

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

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Volume XXXIV.....No. 361

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

- BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery, GIG. THE ARMOUR OF TYRRE—THE BOTTLE LIP. WALLACE'S THEATRE, Broadway and 12th street—CENTRAL PARK. THE TAMMANT, Fourteenth street—THE BURLESQUE OF BAD DICKY. GRAND OPERA HOUSE, corner of Eighth avenue and 2d street—LINDGARD'S BURLESQUE COMBINATION. BOOTH'S THEATRE, 12th, between 6th and 8th av.—GUY MANNING. OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway—UNDER THE GARDEN. FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fourth st.—THE DUKE'S MOTO. FRENCH THEATRE, 14th st. and 6th av.—LIFE IN LONDON. ACADEMY OF MUSIC, 14th street—HERMANN, THE GREAT PRESIDENTS. NIMROD'S GARDEN, Broadway—THE DRAMA OF LITTLE EMILY. WOOD'S MUSEUM AND MENAGERIE, Broadway, corner Third and N. Main—Performance every evening. MRS. F. B. CONWAY'S PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn—THE DUCHESS OF NOTHING—THE ELVES. TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Bowery—COMIC VOCALISM, NEGRO MINSTRELS, &c. THEATRE COMIQUE, 414 Broadway—COMIC VOCALISM, NEGRO ACTS, &c. BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE, Tammany Building, 14th st.—BRYANT'S MINSTRELS. SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 55 Broadway—ETHIOPIAN MINSTRELS, NEGRO ACTS, &c.—"HARRI". WAVERLY THEATRE, No. 73 Broadway—ETHIOPIAN MINSTRELS, NEGRO ACTS, &c. NEW YORK CIRCUS, Fourteenth street—EQUESTRIAN AND GYMNASIC PERFORMANCES, &c. MADAME T. HOULET'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn—HOULET'S MINSTRELS—THE TERRIFIED GIANT, &c. APOLLO HALL, corner 25th street and Broadway—THE NEWITY GIANT. NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 615 Broadway—SCIENCE AND ART. LADIES' NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 615 Broadway—SCIENCE AND ART.

New York, Monday, December 27, 1869.

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The Winnipeg Revolution—"Manifest Destiny" and Our National Administration.

The so-called Winnipeg rebellion has assumed the form of a revolution. It appears that a declaration of independence has been issued in the name of the provisional government as a republic of Rupert's Land and the Northwest Territory, signed by John Bruce, as President, and Louis Rielle, as Secretary; that in this declaration it is proclaimed that the people of Rupert's Land, &c. (less than forty thousand in number, we suspect), have heretofore respected the authority of the company of adventurers known as the Hudson Bay Company, which circumstances had placed over them, unsatisfactory as was this government; but that as it has abandoned them by transferring to a strange Power (the New Dominion) the sacred authority confided to it, the people concerned have become free from all allegiance to said government; that they repudiate the authority of Canada; and they will not have Governor McDougall and his companions to rule over them; that the people of said Northwest Territory have accordingly set up a government for themselves; that they are ready to treat with the Canadian or New Dominion government; but that meantime, in support of their declaration, "relying on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge on oath our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor."

It further appears that the offer to treat with the Canadians is a mere ruse; that an independent government is the ultimatum of these Northwesters; but that, as "the English-speaking portion of the people have as yet no delegation in the council, the revolutionists do not want to announce their designs until the co-operation and unity of the whole settlement has been secured, after which they will make a bold strike for independence." This reference to "the English-speaking portion" of the people indicates that these revolutionists are of French origin—the descendants of French Canadian and half breeds, who, as trappers in the service of the Hudson Bay Company, have formed these northwestern settlements. We know, too, that from the overthrow of French authority in the Canadas by Wolf at Quebec to this day the French Canadians, wherever found, have been chafing under the rule of England, and have been and are always ripe for revolt.

But our city readers will first, perhaps, desire to know something of this Rupert's Land, or Northwest Territory. First, then, it is a part of the British Possessions, which extend from ocean to ocean north of us, and which are some ninety-six thousand square miles larger in area than the United States, excluding Alaska. The rebellious section in question lies west of Western Canada and north of our

Northwestern States of Wisconsin and Minnesota and of the Territories of Dacotah and Montana. We suppose it is intended to embrace the whole of the basin of the Saskatchewan river, from the Rocky Mountains eastward to Lake Winnipeg, and the drainage of the lake on the east, and on the south, including the Red river of the North, a region covering an area of not less, we dare say, than three hundred thousand square miles—a beautiful region for cereals, cattle and sheep, equal in dimensions to seven or eight States of the size of New York, and no doubt capable of supporting twenty millions of people. In fact, after the Canadas, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, the Northwest Territory is all that remains of the British Possessions east of the Rocky Mountains adapted to profitable cultivation. All the rest, like Alaska, is worthless, except to the hunter, the trapper and the fisherman.

From all that we can learn so far the strength of this Rupert's Land revolt lies in the settlements of the valley of the Red river of the North. The sources of this river are in that extensive table land of beautiful fresh water lakes which no man has numbered, on the northern half of Minnesota. From this magnificent tableland of fine forests and countless fresh water lakes we find interlocking the head springs of the Red river, which, through Lake Winnipeg, passes north into Hudson Bay, and the head springs of the Mississippi, which flows south into the Gulf of Mexico. The Red river for some two hundred miles is the boundary line between Minnesota and Dacotah, and for a hundred miles and more before it enters the British Possessions is a navigable stream. Just this side the British boundary line, in the northeast corner of Dacotah, lies the principal settlement of the river, the town of Pembina. It is the half-way trading post of her Britannic Majesty's settlers of the Winnipeg basin, where they make their exchanges with the traders from St. Paul, Minn. Indeed, during the summer, by boats up the Red river and by ox teams or pony carts across the country to the Mississippi, those French Canadian and half breeds bring over, to a considerable extent, themselves, their buffalo skins and their furs to St. Paul, and take back in exchange their dry goods and groceries. During the winter even they still drive a pretty brisk traffic over this route with dog sleds. With such business intercourse these Red river or Lake Winnipeg French Canadians have become pretty thoroughly Americanized. Impenetrable, roadless forests and morasses cut them off from new Canada, and hence they naturally call the new government sent out to them from that quarter "a strange government." They don't know anything about it. Their business and social relations are with the people of the United States, and hence their declaration of independence.

But through all the southern tier of the British provinces of North America, from sea to sea, among the French Canadians, "Feniens, traders and speculators, disaffection, in one form or another, against the British government exists. It is daily widening, too, and assuming a movement for annexation to the United States. At the same time, we see that the anarchy of Mexico can only be cured by absorption; that the Central American States down to Darien may be secured without difficulty, and that we have but to say the word and Cuba and St. Domingo are ours, without war, and almost without money, while their value to us would be without price or beyond calculation. What is our national administration doing, however, in behalf of this grand programme, north and south, of "manifest destiny?" Very little, though General Grant is a man of Western progressive ideas, large and enthusiastically American. But he has an amiable old gentleman in the State Department, of the ancient order of conservatives, who, in regard to Cuba or those Alabama claims, for instance, still interposes the difficulty, what will England do? or what will Napoleon think? or "what will Mrs. Grundy say?" Thus the administration is waiting upon events while it ought to be shaping and deciding them. What, then, can we say? Only this: Do, Mr. President, give us a new Secretary of State and a new department.

THE FUNERAL TO-DAY.—Under the arrangements of Chief Justice Chase and his associates of the Supreme Court, in co-operation with the President and members of both houses of Congress, the funeral of the late Edwin M. Stanton takes place in Washington to-day. The ceremonies, notwithstanding the absence of Congress and the request of Mrs. Stanton for as little of display as possible, will be sufficiently imposing and impressive to be long remembered.

OUR CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICAN CORRESPONDENCE.—We present our readers to-day with a budget of letters from Central and South America. The Panama communication shows the feeling with which the news of the Darien Canal undertaking was received on the Isthmus. From Chile we learn that the surface question has received some degree of attention, and possibly before long reforms will be introduced which will meet with general favor in the Chilean republic. The Morales revolution has collapsed in Bolivia. The Dreyfus loan has been decided in Peru, yet there are fears that the question is not definitely settled. The loan is unpopular, and though the President is in favor of it, the matter will not be allowed to rest. Taken altogether, the news furnished is exceedingly interesting.

THE DARIEN CANAL.—From Panama we have news of the reception of the HERALD's information regarding the prospects of the cutting of a canal across the Isthmus. We are glad to see that there is a healthy interest evinced in the proposed undertaking, and that the people of Colombia are alive to the advantages of the great work. We are assured by the President of the United States of Colombia that the republic is "disposed to do all within her power to forward that great undertaking." We hope no unnecessary delay will retard the fitting out of the expedition to make the preliminary surveys preparatory to the commencement of the cutting from ocean to ocean.

SOME OF THE WEST INDIA ISLANDS DESIRABLE.—With the acquisition of the icebergs of Russian America and the probable speedy acquirement of that cold region embraced in the Northwest Territory we shall require the annexation of a good share of the West India Islands in order to neutralize our climate.

News from China and Japan.

By the arrival of the steamship China at San Francisco yesterday we have advices from China via Hong Kong up to November 19, and Japan via Yokohama, December 2. General Van Valkenburg, late United States Minister to the Court of the Mikado, with his suite, were passengers by the China. The most important items of news from China are the confirmation of the ratification of the Burlingame treaty with the United States and the modifications in the treaty with England insisted on by the British government. These latter comprise an alteration in the schedule of transit dues between the two countries, the opening of two new ports in China—Wachau and Manchau—to trade and commerce, the working of coal mines by foreign appliances, a reduction in the duty on native coal, the framing of a code of mercantile laws applicable to all countries, the reference to the Supreme Court at Hong Kong of all international civil suits that may arise, and some less important points bearing on a proper carrying out of the articles of the treaty. The young Emperor of China, it is stated, will be placed on the throne early in the coming year. The Duke of Edinburg had arrived at Shanghai and was very cordially welcomed and tendered the hospitalities of the city. The China brought a valuable cargo of silks and teas and another instalment of five hundred and twenty Chinese and Japanese emigrants.

From Japan we learn that the Mikado had pardoned the Tycoon and Prince Aizid, the leader in the late rebellion. An attempt to assassinate the Tycoon had been frustrated. Rumors of anticipated troubles were rife, but the government was paying no attention to them. The English Minister to Japan had been warned of the existence of a conspiracy to assassinate him. A treaty with the representatives of foreign governments had been ratified, by which the trading with unopened ports by foreigners is prohibited. Mr. Delong, the new American Minister, had arrived at Jeddo and was presented to the Mikado. Two English sea captains—Carnes, of the ship J. C. Taylor, and Peterson, of the Runnymede—were drowned while returning to their vessels, anchored in the harbor of Yokohama, by the capsizing of their boats. For further particulars of the intelligence brought by the China we refer our readers to our telegraphic news column, and which will be found of special and general interest.

The Herald Correspondent and the Patriarch of Constantinople.

In the HERALD of yesterday we published the result of an interview which our correspondent had with the "Ecumenical Patriarch," the Bishop of Constantinople. It is the first time we believe in the history of journalism that any representative of the press has been so highly favored and so frankly dealt with. We are proud of this honor for our own sake, for the sake of American journalism, and for the sake of this great country, of which the Patriarch spoke so handsomely as the "country of the future." The Patriarch's remarks were characterized by great common sense. He did not think much of the Ecumenical Council. It was based on a false principle. All the divisions of Christendom were the result, directly or indirectly, of the pretension, arrogance and usurpation of Rome. In the olden time the Pope was only "Primus inter pares," the first among equals. "The early Christian Churches, and the Churches of Russia, Greece and other countries in communion with them, may be looked upon as forming in a certain sense a Christian confederation—a kind of United States." Such was the language of our correspondent. "Precisely," said the Patriarch; "that gives the idea to a great degree. Each Church had during the first centuries autonomy in administration; and in affairs of a local character, each country was allowed to use its own language in the ritual as well as to have all sacred books in the vernacular tongue. In everything relating to the doctrine and discipline of the whole Church a council of the whole Church alone had authority." In the opinion of the Patriarch "for any man to claim that he is the Vicegerent of God and infallible is nothing less than blasphemy." This interview will command attention far and wide; and wherever it commands attention it will furnish proof that the race of Ulysses and of Themistocles has not quite forgotten its cunning, and that the Church, which in the days of Chrysostom stood at the head of Christendom, has not after long ages of oppression entirely lost its spirit. In the principles laid down by the Patriarch of Constantinople we can see a basis for the Church of the future.

THE CHURCHES YESTERDAY.—We give our usual full report of the religious services observed in the churches yesterday, the sermons and special utterances of the pastors on things celestial and terrestrial, and which will be found in another column. Parson Beecher was more than usually himself and said some things better and more telling than is even his wont. He was particularly severe on newspaper men, whom he denounced, and declared their conversion doubtful, not excepting our special reporter who is so close an attendant of his church and so faithful a recorder of his sayings and imprecations. The topics treated of were—"Christian Meekness," by Beecher; "Christianity and Its Triumphs," by The Angel Gabriel Not to be Had on Five Dollars a Month," "The Incarnation," "The Resurrection," &c. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather all the places of worship were well attended.

REFORM IN THE RUNNING OF STREET CARS.—We learn that the Third Avenue Railroad Company will be the first to inaugurate the new proposed system of stoppages of the street cars. The even numbered cars, it is said, will stop only at the lower crossings of the even numbered streets on the down trips and at the upper crossings of the same streets on the return trips. The odd numbered cars, alternating with those having even numerical designations, will in like manner stop at the odd numbered streets. They will also, it is said, have a semicircular track at the lower end of the City Hall Park, in order to avoid changing the teams from one end to the other of the cars. There will then be no stoppages except as above stated until the cars return to the starting point, and but one "starter." By the adoption of this reform the round trip will be lessened one-quarter, and a great strain will be taken from the horses.

The Union League Club and the Late Edwin M. Stanton—Mr. Stewart's Proposition.

On Saturday evening last, at a special meeting of the Union League Club, Mr. Charles Bull, Senior Vice President, in the chair, a series of appropriate resolutions, offered by Mr. W. C. Bryant, were adopted, in recognition of the great public services of the late Edwin M. Stanton (which we published yesterday), after which, on motion of Colonel Le Grand Cannon, it was resolved that a committee of five be appointed to prepare an address, to be given before the Club, on the life, character and services of the late Secretary of War.

Mr. A. T. Stewart, a man who always has an eye to substantial business results, then took the floor, and moved that the same committee be requested to report any way of offering a further testimony of esteem to the deceased they may think fit. And we think we can tell what this means. It means that our late War Minister, who was entrusted with the disposition and who disposed of a thousand millions and more of the public money, died comparatively poor; that he made no money in his great office; that while living he declined the offers from his fellow citizens which, we think, he might wisely have accepted, and that Mr. Stewart is willing to co-operate in a movement to make comfortable in their circumstances the widow and children of the deceased.

This, we think, is what Mr. Stewart was aiming at in his resolution. The proposition is that of a patriot and a public benefactor; but we hold that something more than this is due in recognition of the public services of Stanton. We hold that Congress, in a generous pension to his family, can best express the respect of the two houses for the memory of the faithful public officer, and that such pension should be voted, with the necessary appropriation. We consider it a disgrace only to the government that General Grant, in order to make both ends meet at the end of the war, felt it a duty, as it was under the circumstances, to accept the generous offerings made him from his fellow citizens. It is a disgrace to the government that the widow of ex-President Lincoln has been compelled to make her home in Germany for the sake of economy, when a pension of a few thousands a year would have enabled her to live comfortably in her own country. Congress should avoid a similar disgrace in the case of Stanton; nor should Senator Sumner abandon his bill for a pension to Mrs. Lincoln. Fidelity in office is not rewarded, and that is one great reason why public rogues are so numerous in this country.

Our European Correspondence.

Our special correspondents in Europe supply the letters from London, Rome, Naples and Athens which are published in our columns to-day, embracing a varied, sprightly, accurate and most interesting elaboration of our cable telegrams to the 10th of December. The writers take us from London to Athens, touching at Naples and halting for a season in Rome. It constitutes a fine tour, the picturesque descriptions and force of the different authors almost obliterating the distance to the eyes and mind of the reader, and thus enabling the imagination to realize, as it were, the actualities.

It will be seen that Premier Gladstone finds Ireland the still chronic internal "difficulty" of Great Britain, and that the Cabinet of this very accomplished statesman is likely to break up during the next Parliament on the apparently simple subject of the matter and best mode of treatment of the active, chameleon-like radicalism which exists in the "Green Isle." The British Tories foresee the coming crisis, and have already commenced their preparations for its party utilization by naming the young Earl of Derby as their leader; a very judicious political step, apparently, one by which they may reasonably hope for victory under the old and well tried banner of the Stanleys, having its baronial motto and device retouched a little, so as to read more in conformity with the spirit of the age, and thus meet the exigencies of the period more harmoniously. From Rome we have a very interesting programme of the pontifical rules and regulations laid down for the conduct of the Ecumenical Council, with reports of the arrival of many of the distinguished personages who had reached the Holy City during the first two days of the assemblage. Pope Pius the Ninth entrusted the custody of the key of the diplomatic gallery in the council hall to the French Ambassador, who was named Dean of the diplomatic body for the occasion. His Excellency was at the same time duly instructed to exclude "ladies and their friends." As Pope Pius the Ninth is acknowledged to be a very quiet satirist in his way it may be that the Holy Father intended the key arrangement as a grand Papal contrast with the condition of affairs which existed in Rome, and Europe generally, at the time when Napoleon the Great carried not only the keys and sword of St. Peter, but the Pope himself, off to France. Antonelli is vindictive, apparently, in his mode of humiliation by ordering a French gentleman to exclude ladies from any place, no matter where, which they wished to enter, and in ordaining the minister merely as a dean just as his imperial master had come to regard himself almost as Head of the Church. The attitude which the German prelates may assume on the Papal infallibility question was not, to all appearance, exactly decided when our despatches were written. Italy was agitated on the Roman Council subject, and our Naples letter is consequently replete both with news and news gossip. From Athens comes an exhibit of the actual condition of the relations which exist between Greece and Turkey, a valuable and timely contribution when we consider the somewhat critical aspect of what is broadly accepted as the Eastern question. The special budget, as a whole, furnishes a vast deal of information as to the state of affairs in Europe.

WALL STREET.—The present will be a dull week among the bulls and bears of Wall street. No stringency in the money market, no corners, no rushing up of gold, no depression of stocks, and no excitement of any kind or description will be likely to take place in the quarters of the money changers this week. Time will hang heavily upon the brokers, stock-jobbers and gold gamblers until after New Year's.

PERU AND PARAGUAY.—Peru sympathizes in the struggles of Paraguay against the aggressions of Brazil and her allies. This feeling is not of recent origin. It dates a good way back, and was the cause of the suspension of diplomatic relations between Peru and the Brazilian empire for some time. The Peruvian government is again beginning to regard the persecution of the Paraguayan people as aggressive towards republican institutions generally in South America. This is the correct view to take of the war now waged against Paraguay, and the sooner other South American republics have their eyes opened to this fact the better it may yet prove for their future peace.

Mexico.

We published yesterday letters from Tuxpan and from the city of Puebla. One letter describes in glowing style a trip through the Tierra Caliente, or hot land of Mexico, "where the flowers never cease to bloom, where vegetation never rests—truly a land of milk and honey." What a contrast is offered to the cold, disagreeable climate of the long, barren salt plains between Godul Aqua and Perote, by the beautiful little town of Tizitlan, with each of its houses occupying an entire square and all the squares growing corn, and seven miles below, by the lovely and fertile country, with its growing crops of corn and rice, extending to the land of the plantain and fragrant vanilla; by the valley of the bold and limpid Tocalutla; by Papantla, the home of the Totonacos, clean and prim looking Indians, wearing light and picturesque costumes, and by the Tuxpan valley, with its wheel-tracks, its fences of evenly split rails, its log houses, its Yankee cooking stoves and other signs of *los Americanos*, and by the famous Huasteca country, with its gently undulating plains, its hills covered with luxuriant grass or heavy tropical woods, and its happy little valleys, crossed by pretty bubbling creeks, as clear as the skies above them, and every bush along their banks alive with chirping birds and screaming parrots and cacahuacs. Well might our correspondent exclaim, "Blessed country! wood, prairie, water, fertile soil, with but little rock, which will give two crops of corn, rice, sugar cane, vanilla, coffee, sarsaparilla, indigo, dyewoods, allspice, ginger, cacao and all the fruits of the tropics; where there are no mosquitoes, few flies and few snakes." It is not strange that on arriving at the town of Tuxpan, and visiting the remnants of the French, Italian and ex-Confedateo colonists, who have tried to settle on the south side of the Tuxpan, he wondered that they did not settle on the north side of that river, in the healthy Huasteca country. What a rich and enticing field it will offer to future colonists from the United States so soon as Mexico shall have been annexed to our great republic. This ultimate result of manifest destiny, the union of the two republics, cannot long be postponed by all the flattering compliments which ex-Secretary Seward, the polite and wily guest of President Juarez, has felt diplomatically bound to bestow upon the capacity of the mixed races of Mexico for independent self-government.

Our letter from Puebla refers to the ominous split in the liberal ranks, the furious outbreaks of religious intolerance, the renewed efforts to overthrow the Juarez government and to other indications that the usual crop of revolution is ripening in Mexico. The time must come, and cannot be far distant, when the direct intervention of the United States government will be needed in order to bring order out of chaos, and to enable Mexico, under the influences of law, peace and civilization, to develop to the utmost its wonderful capabilities for wealth, prosperity and progress. We are convinced that General Grant's original idea, at the close of our late civil war and while Maximilian and the French were occupying Mexico, of marching an army beyond the Rio Grande and annexing the entire country, was far more statesmanlike than the glittering generalities with which Mr. Seward has acknowledged the courteous welcome extended to him by President Juarez. But for the present, and until a few little West Indian questions are disposed of satisfactorily, the question of the absorption of Mexico by the United States will keep. We can afford to wait patiently for its inevitable final solution.

Our Pagan Population and Our New Democratic Legislation.

The curious and interesting description which we published yesterday of the Pagan population of New York was confined to the few Chinese within our gates. But it might well have also embraced the vast number of practical pagans, who worship not God but only mammon; who are always ready to seize the opportunities which Wall street offers for swindling honest stockholders; who can forge and counterfeit, and pick pockets and commit burglary, and even murder; who skulk from detection in overcrowded tenement houses—those nests of crime as well as poverty and disease and death; who glory in their shame as patrons of pugilism, dog fighting, cock fighting and all kinds of brutal sports; who are known and feared by policemen and private citizens as "election roughs," that actually rule the city and live on public spoils; who, in fine, include all the vagabonds of all races and complexions and of both sexes that make up the rotten, festering, pestiferous mass which we call "the dangerous classes." New York had a taste of their quality during the terrible riots of 1863.

At the next meeting of our State Legislature we may expect a pretty general overhauling of the existing commissions, which now act independently of the Mayor and Common Council. It is possible and probable that all these commissions may be fused together and put under the supervision of the Mayor and Common Council. We shall, then, ere long discover whether the promised reconstruction of our city government will diminish or enlarge the privileges claimed and enjoyed by "the dangerous classes" in our community. The chief object of the democrats will be to strengthen their hold upon the State. But they will not neglect their interests or the claims of their faithful tools in this city. We shall watch with special interest the action of the next democratic Legislature. Whatever may be its result, it will, unquestionably, be more interesting and important to the citizens of our metropolitan district than any subject which has agitated New York for the last fifty years.

THE HERALD IN NEW HAMPSHIRE. [From the Claremont (N. H.) National Eagle, Dec. 25.] The most wonderful paper on the continent, if not in the world, is the NEW YORK HERALD. Spring no expense to collect news, independent of all party control, it conforms to the plan of its proprietor, and is a perfect newspaper. The events of the world are daily photographed in its columns, and beyond doubt it furnishes the most complete daily record of news anywhere issued.

WASHINGTON.

THE NEW TELEGRAPH BILL.

A Lobby Forming to Oppose its Passage.

THE SAMANA BARGAIN.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26, 1869.

Opposition to the Samana Bargain Developing in Congress.

Though annexation of Dominica is generally favored by members of Congress, it is not to be denied that several members are growing against the measure and protesting that they will oppose it when the proper occasion arises. Those who thus place themselves in antagonism to the project do so for several reasons. Some because they are opposed to all new acquisitions, deeming that we have enough undeveloped territory on hand to occupy us yet for three or four generations to come, and that to expand our territorial domain is to weaken our power, and not to strengthen it. Others oppose annexation or leasing because they hold that such important measures should not be undertaken by the Executive without authority in the first place from the legislative branch of the government, and they declare that no such authority has been given in this instance. They say it is about time to put a stop to this business of speculating in real estate, which was so cunningly inaugurated by Mr. Seward, and only the given a great legislative sanction because the national good faith was involved. They ask, further, what is the use of paying at all for what was offered us so recently for absolutely nothing? If the Dominicans really want to become annexed, believing that such a condition would advantage them, why not let them vote on the point first and declare in that way their real wishes? If they do not want to join us, then say these grumblers, we ought not to force them to by bargaining with President Baez, nor should we desire to have them at all as unwilling subjects. These are the principal reasons urged for opposing the Balboa-Baez treaty, whatever it may be, and which are expected to be urged when the matter comes up for discussion in the halls of Congress. The chief advocate of all these annexation schemes is General Banks, not yet arrived at his prime. Perhaps when he reaches here he will find means to strangle the incipient hostility, and be able, by his well known skill in argument and parliamentary tactics, to engineer the measure through successfully.

The New Postal Telegraph Bill—Opposition of the Monopolists.

General Washburn's speech last Wednesday on the subject of American telegraphs has thrown the Western Union monopolists into a great state of excitement and set them already to planning how to defeat his proposed bill when presented to Congress. A full lobby may be expected on here again to stick against all measures of telegraph reform, and particularly that which Washburn intends to put through if patience, zeal and industry can avail him. His speech on Wednesday last showed that he understood the subject thoroughly and demonstrated the necessity of radical reforms, and at the same time the feasibility of his own plan. It is not perfect, perhaps, but it seems to be the best yet devised, and well calculated to command the respectful consideration of Congress. Its main idea is found in a provision for the government, at a fixed period, to take control as proprietor of all the lines in the country, and is based upon the Telegraph act of July 24, 1866, which seems to have been ignored almost completely in the various schemes prepared since that time and ostensibly having the same object in view. By virtue of that act, the provisions of which were acceded to by all the telegraph companies in the country, the United States government acquired an undoubted right to take possession of the Western Union and all other lines, and it is this right which Washburn's bill is designed to enforce for the purpose of securing to the public the blessings of a cheap telegraph system. The first section of the bill boldly enacts that after July 24, 1871, it shall be unlawful for any person, except those employed for that purpose by the Post Office Department, to receive money for the transmission of telegrams. The second section provides for the appraisal of existing telegraph lines and property, pursuant to the act of 1866, and their subsequent purchase by the Postmaster General, subject to approval by Congress. The bill then goes on to provide for the establishment of a bureau in the Post Office Department, with an organization similar to, but far less expensive than that existing under the Western Union régime. The machinery for taking care of and operating the lines can be in complete readiness by July 24, 1871. After that date a uniform stamp tariff of twenty cents is to be charged throughout the United States for all messages of thirty words or less, including date, address and signature, and one cent for each additional word. Large reductions are to be made on existing rates for press reports. Absolutely no franks are to be allowed, and another abuse of the present system is to be corrected by providing for the transmission of all messages in the order received, with the single exception of government messages, which are to have priority over all others. The Postmaster General is also to be authorized to place at the exclusive disposal of the press a certain number of lines deemed sufficient for such purposes. The extension of telegraph facilities to small towns and villages is abundantly provided for by the bill, and also a telegraph money order system, which is to be put in operation on Saturday, January 1, 1871, to be enjoyed under heavy penalties for forgery or giving any information in regard to any telegrams. The last and one of the best features of the bill is that which provides that officers and employees of the Bureau shall be removed only for cause, and that promotions to vacancies shall be made in regular order, and not for political purposes. This is a step in the direction of the civil service, and will, it is expected, put a stop to all the outcry against the government assuming control of the telegraph on the ground of its increasing official patronage and corruption. Mr. Washburn is thoroughly in earnest, and a reference to his speech will show that he is prepared for a vigorous fight. His views are concurred in by many of the ablest men in Congress.

The Probable Successor of Stanton.

The death of Stanton has started speculations as to who the President will appoint to be Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. The prominent names mentioned are Judge Humphreys, of Alabama; Ira Harris and Judge Pierpont, of New York, and Senator Trumbull. As New York and Illinois have representatives on the Supreme Bench already it is believed the appointment will be given to the South, and that Humphreys will be the man.

Making a Job of the New Post Office.

The Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads of the House, which was authorized to investigate affairs connected with the construction of the new Post Office in your city, will meet at the Astor House next Saturday. Their object is said to be simply to embarrass the persons in charge of the work, and not to develop frauds, as they pretend.

THE UNITED STATES STEAMSHIP SERVICE.

The United States steamer Kearsarge and Nyack were at Callao, Peru, November 25. The last named was expected to leave shortly for the Northern coast, Guayaquil and the Galapagos Islands. The United States steamer Onward, with stores from the naval depot at Panama, sailed for Callao, Peru, on December 14. The United States steamer Rosaca was at Panama on the 6th of December. The United States steamer Swigra arrived at Aspinwall December 14.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

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