

NEW YORK HERALD.

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

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Volume XXXII. No. 364

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, No. 2 and 4 West 20th Street.—Y. GRAND QUEEN BESS.

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

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 13th Street.—OLIVER TWIST.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway.—MARY STUART.

FRENCH THEATRE, Fourteenth Street.—MARIÉ ANTOINETTE.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—RIVER PRIZES.—MY SARAH TIDDS.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.—BLACK CROOK.

GERMAN STREET THEATRE, Nos. 45 and 47 Bowery.—AS FOLLOWS THE DEEDS OF ZEUS.

NEW YORK THEATRE, opposite New York Hotel.—UNDER THE GALILEO.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Fourteenth Street.—CROWN DIAMONDS.

STEINWAY HALL.—CHARLES DICKENS'S READINGS.

BARNARD'S OPERA HOUSE AND MUSEUM, Broadway and Thirtieth Street.—WILLOW COPSE.

NEW YORK CIRCUS, Fourteenth Street.—GYMNASTIC, EQUESTRIAN, &c. Malinee at 7 1/2.

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

KELLY & LEON'S MINSTRELS, 730 Broadway.—SONGS, DANCES, ECCECZASTICITIES, BURLIQUES, &c.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 585 Broadway.—GYMNASTIC ENTERTAINMENTS, SINGING, DANCING AND BURLIQUES.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Bowery.—COMO VOGALINI, NEGRO MINSTRELS, &c.

RUTLER'S AMERICAN THEATRE, 472 Broadway.—Ballet, Farce, Pastimes, &c.

BUNYAN HALL, Broadway and Fifteenth Street.—THE FUGITIVE. Matinee at 2.

EIGHTH AVENUE OPERA HOUSE, corner Thirty-fourth Street.—MINSTRELS, FARCE, &c.

BOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn.—ETHIOPIAN MINSTRELS, BALLADS AND BURLIQUES.

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

New York, Monday, December 30, 1867.

EUROPE.

The news report by the Atlantic cable is dated yesterday evening, December 29.

A number of Russian statesmen are in conference on the Eastern question in St. Petersburg.

An intense political excitement prevails in the Italian cities, particularly in Naples and the towns of Piedmont, and "risings" against the government were dreaded.

The British government will not, it is said, ask for extraordinary powers against the Fenians.

The revenue returns show a "great deficiency." The Pope offers to pay the Italian bonds representing the old debt of the Pontifical States, taken from his government which have been repudiated in Florence.

The Paris Bourse was heavy, with a decline of five-twentieths on 70 1/2, and 7 1/2, in Francs.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The churches were well attended as usual yesterday, the day being a pleasant one and the services generally of an interesting character.

Rev. Alfred Young, of the Paulist Fathers, lectured at Cooper Institute on "How and Why I became a Catholic." Horace Greeley lectured at the church of the Puritans in Union square, on temperance, in which he advised young ladies to dispense with wine for New Year's callers.

Rev. Dr. Blanchard preached at the Park theatre, Brooklyn, on "Woman and the Wine Cup." A German Catholic church in Thornton street, Brooklyn, E. D., was dedicated. Rev. W. W. Andrews preached in the Catholic Apostolic church, in Sixteenth street, near Sixth avenue, on the "Nearness of the Coming of the Lord."

A novel experiment has been in progress among the managers of the Howard Mission for some time. It is that of furnishing breakfasts, clothing and spiritual instruction to the great mass of our population who pass their nights in the station houses for want of some better place to lie in.

The scheme has proven a great success, and it is estimated that over a thousand persons have been fed and a large number retained from vagabondism by the experiment.

A chronological record of the action of the British government in reference to according belligerent rights to the South and fitting out the rebel privateers, compiled from the files of the Herald, with a complete list of the American vessels captured by the privateers during the war, will be found elsewhere in our columns this morning.

The recent storm in California is reported to have been as severe as those of 1851 and '62. No damage beyond temporary inconvenience and detention has been experienced yet. The roads over the Sierra Nevada mountains are rendered almost impassable.

A Danish landholder of St. Thomas has furnished the Secretary of State, for the benefit of scientific men, with an accurate record of the shocks and noises accompanying the late earthquake in that island. He says the earth was agitated like a rippling sea, and it was almost impossible either to walk or remain in one place.

It has transpired that a number of leading conservatives have proposed to the Legislatures of States which recently went democratic to repeal their resolutions ratifying the fourteenth article of the constitution. If New Jersey, Ohio and California were to do this it is believed the article could not be grafted upon the constitution.

There are several highly important cases soon to come before the Supreme Court which will test the constitutionality of the Reconstruction laws.

General Howard proposed to distribute the surplus funds in the President's Bureau liberally among the destitute people of the South during the coming winter.

There are in the Post Office Department ten thousand photographs of Union soldiers taken from dead bodies which accumulated during the war.

The ice above Albany broke yesterday, but was gorged against the bridge and pier at that city, placing the canal boats and smaller craft in considerable danger.

The United States steamer Shawmut is still at Aspinwall, waiting for repairs.

Consul Savage, at Havana, has been ordered to turn over his Consulate to Mr. Larentie, by the authorities of Republicanism.

A large republican mass meeting was held in New Orleans on Saturday night. A preference for Chase for President was expressed in the resolutions.

The coroner's jury investigating the railroad disaster at Angouleme have discovered that no compromise cars were attached to the train at the time of the collision.

The Cabinet—Rumors of Changes Again.

Every now and then we have rumors from Washington of proposed changes in the Cabinet. In fact, this seems to be a standing dish with the correspondents when other materials give out. Still, there may be something in the rumors. Stanton's removal was spoken of every day or two for some time before it took place. The old saying that where there is so much smoke there must be fire was verified in that case, and it may be so again with regard to rumored changes now. It is said Mr. McCulloch will send in his resignation in a few days, and that our Minister in England, Mr. Adams, may be his successor. It is added also that Mr. McCulloch will take the position of Mr. Adams at the Court of St. James, so that it will be a change of places for these two gentlemen. The President moves slowly in such matters, as we saw in the case of Stanton, and it may be that he has come to the sensible conclusion at last to make a change in the Treasury Department.

We have no idea that Mr. McCulloch will send in his resignation, to use the words of the correspondent, unless he has received or should receive a very broad hint from the President that it is necessary he should leave the Treasury Department. He is too much wedded to his absurd financial theories and too closely connected with the interests of Mr. Chase, Jay Cooke, the bondholders and national banks, and with all these political and money speculators, to willingly resign his post. However, the President may see from the action of Congress and from public sentiment everywhere that few have any confidence in Mr. McCulloch's financial policy or ability, and may have told the Secretary that his resignation is desired. Whatever views Mr. Johnson may have about financial matters he is an old political campaigner, and we know of no public man more likely to adapt his course to popular sentiment. Besides, he cannot help seeing that Mr. McCulloch is incompetent to manage the national finances at this critical time and is the great obstacle in the way of reforms which are imperatively demanded. We think it probable, therefore, that this change in the Cabinet at least will be made.

As to Mr. McCulloch's successor, the Washington correspondents may be mistaken in their conjectures. We cannot see on what grounds or for what reason Mr. Adams should be appointed to the office. He has very respectable abilities for the position he occupies and does very well in the courtly sphere of ambassador at London; but we never heard he was an able man in financial matters. Though the President might like to do something to soften the fall of Mr. McCulloch in appointing him to a mission abroad, there is no reason to believe he would remove Mr. Adams and make him Secretary of the Treasury for this purpose alone. Mr. Johnson would hardly think so little of the most important position in the government at the present time as to make a more convenient one of it for the accommodation of individuals.

In appointing a new Secretary of the Treasury the President will be governed, probably, by two considerations: first, the fitness of the man for the position, and next, the political bearing of the appointment. Instead of taking a Secretary from Boston or some Western country bank or law office, he most likely would prefer taking one from New York, the great financial and commercial center of the country. Such a man as our able Collector of the Port, Mr. Smythe, would be deemed, probably, the best selection, in a strictly business point of view, and looking simply to the efficient management of the Treasury Department. But the President, in all probability, may look at the political consideration also, and that may have the greatest weight. His indirect but palpable nomination of General Hancock for the Presidency shows a great deal of sagacity. If he cannot be nominated himself he will do what he can to defeat the radical republicans, in his movements to this end he looks chiefly, no doubt, to the great State of New York. The democrats have gained the ascendancy here through the disgusting negro supremacy policy of the republicans, and will most likely hold it. Dean Richmond, through the Central Railroad, used to carry that party in his pocket, but since his death a mightier man than he has come up. Vanderbilt not only inherits the power of the Dean, but has become far more powerful. Dean Richmond only drove a one horse affair, though that was powerful; Vanderbilt drives a four horse team. The former had the Central Railroad only; the latter has, besides that road, the Harlem, the Hudson River, and a firm grip on the Erie. Controlling these roads and the democratic party, the latter, in connection with Peter Bismarck Sweeney and the Schells, may control the President in the matter of a Cabinet office. In that case who knows but his fugleman, Richard Schell, or the other Schell, might wake up to find himself transformed into a Secretary of the Treasury? If Mr. Smythe be in this mighty four-in-hand combination he may have the best chance, as he is doubtless well fitted and holds a controlling position; but if he be altogether an outsider his prospects are not so good. The political consideration will be an important one, no doubt, with the President. At all events, we trust the rumors of Mr. McCulloch's removal may prove true. In that case his successor should be a thorough business man from the great financial and commercial center of New York.

Our Crazy Agitators—What Shall Be Done With Them?

Our crazy agitators—whose name is legion—for many years occupied themselves with noisily urging the claims of the negro as "a man and a brother." This occupation they found was gone when the Southern slaves were emancipated. But they then began as noisily as before to urge a new emancipation—that of woman from her alleged servitude. Nor have they been silenced by the adverse decision of recent elections against their pat theory of female suffrage. A harangue delivered on Thursday evening, at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, is the latest of a thousand and one similar harangues with which they have vexed and wearied the public ear during the past two or three years. The truth is that, for the most part, our agitators care less for the claims of either woman or negro than for the distillating sensation of figuring in public. The passion for notoriety is, at the last analysis, their real mania. The good natured indulgence of the press and the forbearance of the people have permitted and even encouraged them to obtrude themselves on the public so frequently and obliquely that they have at length

become an intolerable nuisance. Is it not high time to suppress this nuisance? If the newspapers were to cease reporting the names and harangues of these vagrant monomaniacs they would at once be deprived of the stimulant to which their vanity has become accustomed, and to which their persistency in making fools of themselves is largely due. It is to be hoped that they might thus gradually subside into private life. If, however, their mania should prove chronic and incurable, what shall we do with them? In that case we can think of no better remedy for the evil than to let society, in self-defence, consign them all to some lunatic asylum. There, with Wendell Phillips and other confirmed scolds of both sexes, they might hold daily and nightly conventions, harangue each other to their hearts' content, and rush into print as often as they chose in some such journal as the *Opal*, the organ of the lunatics at Utica. The circulation of their journal, of course, outside of the walls of their asylum, should be strictly prohibited. If they fail to be cured by a method of treatment so severe, nevertheless in the course of nature they must die one of these days, and their madness, we may hope, will die with them.

Reported Fenian Doings Over the Water—The Dangerous Classes in England.

We published despatches yesterday to the effect that there were several fresh disturbances in England and Ireland. The matter to which we allude stands on a bill overlooking the harbor of Cork was taken by assault, and the arms and ammunition carried off by an armed body of men. A powder mill at Faversham, near London, was blown up and totally destroyed. An attempt to burn the Post Office in Dublin was made. This shows that the actions of the Fenians are ubiquitous. All these things are charged to the "Fenians," but it is a remarkable fact that, so far, not a single man known to be a Fenian has been arrested or proved guilty of participation in any of these acts. If they be Fenian doings, we might infer from this fact that there is a good deal of sympathy in England with that organization, or, at all events, with the parties who blow up government powder mills, capture arsenals and set fire to public buildings and jails, and rescue political prisoners, whoever these parties may be.

It is the assumed basis of society in England that all classes but the ruling class are dangerous. Indeed, the really great distinctive point between our political system and that of Great Britain—the point that makes the two with some apparent similarities the very opposite poles of politics—is the different basis on which each has established the relationship between the controlling power of the government and the people. In this country government starts from the fact that man is absolutely free, and has, as a right, the option to do what he will. It then qualifies this right, limits it wherever the peace of society requires a limit, and thus by little and little controls individual liberty as the interests of order and experience dictate. England operates in the other way. Government there starts with the assumption that man is a slave, and it holds him in a network of repressive law as close as chain armor. It then proceeds to enfranchise him in this, that, or the other point, according as it is considered that it will be safe. In one age it takes from his bonds the little piece of whipcord that restrained him from having a fire in his house after nine P. M. In another age it removes a rope, and he is free to travel from city to city without the fear of the stocks. At another time it announces that his enemies shall not have the indiscriminate right to rob and kill him, even though he be a Jew. In this time of progress it goes on until we have seen it in our own time give him, with many doubts of the safety of the thing, a little larger liberty in the matter of voting than he ever had before. From this difference between the two countries results practically the fact that we have no dangerous classes, while in England all classes assumed to be dangerous prove so, and are made so by their natural human struggles against the repression and tyranny of the whole fabric of law. Just now this long nourished evil of the English system is coming terribly to the surface. It manifests itself in acts which are wild with hatred. It plants earthquakes in the public streets of a city. It makes the Post Office carry death, and it will go on to make itself felt in every channel of the public life, and a thousand special policemen will not put it down. England must stop uttering her sneeringly over the troubles of other nations and put her own house in order.

The Removal of General Ord and Pope.

By direction of the President General Grant, as General-in-Chief of the armies of the United States, has issued general orders (No. 105) embracing a command, first to Brevet Major General E. O. Ord, to turn over the command of the Fourth Military District (Mississippi and Arkansas) to Brevet Major General A. C. Gillum and to proceed to San Francisco to take command of the Department of California, in place of Brevet Major General Irwin McDowell, who will, on being relieved, proceed to Vicksburg and take the command of the Fourth Military District. Next, Brevet Major General John Pope is relieved of the command of the Third Military District (Georgia, Florida and Alabama), and is ordered to report without delay at the headquarters of the army, Washington, for further orders, turning over his command to the next senior officer until the arrival of his nominated successor, Major General George G. Meade. Brevet Major General Swaine is next relieved from duty in the Freedmen's Bureau in Pope's district and ordered to join his regiment at Nashville.

This substitution of General Meade for General Pope will, we have no doubt, prove a good change for the people, whites and blacks, of the Third District; for Pope's excessive negro serving radicalism has been productive only of mischief. We understand that General Ord is relieved at his own request, and that the administration has no complaints against him. So far as we have been informed of his proceedings he has conscientiously endeavored in his district to deal justly with both whites and blacks, and without prejudice in his execution of the laws. General McDowell we have always understood to be a military man of the same moderate and anti-partisan character.

When the two houses of Congress come together again we may expect a little flutter of indignation among the radicals over the removal of Pope, but as they cannot help themselves "the man at the other end of the avenue" may laugh at their folly.

The Eastern Question Hurdling to a Solution.

The Eastern question again looms up portentously in the political horizon of Europe. It assumes an aspect more threatening than at any time since the diplomatists thought they had laid it forever away after the close of the Crimean war. Instead of sleeping, it agitates more and more the minds of statesmen and causes increasing irritation and inquietude in the royal cabinets of Europe, which in turn entail the expense and trouble of maintaining vast standing armies on a war footing, ready to be sent out to battle at a moment's notice. Indications of every kind point to but one termination of all the discussions, crimonations, recriminations and secret workings evoked by this vexed question. The sword must cut the knot which the most subtle and skillful diplomatists have in vain attempted to undo. Russia must find an outlet to the sea. It is manifest destiny that a nation so grand and growing, so boldly and rapidly treading the upward path of general advancement and universal improvement, should not long remain isolated and cut off from the world. She must have room and chance to develop her latent powers. The world's market must be open to her where she may send her produce and bring back needful articles in exchange. She has outgrown her limits, and it is in the nature of things that she should demand room for a proper expansion. For seven months in the year her ports are closed to her fleets by arctic rigor on her western coasts, while the Sultan, backed by Christian Powers, forbids their entrance by the east. Her geographical position, her internal needs and her just weight in foreign affairs, unite in firmly demanding that all the barriers erected against her outgrowth by the fears or malevolence of foreign Powers should be at once and forever swept away. The Russian policy thus partakes of the nature of manifest destiny itself, and is so regarded by the Muscovites, and not simply as a temporary line of conduct.

The most implacable and bitter enemy to the traditional policy of Russia has been France. Napoleon combined England and Italy, with Turkey and France against the Czar, and was most active in the Crimean war. And since the termination of that contest, so painful and in a degree humiliating to Russia, the latter has never ceased to detest and hate him. England, too, is disliked, but it is too well understood that she is in the future to be a neutral Power for the Russians to feel deeply inimical to her. Although the active efforts of French influence have not been without effect on a small but powerful element in the Russian court, the vast majority of the court and people are hostile to France and to French policy. The moral support that the Czar lent Prussia prevented Napoleon from intervening in favor of Austria in the late war, and subsequently deterred him from pushing his claims to territory on the Rhine. Indeed, we may safely assume that Russian influence has been effectively employed in all the negotiations that have occurred for years as against France. Napoleon's bold and insolent effort to combine the great Powers against Russia in the Polish affair will not soon be forgotten by her. It was successfully repelled at the time, but the offence rankles yet in Mascovitic bosoms, and has greatly strengthened the government in its resolve to find a solution of the Eastern question and an end to French control on the Continent.

The last move of Napoleon in securing the support of Austria in dictating terms of settlement of the Eastern question has aroused Russia and must precipitate affairs. Already the *Moscow Gazette* and the *Invalide Russe*, recognized organs of the nobility and the army, contain articles warning France that her course imperils the peace of Europe, and it is stated that the Czar has expressed his dissatisfaction to Napoleon with his shifting policy in affairs of the East. If the French Emperor does not withdraw his offensive claims, as he did in the Luxemburg negotiation, he is likely to justify his position by the sword. Russia cannot retrace her steps. Her vast preparations for war, the ceaseless activity in her arsenals, and her successful efforts to obtain money, all go to show that she expects a collision and is making ready for it. The spring of 1868 is likely to be an eventful one, and we may see before the last of June a war that shall involve all the great Powers on the Continent. With a common interest against a common foe, Russia and Prussia will unite against whatever powerful combination Napoleon's skill may be able to form, and decide forever the Eastern question and that of German unification against France and Austria. In the contest the Christian communities on the Danube, in Servia, Moldavia, Montenegro and the old Grecian peninsula, already ripe for revolt, will play an important part. Meanwhile, as a Power friendly to Russia, we may discuss Alabama claims with England, and thus relieve her as well as ourselves from the necessity of joining in the fray.

Shooting of Judges.

The border ruffianism peculiar to the recently settled States and Territories of the West and Southwest is but an exaggeration of the rude and active forces necessarily brought together in the formative period of a community destined to become great. The colony that founded old Rome was composed of as rough materials as the early settlements in Texas, California, Kansas or any other portion of what Mr. Hepworth Dixon calls "New America." So much energy is requisite in the founding of a mighty State that enough cannot be obtained without risking the dangers of a superfluity of it. We need not be surprised, therefore, that quarrels and outbreaks perpetually occur among the settlers of a new country. Mr. Hobbes, who contended that war is the natural state of man, might have regarded border ruffianism as a development of the barbarism which is latent even in the most highly civilized societies. Foreigners are more startled than we are at the high titles and positions of some actors in our frequent border ruffian tragedies. Force, albeit accompanied by brutality, is apt to be in the ascendancy in latitudes where such tragedies occur. Moreover, the seething caldron of a new civilization always sends up its scum to the surface. It is, however, not more noteworthy that in New Mexico a Chief Justice should be murdered in a barroom encounter on Sunday than that civilization has there reached such a point as to render it possible for a Chief Justice and a Senator, the one charged with the making

and the other with administering the laws, to meet, even if it be only to take the law into their own hands in so summary a fashion. It denotes a certain progress that there are such things as laws to be violated and such high functionaries to violate them. The murder of Chief Justice Slough by Senator Ryerson at Santa Fe on the 20th instant was simply an act of border ruffianism, although it has this distinguishing characteristic, that even border ruffianism has never before shot a judge of so high degree. The name of Chief Justice Slough, by the way, became familiar to the public when, as colonel of the First regiment of Colorado cavalry, he commanded at the battle of Pigeon's Rancho, New Mexico, and defeated the Texas rangers under General Sibley, and, afterwards, when he had become a brigadier general and Military Governor of Alexandria, in Virginia, but especially when this handsome brigadier general was surprised asleep and captured by Mosby and his men near Fairfax Court House.

The shooting on Saturday last of Judge Busted, at Mobile, was, happily, not fatal, as the telegraphic despatch at first reported. But no thanks for this to District Attorney Martin, who seems to have done his best to kill the Judge, on account of a difficultly growing out of proceedings in court. Martin had been indicted by the United States Grand Jury for alleged revenue frauds and extortion. Meeting the Judge, the District Attorney asks, "Judge, will you allow that indictment against me to take its course?" Judge Busted replies, "Sir, the law must take its course." Thereupon Martin draws his revolver and fires upon the Judge, who falls on the pavement, having received two shots, one below the breast bone and another in the right leg.

Now this last case of "shooting of judges" wears an uglier aspect than the first; for, whatever may have been the immediate cause of the shooting, it is a strong symptom of the general spirit of lawlessness engendered in the South by the excitement of the rebellion, and, we must add, by the irritation occasioned by sweeping Congressional attempts at reconstruction. It is true that we witnessed only a few days ago, near the Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York city, a murderous street fight, which was an outbreak of the barbarism latent even in our long settled and loyal States. But, at least, we have not relaxed so far into lawlessness as to have a District Attorney shoot a Judge, as in Mobile, or a Senator shoot a Chief Justice, as in New Mexico.

Affairs and Trade in China.

Our correspondence from Amoy, published on Thursday, shows that the great Chinese empire is undergoing important changes, both in the interior and with the outside world. It feels the progress of the age like every other nation. Still, the influence of European and American civilization has only penetrated the outer surface; there yet remains a vast field to explore. The first important step toward breaking down the barriers of Chinese exclusiveness was the British and French war against the empire and the treaties that consequently followed. Thus good has come out of evil. The war, in a strictly moral point of view, was an iniquitous one. It was a war to force a lucrative trade in an article very injurious and demoralizing upon an unwilling and independent government. It was the opinion trade which took the British and French forces to China, though there was behind this undoubtedly the higher object of bringing the populous and exclusive empire into closer contact with the civilized world. However, we will not quarrel with the British and French about the morality or justice of their gunpowder arguments, since they have been the means of opening to us and the rest of the world several of the most important ports of China, and bringing all into closer relations with both the people and government of that country.

Although the Chinese government was not able to exclude opium from the country, it appears that it imposes a heavy duty of seventy-five or eighty per cent on the article. The greater part of this tax, which is called a "lekim duty"—the meaning of which term as used among the Chinese is aptly a "squeeze"—is ostensibly a war tax, imposed for the purpose of affording means to crush the rebellion which is still formidable, and which seems to be chronic. It is said this onerous tax is crippling trade generally. But this does not appear to be an excessively heavy duty on an article of such a character. There are many foreign articles imported into civilized countries on which the duty is higher, particularly those of luxury and those which have something of a demoralizing character. But the truth is, the export trade of China is so large that unless opium be largely imported that country would drain other countries of their specie to pay the balance.

This state of things or condition of trade with China may be suggestive to us Americans. Can we not supply the Chinese with something besides opium or specie to pay for the teas, silks and other things taken from them? No country has such a variety of products, and no people are more inventive and enterprising, and we ought to be able to produce or manufacture such things as China manures we need. We are in the best position for doing this. The Chinese, comparatively speaking, are our neighbors; for they are much nearer to us than to any of the other great commercial nations. The Pacific Ocean is wide, it is true, wider than the Atlantic; but our steamship communication with China brings that country almost as near to us as Europe. And it may not be many years before the magnetic telegraph, either by way of the Aleutian Islands or Japan, will bring us as near together as Europe and America have been brought. What we say with reference to China is equally applicable to Japan. The people of these two Asiatic empires are much alike, and the character and wants of the trade with both are similar. Not only should the United States become their best market, but it should be able to furnish them with more and a greater variety of articles in return than any other country. The nearer one nation is to another, the greater are the facilities and advantages of trade. We, therefore, should prepare ourselves for acquiring the greatest amount of trade with these populous and rich countries of Asia. Both Congress and our enterprising merchants should turn their attention to this important matter. The British and French opened some of the ports with their cannon, but we may open more ports and penetrate the interior by our enterprise and friendly

commerce. But it is important for this purpose, as our correspondent says, to have the best educated and most intelligent agents of government there as consuls, ministers and other officials. We are badly represented at present, with one or two exceptions, and we ought to send men well qualified. Let the government and our people, then, bestir themselves to seize the most valuable portion of the trade of Asia. It is within our reach and we have only to stretch out our hands to grasp it.

GENERAL GRANT AND THE COOPER INSTITUTE COMMITTEE.

Our readers have doubtless perused the circular of the committee of twenty-five appointed by order of the late independent Cooper Institute Grant mass meeting to push forward his claims and cause for the next Presidency. We think it an interesting political manifesto, considering the amount of capital represented; but this independent movement as yet has not been making much headway. Mr. A. T. Stewart, as one of the committee of twenty-five, has, we are informed, received a letter from General Grant, in which there is not one word of politics from beginning to end, so that the committee, as a non-partisan body, can now go ahead. We think, however, the letter ought to be published, to give a good start to the cause.

OBITUARY.

Edward Gould Buffum.

The Atlantic telegraph conveys to us the intelligence of the sudden death in Paris of Mr. E. G. Buffum, for many years the special correspondent of the Herald in that capital. Mr. Buffum was a native of the State of Rhode Island, the son of Arnold Buffum, the well known philanthropist who for a long series of years occupied a high position in the humanitarian circles of New England. In early life he became connected with the Herald, and at once displayed an ability of a high order. He continued his connection with this journal until the breaking out of the Mexican war, when his patriotic feelings induced him to join Colonel Stevenson's regiment of New York volunteers, with which he went to California as an lieutenant, and afterwards with his command during the contest on the Pacific side of Mexico, and at the close of the war he returned to California, then a comparatively unknown region. He was there on the discovery of the gold mines which have since so enriched the world, and at once took an active part in pushing explorations for mining in that State. The fruits of his observations he subsequently embodied in an interesting and valuable work, the first of its kind, on the gold mines of California, published in 1849. A *San Francisco* newspaper was founded by Mr. Buffum, who was its editor-in-chief, and continued for a long time in that position. He was elected to the office of Mayor of San Francisco, and was the leading candidate for the Speakership of the House, which honor he declined, although his election was assured. In the Legislature he distinguished himself by his eloquence and a thorough knowledge of the wants of the new community, with a just conception of the true means to attain the desired ends. While in California he wrote a valuable history of Stevenson's regiment, in which he gave a very graphic and interesting description of the life in California in its early days. From the Pacific he went to Europe as a special correspondent of the New York Herald, and has resided in Paris in that capacity for more than eight years, up to the time of his death. He was a gentleman and an accomplished scholar, thoroughly versed in European politics, master of several of the modern languages, and possessing a rare talent for the history and the analysis of the most valuable correspondents. He was a frequent contributor to the leading magazines of Europe and America, an intimate associate of the journalists of the continent, and a man who did so much to vindicate in that country the cause of the Union in the late war. Socially he was an accomplished and distinguished gentleman, and was distinguished by a generous disposition that ever responded to the claims of the needy, and possessing those agreeable qualities of mind and heart that rendered him a circle of friends. Removed from the scenes of labor and usefulness at the early age of forty, he has left behind him in the capitals of Europe, the friends of his country, and a multitude of intimate friends who will bear his loss with genuine grief and sorrow.

WESTCHESTER.

BURGLARY AT FORDHAM.—About early hour on Saturday morning H. B. Clavin's residence at Fordham, at present occupied by his brother-in-law, Mr. Sanger, was entered by burglars and a quantity of wearing apparel and silverware carried off. The burglar's attention was directed to the contents of the pantry and left the remains of some chickens, ham, &c., on the table in the dining room. The article was valued at \$100, and the burglar is supposed to have taken the goods to the extent of \$100. Mr. Sanger was left without a coat, and had to travel to the city wrapped in a sheet. This is the second time within a few weeks this house has been robbed.

SHAWMUT DIVISION OF THE RAILS AT WEST FARMS.—Complaints are continually received from persons residing in the village of West Farms in relation to the shanties, so to say, dangerous, condition of certain thoroughfares. The shanties are situated on the line of the New York and Westchester R.R. One of the shanties was left in a shocking state. It appears that in procuring stone to complete the approach to the bridge across the River the Westchester R.R. roughness was selected as the best place to quarry. After excavating a sufficient quantity of rock the road was left in a very precarious condition in the center, without any protection to travelers. It is only quite recently a fine company from Morrisania, with the apparatus, has a narrow gauge, and has been much obliged to the quarry. The road leading to the new bridge was permitted to remain in a like repulsive condition until two men narrowly escaped being killed. The shanties are situated on the line of the Westchester R.R. It is a very serious injury. In the same connection it may be proper to draw the attention of the proper authorities to the dangerous sidewalk on the road from the village to Tremont.

NEW FIRE ENGINE HOUSE AT MORRISANIA.—A commodious frame building is now nearly completed on Fourth street, near Washington avenue, Morrisania, for the reception of Horse Hose Company No. 2 and Hook and Ladder Company No. 1. The building is a fine specimen of modern architecture. The truck company purpose erecting a fine bell tower, fifty feet high, in the rear of the building. The cost of the building will be \$2,000, paid by the town. The expense of outfit devices on each company.

NARROW ESCAPE OF A CLERGYMAN ON THE RAILROAD AT MARMONCK.—Rev. Horace Cook, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church at Marmoneck, narrowly escaped being crushed to death recently in attempting to jump on a train while in motion. It appears he had succeeded in grasping the guard but was unable to draw himself up. He was thrown from the train and was crushed by a truckman in a forward car, who ran to his assistance and fortunately succeeded in raising him on the steps just as the train was nearing a tunnel.

LONG ISLAND INTELLIGENCE.

ARREST OF A BURGLAR.—About a fortnight since a man was intercepted upon the Yaphank highway and robbed of about \$40 in cash and some wearing apparel, which he had upon that evening prepared. Since then the authorities have been on the qui vive, and last week succeeded in arresting a man named Baines, upon the charge of being the perpetrator of the crime. He was taken before Justice Davis, at Coram, and committed to jail to await the action of the Grand Jury in February.

A CONFIDENTIAL OPERATOR.—On Saturday a man, who it is said resides at Rockville Centre, Queens county, stopped at the residence of Mrs. Jarvis, at Mottville, stating that he was both hungry and thirsty, and asked the lady to allow him to remain all night and refresh himself. This the lady consented to, but upon arising the next morning she found that her visitor had fed the room he occupied, and after ransacking the bureau found \$50 which the lady had concealed there, which money he took away, and has not since been heard of. He was arrested by the Grand Jurors of Queens county.

LOOK.—On Wednesday evening the election for officers of the Peconic Lodge, of Greenport, took place and resulted in the choice of the following ticket:—Amos Van Nostrand, M. Charles E. Fitch, M. W. Oliver H. Bishop, J. W. G. E