NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

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Volume XXXVII.....No. 85

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Fourteenth street.—ITALIAN OPERA—HAMLET.

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway.—THE BALLET PANTOMIME OF HUMPTY DUMPTY.

LINA EDWIN'S THEATRE, 720 Broadway.—WITCHES OF NEW YORK.

BOOTH'S THEATRE, Twenty-third st., corner Sixth av.—AS YOU LIKE IT.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 13th street.—THE VETERAN.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, corner of 8th av. and 23d st.—LALLA ROOKH.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway, between Prince and Houston sts.—LA BELLE SAVAGE.

ST. JAMES' THEATRE, Twenty-eighth street and Broadway.—MARRIAGE.

WOOD'S MUSEUM, Broadway, corner 30th st.—Performances afternoon and evening—LURLINE.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery—HUNTING A TURTLE—BUFFALO BILL.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fourth street.—FROU-FROU.

MRS. F. B. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE.—DEA OF ICE.

PARK THEATRE, opposite City Hall, Brooklyn.—BUFFALO BILL.

THEATRE COMIQUE, 514 Broadway.—COMIC VOCALISMS, NEGRO ACTS, &c.—LICKS THE SKILLET.

UNION SQUARE THEATRE, Fourteenth st. and Broadway.—NEGRO ACTS—BURLESQUE, BALLET, &c.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, No. 201 Bowery.—NEGRO ECCENTRICITIES, BURLESQUES, &c.

BRYANT'S NEW OPERA HOUSE, 23d st., between 6th and 7th avs.—BRYANT'S MINSTRELS.

THIRTY-FOURTH STREET THEATRE, near Third avenue.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTREL HALL, 585 Broadway.—THE SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.

NEW YORK CIRCUS, Fourteenth street.—SCENES IN THE RING, ACROBATS, &c.

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway.—SCIENCE AND ART.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Monday, March 25, 1872.

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"FESTINA LENTE."—Governor Parker is "making haste slowly" in accepting the labor reform nomination for the Vice Presidency.

THE RIVER OPENING.—The steamboat Walter Brett on Saturday pushed up the river as far as New Hamburg. A few days more and the blockade will or ought to be broken at Albany.

THE KNOXVILLE (Tenn.) *Press and Herald* mentions, in connection with the name of Horace Maynard, the Latin maxim—"*Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori.*" Does it mean that Maynard's Congressional laurels are dying out?

OUR LATE SNOW STORM extended from the latitude of Washington northward into the New Dominion, and westward beyond the Mississippi. Now, if we have a heavy and extensive rain storm we shall before the close of this week have the breaking up of a hard winter.

THE PRESENT WILL BE A LIVELY WEEK in Connecticut. Both parties have brought out their big guns, and a rattling fire all along the lines will commence to-day and be kept up until Saturday night next. From present appearances the republicans have the heaviest artillery, although the democrats produce a splendid array of oratorical metal. This day week will tell the story of how the battle was won or lost.

THE NUMEROUS INVESTIGATING COMMITTEES at work upon frauds, corruptions, &c., here and in Brooklyn, and at Albany, and Washington, and Trenton, and Harrisburg and other places, too numerous to mention, are getting on as well as could be expected. Among them all much good, we hope, will follow their disclosures; but the biggest mare's nest of all the alleged corruptions involved is that discovered by Carl Schurz in the French arms business. So far this witness on the subject before the committee appears a regular know nothing, while in his fiery declamations before the Senate he appeared to know everything.

Our Complicated and Oppressive Revenue System—The Reform Needed.

We hear of a great many proposed reforms at the present day, and there is hope that some of them, through the power of the press and public opinion, will be carried out. But in nothing is reform so much needed as in our revenue system. We mean by this not only a reduction of the revenue to the lowest sum possible that an economical administration of the government will admit, but also a thorough change in the principle and plan of taxation. We never have had a simple, good and steady revenue system. Even before the war, when sixty to seventy millions of dollars were a sufficient income for the necessities of the government, taxation was too complicated, and, therefore, unnecessarily expensive in the collection, while it was so frequently changed to suit the policy or views of the different parties that succeeded each other in power that business was disturbed and the country checked in its development. With the war and the enormous demands of the government for means to carry it on taxes were multiplied so much that people were bewildered, as well as burdened, with the number and variety of them. Almost everything under the sun was taxed, and many things that little more than paid the expense of collection. The greater part of these taxes exist now, though there has been a small reduction of the number, and a slight modification in the amount of some few others. Virtually the system is the same as at the close of the war, and little less complicated. To go through the lists of imposts with a view of understanding or remembering them would be more puzzling than the most difficult mathematical problem.

These numerous imposts, many of which have yielded little to the government, have arisen partly from the ignorance of our legislators and partly from the habit of log-rolling in Congress to accommodate the different sections and interests. The cotton manufacturers of New England, wanting high protective duties, strike hands with the iron protectionists of Pennsylvania. The wool grower and manufacturer, the sugar planter, the lumberman, the ship builder and those specially interested in other industries do the same. One member of Congress says to another, "You help me and I will help you." Thus the tariff is made up and taxes imposed, more with a view to favor special interests and localities than upon general principles. Not that which is best for the nation at large or the mass of the people is considered, but that which will benefit particular classes. These remarks apply, however, to manufacturing industries chiefly; for, strange, to say, the greatest interest of all in the country—the agricultural interest—is least protected or promoted by legislation. Nor is special legislation for its protection either practicable or demanded. Free trade is its best protection. That opens the markets of the world to our agriculturists, creates a greater demand for their vast products, and, as a consequence, promotes every branch of trade connected with agriculture. It is estimated by Mr. Wells, in the report he made as Special Commissioner of Revenue, that more than fifty per cent of the industrious classes were agriculturists, and that their production was little less than half the total products of the country. We see, then, how an unjust and oppressive system of imposts operates against more than half of the community, and in favor of special classes. Instead of log-rolling protective legislation, by which the agricultural population is victimized and the development of agriculture retarded, we ought to have a simple plan of raising revenue that would bear on all classes alike, and that should be derived chiefly from luxuries.

It is probable now that Congress will take the duty off tea and coffee, which will reduce the revenue thirty millions of dollars or more. While this may be acceptable to all classes and be felt pretty equally by all, and while it will tend to cheapen living, the effect will be inconsiderable. This tax is so generally diffused and the amount that may be saved to each family or person by abolishing it will be so small that there will not, after all, be much difference in the cost of living. It will be but a short step in the way of revenue reform. Those who are advocating the abolishment of the duty on tea and coffee are protectionists for the most part, because they expect that with this reduction of government income other duties and taxes which afford protection to certain interests will be continued. But there are other things which enter more largely into the cost of living, of the household and clothing, and of the mechanical arts and industry generally, which need to be relieved of the burden of taxation. We want, really, a sweeping measure of reform, that will take off a hundred millions of taxes at least, and the relief thus afforded to be such as the mass of the people will feel and the government expenses of revenue collection be greatly reduced.

The English system of taxation is on the whole, perhaps, the best model to follow, though there is in the United States, as in some other countries, exceptional conditions or circumstances that require a modification. We could not do better, certainly, than to copy England in the principle she acts upon of raising a large revenue from a few articles. Her revenue, for example, is, in round numbers, about three hundred and sixty millions of dollars. Out of this a hundred and sixteen millions is drawn from excise—that is, from taxes on spirits, beer and other like luxuries, and from licenses to sell these. This is exclusive of the customs duties on importation of such articles. If we raised as much from the same source it would be nearly half what the whole revenue demand of the government ought to be under an economical administration. And why not? Our population is eight or nine millions greater than that of Great Britain, and consumes more, probably, of these excisable luxuries. What so fit to be taxed? They are not necessaries of life, and are almost always injurious. The property tax of England yields about thirty-five millions of dollars and stamps about forty-six millions. The customs yielded something over a hundred millions. Of course there are a number of articles taxed under the heads of stamps and customs, but these are few comparatively to the taxes imposed under these heads in the United States. There are other sources of less amounts of income, which it is unnecessary to enumerate here. The whole system is based upon the principle of imposing as few taxes as possible with the largest return that can be obtained. This simplifies it, reduces the cost of collection and enables the government to exercise more easily a strict control over its officials and the public. The more the taxes are multiplied and the larger the number of officers employed to collect them the greater the frauds and more difficult it becomes to collect the revenue.

Suppose our government were to raise from excise a hundred and sixteen millions, thirty millions from tobacco in its various forms, which is another luxury injurious to the people, thirty or forty millions from a tax on property in some constitutional form, which would be easily collected and at little cost, and from customs duties on a few articles of luxury to the amount of eighty or a hundred millions, an ample revenue would be raised and the whole list of vexatious and burdensome duties and taxes, including the income tax, would be swept away. What a simple system of raising revenue this would be! How thorough and easy might be the supervision of the government over it! Three-fourths of the army of employés now under the Treasury Department would be discharged and the expense proportionately reduced. But there is no hope of this much needed reform until the Secretary of the Treasury abandons his absurd policy of calling for an enormous revenue, more than what the government requires, and till Congress ceases its log-rolling protective legislation. A great deal of the corruption at Washington, and the number of subsidy and other schemes to deplete the Treasury spring from the temptation which an enormous surplus revenue affords. Birds of prey assemble where the carcass is. Instead of burdening the country now with taxation, the policy should be to reduce the revenue to the lowest sum necessary for the support of the government and payment of interest on the debt, and to leave to the increased millions of population and multiplied wealth hereafter to bear a portion of the obligations incurred in preserving the Union. The abolition of our multifarious and oppressive taxes now would do much to stimulate industry, increase production and wealth, and make the payment of the debt very easy in a few years hence.

The Sad Case of Dr. Howard—Appeal to the Spanish Government.

We call attention to the letter of our Havana correspondent, but more especially to the portion narrating the terrible fate of Dr. Howard. It is a case which appeals to all our sympathies, as, indeed, it cannot fail to appeal to all those who feel for the sufferings of the innocent and oppressed. Dr. Howard, it appears, was convicted and sentenced to eight years' penal servitude by the Spanish authorities in Cuba on the accusation of only one witness, and that witness evidently a false one. His accuser was a captured insurgent leader. This man, in order to escape the death penalty, proposed to make important revelations to his captors. The revelations consisted in the false charge against Dr. Howard of having given aid and comfort to the insurgents. The Spanish authorities lent him a willing ear, and the wretch purchased his life at the cost of a base falsehood. But once within the limits of the United States he made another declaration, asserting Dr. Howard's perfect innocence of the charges he had brought against him. Dr. Howard has vainly appealed to the United States for protection. The Spanish authorities deny his claim to American citizenship and have not heeded the remonstrances of our Consul General at Havana.

We do not propose to enter into subtleties and legal quibbles on the question of Dr. Howard's nationality. Enough for our purpose to know that Dr. Howard was born in these United States, that he now innocently bears the felon's doom and drags the felon's chain. This is a powerful claim for our intercession. Dr. Howard is an old man, a man of culture, and three daughters in distress weep over the mournful fate of their aged father. Consul General Torbert appears to have done all in his power to obtain the release of the unfortunate gentleman, but it was in vain to look for justice where passions and prejudices have an unbridled sway.

We make an appeal to a higher authority—to the government of Madrid and its supreme head, King Amadeus, with whom the clamor of an ignorant mob can have no ruling consideration. We are confident that our appeal will not have been made in vain; but we also look to Admiral Polo, the new Spanish Minister at Washington, for prompt intercession. He is a just man and an advocate of clemency. He has spoken words of peace and amity, and we believe him. Here is a good beginning for him to make. No better opportunity could have presented itself for the inauguration of his diplomatic mission. Nor can the Spanish government refuse justice to a man wrongfully accused, who has already suffered what must be agony worse than death, to one of his age, culture and frame of mind. The vessel that carries Dr. Howard is now on her way to a Spanish penal colony in Africa. We hope the day of her arrival there will also be that of his liberation.

THE BRITISH CROWN REPRESENTED ON THE CONTINENT.—Queen Victoria arrived at Cherbourg yesterday afternoon, where she embarked on a special train for Paris. Her Majesty, with the members of her suite, were due in the French capital at an early hour this morning. The Queen will, it is said, decline to see President Thiers, and continue her journey towards Berlin after a polite expression of her personal good feeling for the Chief of the French republic. The Prince and Princess of Wales are in Rome. His Royal Highness is personally acquainted with the Pope, and also with Victor Emmanuel, so that British diplomatic action moved simultaneously from London, Rome and Berlin, may produce a very decided influence as to the future direction of public affairs on the Continent.

TALKING OF "PRESIDENTIAL SIDE SHOWS," the Chicago *Republican*—administration—remarks that the venerable Chief Justice Chase "comes upon the scene at the eleventh hour, with his old properties of four years ago, and sets up his side show to draw off the few cautious gentlemen who are skulking about the big tent seeking free admission, with the hope of being engaged as actors when the company gets under way."

The President and a Mexican Protectorate.

The mutual advantages which would accrue to both the United States and Mexico from a protectorate of the former over the latter have, it would appear from our special despatches, been made apparent to the President through the channels of his Mexican experiences and the editorial columns of the HERALD. Under whatever aspect the case may be viewed, the experiment of a protectorate would be worth the trying. Day after day our Mexican despatches mark the recurrence of ubiquitous *pronunciamentos*, forced loans, bloody battles, with one man killed and another wounded; provinces in revolt, government generals joining insurgents, insurgent generals betraying their fellows, both parties seizing Custom Houses, varied with a little performance over the Texan border in the shape of ox and hog thievery, occasionally seasoned with the murder of unarmed citizens. The President, with his knowledge of the rich future in store for Mexico, if once she had a stable, powerful government, sees the deplorable features of her present and past history, and appreciates the benefits to civilization and humanity in its establishment on a firm basis. It is hard, however, to blame him too severely for a reluctance to let out on a Mexican protectorate such another nest of hornets as stung his St. Domingo annexation project to death. But, waiving all this, in view of the great question of the public good, we insist that it is no time for timidity. The President has reduced it by a very plausible course of reasoning to a matter in which Congress must take the initiative. He favors the project within these bounds, and it remains to be seen whether our national legislators will do their clear duty in the matter. The Mexicans themselves must be made to understand the fact that their everlasting revolutions in their own and forays into our territory are sources of menace and weakness to the United States and the whole system of republican government. It is hinted that intervention would bring a war to our doors. If it did the difficulty would soon be satisfactorily settled, and we could then guarantee a free and firm government to the Mexican people, a great fat land, with a delightful climate, to the sturdy toilers of the world, and a perfect immunity from the princes out of place that Europe may have on hand. Is not all this worth the experiment of a protectorate?

THE EVANSVILLE (Indiana) *Journal* is anxious to know the use of the democrats running a candidate for elector at large when the democracy do not intend to run any candidate for the Presidency. The St. Louis *Republican*—democratic passive organ—might answer this conundrum.

Progress on Our City Charter at Albany—A Clean Sweep.

The bill providing a new charter for this most unfortunate of cities in its municipal affairs has been undergoing in the committee of the Senate a regular overhauling from stem to stern. By the amendments agreed upon, with the consent or without a protest from the Committee of Seventy, all the heads of departments now in office are to go out, and new men are to take their places, by election or appointment. There are to be two branches of the Common Council, each to consist of thirty members, six of whom are to be chosen from each Senatorial district, and these new city fathers are to serve without pay. Cumulative voting is still adhered to. They want to see how it will work. The Committee of Safety, of six members, is to be appointed by the two oldest Judges of the Superior Court. The City Chamberlain is to be retained and invested with large powers, as a check on the Comptroller. The salaries of all the principal officers are fixed, those of the Mayor, Corporation Counsel and Comptroller at $10,000 each, and so on, with a sliding scale downward. The bill as amended is the special order in the Senate for to-morrow, and unquestionably on the various amendments proposed there will be an animated discussion. What shape the charter will finally assume no man can tell, but we are assured that in some shape or other we shall soon have a new charter.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS CORRESPONDENCE.—Earl Granville's second note to the American government on the Alabama claims question is said, on English newspaper authority, to be most friendly and conciliatory in tone, very verbose, and decisive against submitting the indirect damages claim to the Geneva Court. The steamship Baltic, which bears the despatch outward, is expected to arrive at New York on Easter Sunday, a season of reconciliation, good feeling, hope and resolution for fair dealing in the future. It is to be hoped that His Lordship calculated the sailing time of the vessel before he penned his missive.

THE ST. PAUL *Press* considers the nomination by the Chicago *Tribune* of Horace Greeley for Vice President "one of the curiosities of political mountebankism." It is only another scene in the political side shows now amusing the people all over the country. The venerable philosopher is reserved for a higher position than the Vice Presidency.

THE CHINESE PEOPLE in the neighborhood of Tientsin still endure terrible suffering, resulting in the death of thousands, from the effects of famine consequent on the destruction of the crops by river floods. The army was mutinous at one particular point, and, judging from the latest news, His Celestial Majesty does not progress near so comfortably as his neighbor the Mikado of Japan, who is engaged in giving beneficial effect to measures of public reform and for the attainment of a solid national advance.

THE CHICAGO *Tribune* thinks that the editors of the Louisville *Courier-Journal*, "might as well be republicans of the order of Greeley as to be democrats of their present stripe." The *Courier-Journal*, like the *Tribune*, is fond of gay colors—political organs, as it were, of the Dolly Varden pattern.

WITH ONLY A VOTE of three hundred and nineteen in New Hampshire, the labor reformers can hardly expect to carry the country in the next Presidential election. That number does not even come up to King David's Scriptural four hundred malcontents.

The International Meteorological Congress—A Second Brussels Conference.

The latest move in the scientific world is the proposed early calling of a grand International Congress of Meteorologists at Vienna. The distinguished men who have taken the initiative in this matter are Mr. Buchan, of Scotland, M. Dové, of Berlin, and Professor Buys Ballot, of the Royal Dutch Meteorological Society. Ever since the session of the famous Brussels Conference of 1852, held in the international interests of navigation and commerce and the systematic arrangement for deep sea and other researches, the value of such meetings for interchange of scientific opinion has been fully demonstrated. Professor Ballot, of Utrecht, in a circular distributed very widely, has just announced the outline of such subjects as require the special attention of the International Congress, and he suggests the propriety of meteorologists generally publishing in advance their views on the important subjects of discussion.

"Man is by nature a meteorologist," some one has said; but this very fact, if true, may explain the tardiness with which the weather has become a matter of scientific inquiry and rigid analysis; and the want is deeply felt of organized, co-operative and world-wide observations of the atmosphere in order to bring up meteorology to the standard of its sister sciences. In the decisions of such a body as it is proposed to convene at Vienna there will be many points in which, as Professor Ballot suggests, the old question—if Rome or Geneva shall impose their sceptre on the world—will be revived. But this is an objection to every effort for international co-operation in such labors, and may as well be met and overcome now as hereafter. The aerial ocean, now the subject of so much interest and investigation, is a complete mechanism, with phenomena

Distinct as the billows, yet one as the sea.

It is idle ever to hope to comprehend or discover its laws and idiosyncracies unless all nations can combine to some extent in synchronous reports, based upon similar readings of instruments of one pattern, giving results that are easily compared with each other and can be harmoniously charted. If discord threatens the deliberations of the Congress as to the prime meridian from whose time all observations are to be made—whether that of Berlin, Paris, Washington, Greenwich or St. Petersburg—it might be settled by taking the meridian of some island like that of Ferro, in mid ocean. Such difficulty, however, is not likely to arise, and the labors of the Congress will, no doubt, prove of the greatest utility to all the nations who are represented in it. In a very short space of time the United States has organized a Meteorological Office, which, in the avowed opinion of many foreign authorities, is already in advance of the older institutions of the kind in Europe. We are, of course, deeply interested in having our system extended over the whole field of meteorologic research, and our Signal Office, never quiet, is throwing out its Briarean hands in every direction for information of atmospheric phenomena. The United States was foremost in the proposition and support of the first Brussels Conference, and is ripe for the investigation of all such questions as are proposed for the Vienna Conference. M. Ballot may be regarded as the leader and pioneer in such matters in Europe, and he already has the earnest sympathy, as he will assuredly have the solid support, of our American meteorologists and government officials in all that concerns the welfare of true science. We wish him every possible success in immediately consummating the plans and fixing the time for the assembly of meteorologists at Vienna.

Italian Opera in New York—The Nilsson Revival.

This evening "Hamlet" will be repeated at the Academy, the last performance here of Nilsson and the Strakosch Italian Opera Company prior to their departure to fulfil a brief farewell engagement of four nights at Washington. The company then returning to New York a Nilsson matinée will be given at Wallack's Theatre on Saturday, April 6; but whether this special engagement is or is not to be the last of the public entertainments in New York of the sweet singer of Sweden prior to her departure for Europe we have yet to learn. At all events, her great American campaign, as a musical and financial success, is without a parallel, excepting only that of our first Swedish nightingale, Jenny Lind.

But the visit of Nilsson, in the revival, nay, in the resurrection, of the Italian Opera in New York, after it was supposed to be dead beyond recovery, has made a far deeper, more grateful and more enduring impression upon our musical world than that of any European operatic missionary to these shores. And how admirably this delicate young woman has borne all the hard work, all the trials of this rough winter, and all the fatigues of travel and of exposure to the sudden changes of our wintry climate, fulfilling, with an exception or two, every engagement in every place, through a period of many months, and always excelling in every *rôle* undertaken, we need not here recite. We regret that the day is fast approaching when she will leave us, but we hope before long to welcome her return. We dare say that if the Academy were capable of seating ten thousand people the standing room would be all appropriated this evening. On the 1st of April the Parepa-Wachtel-Santley Troupe open a new season with the "Trovatore."

CHANCELLOR LOWE'S BUDGET.—The British Treasury budget will be submitted to the House of Commons this evening by Chancellor of the Exchequer Lowe. It is thought that the project will contain a proposition for a reduction of two per cent on the income tax. This would make John Bull, senior and junior, in high glee for Easter Sunday, as it would enable the middle classes to put a good many more plums in the pudding, and thus cause the Parliament to come to the general debate of Mr. Lowe's measure in much better humor after the recess.

ASKS AN INDIANA journal—"How would it sound for a democrat to shout "Hurrah for Davis?" To which a republican editor responds—"Prefix 'Jeff' to it, and it would be the most natural sound in the world." It is just as likely that the democrats will shout "Jeff" as that they will sing songs of praise for "David."

Passion Thoughts from the Pulpits.

The anniversary of the most solemn event which the Christian Church commemorates is drawing near, and the hearts of the friends of Jesus are touched afresh with the remembrance of His love and of their obligations to Him. And those, too, who have no conscious interest in His salvation feel at such a season as this a solemnity and a thoughtfulness which they cannot account for. The story of the Saviour's bitter persecutions, His "agony and bloody sweat," His triumphal entry into Jerusalem amid the hosannas of the multitude and the rejoicings of those who had so oft and so eagerly listened to His words was repeated yesterday in many a Christian temple and home in this land. And it can never be read or heard thoughtfully and alone without producing a good effect upon the mind. In the Catholic and Protestant Episcopal churches especially the event was solemnly and appropriately observed. Dr. Rylance, in St. Mark's church, pictured the scenes which transpired on the road toward Jerusalem, and contrasted the changeful temper of the people, who, at the beginning of the week, had shouted hosanna to the Son of David, the King of Israel, and at the end cried as lustily for the release of Barrabas, the murderer, and for the crucifixion of Jesus. His whole course, as the Doctor remarked, showed unselfishness and a meek desire to bow to the will of the Father. The Rev. Dr. Friel well said, in the Church of St. Charles Borromeo, that we cannot dwell upon Christ's life and passion without giving our hearts and souls to Him. The contemplation of His death must be the sure pledge of our love to Him, which should never wither or decay, but be always green. It has been the greatest difficulty," said the reverend speaker, "for some to understand that there is a future to live for—a higher reward to be attained by man than the mere perishable things of earth." And yet men receive facts of smaller moment upon far less evidence. In the New England Congregational church, the Rev. Mr. Wright, of Boston, spoke touchingly about the manner of Christ's death, and the different stages of Christianity. He portrayed the spirit with which the Saviour bore all the cruel mockings and scourges, the insults and indignities that were heaped upon Him, and added that "it seems to be in human nature to mock the unfortunate." Whatever has been touched by Christ, he said, has been sanctified. The cross, until Christ died on it, was an emblem of infamy; now it is the pinnacle of churches, the ornament of woman. 1800 years ago all the men of learning mocked Jesus; a few women only worshipped Him, and they were deemed the maddest of the mad. Now whole continents confess His glory, and kneel before His throne.

Mr. Beecher got off some good things yesterday in his treatment of the use of the imagination in spiritual life and its relation to faith. Faith, he said, makes noble natures stand out populously in the heavenly land by awakening the affections of the heart. The imagination enlarges the range of our being; it gives a new power to man's thoughts, and by it we open up new possibilities and the imagination in the real sense is sanctified. Mr. Beecher familiarly illustrated the drudgery of daily life and brought out so fully and so pathetically the contrast between the present life and the future and the faith and imagination necessary to enable us to "endure as seeing Him who is invisible," that his audience was moved to tears and he himself almost broke down. Dr. E. G. Andrews encouraged St. John's Methodist Episcopal church, Brooklyn, to practise Christian self-sacrifice by setting before them the noble example of Jesus Christ, whose utter self-abnegation stood out in striking contrast with man's selfishness. The Doctor illustrated from nature the necessity for a vicarious atonement. An enlarged civilization, he added, is the result of the sacrifices of pioneer life, and the existence of a nation where the principles of liberty are conserved and enlarged, is the result of the sacrifice of thousands who stood the shock of battle to preserve their native land. Dr. Andrews showed that such a life of self-sacrifice conduced to the development of the noblest type of Christian manhood.

The character of Moses—a prophet whom the Lord knew face to face—was painted in glowing colors by the Rev. Mr. Backman for the Seventh street Methodist Episcopal church. He was a man of colossal character, who resisted all the corrupting influences around him in the Egyptian court and maintained his simplicity. The prominent traits in his character, as brought out by Mr. Backman, were his strong faith in God, his cheerful obedience, and his profound devotion to his work and his people and his wonderful benevolence. These traits were illustrated and elaborated. Mr. Hepworth had a tender word to say about the refreshing and restraining influences of home. In illustrating the ideal home of the soul he presented an old-fashioned thanksgiving dinner in a New England home, and said that nothing showed the enduring power of home life more than such a dinner. But he thought that in these days we are too civilized to have such a dinner. We don't care to see our aged parents, with ungloved hands and awkward gestures and bad grammar, sitting at our city tables. The importance of home life in giving inspiration to patriotism and to religion was ably set forth by Mr. Hepworth. Dr. Morrison preached in the Church of the Messiah on the elevating and ennobling power of religious truths, and illustrated his theme with many Scriptural incidents.

Very different was the sermon preached by Dr. Chapin, in the Academy of Music, Brooklyn, last evening, from some of the utterances made in that place since the meetings were begun there. There was none of the cant, and clap-trap and see-saw meaningless trash which has been at times delivered to the multitudes there in the name of the truth as it is in Jesus. It was a simple exposition of Christian prayer and Christian life, with Christ the ideal and the central figure of the soul. We can commend the discourse to those ministers among us who, as Dr. Chapin remarked, "sometimes in a critical mood" compare Christ and Socrates, and the comparison is sometimes made with the balance slightly in favor of the heathen philosopher. But, the preacher asked, how had Socrates moved men, or who had ever died with his name on their lips? Hundreds of thousands had been moved by Christ, and