

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

Letters and packages should be properly sealed.

Volume XXXVI. No. 103

AMUSEMENTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING.

- THEATRE FRANCAIS, 234 St. Broadway. Variety Entertainment.
BOUYER'S THEATRE, 234 St. Broadway.
WOOD'S MUSEUM, Broadway, corner 8th St.
OLYMPIA THEATRE, Broadway.
NIPLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.
WALLACE'S THEATRE, Broadway.
LINA EDWIN'S THEATRE, 70 Broadway.
FOURTEENTH STREET THEATRE.
NEW YORK STADT THEATRE.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
BOUYER THEATRE.
FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.
MRS. F. B. CONWAY'S PARK THEATRE.
SAN FRANCISCO MINERAL HALL.
BRYANT'S NEW OPERA HOUSE.
TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE.
THEATRE COMIQUE.
NEW YORK CIRCUS.
STEINWAY HALL.
ASSOCIATION HALL.
NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY.
DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM.

QUADRUPLE SHEET.

New York, Wednesday, April 12, 1871.

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PRESIDENT GRANT has been visiting Mount Vernon. The last President taking counsel at the tomb of the first presents a very significant picture for a painter.

THE REV. MR. CHENEY, of Chicago, has so far scandalized the Low Church principles of the chiefs of his denomination out there that they look upon him as a regular Heathen Cheney.

SENATOR SUMNER intends to announce in tones of thunder pretty soon his strict adherence to the principles of radicalism. He knows that he is a republican, but he is not certain yet whether he or Grant is the republican party.

FRISK'S REQUEST that his regiment be tendered the hospitalities of Boston, with choice of hospitals, has been laid on the table by the Boston Aldermen. This is the beginning of a round of hospitalities that will lay a good many of the regiment under the table.

'DELIVER US FROM TEMPTATION.'—This prayer should now be repeated all the time, day and night, by the weak-backed republicans of the Assembly at Albany. One, two or three of them may be wanted regardless of expense. Can they all resist the premium which for a single vote upon a big job may be offered? Doubtful, very doubtful; or if there is any certainty upon the subject it is in favor of the jobbers.

THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.—The war that has existed for years past in Spain has been a war of attrition, and the Spanish American republics, was yesterday virtually ended, by an armistice being signed at Washington, whereby hostilities cannot be renewed unless upon a notice of three years. This, of course, means peace. There has been no collision of the opposing forces since the repulse of the Spanish fleet before Callao, but no change in the warlike situation has occurred since that event until now. Under the armistice trade is to be resumed at once between the belligerents as well as neutrals, and negotiations for peace will begin next week. This will end a war begun upon a very slight, if any, provocation—one that was without any result of importance. It cost a vast amount of money, and neither Spain nor the republics were in any way the gainers by reason of their little difficulty.

The Versailles Government and the Paris Reds.—The Solution—What is it to be?

The state of affairs in France still commands attention. We are sorry, but not unwilling to confess that it no longer commands interest. Our news of this morning is of the ordinary sort—the Communists maintain the fight; but, according to their own confession, they gather weakness rather than strength. The Versailles government steadily gains; but it gains so slowly that we cannot help blaming it for its caution. We read that the Versailles government is master of the situation at Neuilly, but that it shrinks from bombarding the inhabitants. We read of a "logue for the defence of the rights of Paris." Twelve thousand insurgents, who occupy the village of Chailion, have made an attempt against the forces of the government; but, according to the latest news, the attempt was unsuccessful. The reds have made a demand upon the Church for one million of francs. It is added that they will kill the Archbishop of Paris, who has been for some time a prisoner in their hands, if the demand is not complied with. A circular issued by M. Thiers to the Prefects of departments states that the status of Paris is unaltered; that the government troops have fortified the bridge at Neuilly; that Toulous had made a vain attempt at insurrection; that the insurgent Nationals were being disarmed at Marseilles; that outside of Paris tranquility was prevailing, and that the government was satisfied that it had the confidence of the citizens. It is stated that the official journal of the government denies that the National Assembly is in favor of a kingdom, but that Napoleonism and Communism must perish. In a speech made to the Assembly M. Favre stated that all the foreign Powers had expressed their sympathies with the Versailles government as the only legitimate government of France, and that General Fabrice, the German administrator in France, had declined the overtures made to him by the Commune, believing that the insurgents must shortly succumb to the government. It is a strange, confused piece of news, but it cannot be said to be wholly uninteresting.

The one shocking thing in the news of this morning is the demand made upon the Church. "One million of francs or we shall chop off the head of the Archbishop of Paris!" Think of it, and then learn the character of the men who represent what is now called Communism in Paris, but what is called republicanism all over Europe. It is no vain threat. These men have already murdered Generals Lecomte and Clement-Thomas. They regret the fall of Robespierre and they believe in the teachings of Marat. In their judgment Charlotte Corday was an enemy of liberty. "More blood, more blood" expresses their policy. There is a chapter of ancient history which deserves to be condensed and reproduced in this connection. Away back, in Medo-Persian times, we read that on Egyptian soil the sons of a prominent leader were caught, and that in the presence of their father, who stood in the opposing ranks, they were slain, their life-blood caught in a bowl, and drunk with mingled wine and water. This occurred when Memphis was still a walled city and capable of affording shelter to defeated brutes and cowards. The French are the only people who in modern times have given proof that a high form of civilization is not incompatible with the most bloodthirsty propensities. After three thousand years of progress we find that a people calling itself civilized can be guilty of all the atrocities not only of corrupt and decaying Rome, but of Egypt, under the reign of Psammennitus. It is not, perhaps, fair to blame France for all the atrocities committed by a class of men who are to be found only in her large cities; but it is not to be denied that while bad men, with their bad passions, are to be found in almost all large centres of population, in the New World, as well as in the Old, the bad passions of bad men have for the last century and a half expressed themselves more strongly in France than in any other country. The world has not forgotten the first French revolution. The world will never forget the massacre of St. Bartholomew. Since Spain fell, stained with blood which her own hand had shed, France has made good her claim to the bloody laurels which Spain fell. The French historian Michelet somewhere says that what some nations accomplish by reform and what others accomplish by emigration the French accomplish by periodical bloodletting. Although this statement was made many years ago, few will deny that Michelet hit the truth and that the facts of the hour are on his side. We have dwelt on this part of our subject because we well know that the men who now rule in Paris are as willing to carry out their purpose as to make a threat. If the life of the Archbishop of Paris is safe it is because the Church will pay down the money or because the National Assembly will come to his rescue; not because the reds are merciful.

It is no longer, we think, to be doubted that France is now, as she has been since 1789, the victim of the lawless classes in the large cities. During the first revolution the large landed proprietors fell. The estates were cut up into patches, and they have remained so from that time until now. The single proprietors who controlled districts, counties, departments, have disappeared, and their places have been filled by men who care for nothing but their farms, their homes and the will of their spiritual teachers. Under the old regime this numerous class identified their interests with the interests of the lords of the soil, and were seldom unwilling to follow their lead. Now they are wrapped up in their individual interests, and, much as they love France and respect their neighbors, they love their farm and their home more. The one man to whom they listen with respect and whom they are not unwilling to obey is the parish priest; but the priest detests the city mob and has no liking for political combinations. The result is that the peasantry care little how France is ruled, whether it is an empire or a limited monarchy or a republic, if only they are left alone and all their rights are respected. They hate taxes, they hate the conscription, they hate change of all kinds; but they dearly love their farms, their homes, their families, their friends and all the sweets of undisturbed domestic felicity. As we said yesterday, this is the reason why the peasantry stood by Charles the Tenth, by Louis Philippe, by

Louis Napoleon, and why to-day it hesitates, not knowing the master. It is no longer possible to deny that the plebeians of Louis Napoleon were what they seemed to be—genuine victories. He understood them; he did not tax them overmuch; he contrived to make them prosperous; and, in return, they heartily responded to his every call. It is as little possible to deny that the vote which made the present National Assembly was an honest, hearty, national vote. The peasantry were sick of war; they were ashamed of the doings of the government of the National Defence; they cast their votes accordingly, and a moderate yet liberal government was the result. It is distrust of the peasantry who control the national vote which has freed the bad passions of the "reds" and made all this trouble.

How the trouble is to end it is difficult to say. The night is dark and the way seems to be long. For the present all is chaos and wild confusion. If M. Thiers cannot accomplish his purpose and keep the Assembly out of Paris the re-establishment of monarchy is certain. If the present government can put down the insurgents and compel the allegiance of the whole French population we have hopes of a republic. But a French republic, with Paris for a centre, is, in our judgment, an impossibility. However the present fierce convulsions in France may issue this one thing at least is certain—Communism has killed itself. A European republic on the platform of Communism is a chimera. We cannot yet see the United States of Europe.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Governor Hoffman has approved the act, recently passed by the New York Legislature, authorizing the Board of Commissioners of the Department of Public Parks in the city of New York "to contract, erect and maintain, in and upon that portion of the Central Park formerly known as Manhattan square, or any other public park, square or place in said city, a suitable fireproof building, for the purpose of establishing therein, under suitable rules and regulations, to be prescribed by the said Board from time to time, a Museum and Gallery of Art, and also a suitable fireproof building for a Museum of Natural History, at an aggregate cost not exceeding a sum of which the annual interest, at the rate of interest at which a fund or stock shall be issued, is thirty-five thousand dollars for each of said buildings," and adding that "it shall be the duty of and lawful for the Comptroller of the city of New York to create and issue, in the manner in this act provided, such additional amounts of a public fund or stock, to be denominated the 'Museum of Art and Natural History Stock,' as shall be necessary to provide the money required for erecting said buildings, to an amount not exceeding the aforesaid limitations."

This generous legislative action, and its approval by the Governor, have naturally imparted an additional stimulus to the subscriptions toward a quarter million fund for a Metropolitan Art Museum. In an address to the people of New York the officers of the Museum declare that their wish has always been the funding of a considerable sum—say a million of dollars—which would give an annual income sufficient to provide for proper care of the building and collections and to add to the collections continually. They propose, however, to begin with a subscription the minimum of which is set at two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. It is gratifying to know that more than half this amount has already been subscribed by one hundred and twenty-seven liberal friends of art. Doubtless the entire sum will soon be made up. In this connection it may be well to mention that the annual meeting of the society, incorporated April 11, 1870, under the title of "The Metropolitan Museum of Art" will take place on May 8, when new members can be elected, and that those who subscribe now will have a better chance of being elected, the number of members being limited by the constitution to two hundred and fifty.

An important point in the interesting address of the officers of the Museum is their announcement that it is intended to hold, in a part of the building, as soon as it can be got ready for use, a loan exhibition of works of art of all classes, but chiefly or wholly of works of historical value, representing rather the progress in art throughout past times than merely contemporary schools. It is the well-founded belief of the officers that the aggregate possessions of New York and vicinity, in the way of works of fine art, are much greater than a cursory observation reveals. They very properly say that the whole country could be drawn upon to furnish such an exhibition; and while it could not have the rounded completeness of the great loan collections held by the authorities of the South Kensington Museum in London and by the Union Centrale in Paris, it may yet be made exceedingly instructive and valuable. The officers say, moreover, that in the Museum building a loan exhibition can be held under more favorable auspices than in any other place, and the benefit resulting from it will be proportionally greater. "The exhibition, once opened, need not come to an end as long as vacant places made by the withdrawal of loans can be worthily filled by new loans. Some works of art will be left by their owners for a short and some for a longer time; let a perfectly fireproof and well-guarded building offer itself, and valuable works of art belonging to persons travelling, and the like, would find their natural place of storage and safety in its galleries. A painting is less liable to injury in an open gallery, where it will be cared for, than in a shut up house or a safe deposit company's vault. In short, let the loan collection be once well organized, and in one form or another it may well be permanent." It would unquestionably form an attractive feature of the Metropolitan Museum of Art which, we may hope, will ere long be added to the noble institutions of New York.

A SIGN THAT SUMMER IS COMING—in the little trip of General Grant and family to Mount Vernon and the tomb of Washington yesterday.

THE SOUTHERN DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM.—The Southern papers are making their stake for the next Presidential race. They say that it is not what shall be put into the purse, but what shall be kept out. Let our Southern friends be careful, for they may lose on the homestead.

Rumors of a Fresh Conspiracy in France.—Military Operations Before Paris.

Some idea may be formed of the dreadful state of uncertainty and anxiety under which the French people labor from a perusal of our special report from Versailles, published this morning. Our correspondent telegraphs that M. Thiers has issued another proclamation, in which he assures the people that Marshal MacMahon and Generalis Admiral and Cisey have accepted military commands; warns them against paying attention to "false reports;" asserts that a good understanding exists between the National Assembly and himself, and declares untrue rumors which appear to be in circulation, but of which we had not any previous knowledge, "respecting a fresh conspiracy." It is made evident by the salient points in this proclamation that there must prevail some doubts about the old imperialist generals accepting service under the present government and that these doubts give rise to dissatisfaction which M. Thiers is anxious to allay. Next, it is apparent that a belief is prevalent that the French Executive and the National Assembly are opposed to each other; and, indeed, the debates which have taken place in the Assembly since the outbreak in Paris have, to some extent, aided in creating this impression.

But what about the rumors of "a fresh conspiracy?" Who are conspiring against the government? If there is any conspiracy at all it must be in the interest of Napoleon; for no one of the other dynasties would have anything to gain from another revolutionary movement. Besides, a coup d'etat in the interest of the Comte de Chambord or the Orleans princes is not possible, for the very good reason that neither the one nor the other is influential enough with the army to obtain its aid. As for the "moderate republicans," they are virtually in power and have no reason to conspire. Beyond doubt these rumors refer to a Bonapartist conspiracy, and in this belief we are strengthened by the declaration of M. Thiers to the effect that "only the insurgents of Paris are perfidious." This reference to perfidy cannot apply to any others than the generals and other officers of the late imperial army who command the forces now operating against Paris. Is the world to witness another coup d'etat in favor of Napoleon? Is the influence of the exile at Chislehurst stronger than the humiliation which the French people suffer through his weakness, if not his incompetence? Really, this special report of ours opens a new field for consideration, and is the most important piece of intelligence we publish this morning, notwithstanding it refers to rumors, accompanied by a denial of their truth. Certainly the rumors must have obtained credence to have elicited a formal denial of them from the head of the French republic.

The other news in our special reports from Paris are interesting. An engagement has taken place between the insurgent gunboats and the government forces, but the result was unknown when our despatch left. Cannonading and musketry firing were resumed yesterday. The insurgents claim to have completely occupied Anieres, and they were repairing and strengthening their batteries at Porte Maillot. Our latest Paris despatch reports that a deputation had left for Versailles on a peace mission. They were instructed to demand the maintenance of the republic, the right of municipal self-government and the guarding of Paris by the National Guards alone. If these demands were rejected they were to inquire what terms the Versailles government propose. It is not stated that the deputation were sent by the Commune, although they could not have left Paris without permission of the insurgent authorities; but it is probable that they were sent by the "party of conciliation," pursuant to a resolution arrived at some days ago and reported by the cable. That this mission will be a failure, so far as obtaining concessions is concerned, is more than likely. However so disposed, M. Thiers dare not make peace with them on other terms than those of unqualified submission to the authorities. Concession would, in our opinion, make true (however false the present rumors may be) the existence of "a fresh conspiracy;" for the old imperial soldiers, who now comprise the greater part of the Army of Versailles, are anything but favorably disposed toward the Paris reds, whom they believe to be directly responsible for the reverses of the French in the recent war with Germany.

The Irving Case in Albany.

The Assembly has unanimously resolved that Jem Irving ought to have received the severest punishment for his assault on Mr. Weed, if he had given the House the chance by remaining in instead of resigning. In that case what is to be done with Mr. Weed, who, according to some of the testimony, it is understood was about as active as Irving in the mêlée, although he came out worsted? Is the investigation to continue in his case, and is he to be forced to a resignation to avoid censure or expulsion? Can the democrats allow such an effective reduction of their majority, or are the republicans—just beginning to feel their oats under their sudden augmentation of force—able to drive Weed out?

It is said that "Boss" Tweed has no apprehensions about being able to hire or buy a republican for immediate use in case he needs one, and that his slaves are not therefore hopelessly smashed by the blow that "blinded Weed's peeper in the late mill." We are not so certain, however. When the republican members find that they must bear alone the whole odium of the passage of certain partisan democratic jobs they will not be so ready or willing to close bargains as when their opposition is useless and their votes are wanted only for a make-weight with the unsophisticated people of the rural districts, who believe any measure is full of pure republican virtue if their members vote for it.

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Proposed Tax Reductions.—Mr. Sherman's Resolution.

Mr. Sherman, Chairman on Finance, has introduced a resolution in the Senate instructing his committee during the recess carefully to examine the existing system of national taxation, in view of such a bill as will simplify and reduce both the internal taxes and the duties on imported goods now in force, and in such manner that the aggregate of such taxes shall not exceed the sums required to execute the laws relating to the public debt, and the current expenditures of the government administered with the strictest economy, so that the taxes may be distributed to impose the least possible burden upon the people.

This is something in the right direction. If we are not mistaken the proposition means that the leading republicans of Congress and the President have come to an agreement that something must be done at the next session to relieve the taxed people of their present heavy burden of internal assessments and tariff duties, and so spike the guns of the democracy and of the so-called republican "revenue reformers" engineering for a third party and a Presidential scrub race. We have over and over again admonished Mr. Secretary Boutwell and the President that while it is a mighty fine thing to be paying off the national debt at the rate of eight, ten or twelve millions a month, it is a heavy draft upon the pockets of the people for a debt-paying policy which, fine as it may be, is not only unnecessary but unjust; that the present generation of our people, after all their sacrifices, losses, trials and taxes in the war for the Union and in the work of maintaining the national credit and currency, are entitled to relief, and that this relief may wisely be enlarged to a general reduction of our present taxes, internal and external, to the extent of fifty, seventy-five or even a hundred millions of dollars.

We would here repeat these suggestions to Mr. Sherman, in view of the bill of reductions which he proposes to frame during the approaching recess of Congress, in order to have it in readiness for consideration at the beginning of the next session. We hope, too, that the President in his next annual Message (in December) to Congress will have some practical recommendations to make in favor of relieving the people at once and of lengthening the term aimed at by Secretary Boutwell for the redemption of the debt. His policy of rushing it through is a grand idea in theory, but in practice it is needless, foolish, oppressive, unpopular and unjust.

Our Special Letters from Paris.

The European mail at this port supplied the special letters from the HERALD correspondents in Paris which appear in our columns to-day. The communications are of quite an exciting character. They are enlightening without. They enable our readers to see the French capital as it is ruled by the Commune. The American people can travel in idea from behind the city barricades to the interior of the Place Vendôme, and behold the "red" democracy writhing and struggling in its desperate, yet blind, effort to substitute the rule of brute force for the sway of constituted government—the latter a science which they do not comprehend, either in its principle or mode of application, and the power of which they are, consequently, unwilling to admit. One of our writers dined, by special invitation, with the commander in the Place Vendôme. His description of his reception, of the surroundings, the visitors and the official routine, goes far to show an extemporized democracy exercising power prematurely, and, as it appears to us, endeavoring to parody some of the scenes of the first French revolution—in feeble effort, certainly, but perhaps with just as much truthfulness of intent as that which moved the original actors. Idle, and consequently impoverished workmen, were there in large numbers. They were unwashed, ill-clad, suspicious, full of self-constituted importance, contradictory and murmuring. They were without any definite object. They had attained a *stagnation bonum*, in an absolute idleness from labor, but they did not know exactly what to do or what to demand next. Hunger and the want of tobacco had almost precipitated a reactionary revolutionary crisis, and it required all the tact of the commander—the host of our correspondent—to avert the occurrence of a new political crisis. The hard-fisted aristocrats of Paris have attempted the "job" of government. They are out of their sphere and unable to grasp Paris in its social convulsion with the strong hand, as did Thiers, Favre, Trochu, Chanzy and others who have been in power since Bonaparte. These men want to force an equalization of classes; to anticipate a general democracy. They worship a living principle, but worship it before it is life. In their disappointment they become political infidels and seek to pull down the "edifice," as if to enjoy the opportunity of learning, from the work of some skilled artisan, how it can be restored and built up anew. Thus they defy France, silence opposition, argument by the bullet, strangle disbelievers with the halter, and fly to the gloom of the barricades as to a congenial refuge from the haunting of conscience and the glance of the eye of Order. Suffice it to say that Paris remained chaotic—chaotic as Paris only can be—at the moment when our special letters were mailed. Monarchism was rejoicing over democracy in its riot, but the serious question still remains, is European democracy riotous and murderous as an essential, or does the democracy of Europe merely reflect the consequences of its education under the monarchies?

PHILISTINE ARGUMENTS in many cases carry great weight with them, but the experiment of Mr. Irving as a legislator may be pronounced a failure. This settles a great question on the right principle, for otherwise a professor of "the many pri" in the Assembly might carry any question by the simple process of pounding conviction into the heads of refractory members.

THE MASONIC RECEPTION of the Grand Master of England, the Earl de Grey and Ripon, in Washington, on April 10, was among the most portentous entertainments ever presented in the United States to a Master brother of the fraternity from abroad. It is the wish of the brethren of this country, as it was that of the immortal Washington, that the Masonic brethren of America should unite with their brethren in all parts of the world in the perpetuation of peace and good will.

Late Deep Sea Discoveries.

The late deep sea researches of the English government, under Dr. Carpenter, make one of the finest chapters of physical science. Since the inauguration in this country many years ago of the system of oceanic explorations and the splendid results achieved the European Powers have emulated our example, and the fruit of their labors is now apparent. In attempting last summer to solve an old problem of the Mediterranean inflowing current at Gibraltar, the English expedition, by a series of the most accurate experiments from the deck of the Porcupine, not only accomplished their purpose, but also discovered the law of the entire oceanic circulation.

Under the rays of a fiery sun, and exposed to the drying, hot winds from Africa, the surface of the Mediterranean becomes a vast evaporating dish, whose level is so rapidly reduced that to supply the waste by evaporation there must be an incessant inraught of Atlantic water. This latter is highly charged with salt, which is not taken up by sun or wind, but precipitated; and hence it was long ago argued by the philosopher Halley that there must be some escape of this salt from the bed of "the classic sea" by a submarine current. Careful and continued exploration now demonstrates a fact which the theory of Halley and the close reasoning of Maury had previously, and against many eminent sceptics, suggested as the only solution of the Mediterranean problem.

By the double evidence of specific gravity and chemical analysis the English explorers found an excess of salt in the waters of the Mediterranean over that in the Atlantic; and they found also that this excess is greater in its bottom water than in water taken near the surface, while in the Atlantic the difference is in a contrary direction.

By suspending a "current drag" from a boat floating on the inward and surface current near Gibraltar (two sets of observations, made at an interval of six weeks, giving identical results), although a westerly wind, combined with the strong surface-drift to carry the boat inward, the force of the under current acting on the "drag" at a depth of two hundred and fifty fathoms nearly sufficed to check its motion. In the second trial, the wind being easterly, the boat was carried out into the Atlantic against the powerful stream in which it floated by the invisible agency of a current flowing more than a quarter of a mile beneath the surface.

If the waste by evaporation was restored to the Mediterranean by an inflow of fresh water the quantity of salt in its basin would remain the same. The upper current of saline Atlantic water, bringing in a quantity of salt in addition to that which the Mediterranean previously held, the density of its water is increased, and, as Dr. Carpenter justly argues, a column of it reaching to any given depth is rendered heavier than an equivalent column of Atlantic water.

To illustrate the great discovery which has been made by Dr. Carpenter in its bearing on the whole oceanic circulation, we have only to suppose, as he does, that the Mediterranean water were made heavier than Atlantic water by an intense Polar cold (instead of, as now, by evaporation), and we should still have exactly the same currents as have been found at Gibraltar.

For the Mediterranean cooled down substitute the Polar ocean, and for the Atlantic the Equatorial ocean, and there would necessarily be a constant interchange between Polar and Equatorial waters through the seas of the temperate zone. The reduction in the temperature of the column of water in the Polar basin contracts its volume, lowering its level while augmenting its density. Thus the water of the surrounding area must flow in to maintain the level lowered; and when the Polar column has been restored to an equality of height it will have such an excess of weight that its downward pressure forces out a portion of its deeper water, causing an outflow of ice-cold water over the deep-sea-bed toward the Equator. Vertical circulation, of course, returns an equal quantity of warmer surface water into the Polar basin. Such is a résumé of the highly interesting results reached by one of the most successful of modern expeditions, and very recently made known by its illustrious leader. They are not speculations, but facts that have been thus bequeathed to the science of the ocean. They were verified in several parts of the North Atlantic—*g.*, in the deep channel between the Faros and the Shetland Islands, where Dr. Carpenter found a compressed but remarkable epitome of this oceanic vertical circulation. The whole under stratum of water in this channel, exceeding three hundred fathoms, or nearly two thousand feet in depth, forms an Arctic stream, having a temperature of thirty degrees, and bringing with it the characteristic animals of Iceland, Greenland and Spitzbergen; while, on the other hand, the warm stratum of surface water overlying the cold water three hundred and fifty fathoms deep moves in a northeasterly direction and fulfils its mission in keeping up the level and ameliorating the climate of the Polar area.

The new hydrographic discoveries will seriously modify, if not upset, all the old theories of the Gulf Stream, establishing the fact, which on theoretical grounds was suggested in this country some twelve months ago, that the Gulf Stream is not a mere "river in the ocean," but that it is the entire Equatorial ocean in transit toward the Pole. Dr. Carpenter cites the now celebrated theory of Captain Silas Bent, of St. Louis, (known as the "Thermometric Gateways to the Pole"), for reaching the Pole by following the warm surface currents with the water thermometer, and he fully endorses it as the true solution of the great geographical problem. It would be a matter of lasting interest and incalculable value to science and commerce if some of our numerous naval vessels were ordered to follow up the splendid deep sea researches of Dr. Carpenter. Surely in time of peace the Secretary of the Navy might spare one or two steamers for this service.

THE MESS IN THE ASSEMBLY.—For the first time in his life Jem Irving, a Representative in the Assembly at Albany from the city of New York, desires to be counted out of a ring. Put him up on a fight, with stakes and ropes and umpires all right, Jem Irving will take care of himself. But what can Jem