

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING.

- WOODS MUSEUM, Broadway, corner 5th st.—Performances afternoon and evening.—L. M. MERRILL.
BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery, THE DENR MAN OF MANCHESTER.—HUMPHREYS—JACK ROBINSON.
GLOBE THEATRE, 75 Broadway.—MATEPPE, OR THE WILD HORSE OF SARTARY. Matinee 12 M.
LINA EDWIN'S THEATRE, No. 75 Broadway.—THE BROWN FAMILY OF BELL RINGERS. Matinee 12.

New York, Saturday, July 22, 1871.

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A GRAND MONUMENT TO AMERICAN GENIUS, SKILL AND ENTERPRISE.—The palatial passenger depot at Forty-second street. It is a greater wonder than the London Crystal Palace.

SPECTATORS who attend the performances of the band in City Hall Park will have a fine opportunity of viewing the unique fresco work that ornaments the rear of the new (or old) Court House building.

GOING UP RAPIDLY.—The new Post Office building. It seems destined to be finished before the new (or more properly the old) Court House—yes, even before the latter gets its coping set, to say nothing of that huge dome.

CHARLES P. KIMBALL, democratic candidate for Governor of Maine, has been interviewed by one of the indefatigables of the Boston Post. He avowed himself a lifelong democrat—a Douglas democrat in 1860 and a McClellan democrat in 1864. The conversation proceeded:—

CORRESPONDENT.—You are in favor, then, of the so-called "new departure"?

Mr. Kimball (very composedly).—I expressed myself just as I feel with regard to that in my letter of acceptance. As Mr. Kimball did not express himself at all on that point in his letter of acceptance, or, if at all, very ambiguously, it is no wonder he answered the correspondent's query "very composedly." Mr. Kimball wants to come before the people as a laboring man and a mechanic. Then don't let him labor so much in framing his replies to ordinary questions, or endeavor to avoid the responsibility thereof so mechanically.

VIRGINIA persistently adheres to many exploded ideas of public policy. Among the relics of bygone ages which the Old Dominion so fervently adheres to is that of public executions. One of these questionable exhibitions of the majesty of the law took place yesterday, at Greenville, in the hanging of Thomas McGiffin, who had been convicted of the crime of murder. The execution was witnessed by an immense crowd, a large portion of whom were women and children. The horror of the scene was intensified by the breaking of the rope, which let the half-strangled culprit fall to the ground with a thud that sent half of the spectators terror-stricken to their homes. After half an hour spent in readjusting the scaffold and repairing the rope the trap was again sprung, and McGiffin finally launched into eternity.

THE REPORT OF GENERAL SHALER.—Major General Shaler, commanding the first division of the National Guard, has made his report of the operations of the militia during the recent riots. He fully sets forth all the movements of the troops under his command, speaks warmly in praise of the different commands and of the police, and has a word against the complaints of misconduct on the part of some of the regiments on the day of the riot. There can be no doubt that the work of suppressing the mob was as effectively performed as was possible under the circumstances, and all who took part in it are deserving of praise rather than censure. But the taste of General Shaler's defence against the unwise animadversions of a few firebrands is somewhat questionable—a fact which he seems to recognize. It is better to let these idle and mischievous agitators talk without noticing their foolish phrases than to dignify them by refuting their allegations. The riots are past, and it is time that we had peace.

The Army Purchase Question in England—Another Step Toward Democracy.

The action of Mr. Gladstone in abolishing the system of purchasing rank in the British army is very significant. It shows that he is resolved to march with the spirit of the times and to popularize the institutions of England in accordance with the demands of the people. Being unable to carry this measure through Parliament as a legislative act, in consequence of the determined opposition of the aristocratic and Tory party, and especially of the hostility of the House of Peers, he made a flank movement and induced the Queen to issue a royal warrant abolishing the purchase of commissions in the army. This he announced in the House of Commons on the night of Thursday last. We do not know whether this act of Her Majesty is retrospective or not, whether the whole system of commissions is to be changed at once or only new commissions are to be affected by it; but the change is evidently both radical and important. Mr. Gladstone said the Ministers had advised Her Majesty to take this action, which effectually disposed of the question in accordance with the manifest will of the country.

Seldom has anything occurred in Parliament that created a greater impression. The Premier's declaration was received with vehement cheering in the House of Commons, though Mr. Disraeli and the Tory members generally were unable to restrain their anger. They bitterly denounced what they termed the arbitrary course of the government, which they were hardly prepared for. Mr. Gladstone was defiant, and challenged the opposition to move a vote of want of confidence. In the House of Lords Earl Granville defended the policy of the Ministry. Our special telegraphic despatches depicting the scene represent the Lords as being deeply moved, though decorous in their denunciations. The opinion outside was that the action of the Ministry was bold or even desperate. The public, generally approving of this action, seemed to anticipate from it results favorable to democratic progress. Such is the substance of the news received from London.

The opposition press and members of Parliament assail the conduct of the Ministry as unprecedented and a violation of established usage. Some go so far as to say it is unconstitutional. There is some reason in this, for the Crown to anticipate or override the action of Parliament in such an important measure is arbitrary—is going much further in asserting monarchical prerogative than the kings or queens of England have been in the habit of going in late times. The measure is a good one, no doubt, and we cannot but admire the boldness of the Queen and Ministry in overruling opposition so promptly on this question, and in conceding at once so much to popular opinion; but it gives the opposition an argument, and it might prove a dangerous precedent should a despotic monarch hereafter choose to assert the same prerogative to force illiberal measures upon the country. True, Mr. Gladstone assumed that the House of Lords, though impugning the government plan for the abolition of the purchase system, had failed to sustain that system; but this was begging the question and savored rather of political trickery. It is evident he was afraid and did not wish to leave the matter to a vote of the Peers. In great popular measures, as in that of the Reform bill, for example, the Crown has been in the habit of overcoming the opposition of the House of Lords by the creation of new liberal Peers. It has rarely of late years taken the power from the legislative body over important measures, even if it could constitutionally do so.

We suppose, therefore, that the exercise of the monarchical prerogative in abolishing the system of purchasing commissions in the army will lead to great discussion, and will try to the utmost the strength of both the Ministry and the opposition. Mr. Gladstone has, undoubtedly, foreseen this and weighed the matter well. His challenge to the opposition to move a vote of want of confidence shows that he feels assured, we suppose, that if a vote of want of confidence were carried he could safely appeal to the country; for the measure he has forced by a sort of political coup d'Etat is a very popular one. In the case of a dissolution of Parliament and a new Parliament being elected Mr. Gladstone would, probably, obtain a much larger majority than he has now. The apprehension of such a result may calm down the opposition, or rally to the support of the Ministry a sufficient number of moderately conservative and independent members to prevent a vote of want of confidence being carried.

This act of Mr. Gladstone shows that he is a bold statesman than the world generally has given him credit for being. It shows, too, that he is disposed to advance with the liberal and progressive spirit of the age, and that he will not endanger the peace and government of England by obstinately opposing public opinion. The statesmen of England, when in power, feel the responsibility of their position. Mr. Gladstone is but following the example of other distinguished conservatives who were his predecessors. The Duke of Wellington carried the Catholic Emancipation bill when in power, though he had been opposed to that measure before. It was the same with Sir Robert Peel and the Corn laws. It is true statesmanship to yield needful, liberal and progressive measures when public opinion demands them.

The abolition of the purchase of army commissions is a heavy blow to aristocratic privileges in England and an important stride toward democracy. The purchase of commissions was one of the oldest privileges of the aristocracy and wealthy classes of Great Britain. The army was an asylum for the younger members of the titled families. The positions of rank in the army were sold to them because the pay would enable them to live in a style that was supposed to be proper to their birth by the investment of their limited means. This system of commissions had nothing to do with merit, and rarely was merit in the army recognized unless backed by money or powerful family influence. The action of Mr. Gladstone will tend to improve the efficiency of the army, while it opens the service to merit for all classes. Thus, one by one, the props of aristocratic privilege in England are being thrown down. The aristocracy and

monarchy cannot resist the democratic progress of the age. Church disestablishment, an extension of suffrage to all classes, the ballot, the abolition of the law of primogeniture and the hereditary peerage, with other liberal measures, must follow in time. No matter who is in power, the result will be the same. Mr. Gladstone comprehends this and acts accordingly. Mr. Disraeli, as his works show, understands this also, and were he at the helm of affairs he would go as far, probably, as the present Premier, or farther. We have set an example of the success of democratic government—have shown that the largest liberty is compatible with conservatism and strength in government, and the people of Great Britain are following us. The American republic, the last born of great nations, is fast leading the world to freedom and a higher civilization.

The New Spanish Ministry.

According to our special despatch from Madrid the resignation of the Ministry was caused by dissensions with regard to the International. Marshal Serrano advocated the rigorous suppression of that organization, while his colleagues favored a more conciliatory policy. The Cortes was somewhat uproarious on the subject of the Ministerial resignation, but noise and fuss are of such frequent occurrence in that assembly that its unruly character has become almost proverbial. The names of the new Cabinet which has been formed by Marshal Serrano are not familiar to us, with the exception of Admiral Malcampo, who till recently had command of the naval forces at Havana. His appointment as Minister of Marine seems to indicate a purpose of carrying on the war against the Cuban insurgents with vigor, but in every other respect it is without significance. The other members of the Ministry, if their names have been correctly reported, are obscure men, and will probably be short-lived. It is possible that the new Cabinet is only a temporary arrangement, in order that the King may gain time to form another strong and popular ministry. We cannot close our eyes to the fact that King Amadeus has much hard work to accomplish before he can find himself happy in the Spanish throne. Spain being a most Catholic country, it is a drawback to him that he is a member of the anathematized House of Savoy. But it is to be hoped that all things may yet go on well in old Spain.

Italian Opera and Its Brightest Ornament.

Seventeen years ago the present dingy old structure on the Battery, then the finest opera house in America, was crowded with the elite of the metropolis, and the vast assemblage was held spellbound by the magic of a voice such as was never heard before or since in this city. Who among the listeners on that memorable occasion can forget the tidal wave of enthusiasm that shook the building when Mario appeared as Gennaro and his queenly wife came forward as the guilty Duchess of Borgia? The exciting auction sale of seats and even the infatuated English lady who followed the handsome tenor like his shadow will be remembered by the old habitués of the opera. On Tuesday night last Mario bade a final farewell to the stage at the scene of his greatest triumphs, Covent Garden, and received an ovation such as rarely falls to the lot of any artist. It was a brilliant and fitting close to thirty-three years of faithful service in the cause of art. But these "farewells" of artists are not to be interpreted according to the strict sense of the word, and particularly in the case of Mario, who announced farewell performances even before he visited this country. All theatre-goers in this country have been accustomed for many years to the "farewells" of Forrest, and still the veteran dons the Gladiator's tunic and the royal robes of Lear. It is a hard struggle for the sovereigns of the footlights to relinquish the sceptre and step aside for younger aspirants. Therefore we shall not be astonished if the favorite sexagenarian of the Italian opera should take it in his head to commence another series of "farewells." He has an excellent opportunity now to do so by revisiting our shores, where he once received such a hearty welcome. Here is a chance for the management of the Nilsson troupe to become famous and earn the gratitude and the dollars of the New York public. Nilsson and Mario—the rising and the setting sun—would create together such a furor as would even wake up the operatic fossils around Irving place. The natural regret of all lovers of music to bid a farewell to this brightest ornament of Italian opera is heightened by the fact that he leaves no successor worthy of him. Tenors of even respectable calibre are scarcer now than ever, and there is not one capable of filling Mario's place. It is an unwelcome but yet undeniable fact, that as far as voices are concerned the Italian opera stage has retrograded sadly. Mario, Grief, Tamburini and Lablache formed a quartet which we cannot hope to hear in these days; and yet they were but the successors of still greater artists. The next season of music in this city promises well, and if the managers fulfill but half of their bounteous promises we need not look with envy and regret at the prospectuses of the capitals of Europe. What with Parepa-Rosa and her complete English opera company, Rullman and the Vienna Lady Orchestra, and the Nilsson troupe, we shall have enough music to satisfy even the most exacting theatre-goer. It will not be the fault this time of the directors of the Academy of Music if the opera be not successful in the fall. They are making many important and much-needed changes in the interior arrangements of the building, not the least of which is a complete alteration of the plan of the dress circle, which is to be modelled after the most fashionable of the London theatres. Steinway Hall is also to be fitted up in grand style for the reception of the Lady Orchestra. We trust that this season will be the commencement of a long and brilliant term of first class musical entertainments, and that the latent talent of America may have a chance at last to assert its rights.

OFFICER LOGAN, who interfered with another officer against orders on the day of the riot, was dismissed the force yesterday. His action consisted in trying to save a sickly fellow from a clapping during the mêlée on Twelfth street, and was not in itself so reprehensible as to demand dismissal; but his conduct upon the trial was enough to insure it.

A New Departure in Insurance.

The assembling in this city of Commissioners connected with the Insurance Department from over twenty States points to a new departure in the history of insurance. An official report of the first session, from May 24 to June 2, has just appeared, and the public are indebted to Mr. Henry S. Olcott, Secretary of the Convention, for this able compilation. In his excellent preface to it he has given a succinct history of the different branches of insurance.

Several important addresses were made to the Convention by gentlemen who have been for years connected with this interest. The information they afforded as to the practical working of the system will prove of general value, and the statistics, furnished by the most experienced authorities, will materially assist the future labors of the Convention, which is to meet again on the 18th of October. From Mr. H. A. Oakley, President of the National Board of Underwriters, we learn that during the twelve years the New York State Insurance Department has been in operation the aggregate amount of capital employed in the business of fire insurance was \$483,983,761; that the amount of premiums received by the New York companies was \$168,487,257, and that the losses paid were \$94,849,497. In other States the aggregate amount of premiums received was \$122,000,807, with losses of \$73,829,416. Mr. G. W. Savage, President of the New York Board of Fire Underwriters and of the International Insurance Company of New York, alluded to the opinion expressed by Lord Mansfield, "that the relation which exists between the assured and the assurer should be one of good faith." Mr. Savage remarked that in consideration of the low rates at present charged to cover the fire risks it was impossible for a company to verify the statements made by applicants, and that in consequence a false affidavit should be regarded by our courts as a fraud. In speaking of the importance of fire insurance to the community he asked who would risk the vast sums of money now daily invested in all the large cities of the Union, and particularly in New York, in buildings and merchandise, if it were not for the protection given by fire insurance. Would mills or elevators, or any of those structures which have become absolutely necessary to our civilization, be built if not protected against loss by fire? Of the advantage of this risk resting with a corporation rather than with an individual he said:—"The responsibility of a company and their ability to pay can be known exactly, while it would be difficult to determine that of an individual." This is certainly a plea for more legal protection from fraud for all companies engaged in the insurance business, of whatever kind, than is usually given; the interests of the community demand it, for it is known that the rates charged by the fire companies are regulated with a view to ascertain percentage of deposit among their customers, which the law, it seems, fails to recognize. Mr. Savage testified that these corporations are doing their full share toward the building up of this country and promoting its advancement and prosperity.

In the marine department of insurance the progress of modern nautical science is illustrated by memoranda of premiums, obtained from the Atlantic Mutual Insurance Company of this city, which showed an average reduction of about one-half in the rates paid now as compared with those charged at the beginning of the present century. Mr. Batterson, who represented the Travellers' Insurance Company of Hartford, stated that from practical results it is ascertained that the law of average in regard to accidents was equally reliable with that of mortality. For instance, for every person accidentally killed it is found that about eighty persons receive non-fatal injuries, producing an average disability of twenty days. The monthly average for accidental death claims had been \$7,726, and the monthly average for personal injuries non-fatal, \$7,514. Mr. Elizer Wright, late Commissioner of the State of Massachusetts, unfolded his views of the valuation of policies and the question of surrender values.

The history of life insurance, as embodied in this report, is remarkable. It has been of slow and laborious growth, but its nature and influence being better understood, it has now become very popular. This is indicated by the figures given in the State reports, which show that since the establishment, in 1850, of a State Insurance department the volume of the business has been about fifteen times as great as that of the previous sixteen years. This progress is due to a variety of causes; but we notice more discernment than formerly on the part of our leading companies in their dealings with the public. This is recognized and appreciated. We have already alluded to the decision of the Equitable Life in regard to permits to the members of our militia. As an illustration of the good faith growing up between the public and these corporations we may mention that the above company, which was organized at the time when life insurance took a fresh start and under the influence of an altered condition of things, has only had occasion to dispute in our courts three claims—which, however, were very flagrant cases—out of more than sixty thousand policies. The Mutual Life, as well as the Equitable Life, have contributed from their books statistics which have formed the basis of some valuable tables showing how various are the laws and requirements of the different States. Much reform, it must be admitted, is needed, and if the object is attained for which Mr. G. W. Miller invited this Convention, and which he described in his opening address as being to create uniformity of State action relative to the government of insurance companies, much good will result. If wise and harmonious legislation be adopted it will tend to secure the interests of the assured and the stability and economical administration of the companies.

THE RIVERSIDE PARK MATTER reached yesterday its final determination for the present in the confirmation by Judge Barnard, of the Supreme Court, of the supplemental or amended report of the Commissioners of Estimate and Assessment. This report was made in conformity with certain additional allowances ordered by the Judge to be made to owners of portions of the Bloomingdale road and the old Twelfth avenue embraced within the Park. There is still a good deal of dissatisfaction both as to the allowances granted to owners of property taken for the Park and in the assessments upon the property adjacent. There is

the usual outcry of favoritism. Some claim that they have been left out in the cold altogether. It is not unlikely that the disaffected will appeal from the decision of Judge Barnard and that before this Park gets beyond its present stage—a park on paper—there will be a long and hotly contested litigation in the courts in regard to it.

Reconstruction in France.

At the present moment France is astrir in consequence of her municipal elections. These elections will result in a fresh expression of the sentiments of the French people, and of course must exercise a potent influence on the policy of the government. The supplementary elections encouraged M. Thiers in his policy of delay. It remains to be seen what will follow from the municipal elections. Some facts in connection with the recent elections deserve to be noted. It is most significant that M. Gambetta has been sent to the Assembly by four different constituencies—Paris, Marseilles, Bordeaux and the Department of the Var. It is also significant that M. Rouher, so recently omnipotent in France, was defeated by a crushing majority in the Charente, where it was supposed he would have but slight opposition. Of the one hundred and seventeen vacancies ninety-one have been filled by men who declare themselves to be moderate republicans and supporters of M. Thiers. Only one legitimist and one monarchist found a place. The Assembly will soon adjourn until October, and during the interval we are likely to hear something of the plans of the various parties. It is rumored that Thiers, encouraged by the late elections, means to retain in office MM. Favre, Simon and Picard, and that Gambetta, after he has organized the left, will be taken into the Ministry. For the present the tide is more in favor of the republic than it has been since the re-establishment of order. The monarchists are not inactive, neither are the imperialists; but M. Thiers is unquestionably popular as the Executive Chief. Things are safe until October. After that, with such men as M. Rouher and M. Ledru-Rollin in the Assembly and Gambetta trying to lead the left, we may look with confidence for something like life.

The Southern Democracy.

The democracy down South are in a transition state. The "new departure" has caused a great commotion among them, from the Susquehanna to the Rio Grande, and from the Chesapeake to the wild woods of Arkansas. In Maryland, the other day, in their State Convention, the democrats, not being fully prepared to take the new or to abandon their old departure, compromised the matter by splitting the difference, and they contrived to split it by doing without a platform of any sort. This ought to be satisfactory to all the party, for it leaves the Bourbons and the progressives each to take their own course. This is as much as could be expected from the Maryland democrats at their first Convention on the new departure, with all their "time-honored democratic principles" against the "blasted nigger;" but in or before the month of July, 1872, they will doubtless, with a mighty effort, gulp him down, though it may be as the whale swallowed Jonah, only to gulp him up again.

In Virginia the democrats, under their reconstructed title of the conservative party, are to have a State Convention in August for the purpose of a party reorganization. They accepted the situation in accepting the reconstruction of their State according to the terms of Congress. What they mean, therefore, by a reorganization of the party we are left to conjecture. We suspect, however, that they mean to drop the slow coach called the conservative party, and to proclaim themselves as belonging to the national democratic party on the new departure, with some reservations in favor of the time-honored principles of Jefferson and the resolutions of '89 and '99.

In North Carolina the democracy are evidently resolved upon a reconstruction of the State which may bring them into collision with Congress, and the political excitement throughout the Commonwealth keeps open the field for the Ku Klux and anti-Ku Klux desperadoes and outlaws of all descriptions. In South Carolina the chivalry are under the despotism of Sambo, and with four hundred thousand "niggers" in the State against three hundred thousand whites, including the landholders, we can't perceive how Sambo is to be ruled out. The Palmetto chivalry, however, would have their Southern confederacy, and in their late slaves, lifted up to be their masters, they have their reward.

In Georgia Mr. Alexander H. Stephens and the fiery Toombs, who is himself a magazine of skyrocket and Chinese crackers, have, in the wake of Jeff Davis and the "lost cause," been playing the mischief with the "new departure." They will have a party of their own on the "old departure." And the spirit and the men for a similar movement are waking up in Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas and Arkansas. There are some democratic bolters against the "folly of Vallandigham" in Tennessee; but the active managers of the party in that State have learned a world of wisdom from "Andy Johnson," and are not going back to those democratic principles which were swept away and buried by the Deluge.

Kentucky, of all the Southern States, is the greatest puzzle to the political philosophers. First, her neutrality in the rebellion, and then her two State governments, one Union and one rebel, gave "Honest Old Abe Lincoln" more trouble than Louisiana, shutting up the mouths of the Mississippi, or Virginia thundering at the gates of Washington. The divided allegiance of Kentucky, between the Union and the Southern confederacy in the war, was a puzzle; but with the return of her rebel soldiers after the war she became a case for reconstruction. Left to herself, however, she has drifted slowly along, until now we find her democracy accepting the new and fighting for the old departure. All taken together, including those of Kentucky, we apprehend that the Southern democracy will make a lively time of it in the Democratic Presidential Convention of 1872.

TEXAS appears to be perfectly satisfied with her present limited banking facilities. Since the passage of the act of July 12, 1870, authorizing the issue of fifty-four millions of dollars additional circulation in the Western and Southern States the banking circulation in Texas has been increased but one hundred and forty-five thousand dollars.

The Board of Health and the Tenement Houses.

A number of families have just been removed from the five-story tenement house in Cherry street called Gotham court, in order that it might undergo disinfection and fumigation. This den surpasses in filth and wretchedness the dirtiest cellar in the Seven Dials. It is a huge towering pile, five stories high, and every avenue or corridor running through it is as foul as Vulcan's stithy and every breath of air to be found under its roof is tainted and rendered thick with foul poisons. Yet here children were being reared, and men and women existed, and even clung to their rank sty as if they enjoyed happiness and health there, when the health officers came to take them out of it. This Gotham court is probably the most noxious tenement house in the city, and yet to some degree, and in many instances to a degree almost as replete with disease and foulness, every tenement house in the city partakes of the worst and most deadly characteristics of this Gotham court.

There are 20,000 tenement houses in New York city, and in these fully half a million people are crowded; but some of them are of a sort that deserve some better name than that of tenements. Some of them are inhabited by only three or four families—the families of mechanics and skilled workmen, whose incomes permit them, by close saving, to live in flats and take care, to some extent, of the health and morals of their children by keeping them out of the dirtier crowds of tenement house families, and yet will not allow of their living altogether to themselves or in the cleaner thoroughfares devoted especially to millionaires. These are not, however, a majority of the tenement houses. The greater portion of them are huge barracks, littered all over with dirt and festering humanity, something like the plague spot that is called Gotham court. There are two hundred and ninety-four thousand persons living in such as these in New York city, according to the report of the Board of Health. The death rate, taking the average of all these, is seven per cent per annum, while the rate of social destruction—crime engendered by the pestilential associations among the mass—is beyond calculation. It is probable that seven-tenths of all the crimes committed in New York city—the murders and burglaries and those other demoralizing crimes that are included in beggary and prostitution—spring from the training of tenement houses. From these also spring the foul gases that make our epidemics, the seeds of infection that produce cholera and fevers, the deadly blights that maim and degrade the children of our very poor.

As the great evil of the metropolis the tenement house system calls for some immediate and great remedy. The action of the Board of Health will not cure the evil any more than it will permanently cure Gotham court. It will give that place a slight scrubbing, which it will have forgotten in a week. There needs something more than partial disinfectants. There is required some means of attracting the wretches in these dens to other localities. It is thought that the Viaduct Railway and the numerous other rapid transit schemes, by which the poorest of our populace may contrive to go farther away from the busy marts, may effect a change for the better in the matter, but it is a change that will hardly be noticeable. Until North and East River are bridged at every cross street of the city, and the great barriers of water that now circumscribe the limits of the metropolis are substantially removed, the wretched poor of the city must herd together like wild beasts for the bare maintenance of life.

Another Land to Conquer.

Levuka, Ovalau, of the Fiji group, exports nine thousand bales of cotton of the best sea island quality—better, it is said, than that of South Carolina—per year. It has a newspaper called the Fiji Times, whose columns are well filled with advertisements, and whose motto is—"Sworn to no master, of no sect—'San Francisco and overland to England." The natives wear for dresses the satin-like bark of a tree, which, it is thought, might be successfully used in the manufacture of printing paper. But isn't this rather "too thin?" Levuka is becoming a port of considerable importance as a coaling station since the establishment of the line of steamers between Australia and San Francisco. In the number of the Times before us we notice a column of maritime news under the head of "Dates of Departures of Labor Vessels." That may be considered a "new name for it," when we read that a number of vessels have sailed on a "labor cruise"—that is, to pick up laborers wherever they can "gather them in" from among the adjacent islands. The laborer is, of course, worthy of his hire, and in the Fijis the Europeans rope him in according to the higher law. The principal civilized occupants of the island consist of about fourteen hundred Englishmen and some forty Americans—one of whom, a New York boy, has just returned home after twenty-three years' absence among the Fijis. How long will it be before some of our "manifest destiny" men will want to annex the group of Fiji Islands to the great American group of States?

THE FAMINE AND THE CHOLERA IN PERSIA.—The latest news from the East is of the most distressing character. Persia is suffering from that terrible visitation, the cholera. After months of famine, during which time the sufferings of the unfortunate Persians have been fearful in the extreme, the cholera now appears to complete their measure of misery. Dreadful, indeed, as were the sufferings of the people with the one, they will be increased tenfold now with the cholera extending and laying waste whole districts. Since 1817 we have had nothing so dreadful to record. It almost seems as if the cholera was again about to make its tour of death as it did in the first quarter of the present century.

IMMIGRATION STATISTICS for the quarter ending June 30, 1871, show a somewhat remarkable turn in the tide of emigration. The number of actual immigrants arriving at the port of New York during the period mentioned was 101,016, of whom 30,814 were natives of Germany, 25,149 were from Ireland, and 29,529 from England and other British localities.