

should be the first for consideration, and a charter passed during the early part of the session, before political or corrupt bargains can be made or interfere with the measure.

The Last of Our Shakespearean Actors. We greatly regret to learn that James H. Hackett, the last of the old school of actors and managers in this city, lies dangerously ill at his residence in Jamaica, Long Island. The demise of this veteran comedian would leave a blank in the artistic world difficult to fill. He has played such an important part in music and the drama in this country that we may look upon him as the chief exponent of either branch of the art of public amusements. To him we are indebted for the visit of Mario and Grist in this country, and to him we must feel grateful for the most magnificent impersonation of Falstaff ever known on any stage. For nearly forty years his talents have been devoted to music and the drama in this his native city, for Mr. Hackett was born in New York before the close of the last century. Dropsy and a complication of lung and liver complaint, the result of a fortnight's cold, have been the causes bringing him to the edge of the dark river from which no traveller returns. The friendship that existed between President Lincoln and himself has passed into history, and it would be impossible at present to point towards another man in America who has enjoyed such a long and well deserved popularity. The death of James H. Hackett will cause a national loss—one that in an artistic point of view can never be supplied.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN DIAMOND FIELDS.—Our latest accounts represent the squatters of the South African diamond fields as somewhat excited in their displeasure at the news of the annexation of all that vast region of country to the Cape of Good Hope colony of England; but they will get over this excitement when they find that there this annexation is a fixed fact and that they cannot help themselves. But they have another excitement which may possibly turn out a greater thing than their diamond fields, and that is the reported discovery of gold in the Transvaal district. In any event there is a field in South Africa for British enterprise and occupation far more inviting than was ever offered in Australia.

TWO OF BROOKLYN'S FRAUDULENT INSPECTORS OF ELECTION have been found guilty of corruptly and knowingly counting and returning five hundred fraudulent votes. By way of impartiality, one of the convicted enemies of the Commonwealth is a republican and the other a democrat. It was the second trial of the case, the jury having disagreed on the first. In this trial the jury offered several verdicts, which were refused, and finally agreed to find Thomas McGiff and Michael J. Weldon guilty and John Shandley not guilty. This promises well for the work of reform in the sister city. Let ballot box stuffers everywhere know that the Penitentiary gapes to receive them, and one great step to the purity of elections will be made, while a foul blot on the republic will be removed.

FORGEY AS A FINE ART is receiving almost daily in this city evidences of its attractiveness, and we are sorry to say, its profit. The old-fashioned paltry imitator of other men's chirography who ran himself into debt and tried to forge his way out of it would be at a discount among our advanced thiefish community. The latest successful specimens recorded are quite on the wholesale principle. Forty thousand dollars is said to be the extent of the modest operation on which it is understood the Ninth National Bank has been benevolently discounting bogus notes of from thirty to sixty days. The detectives have another opportunity to distinguish themselves.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE. Congressman Worthington C. Smith, of Vermont, is at the Brevoort House. General A. Cackivil, of Kansas, has arrived at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. Congressman W. H. Upson, of Ohio, is among the recent arrivals at the St. Nicholas Hotel. Colonel Annas Sprague, of Providence, has taken quarters at the Everett House. Colonel J. H. N. Fairbank, of Omaha, is registered at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. State Senator Edward Tuttle, of New Jersey, yesterday arrived at the St. Nicholas Hotel. United States Senator George M. Spencer, of Alabama, is sojourning at the Everett House. John A. Griswold yesterday arrived from Troy at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. De Potensal, Secretary of the Spanish Legation, is sojourning at the Albemarle Hotel. Ex-Governor William Denison, of Ohio, is at the St. Nicholas Hotel. Governor Denison was a member of the Cabinet of both Presidents Lincoln and Johnson. He was appointed Postmaster General in October, 1864, by Mr. Lincoln, and continued in office until July, 1868, when he resigned.

AMUSEMENTS. Italian Opera—"Traviata." We have written so much about the magnificent rendering of "La Traviata" by Miss Nilsson that nothing remains for us to say about the performance last evening further than to repeat our former remarks on the subject. It seems that the old story about the swan receives a perfect exemplification in the case of Nilsson, as her latest notes, this season as her previous, have been more ringing out in clearer, more trumpet-like and more telling tones than in the two roles of Leonora and Violetta this week, and that was not a trace of indisposition in her impersonation of Violetta last evening. On Friday she will appear in her great role of Martha and on Saturday in "Mignon." The performance of the season will take place on Wednesday evening next, and the management insists upon presenting "Lucia" in preference to "Lina" which has proved the greatest success of the season. "Traviata." If Mr. Strakosch wishes to consult the wishes of the patrons of opera at the Academy he will do well to give "Lina" preference as the concluding opera of the season. The substitution of "Lucia" for "Traviata" for this last performance has already been mentioned in our columns, and we are glad to see that the Academy has acted and acted wisely in the beautiful Italian opera. The substitution of "Lucia" for "Traviata" for this last performance has already been mentioned in our columns, and we are glad to see that the Academy has acted and acted wisely in the beautiful Italian opera. The substitution of "Lucia" for "Traviata" for this last performance has already been mentioned in our columns, and we are glad to see that the Academy has acted and acted wisely in the beautiful Italian opera.

EUROPEAN MARKETS. LONDON MONEY MARKET.—LONDON, Dec. 27. 3 P. M.—Consolidated bill at 92 1/2 for money, and 92 1/2 for bills; 100 days, 92 1/2; 180 days, 92 1/2; 270 days, 92 1/2; 360 days, 92 1/2. BANKRUPTCY.—FRANKFURT, Dec. 27.—United States twenty bonds, 90, for the issue of 100. PARIS BOURSE.—PARIS, Dec. 27.—Paris closed at 47 1/2. LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—LIVERPOOL, Dec. 27.—5 P. M.—Cotton closed quiet; middling upland, 9 1/2; 100 days, 9 1/2; 180 days, 9 1/2; 270 days, 9 1/2; 360 days, 9 1/2. LIVERPOOL PRODUCE MARKET.—LIVERPOOL, Dec. 27.—5 P. M.—Wheat closed at 47 1/2. LIVERPOOL PRODUCE MARKET.—LIVERPOOL, Dec. 27.—5 P. M.—Wheat closed at 47 1/2. LIVERPOOL PRODUCE MARKET.—LIVERPOOL, Dec. 27.—5 P. M.—Wheat closed at 47 1/2.

FRANCE.

Legislative Debate on the Income Tax Project.

Lord Brougham and President Grant as Economic Authorities. TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD. PARIS, Dec. 27, 1871. In the National Assembly to-day the subject of the proposed income tax was again under discussion. The Minister of Finance, M. Fovier-Quertier, spoke in opposition to the Minister of the Interior, who he denounced as "arbitrary and inquisitorial." The speaker cited Lord Brougham and President Grant in support of his remark. In the course of some allusion to England the Minister asserted that "who was only a free trader where there was no competition." M. Fovier's proposal for the imposition of a general income tax was finally voted upon, and was rejected by a large majority. THE LIBERTY AND "LICENSE" OF THE PRESS TO BE DEFINED BY GOVERNMENT ACTION. The Minister of the Interior, in order to check "the license of the public journals," proposes to increase the stringency of the laws and regulations for the control of the press. It is understood that the Minister's intentions have the approval of the President, and that the journals most offending will soon be made to feel the effect of the law.

American Visitors Expected. PARIS, Dec. 27, 1871. General William T. Sherman and Lieutenant Frederick B. Grant, son of President Grant, are expected to arrive in this city to-morrow.

FRANCE AND ITALY.

The Mission from Paris to Rome. PARIS, Dec. 27, 1871. M. de Gondard, the new French Minister to Italy, will leave for Rome on the 10th of January.

GERMANY AND FRANCE.

Female Effort for the Relief of the French Nation. PARIS, Dec. 27, 1871. The ladies of Strasbourg have organized a committee to receive subscriptions towards the payment of the French indemnity to Germany.

THE PRINCE OF WALES' HEALTH.

His Convalescence Retarded by Local Pain and Slight Fever—Public Disappointment and the Holiday Fete Less Joyous—Queen Victoria Returns to Sandringham. LONDON, Dec. 27.—P. M. The noon bulletin from Sandringham to-day reports that "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales passed a quiet night, but that convalescence is retarded by a painful affection above the left hip, accompanied by feverishness." No inquietude is felt as to the Prince's condition, but regret and disappointment at the slowness of his recovery are generally expressed. Hopes had been raised that the Prince would be able to go out before the end of the holidays, and preparations for public rejoicings had been made. The non-realization of these expectations throws a damper on the festivities of the season.

Queen Victoria to Visit Sandringham. LONDON, Dec. 27.—P. M. The Queen returns to Sandringham to-day.

Her Majesty En Route. LONDON, Dec. 27.—P. M. Her Majesty Queen Victoria left Windsor for Sandringham in a special train at three o'clock this afternoon.

ITALY AND ROME.

Royal Congratulations to England and Compliment to the Prince of Wales—Death of a Cardinal of the Church—the Pope and the Scarlet Hats. ROME, Dec. 27, 1871. His Majesty the King of Italy has sent his congratulations to the Queen of England on the announcement that the Prince of Wales is out of danger.

Death of a Cardinal. ROME, Dec. 27, 1871. Cardinal Amat de S. Filippo e Sorsola, Bishop of Palestrina and Vice-Chancellor of the Holy Roman Church, is dead. He died at the age of seventy-five years.

Sketch of Cardinal Filippo e Sorsola. Louis Amat de S. Filippo e Sorsola belonged to the Order of Cardinal Bishops. He was enrolled into the rank of the ecclesiastical dignities of that rank. He was born at Cagliari on the 21st of June, in the year 1796. He took holy orders at an early age. He was consecrated Bishop of Palestrina, in Central Italy (not of Palestine), on the 15th of March in the year 1862. He was elevated to the Cardinalate on the 19th of May, 1867. The Cardinal was Arch-priest of the Church of St. Mary the Great, in Rome.

THE SACRED COLLEGE AND SCARLET HATS. The death of Cardinal Sorsola places another scarlet hat at the disposal of Pope Pius the Ninth. His Holiness has, indeed, enjoyed an unusually large amount of this patronage since his elevation to the pontificate.

On the 19th of January, 1871, the Sacred College of Cardinals in Rome, which in theory consists of seventy members, had no less than nineteen vacancies, and consequently so many red hats were then at the disposal of the Pope. Of the fifty-one members of the college five are Cardinal Bishops, thirty-nine Cardinal Priests, and seven Cardinal Deacons. At the top of the latter list stands the name of James Antonelli, Secretary of State to His Holiness, born in 1806. Three of the Cardinal Bishops and six of the Cardinal Priests were "created and proclaimed" before the accession of the present Pope. Among the Cardinal Priests are several Archbishops—for instance those of Prague, Bordeaux, Havana, Toledo, Dublin, Benevento, Naples, Cambray, and Venice. There are forty living Cardinals who have been created by Pius IX.; and ninety-three members of the college have died (some just after appointment) since the commencement of his pontificate.

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AUSTRIA.

Opening of the Legislative Session and Presentation of the Budget.

Diplomatic Dining—Parliamentary Promotion. TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD. VIENNA, Dec. 27, 1871. The session of the Austrian Reichsrath was opened to-day, but the Emperor's speech will not be delivered until to-morrow.

The estimates of the Minister of Finance for the coming fiscal year were submitted, and give the probable expenditures at three hundred and thirty-nine millions of florins, against a revenue of three hundred and ninety-eight millions.

PARLIAMENTARY PROMOTION. Prince Karl Auerberg has been appointed President of the Upper House of the Reichsrath.

AFRICA.

Territorial Agitation in the Cape Colony Against Annexation to England.

Official Protest in Behalf of the Free States—Queen Victoria's Proclamation—Diamonds and Gold—Trade at Cape Town. GOLD. Discoveries of gold in considerable quantities had been made in the Transvaal republic. The reports attracted many adventurers to that quarter. The diamond seekers are abandoning the diamond districts for the newly discovered gold country.

TRADE. Cape Town continued thronged with arriving and returning foreign hunters. The business of the colony was making great strides both in the realization of profits and the extent of the transactions.

Queen Victoria's Proclamation Annexing the Diamond Fields—Government Control and Official Discipline. The British government proclamation, issued in the name of Queen Victoria, which annexes the South African diamond fields and the adjacent territory to the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, reached Cape Town from London during the second week of the month of October, in the present year. The State paper contained many rules and regulations for the government of the new colonial acquisition, as well as for the discipline of its inhabitants and the administration of justice.

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MEXICO.

Failure of the Latest Revolution.

Porfirio Diaz Driven Back Upon La Novia by an Overwhelming Force of Government Troops Under General Allatorre.

ESCOBEDO LOYAL.

Trevino To Be Disposed Of When Diaz Is Done For.

President Juarez Receives Special Powers from the Mexican Congress.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27, 1871. By the Mexican journals to the 10th inst., received here by the last mail, we have authentic intelligence of the condition of things in that republic. The attempt of the two brothers Diaz to overthrow the existing government has proved a failure. The plan put forth by General Porfirio Diaz from his residence of La Novia, and known, therefore, as THE PLAN OF LA NOVIA, has fallen dead upon the people of Mexico, who are astonished and amazed at his folly in assuming that, under leadership, they were disposed not only to annul the legal and valid elections of President Juarez, but also to overthrow the constitution of 1857, which is deeply rooted in the affections of the Mexican people, as well by reason of its own merits as by its having been the watchword by the aid of which they DEFEATED THE FRENCH AND DETHRONED MAXIMILIAN.

THE RESULT IS THAT ALTHOUGH PORFIRIO DIAZ HAD MANY PARTISANS IN THE MEXICAN CONGRESS NOT ONE OF THEM FOLLOWS HIM IN THE ATTEMPTED REVOLUTION. MEANTIME, INSTEAD OF ADVANCING FROM LA NOVIA AGAINST THE CAPITAL, AS DIAZ INTENDED TO DO, AND AS HE MUST OF NECESSITY HAVE DONE IN ORDER TO SUCCEED, HE HAS BEEN DRIVEN BACK BY AN OVERWHELMING FORCE OF GOVERNMENT TROOPS, UNDER THE

SUPREMACY OF GENERAL ALLATORRE, WHOSE COMMAND IN CHIEF, GENERAL KOEHLER, who had already distinguished himself by the defeat of the revolutionists and mutineers in the affair of the citadel. According to all appearances the two brothers of Diaz and their principal adherents, although they may endeavor to maintain themselves in the city of Oaxaca, will speedily be defeated and either taken prisoners or

COMPELLED TO FLEE IN DISGRACE TO CUBA OR THE UNITED STATES. THE MOVEMENT OF GENERAL TREVIÑO CONTINUES TO BE CONFINED WITHIN NARROW LIMITS IN THE STATE OF NUEVO LEON, AND WILL BE SUPPRESSED WITHOUT DIFFICULTY WHEN THE GOVERNMENT SHALL RE-ENTER GENERAL DIAZ.

THE INSURRECTIONARY MOVEMENTS IN SONORA Y SINALOYA, OF WHICH WE HAVE HAD SUCH EXAGGERATED ACCOUNTS, amount to nothing better, in fact, than local mutinies in the Mazatlan y Guaymas, possessing no political significance whatever, and having, indeed, no object except to

PLUNDER THE CUSTOM HOUSES OF THOSE TWO PORTS. THE MUTINEERS HAVE ALREADY BEEN PUT DOWN AT GUAYMAS, AND ORDER WILL SOON BE RE-ESTABLISHED AT MAZATLAN, AND REPORTS WHICH HAVE BEEN COMING TO US VIA MATAMOROS REPRESENTING GENERAL ESCOBEDO AS ACTING IN SYMPATHY WITH DIAZ AND TREVIÑO TURN OUT TO BE FALSE, ESCOBEDO HAVING TRANQUILLY ENTERED INTO HIS NEW PERIOD OF SERVICE AS CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNOR OF SAN LUIS POTOSI. IN FACT, ALL THESE DISTURBANCES FOLLOWING ON THE RE-ELECTION OF PRESIDENT JUAREZ ARE BUT THE DYING CRIES OF THE PESTILENCE.

SPIRIT OF MILITARY INSUBORDINATION WHICH HAS SO LONG CURSED THE MEXICAN REPUBLIC, is becoming more and more rampant. In fact, local mutinies in the Mazatlan y Guaymas, possessing no political significance whatever, and having, indeed, no object except to

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CUBA.

Valmaseda's Sanguinary Proclamation.

All Captured Insurgents To Be Shot, and Those Surrendering To Be Imprisoned for Life After January 15, 1872—A Spanish Colonel Killed in an Engagement—The Case of the Imprisoned Dr. Howard—His American Citizenship Questioned.

THE PUBLIC INDIGNATION FRIGHTENING MCGEEHAN—His Wise Determination to "Quit"—The Judge and the People at Loggerheads—Why Didn't the State Hang the Man Instead of Letting Him Go!

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Dec. 27, 1871. McGeehan, the Hamilton murderer, was interviewed in this city last night at an hour too late to telegraph for publication in the HERALD. While manifesting alarm at the feeling aroused against him in Hamilton, he laughed with glee in the enjoyment of his new found liberty, and talked very freely with your reporter about his trials. Said he: "You have no idea how I long to get out into the open air and swallow it. It is damp and cold. If those folks up at Hamilton only knew how much I have suffered, and how I feel now, perhaps they wouldn't be so hard on me."

McGeehan protests his innocence of the murder of Myers in the most solemn manner, and declares that all the evidence tending to show his guilt was produced through perjury, and was set up by malignant persons who are prejudiced against him. His only desire is to return to Hamilton and settle up his business and leave it forever.

In answer to a question he said that he fled from Hamilton after seeing the hangings, but returned later on Christmas night and concealed himself in a saloon until yesterday, when he came to this city in an early train.

Judge McKenny, who tried McGeehan, was interviewed by your reporter yesterday. He left Saturday at the state of public feeling toward himself on account of his charge to the jury, and said, in conclusion, that "the State has no business to interfere with the testimony presented at the previous trials, while the defence made every effort to corrupt the important witnesses, and, as in the case of Clark, the State failed to have any present to testify. It was their own fault. I could not in the case only as a Judge, and ever, and a prosecutor, and I would have violated my oath if I had done otherwise. I cannot help it if the people do blame me. There was not probably one in ten that made any use of the testimony as I did, and while I consider Tom McGeehan guilty of murder, as charged, yet the State failed to make out a case against him beyond any reasonable doubt. The jury informed me afterwards that while everybody thought McGeehan actually planned and executed the murder, they were sure that the State had made such a tangible failure in producing the most positive testimony beyond a reasonable doubt as to his guilt."

This is regarded as the most interesting and will not save Judge McKenny from the severest public condemnation for, it is argued, he believed McGeehan guilty but had evidence and law to charge the jury accordingly, and should not have granted his discharge so as to admit the perpetration of a crime which would have again upon society.

A.—The Northern Pacific Railroad Offers to investors the tangible and perfect security of a first class railroad bond and a real estate mortgage combined, where the holder has no anxiety about the title to the property on which his bond is secured. Its bonds are exempt from United States taxation, at all times readily negotiable, and make the highest return of profit on the investment compatible with undisturbed safety. The bonds pay 5% interest in gold on each \$1,000 invested,