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.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

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

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

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fourth street.—TWELFTH NIGHT.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—NECK AND NECK—STRING OF PEARLS.

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

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.—THE SPECTACLE OF THE BLACK CROOK.

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

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

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

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

NEW YORK STADT THEATRE, 45 Bowery.—GERMAN OPERA—THE BARBER OF SEVILLE.

MRS. F. B. CONWAY'S PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn.—FAIRY CIRCLE—CUSTOMS OF THE COUNTRY.

STEINWAY HALL, Fourteenth street.—GRAND CONCERT.

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, 23d st., between 6th and 7th ave.—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.—HAMLET.

SOMERVILLE ART GALLERY, 82 Fifth avenue.—Day and Evening—WONDERS OF THE ARCTIC REGIONS.

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

ASSOCIATION HALL, 23d street and 4th av.—F. C. HARRIOT'S IMPERSONATIONS.

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

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

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Tuesday, December 13, 1870.

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STEALING A MARCH ON THE PRUSSIANS—The silkmakers of Lyons, in sending off their silks by shiploads, via Marseilles, to England and the United States.

NOW THAT SENATOR DRAKE has been confirmed Chief Justice of the Court of Claims, it is thought that Frank Blair, Jr., will be elected to succeed him as Senator by the Missouri Legislature.

SECRETARY DELANO writes to Mayor Hall that he cannot allow a uniformed policeman to accompany each deputy marshal on his rounds for the taking of the census, because it is not strictly in accordance with the letter of the law.

NAPOLEON AT WILHELMSHOHE, they say, is getting fat and becoming reticent. He feeds well, takes his regular exercise, seems to be happy in his release from the cares of State, but has ceased to be communicative on the subject of the widely agitative restoration of the empire. What does it signify? It signifies, conceding this agitation of a restoration, that there is something in it, and that even Bazaine may get his reward.

PREPARING FOR THE POSTMASTERY.—John W. Forney announces for sale the good will and material of the Washington *Chronicle*.

THE TRIAL OF JERRY DUNN for the murder of Logan No. 2 was commenced yesterday in the Court of Oyer and Terminer. Logan No. 2 will be remembered as one of the persons suspected of the murder of Mr. Rogers two years ago, and it is possible that the pending trial may throw some further light on that mysterious case. The trial of Philip Cooney for the murder of David O'Day still continues. One peculiarity of the two cases lies in the fact that all the parties concerned—the two murdered men and the two alleged murderers—belong to that class known as dangerous. If murders are to be committed it is at least some satisfaction to know that these kind of men do it and have it done upon themselves.

The Fall of France.

As the end of her present hopeless struggle approaches we are naturally drawn from France of the past to France of the future, "fallen from her high estate." The mind accommodates itself with difficulty to totally new conditions which reverse the whole previous current of history. Our eyes have been so long filled with the spectacle of a supreme and dominant France that they have long refused to see what must now be her place in the world. And we have had our hearts filled so long with the bright and happy thought of civilized nations living together in progressive peace that it has been scarcely possible for us to realize that the future of humanity, in the Old World at least, will be regulated, not by that ideal, but by the very different one of the stronger, wiser and more cultivated people holding down by sheer force those who have not reached such a height of moral and material force. But, above all things, we must study facts as they are; and these shape themselves now for France and Europe in a way unexpected, but which may yet prove beneficent to mankind.

The great point to be observed in forming opinion upon the future of France, and accordingly of Europe, is that her armies have not merely been defeated in the field, but the nation is subdued, by the German nation. It is a vanquished people, and will soon be a completely subjugated land; nay, it is so already. That question was decided virtually when the provisional government determined to continue the contest with Germany after Sedan, instead of submitting at once to the cession of the frontier provinces. It is useless now for the most ardent sympathizers with France to regret what has happened. For it was not to be, with the splendid traditions of the great nation, that she should have confessed herself unable to expel the Germans after Sedan. Those who have held the foremost rank in the world do not abdicate until sheer force compels. And, whatever be the future of the bright people of France, they will always be happier and more self-respecting for having tried a last desperate effort to save themselves after their wretched empire went down in shame and blood. This last noble and spirited appeal to the moral power supposed to be latent in the name and idea of a republic was a grand example of chivalrous though Quixotic exaltation of mind; and Frenchmen, while their language lasts, will be always able to say, "Our Paris and our France fell, but fell fighting to the last with face turned to the foe."

But the game is lost, and apparently lost, so far as human foresight can go, forever. The future government of France, in the broad and radical sense of the term, will now be regulated according to the interests and determination of victorious Germany. The Germans are very thorough, very searching, very scientific in their theory as well as their practice; and it is not merely a king or an emperor or a diplomatist who will have to settle the future condition of France, but the scientific mind of Germany at large. Emperors and diplomatists will but be the organ of this vast general purpose of the Teutonic people. And we may be satisfied that the question will be dealt with not upon any humanitarian or cosmopolitan grounds, but the single principle of disabling France from ever renewing her attack again upon the united Germany which for the first time comes into political existence. It is not altogether the most pleasant idea in the world, but we may be sure that France will henceforward be dependent and disarmed, and that from the vantage ground of Metz and Strasbourg the vigilant German mind and eye and arm will henceforward keep inexorable watch over the defeated people, repressing every tendency to military resurrection. Such government as France can form now will be the creature of the necessity of the hour, and virtually, though not formally, the offspring of the conqueror's will. And he will consult, first of all, his own necessity and interest, thinking only in the second place of unhappy France.

It is very difficult to forecast so dark and uncertain a future, but at a moment when every intelligent man is asking what is to become of France we cannot help trying to peer through the gloom to see if, haply, there may be some brighter thing beyond; and, so striving, we can see this at all events—that the best chance for the brilliant French is to be so watched and guarded from the revival of the military demon within them as to oblige them perforce to turn their splendid faculties and generous temper to culture and to commerce, to science, to literature and to art. But the problem is one of inordinate difficulty, and to watch its solution will be incomparably the most absorbingly interesting object ever presented to the political and social observer. For hitherto force has been the ruling principle in French politics, and her fanatical parties have sought war abroad to stave off mutual extermination at home. What will now happen when France will have that resource cut off altogether—now that she needs must find some mode of settling her domestic affairs without a recurrence to the stimulant and sedative—for it has been a sedative to France, queer as the thing may sound—of foreign war? How will her five parties of Legitimists, Orleanists, Imperialists, White Republicans and Red Republicans live together in some form of common citizenship without the intermittent fever of bloodshed? How will French history write itself now that it can no longer oscillate between civil and foreign war? These are indeed grave questions, and wise would be the man who could answer them.

In the meantime it must not be overlooked that some of the most advanced minds among the Germans are beginning to propound very extraordinary doctrine upon these questions. They suggest that at the present day and in the present generation they are absolutely incapable of solution, and that it may be that German troops and German officials will have to remain for a generation or two in France to teach a new race of Frenchmen geography and good temper, and flavor the highly-seasoned French disposition with just a drop or two of humility, so that the French of the twentieth century may live in peace and amity with their neighbors. These advanced German minds declare that France cannot now govern herself; that she has tried it for a century and failed; that, in point of fact, she never did form a decent government; that her *ancien régime* was one long horror of violence and wickedness, and her revolutionary period has been but a succession of failures in domestic government, masked by assaults on her neighbors. These much-brooding Germans declare amid the tobacco fumes of those long pipes, which seem to typify their long-headedness, that it would be a sin and a shame to leave Frenchmen any longer to their own devices, and that they must place the whole people under tutelage for a long time, until a generation arises which acknowledges that Germans are not barbarians and the old poison of egotism is expelled from French veins.

All this seems extravagant enough, but the thought is there and will tell. To suppose that Germans will hold French territory indefinitely may seem a wild thing; but they are at least not likely to leave until they are paid their vast indemnity. And ever afterwards, at the very least, the German sword will hang menacingly over the head of France. But she will have great compensations. Freed from military burdens, she may grow rich with astounding rapidity. And what bounds can be set to the intellectual victories which her brilliant people may achieve when culture of the German type is universal through the land. At the bottom of this dreadful Pandora's box there is hope, a bright hope, yet.

The War Situation in France.

There appears to be continual fighting along the line of the Loire, notwithstanding previous reports of the utter demolition of the French army. Later despatches are as contradictory as usual, Chauzy contending that he is holding his own against Frederic Charles all along his line and the Duke of Mecklenburg announcing that he has successfully repulsed the assaults of the enemy. Evidently Chauzy has taken a lesson from Gambetta and the fate of Paladines, and intends to furnish satisfactory reports whether he succeeds in any very brilliant military movements or not. All that Gambetta wants is a text to make enthusiastic and encouraging proclamations flow in a stream. But, alas! bayonets and uhlans and desolation and defeat are unmindful of gushing rhetoric. They crowd on without thought or dread of all the paper pellets the sanguine Gambetta may hurl at their heads.

The bombardment of Paris, according to a London telegram, has been decided upon. When it will take place is not stated. The Germans are practical, undeterred by the French regard for the dramatic unities, and it is probable that they may commence the bombardment at once, even while the holiday event of all Christendom, Catholic France and Protestant Germany alike, is drawing near, and keep it up through the anniversaries of the days when the Peacemaker was born in His lowly manger and lay helpless in His Virgin mother's arms. No merry Christmas, no happy New Year for France! Shot and shell her presents for the one, and sorrow and desolation her greetings for the other!

The Saint Gothard Railway and German Consolidation.

Prussia wants to consolidate the great German empire. King William wishes to perfect the intercommunion of the German people, North and South. He is anxious that border differences shall be obliterated—that the Germans shall converse by telegraph. Hence the completion of the Saint Gothard Railway becomes of more than usual importance. The project is likely to stand forth prominently as a matter for international consideration. North Germany is about to exert itself to unite the station of Central Switzerland at Basle to the Baden system of railways by a bridge across the Rhine. This is a very grand idea, but the attempt for its realization may lead to new difficulties in the Old World. The Swiss republic, the kingdoms of Prussia and Italy, with some of the leading financial interests of Europe, are interested, if not already involved, in the matter. The subject affects not only the monetary calculations but the war-making power of Central Europe, present and for the future. We have consequently taken pains to illustrate the Saint Gothard Railway news matter, which has been referred to by cable telegram, by the publication of the special history of the scheme, which appears in our columns to-day.

THE INTRICACIES OF ERIE LAW SUITS have always been a standing wonder to ordinary people. They have gazed and wondered as as they gazed how one little Judge could keep it all in his head, and they have entertained a sneaking sort of respect for the attainments of the learned counsel on all sides who, even if they became mixed in their logic now and then, certainly displayed persistence and perseverance in going on with their arguments under very adverse circumstances. In the Ramsey case, before Judge Ingraham, yesterday, Mr. Peckham and Mr. Field seem to have got out of their depths among the old and the revised statues and the rules of chancery and other simple arrangements of the law, and to have argued side by side for a time until they touched, when they flew off at a tangent, but altogether the argument was much clearer than usual. The case resulted, however, in the Judge refusing an order preliminary to another order to examine the books of the Erie Railroad.

THE WAR AGAINST TAMMANY.—Republican papers all around us are beginning to open fire upon Tammany Hall. The Chicago *Tribune*, St. Louis *Democrat* and Hartford *Courant* are among the latest. Our St. Louis contemporary says that the democracy in 1868 lost the nomination of a formidable candidate for President "by half an hour," and intimates that Tammany was the cause of it. What it means by fixing the precise time for the misfortune is not easily to be conceived. Perhaps some parties were too late by exactly thirty minutes in binding certain bargains by sealing them with the "sinews of war."

ADVICE GRATIS.—A correspondent of a Canadian journal, in response to the anxiety expressed by the Americans about the free navigation of the St. Lawrence, propounds the following question in true John Bull style:—

If you are so very anxious to navigate the St. Lawrence, why the blazes don't you navigate it? There it is in all its poetical tremendousness, and with its numerous falls, rapids, whirlpools, &c., in splendid condition.

This is a very racy way of putting the point, perhaps, but we hope there will be no "blazes" of any kind required in the premises, but that the question will be settled in a peaceful and harmonious way.

Congress Yesterday—General Amnesty, St. Domingo, Revenue Reform and Admiral Porter.

The proceedings of Congress yesterday were not devoid of importance. The question of general amnesty was brought before the Senate in a plain, honest, straightforward resolution, offered by Senator Schurz, declaring that due regard for the fundamental principles of the American system of government, as well as every consideration of sound statesmanship, requires the removal of all disqualifications and disabilities. It was postponed for some days, when an interesting debate may be expected. This proposition is a great improvement on that reported in the House the other day by Mr. Butler, of Massachusetts, from the Judiciary Committee, which hems around the proposed grace and mercy with formal preliminaries and excludes from its operations several classes comprising the most influential citizens of the South.

The subject which elicited most discussion in the House, and which will attract most attention throughout the country, was the bill introduced by Mr. Logan, of Illinois, abolishing the naval rank of admiral and vice admiral. The opposition to it came from two members of the Committee on Naval Affairs, who wished the bill referred to that committee instead of being acted upon immediately, as urged by Mr. Logan. In the discussion which took place the letter which Porter wrote to Secretary Welles, at the time of the Fort Fisher expedition, in which uncomplimentary allusion was made to General Grant and General Butler, and the recent letter of Admiral Porter to President Grant on the subject, were referred to, and were made the occasion for some very scathing reflections upon the Vice Admiral. Butler characterized them as sycophantic, and as attempts on the part of Porter to curry favor with those in power, and he declared against setting such an example before the youth of the navy. It was in vain that Scofield tried to parry the blow aimed at Porter by recalling General Scott's weakness in the department of letter writing, and intimating that even members of Congress had their "fool's day." The feeling against Porter was too strong. Dawes and Banks took the same view as Butler, and the discussion was decidedly unfavorable to the Vice Admiral. The consequence was that the bill was passed, under a suspension of the rules, which requires a two-thirds majority, and that there was not even a division of the House on its passage. With that unmistakable action of a co-ordinate branch of Congress on the subject, it is by no means likely that the Senate will act upon the nominations pending before it for the promotion of Porter to the rank of admiral and of Rowan to that of vice admiral, but will rather concur with the House in abolishing both those positions. However, if the Senate choose to confirm the nominations it has the right to do so, and then pass the bill, leaving it to take effect when a vacancy shall next occur in either rank.

The question of the annexation of St. Domingo also came up in the House, in the shape of a joint resolution, introduced by Mr. Banks, for the appointment of a special commission to take that question into consideration and to negotiate with the authorities of the island. Mr. Banks tried to have it passed under the previous question, but could not get a majority of the House to vote with him. Mr. Cox then tried to kill the proposition by a motion to lay it on the table; but the House refused to do that either; and, finally, a sort of compromise course was adopted, by a reference of the whole matter to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, with leave to report at any time after five days' notice to the House. The same question came up also in the Senate, in a resolution offered by Senator Morton, and which lies over for future action.

The friends of Revenue Reform had a chance of showing their hands on a resolution offered by Mr. Kelley, of Pennsylvania, looking to the abolition of the internal revenue system, except as to tobacco and distilled spirits, which resolution was agreed to with but six negative votes. A somewhat parallel proposition was offered by Mr. Cox, of New York, except that it also looked to a lowering of tariff duties to a revenue standard; and this was referred to the Committee of Ways and Means, which will probably be the last that will be heard of it.

The Tenure of Office bill was repealed in the House by a majority of 157 to 25, and a bill was introduced in the Senate by Mr. Chandler, of Michigan, to cut off the Canadians from certain privileges of commerce which they now enjoy.

These are the prominent subjects that came before Congress yesterday. There were, besides, quite a variety of heterogeneous matters introduced and referred in either House, including bills for the incorporation and subsidizing of steamship companies. This latter subject, in connection with the pending measures looking to the encouragement of American shipping and commerce, will be one of the most important matters to be disposed of at the present session. Let us hope that the wisdom of Congress will prove equal to the emergency.

REVOLUTION AT THE HUB.—With all the opposition the radicals could bring to bear against Mr. Gaston, the democratic and independent candidate for Mayor of Boston, that gentleman was yesterday elected Mayor of the city. Now let us see what the new Mayor and the new Common Council will do in the way of required reforms.

THE CHICAGO *Post*, in its exhibit of what it calls "Journalistic Depravity," exposes itself to indictment under the accusation. Because one of its own local newspapers stigmatizes in opprobrious terms some of the best artists that have ever visited America is there necessity for using similar language when referring to one of its own neighbors?

THE LATEST CLAIM to the Nathan murderer comes from Binghamton. The "dog"—that dreadful and mysterious "dog"—is said by an expert from Binghamton to resemble one lost by a carpenter there some time ago. But we fear that the "dog" will never tell the story.

GREASING THE WHEELS FOR THE NEXT PRESIDENCY.—The Philadelphia *Press* announces that Lieutenannt General Sheridan is in Greece. He has already whirled around "the Hub."

Unfriendly Relations with the Canadian Government.

The Detroit *Post*, administration organ, commenting upon the unfriendly legislation of the Canadian government in regard to the fishery question, the navigation of the St. Lawrence and other matters in that connection, reminds our testy neighbors that St. Mary's ship canal is wholly ours; that we can exclude Canadian shipping altogether from Lake Superior; that the St. Clair Flats canal is also wholly ours, and we have the same right to forbid Canadian vessels from using it. On the other hand the Ottawa (Canada) *Times*, government organ, pronounces the charge contained in the President's Message of illiberality on the part of Canada with regard to the navigation of the St. Lawrence and the Canadian system of canals unfounded, and alleges that the government of the United States have not, since the repeal of the reciprocity treaty in 1865, applied for permission to use that navigation, and adds that it is a fact that, notwithstanding this, since the repeal of the reciprocity treaty, "every application for permission for United States vessels to pass from the sea to the St. Lawrence or the lakes, or from the lakes to the sea, has been granted by the governments of Canada and of the Dominion." This throws a somewhat new light upon the question at issue, and Congress will, we presume, discuss the subject in a friendly spirit. But whatever is intended to be done should be done at once. Delays in such matters are always dangerous. Whenever the point of unfriendly relations between our Canadian neighbors and ourselves is raised the Alabama irritation inevitably assumes an important share in the discussion.

Straining at a Gnat and Swallowing a Camel.

The members of the British Reform League have just held a large meeting in London to protest against giving any dowry to the Princess Louise on her marriage with the Marquis of Lorne. The language used at this gathering was pretty strong. The people were reminded that there were a hundred and thirty-seven thousand paupers in England, dying of starvation every hour, while the Queen draws an income of four hundred thousand pounds sterling from the treasury, besides innumerable sums for other members of the royal family. The orators at this meeting argued in somewhat unusual terms that her Majesty might at least imitate the example of the poorest workman in her dominions by providing for her own children. This is a very superficial argument, for the cases, of course, are not parallel at all. That there are a vast number of dying paupers in "Merrie England," probably more than the numbers here stated, cannot be denied; but for all that, while royalty exists, royal state must be kept up, and therefore the grant to the throne is quite legitimate. But these reformers forget that the people of Great Britain have been paying year after year, out of their hard labor, thousands of pounds to foreign recipients in the shape of German princes and princesses, and they have not grumbled much about it. This is the first time they have been asked to contribute a dowry to a royal scion who is about to marry a subject, and remain at home, it is presumed, to spend her income among the people. It seems hardly worth while, therefore, to strain at this little gnat after swallowing so many German camels.

The Cable and the Gold Market.

The Gold Room, since the interruption of telegraphic communication with Europe, has been almost stagnant. The operators in that department are accustomed to base their movements on the fluctuations of five-twenties in Europe, and hence, in the absence of quotations, they are like a mill without grist. Without any desire to assist these speculators we would suggest to the cable managers that an exception be made in favor of such important intelligence as the quotations of the London market, which should be allowed to come ahead of the mass of business waiting to be transmitted. Dealings in cotton, wheat and merchandise generally are obstructed through lack of this information, the communication of which might be afforded without detriment to other messages on the wire, and, doubtless, without complaint from customers who would be preceded. As it is the quotations now take their place with other business, and are sometimes two days old when received. In view of the possible derangement of the cables for an indefinite period the managers ought to give one quotation daily—say at noon—the right of way over other messages until communication is fully restored.

INCREASE OF ROBBERIES IN THE CITY.—There seems to be just now a large increase of robberies in the city, some of a burglarious character, some of what is called the "sneak thief" order and another class of robbery which has not been common in the list of crimes until lately—namely, the system of stopping women and children in the streets and taking bundles of clothing from them which they are conveying to and from the workshops where they are employed. This is the most cowardly class of robbery, and, we should suppose, one that would be in the power of the police easily to suppress. But that it is practised daily in the public streets is notorious. The attention of the police is, therefore, called to the protection of these poor women and children, who are thus cruelly fleeced by highway ruffians in open day. Just at this time, when Christmas is approaching, the thieves are hungry and unscrupulous. They should be well watched by the police, and Captain Kelso should urge his men to increased vigilance.

A HALF-WAY MEASURE—The Hon. Joseph H. Rainey, the new "light complected" colored member of the House of Representatives from South Carolina, sworn in yesterday. Let the full-blooded Scipio Africanus appear and then the House will be all right.

JUDGE DOWLING yesterday sent the two emigrant swindlers, Peck and Ballard, to the Island—Peck for six months and Ballard for three. Peck begged for mercy, and said that he was a respectable man and had held responsible positions on the police and in the Fire Department, and thought that sending him to the Island would blast his reputation. No doubt it will, but not more completely than his own act has blasted it.

Astounding Land Jobs and Extravagance of Congress.

The exposure made of the astounding land jobs and reckless extravagance of Congress through our Washington correspondence published yesterday ought to arouse public attention. The whole area of the United States, from the Atlantic to the Pacific and Gulf of Mexico to Maine, including lakes, mountains and everything else, and exclusive of the newly acquired Territory of Alaska, is about three millions of square miles, or near two thousand millions of acres. We may safely estimate that a third of this is useless for cultivation—that is, a third, probably, is covered by lakes, rivers, deserts and barren mountains. This would make the soil of our vast republican empire under cultivation and capable of being cultivated amount to little over twelve hundred millions of acres. The soil of the States and Territories owned by individual citizens may amount to five hundred millions of acres. Out of the remaining seven hundred millions the appropriations already made by Congress and those proposed to be made to railroad corporations and for other jobs amount to over four hundred millions, or much more than half the available Territory belonging to the government and people. These stupendous grants and proposed grants cover an area larger than twenty States of the Union—that is, all New England, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Ohio, Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana. Previous Congresses have given away to favorite companies two hundred and twenty millions, and the bills before the present Congress will give away a hundred and eighty-nine millions. We suppose these bills will pass, as many of the members of Congress are interested, and there is an all-powerful lobby to press them through. Unless the President should veto the bills this stupendous slice of the public domain and people's heritage will pass to the hands of the railroad corporations. The cultivable lands remaining to the government, people and future generations would be little more than three hundred millions of acres. These are startling facts. If the public voice or the President's veto should not interpose this monstrous spoliation will be consummated. There never was before in the history of this country or any other such reckless extravagance and such defiant plunder of the property of the people.

An Old-Fashioned Nor'easter—A Hint to the Signal Service Bureau.

The storm which was gathering here all day last Sunday, which began with a light drizzle about seven P. M. of that day, and which opened yesterday morning and continued all day in full blast, may be set down as a regular old-fashioned nor'easter. From the telegraphic reports of the Signal Service Bureau of the War Department, on Sunday night, at twenty-five minutes to twelve, Washington time, it was snowing at Cheyenne, on the Rocky Mountains, raining (light) at New Orleans, New York and Boston, and heavily at Washington, Milwaukee, Detroit and Buffalo. Thus the area from the latitude of New Orleans to the great lakes, and from the Atlantic seaboard to the Rocky Mountains, was covered by this storm. But we should like to know the point of its beginning on the land and its general course, and, from the observations of the Signal Service Bureau, we think they could readily make it out.

We would also suggest to this bureau the importance of Fortress Monroe as an initial point for observations in this signal service. From our own observations, from our weather reports by telegraph for several years past, we have become fixed in the conclusion that our regular nor'easters, from Virginia to Nova Scotia, come in upon the land from the Atlantic between Cape Hatteras and Fortress Monroe—that this is due to the projections of the line of the Atlantic coast upon the Gulf Stream at Cape Hatteras, and to what we may call the meteorological attractions of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributary rivers upon the vapors of the Gulf Stream, drifting up with that ocean current and accumulating from Florida to Cape Hatteras. At all events, from our observations, we are satisfied that the signal of an opening nor'easter at Fortress Monroe is a warning that, at the velocity of some twenty-five miles an hour, we may expect that storm in New York. Hence we would suggest to this Signal Service Bureau the restoration of Fortress Monroe in these weather reports as the most important point in these observations of any along the Atlantic coast.

UGLY TALK ABOUT OUR PROPOSED NEW MINISTER TO GREAT BRITAIN.—The Washington *Patriot*—anti-administration—has the following to say about our proposed new Minister to Great Britain:—

Mr. Schenck is not destitute of a certain political talent, which is most conspicuous in the angry debates of the House, where his keen malice is effective and equally dangerous to friend and foe; but he lacks the education, the training, the temper and the social amenities which are requisite for success in diplomacy and for any respectable footing in the cultivated circles of Europe.

The *Patriot* is not altogether correct. Did not General Schenck at one time have some experience at Vienna! Now that the late General Walbridge has gone on a long mission, why not let Schenck go on another?

WHAT INHERENT CRUELTY and brutishness there must be in such men as Captain Grindle, of the ship Old Colony, to induce him to maltreat two poor devils of seamen as he did Raus and Franco, according to the evidence taken yesterday before Commissioner Shields. There seems to have been no motive whatever, no particular cause even for hatred of the men, no alleged neglect of duty, no charge of insolence to their officers, nothing but the brute spirit, the love of cruelty, inherent in the man himself.

POLITICS IN CONNECTICUT.—The Hartford *Courant* having circulated a report that ex-Postmaster Cleveland, of that city, was laying pipe for the democratic nomination for Congress from the Connecticut Third district by making voluminous donations of Thanksgiving turkeys to the people in the district, Mr. Cleveland comes out in a card, in which he positively affirms that he is not a candidate for Congressional honors, and that so far as the turkey question is concerned all he did was to present a few of the seasonable luxuries to some of the "poor but deserving" residents of