-reaching character of their ventures. The operations of the present day throw those of a few years back quite into the shade, and often equal those of a similar kind in the commercial marts of the Old World. The recent large purchases of Tea by THE GREAT AMERICAN TEA COMPANY have taken the trade by surprise, and are rather a novelty in this market. The taking up of two cargoes within a week, comprising 12,231 packages Black and 23,649 do. Japan, for immediate consumption, at a cost of about a million and a half of dollars, indicates the extensive nature of the company's business, and deserves a passing notice at our hands. The consumption of Tea in this country is largely on the increase.

Why is Phalon's Night Blooming Cereus like April dew? Because the young blades find it pleasant and refresh