NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

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Volume XXXIV.....No. 6

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

FRENCH THEATRE, Fourteenth street and Sixth avenue.—GENEVIEVE DE BRABANT.

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway.—HUMPTY DUMPTY, WITH NEW FEATURES. Matinee at 1½.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway.—THE EMERALD RING.

NEW YORK THEATRE, Broadway.—THE FIELD OF THE CLOTH OF GOLD.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 13th street.—CAPTAIN OF THE WATCH—WOODCOCK'S LITTLE GAME.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.—AFTER DARK; OR, LONDON BY NIGHT.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—LIFE IN THE STREETS—ROBERT MACAIRE.

PIKE'S OPERA HOUSE, corner of Eighth avenue and 23d street.—LA PERICHOLE.

WOOD'S MUSEUM AND THEATRE, Thirtieth street and Broadway.—Afternoon and evening Performance.

THE TAMMANY, Fourteenth street.—LES FOLLIES—PAGE'S REVEL—NICODEMUS, &c.

MRS. F. B. CONWAY'S PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn.—BLOW FOR BLOW.

KELLY & LEON'S MINSTRELS, 720 Broadway.—ETHIOPIAN MINSTRELSY, BURLESQUE.—GIN-NEVIVE DE GRAW

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 585 Broadway.—ETHIOPIAN ENTERTAINMENTS, SINGING, DANCING, &c.

BRYANTS' OPERA HOUSE, Tammany Building, 14th street.—ETHIOPIAN MINSTRELSY, &c.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Bowery.—COMIC VOCALISM, NEGRO MINSTRELSY, &c. Matinee at 2½.

STEINWAY HALL, Fourteenth street.—AMERICAN INSTITUTE SCIENTIFIC LECTURE.

COSMOPOLITAN HALL, Third avenue and Sixteenth street.—GRAND CONCERT.

NEW YORK CIRCUS, Fourteenth street.—EQUESTRIAN AND GYMNASTIC ENTERTAINMENT. Matinee at 2½.

HOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn.—HOOLEY'S MINSTRELS—THE DUTCHMAN'S FROW, &c.

HOOLEY'S (E. D.) OPERA HOUSE, Williamsburg.—HOOLEY'S MINSTRELS—PROGRESS OF AMERICA.

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

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Wednesday, January 6, 1869.

MONTHLY SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The DAILY HERALD will be sent to subscribers for one dollar a month.

The postage being only thirty-five cents a quarter, country subscribers by this arrangement can receive the HERALD at the same price it is furnished in the city.

THE NEWS.

Europe.

The cable telegrams are dated January 5.

Greece, it is said, will introduce the claims of the Cretans in the conference on the Eastern question.

A mixed commission has been appointed at Constantinople to adjudicate the case of the Greek steamer Enosis.

A Turkish newspaper says that Russia urges the assembling of the conference on the Eastern question now that Crete is quiet. It also intimates that the Sultan's representative will withdraw if the subject of the expulsion of the Greeks from Crete is brought up.

Another Carlist conspiracy has been discovered in Barcelona, Saragossa and other places. Many persons have been arrested.

The peasants of Andalusia, suffering from poverty, have organized into plundering bands.

The insurgents who fired on a party of refugees under the American flag have been arrested and punished.

The French press regard the mission of Mr. Burlingame in France as nearly certain of success.

It is charged that the recent riots in Italy were fomented by the reactionists.

Persia.

Tabriz, a Persian city, has been visited by a violent shock of earthquake. No serious disaster or loss of life is so far known to have been caused.

China.

Our Shanghae letter is dated November 18, and contains a detailed account of the Yang Chow outrage on Protestant missionaries. The British Consul, with two gunboats, had gone to Nanking and received promises of redress from the Viceroy.

Mexico.

The Mexican Congress has ratified the treaty with the United States for the settlement of the claims in both countries, and also for the recognition of the rights of naturalized citizens. The police authorities in Mexico city had issued orders restricting the performance of religious ceremonies, and also closing all liquor stores at six in the evening. Some of the churches had closed their doors in consequence of the first mentioned order. Colonel Espinosa had been killed in a duel. Troops had been sent against the insurgents in the Sierra Puebla.

Cuba.

Ex-Captain General Lersundi and Admiral Chaon, sailed from Havana yesterday for Spain. Before leaving the former paid a visit to Admiral Hoff, on board the United States steamer Contoocook. The inaugural proclamation of Captain General Dulce is anxiously awaited. The Cubans say that the insurgents will never consent to a compromise, while the Spaniards feel confident that the insurrection will be suppressed. A report, exclusively from rebel sources, states that a battle took place on the 22d ult., on the Salzo river, between the revolutionary forces under Generals Santisteban and Lopez and the Spanish troops under Colonel Lano, in which the latter were defeated, with a loss of two flags and forty-two prisoners. The insurgents admit a loss of sixteen killed and thirty-six wounded. The authorities at Havana flatly contradict this report. Fewer restrictions are to be placed on the publication of telegraphic despatches and greater liberties of the press are expected. The steamer New England has arrived at Havana, having, so far, failed to recover the lost cable.

Congress.

Both houses convened after the holiday recess at twelve o'clock yesterday.

In the Senate thirty-nine Senators answered to their names. Numerous communications were received and petitions presented, after which Mr. Morton offered a resolution forbidding the landing of a submarine cable in any part of the United States territory without the consent of Congress, which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. A resolution requesting the President to name the authority by which he had issued the recent amnesty proclamation called forth considerable discussion, but was finally adopted. Mr. Wilson offered an amendment to the Banking law, referring especially to interest on deposits and the certifying of checks. Mr. Pomeroy introduced a bill to establish an ocean mail service with Mexico, which was referred. A bill to authorize the New York, Newfoundland and London Telegraph Company to land cables upon the shores of the United States was referred to the Committee on Commerce. Mr. Stewart introduced a bill making the State government of Georgia provisional only. In executive session it is understood the nomination of Alexander Cummings to be Commissioner of Internal Revenue was laid on the table. The Senate after the executive session adjourned.

In the House Mr. Washburne presented resolutions from the Committee on Appropriations directing the stoppage of payments to Wells, Fargo & Co. until their reported neglect to carry the overland mails according to contract can be investigated. Objection was made to the consideration of the resolution at this time. Mr. Barnes, of New York, offered a resolution that it would disturb values and interfere with the revenue to contract the currency or fix the time for the resumption of specie payments until gold and legal tenders shall have more nearly approximated in value. Several personal explanations were made relative to the franking of documents by members. The House then went into Committee of the Whole, and speeches were made by Mr. Windom, of Minnesota, and others.

The Legislature.

Both houses of the State Legislature assembled yesterday.

Lieutenant Governor Allen C. Beach called the Senate to order and made a short address on assuming his position as president of that body. Notice was given of bills to repeal various acts relative to the repair of canals by contract; to amend the Metropolitan Excise and the Metropolitan Fire District laws; to incorporate the Empire Gas Company of New York; relating to evidence in civil prosecutions; to construct a railroad in 125th street; to amend the assessment law, and to provide for the extension of Prospect Park, Brooklyn.

In the Assembly, after the oath of office was administered, the election for Speaker and Clerk and other officers was proceeded with. Truman G. Younglove, of Saratoga, republican, was elected Speaker, and on taking the chair addressed the body at some length. E. G. Underhill was elected clerk and Samuel C. Pierce Sergeant at Arms. After reading the Governor's Message and drawing for seats the Assembly adjourned.

The Governor's Message will be found in full elsewhere in our columns this morning.

Miscellaneous.

Bogart, the defaulting paymaster's clerk of the ship Vermont, Brooklyn Navy Yard, reappears in Canada under strange circumstances. He was tried before a magistrate named Murkstreak, at Dudswell, and was set at liberty. Now Murkstreak and his two sons have been arrested, charged with conspiracy to evade the Extradition law by a mock trial of Bogart, from whom they are alleged to have received $4,500.

In the Hoboken murder inquest yesterday the jury found a verdict that John Passchi came to his death by blows from Gustave and Emil Hausmann. The two prisoners were then committed.

The City.

In the Board of Health yesterday an inspector reported that typus fever had appeared in three adjoining houses in East Thirteenth street, having been introduced by little night wanderers, who, tired of their usual lodgings in coal boxes and wagons, had crept into the basement to sleep.

George Francis Train, under the auspices of the Fenian Brotherhood of this city, delivered a very lengthy address in the Cooper Institute last evening on the subject of his own and Ireland's wrongs. Mr. Train recounted his sufferings and his battlings with the constituted authorities of Great Britain during his late visit to Ireland. He assured his auditors he would be the President of the United States in 1872.

Messrs. Cambreleng & Pyne, No. 14 Wall street, had $135,000 in bonds and currency stolen from them during the interval between New Year's Eve and Saturday. They were taken in two tin boxes from a safe, and as no injury to the safe is noticeable suspicion falls upon a young clerk of hitherto unblemished character, who has been absent since New Year's and whose whereabouts at present is unknown to the detectives.

The inquest in the Rogers murder was commenced by Coroner Flynn yesterday. Several doctors testified that death was caused by a stab in the side. The prisoner, Tallman, who surrendered himself, was identified by a colored boy as one of the two men seen in the neighborhood of the murder about the time of its occurrence, and he said that Tallman at the time had on false mustaches. The prisoner was remanded and the inquest was adjourned until the 19th instant.

Samuel Whiteford has been held by Fire Marshal Brackett to answer the charge of arson in firing the tenement house No. 435 West Thirty-ninth street, on Sunday last. The evidence showed that Whiteford was found in his room with a big fire of barrel staves and papers burning in the middle of the floor. In his statement he said that he only intended to burn up some old letters from his wife, which he did not wish a woman with whom he was living to read.

Two boys, aged fourteen and sixteen, were committed by Justice Dodge yesterday on a charge of burglary, to which they pleaded guilty. One of them, the younger, named Fitzgerald, was an acquaintance of the family of Arthur Stewart, No. 158 West Twenty-first street, and while on a visit to them admitted his accomplice, and then leaving the house was readmitted by the other. While they were leaving with $200 worth of silverware, overcoats, &c., they were detected by Mr. Stewart, who caused their arrest.

The Blaisdell case came up in the United States District Court yesterday for trial, but Mr. Ira Shafer, the leading counsel for the defence, moved a postponement on account of his being ill, which was granted till Tuesday next. The Stevenson cotton case was then called on, and in order to allow counsel to procure witnesses was allowed to go over until to-day.

In the Supreme Court yesterday Judge Barnard granted an order vacating his orders of injunction and for the appointment of a receiver for the consolidated express companies.

The Cunard steamship Russia, Captain Cook, will sail to-day for Queenstown and Liverpool. The mails will close at the Post Office at half-past ten A. M.

The steamship Albemarle, Captain Couch, will leave pier 37 North river at three P. M. to-day for Norfolk, City Point and Richmond.

Prominent Arrivals in the City.

General Henry H. Bingham, and ex-Mayor Richard Vaux, of Philadelphia; General John B. Gray, of St. Louis; General G. W. Cass, of Pittsburg, and Judge Rush R. Sloane, of Sandusky, are stopping at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

Dr. Clarence J. Blake, of Boston; A. M. Ramsdell, of New London, and John F. Rathbone, of Albany, are at the Hoffman House.

Ex-Mayor Fargo, of Buffalo; ex-Mayor Innis, of Poughkeepsie, and E. A. Rollins, of Washington, are at the Astor House.

Congressman Thomas Cornell and General H. A. Samson, of New York; Colonel S. M. Carpenter, of Washington, and W. H. Bushnell, of New Hartford, are at the Metropolitan Hotel.

Major Frank Taylor, Captain G. P. Cotton and Lieutenant W. P. Reynolds, of the United States Army, and Z. T. Adam, of Saratoga, are at the St. Charles Hotel.

Dr. Garland and B. H. Woolman, of Philadelphia, and Captain E. G. Guthrie, of Kentucky, are at the St. Julien Hotel.

Senator W. Sprague, of Rhode Island, and W. E. Lovett, of San Juan, are at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

CRUELTY TO APPRENTICES ON SHIPBOARD.—We perceive by late San Francisco papers that the first and second mates of the ship Santee have been sentenced to the State Prison for two years for ill-treatment of apprentice boys on the voyage from this port to San Francisco. This sentence is undoubtedly just. The object in taking apprentices on shipboard at all is to make good sailors of them and to supply our mercantile marine with a steady, intelligent and sober class of American seamen and navigators. If they are treated in the inhuman manner described as occurring on board the Santee very few good boys will be found willing to undertake the task of learning practical seamanship. It is the duty of masters of vessels to see that their apprentices are not treated with brutality by their subordinate officers, and we are glad to find a court of justice punishing as they deserve the perpetrators of these tortures on shipboard.

The Telegraphic Monopoly and the Press—The Duty of Congress.

The press in the United States is the guardian of the liberties of the people. It is the medium through which we indicate our wishes to those whom we elect to shape our laws. It is the motive power of civilization. Without it progress would stand still and society would take a retrograde step. It therefore becomes important that every citizen should consider if he desires to have this great focus of his liberties protected, or if he prefers to submit it to the domination of any great monopoly which may wish to dictate to it. To have such a press as is demanded by this period there must be the most elaborate, perfect and cheap communication with every point in our country, as well as with foreign nations. In proportion to these advantages will arise those benefits which are reflected by the press upon the people. In fact, as goes the press so goes the nation in its republicanism. Therefore all that which is directly connected with its prosperity becomes national. Instead of this, however, we see a gigantic monopoly rise up and attempt to dictate to this national guardian. The telegraph monopolists, already overcharging, are depleting the people of millions of dollars annually. In addition they now terminate their contract with the journals of this city by the following notice:—

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY,
NEW YORK, August 18, 1868.

To Messrs. JAMES BROOKS and ERASTUS BROOKS, proprietors of the New York *Express*; PRIME, STONE, HALE & HALLOCK, proprietors of the New York *Journal of Commerce*; JAMES G. BENNETT, proprietor of the NEW YORK HERALD; MANTON MARBLE, proprietor of the *World*; MOSES S. BEACH, proprietor of the New York *Sun*; HENRY J. RAYMOND & Co., proprietors of the New York *Times*, and the TRIBUNE ASSOCIATION, proprietors of the New York *Tribune*, constituting together the association known as the New York Associated Press:—

GENTLEMEN—You will please take notice that, in pursuance of the sixth section of the agreement made and entered into between you and the American Telegraph Company, bearing date December 23, 1865, the American Telegraph Company, party of the first part to said agreement, and the Western Union Telegraph Company, successor and assignee of the said party of the first part, elect and desire to terminate said contract at the expiration of the present current year of the continuance of said contract—to wit, on the 22d day of December, 1868.

By order. The American Telegraph Company, by
E. S. SANFORD, President.

Attest—O. H. PALMER, Secretary.

The Western Union Telegraph Company, by
WILLIAM ORTON, President.

Attest—O. H. PALMER, Secretary.

This means heavier charges for telegraphic matter in the future and a consequent curtailing of the amount of news, which it is thus proven the monopolists will deal out to the people only as they may feel disposed. In this way the telegraph holds much the same power over information that the government holds over importations, and may at will impose a prohibitive tax. Information being, as we humbly believe, a purely national commodity, we cannot understand why it should not be governed by the people, through our Congress, for the national good.

The great dinner lately given at Delmonico's was apparently for the promotion of existing telegraphic interests. There are not wanting malicious people who say that the heavy expenses were paid from the surplus cash remaining on hand after the declaration of enormous telegraph company dividends. Such efforts at blunting the senses by stuffing stomachs can have no influence on the mass of the people, who are determined to put an end to the present monopoly, either by nationalizing the existing telegraph system or by constructing a new and cheaper one. That this is the national determination is best seen by an examination of the newspapers throughout the country. These, with very rare exceptions, are strong in the desire to destroy the present monopoly and introduce a system which shall appertain to the nation itself. It is almost the unanimous opinion that the telegraphic lines should be managed by the Post Office Department. The fact that this department now shows a large annual deficit is because the public are making great use of telegraphic lines for all correspondence, and consequently there is not mail matter sufficient to pay for transportation and administration.

If Congress is alive to one of the greatest of our national necessities it will no longer hesitate to grapple with this telegraphic monopoly and reorganize the whole system of communication on a broad basis. The present postal department should be remodelled and called the Post and Telegraph Department. The cost of correspondence by either method should then be reduced to the minimum consistent with the expenditures for administration. Instead of enormous dividends, drawn, as at present, from every individual in the country, we should have the liberty of transacting our business without paying a set of monopolists for the privilege. This will be a step for the general good—a step, too, in the direction of civilization. It is for this we press it upon Congress for immediate action.

Railroad Communication with Washington.

Having first thrown a sop of half a million into the State Treasury of New Jersey, the railroad monopoly in that State has combined with other railroad corporations, and is now making covert efforts to influence the action of Congress upon the proposition to increase the lines of railway communication between New York and Washington. We hope Congress will listen to no representations these railroad monopolists have to offer toward restricting the lines of railway travel to and from the national capital. There cannot be too many of these lines, nor can the rates of travel be too light. Washington, as the capital of the nation, is the focus upon which the material interests of the whole country centre, and intercourse with it from every direction, particularly from the great commercial metropolis, should be as easy, cheap and rapid as it can possibly be made. Congress has the right of eminent domain and can charter lines to run through those States, like New Jersey, where the influence of the monopolies is all powerful, and should do so without hesitation, taking care, however, that in granting such charters they shall be surrounded with such safeguards as to prevent their falling into the hands of mere speculators, and also of their being bought up by the odious monopolies themselves. Now is the time for the friends of these additional railroad routes in Congress to press legislation upon the subject, and thus secure, without unnecessary delay, what has been so long and so urgently demanded by the people of the entire nation, increased facilities of transit to and from the seat of government. The interests of private monopolies and corporations should be made to give way before imperative public necessity.

Opera Bouffe and Its Representatives in New York.

Rarely has any species of amusement created such a revolution in this city as the introduction of *opéra bouffe*. It came to the famished music-loving public as a welcome relief, just at the time that Italian opera, oratorio and concerts had reached the lowest ebb and their patrons were on the lookout for a genuine musical sensation which would either sweep away the fragments served up to them under the name of opera or stimulate the managers to fresh exertions. The sensation came under the management of Bateman in the form of *opéra bouffe* at the cosey little Français, and instantly the public went into ecstasies over "La Grande Duchesse" and her merry court. They recognized in Offenbach's opera the union of sparkling music, inimitable drollery and unsparing expense and pains on the part of the management to leave no flaw in the representation. *Opéra bouffe* became firmly established, and, as is always the case with a success, it brought competition into the field. The present season opened with two carefully selected companies at two of the leading theatres in the city—the Français and Pike's. Mr. Grau at the former house, which has been reconstructed, redecorated and beautified in the most complete manner, made a genuine hit with "Geneviève de Brabant," which he produced in a style even surpassing its representation in Paris. He purposes replacing it this week with the *chef d'œuvre* of Hervé, the parent of *opéra bouffe*, a musical extravaganza of the most ludicrous kind, entitled "L'Œil Crevé." The music of this opera combines the sparkle and champagne spirit of Offenbach with the higher order of art exemplified in *opéra comique*. Bateman, after giving a fortnight to each of the works in which his company appeared before at the Français and Niblo's, plays a strong card in the production of Offenbach's latest work, "La Périchole." The leading artists of both companies have become favorites with the public, and as each of them has a specialty the rivalry between them can only be of a friendly kind. Grau has an invincible phalanx in Mme. Rose-Bell, Mlle. Desclauzas, Mlle. Guerretti, a handsome and well drilled chorus and an excellent orchestra. The first of these artists has proved herself an exquisite singer, such as is rarely heard in *opéra bouffe*, and her acting, if not boisterously comic, has sufficient quiet humor and fascinating grace about it to recommend it. Mlle. Desclauzas is also a genuine artist, who wins her way by her attractive appearance, her naïve manner and sweetly modulated voice. Grau has another prima donna, Mlle. Fontanel, still in reserve. Bateman's strength lies in those excellent artists Mlles. Irma and Tostée and MM. Aujac, Leduc, Duchesne and Lagriffoul. The secondary singers of Grau's troupe and his very attractive chorus claim precedence in their line, while Bateman has the advantage in the tenors. The voice of Aujac possesses more of a sympathetic quality than that of the Français tenor, and his acting is full of fire and rollicking humor. We might also say that, while Carrier's voice has more spontaneity in it, that of Aujac has more feeling. Regarding Irma and Tostée, they require no words to testify to their wonderful talents for *opéra bouffe*. What the second lacks in voice the former supplies, and in their peculiar *rôles* they are unsurpassed. Leduc is simply inimitable, and in every character he assumes he completely loses his identity. There were many at the first representation of "La Périchole" who failed to recognize Prince Paul, Menelaus and the Sheriff of "Les Bavards" in the decrepit old Viceroy of Peru. Whatever the relative merits of the artists of both troupes may be there is a wide difference in the houses. Thus the Français is in a convenient and fashionable neighborhood and is an attraction in itself, while the other is in an out of the way place, where it almost requires a chart for a guide.

But a fresh excitement is looming up in the field of *opéra bouffe*. The very best work of this kind of music has not yet been presented, and there will be a race between the two managers to see which will bring it out first. It is the opera of "Fleur de Thé," by Henri Lecocq, first produced at the Athénée, Paris, last April, when Mlle. Irma created the leading *rôle*, Césarine. Both managers purpose placing it on the stage; but, of course, whoever is first in the field will have the advantage. One thing is certain, the manager that brings out "Fleur de Thé" in proper style will make the hit of the season in *opéra bouffe*. The music is delicious throughout, the plot intelligible and well constructed, the characters varied and ludicrous, and there is plenty of chance for a display of grand *mise en scène* and extraordinary costumes in it.

Bateman, however, will soon have to quit his present quarters on Eighth avenue, to make way for Shakspeare and the new management. What is he then going to do with his excellent troupe? Rumor hints at the provinces being next favored by him, but the thought should not be entertained for a moment. There are a number of theatres on Broadway where the sensational, Heaven knows, has held the boards long enough. Can it be that there is not a manager in those establishments who has the business tact and sense to offer a home to those French artists who are wasting their sweetness on the desert air of Eighth avenue? It would be much better to patronize real art than to waste money and time on stage carpenter effects which are constantly getting the manager into hot water. But at all events, Messrs. Grau and Bateman, do not forget "Fleur de Thé," and let us see who will be first on the boards with it.

THEY ALL COME HOME AGAIN.—All the men who cut their connection with this ruined country when the rebellion collapsed, who could not live in a land that tolerated nigger suffrage, who were too good to be caught in our company—we were so degraded—all these fellows are coming in again, now that "universal amnesty" gives them the option. There were some who tried to organize a new world at Cordova, in Mexico, and they gave it up. Some went to Brazil, but couldn't stay there; and now the unhappy mortals that were exiled to London and Paris give their assent to the general opinion. They cannot live in any other country, rebels or not rebels. Even if the confederacy had succeeded they would have felt homesick for the Stars and Stripes.

THE EMERALD RING—The O's and Mac's of the city government.

Governor Hoffman's Message.

The first message of our new Governor to the Legislature is published on another page of the paper. Agreeably to the old adage that a new broom sweeps clean Mr. Hoffman has made a thorough and comprehensive review of our State affairs, with many valuable suggestions for reform and some little moralizing on political parties, State rights and the duties of patriotism. It is a neat, smoothly constructed and respectable document. It remains to be seen whether Governor Hoffman will take the high ground of elevated patriotism which he has expressed in words, and whether he will stand there independent of political parties, rings or cliques. The beginning is very well. We shall see how he will end.

Mr. Hoffman commences his address by a fitting tribute to our great State and this magnificent metropolis, and says truly that there is no real conflict of interest between the city and the country. Speaking of the agricultural prosperity of the State he remarks that during the last year we have been favored by abundant harvests, and that the farmers have met with compensating prices and general prosperity. This is an important fact, which ought to silence the on-to-specie-payment croakers who try to make out that the country is being ruined and everybody suffering in consequence of a paper currency. We question if the farmers generally were ever as prosperous as they are now.

The exhibit of the finances of the State on the whole is satisfactory. The debt on the 30th of September, 1868, after deducting the unapplied balances of the sinking fund at that date, was $38,864,448. The sinking fund at the present rate of application, if not interfered with or diminished, will extinguish the whole debt within nine years. The surplus revenue of the canals for the past fiscal year has been sufficient to pay the balance of the canal debt of 1846, to satisfy other requirements and to contribute over a hundred thousand dollars toward paying the expenses of the government. A change in the contract system for repairing the canals and a more efficient management of them are recommended.

The cost of the common schools was $10,480,467, and the receipts from taxes and other sources, including a balance of over a million in hand, amounted to the same. The number of children attending school was 971,512. The total number in the State of school age is 1,480,467; so there are more than two-thirds of the children in the State receiving a common school education. New York may well be proud of her common schools.

With regard to the several commissions for governing the metropolitan district the Governor recommends they should be placed under the Mayor of the city, who is elected by the people and who should be responsible for the government of the city. This self-government by the people of the several localities he claims is the only one consistent with our republican institutions and the spirit of the constitution.

He recommends greater facilities for the naturalization of citizens and the protection of the franchise. He is opposed to centralization by the federal government, and holds that the only way to preserve liberty is to leave the regulation of local affairs to the people in their several localities. He applies this to the question of suffrage as well as municipal administration. These views and suggestions, with several others which we have not specially noticed, are worthy the consideration of the Legislature. Mr. Hoffman has begun his official career very well in this message, and we hope he may end with deeds as brave as are his words.

Report of the Special Commissioner of Revenue.

In this document the Commissioner presents very lucidly the sum of investigations "instituted with a view not of establishing or confirming any particular theory, but rather of determining, through the collection of positive data, what policy in legislation is likely to prove hereafter most advantageous to the revenue and most certain to establish the credit and industry of the whole country upon a sound and substantial basis." He glances over the present state of the national economy in a review respectively of the forces that tend to enrich us and of those that tend to keep us poor or make us poor. Of the former are immigration, the general increase in the products of domestic industry and the continued increase in agricultural products; and the agencies that favor the development of these causes are "great natural resources in respect to abundant and fertile territory, great natural facilities for intercommunication, abundant and cheap raw material and diversity without insalubrity of climate; and secondly, a form and spirit of government which heretofore has left man and capital, over an area almost continental, free and unrestrained to work out their own development; a continued influx of population and capital from the Old World; a continued invention and application of labor-saving machinery and a most rapid extension of the railway system." The shady side of the picture of our national status is regarded as "the resultant mainly of three agencies growing out of the war—viz., irredeemable paper currency, unequal and heavy taxation and a limited supply of skilled labor."

Mr. Wells argues that in view of these relations between the two sides of the picture it is for legislation to remove the evils that appear on the one hand and develop the benefits that are felt on the other by aiming mainly at three points:—"First, full restoration of the national credit and resumption of specie payments; second, refunding the national debt at a lower rate of interest; third, reduction of the cost of national production, with a view of enabling the products of American industry to compete on terms of greater equality with the products of foreign nations than is now possible, thereby establishing a system of national protection and insuring stability, increased product and a redevelopment of American commerce and shipbuilding." And he enters his most earnest protest against any further general increase of taxation in the form of tariff, and directly makes the four following recommendations:—"First, an enlargement of the free list; second, a reduction of some rates of duty and, as an exception, an increase of a few others, with a view to the increase of the revenue; third, a reduction of some rates of duty with a view to an absolute abatement, on the simple ground that the reduction of a duty is the reduction of a tax, and that the most efficient method of protecting home industry is by the removal of obstacles in the form of taxes; fourth, the conversion to the utmost possible extent of the present *ad valorem* duties into specifics as the only practicable method of insuring certainty and equality in the assessment of duties, and the prevention of undervaluations and the abrogation of the privilege which enables returning tourists to import free of duty an amount of goods corresponding to their real or supposed social position."

Napoleon and the European Conference.

The conference which was to be held on the 9th of this month is very likely to be postponed, in consequence of a request to that effect having been presented by the Greek government. The Greeks, it appears, are anxious to be represented in the conference by their present Minister at the court of the Sultan. In many respects this request seems to be reasonable. It is presumable, therefore, that the request will be granted. It is rather a noteworthy circumstance that while the Emperor Napoleon is about to attempt the solution of the Eastern question, the world should be generally convinced that the situation of France and of the Emperor in relation to France is far from satisfactory. It is not to be denied that France is ill at ease. The press is painfully rebellious and outspoken. In spite of all the fines and imprisonments and suppressions the journals all over the country are as self-willed and as outspoken as ever. A prominent London journal tells us that the time has come when the Emperor must either "check the press or abandon personal government." Making allowance for the fact that the London press is too willing and a little too much disposed to carp at the Emperor, there can be no doubt that the remark above comes pretty near the truth. The Emperor has governed France well and in many respects wisely; but it is the fault of personal government that it is seldom rewarded with gratitude. It will be long before France will have such another ruler; but another ruler might have been less desired, and the present ruler might have been more thoroughly appreciated if the French people had a little more to say in the management of their own affairs. That trouble is brewing in France all the world knows. How long it will be before an outburst takes place depends very much on how long the Emperor will live. The revolution in Spain and the recent reforms in England have tended very much to encourage reformers in France, and Frenchmen are beginning to be tired of seeing their chief attending to all peoples and neglecting them. They, too, have interests, and so long as the Emperor refuses to look at and acknowledge them his dynasty is in danger. So far as this proposed Eastern conference is concerned there are many in and many out of France who say, "Take the beam out of thine own eye." A conference on a European question in the capital city of a grumbling and discontented nation is not a pretty nor encouraging sight. France needs emancipation and liberty quite as much as Greece. The European Powers cannot do a wiser thing than give up the idea of a conference, remain neutral, and allow Greece and Turkey to fight it out.

The Treasury Ring—A Peep Behind the Scenes.

The letter from a well informed Washington correspondent on the Treasury ring which we publish this morning is rich in facts and conclusions entitled to the immediate attention of Congress, and especially of the House Committee of Ways and Means. In the grand schedule of their jobs, active and projected, for drawing bonds and lands from the government the railroad rings eclipse all other spoils and plunder combinations; but the appliances of the Treasury ring, through the bulling and bearing of its agents in Wall street, have affected, and still affect, all the financial and business interests of the whole country to the amount of untold millions in losses to the people and the Treasury. The continued high prices of living, from the continued depreciation of the national currency and its slow approaches to the specie standard, may be all charged to a very great extent to the manipulations of the Treasury ring, whose headquarters are in the Treasury Department. Our Washington letter referred to throws considerable light on this business, and particularly in reference to the projected European branch of the ring broaches a scheme which, we think, demands the immediate interposition of Congress.

ANOTHER HEAVY BOND ROBBERY.

One Hundred and Thirty-five Thousand Dollars Stolen.

Another very heavy bond robbery was revealed to the police yesterday, the victims this time being Messrs. Cambreleng & Pyne, of No. 14 Wall street, and the amount stolen being the comfortable little sum of $135,000.

It seems that on New Year's eve the office of the firm in question was closed as usual, and every precaution taken to prevent any thief from celebrating the new year by taking anything of value from the place. Among other things which were carefully looked after were the two safes of the establishment. In one of them two tin boxes, one of them containing $100,000 and the other $35,000 in bonds, were stowed away and the safe locked, the key used in locking it being placed in the other safe, which was also afterwards locked. On New Year's day the porter of the establishment kept good guard over the place, and—it is charitable to suppose—the police did likewise, and no person was seen to enter or come out of the office during the day.

Saturday morning the doors were opened as usual, when everything to all outward appearances seemed in apple pie order. The safe containing the key of the second safe was opened and the key found; but when the other safe had been opened the surprise of everybody may be imagined when it was discovered that the two tin boxes had disappeared. There were no marks of violence about the safe, no traces of a jimmy or other burglarious instrument, so the clerks were left to conjecture among themselves how the boxes got out, and with about as much success as is said to have attended the king in his efforts to find out how the apples got into the dumpling.

It is almost needless to state that the greatest excitement prevailed in the office when the loss of the bonds became known, and everybody looked at everybody else for an explanation of what nobody could explain. The police were notified of the occurrence, when detectives Phillips Farley and Joseph Eustace were ordered to "work up" the case. So far, notwithstanding their strenuous efforts to reach the guilty party, they have been unsuccessful in getting hold of the wanting man; but they discovered, however, during their investigation that one of the clerks employed by Messrs. Cambreleng & Pyne has not as yet put in his New Year's appearance. He is said to be a young man of excellent character, and, it might be said, almost above suspicion, were it not that his absence cannot be accounted for by those who ought to be able to know something about it. Efforts have been made to find him, but so far without success.

Chauncey Doty, a freight conductor on the Hudson River Railroad, was caught between two cars at East Albany on Monday night and so badly injured that he died at two o'clock yesterday morning. He leaves a wife and one child at Fishkill.