

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 XXXIII. No. 69 AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

- THEATRE COMIQUE, 54 BROADWAY.—BOSTON COMIQUE BALLET AND FANTASME TROUPE. BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway.—SAM. BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—MAZEPPA—MY POLI AND MY FATHERS JOE. NEW YORK THEATRE, opposite New York Hotel.—ROBERT'S DAUGHTER. FRENCH THEATRE.—THE GRAND DUCHESSE. OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway.—HUMPTY DUMPTY. NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.—THE WHITE FAWN. WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 12th Street.—ROSEAL. BANWARD'S OPERA HOUSE AND MUSEUM, Broadway and Thirteenth Street.—UNCLE TOM'S CABIN. NEW YORK CIRCUS, Fourth Street.—GYMNASTIC, EQUITRINIAN, &c. STEINWAY HALL.—READINGS FROM SHAKESPEARE—JULIUS CAESAR. KELLY & LEON'S MINSTRELS, 730 Broadway.—SONGS, SOCASTRONISTS, &c.—GRAND DUKE "48." SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 565 Broadway.—ETHIOPIAN ENTERTAINMENTS, SINGING, DANCING, &c. TONY PARTON'S OPERA HOUSE, 211 Bowery.—COMIC VOCALISM, NEGRO MINSTRELS, &c. BUTLER'S AMERICAN THEATRE, 472 Broadway.—BALLETS, FANCI, PANTOMIME, &c. BUNYAN HALL, Broadway and Fifteenth Street.—THE PIGLION. Matinee at 2. BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—ITALIAN OPERA.—FRA DIAVOLO. MRS. F. B. CONWAY'S PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn.—JESSE BROWN—IDiot WITNESS. BROOKLYN OPERA HOUSE.—OUR AMERICAN FEMALE COBBIN. BROOKLYN ATHENAEUM, corner of Atlantic and Clinton Streets.—SONGS OF SCOTLAND. HOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn.—ETHIOPIAN MINSTRELS.—BEGLEUSE OF THE WILD FAWN. NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway.—SCIENCE AND ART.

New York, Monday, March 9, 1868.

THE NEWS.

EUROPE.

The news reports by the Atlantic cable is dated yesterday, March 8. By telegram we have a very full report of the speech delivered by Mr. Shaw Lefevre in the English House of Commons on the Alabama claims question extended to a point at which the cable communication was interrupted. A synopsis of the debate transmitted through the cable appeared in the HERALD yesterday.

The French press clause for disfranchising editors for certain offences was rejected by the legislative body. Austria avows a policy especially friendly to Italy.

By the steamship Weser we have a mail report in detail of our cable despatches to the 25th of February.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Our correspondence from Hiogo, Japan, dated January 14, gives a detailed account of the death by drowning of Admiral Bell and several of the crew of the ship Hartford. Commodore Goldsborough had assumed command of the fleet in the China seas in place of the deceased admiral. The English fleet, as well as the American, half-masted all their flags and fired minute guns during the funeral, which was attended by the consular officers of all nations, the English marine band playing a dead march. The remains were buried in the American cemetery in Hiogo.

Our correspondence from St. Domingo is dated February 15. The news has been anticipated by our Gulf cable telegrams. The supposition that the proposed sale of Samaná was the cause of the rebellion against Cabral is considered doubtful, and it is now stated that the issue of paper money was the sole cause. The successful leaders of the rebellion are already threatened for their inability to restore specie payments.

The churches were generally well attended yesterday. Rev. Henry Ward Beecher preached a sermon upon the Saviour's love for little children in Piquette church, Brooklyn. Previous to his sermon he made some remarks relative to the poor of Brooklyn and requested that a collection be taken up for their benefit. In the Canal street Presbyterian church Rev. David Mitchell preached on the subject of securing, at St. Patrick's cathedral the Rev. Mr. Kearney delivered a discourse on the text, "This is my beloved son, hear ye him." Rev. Dr. Swope officiated at the Church of the Transfiguration. In the Church of the Holy Apostles, on Ninth avenue and Twenty-eighth street, Rev. Morgan Dix, rector of Trinity church, preached on the importance of the ministry. Bishop S. S. Snow preached in the University, opposite Washington square, on the "coming mighty earthquake." He said the rumblings were even now heard in Washington and in Europe, and as God was about to work terrible things He had called him to alarm the nation. Bishop Snow is called by those who he says speak as wise men "a crazy head."

The order of Superintendent Kennedy to the police directing them to arrest all parties "masquerading on the streets" was not made public on Saturday and many persons innocent of its existence were captured. A party of ladies in a coach were driven to the station house by an officer, who mounted the box for the purpose, but they were released on intimation of Superintendent Kennedy that he did not refer to people in coaches. Another party, more unfortunate, were discovered on the streets and were locked up all night.

The pilotboat Isaac Webb (No. 8), which left New York harbor on a cruise on the 21st of February, returned on Saturday morning. During her cruise she experienced the severe gale of the first four days of March, and became so badly hemmed in by ice that it was found extremely difficult to free her. The provisions became scarce, and only two days' rations remained when she returned to the harbor.

An old woman named Ann Van Rant was recently found dead in her room in Flushing, L. I., having, it was supposed by a coroner's jury, committed suicide by hanging. Recent developments led to the belief, however, that murder had been committed; and it is now charged that the murder was committed by her son, an only child.

The Church of St. Charles Borromeo, Sidney place, Brooklyn, took fire from the heater and burned to the ground yesterday morning just before daybreak. The consecrated vessels and a portion of the sacerdotal garments were saved, but the paintings, sculpture and organ were lost with the building. The loss on the church is estimated at \$20,000 and on the furniture at \$12,000.

It is stated in Washington that General Schofield was offered the post of Secretary of War ad interim before General Thomas, but that he declined it very politely and diplomatically.

The President's counsel has been fixed upon. They have several consultations, but are not known to have agreed upon any line of defence as yet. The impeachment Managers are examining reporters in regard to the President's speeches during his Chicago tour.

A butcher in Louisville, named Kriel, yesterday murdered his wife by firing a pistol at her, and then made two efforts to kill himself in the same way. He was captured without being much hurt.

Thad Stevens Organizing a Reign of Terror.

The proceedings of Congress in the impeachment business, and particularly the language and bearing of the radical leaders, bring vividly to mind the Jacobin reign of terror during the French Revolution. When Thad Stevens, on presenting the articles of impeachment against the President, drew up his feeble frame in the attitude of a dictator and shook his finger above his head in a threatening manner towards the Senate, while fiercely exclaiming, "Let me see the recreant who dares to tread back upon his steps and vote on the other side!" the history of Jacobin terrorism in the French Convention was faithfully repeated. After analyzing the vote of the Senate as a strict party one, and exulting in the prospect of there being no chance for Andrew Johnson, the "unfortunate man, the unhappy man," escaping his doom, he exclaimed, "Point me out one (of the Senators) who dares to do it," who dares to vote against my programme for deposing "the man at the other end of the avenue." When the bold radical chief uttered this threatening language he evidently had in his mind the Girondists of the Senate—the Sherburnes, the Fassendens, the Pomeroy and others in whom he had not much confidence, and whom he felt it necessary to whip in by the threat of party vengeance.

Well may it be said that history repeats itself. It is especially so in revolutionary times. The denunciation of Andrew Johnson as a tyrant and a violator of the laws on the flimsiest pretext by Thad Stevens and others who show themselves to be the most violent tyrants, and who scout the constitution as an obsolete, worn-out instrument, carries us back to the reign of the Jacobin Mountain in France. Thad Stevens' exclamations, referring to the President, "Unfortunate man, thus surrounded, hampered, tangled in the meshes of his own wickedness! unfortunate, unhappy man, behold your doom!" reminds us forcibly of the language of Robespierre, Danton, Camille Desmoulins and Marat with regard to Louis the Sixteenth and Marie Antoinette. Unfortunate, unhappy Louis Capet, surrounded, hampered, tangled in the meshes of the bloody Jacobin revolutionists! Unhappy Antoinette, unfortunate Austrian, "what chance was there, what loophole for your escape? So alike are these revolutionary scenes, so similar the language, that we can hardly realize the fact that we are not reading the history of the French Revolution or that such things are occurring in our own beloved country. Yes, history repeats itself; for we are passing through a similar revolution to that of the French, to that of the English when Charles the First was beheaded, and to those of other nations when all the old landmarks were destroyed and constitutions were laughed at. Thad Stevens is a fit leader in organizing a reign of terror here. He has the boldness of Danton, the bitterness and hatred of Marat, and the unscrupulousness of Robespierre. Ben Wade is a suitable ally of Stevens in the revolutionary work, though a subordinate actor. He has the coarse and vindictive character of Marat, too, with all the agrarian and levelling theories of the most advanced revolutionist. Sumner, another fit ally, is a visionary and sentimental theorist, conceived as Robespierre, as weak as Camille Desmoulins and as implacable as Marat. The lesser lights of the Jacobin revolutionary party—the Chandlers, Wilsons, Boutwells, Butlers, Bingham and others—while equally as vindictive and destructive, are but the followers of the leaders. They are all of the same stamp, however, and are all bent on usurpation of power and the destruction of the old government handed down to us by the fathers.

Ah, but some incredulous and over-hopeful people may say, all will come right; Andrew Johnson is not going to be hanged; the bloody scenes of the French Revolution will not be repeated; we shall come back to law and order by and by, and so forth. Let us not deceive ourselves. History shows us that those generally who inaugurate revolutions do not anticipate the ultimate consequences. When they start they calculate upon stopping short on attaining certain objects; but revolutions do not stop; they grow with party necessities and as partisan feeling becomes intensified. Such things as many would shudder at in the beginning of a revolution are accomplished with the greatest complacency afterwards. The very apathy and over-hopefulness of the people encourage revolutionists to more outrageous measures. Do the American people realize the revolution they are passing through? Is it a small thing to impeach the President of the United States and to depose him on such flimsy and ridiculous charges as the radicals have trumped up against Mr. Johnson? His worst enemies do not assail his honesty or integrity. He has endeavored to perform his duty according to his understanding of it and the constitution which he has sworn to preserve. His sole offence is that he has not gone with the dominant party in Congress in their efforts to Africanize the country and to revolutionize the government. Is it a small thing to remove a President for party purposes alone? Such a thing was never dreamed of before in the United States. It is an important and very long stride in the way of revolution. And who a short time ago would have thought that a large section of the country, ten States of the Union, would be kept for years under military despotism in time of peace? Who would have thought that these States and the white people of our own flesh and blood would be put under the government of barbarous negroes? Who would have imagined that Congress would have ventured to abolish the Executive and usurp all the powers of government in its own hands? Who would have believed that a powerful faction would dare to set aside the constitution and declare it dead? Yet all this has been done, and much more, within the brief period of two or three years. Is not this revolution? It would be hard to find in history a greater and more rapid revolution within as short a time. No, the revolution would not stop with the deposition of the President. That event would only accelerate it. His removal would not be peace, as certain radical organs pretend to say. The necessities of the Jacobin party would impel it on to other revolutionary measures, and probably to serious conflicts among the people. The people would become familiarized with these high-handed and despotic proceedings, and either apathy, which is destructive to liberty, or counter-revolutions would follow.

What under other circumstances and in former times would have startled them might no longer create surprise, and a reign of despotism or anarchy would ensue. A faction determined to rule will stop at nothing when it has the power, and especially when there is fear that this power is slipping out of its hands. The military despotism over the South may be extended to the North. Some disturbance may be fomented as a plea for suspending the writ of habeas corpus and governing the North as well as the South by the strong arm of military power. It is quite evident that the radical oligarchy now established at Washington would not stick at this or anything else to perpetuate its power. As this revolution proceeds we shall soon find our securities will run down abroad, that they will be sent back in vast numbers, and that both the government and country will be plunged into great financial troubles and bankruptcy. And what will become of the debt and the bondholders? Is it likely that the people will see themselves ruined by a revolutionary Congress, and then consent to bear the burden of an enormous debt? If they should it would be contrary to all experience where the people have had a voice in the matter. This is the deplorable state of things to which Congress is hurrying us on, and unless the people rise in their might at the polls and drive the radicals from power we have a disastrous future before us.

Disraeli's Cabinet Programme—The Premier the Moses of England.

Mr. Benjamin Disraeli made his first official appearance as Premier of England in the House of Commons last Thursday evening, when he enjoyed a gratifying personal reception from the members. The political prize for which he toiled during thirty-one years was in his hands; yet, ruled by that sense of modesty or acquired mental restraint by which his public career has been distinguished, he did not seem elated by his success. He announced the change in the Cabinet, caused by the retirement of Lord Derby, in terms of graceful compliment to his late chief, and almost deprecated the action of the Queen in imposing her commands to form a ministry on himself in words savoring of the humility of those in general use by the members of his house, particularly at the conclusion of a most excellent bargain. The seriousness of class with which the extreme aristocrats were agitated, by the confession that their own ranks could not furnish a man suited for the office at such a crisis, was soothed by a statement to the effect that "the policy of Lord Derby would be followed by the new ministry," while Gladstone and Bright, who sat in almost breathless wonder at the sudden *prolesto* change which excluded the former more completely from office, had a little of the wind taken out of their already flapping sails by a general intimation that the "domestic legislation of the new government would be a liberal one," and that it would go on "recognizing national traits as best securing national institutions." To the financiers and manufacturers he promised "peace," and to all foreign governments a "generous sympathy" with their institutions.

By this action Premier Disraeli caused the session of the House to pass very agreeably, sent the members home in good humor and steeled himself to an effective pose on his newly acquired pinnacle. No man knows better than himself that he cannot remain there inactive for any lengthened period, and he is equally well assured that he cannot adhere to the policy of Lord Derby, for the very excellent reason that Lord Derby had no particular line of policy, if we except the good policy of "holding on" to office and keeping his political adversaries out in the chilly air of the lobby. Mr. Disraeli's promise that "national traits" will be recognized by his Cabinet may mean a good deal or nothing; but, coming so soon after the claim which he recently advanced in his speech in Glasgow, to the effect that British reforms always proceeded from the Tories, we incline to the opinion that it means a good deal, and may be elaborated under his care so as to include the restoration of Donnybrook Fair, the establishment of the Kirk of Scotland, a road of ground for every Englishman and an Englishman on every road, with every other prominent "trait" calculated to render the inhabitants of the islands happy, with, perhaps, the single exception of that one of "lending money gratis," which at one time prevailed to some extent in London.

Mr. Disraeli will permit the present expiring Parliament to "die out" according to the undefined policy of Lord Derby; but the scope of the political horizon of Great Britain indicates that the English nation is about to experience a revolution in its system of executive administration and the course of its parliamentary legislation involving changes of the most serious character, and which are likely to eventuate in the attainment by the peoples of the islands of that degree of comfort and happiness—social, religious and financial—for which they have vainly struggled since the period of the grand popular effort of Watt Tyler down to the latest agitations of John Bright, Bishop Colenso, the Ritualists, Reformers, Trades Unionists and Fenians. In Premier Disraeli England has found her Moses—a man of a most ancient lineage, but sympathizing with the oppressed as kindred in suffering to his race, and who, judging from his persistent courage and perseverance, has no doubt received some extraordinary intimation that he was destined to be their leader and deliverer, and that he possessed all the gifts and graces necessary to qualify him for the exalted position to which Queen Victoria has been pleased to call him. As the first renowned Hebrew leader and general lived many years in the retirement of an humble every-day life before assuming power and command, so Mr. Disraeli, qualified in the almost unseen recesses of a London law office, comes forth self-made and without any of the medals or insincere logic of Oxford or Cambridge to announce to millions of Britons that the day of their political deliverance is at hand. That day will be the day of assembly of the next Parliament, when the Premier will, in the Queen's speech from the throne—her Majesty speaking as an anointed vehicle of the Word—review the situation of their country, exhort them to cheerful obedience, point out the coming blessings and draw their attention to the many curses which are certain to ensue from disloyalty and unfaithfulness, and conclude by pronouncing the most

solid advantages to the "tribes," he himself taking all the while a most particular survey of the land from the Thames to the Mediterranean, and thence to the Hoogly and the banks of the Gulf of Carpentaria. Standing on the right of the throne, his Sinai at this glorious moment, Mr. Disraeli will overshadow every politician in England, and sit subsequently in his place during the session securely and calm, surveying the petty strifes of the old party men raging around him, as did his illustrious ancestor when he sat with Aaron and Hur and watched the battle of his people with the Amalekites. These Amalekites were, we are told, of uncertain origin, just like the members of the Gladstone-Bright opposition, and we are well aware of the terrible judgments which befall them for their conduct in opposing the progress of the "chosen," as we will soon learn how completely Disraeli will have routed his parliamentary adversaries by the exercise of his great system of Hebrew tactics carefully adapted to the occasion.

As this system comes into full play John Bright will gradually disappear from the political platform, Gladstone's learning of the schools will be confounded by its simplicity, the hereditary policy of the Stanleys, the Russells, the Howards and the Talbols be displaced by its superior wisdom and antiquity, and all existing interests be compelled to accommodate themselves to the new dispensation. This is just what Great Britain requires. No more tinkering or palliatives according to family recipes, but an impartial examination of the case and a clean sweep towards a radical cure. Who among the public men of Britain can accomplish this except Disraeli? Not one. He will not permit a poor man to be spit upon for the reason that he may wear a threadbare "gaberdeine," for he believes in blessings in store for the lowly; he will not see the nation emancipated by the tagrathersers of the Crown, for he knows in what unpleasant form King John applied to his own ancestors for money in the very city of London; he will not have the country distracted longer by religious broils, and will silence Cardinal Cullen, the Archbishop of Westminster, the Puseyites, Protestants, Methodists, Baptists and others by having a copy of the law as expressed in the Ten Commandments read as a standing reply to every religious deputation which may call in Downing street. Through his people he can learn the condition of the British army any day, for its officers "apply" just as frequently to them as they do at the War Office; and who should be as popular with the navy as the direct descendant of the man for whom a sea was "ruled" so as that "the waters were a wall unto them on the right hand and the left"? He will pay the Alabama claims, as he thoroughly understands the rule of compound interest and the accumulating charges of cent per cent.

Mr. Disraeli will have new measures and new men. Baron Rothschild is to be advanced a step in the English peerage—perhaps as a councillor, like Aaron. There may be some little difficulty here; for what title will the Baron take? We at first thought of an Irish one; but this would at once revive the old difficulty between the Sons of Phenicia—in the shape of Fenians and Israelites—and thus disturb the equanimity of the great leader. No; Baron Rothschild must have a Hebrew title, which Mr. Disraeli can easily suggest from his extended acquaintance by travel in the East. In face of this new state of affairs the descendants of the Conqueror will soon take to useful callings and England be thus relieved of a heavy incubus. Indeed, we already perceive symptoms tending in this direction in the fact that the Prince of Wales had just had a "run with the engine" and worked well at a fire in London, and the report that Lord Pelham Clinton, who comes direct from a chamberlain of Normandy, through the Duke of Newcastle, is to retire from Parliament and appear on the stage in America.

The New Hampshire Election To-morrow.

The fight in New Hampshire closes to-day, and the contending armies will begin to count up their killed and wounded to-morrow. The canvass has been a close and hotly contested one throughout, new issues being brought forward from time to time by the action of the Executive or Congress until the climacteric was reached on the question of the impeachment of the President. It does not appear, however, that this issue was thoroughly introduced into the campaign just closing, one of the principal conservative speakers (Senator Doollittle) declining altogether to discuss the subject on account of his having to take official action upon it immediately in his capacity as a member of the High Court of Impeachment. But there is no doubt that each party has made the most of the points calculated to effect their side beneficially, and we may regard the result of the election as in some, if not in an important, degree exhibiting the sentiments of the people of the State upon the whole matter of impeachment. The result will also furnish us with the opinions of the people in this pioneer race for the grand Presidential sweepstakes next November upon the great topics of reconstruction, taxation, the financial policy of the government, negro supremacy and the general conduct of national affairs by the radical majority in Congress. Taking as examples of the direction in which the tide of public opinion is flowing from the recent city and town elections in this and other States, there are certainly reasonable grounds for expecting that the reaction against the radicals begun last year and continuing up to the present hour has finally reached New Hampshire, and that to-morrow the people of that State will pronounce a decisive rebuke to a Congressional majority, that is fast organizing a reign of anarchy and bringing the country rapidly to the precipice of bankruptcy, repudiation and ruin.

THE IMPROVEMENT.—The two houses of Congress will resume their legislative business this morning, the impeachment being out of the way till Friday next, when President Johnson's answer to the summons of the Senate may be expected. It is rumored that he will ask for twenty days' grace in order to make up his line of defence, and that one of the first motions of his counsel will be to exclude Benjamin Wade, President pro tem. of the Senate, from sitting as a member of the Court of Impeachment, because, as President pro tem. of the United States in expectancy, he is an interested party in this case in the eye of the law.

Important Lawsuit in France—Rebel Belligerent Rights.

We published yesterday a very interesting letter from our special correspondent in Paris relative to an action which the United States have instituted before the Civil Tribunal of Paris against M. Arman, Deputy in the Corps Legislatif and shipbuilder at Bordeaux; M. Erlanger, banker at Paris and son-in-law of Mr. Sildell, Confederate diplomatic agent at Paris during the late war; M. Voruz, engine builder at Nantes; M. Dubigeon, shipbuilder in the same town, and certain other persons, in order to recover from them large sums of money, exceeding three hundred and fifteen thousand pounds, received by them for constructing vessels of war for the Confederate States. The United States also claim an indemnity of one hundred and fifteen thousand pounds for the injury they suffered from the violation of the laws of neutrality by the building by the defendants of the vessels in question. These were four steamers, "ostensibly destined by a foreign shipowner for regular communication between Shanghai, Osaka, Jeddo and San Francisco," and eventually to be sold to the governments of Japan and China, and two plated steam rams. Thanks to the interference of the United States Minister to Paris, the permission which had been obtained for the arming and the departure of these vessels was revoked, and in consequence of this interdiction two of the steamers were sold to Prussia and two to Peru. One of the steam rams was subsequently sold to Prussia. The other was bargained for by the Danish government, which, however, refused it after it had been completed, on account of its not fulfilling all the conditions requisite. Notwithstanding this refusal it was sent to Copenhagen, and thence, after a second refusal, to the little village of Houat, near Quiberon, in French waters; its name was changed to Olinda; two days later thirty tons of coal were sent to it from Nantes, the Danish crew which had been substituted at Copenhagen for its French crew were conveyed from it to Nantes and their places were supplied by a Confederate crew under Captain Page—the same crew that had served on the Confederate steamer Florida; an English steamer put them, together with cannon and ammunition, on board the Olinda, which again received a new name—the Stone-wall—and, running up the Confederate flag, put to sea. With its subsequent history all are familiar. When stress of weather compelled it to put in at Ferrol, in Spain, the diplomatic agent of the United States called on the Spanish government to seize it; but the Spanish government declined. When it went to Lisbon a United States vessel of war, the Niagara, attempted to seize it, but was fired into by the Portuguese. Finally, at Havana, it was taken possession of by the Spanish authorities and given up to the agents of the United States. In the course of the diplomatic correspondence with the French government the threat on the part of the United States government to seize the two vessels built at Nantes if they should leave the port, even to make a trial trip, and under the French flag, led to a threat of interdicting any vessel of the United States from sojourning in French waters; so that this contract of Mr. Sildell, the Confederate agent, with his son-in-law, Mr. Erlanger, for building vessels for the Confederate service narrowly missed involving France, Spain and Portugal in direct war with the United States, and thus helping to carry out one essential part of the programme of Jefferson Davis and his counsellors at Richmond.

The object of the United States government in its demand for the restitution of the sums paid on behalf of the Confederate authorities to Messrs. Arman, Erlanger and their associates, and for the interest thereon, is, of course, not merely to recover the comparatively trifling amount of money involved, as to settle, distinctly and forever, the question whether a rebel States or counties which may happen to rebel against the central power of the United States are entitled to the recognition of their claims as belligerents by European governments. This is the vital question at issue in the case. The Emperor of the French has listened with polite promptitude than the British government to each definite complaint which the United States have been compelled to make on account of real or apparent violation of neutrality. But there is little doubt that a tacit understanding existed between France and England from the outset of the war, and that neither would have mourned inconsolably had the war resulted in the disruption of the American Union. However this may have been, it is almost time for both those Powers to learn that it is equally important for them as for ourselves to have a just and final settlement of the question which is at issue alike in Alabama claims in England and in Stonewall claims in France.

THE BREAKING UP OF A ROUGH WINTER.—From the warm sun and balmy skies of the last few days we think we may congratulate "all the people of the United States" that the rough winter of 1867-8 is ended, and that brighter days and better times are coming. The breaking up not only of the embargoes of snow and ice on the railroads, but of the close, icebound blockades of our interior rivers, has already commenced in the West under the pressure of dissolving spring rains and swelling floods. From the East to the West there will probably be work for bridge builders and railroad and canal men with the clearing away of the winter's accumulations of ice and snow. Railroad companies should accordingly double their usual precautions against accidents from embankments washed away, land slips and fallen rocks, culverts caved in, bridges displaced or weakened, &c. Our city councils, meantime, without standing upon the ceremonies of the Circumlocution Office, should at once provide for a wholesale chopping up of the banks of ice which obstruct the streets right and left, lengthwise and crosswise, so that the sun and the rains may have a chance at the removal of these nuisances, if we can get rid of them in no other way. A few thousand dollars appropriated for this purpose in giving the relief of employment, even for a day or two, to a few thousand needy workmen, would be a most acceptable act of charity, not only to them but to the whole community.

INTERNAL REVENUE RECEIPTS.—The total internal revenue receipts since the beginning of the present year are reported as making the magnificent sum of \$134,888,013, and the reserve of gold in the Treasury is one hundred

millions. One would think that with such resources under a peace establishment there ought to be an immense surplus at the end of the year after meeting all our current obligations, and a relieving reduction of the national debt upon this surplus fund through some judicious measures of legislation, or a relieving reduction of these internal revenue taxes. From present appearances, however, no relief either way need be expected from this Congress.

The Southern Reconstruction Conventions.

On Saturday last in the Virginia Reconstruction Convention the most important proceeding was the expulsion of a Mr. Leggett, by a vote of fifty-four to sixteen, for expressing his contempt and disgust of a certain proposition on disfranchisement before the Convention, and for adding, "I have a contempt for the whole establishment."

On the same day, in the North Carolina Convention, the article on homesteads, including a thousand dollars' worth of land in the exemption from the sheriff, was adopted; also an article making provision for the prompt payment of the State debt.

On the same day the Georgia Convention resolved itself into a State nominating body, or a republican party State convention, whereupon a majority of the white delegates refused to participate, and considerable confusion and a split in the radical camp were the immediate results. Among other refractory movements Mr. Farrowe, President of the Union League, announced himself as a candidate for Governor, against Mr. Bullock, the nominee of the Convention. Here may be an opening for the conservatives.

On the same day, in the Mississippi Convention, they were engaged upon the tax ordinance authorizing the State Treasurer to pay the Convention warrants, and upon a resolution on the petition of certain persons formerly slaves touching certain properties acquired by them in 1863-64, and of which they have been lately dispossessed by their former masters. The resolution requesting General Gilliam to order the restoration of said properties was adopted.

On the same day, in the Louisiana Convention, the constitution being finished, the special business of the day was the signing it. Seventy-six members of the Convention affixed their names to the document, and seven refused to sign it. A resolution was next adopted ordering the printing of ten thousand copies of the constitution in pamphlet form for distribution by the members. The Convention meets to-day for the election of registers.

Within a month or so, it is supposed, or in season to be represented in the Republican Presidential Convention at Chicago on the 20th of May next, the work of reconstruction in all these outside States will be pushed through to the grand finale of their restoration to Congress, so that their votes on the basis of universal negro suffrage and its radical Southern balance of power may be secured to the radicals on the Presidential issue and in the elections for the next Congress.

THE FINANCES, THE TARIFF AND INTERNAL REVENUE LAWS IN CONGRESS.—Now that the House has got the impeachment question off its shoulders by transferring it in due form to the Senate, the subject of finance, tariff and internal revenue appears to have caught the attention of members. Mr. Clarke, of Kansas, and Messrs. Blaine and Lynch, of Maine, expressed the republican view of the finance question on Saturday, while Mr. Holman, of Indiana, represented the democratic idea of the matter. No doubt Mr. Holman spoke the mind of the whole Northwestern democracy when he insisted that the bondholders should have no more privilege than the industrial classes, upon whose labor the finances of the country rested. Mr. Broomall, of Pennsylvania, made a high tariff speech, of course, in the vein of the leading interests of his State. But with all this discussion we are disposed to think that Congress has no intention whatever of doing anything in regard to the important subject of finance nor any other grave question. Impeachment and quarrels with the President are going to occupy all its time for the purpose of diverting public attention from the great financial questions of specie payments, currency, national banks and the odious internal revenue laws and income tax.

THE TWO DROMOS.—Stanton, the Secretary of War, who, by the "advice and consent of the Senate," holds the Department, and Thomas, who, by the appointment of the President, sits as Secretary of War in the Cabinet councils.

POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE.

The election in Shelby county, Tenn., on Saturday resulted in the defeat of the democrats by an estimated majority of from 500 to 1,000.

The municipal election in Louisville, Ky., on Saturday resulted in the success of the whole democratic ticket.

The Columbia (S. C.) Phoenix thinks the month of March, 1868, will, it is expected, exhibit two wonderful events—the trial of Jefferson Davis for insisting that the Southern States were out of the Union and the trial of Andrew Johnson for insisting that they are in the Union.

Politics are getting quite exciting in North Carolina. The Raleigh Standard (radical) is particularly rabid. One article in a recent issue is headed "—, the Branded Lion." Another, "A Cowardly Scoundrel," in which a certain person is denounced as "a liar, scoundrel and poltroon," and the declaration is made that "this mark shall be branded on his brow." Still another article is headed "A Public Lion!" and in it— "is charged with being an 'infamous and public liar'—the paragraph closing with this significant remark:—'The people of this State know that we say what we mean.'" This is all occasioned by a charge that the senior editor of the Standard "incited assassins against President Lincoln," an accusation calculated to arouse the ire of almost any Union man in the country.

FIRE IN SACO, MAINE.

An incendiary fire here last night destroyed the market house, Libby's barber shop, Dr. Grant's drug store, Drs. Snow and Libby's offices and Gurney's grocery store. Loss \$10,000. Mr. Gurney is insured for \$10,000 in the National Insurance Company of Boston. There are no other insurances on property destroyed.

TEMPERANCE MEETING IN PUGHKEEPSIE.

PUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., March 8, 1868. A large temperance meeting took place here to-night. The great temperance revival which commenced here over a year ago continues with much vigor. Fifty persons signed the pledge to-night. One-half of the firmen of the city are members of the Father Mathew Temperance society.

THE FARTHWALKER IN MAINE.—We learn that the shock of an earthquake was felt in the vicinity of Bangor on Saturday afternoon last, at about five o'clock, for several miles upon the river and probably all through that section of the country. It was attended with a rumbling noise, similar to that of a heavy carriage passing over the frozen ground. —Portland Argus, March 7.