

Judge Poland's Committee Diving Beneath the Surface.

INDIGNANT LEGISLATORS ON THE STAND. Statements by Senators Patterson and Wilson and Congressman Scofield, John Kelley and Bingham.

THE WILSON INVESTIGATION.

Durant's \$10,000 to Harlan for Political Purposes Generally.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16, 1873. Judge Poland's special committee to investigate the Credit Mobilier charges resumed its session this morning, and Glenn W. Scofield, of Pennsylvania, whose name has been mentioned in connection with the charges, appeared before the committee voluntarily and made the following statement under oath:—

MR. SCOFIELD'S STATEMENT. For many years I have been in the habit of investing in bonds and stocks, and, however small, I might have from year to year. In December, 1866, I bought of Mr. Ames some bonds of the Cedar Rapids and Missouri Railroad. In December, 1867, I bought of Mr. Ames some bonds of the Missouri Pacific Railroad. In December, 1868, I bought of Mr. Ames some bonds of the Credit Mobilier stock. He explained that it was a contract company incorporated under the laws of the State, and he would like to have some Pennsylvania in it. In a brief way he explained its objects. He said he would give me some stock at par and interest from some former period at my own risk, as he would guarantee that it would pay eight per cent if I would give him half the amount. I said I would not return until some days after New Year's. Some time after, when I met Mr. Ames and spoke about getting the money, he said he would give me the money in a few days. I did not give him the money he supposed I had abandoned it, and he thought it was all sold, but I could not get it. I did not give him the money and got it if he could. I gave him the money and took his receipt. This was the last of January. I subsequently learned that he had sold the stock, but it was in a larger block and he would have to get it divided. Either at this time, or soon after, I told him I had concluded not to take the stock. We talked for some time, and he agreed to take some of his railroad securities instead. Some balance was settled in money, and I gave him his receipt. This was during that same session of Congress. I do not recall any legislation pending or in prospect at that time that Mr. Ames was interested in.

PROCEEDINGS OF WILSON'S COMMITTEE.

Dr. Durant Continues His Tale of "Credit"—Two \$5,000 Checks Forwarded to Harlan for General Political Purposes Only, Not to Influence the Senatorial Election.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16, 1873. The Wilson Credit Mobilier Investigating Committee met this morning at eleven o'clock. The examination of T. C. Durant was resumed. He said the Boomer contract was \$27,500 per mile of railroad. The Union Pacific board of directors passed a resolution extending the Hoxie contract over these fifty-eight miles at \$50,000 a mile. This resolution was not carried into effect, the witness having protested and Judge Barnard having granted an injunction. The Board afterwards expunged his protest from the books and the resolution. If the resolution had been carried into effect the difference between \$27,500 and \$50,000 would have gone into the Credit Mobilier. These fifty-eight miles had been completed, were in running order and had been accepted by the government. Witness was examined as to the Williams protest. He said that the Williams protest was made on the 10th of March, 1867, for building 267 miles of railroad. Witness was asked if he had any knowledge of the fact that Durant covered a part of the road already constructed under previous contract.

GRAND REQUIEM AT THE DOMINICAN CHURCH.

Commemorating the Death of the Most Rev. Father Jandel, Master General of the Order of Preachers—A Solemn High Mass for the Soul of the Veteran Monk—Touching Ceremonies and Trembling Music.

To one soiling for the first time ceremonies for the dead performed according to the liturgy of the Roman Catholic Church the sight seems exceedingly novel, solemn and impressive, but never so much so as when performed in the convent church of the cowled monk. There the olden chains of bygone days are renewed. Their own sympathies are awakened to thought and pensiveness and our memories refreshed with real visions of the past.

THE CHEMICAL DISCOVERIES OF THE SPECTROSCOPE.

Lecture by Professor Barker, of Yale College, Before the American Institute.

The speaker had of the Cooper Union was comfortably filled last evening by a very intelligent audience, drawn together by the announcement that Professor G. F. Barker, of Yale College, would deliver the first of a course of scientific lectures, under the auspices of the American Institute. The eminent lecturer was introduced by Professor Tyndall. The discovery of the spectroscopic and the improved method it offered for chemical analysis were first treated. Of the simplicity of the construction was explained and how the spectrum was obtained. Light, its different colors and characters, and the manner of producing the refractive allusions made to the eye, and the nature of the spectrum. By the nature of the spectrum it can be easily told when a solid, liquid or gaseous substance is being examined. The speaker was accompanied by an assistant, Professor Barker showed on a canvas screen the construction of a spectroscope, enabling those present acquainted with it to better understand the subject under consideration. The Professor subsequently made several interesting and striking experiments, while the while clearly explaining the cause of results obtained, the audience finally departing in an exceedingly pleasant mood.

MUSICAL AND THEATRICAL NOTES.

Both Mme. Luca and Miss Kellogg were very successful during their Boston engagement.

Mr. Booth desires it to be understood that the story about his theatre passing into the hands of Jarrett & Palmer, of Niblo's Garden, is utterly without foundation.

Franz Liszt has refused to help the project of raising in Vienna a monument to Beethoven. He had been solicited to contribute a cantata and to appear in public.

Mr. S. Lazar announces a concert to take place at the Brooklyn Academy of Music on the 30th inst., in which Miss Clementine Lasar, Mr. S. B. Mills and Thomas' full orchestra will appear.

Miss Neilson began an engagement in Philadelphia on Monday evening, playing Juliet to a large and enthusiastic audience. Her success in that city has been very great, and the prospects are excellent for a most brilliant week.

Mr. Geo. Phillips (Geoffy Gook) and George W. Thompson returned to play in the middle of a performance at the Grand Opera House, in St. Louis, last Sunday night, because they had not been paid by the management, and the curtain fell without the piece being finished. It is not clear who is most to blame, out there seems to be fault on both sides.

M. Alexandre Dumas received from M. Steinitz, theatrical agent at Berlin, a letter asking for the right of having his next piece, "La Femme de Claude," represented in the Russian capital. He replied as follows:—

SIR—I have just received your letter of December 12, 1872, in which you offer me 8,000 francs to allow my new play to be performed in Berlin. Those terms are not sufficient for me. DUMAS (SON).

Why don't Mr. Offenbach take a hint from the Sandwich Islands? So many sensuous themes have employed his tropic-tempered pen that his fleshly concinnities must betray signs of giving out.

The kingdom of Hawaii is almost as big as the Grand Duchy of Gerolstein; and half-naked natives spangled with shells, and half-naked combers with mugs of desirable and landscapes teeming with fruit, and a brilliant-plumaged bird, would be just the locality for an Offenbachian libretto brimming with piquant prureries and accompanied with erotic music.

The Italian emigrants who have lately swarmed in our streets have excited a good deal of fatuous comment. We hope we are betraying no secret when we mention our suspicion that these swarthy waifs from the land of *dolce far niente* are surreptitious importations of the nonplussed Marezek, brought hither with a direct reference to Italian Opera chorists. Whether it be Mr. Marezek's intention to bring out "Fra Diavolo" in a style of splendor exceeding to use the language of the conventional advertisement "anything that has hitherto been seen upon the American stage," or whether he contemplates raising a new breed of chorus singers, which shall hold to the tobaccoists' wives of avenue A the same relation which the Woman of the Future shall hold to the Girl of the Period, we are not prepared to say.

Even the hands of the Hibernian Boucicaut are affected with the Darwin epidemic. We understand that next season, at the Olympic Theatre, in this city, a play is to be produced founded upon Edgar Allan Poe's grotesque horror, "The Murders in the Rue Morgue," and having its principal character, rendered, interpreted by an educated actor. There is a quadrumanous propriety in this. Humanity years after its original elements, and we listen reverently to the woes of apes and monkeys, and on the other hand we are only a little higher than the apes; and Mr. Boucicaut, having sucked all the meat out of the egg of French drama, and having, in "Kerry" and "Shaun the Post," created Irish characters that Erin will not willingly let die, and having, in "Formosa," given us speaking likeness of the Cora Pearls and Mabel Greys of Paris and London, does wisely in turning his industry into a new channel, and endeavoring to elevate us by placing before us our despised ancestor in the light of a new dramatic sensation.

THE FERRYBOAT NORTHFIELD, WITH 700 PASSENGERS, PLAYS BILLIARDS WITH THE STONE PIER ON THE BATTERY AND SMASHES THIRTY GRANITE PILLARS—COLLISIONS ON THE OTHER FERRIES AND AMONG THE SHIPPING.

Related pedestrians traversing the streets of this city and Brooklyn at an early hour as two o'clock yesterday morning were struck with bewildered astonishment to find themselves suddenly enveloped in a dense fog that came down upon them, rendering everything obscure at a distance of a few feet from the line of vision.

It was a "thundering," intense London fog—a blinding, heavy fog; a fog almost as thick as pea soup, and as impenetrable as the armor of a wizard. It filled every niche and open and hollow space and clothed the silent sleeping city with an enormous opaque funeral pall. In the streets and alleys, the gas lamps glowed and a window was left open in a dwelling the blinding mist marched into the spaces of sleeping chambers in filmy but concentrated volumes.

At sea in the vicinity of Sandy Hook and inside the bar and in the Lower and Upper bays the terrible fog rendered the passage of vessels very dangerous, and collisions were numerous, but, so far as yet known, no lives have been lost. Old and experienced seamen, who have navigated for twenty-five and thirty years in and out of the harbor of New York, were puzzled to find their bearings, and, to make matters worse, many of the most important compasses have been washed from their moorings or floated off in the dense masses of movable ice during the late violent and stormy weather.

Between seven and eight o'clock yesterday morning the ferries and Upper bay was almost impassable to vessels. The different steamships and ferryboats, as well as the larger steamers, were creeping this way and that way on the surface of the North and East rivers or in the Upper Bay like a number of intoxicated individuals returning home from a late dinner. Fog and alarm whistles were shrieking and singing in the most demoralized manner and filling the air with their sound.

The amount of profanity and bad language expended by steamboat captains and their subordinate officers in getting matters to rights was something to frighten one. The signal lights burned dimly, and looked hoodwinked and wan.

THE FERRYBOAT COLLISION. In the vicinity of the great grinding of dislocated timbers seemed to involve an utterance of thousands of marine and steaming oaths. The yawning, broken, splintered timbers, the rattling of the deckboards and the screams of passengers awoke on the steamers—which were bound to New York—from their restless sleep.

Some of the pilots yesterday morning on the ferry boats, while impelling their craft, behaved in what would be considered a very bad manner.

AN AQUEOUS BILLIARD MATCH. A serious accident befell the Staten Island ferry boat yesterday morning. She was very crowded, having on board seven or eight hundred persons of both sexes, who were about to attend the morning session of the court in the city hall. The ferry boat, which was bound to New York, was struck by the Northfield, which was bound to New York, and the two boats collided.

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THE CITY BEFOGGED.

she was sinking, but he was providently prevented from embarking on the disabled boat lying in a life preserver by his friends on board.

The Harlem boats did not make any trips to the north, when the fog was very dense, but during the morning hours landed their passengers at Eight and Eleventh streets, East River, much to their relief.

THE SOUTH STAMEN NARRAGANSETT had some billiards also an early hour in the morning. As matters before seven o'clock she ran with frightful force into pier 12, dislodging an instant ten or twelve feet of the woodwork on the end of the pier were carried away by the concussion. The damage done was proceeding. The damage to the dock was about \$100,000, and the damage to the Narragansett was about the same, but when a Herald reporter called on the captain on the disabled boat lying in pier 28 North River last evening for information he was told gruffly that it was a mere reality, and that there was no damage done whatever. These were the kind of answers given to the Herald reporter yesterday in his muffled and slippy fog of investigation. There was no damage done to the Narragansett, but what was done in twenty years there has not probably been a day during which so MANY LIVES WERE RECKLESSLY AND WANTONLY

as there was yesterday from seven o'clock in the morning until noon. On the bridge street ferry boat the first boat did not reach the New York side until noon. There was no damage done to the Catharine street ferry owing to the wretched character of the boat, but on the Wall street ferry matter went very smoothly, and there were no collisions.

THE MAIL DELAYED. The fog and the slippery character of the rails did somewhat to delay the transmission of the mails. The Erie mail, which was due at seven o'clock yesterday morning, had not arrived at eleven o'clock. The same was the case with the city—as all our citizens are aware—were in a most horrible condition, and lakes of liquid slush were being run down the streets. The water was black, and at every crossing and intersection of streets—particularly down town, where the traffic was dense. It was a dismal day; and, though it may suit Londoners, it would never do for New York.

THE FOG IN BROOKLYN. The dense fog yesterday morning had the effect, as usual, of interrupting the travel at the ferries, and the streets leading to them were blocked with vehicles. There were farmers, grocers, butchers, milkmen and peddlers, all waiting for their turn to cross the river; but the trips of the boats were so slow that the patience of the men was worn out, and the wish that the bridge was completed was nearly mad.

A COLLISION ON THE RIVER. Yesterday morning the ferryboats Columbia and Hamilton collided with considerable force near the slip. Some of the passengers were thrown down, but no one was injured. It was found that the boat being the Hamilton, and the engine being displaced and her bow stove in. She was taken to the shipyard for repairs.

A HUMOROUS VIEW OF THE FOG. To THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

On Thursday morning the steamboat Northfield left Edgewater, Staten Island, in the fog at eight o'clock, with six or eight hundred passengers for New York, and after carefully "following her nose" about two hours, struck against her own pier at foot of Whitehall street, New York. The fog was so dense that those on deck could not recognize friends four yards distant. So it being uncertain whether it were New York or an iceberg that the boat struck, the captain ordered the vessel to be struck on the battery wall, knocking down two or three of the solid stone pillars. This was not a laughing matter, and the captain, who was not to be said by some to be a *brave* man, by whom the boat was brought to where she was "brought to," the battery, we learn, left more injured than the boat by being the Jersey boats on any of the ferries connecting the city with the suburbs pretended to make their regular trips. It was found impossible to maintain any safety to the passengers or the boats themselves.

SOME OF THE PILOTS YESTERDAY MORNING on the ferry boats, while impelling their craft, behaved in what would be considered a very bad manner.

AN AQUEOUS BILLIARD MATCH. A serious accident befell the Staten Island ferry boat yesterday morning. She was very crowded, having on board seven or eight hundred persons of both sexes, who were about to attend the morning session of the court in the city hall. The ferry boat, which was bound to New York, was struck by the Northfield, which was bound to New York, and the two boats collided.

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