# WASHINGTON.

## Judge Groesbeck's Speech and the Feeling Regarding Impeachment.

## Mr. Stanbery Probably to Speak on Wednesday.

## Thad Stevens to Lash in Senators To-Day.

WASHINGTON, April 26, 1868.

**Judge Groesbeck's Defence of the President Before the Impeachment Court.**

Washington is still ringing with praises of Judge Groesbeck's splendid speech in favor of the President. It is eulogized by every one, radical and conservative alike, and is pronounced by some to be the most eloquent address ever made before the American Senate. Its effect was all the greater from the fact that expectation had not been extravagant, as few professed to know anything about the ability of Mr. Groesbeck, who, during the preceding stages of the trial, had taken no prominent part in the proceedings and remained completely silent, seeming to be more ornamental than useful in the conduct of the case. When he did speak, however, his words were listened to with breathless attention. Unlike preceding days, Senators did not busy themselves in writing letters, reading newspapers or chatting with each other; they did not quit their places and wander to the retiring rooms or galleries for refreshment or relaxation; they all remained fixed in their seats, spellbound by the eloquence of the speaker, and for a full hour during the impressive peroration which he pronounced a pin could have been heard dropping upon the floor, so still and attentive were his auditors. It is surprising how many converts have been made to the side of acquittal since this address, and how general has become the opinion that the trial cannot possibly result in conviction. It will require arguments somewhat more powerful than anything that has yet emanated from the honorable Managers, and eloquence of a higher order than Mr. Butler's or Mr. Boutwell's, to destroy the effect of Judge Groesbeck's brilliant effort of yesterday.

**Monday's Proceedings on the Impeachment Trial.**

The entire proceedings of the High Court of Impeachment to-morrow will be devoted to speeches on the side of the prosecution. Mr. Williams is expected to lead off with an argument of about three hours' length, discussing the legal questions involved in the case. Thad Stevens will follow in a speech of fully six columns, devoted to the Tenure of Office act. There seems to be considerable doubt among the friends of Mr. Stevens whether he will have the strength to get through with his speech. To-day, however, he feels in good spirits, and thinks he will be able to accomplish his task. Great curiosity is exhibited to hear what Old Thad has to say for himself.

Mr. W. F. Peddrick, of Philadelphia, who has been in attendance with the counsel for the President taking full notes of the impeachment proceedings for their use, is now engaged by Mr. Stanbery in the preparation of the closing argument for the President. Mr. Stanbery is rapidly improving in health, having yesterday morning dictated several thousand words of his argument. It is now supposed that he may be well enough on Wednesday or Thursday to read at least a portion of it.

**Decision Regarding the Reissue of Patents.**

An important decision as to the reissue of patents has been made by the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia. The Commissioner of Patents had established a rule that all applications for the reissue of surrendered patents should be publicly advertised for thirty days, and that testimony might be taken adversely to the claimant. The assignees of the Reichman patent for an improvement in lamps surrendered their patent for reissue under the rule above mentioned; the application was published and testimony taken, under which the reissue was refused. From this refusal an appeal was taken, and after the hearing Judge Fisher pronounced the rule illegal and unauthorized, and ordered the issue of the patent.

**Counterfeit Fractional Currency.**

A number of counterfeit five cent notes of the last issue have been recently presented at the Redemption Bureau of the Treasury Department for redemption.

**The Health of St. Thomas and St. Croix.**

The Secretary of State has received advices from our Consul at St. Croix, West Indies, dated April 11, stating that the yellow fever had entirely disappeared from Fredericksted, and that clean bills of health are now issued from that port; also that the cholera has ceased at St. Thomas. Up to the 21st of March, the date of the last official report, there had been 521 cases and 369 deaths. The Consul adds:—"Since that period but two deaths have been reported to the government and clean bills of health are issued by the authorities there. The quarantine here, however, still continues on all vessels from St. Thomas. Slight shocks of earthquake still continue, but none of any severity have been felt since the 17th, 23d and 27th of March."

## IMPEACHMENT.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE HERALD.

**The Rejected Testimony—What Stanton Thought of the Tenure of Office Law—Probability of the President's Acquittal.**

WASHINGTON, April 26, 1868.

The Cabinet testimony excluded by a vote of the Senate was greatly needed to complete the President's defence for purposes of historical reference. The main points bearing upon the case and calculated to influence a decision are embodied in the President's statements, which were admitted as evidence; but there were some specific details which an interlocutory examination would have developed that would not only have shown the coinciding tendency of Mr. Stanton's opinions, but would have revealed the fact that he was an earnest advocate of the course which the President subsequently adopted. That the substance of the Cabinet testimony was well known to those members of the Senate who voted against its admission cannot be doubted, and it is equally certain that considerations as to its quality and weight must have determined their action.

If the main point was to obtain a partizan verdict by depriving the prosecution of an ordinary and legal means of defence, it is now a matter of serious consideration whether such a result would not have been gained at the hazard of consequences that instead of promoting political advantage might ultimately prove to be sacrificial.

The rejected testimony, if each individual member of the Cabinet had been placed upon the stand, including Mr. Stanton himself, would have shown that the Secretary of War was the first and most earnest to condemn the Tenure of Office act at the first meeting of the Cabinet called to consider and discuss its peculiar provisions. It would have shown, if admitted, that in the Cabinet consultation upon this question there was entire unanimity; that Mr. Stanton was the most positive and emphatic in his condemnation of all the features of the bill; that the President, by reason of pressing duties, requested the aid of some of the members in the preparation of the objections unanimously agreed upon in consultation; that to Mr. Stanton and Mr. Seward was assigned the labor of preparing the veto message; that Mr. Stanton cheerfully and unreservedly assented to this arrangement; but that he requested Mr. Seward to write the message, because he was suffering from a rheumatic affection which made it difficult and painful for him to labor with his pen, but that he volunteered to furnish legal data for the argument, and that he actually did so.

It would have shown, furthermore, that while some of the members of the Cabinet in construing the Tenure of Office act were in doubt as to its effect upon the members appointed by Mr. Lincoln, Mr. Stanton maintained that it terminated the commissions of those gentlemen and their connection with the portfolios held by them unless they were renewed by President Johnson. It would have shown that all Mr. Stanton's subsequent acts were contrary to his previously expressed convictions, and that in clinging to the office he was governed by injudicious advice corresponding with his own and his counsellors' partizan interests and prejudices; that he acted in good faith with the President and his confidential associates in office; that by the course he pursued he compromised his honor and dignity and placed himself in a position corresponding with the degrading picture drawn by Senator Sherman when he committed himself and all the Senate to the condemnation and expulsion of any member of the Cabinet who might be so lost to honor and decency as to refuse to vacate upon the politest hint from the President that his resignation would be acceptable.

Without stopping here to speculate as to what may be the verdict of the Senate your correspondent may confidently assert that in the event of condemnation by the Impeachment Court the President has ample documentary proof at his command to justify the alternative of a vindication before the people. If the Senate, by an arbitrary exercise of power, assumes to abbreviate his official existence and to terminate his prospects of political advancement it cannot deprive him of his individual rights nor suppress the utterance of truths which will disclose some of the causes that have led to the bitter personal animosity exhibited towards him by Senators and Representatives during the past two years.

It is a well known fact that some of the members in the commencement of Mr. Johnson's administration were in accord with him upon the subject of reconstruction. We have the names of those whose views coincided with those of the President, but it would be injudicious and profitless to mention them here. It is equally certain that some were disappointed with reference to matters having no bearing upon the government of the Southern States, in exemplification of wh ch it is only necessary to refer to the solicitude of the Secretary of the Senate to furnish an incumbent for the collectorship of the port of New York. If Andrew Johnson is impeached and removed from office, no sane man can doubt that the masses will not only be eager to hear, but will demand his vindication by oracular statements and documentary proof, whether it be in the form of the rejected testimony or evidence that the world does not dream is in existence.

At the present time even the most radical Senators are in great doubt as to the ultimate consequences of impeachment. The Managers and their adherents are unequivocal in their demand for a verdict of guilty, but those members of the Senate who anticipate no individual benefit are well disposed to weigh the consequences. It is understood and appreciated that to acquit would be an admission of failure; but the consequences of an unjust condemnation are strikingly suggestive. The majority of the radical Senators comprehend the fact that they are not responsible for the result any further than to perform the duty assigned them, with a full sense of the obligation incurred and their responsibility to the whole country. They foresee that political results depend upon their action, and they are daily and hourly forewarned by the admonitory shaking of Thad Stevens' threatening finger that those results may be fatal to the radical party. But they do not lose sight of the fact that Stevens is not immaculate, and that it may be more disastrous to their party to be driven by him than to yield to their own convictions of right. In this view of the case it is becoming a matter of very serious doubt with some whether conviction might not be more unfortunate than acquittal. The result of the late elections is suggestive of future consequences, and it is argued that inasmuch as the Senate is a check upon the House, it may use its prerogative now and judge this cause upon its merits rather than pronounce the President guilty in acquiescence to the reiterated and unconcealed demand of party necessity. The prevalence of opinions of the character here noted encourage the hopes of those who expect acquittal.

And I may here assume that these expectations have been raised since the trashy effort of Boutwell and the announcement of his astronominal scheme for elevating the President to a hole in the sky. His argument was tiresome, but not convincing, and the Senate, unaccustomed to dictatorial harangues from the House, winced under his claim to a prompt acquiescence in its demand. Judge Nelson's argument, though somewhat discursive and stump oratorical, is admitted by Senators to contain some strong and well developed points. When he clearly and emphatically stated the true cause of Judge Black's faithlessness, and sustained the integrity of the President in his explanation of the Alta Vela affair, there was a visible sensation in the court and galleries, and especially was this the case when he referred to the letter signed by Butler, Bingham and others to influence the President in behalf of their guano interest after impeachment had commenced.

In view of late impressions the status of the Senate is regarded as not so unfavorable. Instead of intruding my own conclusions upon this subject, I will adopt those of a venerable and distinguished gentleman who has thoroughly canvassed the subject and candidly stated his convictions. He assumes that fifteen radical Senators will vote for acquittal, and among these he includes Senators Frelinghuysen, Trumbull, Fessenden and others of the reticent members. He argues that they are conscientious, consistent, Christian gentlemen, whose lives and examples justify the belief that they will, in a case of such magnitude, resist the compulsatory power of party, and act under a full sense of their obligations to God, their country and the respondent; that it would depreciate their integrity and intelligence to doubt that they comprehend the prejudice and animosity which have distinguished all the proceedings, from their inception in the House to their development by the Managers; and with a knowledge of the gentlemen of whom he speaks, and a careful scrutiny of all that has transpired, he confidently predicts a verdict of acquittal; and at the present time he is far from being solitary in this belief.

Among the peculiar effects produced by the trial is noticeable the lack of confidential intercourse between Senators. The extreme radicals are distrustful of all who do not pronounce emphatically for conviction, and as a natural consequence there is a want of intimacy that amounts almost to estrangement. The democratic and conservative Senators are quite reserved, making no effort to obtain the confidence of those with whom they are at political variance. There seems to be prevalent an honorable understanding to avoid any intercourse that might be construed into an effort to compromise the integrity of any.

Thaddeus, the ancient and feeble master of ceremonies, is daily placed in his chair and carried by two robust young men to the door of the Senate Chamber, from whence he totters, unaided, to his seat. During the performance of one of his journeys he is said to have perpetrated a dismal witticism. With that lugubrious expression peculiar to him he looked first at one and then at the other of his stout bearers and said:—"What will I do for somebody to carry me when you are dead and gone?" After taking his seat in the Senate he generally sits out the session, partaking of wine and other refreshments in his seat. He does not relax his malignity towards the President nor his confidence in conviction.

## OBITUARY.

**William C. Rives.**

A despatch from Charlottsville, Va., dated yesterday, announced the death of the gentleman whose name heads this article. Mr. Rives was one of the few remaining members of a certain class of society in Virginia that did much to give the Old Dominion the prominence she formerly had in the United States. He was born on the 4th of May, 1793, in Nelson county, and had consequently passed his seventy-fifth year at the time of his death. After receiving an excellent education at Hampden, Sidney and William and Mary colleges, he engaged in the study of law under Jefferson, and at the proper time was admitted to the bar. He does not appear to have devoted much time to the practice of his profession, for we find him in 1814-15 acting in the capacity of aid-de-camp with the forces called out for the defence of the State. In 1816 he was elected a member of of the Convention called to reform the State constitution, and from 1817 to 1819 he was a representative to the Legislature from Nelson county. Subsequently he removed to Albemarle county, and for two years devoted his attention to law. In 1822, however, he was again sent to the Legislature, and during the year following he was elected a Representative to Congress, and served as such for six years. In 1829 President Jackson appointed the deceased United States Minister to France, where he remained until 1832. Returning to Virginia he was elected a United States Senator from that State, and served in that capacity, with but a few months intermission, until 1845. He then retired into private life, and abstained altogether from politics until 1849, when he was for the second time appointed Minister to France. On his return home he withdrew altogether from politics, and devoted his time to law and to literature. His "History of the Life and Times of James Madison" added considerably to his reputation. For eight years Mr. Rives avoided everything like political life, but the secession movement of 1861 brought him out again, and he appeared before the public as a delegate to the Peace Congress held during that year. That he was warmly attached to the Union we have not the slightest doubt, but he was a strong believer in the doctrine of State rights, and after Virginia had seceded accepted an election to the rebel Congress, in which he did all he could to further the cause of the rebellion. After the close of the war he kept quite retired, seldom appearing in public. Personally he was a most amiable and estimable gentleman, and was universally respected.

**Mrs. George D. Prentice.**

The telegraph announces the death of the estimable wife of the wit and poet of the Louisville (Ky.) *Journal*. She was a Miss Henrietta Benham, and the sister of Calhoun Benham, who figured years ago as a second in the famous Terry-Broderick duel in California, and later as a colonel in the rebel army. Mrs. Prentice was probably fifty-five years of age, and even in her later years was a notably handsome woman, being a conspicuous leader of fashionable society in Louisville up to the date of her last illness.

FIRE IN CHATHAM STREET.—At nearly six o'clock last evening a fire occurred at No. 75 Chatham street, occupied as a hat and cap store by Bernard Hamil. The fire, it seems, took place in a room in the rear o the store, used as a bedroom, among some bedding. The firemen were very prompt, and confined the fire to the contents of this back room. Loss estimated at about $200; said to be insured in the Astor Insurance Company. The damage done to the building is about $100; it is owned by Mr. Hoffman. The occupant of the store was out of town, and the origin of the fire could not be ascertained.

## NOTES ON ART.

During the last week the Academy of Design has come in for its full share of the blessing of spring weather. The galleries have been thronged, not only with those who come to while away an idle hour, but also with many who show by their manner that they are earnest admirers of art and seekers after the true and beautiful. It is pleasant to notice, in this connection, how the Academy is yearly gaining ground in popular estimation. Every exhibition a larger number of visitors go there, and every year it becomes more and more widely known. So soon as the exhibition, as in London and in Paris, becomes an event anticipated with eager anxiety, the quality of the pictures will vastly improve, and the best artists throughout the country will strive to obtain a place upon the walls, instead of leaving the space to be monopolized by crude beginners and unripe students. It is well that some of the older artists, with whose works the public is surfeited and of whose routine, machine productions it is tired, should fall back and cede their places to younger and fresher intellects. But there are many of our artists whose names can be ill spared from any catalogue, and it is wrong that they should be unrepresented in an Academy exhibition. The great fault of the younger painters is that they attempt to put upon canvas ideas yet undigested, having neither the execution nor the requisite faculties. By being afforded an opportunity to ventilate their immature thoughts the popular taste is deteriorated, and they themselves, "puffed with the hollow wind of vain conceit," make no further forward steps. It is the young artists of the present day to whom we are to look for a distinctive American school of painting, and they should be spurred on toward success, instead of being allowed to remain satisfied with some clever trick or novel method of treatment.

In the present exhibition there are many paintings by some of the fresher artists that are but reproductions of the same ideas with which they made a "hit" when first attracting public attention. Instead of advancing they seem to have remained stationary, oblivious of the fact that he who goes not forward drops behind, and that the fruit which does not ripen is soon out of season and fit only to be thrown away.

The amiable but pious Mrs. Hannah More says in one of her letters that there are only two evils in the world—sin and bile. She might surely have extended her list by adding to it the presence of those who neglect *les petites soins*. M. Honoré de Balzac classed among *les petites misères* the unintentional rudenesses of which ignorant, though well-meaning, persons are so often guilty; and he was right, for nothing is so disagreeable or offensive as to witness violations of what has been well called the social amenities. We believe that Mr. Dickens left the country without undergoing the misery of having his hat used as a spittoon; but although he may have been spared martyrdom of this kind, he might yet have written a facetious appendix to "American Notes" had he been at the Academy the other evening. The galleries were crowded with ladies, and nevertheless there were men present who chivalrously showed their respect and deference to the fair sex by keeping their hats most sternly and defiantly settled upon their heads. True, they may have been Jerseymen or "young men from the country," but that does not excuse their incivility.

The most striking and noticeable picture in the south room is No. 344, "The Forging of the Shaft," by Mr. John F. Weir—a scene in the Cold Spring Foundry. It is a companion piece to the painting which, it will be remembered, Mr. Weir showed at one of the late Academy exhibitions. The moment chosen is when the glowing iron at white heat is being withdrawn from the furnace. The brilliant light radiates from the heated metal, bringing out into bold relief the bronzed, swarthy faces of the workmen, the huge, ponderous machinery and massive, shapeless heaps of unborn power, intensifying the heavy black shadows which fill the corners of the picture. A fine contrast is offered in the effect produced by the mingling of the hot, lurid furnace air and the faint, pale sunbeams trembingly stealing down from the cobwebbed, sooty roof. The figures are powerfully drawn and are replete with force and animation. The light and shade are well managed, being true and effective. The picture is to a certain extent sensational; but that is more on account of the dramatic subject than by reason of the manner in which it is executed. It is an improvement upon Mr. Weir's former work, and indicates better knowledge of color and more conscientious study.

At the other end of the room, opposite to this, hangs a work by Mr. Edward H. May, entitled "Calvin's First Communion." The greater part of the good qualities in the picture are directly ascribable to the influence upon the artist of Couture, whose pupil he was for a long time, while that which is original is, although somewhat forcible, too broadly painted to be good. With upraised hands stands Calvin before the rock which serves as an altar. Around him are grouped several figures, evidently of different classes in society. They are well drawn and the costumes true and harmoniously colored. The picture is interesting as showing that Mr. May, if he would but cast off leading strings and walk alone, could readily become a strong, sound artist.

No. 353, "The Plains at the Base of the Rocky Mountains," by Mr. Whittridge, is a tranquil, quiet picture. Snow capped mountains in the distance, an intermediate plain and a river in the foreground constitute the component parts. Fording the river are several Indians, a little idealized for the sake of beauty, looking not quite so dirty and debauched as in their native state, but still sufficiently like the original article to be easily recognizable. Very effective, indeed, is the impression of space between the mountains and the river.

"The Price of Blood," by Mr. Thomas S. Noble, is an extraordinary, if not a startling production. Seated by a table is an aged person (it would be a libel on the human race to call him a man) apparently suffering from some internal complaint, the nature of which we are unable to determine. It may that his conscience is maltreating him in the same manner as did Richard the Third's, on the eve of Boseworth field, or he may be only undergoing an attack of that vicious but common complaint, known as indigestion. Whatever misery may afflict him, it has surely had a most deleterious effect, for a more woe-begone, dreary expression was never worn by mortal. Beside him stands a fiend in human form, looking, if possible, worse than the aforesaid afflicted individual. To the left of this picture we discovered the cause of all this wretchedness and woe in the shape of a "gentleman of color," who towers above the two demons in majestic pride and manly beauty, as did Ithuriel above a certain venerable "party" commemorated in the verses of Southey. It is perhaps needless to add that this painting truthfully represents one of those familiar scenes so well known to all professional philanthropists, in which the highly colored and intelligent African is made the subject of base barter between brutal and demoralizing whites. Mr. Noble in painting such a work as this could surely not have intended to stir up a war of races; but let us trust that his powerful pencil and burning brush may be employed in the cause of humanity in such a way as to prevail upon the reconstructed Sambo to let the grovelling whites live yet a little longer upon the earth. The picture would be good, did it but possess three qualities—drawing, coloring and handling.

No. 367, "Moonrise at Sunset," by Mr. M. H. F. De Haas, is a sea shore scene, with a dim gleam of sunlight contrasting with the golden light from the broad, full faced moon rising into a pure and tranquil sky. Translucent waves and feathery spray dash on time worn, weather beaten rocks and far out in the distance stretches the heaving, throbbing "seaman's vast and wandering grave." Down through the centre of the picture pours a glorious flood of moonlight, brilliantly illuminating the water and delicately fading off over the pulsing flood. Mr. De Haas, as is well known, possesses the rare faculty of painting water that looks wet and the marine part of this picture is in some respects the best that he has ever attempted. Were the moon a trifle less yellow the picture would be a complete success.

We are told, on the authority of Mr. Longfellow, that

> Pleasant it was, when woods were green
> And winds were soft and low,
> To lie amid some sylvan scene,
> Where the long drooping boughs between,
> Shadows dark and sunlight sheen
> Alternate come and go.

This, no doubt, would be an agreeable and pleasant manner of passing one's time, were it not for the fact that whoever lies amid sylvan scenes is unfortunately only too liable to wake up finding his hair full of grass and twigs and industrious minor members of the animal kingdom engaged in provoking wrathful and profane thoughts in his mind. When Dame Nature, however, is so unmotherly as to furnish "such small deer," it is pleasant to be able to satisfy our wild, woodland propensities by looking at such pictures as No. 226, "Morning in the Woods," by Mr. John A. Howes. A party of campers out have established themselves in a hut, under the lee of a large rock. Behind the hut tower tall yellow birches and sombre pines, delicately kissed by the light of the rising sun. The morning mist is lifting and floating heavily away in large masses. The painting is instinct with the spirit and sentiment of the woods. The scene depicted is such a one as Thoreau used to delight in and Walt Whitman loves to describe.

The artists are by no means idle during the exhibition. Mr. Cropsey's studio, for instance, presents every appearance of activity. Several half finished sketches lie about on the easels, and one or two new pictures are already completed. The most striking of these latter is a view from Prospect Hill, Staten Island, looking over across the Narrows to the ocean beyond. Below are to be seen prominent places, such as the shot towers and lower landing, while the sandy shore of Coney Island stands out in the middle distance and the blue waters of the Atlantic meet the horizon still further on. The view is taken from a spot near the beautiful villa residence of Mr. Duncan, and the foliage in the foreground of the picture is one of its especial charms. Another finished picture is a charming sunset view on the St. Lawrence river, with all the mellowy evening tints; but we believe a view of Waywayanda Hills in the Indian summer time, which the artist has in hand, will be one of Mr. Cropsey's happiest efforts. The *point d'appui* has been well selected, and the coloring and treatment such as might be expected from this well know landscapist.

## MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC NOTES.

The last performances of Bateman's Parisian opera troupe, after one of the most successful seasons that has ever taken place in this city, will be given this week at the French theatre, "La Belle Hélène" every night.

A grand testimonial benefit has been tendered to Mr. H. L. Bateman by several of our prominent citizens, and will take place at the Academy of Music on Saturday night. "La Grande Duchesse," "La Belle Hélène" and an English drama are announced, the bénéficiare appearing in the last mentioned, supported by an excellent company.

Miss Fanny Janauschek gives two farewell representations at the Academy on Monday and Wednesday, opening in the characters of Deborah and Phædra.

The French theatre on Saturday night will witness the first appearances of Madame Adélaide Ristori in the character of Sor Teresa or Isabel Suarez, in which she created such a remarkable sensation in Havana, and which caused the quarrel between the Bishop of Havana and the Captain General of Cuba. The play is one of the best in the extensive repertoire of this great artist. The plot hinges upon the supposed death of the first wife of a nobleman connected with the army of the first Napoleon in Spain. He afterwards recognizes her as the Lady Abbess of an Ursuline convent. One of the most effective scenes in it is the ceremony of taking the veil, in which the novice, who proves to be the daughter of the supposed deceased wife of the nobleman, Gustavo, is persuaded against her will to relinquish the world.

"The White Fawn," with its ball ballet, enchanted lake, fire flies, sailor's hornpipe, rising bath, Hungarian polka, military scene, beautiful new music and grand transformation, is still, of course, the attraction at Niblo's.

The week's programme at Wallack's is "Rent Day," "Ici l'on Parle Francais," "Henry Dunbar," "The Honeymoon," "Love's Sacrifice and "Masks and Faces." A new romantic drama is in preparation.

Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams still continue their triumphant season at the Broadway. "Rory O'Moore" and "Yankee Courtship" are announced for this week.

G. L. Fox's pantomime, "Humpty Dumpty," is still running at the Olympic. A new mode of ventilation will be introduced in this theatre during the week.

"The Life and Adventures of Jack Sheppard," founded on Ainsworth's sensational novel, will be produced to-night at the Bowery. The drama is in five acts and contains thirty-seven scenes and twenty tableaux. Boniface will be the hero.

The Worrell sisters have made a hit with the burlesque of "Paris and Helen" at the New York, and mean to keep it on the boards this week. Leffingwell will appear as Romeo Jaffier Jenkins in the afterpiece.

A Russian athlete named Airec will make his *début* at the Theatre Comique to-night. Lingard, Professor Hilton and the burlesque of "Under the Gas Lamp" continue at the same establishment.

A farewell complimentary benefit will be given to E. L. Davenport at the Academy of Music on Thursday, previous to his departure for California.

The San Francisco Minstrels will probably run the inimitable burlesque, "Under the Kerosene Lamp," to the end of the season. The "Grand Dutch Cheese Opera," with which the French critics are annoyed, is announced for to-night.

Mrs. Fanny Kemble commences her fourth and last series of readings at Steinway Hall, to-night, with "Richard III." On Wednesday morning she will read "As You Like It," on Friday evening Schiller's "Mary Stuart," and on Saturday morning the last reading of this gifted lady, consisting of a miscellaneous programme, will be given.

Miss Alida Topp, a very deserving and talented pianist, will give a grand concert at Steinway Hall on Wednesday. She will be assisted by Miss Minnie Hauck and Messrs. Pollak, Kopta, George W. Morgan and Schreiner.

At Hooley's, Brooklyn, a grand historical panorama, with dioramic effects, entitled the "Progress of America," will be given this week. George Christy will shine in it.

The "Grand Dutch S'," at Kelly & Leon's Minstrels, has proved too attractive for the management to withdraw it this season. A harpist and tenor have been lately added to the troupe.

The Mendelssohn Union gave their last oratorio performance for the season at Irving Hall this evening. Beethoven's "Mount of Olives" and Mendelssohn's "As the Hart Pants" will be given, with the great prima donna, Madame Parepa Rosa, as the principal vocalist.

Lester Wallack will appear in "Rosedale" at the Brooklyn Academy on Wednesday.

Tony Pastor has a new drama called "Uncle Sam and his Sons on the Ocean" to please his patrons this week.

Miss Violet Campbell will have a benefit this week at the Park, Brooklyn. On this occasion J. H. Delafield will appear in his new drama, "Quarry Dell."

This is the last week of the European Circus at the corner of Broadway and Thirty-fourth streeet. A procession of all the people and animals connected with the establishment will take place to-day.

Alfred Pease, assisted by Mme. Parepa-Rosa, Miss Matilda Toedt, Miss Gilbert, and Messrs. J. N. Pattison, Colby and Mills, will give his annual concert at Steinway Hall on Thursday.

"La Belle Hélène" was sung by Mr. Bateman's company at the Brooklyn Academy for the last time on Saturday night. The weather was miserable, and the house was therefore not as crowded as it usually is when French opera invites the elite of Brooklyn; but the audience was very enthusiastic and well pleased with the Spartan heroine, who was very cleverly represented by Mlle. Fleury de Longchamps in the absence of the invalided Tostée.

One of the most singular uses to which a railway arch can be put is shown at Kennington, near the Elephant and Castle, where, it seems, a complete theatre, with pit, boxes and gallery entire, is in course of construction, the sides and crown of the arch forming the walls and ceiling of the establishment.

Mozart's "Flute Enchantée" has been revived at the Lyrique to afford an opportunity for the début of Mlle. Marimon, by whom a great success was obtained. Mlle. Marimon has remarkable powers of vocal execution. Her rendering of the florid air of "The Queen of Night" caused a furor. She has, however, little dramatic force, and is principally, if not solely, remarkable as a singer of roulades. Troy was admirable as Papageno.

The Empress Eugénie, when present at the grand opera, sent, at the conclusion of the fourth act of "Hamlet," to Mlle. Nilsson, by the Count de Brissac, the chamberlain on duty, the bouquet of violets which she had in her hand as a testimony of high satisfaction. Viscount de Laferrière presented to the charming cantatrice, in the name of the Emperor, a splendid suit of jewels and pearls, emeralds and diamonds.

Miss Julia Mathews made her first appearance in the provinces at the Prince of Wales' theatre, Liverpool, on Easter Monday, as Clytemnestra, in a classical burlesque from the pen of R. Reece.

The Pagliano theatre at Florence is to come down. It is stated that M. de Rothschild has bought it for the purpose of turning it into a stack of warehouses.

Mendelssohn's Reformation Symphony has been twice given at Pasdeloup's concerts. The critics are not frantic about its merits, but praise the *scherzo*, which is encored.

"Hamlet," La Nilsson and M. Ambroise Thomas are having a great success, and the receipts at present are 11,500f., and every place, except in the fourth tier, is taken till the seventeenth night.

Mr. Howard Paul has gone to Rome.

Mlle. La Grua has arrived in Paris from Spain.

There is again some talk of erecting a theatre at Brompton.

The Sacred Harmonic Society gave their thirty-sixth annual Passion Week performance of Handel's "Messiah" on April 8, with the following principal vocalists:—Mlle. Carola, Madame Sainton-Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves and Mr. Santley.

Rubinstein's second concert in Paris was so crowded that artists were refused admission on payment. Never since the success of Liszt has any composer-pianist produced so great a sensation in Paris.

It is said that one of the theatres in Paris is about to produce a piece written expressly for a *danseuse* and a fountain. Most extraordinary effects in the shape of water, light and naiads are to be produced from this fountain. It is a German invention, and called "*Riese Wunder Fontaine.*"

## THE CHICAGO "ROGUES IN GRAIN."

**Two Prominent Grain Shippers in Trouble.**

[From the Chicago Tribune, April 23.]

Two grain dealers of this city well known on 'Change were arraigned before Justices D'Wolf and Winship yesterday, at the instance of the General Superintendent of the Union Star Freight line, on a charge of forgery. The case was continued for ten days, and the accused, in the meantime, are each held to bail in the sum of $3,000. No testimony was adduced in the case yesterday, but the circumstances which led to the arrest of the parties are said to be as follows:—On or about the 1st of the present month Mr. Chandler made the discovery that certain parties for a long time previous had been systematically engaged in swindling the Transportation Company by means of forged scale cards. Parties had somehow come in possession of blank scale cards at different elevators, and in shipping grain would fill out the blanks to suit themselves. The railroad companies who had constructed to carry wheat at so much per bushel or hundred weight would receive the caps filled with the produce and charge according to the number of pounds or bushels marked on the cards, and not until a sharp practice had been played upon them for many months did they discover the alleged frauds. Parties in possession of the blank cards, upon making a shipment, would place the figures at from 800 to 1,000 pounds below the actual weight, and thus save a neat little sum by each transaction. It is alleged that the accused have shipped fifteen or twenty car loads a day for the past several months under these forgeries, and when finally about a week since their practice was detected they settled the financial part of the transaction by the payment of $4,600. Now a criminal charge has been entered against them, and they will be examined, and if held, will be tried on the charge of forgery. It is understood that the accused do not deny their guilt in a technical point of view, but they allege that it is a common practice on the part of grain dealers on 'Change and winked at by the railroad companies, who, they allege, are underbidding one another. It would appear, however, that, if their statements be even partially true, there is at least one individual somewhat connected with railroads who was not aware of such an understanding, and proposes to try what effect a little law will have in breaking up alleged tacit understandings, technically known as forgeries.

# EUROPE.

## Queen Victoria Preparing for a Summer Tour.

## The French Army Bill and Napoleon's Efforts at Pacification.

## Premier Disraeli on the Anglo-Papal Conspiracy Against the Church.

The German mail steamship Hermann, Captain Wenke, from Southampton on the 14th of April, arrived at this port yesterday evening, bringing a mail report in detail of our cable despatches dated to her day of sailing from England.

The *Official Gazette* of Madrid publishes an official statement replying to some assertions of the foreign press, and defending the legality of the colonial loan recently concluded.

The Portuguese Cortes was to meet on the 15th of April.

## ENGLAND.

**Queen Victoria Preparing for Summer—Commercial Treaty with Austria.**

Queen Victoria and the royal family were to leave Windsor Castle on Saturday for Osborne and remain there about a month previous to their departure for Balmoral.

A telegram from Vienna announces that the negotiations for a commercial treaty between Austria and England have at length been brought to a successful conclusion, and that it is proposed that the treaty shall come into operation on the 1st of June next.

**The Trade Returns and Foreign Trade.**

[From the London Times (city article), April 14.]

The export trade of the United Kingdom the year before last attained an amount fourteen per cent in excess of all former experience. The returns for last year show a diminution of four per cent from the unprecedented total thus reached. But, allowing for the recent considerable reaction in the price of many of the principal articles of raw material employed in our manufactures, there is reason to believe that so far as it represents the money return for the labor, capital and skill employed the total of 1867 is the most favorable ever attained. The subjoined table shows the manner in which our commerce is distributed, the respective countries being placed in the order in which they rank as our customers. Of the aggregate of £181,183,971 about twenty-eight per cent was to our own possessions; but large as this proportion is it is not quite equal to that of preceding years, since, although there was a recovery in the trade with India, that with Australia and Canada experienced a heavy reduction. As regards our shipments to foreign countries the worst feature consists in a heavy falling off in the total with the United States, notwithstanding the very large increase in the quantity of breadstuffs and cotton we have drawn from their markets. On the other hand, Germany, under her new organization, has made a great stride toward compensating us for this loss of business with America. France, Holland and Egypt likewise continue to advance. Brazil figures for a rather heavy falling off, but the Argentine Republic has maintained the large increase of the preceding year, and now takes the lead of Belgium. Chile likewise presents a good increase, while Mexico exhibits the heavy falling off that was to be expected. China shows no reaction from the remarkable increase attained in 1866, and Japan presents an increase on the previous satisfactory total.

The declared value of the exportations to the British possessions is £65,719,371 in 1866, and £49,880,201 in 1866; and to foreign countries £138,917,536 in 1866, and £131,183,971 in 1867. The total value of our exports in 1867, contrasted with 1857, shows an increase of 48 per cent; but there are many countries with which our transactions have increased in a much greater proportion, while there are others that have made but a moderate advance, while some have even gone back. The most remarkable instances of augmentation are those of Egypt and New Granada, to each of which countries our shipments are more than three times greater than in 1857, the explanation in the latter case consisting in the development of traffic over the Panama route. With China the increase of our trade in the ten years has been 190 per cent. Next to these countries the States of the River Plate present the most important development, the increase to the Argentine republic having been about 130 per cent, and to Montevideo (the Uruguayan rupublic) 180 per cent, a rate of progress likely to be rendered still more rapid whenever, by the success of the allies at Humaita, the Paraguay and the rich and vast territory it waters shall be opened up to free intercourse. Turkey also shows an advance of about 130 per cent during the ten years; and the position of France is particularly satisfactory, the increase in her case being nearly 100 per cent. Germany, Belgium, Holland, Portugal, Denmark, and Sweden and Norway, show fair progress. Spain shows only an increase of 23 per cent, and the United States only 14 per cent, while with Venezuela our commerce is 30 per cent less than in 1857. Italy, which ten years ago, under the heads of Sardinia, Naples and Tuscany, took £3,246,839, now takes about 50 per cent in excess of that amount. Japan, which at that date had no place in the list, is at present our customer to the extent of £1,546,136. The increase of shipments to our own possessions has been about 33 per cent, which is not so great as that to foreign ports; since, although it has been 90 per cent in the instance of India, 250 per cent in that of Hong Kong, and about 130 per cent in that of Singapore, there has been in the important instance of Australia a falling off of 20 per cent since this time ten years, consequent partly on the extremely adverse state of the trade in 1867, and partly on the extent to which these colonies now carry on direct transactions with other countries. With Canada our trade has made fair progress, but with Mauritius, the Cape and the West Indies it shows a decline.

**Mr. Disraeli on the Church Question—High Church Ritualists and Irish Romanists.]**

The following letter, addressed by Mr. Disraeli to the Rev. Arthur Baker, rector of Addington, Bucks, a constituent of the right honorable gentleman, has been forwarded for publication to the London *Times*:—

HUGHENDEN MANOR, Maundy-Thursday, 1868.

REVEREND SIR:—I have just received your letter, in which, as one of my constituents, you justify your right to ask for some explanation of my alleged assertion that the High Church ritualists had been long in secret combination and were now in open confederacy with Irish Romanists for the destruction of the union between Church and State.

I acknowledge your right of making this inquiry; and if I do not notice in detail the various suggestions in your letter it is from no want of courtesy, but from the necessity of not needlessly involving myself in literary controversy.

You are under a misapprehension if you suppose that I intended to cast any slur upon the High Church party. I have the highest respect for the High Church party; I believe there is no body of men in this country to which we have been more indebted, from the days of Queen Anne to the days of Queen Victoria, for the maintenance of the orthodox faith, the rights of the crown and the liberties of the people. In saying this I have no wish to intimate that the obligations of the country to the other great party in the Church are not equally significant. I have never looked upon the existence of parties in our Church as a calamity; I look upon them as a necessity, and a beneficent necessity. They are the natural and inevitable consequences of the mild and liberal principles of our ecclesiastical polity and of the varying and opposite elements of the human mind and character. When I spoke I referred to an extreme faction in the Church of very modern date that does not conceal its ambition to destroy the connection between Church and State and which I have reason to believe *has been for some time in secret combination and is now in open confederacy with the Irish Romanists for the purpose.*

The Liberation Society, with its shallow and short-sighted fanaticism, is a mere instrument in the hands of this confederacy, and will probably be the first victim of the spiritual despotism the Liberation Society is now blindly working to establish.

As I hold that the dissolution of the union between Church and State *will cause permanently a greater revolution in this country than foreign conquest*, I sh