NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

All business or news letter and telegraphic despatches must be addressed NEW YORK HERALD.

Letters and packages should be properly sealed.

Rejected communications will not be returned.

THE DAILY HERALD, *published every day in the year.* Four cents per copy. Annual subscription price $12.

Volume XXXV.....No. 343

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

NEW YORK STADT THEATRE, 45 Bowery.—GRAND GERMAN OPERA—THE POSTILLION OF LONJUMEAU.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, corner of 8th av. and 23d st.—LES BRIGANDS.

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway.—THE PANTOMIME OF WEE WILLIE WINKIE.

WOOD'S MUSEUM Broadway, corner 30th st.—Performances every afternoon and evening.

GLOBE THEATRE, 728 Broadway.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, &C.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fourth st.—LONDON ASSURANCE.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—NECK AND NECK—YANKEE JACK.

BOOTH'S THEATRE, 23d st., between 5th and 6th avs.—RIP VAN WINKLE.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 13th street.—COQUETTES.

LINA EDWIN'S THEATRE, 720 Broadway.—LITTLE JACK SHEPPARD.

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

STEINWAY HALL, Fourteenth street.—LECTURE BY OLIVE LOGAN.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Bowery.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT.

THEATRE COMIQUE, 514 Broadway.—COMIC VOCALISM, NEGRO ACTS, &C.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTREL HALL, 585 Broadway.—NEGRO MINSTRELSY, FARCES, BURLESQUES, &C.

BRYANT'S NEW OPERA HOUSE, 234 st., between 6th and 7th avs.—NEGRO MINSTRELSY, ECCENTRICITIES, &C.

APOLLO HALL, corner 28th street and Broadway.—DR. CORRY'S DIORAMA OF IRELAND.

HOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn.—NEGRO MINSTRELSY, BURLESQUES, &C.

BROOKLYN OPERA HOUSE.—WELCH, HUGHES & WHITE'S MINSTRELS.—KEEP YOUR EYE OPEN, DICK, &C.

NEW YORK CIRCUS, Fourteenth street.—SCENES IN THE RING, ACROBATS, &C.

LYRIC HALL, Sixth avenue.—MRS. JARLEY'S WAX WORKS.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, 745 Broadway.—SCIENCE AND ART.

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

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Friday, December 9, 1870.

CONTENTS OF TO-DAY'S HERALD.

PAGE.
1—Advertisements.
2—Advertisements.
3—France: Another War Bulletin from King William; Occupation of Orleans by the Prussians; De Paladines' Army Badly Beaten; The French Retreating Up the Loire; The Prussians Inform Trochu of Their Victory—Russia: England's Humiliation in Face of the Gortchakoff Diplomacy; The Czar Gains His Point and then Approves of a Congress; British Indignation and Queen Victoria's Personal Feeling—Telegraphic News from All Parts of the World—The Coal Strikers—Is the King of Counterfeiters?—Important Arrest—
4—Europe: Mail Advices to the 27th of November—Recognition of Italy: The Proposed Religious Amendment to the Constitution—Revolutionary Movements in Hayti—Who Makes the Profit of Coal—Journalistic Notes.
5—Proceedings of Congress—Papal Spoliation: Sympathy of Buffalo Catholics for the Pope—Art Notes—Naval Intelligence—Army Intelligence—The Massacre of Christians in China—The National Debt—The Fox Will Case, and How the National Debt Might be Discharged—New York City News—Buried Alive—Fire in Broadway—Increase of Negro Population in the South.
6—Editorials: Leading Article, "Cuba the Pivot of Politics and the Touchstone of Grant"—Amusement Announcements.
7—Editorials (Continued from Sixth Page)—Personal Intelligence—Washington: A Breeze in the Senatorial Caucus: The St. Domingo Treaty Looming up; Opening the Way to the Resumption of Specie Payments; Nominations Sent to the Senate; Punishment of the Colored Cadet—Amusements—Business Notices.
8—The Courts: The Wall Street Gold Panic—Small-pox—Typhoid Fever—Department of Docks—Emigration Affairs—Revenue Revelations: How John Devlin was Victimized by the "Ring"—The Opera in the Bowery—Trotting at Fleetwood Park—Dicks Plucks a Crow—Jack Sheppard Redivivus—Political Notes and Comments—A Convicted Murderer Wants to be Hanged—Murder at Astoria, Oregon.
9—Meeting of the National Tobacco Association—Financial and Commercial Reports—National Board of Trade—Remarkable Suicide—A Murderer's Remorse—An Indiana Free Fight—Real Estate.
10—The Louisiana Sugar Frauds: Disastrous Collapse of the Prosecution—Lectures Last Night—A New Ritualistic Chapel—Shipping Intelligence—Advertisements.
11—Mexico: Peacefully Inclined; The Candidate for the Presidency—General News Items—Personal Notes—A New Yorker Murdered in San Francisco—Advertisements.
12—Advertisements.

THE WAR SITUATION.—Our despatches this morning are very meagre. King William confirms the report of the occupation of Orleans, in a despatch from Versailles dated the 5th instant. A flag has been sent into Paris conveying the ill news, and also announcing the rout of the Army of the Loire and the reported death of General Ducrot.

THE CANADA PAPERS are taking umbrage at General Grant's non-reference to Fenianism in his message. They might as well object to his want of reference to the internal accommodations of Noah's Ark. Fenianism is about as dead as the first creature that left that ancient and venerable institution.

ADDING INSULT TO INJURY—King William's sending a flag of truce to Paris with the information that his forces had thrashed the French Army of the Loire, captured thirty guns and taken thousands of prisoners. We doubt if Trochu appreciated the courtesy.

THE PRESIDENT has sent in several nominations to the Senate, among which are Vice Admiral D. D. Porter to be Admiral, S. C. Rowan to be Vice Admiral, and Columbus Delano to be Secretary of the Interior. The nominations of greatest local interest are Spencer Kirby as Assessor of Internal Revenue for the Thirty-second and James Jourdan for the Third district of New York.

THE GUBERNATORIAL SQUABBLE in Alabama has brought forth a letter from one of the Governors—W. H. Smith—in regard to the negro militia. He denies that he employs them as a body guard at the State Capitol, and states that he even has dismissed a colored messenger in order not to give any pretext for contention between the two races. How about this? Has not the poor African any rights in Alabama which a radical Governor is bound to respect?

Cuba the Pivot of Politics and the Touchstone of Grant.

As Congress opens session Cuba comes to the front again. We believe Cuba to be the question of questions at this crisis to the country and to President Grant; to the President in a very special sense; for, by and with Cuba, we shrewdly suspect, will his name and place in American story stand or fall.

The political affairs of the Union are threatened only too plainly with a period of incoherence and party anarchy. The issues on which the struggles of ten years have been conducted are exhausted for party purposes, though history has yet much to do in developing the great things done on the battlefield and in the council chamber since the first shot was fired on Sumter. At the present moment a standard is required and a trumpet call to rally the wavering ranks of politicians and call back stragglers to their duty. Beyond everything else now the republic requires a great idea, a great action, a mighty hand; it requires, as the very breath of its immediate life, something which shall exhibit soul, fire, large generous activity of heart and brain; something which shall realize in outward things the consciousness of greatness, of an unique vocation among the world's nations, which lies so deep, fixed, and unwavering, in the breast of our people. It is weary of the day of small things coming after the day of such great things. And it is asking with no small anxiety what pause has come in the working of the great soldier brain, which restored the Union, that to the President it seems to furnish so little material for creating the enthusiasm which, as general in the field, he had the power so plentifully to evoke.

We are satisfied that we are about this day to utter a word vital and decisive to the fortunes of the President, and which, if attended to, will go far to redeem that appearance of anarchy which is coming over our politics—an anarchy that, taking shape, may deepen into disastrous confusion. There is a law in the life of nations which, it cannot be disguised, this Union has been lately disregarding; and the disregard of which it is that invariably leads to political disorder in every branch and part of the affairs of State. It is this. The nation that does not discharge actively, vigorously, unceasingly, unsparingly its duty in international affairs, outside its borders, becomes stricken with helplessness and incoherency in its home affairs. Volumes might be written expounding history on this principle. The cause is plain. Great international action brings out a nation's very soul of souls, and stifles all smallness, all intrigue, in those microscopic souled politicians whose hour of profit always comes when a nation is not doing its work, as such, upon other nations, in a grand and uncompromising manner.

This is in no slight degree the case with ourselves just now, and it makes plain to the discerning many things in our present condition otherwise obscure. We have for two years been in grievous default in the exercise of our duty as the guardians of American and republican destinies, in the case of tortured and unhappy Cuba. We have not been living, in this matter, up to the standard of civilization and international duty. We have been passing by on the other side while our brothers were being gagged, garroted, plundered, murdered. We have been so busy quarrelling over our own reconstruction that we have forgotten that it is the function of this Union not to reconstruct itself alone, but total America, in all the sublime vast fulness of that term, which, on the lips of great-hearted men, means not a physical continent alone, but a new era of humanity. It is high time that this default should cease. We are all bound to make it cease forthwith under penalties, penalty of forfeiture of our political comfort, because of some portion of that which is of all things most precious to Americans—our self-respect.

See how this thing stands, and consider our whole attitude in reference not only to our dignity and destiny but to the international practice of civilized mankind. For two years there has been waged in Cuba a war simply of extermination. The case and cause, and mode of carrying them on, have been sharply and unequivocally defined. The Cubans, after centuries of such misrule as might make faithless men well nigh doubt the existence of a God, have determined to free themselves from Spanish sway; and the Spaniards have determined to kill every man, woman and child of the native inhabitants rather than submit. For two years has the conflict raged on these terms, until, at last, there has been placed at the head of affairs Valmaseda, one of those butchers who represents so faithfully the devil-inspired Spanish *conquisdatores* who wrought such evil in America; those evil genii who first possessed the fair, broad American land, and who were expelled by the Drakes and Raleighs, who preluded our Washingtons and Grants. For two years we have stood by with our arms folded, passively abetting, by the shameful silence of our mighty voice, whose lightest whisper would have been as effective to forbid these things as Heaven's lightning is to split mountains, the consummation of this overwhelming crime. Now, let it be observed, that since we commanded the French to depart from Mexico we have virtually assumed, and Europe has conceded to us, the whole moral and physical guardianship of the American Continent and islands. Europe has retired from America; at least in this sense, that never again will she dare to send fleets and armies to settle any American question, to crown the scion of a dynasty or settle a boundary line. We have assumed this guardianship, but, unhappily, we have not entered into the discharge of the duties thereof. Europe has abdicated in America, and the great republic has not yet assumed her functions. And Spain takes advantage of this interregnum to slay an American people, and to outrage the justice of the Almighty in deeds which make the whole heart of mankind almost stand still with anguish, indignation and horror.

Suppose, now, Cuba were an island in the Mediterranean—is it not certain that Europe would have interfered long ago? It has become fixed as a beneficent doctrine of the public law of the Old World that no struggle shall degenerate into a war of extermination without the peremptory intervention of the great European States to close it. We have warned Europe off from all intervention in American affairs. We have declared ourselves the "inheritors of the unfulfilled renown" of the illimitable American future, with all its bright promise to the myriads of sufferers in less favored lands whose eyes turn towards this republic as the eyes of praying Moslem turn towards Mecca. Yet we stay our hands in the doing of our appointed work. We "pass by on the other side" while the blood of American brothers is being shed by the assassins who signalize their last hours of sway on the new lands they defiled for centuries by horrors that so appropriately crown their long reign of darkness and sorrow, of crime and tears and blood. Surely it is time that these things should cease; surely there will come to us a retribution if we, who represent peace, virtue, liberty and light, slumber so long while the adversary is consummating his unholy work.

The decisive moment has come. The new Spanish King will not dare to run counter to the wicked Spanish determination to hold Cuba at the cost of sacrifices, however heavy, to the ancient Moloch of their idolatry. And President Grant has entered upon that two years of critical time which will determine his re-election to the Presidency of the Union he did so much to save, and his final place in the history of the magnificent nation whose headship is the greatest prize that ever fell to the ambition of mortal man. He wields the irresistible power of a people that never failed to respond to a generous emotion, and whose fiat is hereafter to be as the very breath of God over the sick world's chaos, to create the long wished-for dawn when the evil beasts of tyranny shall cease from vexing the men whom He made. Let him be wise in time and speak in time, for the sands are running fast through the glass, and the scythe will be blunted ere long in his hands, and the night will soon come when he will have privilege to do America's work no more. He may fitly crown his career with a noble and a saving deed; or he may sink into that hell of mediocrity which never looks so lurid and baleful as when a great man's great work is followed by doubt, hesitation, vacillation and feebleness which cast dishonor on all that was previously dignified and great in his life and achievements. Come, President Grant, victor in a hundred battles, respond to our call! Let intrigue and hesitation cease, and say the word which liberates America from Spain at last and stamps you forever in history as the hero who not only saved the Union but remained glorious and faithful to the end. Let it not be said, for the sake of us all as for your own, let it *not* be said by some caustic Tacitus of the future, "This soldier might have been pronounced a great man if he had not been President of the United States."

The King of Italy to the National Parliament.

The Italian Parliament assembled in session on the 5th instant in Florence. King Victor Emmanuel delivered a speech from the throne. A synopsis of the royal address reached us by cable telegram yesterday. The announcement was evidently the most important which has fallen from the royal lips since the days of Charles Albert and Cavour. King Victor Emmanuel appears to have arrived at a complete understanding of the national position. He expresses himself in words of justifiable pride on the perfect accomplishment of a national consolidation. His Majesty referred to the initial exertions of his deceased father for the perfection of Italian unity. He then presents the fulfilment of the idea to the world in the words:—"The edifice which was commenced by Charles Albert is crowned and the freedom of Italy complete." Standing on a secure neutral centre ground the King turns his eyes to the condition of the surrounding peoples and says:—"Two nations, glorious representatives of civilization, are engaged in a horrible struggle; we persist in our efforts to induce them to end the conflict. We will prove that united Italy is an element of order, liberty and peace in Europe." This is indeed a glorious national mission. The enjoyment of the ability to assume its responsibility may well compensate Italy for her endurance of much doubt, distraction and gloom during a number of years past.

Of the Christian centre in Rome King Victor Emmanuel assures the world that the head of the Catholic Church shall enjoy an unrestricted exercise of his religious functions and a complete freedom of communion with the universal fold.

Spain has "honored" the dynasty of Savoy by the invitation given to Prince Amadeus to rule over her people. Italy will remain anxious that the Spaniards shall receive a beneficial equivalent.

The royal speech was hopeful to the termination. Its concluding words were hailed with enthusiastic cheers by the assembled legislators.

It is quite evident, judging from even the brief cable report of the proceedings, that Italy has been fully awakened to a sense of her imperial dignity, notwithstanding the present appearances of the fact that his Majesty the King did not refer to the Eastern question or the proposed European congress—a serious omission, if it occurred, at the present epoch in the history of Europe.

GENERAL MANTEUFFEL is reported moving on Havre, in order to obtain supplies by sea. This report is an absurdity. It ought to be remembered that the French navy is at present absolute mistress of the ocean, so far as the Germans are concerned. Consequently no supplies could reach Havre by water.

THE COLORED CADET SMITH, who escaped the punishment awarded by a court martial for insubordinate conduct, because the Secretary of War considered the punishment ridiculously inadequate to the offence, is not to go scot free. The Secretary of War has now ordered Smith to be confined to the cadet barracks until February next, and has administered a severe reprimand to him—all for this same offence.

"A GOOD ENOUGH MORGAN UNTIL AFTER ELECTION"—The proposition of Representative Kelley, of Pennsylvania, to abolish the Internal Revenue Department. This will serve as pretty good electioneering clap-trap for the republicans until after the next Presidential question is settled, when it will be consigned to the "tomb of the Capulets."

Russia's Attitude to Europe and a Russo-Turkish Alliance.

Our European despatches published this morning announce the important news that the notification given by the Russian government to that of Great Britain has been repeated to the other Powers, including Turkey, co-signatory to the Treaty of Paris, and that its general and unmistakable tenor makes a compliance with Russian demands essential to the peace of Europe. This is very momentous intelligence, and, if rashly interpreted, the course ascribed to the Czar might precipitate immediate difficulty. But we are confident that, for the moment, at least, every exertion is being made by the St. Petersburg Cabinet to maintain peace while at this favorable juncture insuring its indubitable rights on the Black Sea. There are many indications of this spirit, and among them is Russia's magnanimity toward the Sultan.

Other despatches, letters and mail advices indicate that Turkey, far from being very seriously alarmed at the recent demonstration of her great Muscovite neighbor for a repeal of the one-sided Treaty of Paris, is coquetting with the Czar upon a proposition from the latter broadly hinting an alliance, and, as an earnest of this feeling, cheerfully accepts the proposed conference to be held at London.

This news may seem rather startling and even paradoxical to those who do not keep their minds fully alive to the rapid and wonderful political evolutions of our period; but upon close examination it loses its contradictory appearance and accommodates itself readily enough to the spirit of an epoch which must necessarily become one of compromise and conciliation or end in universal warfare. While every candid observer admits that Europe is sick, deadly sick, of the struggle already waging, he must also perceive that the strict and honorable neutrality observed by Russia, surrounded as she is with temptations to break it, were she really aggressive, has alone prevented the war from having become general ere this. On the other hand, the treaty which was feigned by the Western Powers to be the defence of Turkish independence has, in fact, placed the latter under the tutelage and protectorate of France and England. Numerous dictatorial assumptions on the part of the allies have shown this since the conclusion of the Crimean war, and, in view of the scarcely concealed designs of both the French and the English in Egypt, Syria and even at the mouth of the Dardanelles, the Sultan would soon have had good reason to implore deliverance from his friends. Russia, while more suspected and more feared by the Grand Turk, has been far more open and above-board than the allies, after all. She comes out now, and, while frankly owning her difficulty and asking release from it, she offers a safe alliance to the Ottoman empire.

The latter would find the living inspiration and the cementing force of such a compact in the thirteen million Christians of various communions living under the Turkish sceptre. The lot of this Christian population has become a matter of creed with the entire people of Russia, through the sympathy that its peculiar relations excite, and no government could long retain its hold, either at St. Petersburg or elsewhere, on the affections and reverence of the Muscovite race, which relinquished the hereditary claim to interpose whenever these Christians may be really menaced or oppressed. Yet the Treaty of Paris very greatly crippled the Czar in this direction, and herein, we think, has lain the real danger of a sudden collision between the two Powers—a danger engendered by the very treaty itself. Would not the part of statesmanship, then, be for Turkey to so reorganize the status of her Christian populations as to respond, in some measure, to their necessities and their aspirations for something like a national autonomy? At present they are subjected to an administration which is entirely Mohammedan and which treats them with contempt. Hence their complaints rarely obtain pure justice, and hence Russia has continually before her eyes a mass of sufferers, chiefly of her own creed, to whom she can point the gaze of Christendom as to a race outraged and downtrodden by the infidel. Turkey, wisely correcting this evil, if but as a measure of quiet and security for herself, will have laid the basis of a firm and lasting alliance with her great neighbor on the North. This we, moreover, believe is the very point of the *rapprochement* between the Czar and the Sultan to which our latest despatches allude. If it be not, the HERALD suggests the plan as one worthy of two mighty States whose collision would arrest progress in a favored quarter of the globe and throw all Europe into fresh mourning, but whose honest, hearty union would fling wide the portals of trade and civilization, pioneering the way for the Evangel of peace and faith to the recesses of the still barbaric East. St. Petersburg is the hand and Constantinople the key of the Orient.

A DESPATCH FROM BRUSSELS reports that De Paladines' army is marching up the left bank of the Loire. It adds that the object is to form a junction with the Army of the East and resume the advance on Fontainebleau; but this is nonsense. A Versailles telegram tells the story of De Paladines' recent defeat. He must have been terribly beaten. Ten thousand of his men and seventy-seven pieces of artillery fell into the hands of the Germans. There is but little probability of the Army of the Loire taking the offensive again for weeks, if ever. We suggested yesterday that its retreat to the left bank of the Loire and up the river toward Bourges and Lyons would be a necessity. The despatch merely confirms our opinion. It now remains to be seen if Von Werder can get between De Paladines and Lyons. If he can and does, the days of the Army of the Loire are numbered.

OUR ADVICES FROM SOUTH AMERICA, by way of Lisbon, indicate the continued successes of the rebels in the Argentine Confederation. Montevideo was besieged by them and the authorities of Buenos Ayres were negotiating with their leader, General Jordan. Nothing could be more fatal for the republic than the overthrow of Sarmiento's government. It has been the most liberal and progressive that the Argentine Confederation has ever had. We trust that fortune will not desert President Sarmiento after all he has done to elevate his country to the height attained by other nations in moral and material prosperity.

Congress Yesterday—Abolition of the Franking Privilege.

The proceedings of both houses of Congress thus far have been rather preparatory to the hard work of the session than actual practical business. The Senate has spent in the work of legislation but four or five hours in the aggregate, and a portion of that time was devoted to the important question of regulating the minimum and maximum age of the precocious youths whom it employs as pages. But it had some matters to arrange, also, in caucus, particularly as to the rearrangement of committees. Yesterday morning one of those little matters turned out to be the displacement of Senator Patterson from the Committee on Foreign Relations and the substitution of Senator Conkling in his stead. But the sagacious Sumner imagined that he saw in this movement an ingenious device to strengthen the St. Domingo treaty in that committee, and he stormed about it so much that, in the interest of moderation and harmony, the proposition was withdrawn, and the Committee on Foreign Relations was arranged to consist of Messrs. Sumner, Cameron, Harlan, Morton, Patterson, Schurz and Casserly. The mind of Sumner is, therefore, set at rest, and the question of St. Domingo must stand or fall on its own merits rather than on any ingeniously contrived aid in Senatorial arrangements.

The House was engaged yesterday, as it had been the day before, on a bill, prepared by the Post Office Department and reported from the Post Office Committee, to revise and consolidate into one act all the existing statutes relating to that branch of the public service. This afforded an opportunity for striking at the franking privilege—a relic of antiquity and absurdity which we derived from the British government at a time when there were privileged classes among the English people, but which has been long since abandoned by that and every progressive country but our own. For many years past the abolition of the franking privilege has been a favorite idea with reformers, in Congress and out of Congress, and although whenever the question has been presented to a direct vote of either house the result has generally been in favor its abolition, still there has always been found a means of preventing final action upon it by both houses. Last session a bill passed the House, with only thirteen opposing votes, for the repeal of the privilege; but that bill is still before the Senate, without action, and the use and abuse of the franking privilege is still possessed and enjoyed. The chairman of the Post Office Committee, Mr. Farnsworth, recognizing the slimness of the prospect of the Senate passing that bill at the present session, proposed a plan by which the President, the various departments and the two houses should have all official correspondence and documents stamped in order to be carried free through the mails, while Senators and members of Congress, whose documents and speeches would thus be circulated without cost to them, should have besides an allowance of one hundred dollars for postage on their correspondence at each session. A majority of the House, comprising most of those who are in earnest in their opposition to the franking privilege, took the very sensible view that there was but little reform in that measure, as it retained and gave additional vitality to the real evil—namely, the publication, at enormous expense, of public documents that are of no practical value, and only encumber the mails, to the great embarrassment of the service and to the disgust of the Postmaster General, who sets down the annual deficiency of nearly three millions in the postal revenue to that cause. The proposition was defeated. Thereupon our Jersey Congressman, Mr. Hill, who has assumed the championship of that reform, moved to strike out of the bill all the sections relating to the franking privilege, and that motion, which was equivalent to an absolute repeal of the privilege, was carried by a vote of ninety-eight to seventy-nine. It will thus be seen that the reform has been losing ground since last session, when there were only thirteen negative votes in the House on a like proposition, which means, not that the reform was any more cherished then than it is now, but that the fall elections were pending and that that question might have its influence on the result.

The House has two subjects specially assigned for Tuesday next—the report of the Committee on Foreign Affairs on the subject of Minister Washburn's official course at Paraguay, and the General Amnesty act, reported last session from the Reconstruction Committee. The first has ceased to be of any public interest, or to have any practical bearing. The last is of the deepest importance to all the people of the Southern States. We hope that the bill will be so matured and passed as to wipe away all technicalities on the way to grace, and that an amnesty, in its fullest, broadest and most generous terms, shall be, not offered to, but conferred upon, every man in the South, burying forever all hostile feeling of party or section and cementing the States in an indissoluble union or nationality.

A METROPOLITAN PARADE GROUND.—This subject was again discussed at the regular monthly meeting of the Brennan Society of Bloomingdale on Wednesday evening, and a strong interest was manifested in the matter. The entire First division of our State militia are moving in line in favor of the project, and the Board of Public Parks are expected to take some action in the premises immediately.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION AT "THE HUB."—This interesting event occurs in Boston on Monday next. There are a baker's dozen, more or less, of candidates in the field. The regular candidates for Mayor are—Gaston, democrat, with republican affiliations; Carpenter, republican, with no particular affiliations, and Knights, with labor reform affiliations. There is a "Mercantile Hall" ticket, which will be supported by all those lively youths who wish to be considered pious. Gaston seems to be ahead.

A VERY GOOD IDEA—That of Governor Walker, of Virginia, to submit to arbitration the question of the settlement of the debt of the State and the share West Virginia shall take in its liquidation. This is much better than resorts to law courts, and is a peaceful and rational way of settling controversies between States, and, indeed, of whole nations.

The United States, England and the New Dominion.

That portion of the President's Message which calls the attention of the British imperial government to the "unfriendly" measures adopted by the New Dominion in reference to the Northeastern fisheries and the navigation of the River St. Lawrence had, we are pleased to see, created a wholesome sensation in London. We are also gratified with the assurances from that quarter that England will certainly refuse to stand by Canada unless there is the clearest evidence of right on her side, and that the aforesaid unfriendly measures of the provincial government are severely condemned in the British metropolis.

The Canadian journals, on the contrary, treat the complaints of General Grant in the premises as unjust and frivolous, and seem to think that the grievances, if any, are all on the other side. The Canadians and their confederates will surely, however, be required to modify very materially their "unfriendly" regulations against the "Yankee fishermen," if we may rely upon these pacific assurances from London, disagreeable as the duty may be of receding from the high position of a sovereign in this matter to the attitude of colonial submission. We fear that the authorities of the New Dominion, in these fishery and St. Lawrence river regulations, have been too much influenced by a spirit of retaliation against the Fenians, when they ought to be overflowing with gratitude towards General Grant for his stringent enforcement of our neutrality laws, whereby Canada has escaped the horrors of an overwhelming Fenian invasion. Unquestionably had General Grant towards those Fenians adopted the very flexible neutrality of England, as applied in our late civil war, the Canadians would have been in a bad way last summer. We dare say, however, that a hint from her Majesty's government on these fishery difficulties will bring her somewhat rash, not to say presuming, provincials to a satisfactory atonement.

As to the navigation of the St. Lawrence, they ask General Grant if his claims for our eight Western States concerned extend to those lateral canals through which only the ascending navigation of the St. Lawrence can be conducted. This is a difficulty which can be overcome only by the process of annexation. From Lake Erie to Montreal we believe the descent of the river is some five hundred and twenty feet—some three hundred feet of which are overcome by the lockage of the Welland Canal between the Lakes Erie and Ontario. From the Ontario outlet of the St. Lawrence to Montreal the descent of the river is over two hundred feet, embracing four or five picturesque and extensive rapids, dangerous to descending craft and utterly impracticable to the ascending boat with the most powerful engines that could be put on board. The lateral canals by which these rapids are surmounted afford, therefore, the only channel for this upward navigation. Hence the government holding those canals holds the navigation of the St. Lawrence, and the only satisfactory solution for our eight tributary Western States is annexation.

European Despatches by Mail—The Old World Drifting to a Radical Change.

The European mail of the 26th of November supplies a varied and really important history of Old World events to that day. The despatches exhibit Europe surging and seething towards a mighty, and it may be radical, change in its governmental situation. The peoples were agitated and alarmed, their rulers hesitating and distrustful. A variety of impelling and peremptory causes tended to hasten a grand crisis. If we look, indeed, to the various capitals we perceive the existence of unmistakable symptoms of the imminent advent of very serious complications. From Berlin away to Warsaw and thence to St. Petersburg the military spirit was kept in wonderful activity. Russia was aggregating her troops, organizing armies, drilling, and moving the military enthusiasm of the different populations. Prussia watched these movements carefully and anxiously. Her agents endeavored to analyze their motives and to estimate the exact value of the preparations. They performed their task skilfully, no doubt, for we find in the mail reports sufficient evidence to show that Bismarck inclined towards an alliance with the Czar in the event of a general European war.

Then, again, we have the Austrian Blue Book. This executive and parliamentary compilation affords knowledge of the fact that the Vienna Cabinet had considered the Eastern question, the Franco-Prussian war difficulty and the Italo-Roman action with very deliberate care, and that the government of his Apostolic Majesty had determined to treat each, either singly or as a continuous whole, exactly in the manner which, in the judgment of his Ministers, will more completely inure to the benefit of the empire, both in the present and for the future. Austria is mediatory, but mediatory in the sanguine hope that something beneficial will "turn up," either on the shores of the Black Sea, on the Danube, the Pruth or the Tiber.

Cardinal Antonelli protruded the crozier, as is usual with his Eminence in all cases of surrounding international difficulty, among the sceptres of the lay monarchs. The Cardinal is out with a protest against the action of King Victor Emmanuel in the matter of the Italian officers having forced the doors of the Quirinal. The case looks at first sight as if it were one which should be argued in a congress of locksmiths, but it is not so by any means. The careful annotator of passing events in Europe will be more likely to find in the occurrence of this incident in the Holy City an event which may serve to complicate the work of adjustment of a key to the Eastern question by the general congress.

England was considerably agitated in relation to the general aspect of affairs. Political party ambition, parliamentary rivalry and financial alarm pressed on her statesmen and tended to weaken her Cabinet action.

Prussia, the King and Bismarck, stood forth solidly. Germany had achieved her position; she was mistress of the situation. From under the walls of Paris she controlled the destiny of the Porte. King William's speech to the North German Parliament, with the reports which we have of the diplomacy of Bismarck and the very serious negotiations which were carried on with the Premier by some of