

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

- WOODS MUSEUM AND MENAGERIE. Broadway, corner of Third St.—Admission daily. Performance every evening.
NIBLO'S GARDEN. Broadway.—THE DRAMA OF THE GREAT RENAISSANCE.
BOWERY THEATRE. Bowery.—THE DUKE IN THE NIGHT.—GEMINUS FEARS.—FAMILY JARS.
BOOTH'S THEATRE. 252 St. Broadway and 5th Ave.—THE LADY OF LYONS.
WALLACK'S THEATRE. Broadway and 12th Street.—LOST AT SEA.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE. corner of Eighth Avenue and 26th St.—THE TWELVE TEMPERATIONS.
OLYMPIC THEATRE. Broadway.—NEW VERSION OF HAMLET.
ACADEMY OF MUSIC. 14th Street.—ENGLISH OPERA.—THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO.
FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE. Twenty-fourth St.—SOPHIE PROUD.
NEW YORK STADT THEATRE. Nos. 45 and 47 Bowery.—GERMAN OPERA.—FRA DIABLO.
MRS. F. B. CONWAY'S PARK THEATRE. Brooklyn.—FROU-FROU.
TONTI PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE. 201 Bowery.—COMICO VOCALIST. NEGRO MINSTRELS, &c.
THEATRE COMIQUE. 514 Broadway.—COMICO VOCALIST. NEGRO ACTS, &c.
BRITAIN'S OPERA HOUSE. Tammany Building. 14th St.—BRITAIN'S MINSTRELS.
SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS. 585 Broadway.—ETHIOPIAN MINSTRELS. NEGRO ACTS, &c.—PEWEE BROTHERS.
KELLY & LEON'S MINSTRELS. 72 Broadway.—ETHIOPIAN MINSTRELS. NEGRO ACTS, &c.
NEW YORK CIRCUS. Fourteenth Street.—EQUESTRIAN AND GYMNASTIC PERFORMANCES, &c.
APOLLO HALL. corner 25th Street and Broadway.—THE NEW HILTONS.
MOORE'S OPERA HOUSE. Brooklyn.—MOORE'S MINSTRELS.—THE 40 THIEVES, &c.
NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY. 618 Broadway.—SCIENCE AND ART.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Friday, March 25, 1870.

CONTENTS OF TO-DAY'S HERALD.

- 1.—Advertisements.
2.—Advertisements.
3.—The State Capital: The Young Braves and the Old Warriors in Deadly Conflict; Heavy Skirmishing in the Senate Yesterday; Caucus of the New York Delegation; The Hatchet Buried and the Braves Drinking Fire Water With the Grand Sachem.—The Spring Fashions: Opening Day in the Metropolis—Personal Intelligence—Princeton Alumni Dinner—Army and Naval Intelligence—Mobile Races—Determined Suicide—Journalistic Notes—Bailey's Right Bower in Quod—Germanism.
4.—Europe: A Roman Opinion of the Papal Council; the HERALD as a Religious Light in Russia; Russian Imperial Visit to Mr. Burlingame; the French Indictment Against Prince Bonaparte; Queen Victoria's Health; Old World Items—News from Cuba and Venezuela—Execution of a Murderer in Ohio—The Newark Bank Bond Robbery—Youthful Depravity in Chicago.
5.—The Wrecked Democracy: Beaten Seaboard Bothers and Bewildered—Assault and Robbery in Bloomfield, N. J.—The Anti-Stow to Philosopher—Newark Methodist Conference—Rev. George B. Heyworth's Lecture on Humberg—A Turner Union Squabble—Captives of Ham Strugglers—The Northern Pacific Railroad Company—Road on the National Treasury—The Sleepy Hollow Horror—Proceedings in the New York City and Brooklyn Courts—Real Estate Matters—Billiard Tournament—Long Island News—The Fire at Castle Garden.
6.—Editorials: Leading Article on the President's Message on the Decline of American Commerce—Amusement Announcements.
7.—Editorials: Telegraphic News From All Parts of the World; Napoleon's Action Against Regicide Conspirators—Prince Pierre Bonaparte's Trial—The America's Cup: The Coming Race for its Possession—New York City News—Balls Last Night—Brooklyn City News—The Francis by Importers—Fire in John Street—Longevity—Business Notices.
8.—Indian Fighting: The Punishment of the Piegan; Complete Account of Colonel Baker's Expedition Against the Savages; A Further Report from General Sheridan—Chess Matters—Enforcing Sanitary Laws: Civil Actions to Compel Obedience to the Health Board—The Midland Railway—Financial and Commercial Reports—Municipal Affairs.
9.—Disfranchisement of Fern: Amboy: How Canada and Amboy Can Carry Out Their Designs—A "Lost Cause" Swindler—Strange Accident—Marriages and Deaths—Advertisements.
10.—Washington: The St. Domingo Treaty Under Consideration; Sumner's Argument Against Ratification; Another Instance of Spanish Impertinence; Debate in the House on the Tariff Bill—Shipping Intelligence—Advertisements.
11.—Advertisements.
12.—Advertisements.

SENATOR GENET IS BECOMING PERSONAL in reference to the Police Commission; but Hank Smith, they say, has become a stout believer in the saving virtues of the country democracy.

REVENGE.—The defeated and badly whipped Mantillis of the copperhead school are trying to revenge themselves for the late waxing Old Tammany given them in Albany by making mouths at Bill Tweed.

ALL RIGHT.—The recommendation which, with the proclamation of the fifteenth amendment, the President proposes to make to Congress for a universal amnesty, and such an act will be the appropriate crowning capstone of equal justice and equal rights for all. Amen!

THE STREET COMMISSIONER.—Does not Mr. McLean know that the rough democracy are using him as a cat's paw? When he can no longer serve them they will hoist him, if they get the power, over the balworks of the Street Department to make room for Genet or Creamer. Poor McLean!

THE CATHOLIC BISHOPS FROM AMERICA in Rome refuse to assent to the proclamation of the dogma of Papal infallibility. All efforts to conciliate them have proved futile. Free, independent and happy! One flag, one country and one God. Such men as these can afford to go without a hat a little longer, and as for silk stockings, they will hear quite enough about them when they get home.

A NICE CITY GOVERNMENT.—If the roughs had succeeded in carrying their plans at Albany on Tuesday the leaders in the city government would have been made up next year as follows: Mayor—Jimmy O'Brien, Chamberlain—Jack Mortessay, Comptroller—Mike Norton. With a train of prize fighters, gamblers, panel thieves, stuffers, dead rabbits and rodents as deputies and assistants.

The President's Message on the Decline of American Commerce.

The special message of the President in relation to the decline of American commerce and on the necessity of adopting measures to revive it, which was sent to Congress on Wednesday and published in the HERALD yesterday, shows that General Grant is alive to and studying the material interests of the country. This message is an endorsement, to use the President's own language, of the "very able, calm and exhaustive report" of the committee of the House of Representatives which was appointed to inquire into the cause of the decline of American commerce and to suggest a remedy. The President recommends also in general terms the adoption of some such measures as the committee has submitted in the form of bills for regaining our lost commerce and for building up our merchant marine.

There are two points which the President makes worthy of the serious consideration of Congress. One is that the carrying trade of the country having passed in a great measure into the hands of foreigners, in consequence of the decline of our tonnage, the freights of this trade, to the amount of twenty to thirty millions a year, are lost to us. The sum thus extracted goes into the pockets of our commercial rivals, and is, as he says, "a direct drain upon the resources of the country," and like casting so much money into the sea. This, he thinks, a low estimate of the loss sustained, though the President does not include the vast amount that is paid in passage money to foreign shippers. If we reckon the freights, the passage money and the exchange in favor of foreigners in consequence of possessing the carrying trade, the amount would exceed, probably, fifty millions annually. The work done by foreigners, the President properly remarks, "should be done by American owned and American manned vessels." This state of things is, to use his own words, a "national humiliation."

General Grant has the right view, too, of the disastrous effect of American commerce carried in foreign bottoms on the balance of trade and exchange, for he says:—"If a fair proportion of this trade were carried on in American ships it would diminish the balance of trade against us to the extent of the freight and passage money—that is, to the extent, probably, of fifty millions a year."

Another point the President makes is that the merchant marine is an important auxiliary of the navy in time of war, and that it renders unnecessary, to some extent, a costly naval establishment. He notices the fact that at the commencement of the late war our navy consisted of less than one hundred vessels, of about a hundred and fifty thousand tons, and a force of eight thousand men, and that we drew from the merchant marine, which had cost the government nothing, but which had been a source of national wealth, six hundred vessels, exceeding one million tons, and about seventy thousand men, to aid in the suppression of the rebellion. This, he observes, "demonstrates the value of the merchant marine as a means of national defence in time of war."

Regarding the means to be used to revive our merchant marine and commerce and the recommendation of the committee the President thinks a direct money subsidy is less liable to abuse than indirect aid given for that object. Still he holds the opinion that while subsidies may be given to specific lines of steamers or other vessels the policy should not be adopted as a rule for all, but that while subsidizing very desirable lines of ocean traffic assistance should be given in an effective way to the merchant marine generally. Every American will cordially respond to the President's wish to revive our shipping and commerce. That is what all have at heart. But the question is, how can this be done? Is the plan of the committee and of the President the best one? Very important steamship lines, where the mail service is valuable, might be subsidized, and Congress might strain a point in payment for such service beyond the postal receipts if great commercial interests are to be promoted; but anything like a general system of subsidizing would open the door to innumerable evils. It would be a direct tax upon the people at large for the benefit of one interest and a limited class of the community. It would establish a dangerous and costly precedent, and at one blow would overthrow the long established policy of this country. Every special interest—manufacturing, mining, commercial, agricultural and industrial—could make the same claim for direct subsidies upon this precedent. There would be no end to special legislation, lobbying and corruption. Indirect aid to shipbuilding and shipping interests could be given by taking off duties on materials that enter into the construction of vessels and stores used on board of them. This would materially assist our shipbuilders and merchants. Or there may be found other means of affording incidental assistance. But, after all, the best and most effective way to increase our tonnage is to permit our capitalists and merchants to build or buy ships wherever they can be got cheapest, France and Germany get many of their splendid steamships from the Clyde, and they become just as much French and German as if constructed at home. France and Germany get the profits and advantages of commerce through these vessels just as much as if they had been built in those countries. Why should we not do the same? The great object is to increase our tonnage, to save the freights and passage money that now go into the pockets of foreigners, and thus to turn the balance of trade more in our favor. The interests of a few shipbuilders are insignificant compared with these important advantages. But the Registry laws stand in the way. We hope Congress and the President will look at the matter in this practical point of view, and while giving all the incidental protection or aid possible to shipbuilding and steamship lines our capitalists and merchants will be permitted to buy vessels in the best and cheapest market.

Our Special European Advice by Mail—The Old World As It Is.

The European mail of the 12th of March, delivered at this port yesterday, supplied us with a most valuable special correspondence from the Old World, furnishing, in addition, a varied and very interesting newspaper detail of our cable telegrams to date. Our special writers in Berlin and St. Petersburg present matter of considerable import, the first relative to the national feeling which exists in Germany on the subject of the Papal claims of infallibility and Church doctrinal ascendancy as set forth in the Ecumenical Council; the second expressive of the graceful and honorable memorial tribute which was paid by the Czar of Russia to the memory of the late Minister Burlingame by an imperial visit made to his widow. The religious alarm which exists in North Germany appears to be very intense in feeling and with its spirit decidedly opposed to Papal pretensions. In this connection it will be remarked that the countrymen of Luther and Huss experience religious light and consolation to-day from the pages of the HERALD published in New York—a decided attestation in support of our claims of a missionary evangelism for the free and independent press of America preaching with the modern "gift of tongues" by electricity. The French indictment under which Prince Pierre Bonaparte is being tried appears in *extenso* in its legal verbiage in our columns. Queen Victoria held a Drawing Room at Buckingham Palace, from which we report the style of dress fashions just prevalent at the British Court, at the same moment when we extend a very sincere welcome to her Majesty on her reappearance as the leader of the circle. The Queen was suitably supported by the Princesses, daughters of her Majesty. Murder and suicide are again spoken of in repulsive form from France. England had an elopement in high life terminating in the marriage of Lady Blanche Noel, daughter of the Earl of Gainsborough, in a Catholic church. Mr. Disraeli stirred up the conservative electors of London to a rally for a parliamentary seats triumph. France remained decidedly hostile to the plan of the pontifical *schemata*. Turkey sends reports of progress and religious consistency. Our European news budget speaks thus of joy and grief, royalty and democracy, consolation and crime, religion, law, politics and love, in a general and very instructive comminglement—Instructive, as it tells the American people what to imitate and what it is healthy to avoid in the customs and habits of the communities of the Old Land.

A FINE CHANGE FOR CHARITY.—It is given out that there is to be a meeting of the Tammany General Committee in the Wigwam on Monday evening next. The occasion will fill the house as it was never filled before, for there is a very general opinion that the proceedings will be very interesting. If, therefore, the arrangement can be made for the charge of five dollars admission (and upon this charge the house will be crammed), with the understanding that the clear receipts shall be given to the Foundling Hospital in care of the Sisters of Charity, it will be equal, perhaps, to fifteen thousand dollars to that excellent institution. And why not, then, have it so? Such opportunities for charity seldom occur, and they should not be neglected.

THE CANADIAN POLICY OF RETALIATION.—In the Nova Scotia Legislature on Wednesday a resolution was introduced and made a special order for next Friday, setting forth that the proposed policy of retaliating on the United States for the withdrawal of the Reciprocity Treaty by imposing heavy duties on American imports, is unsound in itself and is especially inopportune at present when the American Congress is considering the subject of reducing the duties on Canadian exports. The Nova Scotians take a sound view of the matter from their standpoint, but they need not expect another reciprocity treaty with the United States. Uncle Sam will treat the Canadian provinces as well as he treats New York when they come in under his flag, but they must not expect to do so before. They can get rid of their export troubles, their Fenian fears, their Winnipeg rebellions and all their ills simply by annexation.

THE REPUBLICANS MASTERS OF THE FIELD.—If it be true that the silk stockings and the young democratic militia are now for "war to the knife and the knife to the hilt" against the democratic regulars, the republicans are masters of the field at Albany, and it rests with them, as men of law and order, to say whether the democratic law and order men or jackknives shall take back seats in our city government. The opportunity for law and order is a glorious one, and the republicans, if they will, can turn it to a glorious account.

THE MILK TRADE.—A convention of milkmen was held at Croton Falls on Wednesday, and resolutions were adopted denouncing the swill milk dealers and pledging the members of the convention to use no swill or deleterious substance as food for their cows in future, and to supply dealers and customers with good, pure milk. This is an encouraging and gratifying sign. It encourages us to hope that, with the aid of Mr. Bergh, it will be quite possible ere long to take milk without a thought of stump-tail cows or of the diluting qualities of Croton water, and that metropolitan babies will grow up lusty and strong from the pure lactical nourishment of the cow, instead of weak and puny from the enervating effects of the hydrant.

The Legislature Yesterday.

"Grim viaged war" continues to make fearful faces in both branches of the Legislature. The clouds that lowered upon the House have not yet lifted. A partial trace has resulted from the dreadful exhaustion of Wednesday; but the hostile combatants still make mouths at one another. Mr. Genet yesterday proposed a bill in the Senate to prevent fraudulent voting, and Mr. Tweed objected; whereupon Genet made his mouth at Tweed by intimating that he was not surprised at that Senator objecting. He also made a mouth at Hank Smith, showing his teeth this time with cannibalistic intentions. He offered a resolution declaring Smith's position as Police Commissioner vacant, and proposing an election on the 6th of April to fill the vacancy. The resolution, however, was laid over under the rule. "Then Mr. Creamer, who represents the cream of the muscular democracy, denounced the controlling politicians of New York as robbers, and looked as sour as curdled milk while he recounted their intrigues. "Give New York an election lay that will prevent frauds," said he, "and it will get along without a new Charter." At this the republicans smiled complacently and all democratic belligerents made faces.

Mr. Frear reported the Brooklyn Police bill last night in the Assembly, where there had been an ominous calm all day. Mr. Jacobs asked that it be made a special order for to-day, but Mr. Alvord came up as smiling and rosy as a well-groomed prize fighter, and objected. He had serious doubts whether the Metropolitan Police district would be abolished this session, and therefore considered the Brooklyn bill useless. Mr. Husted also followed in Mr. Alvord's view, and Mr. Jacobs said he could not see why these republican members should presume to talk for the majority of the House. The resolution was lost, and Mr. Jacobs probably got a better insight into the cause of the presumption of the republicans. As it was, these later remained complacent and smiling as in the Senate, evidently comprehending that the longer the fight went on the better for them. Late at night, however, the demoralized democracy made an effort to pick up the pieces, and a caucus of some of the young democrats was held, at which, after an urgent invitation, Mr. Tweed and his friends consented to be present. A compromise was effected, but on what basis has not yet been learned.

A NEW STATE BARBER.—In their frantic contentions upon their defeat the silk stocking and rough and tumble democracy have brought a new State barber on the carpet. It is in the person of Mr. A. D. Barber, who is styled "King of the Lobby," after the manner of the old State Barber of thirty odd years ago. Revolutions always bring some new face upon the surface of politics. In this case the Barber has been completely shaved, for the scalpers have taken his entire head off, and tumbled it, with Hank Smith's, into the Street Commissioner's basket.

THE UNITED STATES SENATE was in executive session all day yesterday on the St. Domingo treaty. Senator Sumner took up the whole time in opposition to its ratification. As the time for the exchange of ratifications expires on Tuesday, the Senate has no time to lose, and will continue the discussion in secret session to-day, when we again urge them to come to a conclusion in favor of the treaty. The Dominicans have voted for it, and are doubtless jubilant over their early political salvation.

A BLESSING IN DISGUISE.—The copperhead organ of this city, with its rebel instincts, looks upon the recent rout of the roughs in Albany as "a blessing in disguise." That was the balm applied by the Southerners to their defeats during the war.

A CADETSHIP IN WHICH THERE WAS NO JOB.—The Cumberland (Md.) Transcript, referring to the appointment by the President of George W. Collover to a naval cadetship, states that the appointee is the son of the late George W. Collover, once of Boston, afterwards Mayor of Lawrence, Kansas, who was killed by Quantrell in the bloody struggle in that State. This is said to be the only cadetship the President had at his disposal, and the nature of the appointment shows a marked contrast with the action of certain members of Congress who have had similar favors to bestow. There is evidently no job in this cadetship.

MORE CABLES AND MORE EXAMPLES.—The cable from Aden, on the Arabian coast, via the Red Sea to Suez, Egypt, has been successfully laid. The connection is now complete between London and Bombay—seen all the way, and British guns to watch it, with the exception of the neck of land in Egypt under the control of the Viceroy. Another cable, called the Indo-European cable, has also been completed. England has thus two great lines connecting her with the heart of Asia. We have done much, but what have we done to make a telegraphic connection with Asia? We must stir up.

A CONSTITUTION WHOSE CORNER STONE IS LOTTERIES.—The Montgomery (Ala.) Journal—radical organ—apologizes for the Governor not ridding the State of lotteries, as he could not "overcome his sense of duty to the constitution." That constitution is a bad one that has such a corner stone—about as bad as that of the late confederacy, whose corner stone was slavery. Alabama had better amend her constitution and thus keep pace with the progress of the age in the Northern States, all of which have laws against lotteries, modestly substituting therefor those delectable concerns called "gift concerts" and "gift enterprises."

WHERE'S THE BOLD CAPTAIN BILL WILEY'S "Avenge Angel" that was to have swept burglars, thieves, assassins and all sorts of scoundrels from the Twelfth ward last fall? Is the present not a propitious time for that avenging angel to again sweep the ward with his mighty pinions, or, by litching up with the "Destroying Angel" in Albany, make a team that will prove a terror at home and abroad?

A THRIVING WESTERN TOWN.—The Fort Scott (Kansas) Monitor of the 19th Inst. contains no less than twenty-six columns of apparently good paying advertisements. Of course such a place must be flourishing. The next State fair in Kansas is to be held in Fort Scott. Westward, ho!

The Spring Opening of Fashions.

Yesterday was a gala occasion for the modistes of the metropolis. Then for the first time they removed the veil of mystery that so long hid the treasures of the chameleon deity from the eyes of her votaries and displayed them in their most attractive shape. From morning till night Broadway was gay and more brilliant than ever, and elegant equipages blocked the approaches to the mans of fashion. Bonnets and dresses were on exhibition in bewildering variety and profusion, and the ever smiling modistes glanced at each triumphantly as the murmur of approbation from the delighted customers fell on their ears. There is little of decided novelty in either bonnets or dresses this season, at least nothing of a revolutionary character. There is also more regard paid to the dictates of common sense and taste in both styles and materials—a circumstance which will surprise and delight benefactors of every description. Nothing "loud," extravagant or nonsensical is tolerated by the fair daughters of Manhattan, and the modistes have endeavored to comply faithfully with their wishes.

PRIM TO THE ARMY.—General Prim scarcely leaves us room to doubt that he is doing his best to see the end from the beginning. He sees anarchy and many chances. If the cable faithfully reports his language it is not difficult to understand his meaning. To the officers of the army generally, and to the Madrid garrison particularly Prim says, "Obey no orders but mine." This really does seem to indicate dangerous complications. It is long since Prim was spoken of as the future dictator. Now that the unionists and progressives are at drawn daggers does Prim mean to make rumor a fact?

THE CADETSHIP INVESTIGATION.—General Logan's committee reported yesterday on the subject of cadet appointments, recommending that a cadet be required to reside two years in the district from which he is appointed; that lobbyists known to have attempted to bribe members be excluded from the rooms and galleries of the House; that General Schoepf be removed from the Patent Office, and that Commander Upshur be court martialled. The term of a cadet's residence was reduced to one year, the bill was passed and the report was adopted. Mr. Mungton is exonerated by this report from the transactions alleged against him. We are glad of it. It would be too bad if he had any more sins to answer for than reputation and his *Globe* speeches.

"HOW HE NICKS THEM."—District Attorney Morris is fetching down an election fraud pigeon at every shot, and in this good work he deserves to be remembered by every honest voter concerned. Men of Brooklyn, stand by him.

THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE OF FRANCE, sitting at Tours for the trial of Prince Pierre Bonaparte, will also examine and adjudge the cases of the persons charged with conspiracy against the State and the life of the Emperor Napoleon. The prosecuting officer has been notified of the fact by the crown. This is quite fair, right and proper. Democracy has its rights, imperialism its citizen and personal wrongs. The law is the supreme earthly arbiter. The general acknowledgment of this fact gives evidence of the health and vitality of France—the Emperor Napoleon III.

TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND.—It is said that the fund employed in the slaughter of those bills on Tuesday last was not one hundred thousand, but two hundred thousand dollars. So much the better, then, for the incorruptibles of the rural districts. Having found where the placer is, however, will they not be likely to call again? When the Californians find a gold placer they work it to the bottom, and when they leave the Chinese come along and work all the dirt over again.

MORE PATENT PAYMENTS.—There is hardly any nuisance so intolerable to the property owners of the metropolis as the mania for experimentalizing upon street pavements which seems to possess our City Fathers. Hardly a week passes without some new job of the kind being developed and foisted upon the sorely oppressed taxpayers without any regard for their wishes or interests. The passage, over the Mayor's veto, of two resolutions on Monday authorizing the pavement of streets is an instance. The number of experiments in this matter is assuming bewildering proportions, and from the experience we have had in the Fifth Avenue swindle, it is time that some limits be placed on such jobs. The Broadway pavement has proved the only satisfactory one of these experiments, many of the others being intolerable nuisances. The Legislature should look into the matter and come to the relief of the indignant property owners of the metropolis.

POWOW AT THE WIGWAM ON MONDAY NIGHT.—On Monday night next a grand powwow of the Tammany sachems and braves will be held at the Wigwam in Fourteenth street. The questions of tomahawks and scalping knives as well as that of wampum may be discussed amid the soothing influences of the pipe of peace. If the Tammany General Committee get into a row, the Tammany Society, in august assemblage, will decide who shall be the "ins" and who shall be the "outs." It is a big Indian "muss" in a new shape. Who will be the "Old Hickory" of the occasion?

THE BOARD OF HEALTH, it seems, has done very well in instituting suits against the proprietors of illy-equipped tenement houses, but it is not often that the full penalties of the law are enforced. As a number of politicians have several of these easy suits pending against them we may presume that even tenement houses can be manipulated for political purposes.

AN OGAN FOR GOVERNOR GEARY.—The Daily Topic has made its appearance in Harrisburg, Pa. It is edited by Dr. John H. Gihon, for a couple of years the Private Secretary of Governor Geary. Its "daily topic" will no doubt be the furtherance of the interests of Governor Geary as the free labor candidate for the next Presidency.

"NEVER SAY DIE."—Mr. Tweed, as Deputy Street Commissioner, does not resign, but hides his time. He is clearly a believer in Sam Patch's grand idea that "some things can be done as well as others," and in his war paint, feathers and tomahawk he is a big Indian.

Ferryboat Accidents.

It is very extraordinary that for some time past there have been so many accidents reported on our ferries. Hardly a week passes without an account of some inebriated, insane or otherwise perplexed individual "walking the plank" involuntarily and making an unpremeditated visit to the fishes in the harbor and rivers. How is it that on these momentous occasions the poor sufferer is permitted to sink to the bottom without a single effort to rescue being made by the employes of the ferry company? It would seem as if there were no precautions of any kind taken on these boats against any possibility of disaster. Take the Brooklyn ferries as an instance. The boats are overcrowded every evening, and it is only a miracle that more accidents do not occur. If a person falls overboard he or she has ninety-nine chances out of a hundred in favor of drowning. Last Monday a poor fellow fell overboard from one of the Jersey ferries and was instantly drowned, because no life-saving apparatus was on hand. Hundreds of other cases might be cited. The boat moves on, and the lost passenger is forgotten until, perhaps, the papers chronicle the demise. This is radically wrong, and we call upon the Legislature to compel the heartless ferry corporations to adopt some humane measures to save any unfortunates from the untimely death that threatens them every time they venture across either of our rivers. The ferries are miserably managed in other respects, but in this they are inexcusable. Talk of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals! Why not pay a little attention to the much abused bipeds who trust themselves at every hour of the day on our ferries?

PROGRESS IN THE SOUTH.—The West Point (Miss.) Herald, a spirited sheet, printed in a thriving town, is in raptures over the prospect of the formation of a new county, of which, we suppose, West Point is to be the county seat and the Herald the county organ. It is proposed to erect the new county out of parts of Chickasaw, Moore, Lowndes and Oktibeha counties. The Herald already sees in imagination "the towering cupola of a massive granite court house, myriads of hungry court house officials, a cosy, tidy, safe brick jail and legal 'ads' by the square; therefore we exult, we are exultant, buoyed up by hopes, hopes of better days, days in which a West Point paper can make money." Already a West Point cotton factory is proposed, and as the town is located in the centre of a luxuriant cotton growing region the raw material can find a ready and convenient home market. This is one of the signs of Southern progress that becomes at once cheering and encouraging.

THE PUNISHMENT OF THE PIEGAN—SHERIDAN AND THE INDIANS. We publish to-day a very interesting and graphic account of the recent punishment of the Piegan savages. It is written by an officer who accompanied the expedition, and whose descriptive details will relieve the affair of the horrors which certain newspapers, for partisan purposes, have endeavored to surround it. The truth is there seems to be a great outcry, even in Congress, about what is called the Piegan massacre; but the outcry is mainly for political effect. The gallant record of Phil Sheridan cannot escape when so good an opportunity offers for his enemies to fling dirt on him. They charge him with inhumanity and cold-blooded murder, and compare him with the infamous Hamiltons and Alvas of other times. The facts on which these terrible charges are founded are simply these: A force of troops in General Sheridan's department, in pursuance of a plan arranged some time previously to attack the Piegan marauders during the winter time, when they would be taken at a disadvantage, fell upon a village of them and after a severe fight killed a large number of them, including squaws and children, and captured others. These are the facts in a nutshell.

The grounds on which barbarity and inhumanity are charged lie in the fact that this attack was made in winter, and that women and children were killed. The attack was made in winter because in any other season of the year these roving tribes are fleetly mounted and are enabled by their lightness and rapidity to commit depredations almost with impunity, as they can easily get away from our more cumbersome cavalry. They depredate nearly all summer in this way. Until within a few years they have been in the habit of making treaties of peace with the whites at the beginning of each winter, in order to subsist in plenty during the cold months, and lay up ammunition, blankets and whiskey from the white man's stores so as to be ready when the grass grew to commence the spring campaigns again. When Sheridan first carried out his idea of a winter war upon them it was an astonisher from which they never recovered. The first severe blow of the kind was in 1868, when General Custer, with the Seventh cavalry, fell on a lodge on the Washita, and defeated the Indians with heavy loss, his own command losing several brave and gallant young spirits—among them, it will be remembered, Major Elliott and Captain Louis McLane Hamilton. Several squaws were also killed in that affair, and we heard pretty much the same talk then as now about barbarity. But in regard to the squaws, they fight as determinedly as the braves, and often even more resolutely. Besides, they are not to be distinguished easily from the men during a fight. They generally appear in a blanket and a stove-pipe hat, and few of the chiefs dress any better; so that it is not at all to be wondered at if our soldiers fail to discriminate on account of race or sex during the hurry and flurry of a battle. In firing by a volley or at will it is impossible to discriminate, and when the women are fighting as savagely as the men it is certainly not required to discriminate. We are quite sure that during the riots of 1863 in this city, when some of the women were desperately engaged in the very centre of the mob, hooting, jeering and firing at the troops, the very essence of gallantry or humanity would not have urged discrimination on account of sex in the return volleys.

The Indian of the present is not the noble red man of the Leather Stocking days. He is mean, besotted, sensual and cruel. The newspapers learn every day with stories of horrible outrages perpetrated on white settlers out West, and especially on the women, by the very tribes that these enemies of Sheridan now