

NEW YORK HERALD

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JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

- BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery—BUFFALO BILL—THE BIRD KING. ST. JAMES THEATRE, Twenty-eighth street and Broadway—MARRIAGE. FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fourth street—THE NEW DRAMA OF DIVORCE. OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway—THE BALLET PATRONAGE OF HUMPHY DUMPTY. BOOTH'S THEATRE, Twenty-third street, corner Sixth av.—JULIUS CAESAR. WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 13th street—THE VETERAN. NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway, between Prince and Bowery sts.—LA BELLE SAVAAGE. WOOD'S MUSEUM, Broadway, corner 30th st.—Performance after 8 o'clock—LIONESS. MRS. F. R. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE—MAUD'S FEEL. THEATRE COMIQUE, 34 Broadway—COMIC TOTAL. UNION SQUARE THEATRE, Fourteenth st. and Broadway—NEUO ACTS—BULLDOG, BALLETT, &c. TONY PARTON'S OPERA HOUSE, No. 20 Bowery—SINGING SOCIETY. BRYANT'S NEW OPERA HOUSE, 33d st., between 8th and 9th—THE MEXICAN. THIRTY-FOURTH STREET THEATRE, near Third av.—FARTY ENTERTAINMENT. SAN FRANCISCO MINSTREL HALL, 55 Broadway—THE SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS. PAVILION, No. 68 Broadway—THE VIRGINIA LADY OPERETTA. ROBINSON'S HALL, 18 East Sixteenth street—FRENCH COMEDY—LE MAISON SANS ENFANTS, &c. STEINWAY HALL, Fourteenth street—GRAND MATINEE. NEW YORK GYMNASIUM, Fourteenth street—SCENES IN HIS KINGDOM. NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway—DISSECTION AND ART. DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, 745 Broadway—DISSECTION AND ART.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Thursday, March 7, 1872.

CONTENTS OF TO-DAY'S HERALD.

- 1—Advertisements. 2—Advertisements. 3—The Tichborne Trial: Sudden Termination of the Celebrated Suit for Possession of the Tichborne Title and Estate: The Claimant Withdraws His Case and Attempts to Fly from the Jurisdiction of the Court: His Arrest Under Judicial Warrant and Commitment to Newgate: History of the Pleadings and the Essential Points of the Controversy: Values of the Tichborne Estate and Creation of the Baronet; British Popular Opinions in the Past and Present: The Japanese Embassy: Reception of the Japanese on the Floor of the House of Representatives—The Virginia Yacht: Two Homicides—The Immense Expense of Opening Our Streets, Avenues and Public Parks—The Great Centennial—Miscellaneous Telegrams. 4—Congress: The Legislative Appropriations in the Senate: A Radical Tactician of the Erie Road: The Great Island Grab: The Eight Hour Labor Question—The Custom House Inquiry: Examination of General Backus—A Chapter of Medical History: The Reception of the Japanese Embassy to Pope Gregory XIII. in the Sixteenth Century—The Union Pacific Railroad: Meeting of Stockholders in Boston and Receipt of the Annual Report—The Northern Pacific Railroad—Protection to Railway Stockholders—Joint Resolutions on the Erie Road in Virginia—The Importers and Grocers' Board of Trade. 5—Major J. A. S. M. Proceedings in the New York and Brooklyn Courts—Held on panel houses: Down in the Deeds of the Fourteenth Ward—Department of Public Instruction—The Herald's History of the Lowery Gang—A Cure for Cancer—The Perry Homicide—Suicide by Jumping from a Window. 6—Editorial: Leading Article, "The Great Tichborne Case: Is the Claimant a Baronet or a Butcher?"—Amusement Editor's Announcement. 7—France: Coming Conflict Between the Cabinet and Parliament, and a New Ministerial Crisis—England: Queen Victoria's Reward to Her "Faithful Gibe," John Brown—From Germany, Belgium, Italy, Spain and Cuba—The War in Mexico—The West India Cause—The Swampy Regions of the South—The Death of Henry Berry Lowery—The Gale in the South and in the East—The Cool Snap—Official Weather Report—News from Washington—Miscellaneous Telegrams—Amusements—Business Notices. 8—Mr. Miller's Further Proceedings Before the Insurance Committee—Perils of the Deep: Freezing to Death in Mid-Ocean—State of the Streets: The Police—Ragging—Art Matters—Music and the Drama—Fishing—Aquatics—Pugilism—Pigeon Shooting—Probable Homicide in Jersey—A Boatswain's Resurrection—Army of the Potomac—Army and Navy Intelligence—New York City News—Marriages and Deaths. 9—Financial and Commercial: Another Hot Battle in Pacific Mail: The Union Pacific Railroad Election: The Erie Ring Desperate: Wabasha Rolling Up the Eastern Advance in Government Bonds—The Real Estate Market: Great Revival of Activity in All Directions: Large and Important Transactions in West Side Property: Important Sale To-Day—Reform Democracy: Reorganization Meeting in the First Assembly District—Financial Statement of the City Chamberlain—The Erie Ring: Brooklyn Affairs—Fatal Iceboat Accident—Advertisements. 10—The State Capital: Senator O'Brien's Erie Bill to be Favorably Reported: Debate on the Charter of the Three Score and Ten: Thirty-two Thousand Germans Rise to Explain: Hanging to be Legally Performed: The Erie Ring: The Beach Pneumatic Tunnel Scheme Adopted by the Joint Committee: Failure of the Williamsburg Ferry Bill: Our Brooklyn Judges and Clerks to be Summarily Dealt With—Ordinary—Shipping Intelligence—Advertisements. 11—Advertisements. 12—Advertisements.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S REWARD to her "faithful gibe," John Brown, for his prompt action in arresting O'Connor, the assailant of Her Majesty, goes far to contradict the assertion that monarchs are just as ungrateful as are republics. See our London telegram to-day.

WE LEARN THAT SENATOR JAMES WOOD has declared his intention to report Senator O'Brien's Erie bill favorably to the Judiciary Committee and to support it in the Senate. This act Senator James Wood owes alike to himself and his constituents. It will do more to save him from the evil consequence of imprudent acts in the past than all the whitewashing reports that could be written in a dozen years.

A DORR WAR THREATENED IN LITTLE DELAWARE—A "slight misunderstanding" exists between the three counties that constitute the tough little State of Delaware—where the whipping post still exists, a monument to its advanced civilization—in regard to some local question of representation. There is danger of a "bloody civil war" ensuing, according to one of the Delaware papers, and it is feared that Uncle Sam's troops may be obliged to interfere to suppress intestine commotion, as in the case of the Dorr rebellion in "Little Rhodey."

THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE—HURRY IT UP!—Although the Fulton ferryboats were but little interrupted in their regular trips during the recent ice blockade on the Long Island shore, yet the fact that nearly all the other ferryboats were more or less delayed, some for several hours on a trip, makes the necessity for the early completion of the bridge between New York and Brooklyn now more than ever before apparent. We believe twenty thousand Brooklynites would to-day exclaim "Hurry up that bridge!" who three or four days ago would have been entirely indifferent to the subject.

The Great Tichborne Case—Is the Claimant a Baronet or a Butcher?

The abrupt and extraordinary termination of the famous Tichborne case will not surprise our readers, as the despatches received from the HERALD correspondent in London a day or two since, announcing that the jury had expressed themselves satisfied with the evidence so far as it had progressed and ready to declare a verdict, indicated that the claimant's case had virtually broken down. Upon this declaration the Court adjourned until yesterday morning to enable the Tichborne claimant and his counsel to agree upon a line of action. Their conclusion was announced yesterday, the counsel for the claimant saying that their client had resolved to withdraw his claim. The Attorney General, who represented the defendants, immediately made an application to the Court for an order to arrest the claimant upon the charge of perjury, and to hold him in bail in the sum of fifty thousand pounds. The order was granted, and the "baronet" and assumed heir to one of the oldest and proudest names in the English baronetcy was arrested yesterday and locked up in Newgate prison.

So ends, for the present, one of the most extraordinary trials in the history of English jurisprudence. We give elsewhere a summary of the case, the interest of which will transcend that of any romance. A young man, an heir to an ancient title and a great fortune, but of an idle, purposeless, vagrant nature, drifted into the army as young gentleman of his stamp generally do, and served in Ireland and England for a short time. Weary of military discipline, and yielding to the gipsy instincts of his nature, and having had a quarrel or an estrangement with his father on the subject of money, he sold his commission and left England for Australia. When last heard from he had shipped on a brig in South America bound for Melbourne. The brig went down at sea and all on board were supposed to have perished. The circumstances of the young baronet's death came to England. An advertisement was published calling upon the world to divulge some tidings of the wanderer, whether he was dead or living. No answer came. The baronetcy and the large estates passed to the next in kin. The mother of the wayward youth mourned for him with all the patience and hope of maternal love, and would not believe him dead. Long after the Court had decided the case, and the new heir had come into possession, and the world had regarded her son as dead, she clung to the faith that he would come again. The father, who had married late in life, died in 1862 at an advanced age, while the mother survived until 1868. Upon the father's death the baronetcy passed to his son, the younger brother of the wanderer, who died in 1866, leaving his title and estates to an infant son, who was born after his death and is now the heir presumptive.

The Tichborne baronetcy, which the wild young officer threw away to find his destiny in the wilds of Australia, is one of the oldest and proudest in England. It is twenty-second in the order of precedence, and was created by James I., when he founded the title. Sir Roger was the eleventh in lineal descent; but long before the pedantic and grasping Stuart was led by his ambition and his wants to establish the order, the name of Tichborne was among the honored names of England. It goes back to the time of the Saxons, when De Tichenborne, as it was called in the old Norman French, was a famous family in the county of Hants. We find that Sir Roger de Tichborne was a knight of Henry II.; this Henry being only third in descent from the Conqueror, who reigned as King of England and Duke of Normandy and Aquitaine, the first of the Plantagenets, memorable in ecclesiastical history as the antagonist of A'Becket, at whose tomb he prayed while the edified monks inflicted a well-earned penance. This takes us back seven hundred years. We find another knight, Sir John, as "a person of great eminence," parliament-man, sheriff and justice-itinerant in the reign of Edward II.—the same virtuous and sacred prince who was tumbled out of his throne and cruelly put to death in Berkeley Castle only five hundred and forty-five years ago. It was a De Tichborne, Benjamin by name, loyal and vigilant in the service of the good Queen Bess, whose zeal for the true succession led him, as the world will gratefully remember, to proceed to Winchester as soon as Elizabeth went to rest with God, and without orders from those in authority, clearly seeing the inevitable with his prudent English eyes, to proclaim James I. as King. For which prompt and judicious service the gracious Scotchman made Benjamin a baronet, and thus he stands recorded, as the first of his line. They were Cavaliers, these Tichbornes, and suffered for the cause, and were zealous in the apostolic Roman faith, the fifth of the line, Sir John Hemingild, becoming a Jesuit and dying in sanctity at Ghent one hundred and twenty years ago.

It was in 1854 when the vagrant baronet was given up as having died at sea. Suddenly, after twelve years had passed, news came that he had not been drowned, that he had been discovered in Australia, back in the sheep districts, leading a barbarous, nomadic life under the name of De Castro. He had, it was said, really escaped from the wreck of the vessel which was supposed to have engulfed him in the ocean. His life in Australia under his assumed name was not, it was admitted, of a character to inspire his noble and gentle relatives with any enthusiasm towards him as the head of the house. He bore an ill name. He had married badly. He had misunderstandings with the constituted authorities, even to the extent of stealing horses. Essentially vulgar, grovelling and coarse, he had given way to the gross promptings of his nature and had lived like a convict and a vagabond. His manners were those of a boor. He could scarcely read, and when he wrote it was in defiance of all settled laws of grammar and spelling. His ignorance amounted to a revelation. The Tichborne who had run away from his regiment and his friends was a slender, bright, vivacious young man, well versed in his tactics and especially skilled in French, having been educated in France. The Tichborne who came back was unusually corpulent, could not comprehend the simplest order in military drill, nor comprehend a sentence in French.

The Charter of the Committee of Seventy and the Department of Public Docks—The Duty of the State Senate.

The charter of the Committee of Seventy, which passed the Assembly almost in its original shape—including cumulative voting, unwieldy mixed Commissions, divided authority, general irresponsibility, a complete blotting out of all our present reform officials and the chance of a new deal all around—is now before the Senate Committee for consideration. Arguments are being heard from those who oppose the charter and from those who advocate its enactment. The Committee of Seventy are preparing to revisit Albany in full lobby force, and to bring to bear upon Senators—as they brought to bear upon Assemblymen—the soothing influence of good wine, fine cigars and high respectability, in the hope that the upper House of the State Legislature may be induced to treat their favorite hantling as tenderly and considerately as it was treated in the lower House. At the same time an effort is being made to entice the republican Senators into a caucus upon the subject of charter reform, so that the committee's work may be made a party question and driven through under the old iron rule of party discipline. It is difficult to say what effect these pleadings, coaxings and plottings may have upon the members of the Senate and of the committee that now holds the charter in charge. Modern legislation is an uncertain affair when none of those solid arguments most familiar to our representatives at Albany are to be used for or against a bill. Although it may be found impossible to bring the two factions of republicanism together in caucus this session, it appears altogether likely that the opposition to the Seventy's experiment may suffer judgment to go against them by default, while it is certain that our fellow citizens who have their pet scheme of legalized repealing at heart will use all their influence to force it successfully through its second trial. Under these circumstances it is not unlikely that the Senators may follow the example of the Assemblymen, and while unable to understand the intricate workings of the proposed scheme of municipal government, and disposed to turn up their legislative noses at the evident impracticability of many of its provisions, may conclude to "let the thing go through."

We are not disposed to read our representatives at the State Capitol a homily on the responsibilities and duties of legislators, for the reason that we have grave doubts of its efficacy upon the law-makers of the present day. It may suggest itself to some of the State Senators that their oath requires them to be satisfied of the justice, wisdom and propriety of a law before they vote for its enactment, and that it is neither fair, wise nor prudent to force upon a great city like New York an experiment, at the best of doubtful expediency, without consulting the wishes of her people. But we propose to bring a few practical and material points to the attention of the Senate before that body acts finally on the new charter. The recent political revolution placed a republican Board of Aldermen in power in this city, the President of which is a staunch republican and a capable and honest officer. The committee's charter proposes to sweep away this Board, and under the doubtful experiment of cumulative voting risks the restoration to power of the democratic ring politicians in the law-making and money-raising branch of the city government. Comptroller Green, a man of immovable integrity, is at the head of the Finance Department; George Van Nort, a republican and an honest man, is at the head of the Department of Public Works, and Henry G. Stebbins, whose character is well known, presides over the Park Department. The charter of the Seventy risks the removal of all these desirable officers, and, in fact, renders their superseding almost certain through the election of a democratic Mayor and Board of Aldermen.

By far the worst feature of the new charter, however, is its proposed abolition of the present Department of Public Docks, and the tacking on of its important interests and duties to the tail of a political kite. Such a provision stamps the charter at once as the work of narrow-minded visionaries who cannot grasp the subject with which they trifle, or of scheming politicians whose only object is to repeat the history of the Tammany Ring over again, with different actors on the scene. One of the few redeeming points in the old city government was the lifting up of the great work of dock improvement out of the mire of politics and the initiation of a system of management and extension under which the Port of New York would soon fulfil its destiny as the commercial centre of the world. The Tammany magnates were shrewd as well as selfish. Their ill-gotten wealth was invested in extensive land speculations all over the city, and they knew that a thorough development of the commercial resources of the port would enormously increase the value of their ventures. Let us secure honesty and efficiency in the construction, improvement and management of our docks, they argued, and the enhanced value of our property through the increase of the commerce of the port and its extension along the entire lengths of our river fronts, will put into our pockets millions more than we could hope to steal out of the Department. So the Dock Commission to-day consists of citizens of wealth and character, whose interests are identified with the progress and prosperity of the city, and whose labors are devoted to the honest and efficient discharge of their important duties.

The neglected condition of the docks, wharves and piers when the present Commission assumed the trust and government of this vast property was a matter of notoriety and of general complaint. No accommodation was afforded adequate to the wants of commerce, and many of the large steamship companies were in consequence driven to New Jersey, at great inconvenience to their business. The immediate improvement of the water front and the establishment of permanent wharf accommodations for special commercial interests were the first subjects to which the Board directed their attention. Plans were invited and were furnished by some of the most competent men in the country. With the approval of General McClellan, the Engineer in Chief of the department, it was resolved to protect the river front by a permanent river wall of masonry, carried out a sufficient distance from the existing bulk-

Does the Erie Ring Contemplate a New Fraud—A Hint for Honest Legislators.

There is good reason to suspect that a new and desperate fraud is contemplated by the Erie Ring in view of the danger that threatens them. For some weeks past there has been an active demand for Erie bonds, which the condition of the company's affairs does not appear to have warranted. These bonds have been passing quietly into the hands of the Ring, whose agents, secretly at work, have been the purchasers. A rumor is now borne on the air, floating down from Albany, that the Erie Railroad Company finds itself financially bankrupt, and will not be able to pay the interest on its bonds soon falling due. Should the interest remain unpaid a certain number of days the mortgagees take possession of the road and all its property, and wipe out the stockholders, foreign, naturalized and native born. The plot is a deep and a dangerous one. Gould and his associates purchase the mortgage bonds of the road. In their capacity of directors they then refuse to pay the interest on these bonds, and as mortgagees they step in and seize the road, wiping out the present stock and organizing a new company with a capital stock of say fifty millions, issued to themselves. The uninitiated, to measure the full rascality of the plot, must understand that the "Ring" are not *bona fide* holders of any of the old stock, care nothing for it or its fate, and find their enormous profits out of the dishonest handling of the vast revenues of the road.

Now a law of the State of New York provides that in cases where a road thus passes into the hands of the mortgagees the *bona fide* stockholders shall be entitled, within a given period, to reclaim and redeem their property upon payment of the amount actually paid for the bonds, with the expenses and seven per cent interest to the date of reclamation. This law is generally known among lawyers as the Subrogation law. Its existence on the statute book interferes with the alleged plot of the Ring to obtain absolute possession of the Erie road. Two years ago an attempt was made to repeal it by a bill the real object of which was concealed under a general and blind title. It was defeated by Judge Folger, then a State Senator, who discovered "the nigger in the fence." Was it secretly repealed by the notorious Legislature of last year? Is a bill to repeal this Subrogation act now before either house of the State Legislature? These are questions to which we direct the immediate attention of the State Attorney General, of Senators O'Brien, Robertson, Murphy and Palmer, and of Speaker Smith, Colonel Hawkins, L. Bradford, Prince and others in the Assembly. Let us know whether this worst and most dangerous conspiracy really exists; and if so, let immediate steps be taken to defeat it.

Emperor William's Rewards to the Conquerors of Paris.

His Majesty Emperor William of Germany has donated a right royal reward to the chief generals of the German army for services rendered during the war against the French—to the men who planned the strategy, to those who led the assaults and to those who held chief commands at the moment of the conquest of Paris. Three millions four hundred thousand Prussian thalers have been "doctored"—the proper term, it appears, for sovereign gifts—among them by the Crown. Prince Frederick Charles, Generals Manteuffel, Moltke and Von Roon, with the soldier Duke of Bavaria, receive three hundred thousand thalers each, and so on by gradation to twelve other officers, who are to have each one hundred and fifty thousand thalers. This is certainly a very brilliant system of solid, substantial thanks, one which may enable President Thiers to comprehend, with respect to his indemnity payments, the modern verse saw of "That's the way the money goes" with a feeling of humiliation and sadness. The German monarch is a practical materialist in his administration of army affairs. He does not believe in the poetic idea that "Great men have always scorned great recompenses," nor appear to remember that "George Washington had praise, and nought besides, except the all cloudless glory, which few men's is, to free his country."

THE ERIE BILLS—A BETTER PROSPECT AT ALBANY.

The intelligence from the State capital is more encouraging to-day. The Senators and Assemblymen on the committees now holding the Erie bills in their hands are said to have become satisfied that their duty to the State requires the favorable report of the bill to repeal the Erie Classification act, and to provide for a fair election of directors by the stockholders. This is well for the people and well for the legislators. They must know that any tampering with the question—any sly dodging in the service of the Ring—will be accepted as proof of their venality just as conclusive as though they should vote directly with the corruptionists against justice and reform. Now, to complete the good work, let every republican reformer vote as one man in favor of the O'Brien bill, and make a record for their party that will give them the State of New York as their own for years to come.

PRUSSIA AND ITS PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Prince Bismarck is determined to preserve the educational system of Prussia free from extraneous influences—religious, of political party, or the divisions of incorporated non-German nationalities. He will educate the nation as a whole, as may be seen by our news telegram from Berlin in the HERALD to-day.

Personal Intelligence.

- Colonel Manuel Laza, of Mexico, is at the New York Hotel. General J. B. Carr, of Troy, is at the St. Nicholas Hotel. General E. Jarline, of New Jersey, is stopping at the Everett House. Colonel S. Piper, of Syracuse, is at the Sturtevant House. Judge R. D. Roe, of Maine, is sojourning at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. Lieutenant E. S. Houston, of the United States Navy, has temporary quarters at the Hoffman House. Judges Alexander, of Cleveland, Ohio, and Hines, of Albany, are at Earl's Hotel. J. M. McCallum, general manager of the Pittsburgh and Fort Wayne Railroad, is domiciled at the St. Nicholas Hotel. Ex-Mayor William G. Fargo, of Buffalo, is among yesterday's arrivals at the Astor House. W. T. Walters, of Baltimore, is sojourning at the Brevoort House.

QUICK BUSINESS.—A case of homicide was tried in the Court of Sessions yesterday, in which the entire proceedings, including the testimony of witnesses, arguments of prosecuting attorney and defendant's counsel, charge of the Recorder and verdict of the jury (acquittal), occupied precisely two hours. If the business in our criminal courts generally should be disposed of in this summary manner the public would cease to complain about the tardiness of justice in many clear and positive cases.