

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

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Volume XXXVIII, No. 283

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

- THEATRE COMIQUE, No. 514 Broadway.—Variety Entertainment.
NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway, between Prince and Houston st.—The Black Crook.
WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and Thirtieth street.—Barber's Hair.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, Eighth av. and Twenty-third street.—Italian Opera.—La Favorita.
ACADEMY OF MUSIC, 14th street and Irving place.—Tasso.—Fazio.
MRS. F. B. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE.—The Merry Widow.
UNION SQUARE THEATRE, Union square, near Broadway.—The General.
WOODS MUSEUM, Broadway, corner Thirtieth street and Houston st.—Afternoon and evening.
BOOTH'S THEATRE, Sixth av. and Twenty-third st.—The Merry Widow.
NEW LYCEUM THEATRE, 14th st. and 6th av.—The Merry Widow.
METROPOLITAN THEATRE, 383 Broadway.—Variety Entertainment.
BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—The Merry Widow.
BROADWAY THEATRE, 78 and 79 Broadway.—The Merry Widow.
OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway, between Houston and Bleecker st.—Madame Angot's Child.
TERRACE GARDEN THEATRE, 36th st. between Lexington and 34 av.—Dahl Heute.
PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn, opposite City Hall.—The Merry Widow.
TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, No. 231 Bowery.—Variety Entertainment.
GERMANIA THEATRE, 11th street and 51 avenue.—Die Baendler.
STADT THEATRE, 45 and 47 Bowery.—German Opera.—Merry Widow of Windsor.
ROBINSON HALL, Sixteenth street.—The Royal Matinee at 3.
BYRANT'S OPERA HOUSE, Twenty-third st., corner Sixth av.—Negro Minstrelsy, &c.
BOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, Court street, Brooklyn.—San Francisco Minstrelsy.
AMERICAN INSTITUTE PATH, 31 av., between 63d and 64th st.—Afternoon and evening.
NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, No. 618 Broadway.—Science and Art.
DR. KAHN'S MUSEUM, No. 68 Broadway.—Science and Art.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Friday, October 10, 1873.

THE NEWS OF YESTERDAY.

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THE EVANGELICAL CONFERENCE.—The discussions of the three divisions of the Evangelical Conference yesterday covered an unusual variety of interesting subjects. The general topic at Association Hall was on "Christianity and Civil Government," at St. Paul's Methodist church it was "Christianity and Liberty," at the Church of the Disciples it was "Ministerial Support," the discussions in each place embracing several discourses on different branches of the main question. See our reports in another part of this paper.

Report of the Commissioners of Accounts on the City Finances—An Alarming Disclosure of Debt, Irregularity and Incompetency.
The city charter provides for the appointment by the Mayor of two persons to hold office during his pleasure, who, with the President of the Department of Taxes and Assessments, shall be Commissioners of Accounts; whose duty it shall be once in three months, or oftener, if they deem it proper, to examine all vouchers and accounts in the offices of the Comptroller and Chamberlain, and to publish a detailed statement of the financial condition of the city. In accordance with this provision Mayor Havemeyer some time ago appointed two competent gentlemen, Mr. George Bowland and Mr. Lindsay I. Howe, as such Commissioners, and to-day we publish the first report they have made, in connection with Tax Commissioner John Wheeler, of the result of their examination of the affairs of the Finance Department. Although the present report covers only the condition of the bonded and funded debt of the city, it will be found of great importance to the taxpayers. It emphasizes what we have long ago declared—that the Finance Department of the city government under its present management is becoming involved in inextricable confusion; that the manner of keeping the public accounts evinces gross incompetency; that the periodical statements put forth by the Comptroller have not made a correct exhibit of our financial condition, and that the people have been effectually, if not designedly, kept in ignorance of the actual amount of the city's liabilities. We regret to add that the report also brings to light some facts which are calculated to shake the public faith in the integrity as well as in the capacity of the Finance Department, and to excite the suspicion that, whatever confidence may be felt in the personal honesty of the Comptroller, we are not yet wholly secure from those practices which two years ago so thoroughly aroused the indignation of the people.
In introducing their plain and concise report the Commissioners of Accounts state that they designed to lay before the taxpayers in a compact form the actual funded and floating debt of the city, so that we might be enabled to understand correctly the total amount of our liabilities. But the embarrassments they have met, and the fact that they have been compelled to wade through a mass of disarranged and confused papers reaching as far back as the year 1840, before they could certify to the issues of bonds now in existence, have prevented them from making, at this time, an investigation of the floating debt. While the Commissioners are reticent in regard to the nature of the "embarrassments," we have reason to believe that they arose from the disinclination of the Comptroller to submit the transactions of the Finance Department to their scrutiny, and we are compelled to regard this opposition to a legal examination as implying either a sense of the improper management of the department or a desire to cover up particular acts of a questionable character. The Commissioners, while abstaining from any insinuation against the integrity of the Finance Department, do not hesitate to condemn its system of keeping accounts and to urge the necessity of a reform which shall throw greater safeguards than at present exist around this important branch of the city government.
The total bonded and funded debt of the city and county outstanding on July 1, 1873, is stated by the Commissioners as amounting to \$136,008,961. This includes the debt payable from the sinking fund and from taxation, the "temporary" debt, the city and county revenue bonds, amounting to a little over \$16,000,000, and the county stocks and bonds. In making his deceptive debt statements the Comptroller has excluded the amounts which he has chosen to classify as "temporary debt," amounting to over \$20,000,000. There is no reason why these amounts should be so classified. They comprise assessments, many of which have been, and others which, doubtless, will be, vacated, and Central Park and other improvement bonds, which have to be paid by the city, and are actual debt. The only pretence for calling these sums "temporary debt" is that they fall due within a short period; but they are as much a part of the city indebtedness as a business man's acceptances which happen to be payable within one or two months are a part of his liabilities. The startling fact is brought to light, then, that the city and county debt, exclusive of revenue bonds and floating debt, was on August 1 last, in round numbers, \$120,000,000. The floating debt is estimated on good authority to be not less than \$11,000,000, and if we allow only \$4,000,000 increase since August 1 we have before us as the result of Comptroller Green's financial policy the alarming amount of \$135,000,000 of city and county indebtedness.
Unfortunately the reckless increase of the public debt under "reform" rule is not the most alarming of the disclosures made by the report. Two suspicious matters are brought to light which require to be cleared up without delay. The dishonest acts of the Tammany officials in the Comptroller's office are yet too fresh in the public mind to permit of any further tampering with the city finances. The people demand that the management of their money by those who have taken possession of it under loud professions of honesty shall be free from even the shadow of a suspicion of dishonesty. The Commissioners of Accounts state that there is a deficiency of \$94,000 in the securities belonging to the sinking fund. The amount which ought to be in that fund is \$23,332,646. When the securities were examined, it was discovered that a number of them to the value of \$94,000 were missing from the box in the Comptroller's office in which, singularly enough, they had been deposited. An investigation of the records shows that the missing bonds are in sums of from \$2,000 to \$25,000 each. They are eight in number, and of various character, as designated in the report. There appears to be no possibility of a mistake about this matter. The records show that these bonds should be held by the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, and they are not to be found in their possession. What has become of them? The sinking fund securities, amounting to over \$23,000,000, are kept in the Comptroller's office in a box which could be easily carried away. Why are they not deposited with the legal custodian of the city's treasury, the Chamber-

lain? Why are they not placed securely in the vault of a depository bank? The people will demand an instant explanation of this suspicious matter—an immediate clearing up of this mystery. The Comptroller's Office is filled with the employes of Connolly, with men trained in the school of Watson. These employes were all legislated out of office by the charter on the 1st day of last May. They have never been reappointed by Comptroller Green as required by the charter, and hence are not officers of the city government. Any one of them might be guilty of malfeasance and defy the consequences, for they are not legally city officials. With these facts before them the people have a right to insist upon the production of the missing bonds or the prompt suspension and subsequent removal of the Comptroller. If any explanation can be made, if the Commissioners are in error, if the bonds have been legally taken from the sinking fund and disposed of in any way, we must know the fact at once, and the proof must be clear and indisputable. The department which oppresses the just creditor of the city and causes unnecessary distress to the laboring classes cannot afford to remain for a single day under the suspicion of a loss of \$94,000 of the public treasure. The statement of the Commissioners of Accounts is distinct. There should be in the custody of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund \$23,332,000, according to the records of the Finance Department. There is in their possession only \$23,238,000. On scrutinizing the accounts eight bonds are found charged as being held by them, which are missing from the box in which all their securities are deposited. These bonds amount in the total to the exact discrepancy—namely, \$94,000. We repeat that the apparent defalcation must be cleared up before to-morrow morning, and if this should not be done Mayor Havemeyer will be held responsible by the people if he do not take immediate steps for the protection of the public treasury.
Another development which we trace in the report is open to grave suspicion. It bears upon its face the impress of official looseness, if not of official dishonesty. On March 23, 1872, the sum of \$100,000, made by resolution taken from the Sinking Fund for the use of the city government, to be replaced by a city bond for the same amount, which bond the Comptroller was authorized to issue in one sum. No bond appears bearing that date; but a bond for the amount, \$100,000, issued on June 21, 1873, is found in the sinking fund, to make up the sum taken out of the fund on March 23, 1872. For one year and three months, therefore, as it would appear, the Sinking Fund must have been left with a deficiency of one hundred thousand dollars, and must have lost the interest on that amount. But the Commissioners of accounts do not go far enough. They should examine and report whether any interest on such a bond was actually paid between March, 1872, and June, 1873. If so, where was the bond in the interval, and why was it replaced by a new bond just at the time the Commission was appointed and an investigation of the Sinking Fund securities was anticipated? Under the old régime, we might suspect that the bond had been issued, and, instead of being placed in the Sinking Fund, had been used for illegitimate purposes. With money worth sixteen per cent per annum, the snug sum of twenty-two thousand dollars in interest might have been realized from the amount of one hundred thousand dollars in fifteen months. A bond that had been hypothecated would bear evidence of its hypothecation upon its face and could not have been placed among the Sinking Fund securities without exposing the fact. Of course no such suspicion could attach to the present Comptroller, but why do the Commissioners of Accounts stop short, and fail to tell us whether the interest on a one hundred dollar bond, alleged to be in the Sinking Fund, was paid between March, 1872, and June, 1873? Mayor Havemeyer should call upon them for this information. If the interest was paid, by what right was it paid on a bond not in existence? If it was not paid, by what right was the Sinking Fund, a sacred trust, deprived of the interest?
The condition of the Finance Department is now officially before the people. Its management is shown in the Commissioners' report; it needs no comment from us—bonds issued for millions of dollars, without check or registration, merely by the filling up and signing of a sheet of paper; accounts covering millions entered in blotters, no ledgers kept, and bonds, vouchers and claims only to be traced by wading through piles of confused documents; payments and cancellations simply marked in red ink against the various sums wherever they happen to be entered; bonds of the same issue for the same amounts, bearing the same numbers, and thus rendered untraceable. This is a specimen of the financial ability which has rolled up our debt to its present enormous proportions, and which renders it almost impossible to trace out how much we really owe in the shape of unsettled claims. It is time that the city should be protected by some means against the consequences of this gross incompetency in its financial management, and should have some enterprise and capacity infused into its government. While our debt and taxation are increasing our unfinished works of public improvement are abandoned and going to ruin, and the progress of the city is checked. These are the results of political reform. It will be well for the people now to take the matter into their own hands and secure a reform that will be independent of the politicians.
A SINGULAR CELEBRATION.—Chicago is a singular city. It is remarkable for its marriages and its divorces, for its sensation stories, its house-raising and its rats. Yesterday it was engaged in "celebrating," by a holiday, music, flag-flying and general rejoicing, the anniversary of the conflagration from which it suffered so severely two years ago. A Western paper tells of a man who had settled down in a neighboring village for six or seven years, and was noted for his quiet, sober manners. But it was observed that on one particular day of each year he put off his customary sedateness, put on his best clothes, took a holiday, gave himself up to fun and frolic and generally ended in retiring to bed in his boots. An inquiry into the reason of his curious conduct disclosed the fact that the day thus set apart for a private celebration was the anniversary of his wife's death. That man must have hailed from Chicago.

The Trial of Marshal Bazaine.
It is now three years since the French Empire collapsed, and since Marshal Bazaine, surrendering to the German foe, committed the offence for which he now stands upon his trial. The trial has for some reason, wise or unwise, just or unjust, been deferred until the present, and it promises to be quite as protracted as it is likely to be interesting.
In the Herald of this morning we print an instructive letter from the pen of one of our correspondents in Paris on the subject. The letter gives some points of detail which have not yet been made public through the press, and which, it is reasonable to presume, are not generally known on this side of the Atlantic. For this reason it well deserves to be read. From the nature of the charge it appears that Bazaine may, if found guilty, be sentenced to degradation and death, or dismissed from the service with or without degradation. The Marshal, therefore, does not stand between the sole ultimates of death or acquittal, as has commonly been supposed. He may be simply dismissed from the service. What the actual result of the trial may be it is, of course, at present simply impossible to say. Many rumors point to the possibility of the extreme sentence. If found guilty of the charge as the charge is made, the sentence must be severe, and a large section of the French army and people would no doubt be satisfied to see Bazaine punished as a traitor to his country. It is reasonable, however, to conclude that the milder sentence will be at once more generally well pleasing to the French people and more in harmony with the personal feelings of the judges. For a sketch of the judges we refer our readers to our correspondent's letter. Of the seven judges, of whom the Duc d'Aumale is President, only two, according to our correspondent, are likely to declare emphatically against Bazaine. The other five, it is confidently expected, will put the most favorable construction on the acts of the Marshal. It is not at all impossible that the progress of the trial may put a new aspect on the whole case. Still these opinions, from a well informed witness on the spot, are not without considerable weight.
In our judgment Bazaine has one justifiable cause of complaint. His trial has been too long deferred. There has been no necessary reason for the delay, so far as the ends of justice were concerned. It does seem as if it had been delayed for political reasons, and in order to serve a political purpose. It will not be difficult in the course of the trial, to expose certain weak points in the imperial edifice, and so explain the suddenness of its fall and the consequent misfortunes of France. It would not be wonderful if this is the reason why the trial, so long delayed, has been brought on at this particular juncture. Well laid schemes have oftentimes failed, and it would not be wonderful if failure resulted from this one. Bazaine may perish through the tyranny of the dominant party. But Bazaine may live to have his acts approved by a more generous generation. Let us hope that justice will prevail; but let us hope, also, that justice will be tempered with mercy.
Our Colored Republicans and Their Demands.
At the meeting in this city, the other evening, of the colored republicans of this State, it was decided that they are still politically isolated and denied their rights, and are still in a great measure denied employment in skilled and unskilled labor, and opportunities to acquire mechanical skill, and offices of trust in the civil and military service of the country; and that they, therefore, are resolved to maintain their separate district and State organizations; and that, aggrieved at the neglect of the claims of the colored people by the republican party, these colored men will hereafter be governed by higher motives than the success of the republican ticket; and that, inasmuch as the Civil Rights bill of this State has proved a failure, they will petition the next Congress to pass a proper and efficient law that will protect all the citizens of the United States in their rights; and that, meantime, we, the colored citizens of New York, endorse the call of the Pennsylvania Civil Rights League for a national convention to meet in Washington on the 12th of December next. From all this it is evident that our colored citizens intend to hold the republican party to its contract with them, and that, if they are still to be put off with fine words which butter no parsnips, these colored men are at least resolved to know the reason why. They do not intend to serve much longer as mere hewers of wood and drawers of water, with no thanks for their labor. The republican party will please take notice, or abide by the consequences.
More Bad Indians—An Order to Strike the Cheyennes.
The Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Mr. E. P. Smith, has, from Fort Hill, in the Indian Territory, advised the Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Delano, that the severe measures deemed necessary with the Comanches out there make it very important that the Cheyennes, raiding near Pueblo, should be struck and destroyed or captured. The Commissioner thinks that if these freebooting Comanches are struck a vigorous blow the other tribes of the Indian Territory will be restrained from joining them. In reply to this proposition to strike the raiding Cheyennes Secretary Delano informs Mr. Smith that orders have been given by the War Department to strike them near Pueblo as soon as possible.
In the cause of humanity this action of the War Office, we think, cannot be too strongly commended. The government has some three hundred thousand Indians upon its hands, all west of the Mississippi, with the exception of a few small bands, and distributed (all but a few wild tribes) on reservations, mostly of great extent, from Minnesota to Oregon, and from the northern boundary of Dakota to the Mexican border of Arizona. Our red men on these reservations are necessarily left to a great extent as upon their parole of honor, and when they violate it and leave their reservations to try their luck upon the war-path, in the pursuit of drovers and their herds of cattle, and of emigrant trains, and of the scalps of frontier white settlers, these "bad Indians" should be promptly and soundly thrashed into submission. Hence we heartily approve the order from the War Department to "strike the raiding Cheyennes near Pueblo as soon as possible," not only as the imper-

ious chastisement of these defiant Cheyennes may prevent a bloody war in the Indian Territory.
PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE
J. H. Ramsey, of Albany, is at the Windsor.
Wm. W. H. Hunt, of New Orleans, is at the New York Hotel.
Judge W. F. Allen, of the Court of Appeals, is at the Windsor.
Commodore Luman, United States Navy, is at the Clarendon Hotel.
Captain M. Sicard, United States Navy, yesterday arrived at the Astor Hotel.
Assistant Adjutant General Stonehouse, of Albany, is at the Astor Hotel.
Secretary Richardson and Comptroller Knox have returned to Washington.
Governor Kellogg is on his way to New Orleans from this city, by way of Chicago.
Chancellor John V. L. Pruyn, of Albany, has quarters at the Brevoort House.
Ex-Governor Horatio Seymour arrived at the St. Nicholas Hotel yesterday from Utica.
Rear Admiral C. H. Davis yesterday arrived at the Brevoort House from Washington.
Professor Spencer F. Baird, of the Smithsonian Institute, is staying at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.
Ex-Lieutenant Governor Winchester, of Connecticut, is registered at the St. Nicholas Hotel.
Indian Commissioner George H. Stuart, of Philadelphia, has apartments at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.
Lord Amberley, Earl Russell's son, is to contest Monmouth borough at the next general election in England.
A Miss Sturge is a candidate of the Birmingham (England) Liberal Association for member of the School Board.
Professor Peirce, of the United States Coast Survey, yesterday returned to the Brevoort House from Washington.
Thomas Reynolds, President of the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Railroad Company, of Canada, is staying at the Giltsey House.
A Southern writer says that Northern men believe no man can be a gentleman unless he is able to steal a million dollars.
Sergeant Hoff, whose bravery during the siege of Paris is well known, has been appointed guardian of the Vendome Column.
Monsieur Capet thinks that Catholics are bound to oppose progress only so far as science may conflict with their faith and revelation.
Father O'Keefe, the mutinous parish priest of Callan, Ireland, has submitted to the Bishop of his diocese and thus ended a celebrated controversy.
Dr. Nealon, the lately deceased French surgeon, showed, in his school days, the nerve firmness necessary in his future profession by dissecting leaves with a penknife, so as to exhibit the perfect skeletons.
The Archbishop of Paris, the Journal des Debats thinks, would be the Peter the Hermit of a series of new crusades if the monarchy were restored in France.
Jefferson Davis is suggested for the Chancellorship of the University of Georgia, vice Dr. A. A. Lipcomb, who proposes to resign. Jeff ought to be able to "teach the young idea how to shoot."
MOVEMENTS OF THE PRESIDENT.
BALTIMORE, Oct. 9, 1873.
President Grant, with Secretary of War Belknap, Postmaster General Crosswell and General Babcock, visited the Maryland State Agricultural Fair at Pimlico today. During the afternoon the Presidential party occupied the judges' stand witnessing the trotting contest. The party left at five o'clock.
ITALIAN OPERA.
"Lucia di Lammermoor" in New York and Brooklyn Last Night—The Strakosch and Maretzke Troupes Interpreting the History of the Bride of Lammermoor at the Same Time.
"Lucia," since its first production at Naples, nearly forty years ago, under the direction of the composer, has held a high position in popularity by reason of its intense dramatic situations, which give to the prima donna and tenor ample opportunities to create a furor. Persiani and Duprez were the first Lucia and Edgardo, and after them came an illustrious line of artists in these roles. Lucy Ashton has been represented by Jenny Lind, Dolores Man, Catherine Hayes, Sontag, Gazzaniga, Prezzolini and Nilsson, and the principal Edgards have been Rubini, Sims Reeves, Fraschini, Mario and Brignoli. Despite the defects in the instrumentation of this opera, which is so noisy in some scenes that it nullifies the dramatic character of the vocal parts, this is considered as one of the best of Donizetti's works. There are some exquisite numbers in it, and it would be difficult to match in Italian opera the grand concerted vocal piece, in the bridal scene, the "sette. 'Ch'i mi frena." Although founded on Scott's novel, the librettist, Cammarano, has widely departed from the original, and little of the history of the unhappy Bride of Lammermoor may be gleaned from the three acts of the opera. In this opera, in which the American public always take an interest, two companies appeared last night—that of Mr. Strakosch, at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, and that of Mr. Maretzke, at the Grand Opera House. The criticisms on these performances, which are set below, will give a fair idea of the calibre of the two companies, and will demonstrate the fact that New York—Brooklyn being a suburb—has become one of the operatic capitals of the world.
THE STRAKOSCH COMPANY IN "LUCIA."
Brooklyn, never enthusiastic over opera or music of any description, with the exception, perhaps, of congregational singing, furnished the manager last night at her Academy with something less than half a house. Our friends across the water prefer coming to New York, it seems, for their amusements. They missed, in consequence, last evening a very enjoyable, even performance, which, without possessing any extraordinary feature, was eminently satisfactory in its principal points. The first of the cast that calls for attention in priority of appearance was Signor Del Pante, who was the representative of the vindictive Henry Ashton—a rather queer departure from the photo of the novel. His "amiable" feelings towards the Master of Ravenswood were expressed in the opening aria, "Cruda, inmosta smia," in a full, well cultivated voice, but without any perceptible expression. In the "Ja pleia de in sub favore" he rendered the voice compensated, to a great extent, for the absence of fervor. After the beautiful harp solo which precedes the first appearance of Lucia Mlle. Torriani was heard in the aria which Jenny Lind once made famous, but which since her day has been lightly dealt with by prime donne. This is "Regnava silenziosa," the instrumentation of which is of a mixed nature in the combination of reeds and strings, and is not agreeable. Mlle. Torriani then sang the florid "Quando rapita in estasi" with ease and smoothness, showing considerable powers of execution, a young, fresh voice, capable also of emotional effect. Her appearance is very prepossessing and her acting graceful, although her youth does not allow of her reaching that higher plane on which the great Lucias of operatic history stand.
The duets, "Sulla tomba" and "Verrano li s'illaura," which form the leading features of the first act, were given, the former with delicacy and grace and the latter with spirit and energy, by the Mlle. Torriani and Signor Campanini. The high Mlle. Torriani of the tenor at the conclusion of the 1st act sang out with a clearness of tone and a force of delivery that roused even the apathetic as a slumberer. The scene between Lucia and her betrothed in the second act, where he persuades her to marry the Master of Ravenswood, was on the part of the Mlle. Torriani, who really fine voice lacks, as yet, the fiery fire of the lyric artist. The gem of the sacred fire of the lyric artist, given in each part opera, was being particularly brilliant and effective. The acting of Campanini in this scene, and the sweetness and sweetness, even in quality of tone, of the tenor, were of a passionate expression of love, was the predominant feature. The Mlle. 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