NEW YORK HERALD.

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

All business or news letters and telegraphic despatches must be addressed NEW YORK HERALD.

Letters and packages should be properly sealed.

Rejected communications will not be returned.

Volume XXXII..... No. 325

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—JOSEPHINE—NICK OF THE WOODS.

BIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.—BLACK CROOK.

NEW YORK THEATRE, opposite New York Hotel.—NORWOOD.

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway.—A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 13th street.—THE BELLE'S STRATAGEM.

GERMAN STADT THEATRE, Nos. 45 and 47 Bowery.—FLOTTE BURSCHE—LORENE UND SEINE SCHWESTER, &c.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway.—TICKET OF LEAVE MAN.

FRENCH THEATRE, Fourteenth street.—THE GRAND DUCHESS.

PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn.—KENILWORTH.

BANVARD'S OPERA HOUSE AND MUSEUM, Broadway and Thirtieth street.—DEVIL'S AUCTION.

NEW YORK CIRCUS, Fourteenth street.—GYMNASTICS EQUESTRIANISM, &c.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, 2 and 4 West 24th street.—MEDEA—FIT TO BE A DUCHESS.

THEATRE COMIQUE, 514 Broadway.—WHITE, COTTON & SHARPLEY'S MINSTRELS.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 585 Broadway.—ETHIOPIAN ENTERTAINMENTS, SINGING, DANCING AND BURLESQUES.

KELLY & LEON'S MINSTRELS, 730 Broadway.—SONGS, DANCES, ECCENTRICITIES, BURLESQUES, &c.—FAUST.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Bowery.—COMIC VOCALISM, NEGRO MINSTRELSY, &c.

BUTLER'S AMERICAN THEATRE, 472 Broadway.—BALLET, FARCE, PANTOMIME, &c.

BUNYAN HALL, Broadway and Fifteenth street.—THE PILGRIM.

No. 806 BROADWAY.—MAGIC, MIRTH AND MYSTERY.

STEINWAY HALL.—GRAND CONCERT.

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

FINE ART GALLERIES, 845 Broadway.—EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS.

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway.—SCIENCE AND ART.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Fourteenth street.—MEDEA.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Thursday, November 21, 1867.

THE NEWS.

EUROPE.

The news report by the Atlantic cable is dated yesterday evening, November 20.

The speech addressed by the Emperor Napoleon to the French Legislature at the opening of the session is reported. His Majesty accepts the situation in Germany as altered by the will of the people, vindicates his action in Rome and towards Italy and expresses himself in favor of peace and national progress, sustained by an efficient organization of the army and navy. In England the speech was regarded as the most pacific ever delivered by the Emperor.

The English Parliament assembled in session on the 19th instant. Queen Victoria's speech was read by commission. References are made to the Abyssinian war as affecting the Supply bill, the termination of the invasion of the Roman territory, the Fenian "murders" in England and the maturing of reform bills for Ireland and Scotland.

Lord Stanley announced that England refused to join in a conference on the Italo-Roman question unless a distinct plan of action was proposed. The members of the House of Commons were almost unanimous in condemning Napoleon's action on the Roman question.

Substantial works of defence are being rapidly thrown up on all the approaches to Rome.

Napoleon's speech produced a good effect in Italy. The Italian government is about to issue a large supply of paper money. Most extensive military preparations are being made for the execution of the Fenians in Manchester. The Sultan of Turkey is dangerously ill.

Admiral Farragut's fleet was about to sail from Lisbon. Señor Julian Pavia is appointed Governor of Porto Rico.

THE CITY.

It will be seen by our law report that Judge Blatchford has issued an injunction, in the United States Circuit Court, at the suit of W. R. Brown, Bart, and others, an English firm, against the Atlantic Steamship Company, restraining that corporation from holding the election of directors. It is alleged that combinations had been formed by the purchase of new stock on the part of the defendants to control the election and retain the services of the old board.

The steamer Morro Castle, Adams, from Havana, November 16, arrived at this port yesterday. The news is all anticipated.

The North German Lloyd's steamship Deutschland, Captain Wessels, will leave Hoboken to-day (Thursday) for Southampton and Bremen. The mails for the United Kingdom and the Continent will close at the Post Office at twelve M. to-day.

The steamship Eagle, Captain M. R. Greene, will leave pier No. 4 North river at three P. M. to-day (Thursday) for Havana. The mails for Cuba will close at two P. M.

The stock market was firm yesterday. Government securities were dull and heavy. Gold was firm and closed at 139¾.

MISCELLANEOUS.

By the arrival of the steamship Great Republic at San Francisco we have advices from China and Japan to the 15th and 25th of October. The native junkmen on the Peiho river have shown such great hostility to foreigners that trouble was anticipated. The English Admiral had been fired at while on board his ship, and the American steamer Wachusett was threatened. A fearful cyclone had occurred at Hong Kong, doing damage estimated at $10,000,000. Commercial failures continued plentiful in China. In Japan the opening of Jeddo was considered very problematical. A disastrous inundation had occurred at Manila, that place being for three days under water.

Our special despatches from Mexico, via Havana, state that an escort was tendered Admiral Tegethoff to Vera Cruz, where he goes in charge of Maximilian's remains, but all public demonstrations were forbidden. Juarez, it is said, had requested Escobedo to bring his troops to the capital, on account of the large force which Diaz had at his command.

Our dates from Laguayra are to October 25. The revolt of General Mendoza had been quelled, and President Falcon had granted an amnesty to all concerned in it. There have been some changes made in the Cabinet. General Aristeguieta has been named Minister of the Interior; Dr. Fernando Arvelo, Public Works; Don Miguel Gil, for War and Navy; Don O. Urdaneta, for Finance; General N. Silva, for Public Credit Bureau; Don Jacinto Gutierrez, continues as Minister for Foreign Affairs. The government of the district has been withdrawn from the Ministry for the Interior and confided to General J. F. Perez, who did great service to the country as Minister of War. The above changes have been well received by the people.

Our correspondence from British Columbia is dated October 4. Everybody in the colony except the officials was openly advocating annexation to the United States.

Our Panama letter is dated November 12. Affairs about Bogota are reported to be unusually quiet. A probability existed of the abandonment of the steamship line to Australia and the substitution of a line to San Francisco.

Our Valparaiso, Chile, letter is dated October 16. The news had been received that the Spanish fleet had been ordered to the peninsula, and would not therefore visit the Pacific coast. It was thought probable that this movement would encourage the equipment of privateers by the Chilean and Peruvian governments to prey upon Spanish commerce. The allied squadron was scattering, some of the Peruvian vessels at Coquimbo returning to Valparaiso, and others to Peru. No aid had yet been sent to Prado in quelling the rebellion in Peru, but it was well understood that the success of the revolution would be the forerunner of a war upon Chile by the new government. The ship Asia, of New Bedford, was lost on the 21st of August off Cape Horn. The crew, after one month's suffering on a barren rock, were rescued.

Our Lima, Peru, correspondence is dated October 28. Trujillo had been taken possession of by the government troops without a fight. Prado's army was on the march for Arequipa, with eighteen pieces of artillery. A great many arrests had been made in Lima for attempts to upset the government. Twenty-seven members of Congress had waited upon La Puerta, who is acting President during Prado's absence, and urged him to take the reins of government permanently, but he indignantly refused.

Advices from Central America represent that a difficulty had arisen between Guatemala and Costa Rica, and that diplomatic relations between the two countries had been suspended. The cholera had entirely disappeared from Nicaragua. The surveys for the Costa Rica interoceanic railroad have been completed and machinery for carrying on the work was arriving.

In the Constitutional Convention yesterday a minority report of the Committee on Cities was submitted. In Committee of the Whole on the powers and duties of the Legislature, several sections of the article were adopted. The correspondence between the Comptroller and the Attorney General relative to the payment of the members was produced. The Comptroller expressed himself unwilling to draw warrants on the Treasury for that purpose, but had made an arrangement with the Commercial Bank of Albany to pay them and rely on the Legislature for reimbursement, with interest. A motion to accept the proposition of the bank was adopted. Pending a vote on special or local Excise laws, the Convention adjourned.

The Convention elections in North and South Carolina appear to have gone altogether one way. The negroes, notwithstanding their reported conservative tendencies in North Carolina, all seem to have voted the radical ticket, and in South Carolina none of any color appear to have voted for the conservatives.

In the Alabama Convention last night the clause of the article on franchise, which disfranchises all who refuse to vote on the new constitution, was stricken out by a vote of fifty-three to thirty-two.

Jeff Davis and his wife will leave Canada for Richmond to-night, passing through Troy to New York, where they will take steamer for Fortress Monroe and Richmond, reaching the latter city next Sunday afternoon.

General Mower has issued an order making wholesale removals among the judicial officials in Orleans parish, Louisiana.

Returns from the Convention election in Mississippi come in very slowly, but indications are that the Convention will be defeated.

The Louisville and Nashville Railroad has declared a dividend of forty per cent, payable in stock.

Two car loads of arms were received at St. Albans, Vt., yesterday by a prominent Fenian, who refused to say whether they were restored by the government or intended for a fresh invasion of Canada.

Eleven lives are reported lost on board the steamboat Onward, which was burned recently on the Alabama river with a cargo of cotton.

The Georgia Reconstruction Committee is ordered to assemble December 9 at Atlanta.

The fight between Busey and Duffy came off near Chicago yesterday, Duffy being whipped in one hundred and thirty-five rounds.

The Meeting of Congress.

The two houses of the Fortieth Congress reassemble in the national Capitol to-day. As this session, legally considered, may be set down, like that of July, as but a continuance of the 4th of March session, fixed by law, it is understood that the President's annual message will be withheld till the regular meeting on the first Monday in December.

Meantime the question recurs, What will Congress do to fill up the interval to the first Monday in December? It is probable that the two houses will, after a short session to-day, adjourn over to Monday next, and that the intervening time will be mainly occupied in caucuses and consultations, and in the counting of noses upon the great issues of the day and the course to be pursued thereon by the party in power. On Monday, it is given out, two reports will be presented from the House Judiciary Committee on impeachment—a majority report against impeachment and a minority report in favor of impeachment. We have some hints that this minority report from a majority of the republican members of the committee will astonish the country with its heavy catalogue of charges and specifications, facts and testimony, of "high crimes and misdemeanors" against Andrew Johnson. It is said, too, that he is somewhat apprehensive that the impeachment faction will carry their point, and that hence he has been calling considerable reinforcements of troops into the defences of Washington, in view of the possible contingency of a resolution or bill to suspend him in the functions of his office during his trial.

We guess, however, that Mr. Johnson may dismiss all such apprehensions, that the resolution indicting him and handing him over to the Senate for trial will fail, and that the debate upon it and the charges and specifications from the Judiciary Committee will hardly amount to anything more than a nine days' wonder. The whole of the coming week in the House may be devoted to the discussion of this subject; but we shall not be surprised—if put to the vote by Saturday evening, the 29th—if there will be a definite settlement of the matter in the abandonment of the prosecution. The President, perhaps, is waiting to shape his annual message as the upshot of this impeachment movement may require. In any event, we expect that this message will be exceedingly interesting, and not without some points and recommendations of great importance on Southern reconstruction, on negro suffrage, on the national finances, and on Walrussia and St. Thomas, and probably some other real estate speculations of Mr. Seward.

There is one matter upon which any action upon the impeachment question may be postponed for a time. We refer to the case of Edwin M. Stanton, late Secretary of War. The Tenure of Office law provides substantially that no member of the Cabinet shall be removed by the President unless with the advice and consent of the Senate, and that if in the absence of Congress the President shall suspend any Cabinet officer, he shall within twenty days of the reassembling of Congress submit his reasons for such suspension. Then, if the Senate concur in such suspension, it shall hold good; but if they shall by vote declare the President's reasons for such suspension insufficient, the suspended officer shall be reinstated.

This law covers the case of Stanton; the law was made for Stanton, and there may be some trouble about it. Mr. Speaker Colfax said, at the Cooper Institute some two weeks ago, that within twenty days after the reassembling of Congress Mr. Stanton would be restored to his post in the War Department. How does Mr. Johnson intend to meet this difficulty? His reasons—if presented—for the suspension of Stanton we know will be rejected by the Senate. The removal of Stanton, if indicated by another appointment submitted to the Senate for ratification, will probably result in a resolution pronouncing removal and appointment illegal and void. What then? The President, it is said, will appeal to his construction of the law and make a case for the Supreme Court. As yet we hear of no regular appointment in place of Stanton, and it may be withheld for some two or three weeks longer.

The party of impeachment may insist upon a suspension of any action on the subject until Mr. Johnson shall show his hand in the case of Stanton. Otherwise, within the coming week, from the facts and charges against the Executive from the impeachment committee, we shall be prepared for the quashing of the indictment. The late elections cannot have failed to make an impression upon the dominant party in Congress which will clip the wings of the radicals upon impeachment as well as upon negro suffrage.

The Muddle and Corruption of the Mayoralty Election.

The Mayoralty election, which a day or two ago promised to settle down into something like a definite shape, is again muddled up in a manner that surpasses any former experience in our city politics. Three candidates were in the field, nominated respectively by the Mozart democracy, the republicans and the Tammany democracy, and it seemed as if the lines had been finally drawn prior to the great struggle in December. But another and highly influential section of the democratic party has suddenly come forward with a fourth candidate, and its action is very likely to upset all former calculations and to impart an entirely new aspect to the Mayoralty contest. The nomination of John H. Anthon is the best movement ever made by the Miles O'Reilly organization. If it had preceded the meeting of the republican convention it would have rendered the nomination of Mr. Darling unnecessary. No respectable republican could have objected to the endorsement by his party, in a city so hopelessly democratic, of a representative of the old Knickerbocker line, as well as of the respectability, integrity and worth of the great commercial metropolis. As it is, Mr. Anthon will command a large vote under any circumstances; and if he will boldly declare himself in favor of the popular Grant movement, Darling, who is a Grant man, will undoubtedly withdraw in his favor, and he can be elected by one of the grandest majorities ever cast for a Mayor of New York city.

The importance of such a concentration of votes upon the Knickerbocker candidate must be rendered yet more obvious to the taxpayers and to all respectable citizens by the astounding developments made in the latest fulmination of that astute politician and shrewd old campaigner Peter Cooper, who, in political tact and sagacity, beats Peter Cagger, Peter Sweeny, Peter the Great, or any other Peter that ever lived. His letter to the Corporation Counsel has fired a mine of corruption more terrible than ever spread consternation and destruction through the ranks of an army of plunderers. It is nominally addressed to Richard O'Gorman, but its thunderbolts are directed at the head of John T. Hoffman, who is in reality responsible for the consummation of all the political rascality developed in its startling disclosures. O'Gorman is simply an Irish patriot and poet, who dreamed rosy dreams of a liberated Emerald Isle and came over to the United States in 1848, when the explosion of the Young Ireland affair sent Mitchel first to Van Dieman's Land, and subsequently to our more hospitable shores. Mitchel went South, the height of his ambition being to become proprietor of a plantation covered with good fat niggers—and failed. O'Gorman, with more shrewdness and good judgment, saw that the right place for a fine young Irish gentleman was New York city, and so he planted his vine and fig tree among us and got a good fat office. Gifted with all the accomplishments of a model Dublin gentleman, winning in the company of his own sex, irresistible in the society of the ladies, excellent at a dinner, excellent at a political, literary or religious meeting, and at all times fully competent to maintain the time-honored reputation of the famous blarney stone, he won Peter Cooper and his party to his support and swallowed the whole Citizens' Association with as much ease as a Bowery boy swallows an oyster. But his main reliance and his greatest faith were in the Tammany democracy and the Fenians, and he felt that to them he owed his first allegiance. He believed in Tammany as he believed in the Pope, and would as soon have doubted the purity of the Holy Father as of the Grand Sachem. When elected Corporation Counsel he was instructed by Hoffman and the Tammany ring that it was necessary and proper to favor certain claims against the city, and to bestow large fees upon certain Tammany lawyers, and he did not question the edict any more than he would have dared to run his head against a Papal bull. Indeed, O'Gorman knows more about petticoats than politics, and is more familiar with Irish eloquence and Irish poetry than with the corruptions of the rings. In all the astounding rascality disclosed by Peter Cooper he was the victim of innocence and faith, and the real culprit is Grand Sachem Hoffman, who advised and consummated the several jobs by signing the warrants necessary to draw the money involved in them out of the city treasury.

The terrible Peter Cooper tells us that within a year judgments have been obtained against the city for advertising to the amount of one hundred and ninety-four thousand dollars. Of this the sum of one hundred and two thousand dollars goes to an obscure paper owned by the Tammany ring, and seventy-nine thousand dollars to another paper, without any circulation and only seen in the lowest barrooms of the city. It was perfectly natural and justifiable for O'Gorman to allow Ben Wood to get as many thousand dollars as he could out of the city; for he came here to help the Fenians and relied on their support; but it was an official outrage on the part of the Puritan Hoffman to back up Ben Wood and the others in their outrageous raids upon the city treasury.

Peter Cooper tells us that the sum of one hundred and fifty-three thousand dollars was drawn from the city treasury for expenses of the Corporation Counsel's department in twenty-two months. In this expenditure O'Gorman was but an instrument in the hands of his Tammany Pope. Hoffman, the man who so greatly exceeds Fernando Wood in honor and integrity, signed the warrants by which this sum was drawn from the treasury, and the responsibility attaches to him.

Peter Cooper tells us that thirty thousand dollars was paid to three counsel, ten thousand to each, as extra fees for arguing a suit to which the city was a party. O'Gorman, a brilliant young Irish orator, may be excused for thus helping on his profession; but Hoffman, the Mayor of such wonderful honesty, signed the warrants authorizing the payment of these enormous fees, and without his act they could not have been drawn from the treasury.

Peter Cooper tells us that the sum of twenty thousand dollars was paid for clerk hire in the Corporation Attorney's office in a little over a year. O'Gorman, the generous Irish gentleman, was, no doubt, willing to employ all the needy fellows quartered upon him by Tammany. Hoffman, who, as Mayor, signed the warrants for these salaries of sinecure clerks, is the party really responsible for the job.

Peter Cooper tells us that the sum of forty-four thousand dollars has gone into the pockets of outside lawyers for defending the city; that eight thousand dollars' worth of contingencies, and some thirty thousand dollars' worth of all imaginary items of which contingencies are usually made up, have been drawn from the treasury for the department. The outside lawyers appear all to have been old line Tammany politicians, farmed off on the political Irish genius, O'Gorman, by the Tammany ring. Their warrants for pay were all signed by Hoffman, the incorruptible, and the jobs are all to be credited to him.

If Peter Cooper will follow up this famous bombshell with a demand for the withdrawal of Darling and the concentration of all the honest voters upon the conservative democratic republican candidate, John H. Anthon, he may yet save the city the disgrace of electing either Wood or Hoffman, clear out all the rascals in a body, and place New York at the head of the great movement for Grant, retrenchment and reduced taxation.

The Emperor's Speech.

We give in another column the speech of the Emperor Napoleon to both houses of the French Legislature at the recent opening of the session. It is like all the Napoleonic utterances, in being unlike the speeches of other potentates on similar occasions. It touches boldly on topics that sovereigns, as a rule, scarcely touch at all; and though if scrutinized closely it will be found to have said very little, yet it seems, as we read it, to be saying a great deal. It alludes to the "vague disquietudes" that have disturbed the mind of Europe, and to the notion that the modification of the internal system of Germany must be a cause of conflict with Europe, and asserts the necessity of accepting frankly the changes beyond the Rhine. As to the Italian trouble, we are assured that France could not be hostile to the independence of Italy, but was compelled to "save the monarchical principle" from revolutionary agitators. For France, it is said, the Convention of September exists till it is replaced, and Europe has been invited to replace it by a congress; from which the Emperor will doubtless draw the inference that if the Powers will form no congress they cannot be dissatisfied that France should protect the Pope.

We see the Emperor's appreciation of the Exhibition in his declaration that it has destroyed a host of prejudices and international hatreds, and his knowledge of just how far such influence goes in his addition that this, nevertheless, does not enable him to dispense with the necessity of improving the military institutions of France. He goes fully over the field of the internal affairs of his empire, notes that the choice of representatives by universal suffrage has once more demonstrated the good will of the populace; that the situation, owing to general uneasiness and business embarrassments, is grave; but expresses his purpose to pursue his governmental reforms in accordance with the programme formerly laid down, by "developing liberal institutions without weakening the principle of authority." Having said all which he closes with a—perhaps—superfluous announcement that "no obstacle or unjust opposition will shake either his courage or his faith in the future"—a sort of advance defiance to the clamorous opposition he expects to hear from.

The Quaker City Pilgrimage.

In yesterday's HERALD we published a most amusing letter from the pen of that most amusing American genius, Mark Twain, giving an account of that most amusing of all modern pilgrimages—the pilgrimage of the Quaker City. It has been amusing all through, this Quaker City affair. It might have become more serious than amusing if the ship had been sold at Jaffa, Alexandria, or Yalta, in the Black Sea, as it appears might have happened. In such a case the passengers would have been more effectually sold than the ship. The descendants of the Puritan pilgrims have, naturally enough, some of them, an affection for ships; but if all that is said about this religious cruise be true they have also a singularly sharp eye to business. It was scarcely wise on the part of the pilgrims, although it was well for the public, that so strange a genius as Mr. Mark Twain should have found admission into the sacred circle. We are not aware whether Mr. Twain intends giving us a book on this pilgrimage, but we do know that a book written from his own peculiar standpoint, giving an account of the characters and events on board ship and of the scenes which the pilgrims witnessed, would command an almost unprecedented sale. There are varieties of genius peculiar to America. Of one of these varieties Mark Twain is a striking specimen. For the development of his peculiar genius he has never had a more fitting opportunity. Besides, there are some things which he knows and which the world ought to know about this last edition of the May Flower.

Journalistic Courtesies.

We would remind some of our contemporaries, and particularly the old *Journal of Commerce*, that it is customary, when one journal copies from another, to give proper credit and to recognize in a friendly way the source of such extracts. We notice that the paper above named copies our marine news the day after its publication in this paper and neglects to place over it the line "From the NEW YORK HERALD of yesterday."

Celestial and Terrestrial Phenomena—Moral Effect of Physical Forces.

Vesuvius is once again pouring its torrent of fire through the vineyards of Lachrymi Christi and threatening to engulf cities as it did in the days when the world was first divided between the thoughts of Julius Cæsar and those of Jesus Christ. There is terror in the valley of Mexico also, and the people are filled with alarm at the threatened activity of a volcano long extinct, whose blaze was perhaps a beacon to the adventurous Cortes and a portent to the falling empire of the Montezumas. News from the West Indies hints the devastation of an earthquake in the island memorable for its association with the name of Columbus and as the first seat of Spanish power in this hemisphere. From such different points on the earth's surface come the evidences that there is perturbation within; that the collision of the pent-up forces has for the time destroyed the balance. Simultaneously with these internal disturbances—dependent upon them by unknown relation—we have also wonderful disturbances on the surface—storms in the air of scarcely paralleled power, hurricanes that have blown the sea completely over great tracts of land. Beyond our atmosphere, in open space—there are storms in the stars, too—shoals of nebulous matter have been lately driving across the earth's orbit, rebounding from the elasticity of our atmospheric armor, or masses of this matter consumed by combustion resulting from the contact, or from the heat generated by the friction of their flight. In all the great divisions of visible nature there is perturbation, destruction of the common order, perhaps derangement of natural and planetary laws. Yet it was long since wisely suggested that our so-called discord might be "harmony not understood," and this is a subject on which it is hardly safe to say that what seems to us derangement is not order. In whatever phrase science may state the relation between these several wonders of the universe—for it seems difficult to believe that they are not related one with another—it is doubtful whether the phrases can do more than disguise ignorance. When Moses said of somewhat similar wonders that "the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters" he perhaps expressed the first cause quite as satisfactorily as science can do it even now.

Human observation has noted in every age that there is an agreement between the great perturbations in the physical world and those revolutions, changes, upheavals of society, those disturbances of political and moral relations that are in a common view regarded as due either to human pride, passion and ambition, or to the direct interposition of a superintending "providence." Falling dynasties are associated in the oldest of human remembrances with the portent of some blazing comet; and so following there is hardly an ill worthy the dignity of history but has had its attending or preceding signal in the heavens. Men readily associated these things in the ages when faith was a governing principle—when it was assumed that they saw God in all that they could not otherwise explain, and when the physical wonder that came in the same period was naturally taken as a warning of some more strictly human event. But this is an inquiring rather than a believing age; yet we must still associate great stellar-atmospheric or terrestrial perturbation with periods remarkable for human changes. We associate them inevitably because they come together as a matter of fact; and then follows the inquiry, Is the relation merely one of coincidence, or did the thinkers who groped and guessed in the early dawn of intellectual light "reason better than they knew?" Doubtless this inquiry is to be answered fully only when further discovery shall exactly develop the nature, power and modes of action of that yet comparatively unknown principle—electricity. It is a remarkable characteristic of this principle that it is at once a cause and a result of the greatest operations in nature, while no more definite account can be given of varying states of humanity, whether in respect to health in the common sense or in respect to intellectual status, than consists in the allegation of varying electrical conditions. Is the *vis nervosa* upon which our daily health, opinions, acts depend, electricity? Many important experiments seem to indicate that it is nothing else, and that if it differs in certain respects it differs only as its natural medium of action does from those things that are the usual media of electricity. Well, this power, that so effectually determines for better or worse our daily acts, is also the spirit of the storm, and is generated and set free in perhaps illimitable quantities by those great chemical actions of nature of which the volcanoes, the comets, the atmospheric storms are only signs and symptoms. At the very time, then, that the volcano and the comet are blazing in their several ways Infinite Power is setting free an agent, impalpable save in results, that, acting through human brain and nerve, makes our pestilences as well as our wars, and originates the grand revolutions and changes that illuminate human history.

In the present condition of the political and moral world we may see that the agreement is still sustained between physical and human phenomena. With volcanoes active in either hemisphere, with earthquakes tumbling down the towers of ancient cities, with the very earth plunging through a stream of starry ruin, we find human society undergoing in nearly every climate greater changes than any of which the records have been kept from other ages. Europe is closing a great phase in its history. Men are looking upon the last days of that religious empire (the Papal Church) which, seizing the falling sceptre of the Cæsars, established a more extensive if less material power, presided over the birth of the modern civilization of law and literature, and fostered and secured the growth and development of that system which now pushes it from its pride of place. Asia, slumbering so long under the fallen ruins of former glory, is awaking at the touch of Europe, with Russia striding toward her across the steppes, and inside rebellion aiding the outside barbarians coming by the sea to break down and throw open the only remaining one of the empires that were old in the time of Darius. On this Continent changes of the most momentous character seemed but lately to be drawing to their close, as we saw the end of the war in Mexico, the languishing progress of that in South America and the termination of the bloody struggle that had devastated ten of our own States; but there are indications that even yet we may have popular troubles almost without parallel—eruptions that, breaking through the crust of social order, may simulate in terror and desolation some of those great natural events to which they seem allied. It seems that there may well be a new heaven and a new earth—in other words, a new religion and a new civilization—before the time comes again that all "shall stand still and be at rest."

The Arrival of Dickens.

Charles Dickens arrived at Boston on Tuesday, the 19th of November, by the steamer Cuba. Seven thousand of the philosophers of "the Hub," in breeches and in petticoats, awaited his arrival on the dock; but they lost the opportunity of welcoming him with the usual demonstrations of toadyism, inasmuch as he left the steamer on a tug, and directly he landed hastened to his hotel in School street. To make amends for the loss of a chance to take the horses from his carriage and to haul him up to Parker's, the Bostonians all met before sunrise on the first day of the sale of tickets for his readings in the Tri-mountain city; and, besieging the book store of his publishers, created a furor unequalled since that excited by his arrival in the same city twenty-five years ago. The police force had to be summoned in order to preserve peace and order among the eager purchasers of tickets. Nothing like this furor has been occasioned since his first visit, unless we except that which marked the reception of Jenny Lind on her arrival in this country. Mr. Dolby, the agent of Mr. Dickens, appears to be a sort of refined Barnum, with all the enterprise and none of the vulgarity of the notorious showman. The Boston journals inform us that Mr. Dolby has already disposed of more than eight thousand tickets for Mr. Dickens' first course of readings in Boston. But Mr. Dolby seems to have failed to profit by our recent suggestion—that the price of tickets for Mr. Dickens' readings might safely be put at a higher figure than he has set upon them. The consequence of this mistake is that the speculators have got possession of no inconsiderable number of tickets and are selling them at twenty dollars apiece. By the time that Mr. Dickens reaches New York it seems not unlikely that the price of tickets will advance to a hundred dollars or more. At his first visit Boston fell into ecstacies over him. The excitement occasioned by his arrival was in the beginning like a cloud no bigger than a man's hand; but it soon swelled to a hurricane of adulation, which afterwards reached its height at the Dickens ball in New York, and then subsided. It will be easy for the New Yorkers to beat the Bostonians if the former think fit to enter into competition with the latter. If the Bostonians can assemble seven thousand people to welcome Dickens, we can assemble, at equally short notice, seventy thousand. We can afford to pay higher prices for tickets than even those demanded by the Boston speculators. We can have an auction, at which some rival of the hatter who made his fortune by bidding two hundred and twelve dollars for a reserved seat, may double, if need be, that sum. We do not know what has become of Genin, who became famous for the highest bid at Jenny Lind's first concert, but here is certainly a chance for Knox to become equally famous. Dickens might have spared himself the trouble of bringing over any London clothes, for the tailors and hatters and boot makers of Boston and New York must be ready and eager to take his measure and supply him with a complete outfit, replenishing it as often as circumstances may require. Neither Bostonians nor New Yorkers seem disposed to listen to our advice, so far to moderate their enthusiasm in behalf of Dickens as to abstain from making themselves ridiculous. We think they might do this and still manifest their hearty appreciation of his genius. But it appears to be useless to try to check any of those storms of popular excitement which periodically agitate the American mind, whether caused by Jenny Lind, Japanese Tommy, the Prince of Wales or Mr. Dickens. We can only advise the public to keep as cool as possible, and Mr. Dolby to make the most of "the latest sensation" as long as it lasts.

The Mayoralty Contest—Anthon's Nomination.

The nomination of John H. Anthon as a candidate for Mayor is the first nominatin made for which the people should have any respect whatever. Hitherto democratic organizations of every stripe, class and character have thought it necessary to put up Irishmen for every possible office; and our municipal machinery has for years been run by a class of noble politicians who came to us through the hands of the Commissioners of Emigration and put on their first pairs of boots when they took oaths of office as aldermen. That sort of thing has, perhaps, gone far enough, and the democracy begins to perceive that there may be something else worth thinking about in the city besides the Irish vote. It has, therefore, nominated a man of the real old Knickerbocker style—a man beyond and above all the vile *ruses* of the political swindlers; a man of fine intellect and thorough education, and whose character is such that it can receive no dignity from the office, but will convey full assurance of honest administration to a tax-ridden people. Such a nomination should draw out the earnest efforts of all decent citizens in its support. Mr. Anthon is a candidate around whom can be rallied votes enough to beat the ring machinery. Mr. Darling should withdraw. It would be a fine piece of self-sacrifice if Mr. Wood would do the same thing, and thus, with Anthon and Hoffman as opponents, we should have a square contest between the honest men and the rogues, and we would know, once for all, whether a majority of the people really desire to have an honest man in the Mayor's office.

Struck Oil at Last.

The people of this city, and particularly the political managers of the different rings, have been boring a long time for a proper Mayor without striking the genuine article. When the auger reached Fernando Wood, and he was brought to the surface, the smell of the muddy and deleterious material proved so offensive that the unwholesome specimen was cast aside. Going still deeper Hoffman was reached, but the stench became unendurable to honest nostrils. The republicans bored and struck Darling, a hard rock with no oil whatever in it. At last the Grant democratic republicans, with Engineer Miles O'Reilly at their head, bored deeper and struck the finest specimen of clear and pure oil in John H. Anthon. The borers, the well sinkers, the surface hands and the whole community, may now go to work