WASHINGTON.

Senator Sumner Declares War Upon the Administration.

Report of the Senate Committee on Southern Outrages.

THE INDIAN FRAUDS INVESTIGATION.

Fate of the Southern Pacific Railroad in Doubt.

Material Reduction of the Omnibus Appropriation Bill.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25, 1871.

Senator Sumner's Health—War to be Made Upon the Administration.

Senator Sumner has so far recovered from his recent illness as to be able to entertain several of his friends at dinner this evening. It is understood that he has prepared a very elaborate and a very bitter speech against the policy of the President in sending certain vessels of war to the West Indies. This is the basis of the speech, and it is to be delivered when the Naval Appropriation bill comes up for consideration in the Senate. Mr. Sumner, however, will be very general in his remarks, reviewing the whole course of Grant's administration and denouncing the nepotism which he alleges has characterized his official appointments. It is said nothing that the Senator has ever uttered against Andrew Johnson will exceed in bitterness his coming philippic on Grant. Due notice having been given of this speech four or five of the administration Senators will be ready to reply to it. This will be another reason for defeating the appropriation bills.

Investigation of Southern Outrages—Power of the Ku Klux Order.

The Select Committee of the Senate appointed to investigate outrages perpetrated by the Ku Klux Klan at the South have already examined a large number of witnesses, among whom are several United States and State Judges. The burden of the testimony goes to show that the operations of this secret political society extend through nearly all the Southern States, and that it is organized on a basis somewhat similar to the Masonic Order. In South Carolina alone there is evidence before the committee to show that 300 murders for political causes have been committed within six months, and that the murderers have been allowed to go unpunished. All the witnesses agree that it is impossible to convict and punish the offenders. The members of the Ku Klux seem to have an understanding among themselves by which they shield one another and manage to control juries and witnesses. It is probable that at the next session some measure will be passed to effect the destruction of this organization. The majority in both houses feel that until this is done reconstruction at the South will be incomplete.

Report of the Committee on Indian Frauds—The Commissioner Exonerated—Reform in the Bureau Called For.

Mr. Sargent, from the Committee on Appropriations, made a report to-day on the charges preferred by William Welsh against the Commissioner of Indian Affairs in a letter to the Secretary of the Interior, containing allegations of fraud and improvidence in the conduct of Indian affairs. The committee say they have not found evidence of fraud or corruption on the part of the Indian Commissioner, with much to criticise and condemn, arising partly from a vicious system inherited from the past and partly from errors of judgment in the construction of statutes passed to ensure economy and faithfulness in the administration. The committee have found no evidence of any pecuniary or personal advantage sought to be derived by the Commissioner nor any one connected with his Bureau. It appears from the evidence that the Commissioner did not consult the Board of Commissioners in making purchase of provisions or of any goods for the Indian service except dry goods, blankets and articles of that character. The view given by him is erroneous. The organization of the Board of Indian Commissioners was a part of a new system for dealing with the Indians, designed to aid in the introduction of an element of humanity into the dealings of the government with the Indians, and to ensure economy and faithfulness in expenditures for their civilization and comfort. Even with the limits to their usefulness occasioned by this construction of the Commission they have succeeded in accomplishing much good, and have unselfishly and honorably discharged the duties required of them. The benefits of their supervision may be seen from the testimony relating to the purchase of annuity goods, where better articles were obtained at less prices than ever before. The committee condemn the action of the Commissioner in making the Boston contract for beef, &c., and believe he exercised powers only confided to the President, to be exercised through the War Department, but say an exigency existed requiring prompt action. They condemn the failure to advertise, which necessitated an extension of that contract in August. They think competition would have reduced prices if it had been allowed, and did reduce them in the Morrow contract. They apply the same criticism to the transportation contracts. In the course of their report the committee say they have found the system of agents' vouchers unsatisfactory and unsafe, and a change is necessary in the public interest. There is ample opportunity for fraud and collusion in the delivery of goods, both in quantity and quality. The committee are not aware that anything can be done to punish those who have heretofore extorted money from the Indians or aided others in so doing, except to cause a strict inquiry to be made into the conduct of such of these persons as are still in the employ of the government, and dismiss from the service all who have knowingly violated the law. It is but just to say that so far as these payments are concerned the Commissioner of Indian Affairs is in no way responsible.

Abolition of Discriminating Duties in Portugal.

The following proclamation was issued by the President to-day:—

Whereas satisfactory evidence was given to me on the 17th day of this month by the government of Portugal that the discriminating duties heretofore levied in the ports of Portugal on merchandise imported in vessels of the United States into said ports from other countries than those of which said merchandise was the growth, production, or manufacture, have been abolished, now, therefore, I, Ulysses S. Grant, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by an act of Congress of January 7, 1824, and by an act in addition thereto of March 24, 1828, do hereby declare and proclaim that the discriminating duties heretofore levied in the ports of the United States upon merchandise imported in Portuguese vessels from countries other than those of which such merchandise is the growth, produce or manufacture shall be and are hereby suspended and discontinued; this suspension or discontinuance to take effect on and after the said 17th day of this month, and to continue so long as the reciprocal exemption of merchandise belonging to citizens of the United States from such discriminating duties shall be granted in the ports of Portugal.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United states to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this twenty-fifth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one, and of the independence of the United States of America the ninety-fifth.

U. S. GRANT.

By the President:
HAMILTON FISH, Secretary of State.

The Southern Pacific Railroad Bill was sent to a conference committee to-day by a mutual agreement between its friends and opponents. The point at issue between the two houses is the question of branch roads. As the bill originally passed the Senate it provided for at least half a dozen branch roads, in addition to the main trunk. The House cut all these off, providing only for a single road from Marshall, Texas, to San Diego, Cal. This is the shape in which the bill goes to the conference committee. It is pretty certain that the House will insist upon its amendment, and should the managers on the part of the Senate refuse to recede there is some danger of the bill being lost. The conference committee will meet on Monday. The friends of the bill are still confident of its success at the present session.

The New Loan—Exchange of Bonds.

A large number of letters are daily received at the Treasury Department on the subject of the new loan. In many cases parties have informed the Secretary that they are ready to make exchanges of their five-twenties for the new five per cents, and in some instances these bonds have already been sent in advance direct to the Treasury Department for exchange, and not through agents.

The Philadelphia International Exposition.

Senator Cameron succeeded to-day in securing the passage of his bill providing for an international exposition at Philadelphia in 1876. This was Cameron's pet measure of the session. Conkling undertook to talk it over, but Cameron notified him some days ago that he would pass the bill before he left Washington. Conkling was evidently not as familiar with the peculiar tactics of Cameron as some of the older Senators. To-day the New York Senator was not in his seat during the morning hour, a circumstance which was taken advantage of by the veteran Pennsylvania Senator. Seeing that Conkling was absent Cameron called the bill up and put it on its passage.

Sorrowful Condition of Affairs in Arizona.

Ex-Governor McCormick, now delegate in Congress from Arizona, called upon the President to-day with a delegation of leading citizens from that Territory, who protested against the statements of General Stoneman in his late report, and declared that many of the Indians pronounced peaceable by him were intensely hostile. They asserted that life and property were never so insecure in the territory as at present, and that the proposition to abandon certain forts had greatly alarmed the people. They said that the mineral discoveries of the past year were more promising than any before made in the Territory, and that with anything like adequate protection the mines would pay largely and the Territory yield handsome revenue to the government. The President referred the delegation to General Sherman, who said Congress alone was responsible for the lack of the needed military force, the army having been reduced to an extent that prevented the assignment of more troops to the Territory.

Nominations.

The following nominations were sent to the Senate to-day:—

Henry F. Rice, to be Superintendent of the Branch Mint at Carson City, Nevada; Andrew Miller, to be Receiver of Public Moneys at Susanville, Cal.; J. S. Ward, to be Register of the Land Office at Susanville, Cal.; Robert Meacham, to be Register at Tallahassee, Fla.; Samuel B. Morrison, to be Pension Agent at Bangor, Me. Postmasters—A. B. Farnham at Bangor, Me.; Wells Tyler, Jr., at Palmyra, N. Y.; A. D. Jones, at Corinth, Miss.

Nominations Confirmed.

The Senate in executive session to-day confirmed the following nominations:—

Consuls.—Isaac Sisson, at Mazatlan; W. H. Brown, at Chihuahua; Oslas Morgan, at Rio Grande, Brazil; A. P. Tomassini, at Ancona.

Collectors of Internal Revenue.—John B. Kenney, for the First district of Pennsylvania (consolidated First and Third districts); Charles R. Coster, for the Eighth district of Pennsylvania; A. P. Lathrop, for the Fourth district of Virginia; George H. Olney, for the Second district of Rhode Island; John S. Witcher, for the Third district of West Virginia.

Collectors of Customs.—E. W. Massey, for the district of Yorktown, Va.; Horace Lawson, for the Eastern district of Maryland; Thomas Russell, for the district of Boston and Charlestown, Mass.

Miscellaneous.—John E. Marsh, Surveyor of Customs at Kansas City, Mo.; John R. G. Feltkin, General Appraiser of Merchandise for the South; Henry F. Rice, Superintendent of the Branch Mint at Carson City, Nev.; Spencer F. Baird, Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries; George E. Webster, to be Pension Agent at Fort Gibson, Cherokee Nation; Samuel B. Morrison, Pension Agent at Bangor, Me.; Robert Meacham, Register at Tallahassee, Fla.; Jessie Armitage, Indian Agent for the Black Feet and neighboring tribes.

Military.—Peter S. Mitchell, to be Professor of Natural and Experimental Philosophy in the Military Academy.

Naval.—Captain Dominick Lynch, to be captain on the active list; Captain Charles W. Pickering, to be commodore on the retired list; Lieutenants F. H. Shepard, to be lieutenant commander on the retired list; Henry E. Rhodes, to be second assistant engineer; Paymaster Casper Schenck, to be advanced twelve numbers, and Paymaster Luther G. Billings, to be advanced fifteen numbers in their grades for eminent and conspicuous conduct in battle; Paymaster Francis H. Swan, to be advanced fifteen numbers for extraordinary heroism during the war of the rebellion.

Enforcing the Laws in South Carolina.

Governor Scott, of South Carolina, has formally called upon the President for troops to aid him in enforcing the laws, and it has been decided to send some regiments there to be used at the discretion of the Governor.

Currency Statement.

The receipts of fractional currency for the week ending to-day amount to $177,800. The shipments were:—Fractional currency, $176,472; notes, $595,671.

The Treasurer holds in trust for national bank circulation $352,575,000, and for public deposits $15,899,590.

Mutilated notes burned during the week, $385,770; total amount burned, $33,612,767; bank currency issued for bills destroyed during the week, $243,940; balance due for mutilated notes, $1,747,554.

Outstanding circulation, $308,889,228.

Fractional currency redeemed and destroyed during the week, $307,200.

Internal receipts to-day, $318,243; for the fiscal year to date, $160,596,494.

FORTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

Third Session.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 24, 1871.

THE PATENT LAWS.

Mr. WILLEY, (rep.) of W. Va., from the Committee on Patents, reported back the bill to revise, consolidate and amend the statutes relating to patents and copyrights. Passed.

THE PHILADELPHIA CENTENNIAL.

On motion of Mr. CAMERON, (rep.) of Pa., the Senate took up the House bill providing for a celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of American independence at Philadelphia in 1876, by an exposition of manufactures, science and art.

The CHAIRMAN stated the question to be on an amendment offered by Mr. Conkling to provide for a similar exposition at New York.

Mr. FENTON, (rep.) of N. Y., in the absence of his colleague, called for a vote upon the amendment, which it was rejected by a large negative vote. The bill then passed.

THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD.

On motion of Mr. HOWARD, (rep.) of Mich., the Senate nonconcurred in the amendment of the House to the Southern Pacific Railroad bill, and a committee of conference was ordered. Messrs. Howard, Kelogg and Flanagan were appointed as the committee.

THE POST OFFICE APPROPRIATION BILL.

The Senate then took up the Post Office Appropriation bill, and discussed the various amendments reported from the Committee on Appropriations.

The amendment proposing a reduction in the item for the inland mail transportation of nearly half a million dollars, after discussion, was defeated—Yeas 21, nays 28.

The clause making an appropriation for postage-stamped envelopes was discussed upon the expediency of continuing the practice of government in furnishing stamped envelopes, with business cards and addresses printed thereon. The clause was finally adopted as amended to prohibit any engraving or lithographing upon envelopes, or any other printing than a request to return the letter if not called for to the address of the writer, and also prohibiting any person who has been detected in frauds on the government from bidding for a contract to furnish envelopes.

Mr. WILLIAMS, (rep.) of Oregon, moved as an amendment to the bill the Australian Mail Steamship Subsidy bill, providing a subsidy of $200,000 per annum. He advocated the proposition as a means of creating a valuable commerce across the Pacific, in connection with our Pacific railroads.

Mr. CHANDLER, (rep.) of Mich., moved to lay the amendment on the table. Agreed to—yeas 27, nays 24.

The vote in detail was as follows:—

Yeas—27.

Ames,	Flanagan,	Morrill, Vt.,	Thurman,
Boreman,	Hamilton, Md.,	Osborn,	Tipton,
Buckingham,	Harris,	Pratt,	Trumbull,
Cameron,	Hill,	Robertson,	Vickers,
Carpenter,	Howard,	Scott,	Warner,
Chandler,	Howe,	Sherman,	Willey,
Conkling,	Howell,	Stearns,	

Nays—24.

Abbott,	Fowler,	Pomeroy,	Spencer,
Casserly,	Gilbert,	Ramsey,	Stewart,
Cole,	Kellogg,	Revels,	Thayer,
Corbett,	Lewis,	Rice,	Wadams,
Davis,	McDonald,	Sausbury,	Wilson,
Fenton,	Nye,	Sawyer,	Yates.

The next amendment reported from the Committee on Appropriations was to increase the subsidy now given for the mail service between San Francisco, Japan and China from $500,000 to $1,000,000 annually, on condition that the mail service shall be semi-monthly, instead of monthly, and that the additional steamer shall be of not less than 4,000 tons register.

Mr. POMEROY, (rep.) of Kan., moved to lay the amendment on the table, but temporarily withdrew the motion at the request of Mr. Cole.

After argument in favor of the increase of subsidy by Messrs. Cole and Nye and against it by Mr. Chandler, the Senate went into executive session, and at five o'clock P. M., without disposing of the pending question, adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25, 1871.

RAILROAD LAND GRANTS.

Mr. VAN WYCK, (rep.) of N. Y., presented a petition of the citizens of New Jersey against railroad land grants, and to reserve the public lands for actual settlers.

THE INCOME TAX REPEAL.

Mr. HOOPER, (rep.) of Mass., chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, presented a letter from Mr. Pleasonton, Commissioner of Internal Revenue, stating that in view of the action taken by the Senate and the Committee of Ways and Means of the House, looking toward a repeal of the income tax, he had naturally delayed until the last moment before authorizing any expense in connection with the assessment of that tax, but that longer delay on his part was impossible. He therefore urged that the action of the House be pressed to an immediate conclusion.

Mr. HOOPER gave notice, in connection with the letter, that he would at the earliest opportunity move to go into Committee of the Whole for the purpose of taking up the bill to repeal the income tax.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

Mr. DOX, (dem.) of Ala., from the Committee on Elections, reported a resolution to pay to Mrs. Letwich, widow of a contestant for a seat, two thousand five hundred dollars for expenses of the contest. Adopted.

Mr. CONGER, (rep.) of Mich., from the Committee on Commerce, reported back the Senate bill to amend the act to establish the railroad and bridges of the New Orleans, Mobile and Chattanooga Railroad Company a post road. Passed.

The House then resumed the consideration of

THE OMNIBUS APPROPRIATION BILL.

The item of six millions to indemnify the States for costs and charges and expenses properly incurred by them for enrolling and subsisting troops for the defence of the United States during the late insurrection was struck out on a point of order, as not being properly in order in an appropriation bill.

The like disposition was made of the item of $850,000 for the payment for horses and other property lost in the military service of the United States.

The items in regard to public buildings in and around Washington, for the Coast Survey, for the Freedmen's Bureau and the navy yards gave rise to considerable discussion.

On motion of Mr. SCOFIELD, (rep.) of Pa., and after opposition by Mr. DAWES, (rep.) of Mass., an item of $300,000 was inserted for the works at League Island Navy Yard—yeas 140, nays 44.

After this vote, and in the midst of much confusion, arising from propositions to adjourn.

Mr. SARGENT, (rep.) of Cal., asked leave to report from the Committee on Appropriations the Senate amendment to the Indian Appropriation bill and to submit a motion that they be not concurred in and a committee of conference appointed.

Mr. BUTLER, (rep.) of Mass., objected.

The House resumed the consideration of the Omnibus Appropriation bill.

Mr. STARKWEATHER, (rep.) of Conn., moved to insert an item of $30,000 for the construction of a navy yard at New London.

Mr. DAWES expressed his belief that it was needless to oppose the proposition, as he believed there was an understanding that this item was to be put through after the League Island one.

Mr. STARKWEATHER repelled the insinuation of there being any trade in the matter.

The amendment was rejected.

Mr. DAWES moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Mr. FARNSWORTH, (rep.) of Ill., declared that there were too many jobs in the bill to be passed under a suspension of the rules.

Mr. DAWES replied that there was not an item in it which had not been regularly estimated for.

The motion was rejected—yeas 69, nays 92.

The House then, at seven o'clock, adjourned.

DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS.

An announcement of a democratic caucus of the Forty-first and Forty-second Congress was made for Monday evening next.

AMUSEMENTS.

RIVARDE MUSICAL CLUB SECOND CONCERT.—Rarely has Apollo Hall been favored by such a large and fashionable assemblage as witnessed last night the second appearance of Mr. P. A. Rivarde's admirable corps of artists; for the name, amateur, can scarcely be applied to this organization. The vocal part of the programme consisted of a duo from "Favorita," for mezzo-soprano and tenor, a polonaise from "Mignon," soprano, Rivarde's beautiful tenor serenade, "Aimez toujours," the celebrated sestette from "Lucia," a bass aria, from "Dinorah;" cavatina, from "Robert;" the grand aria, "Ah! perfido," and the well known duet between Gilda and the Duke, from "Rigoletto." These selections were rendered, each and all, with a perfection of style and expression such as one rarely hears in concerts nowadays. The lady who sang the "Mignon Polonaise" has a voice of singular power and sweetness, and its cultivation is of the most unexceptionable kind. No better evidence could be given that we have in this city a mine of vocal talent which the general public know little of, and which only the permanent establishment of the lyric drama in the metropolis can fully develop.

The feature of the evening was the artistic rendering of Chopin's polonaise-fantasia by the eminent pianist, Mr. Rameri Vilanova. This work is *sui generis* and possesses none of the qualities of the other polonaises of Chopin beyond that powerful rhythm that distinguishes all of them from the pointed prettiness of the salon polonaise. Only a pianist who has made Chopin a specialty and who can catch the divine spirit that breathes through those works may venture to play this remarkable composition. Mr. Vilanova's style is marked by exquisite delicacy and warmth of expression, his *technique* is faultless in every respect, and he possesses, to an eminent degree, that emotional touch which Chopin's works demand. An orchestra, which was selected and rehearsed with evident care, and was ably conducted by Mr. Rivarde, played the overtures to "Der Freyschutz" and "Semiramide." Altogether the concert was one of those delightful musical treats which are a source of pleasure to an audience during the performance and leave a lasting impression afterwards. We should, indeed, have more of them.

MISS VIENNA DEMOREST'S DEBUT.—A very select and critical circle of musicians and *literateurs* sat in judgment last evening, at Chickering's Hall, upon a new candidate for lyric honors, Miss Vienna Demorest. Seldom has a début of a cantatrice been made with such satisfactory results. Expectation had been raised to a high and, we might say, dangerous extent regarding the voice and artistic culture of this very young lady. The universal verdict last night of those who heard her was favorable, and we might say that there was a feeling of astonishment, as well as of admiration, at the remarkable power, sweetness, range, and purity of tone which her voice exhibited. She sang the aria from Costa's "Eli," "I will extol Thee, O Lord," "Come unto Him," from the "Messiah," waltz, "L'Ardita," and in a duet by Campana with Mr. Gustavus Hall. It would be out of the question to say that the young lady's voice has yet attained command of all its resources, but it is undeniably true that she has the materials of an artist of an exceptionably high order and that there is a bright future in store for her. Some three or four notes in the middle register of her voice require the aid of an experienced teacher to bring them in accord with the evenness of their neighbors, and in florid passages she lacks ease and agility of execution. A year or two in Europe and constant perseverance will develop Miss Demorest into an artist of whom America may be proud. She has considerable fire and vivacity of manner, and sings with her whole soul. If we add to this a very prepossessing appearance, there is every reason to expect in her a *prima donna* for the operatic stage. Her compositions are of an order of merit which evidences considerable musical education and innate talent. She was assisted in her début by Messrs. Poznanskis, Hall and Colby.

BENEFIT OF MADAME MARIE SEEBACH.—Probably the Stadt theater has never been more densely crowded than it was last evening on the occasion of the benefit given to Mme. Marie Seebach. Every seat was occupied long before the performance commenced, and it would appear that an additional parquet could have been filled also. The piece selected for the evening was "Die Eine Weint, die Andere Lacht;" or, "Tears and Laughter," a play which has been translated from the original French, and in which the lovely German actress is quite at home. The first act is a country house scene in the offices of a public notary, and is merely an introduction to the audience of Madame Seebach, who represents Madame Rey as the mother of the heroine's (Seebach) husband. The second part introduced Madame Seebach as Anna Rey, and her *entrée* was the signal for a perfect storm of applause from the enthusiastic audience, who rose from their seats and cheered her, while those nearest the stage threw a shower of bouquets to the smiling *beneficiaire*, who gracefully acknowledged the compliments thus paid to her. Never has she been more lifelike in her acting or more pathetic and affecting than she was last night. Nothing could be more touching than the manner in which she read a letter purporting to come from her brother to her blind mother, accompanying each word with such a passionate earnestness in her endeavor to conceal his fate from her aged parent that handkerchiefs were strongly in demand among the ladies present. Her manner of upbraiding her husband, who had been away fourteen months without sending any communication, was as charming as it was effecting, and when she could no longer bear up against the emotions that are supposed to have troubled the young wife, the exclamation, "Mein Gott, mein Gott, Tagen, wochen, und monaten—ja vierzehn monaten—war ich allein," brought another avalanche of applause.

Just as the audience were becoming interested in the effective playing of the heroine a loud hissing was heard in the gallery, and the next instant the cry of "Feuer, feuer," was raised, and the theatre was, in a second, the scene of the greatest commotion; every person rushed to the door and tumbled over each other. It was a false alarm, however, and notwithstanding the efforts of a few rowdies to keep up the terror the audience were at length quieted and settled down into their seats. Madame Seebach and Fraulein Veneta, who were engaged in their parts at the time the disturbance occurred, were not in the least disconcerted, and after the company had been again settled in their seats and another round of applause given, the performance proceeded, to the great delight of all present. The warm appreciation of her talents, as evinced last night, will doubtless remain with Madame Seebach as a pleasing remembrance of her New York friends during her sojourn in the Provinces. Fraulein, Bissinger and Bardenheuer, and Herren Dombrowsky, Harry, Lange, Koppe, Fiedler, Beckler and Müller acquitted themselves remarkably well and to the credit of the company to which they belong.

BOOTH'S THEATRE.—Last evening the Rev. James White's historical play of the "King of the Commons" was performed at Booth's theatre, in the presence of an audience which seemed to enjoy the really fine acting of Mr. Lawrence Barrett, who essayed the chief character of the play—King James V. Mr. Barrett is one of the few actors left in New York who can safely embody the part of such a gallant, fiery and chivalrous monarch as James Stuart. It is in itself such a different phase of life from what is seen in this every day practical world of ours that it indicates nerve and a high order of courage in an actor who seeks to deserve popularity when he attempts to perform the part of the King of the Commons. In the fourth act the mingled passion, force and the whirlwind of deceived love, which Mr. Barrett portrayed so finely when he became aware that Lord Seton had cast away the trust reposed in him, carried the audience away totally, and when the curtain fell the actor was recalled by the audience, who congratulated him earnestly. Mr. Augustus Piton, who was the Malcom Young of the evening, was chiefly noticeable for his close imitation of the make-up of Mr. Edwin Booth as that gentleman is known to playgoers, at the same that he did his very best to make a melancholy character quite respectable in his quiet, unostentatious way.

FOURTEENTH STREET THEATRE.—The debut of Mrs. Ella Clymer as Pauline, the Lady of Lyons, was the special attraction at this theatre last night. It was an attraction, too, which drew together a considerable number of people from the uptown fashionable districts, though the audience in the aggregate was less than a thousand. Mrs. Clymer, we understand, is a near relative of the Hon. Heister Clymer, of Pennsylvania, one of the most prominent and popular of the democratic great guns of the State. The lady, on the stage, has the appearance of a young girl hardly out of her teens. The is a pretty woman, possessing a sweet face, a bright blonde complexion, and a light, delicate and flexible figure. Her voice, too, is "soft and low, an excellent thing in woman," and her movements are exceedingly graceful. In her rendering of Pauline, the flowery rock upon which so many hopeful *debutantes* have been shipwrecked, she was welcomed with all the honors of applause, encores and bouquets and baskets of flowers. We think, too, that within the limits of a double parlor or a double house her execution would have been pronounced really beautiful, but from timidity or inexperience her range of voice was not equal to the demands of this theatre. She evidently appreciates the character, but has yet to learn the art of impressing her audience with the depth of her emotions. She has yet to learn that action and emphasis in voice and motion, full scope to the lungs in many points, and earnestness in utterance, look, gesture and every movement are essential to the simplest representations on the stage, and that these conditions are only to be gained through a severe course of training. There is no royal road to histrionic excellence, as there is none to mathematics; but given a charming person, a pleasant voice, the accomplishments of a good general education, something of what they call talents or genius and ambition for the laurels of the stage, and we have, as we have in Mrs. Clymer, a beginner who may rise to great distinction in this favorite character of all romantic young ladies, and old ladies, too, for that matter—this truly representative character of the woman in love—Pauline. Mrs. Clymer was admirably sustained by Mr. Barton Hill as Claude Melnotte; Mr. Morris is good as General Dumas; Mr. Arnold as Beauseant and Mr. Mathews as Glavis. Mrs. Brutone as Madame Deschapelles maintained the dignity of the family with becoming zeal, and Miss Walters as the Widow Melnotte was excellent. The play was carried through very smoothly, and was warmly applauded to the end; and this was the general verdict of the house, that if Mrs. Clymer is not the best she is the handsomest Pauline that has appeared upon the New York stage for many years.

THE MUSICAL MATINEES YESTERDAY.—Mlle. Marie Krebs, in her *répertoire* and her versatility of style, seems to be inexhaustible, and it was gratifying to find yesterday that the public begin to patronize as well as appreciate her interesting piano recitals. The smaller hall of Messrs. Steinway was filled yesterday afternoon with an attentive audience. Miss Krebs played the following works:—Italian Concert, I. S. Bach; A Etude, B Valse, Chopin; Andante, e Rondo capriccioso, Mendelssohn; A Tambourin, Rigaudon—double, I. Ph. Rameau; B "Home, Sweet Home," Thalberg; Tarantelle, Massaniello, Liszt. She is a hard-working, earnest and conscientious artist, and her playing yesterday gave unbounded satisfaction. There are few pianists in America who can boast of such a *répertoire*, and her execution is marvellous. She was assisted by Mrs. Guiager and Signor Randolfi, with Mr. Dachauer as accompanist.

Mr. Wehli's second piano recital at the Union League theatre was crowded with ladies, and more than a dozen carriages were in *attendance* outside. The programme was the same as at his first matinée. A novel feature was introduced by the management in furnishing the ladies in the audience with copies of every work performed, so that they might combine study with amusement. Such a plan is of immense assistance toward the proper enjoyment of classical works, and it might be profitably adopted at all recitals of this kind.

The first popular concert of the Euterpe Society took place yesterday afternoon at Association Hall, and was a genuine artistic success. Miss Brainard, Miss Sterling, Mr. Wehli (who came from the Union League) and other artists, with a grand chorus and orchestra, rendered a very attractive programme, consisting of selections from Rossini, Abt, Otto, Nicolai, Strauss and Steinhagen. Mr. John P. Morgan was the conductor, and a very efficient one too. To his exertions the flourishing Euterpe is due.

NEW YORK CITY.

The vital statistics for the week ending February 25 are—Deaths, 431; births, 415; marriages, 195, and still births, 22.

A celebration of the anniversary of Washington's Birthday will take place to-day, morning and afternoon, at Cooper Institute. Mr. Goff will lecture on Washington as a citizen, soldier, Freemason, statesman and Christian.

Mr. G. D. Cardozo, chief of the Ordinance Bureau, reports that during the past week he has received 307 complaints of violations of various corporation ordinances, of which twenty-six have been remedied, and the balance referred to the proper departments for settlement.

Mr. James Donohue, Superintendent of the Free Labor Bureau, Nos. 8 and 10 Clinton place, makes the following report of business for the week ending February 25:—Applications for employment, 705; of these there were 110 males and 598 females; male help required, 50; females, 593; situations procured for 46 males and 549 females. Whole number of situations procured for the week ending February 25, 595.

On Friday last Charles W. Dayton delivered the third of a course of lectures now in progress under the auspices of the Bloomingdale Lyceum, of which the Rev. Dr. Peters is President. Mr. Dayton selected for his theme "The Romance of Life," which he treated in so masterly a manner as to secure not only the plaudits of an intellectual audience, but a high encomium from the venerable President before the assembly was dismissed.

The Eleventh precinct police yesterday reported to the Coroners' office that the body of a German, about thirty-five years of age, had been found dead in the areaway of premises No. 394 East Houston street. It is believed that deceased fell and fatally injured himself. From letters found in possession of deceased, his name is supposed to have been Hermann Bertram. The body was removed to the Morgue and Coroner Young notified to hold an inquest.

Charles H. Hahn and Frederick Keller, two very intelligent and respectable looking individuals, were arraigned before Judge Ledwith yesterday afternoon, at the Essex Market Police Court, charged with obtaining dry goods to the amount of $3,000 from various merchants in this city upon forged orders. They used the name of Hill & Moynahan, of 245½ Grand street. Owing to the non-attendance of an important witness no examination was had; consequently the two gentlemen were held over until Monday.

Mr. Edward A. Moore, Superintendent of Roads in the Department of Public Works, was made the recipient last evening of a handsome pair of horses. Mr. Moore's efforts to keep the roads in good repair have been so untiring and so eminently successful as to attract the attention and command the commendation of all the roadsters. The presentation took place at Berthoff's, 144th street and Eighth avenue, and was made the occasion of a happy gathering of a number of leading citizens, politicians and sports, who have profited and been pleased by Mr. Moore's attention to the duties of his department.

The John Cox Association, composed of the political and social friends of the popular young magistrate, is already established as a fixture and promises to be the leading organization of the west siders. Colonel Walter W. Price, the president, is making strenous efforts to build up an organization that will be lasting and permanent. There are already over two hundred members on the roll, composed of such men as Judges Shandley and Fowler, M. J. Shandley, Charles H. Hall, Superintendent Kelso, Senator Norton, Aldermen Mitchell, Assemblymen Loutrell, O'Neill and Flanagan and a host of others. The first annual invitation ball takes place at Apollo Hall on Wednesday evening, March 8, and will be one of the finest affairs of the season. The police committee will be headed by Superintendent Kelso, the floor by Thomas Nulligan and the reception by Senator Norton. Gratulla's full band has been engaged.

METEOROLOGICAL.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, Feb. 25—4:35 P. M.

Synopsis.

The storm which yesterday passed over the lakes into Canada is to-day followed by a diminution of pressure and rains advancing from Texas plains. Lowest barometer is now at Nashville and Memphis, and the maximum pressure is in Pennsylvania and Wisconsin; thence diminishing as we proceed to the North and East. It is now raining lightly from Indiana to New Jersey. Fresh southwest winds on the Gulf coast. On the Atlantic and lakes fresh and gentle southwest winds prevail. The temperature is rising on the north and east of the storm centre.

Probabilities.

It is probable that a decided fall of the barometer will be experienced on the lower lakes and East Atlantic, followed by thick winds on Sunday night. Fair weather is indicated for the Gulf.

THE COAL QUESTION.

Negotiations Between the Miners and Operators.

The Workingmen's Offer for the Relief of the Poor of New York and Philadelphia.

APPREHENDED OUTRAGES BY THE MINERS

POTTSVILLE, Pa., Feb. 25, 1871.

A committee from the Workingmen's Benevolent Association met a committee of the Anthracite Board of Trade at this place this morning. The committee of the miners absolutely refused to accept anything lower than a three dollar basis. That now offered, a two dollar and a half basis, was unanimously accepted last November by the miners, and it is a matter of surprise that they now refuse those terms.

The following private despatch was received here at eight o'clock this evening:—

MAHANOY CITY, Feb. 25, 1871.

At a general meeting of Mahanoy District, No. 5, Workingmen's Benevolent Association, held this day, it was resolved that we, miners and laborers of the district, hearing that the poor of the cities of New York and Philadelphia are suffering for the want of coal, will give one or two days' labor in the mines free gratis for the purpose of supplying coal for their pressing needs, provided that the operators will give the use of the collieries and the railroad companies will transport the same free. By order of

THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE.

It will be seen at once how absurd the above offer is. The great expense incident on starting a coal mine in operation, and for two days only, utterly precludes the possibility of the offer being accepted.

Another meeting of workingmen will be held to-morrow, and still another on Monday, in regard to accepting the $2 50 basis. It is believed in well informed circles that the miners will eventually accept the terms offered.

There are grave fears here of outrages by the miners. They have threatened to throw trains off the track of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad. One day this week a frog was plugged by a stick of wood, but it was fortunately discovered in time to prevent an accident. The Reading company have about sixty bridges within a radius of twenty miles of Pottsville. Guards are stationed on all these bridges constantly, to prevent any attempt at destruction by the miners. A locomotive, carrying an armed guard, is constantly patrolling the road above this place, and every precaution is being taken to guard against outrages by the infuriated miners, who have sworn to be revenged for the doubling of tolls on this road. Some of them have threatened to saw the stringers of the bridges nearly through from the under side, and trust to a train breaking through when passing over the bridge.

Bartholomew O'Reagan, an old employé of the Reading Railroad, was instantly killed this morning while going to his work by being run over.

Interview with Mr. Gowen, President of the Reading Railroad Company—Why the Tolls Were Increased—Miners' Wages and Associations.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 25, 1871.

The coal question is rapidly assuming a graver aspect. As no signs of resumption have yet manifested themselves people are beginning to ask how long they are to remain at the mercy of coal operators and infamous combinations. A HERALD reporter called at the office of the Reading Railroad Company this morning for the purpose of procuring the latest news in regard to the great strike. Mr. Gowen, the President, and the gentleman who has been at the head of all the late meetings of the coal operators, manifested a desire to give for publication in the HERALD the leading points in the controversy, and, in fact, said he had intended to write to the HERALD on the subject, but did not wish to involve himself in a newspaper controversy. The following interview took place between your representative and Mr. Gowen:—

REPORTER—Mr. Gowen, I have called to learn from your lips the reasons of the advance in tolls over your road, if you will give the information; also as to the present aspects of the coal strike and prospects for resumption.

Mr. GOWEN—Certainly. In the first place the Reading Railroad Company have always carried over their road 135,000 tons of coal per week, and on the canal about 35,000. Since the strike has been in operation the supply has dwindled down to about 12,000 tons per week on both railroad and canal. Well, our expenses have been nearly the same and our receipts much less than formerly. To save our road from running behind we were forced to raise the tolls.

REPORTER—The impression seems to prevail that it was done to keep out the minor operators until the combination of leading operators had the miners brought to terms.

Mr. GOWEN—I know that impression prevails. It is erroneous. It of course had a tendency to keep the minor operators from bringing coal to market; yet it was not done on that account. We would have raised the rate all the same. Had these operators, however, furnished enough coal for transportation to pay us the rates would not have been raised.

REPORTER—Is the Reading Railroad interested in mining operations? In fine, does this corporation work in conjunction with the operators, or are its managers owners of mines?

Mr. GOWEN (very emphatically)—It is not. We are not interested in mining, except indirectly. We own coal lands that are rented to operators; that's all.

MINERS' WAGES.

REPORTER—Mr. Gowen, I believe there is an impression abroad that miners in many instances work by the week. I think Mr. Siney, a leading miner, maintained that miners could make but twelve dollars per week. What are the facts, so far as you know?

Mr. GOWEN—This is a mistake. There are some few laborers and superannuated miners that work by the week. Miners who work under the ground work almost invariably by contract. The wages now offered miners are almost identical with those received under the "Gowen" compromise during the four latter months of 1870. The following table will show the average earnings per day for miners working by contract. I will take as an exhibit of the whole five mines, as follows. You will understand that this is the net amount of wages after all deductions are made:—

	August.	*September.*	*October.*
First colliery	$4 09	$4 72	$4 47
Second colliery	3 80	3 93	4 05
Third colliery	3 88	4 42	4 12
Fourth colliery	4 53	3 47	3 47
Fifth colliery	4 21	4 19	4 10

UNDER THE WAGES NOW OFFERED

the men the same amounts can be earned, when coal is at the same price it was in those months, which were as follows:—

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