

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

Volume XXXIX. No. 7

ANNOUNCEMENTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING

ROBERTY THEATRE. Bowery—MAZEPPA, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Miss Kate Fisher.

METROPOLITAN THEATRE. 235 Broadway—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, at 7:45 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

NIBLO'S GARDEN. Broadway, between Prince and Houston streets—ROMEO JAFFER JEWELRY, at 9 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Yokio Family, Mr. Ledigwell.

WOODS MUSEUM. Broadway, corner Third street—HUSBAND TO WIFE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M. STREETS OF NEW YORK, at 11 P. M.; closes at 12 P. M.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE. Eighth avenue and Twenty-third street—HUMPTY DUMPTY ABROAD, at 7:45 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Mr. G. L. Fox.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE. Twenty-ninth street and Broadway—MAY AND WIFE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Mrs. Harline, Miss Ada Lyas.

MRS. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE. Washington street, Brooklyn—LITTLE SUNSHINE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Miss Lillian Conway.

WALLACK'S THEATRE. Broadway and Third street—A MAN OF HONOR, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Mr. Lester Wallack, Miss Annie Deland.

BROTH'S THEATRE. Sixth avenue and Twenty-third street—KIT OR THE ARKANSAS TRAVELLER, at 7:45 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mr. F. S. Chandrau, Miss Bella Pasternak.

OLYMPIC THEATRE. Broadway, between Houston and Spiveker streets—GABRIEL GORR, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Majilton-Saynor Family, Matinee at 3 P. M.

BROOKLYN PARK THEATRE. Opposite City Hall, Brooklyn—JOHN GARTH, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Miss Annie Fermis, Mr. John Jack.

STEINWAY HALL. Fourteenth street—MAUREL-WIENIAWSKI CONCERT, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M. ANNETTE EDLIN CONCERT, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:15 P. M.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE. No. 20 Broadway—GUILTY ENTERTAINMENT, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.

BYRANT'S OPERA HOUSE. Twenty-third street, corner of Sixth avenue—CINDERELLA IN HEAVEN, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. MISS MARY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M.

ROBINSON HALL. Sixteenth street—MAGICAL ENTERTAINMENT AND LAUGHING GAS, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

BAIN HALL. Great Jones street, corner Lafayette place—THE PILGRIM, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

DR. KAHN'S MUSEUM. No. 63 Broadway—SCIENCE AND ART.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Wednesday, January 7, 1874.

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LEGAL BUSINESS YESTERDAY—THE GREVENING NEW YEAR'S HOMICIDE—SANITARY STATUS OF NEW YORK.—ELEVENTH PAGE.

POLITICS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE.—The New Hampshire Republican State Convention meets in Concord to-day and the democratic to-morrow. They can hardly be called a band of brothers, although the intense political feuds of former years may be said to be in a great measure extinguished.

TEXAS UNITED STATES SENATOR.—Ex-Postmaster General (Confederate) John H. Reagan aspires to represent the State of Texas in the United States Senate. His disabilities have been removed, but the whole machinery of the State seems to be in a disabled condition just at present.

The Governor's Message—An Encouraging Report and Some Important Recommendations.

The Message of Governor Dix, which we spread before our readers this morning, gives a cheerful report of the operations of our State government for the year 1873 and an encouraging outlook for 1874. A firm believer in a superintending Providence over the affairs of men and nations, he thus introduces himself in his address to the Senate and the Assembly:—"At the close of another year of uninterrupted health, prosperity, abundance and peace, the fervid expression of our thankfulness is due to Almighty God for these signal manifestations of His favor. While in portions of our sister States a destructive pestilence has desolated hundreds of households, our own has been mercifully spared." This is a grateful recognition of the Sovereign Source of all our blessings, and here we have, too, a grateful expression of sympathy touching the sufferings of our sister States.

The Governor next boldly ventures upon an endorsement of the settlement of the Virginian affair, in the following terms:—"Through the friendly relations of the United States with a European Power were for a time endangered by an infringement of our international rights the peril has been happily averted by a combination of firmness and forbearance which always becomes a powerful government." A handsome compliment this to Mr. Fish; but what a mockery is made of it by the official correspondence on this Virginian imbroglio! But the Governor is quite as enthusiastic in his hopes for Spain as in his admiration of the *facies* of Mr. Fish. He says:—"There is ground for hope that the ancient nation, which, with a less prudent hearing on our part, might now have been at war with us, may occupy on the other side of the Atlantic, sustained by our sympathy and kind offices, the same position which we hold in the Western Hemisphere as a representative of free institutions." This was written, perhaps, before the overthrow of Castelar and the expulsion of the Spanish Cortes by the bayonet and the nomination of Marshal Serrano as the house warmer for the restoration of the monarchy. So much for "our sympathy and kind offices" in behalf of the Republic in Spain. So much for our venerable Governor's delusive hopes concerning it "as a representative of free institutions."

But from this superfluous journey to Spain, returning with the Governor to our State affairs, he says that, although we have fallen short as a people in the discharge of our social duties, "the condition of the State is, nevertheless, under most of its aspects, exceedingly gratifying;" that "our debt is comparatively small;" that "it may, with proper economy, within a few years, be entirely paid;" and that if so "we shall stand in marked and commendable contrast with other States and municipalities which are heavily burdened with pecuniary liabilities." Furthermore, he says:—"Our colleges, academies and schools are flourishing; our charitable institutions in general are well managed; our laws enforced with renewed vigor and great criminals brought to speedy and exemplary punishment." Next, upon the State finances, he reports that on the 30th of September last there was a balance in the Treasury of \$2,431,460 61; that the balance of the State debt, after applying the sinking funds, is \$21,191,379 34, and that for the last fiscal year there has been a reduction of the debt to the amount of \$4,195,346 50, which, however, is only an apparent reduction, as the redemptions of stock which fell due in 1873 were provided for by new loans. The State tax levy was 6 95-100 mills; the tax collected will be \$14,800,903 38, or some five millions less than that levied in the preceding year. But, without further recapitulation of the Governor's statistics, we will touch upon some of his reforms and recommendations.

Upon the militia he says that when he came into office there was no proper accountability for arms, ammunition and munitions of war; that this defect has been remedied; that complete inventories of the contents of all the arsenals have been prepared; that the Commissary General of Ordnance has been made responsible for them; that the same accountability has been applied to commanders of regiments, and that some considerable savings has thus been made. Some legislation is recommended for the regulation of those corporations known as trust, loan and indemnity, guarantee and safe deposit companies; and a general law is urged defining the powers of savings banks and repealing all special privileges in existing charters inconsistent with such general law. Our quarantine system is reported as working well "after many years of unseemly contention." An extension of the authority of our Board of Health in removing nuisances is suggested, and an increase of head money to the Commissioners of Emigration.

The Governor reports an important discovery in the payment of the State taxes. He says that, in violation of the laws, in a number of counties, the treasurers during the last year retained over \$100,000 each for months beyond the time for its payment over to the State Treasury, having loaned the money to the banks at interest in the meantime for the depositors' personal benefit; and the Governor thinks that this abuse ought to be stopped, especially as, the Treasury, for want of these very funds, is often compelled to borrow money at seven per cent interest. The abuse is a villainous one, and the remedy suggested should certainly be applied.

On the recent defalcation in the State Treasurer's office (\$304,957 91) by C. H. Phelps, the Governor holds that this fraud is due, in a great degree, to the unwarrantable confidence reposed in said Phelps by the Treasurer (Raines) and his deputy. The Treasurer, it appears, was absent from his office much of his time, and his deputy seems to have surrendered the control of the public funds to the defaulting clerk. As security for the future the Governor says that the Treasurer should by law be required to live in Albany and attend to his responsible duties. "Should be required." The proposition sounds like a joke. Where else should be the man appointed as guardian over the public money but at his post? He should be held there to attend to his business when wanted, subject to heavy penalties for neglect of duty.

Upon our canals, in reference to the question of cheap transportation of the products of the West, the suggestions of this Message are well worthy the thoughtful attention of the Legislature, as are the views and reforms

submitted "upon the profligate management of some of our railroad companies." It appears that "at least seventy-five per cent of all the operations of the Stock Board in the city of New York are in railroad stocks and bonds," and that "the enormous speculations of which they furnish the material have contributed largely to the demoralization of the legitimate business of the country." Worse yet, "the practice by banks of certifying checks to be good when there are no deposits to meet them has aggravated the evil by giving particular individuals an almost unlimited credit to be used in stock gambling." It can hardly be thought that the Governor, in urging that this demoralizing and mischievous practice should be arrested by making it a penal offense, is going too far. The evils of hasty and reckless legislation are well put, and this Legislature would do well to avoid the vicious example of its immediate predecessor in this branch of corruption. Considerable space is next given in the Message to our national financial situation and to a strong argument against an inflation of the currency and in favor of the opposite policy as the only way to specie payments and a sound financial system.

On the difference between the original estimates and the actual and necessary cost of the erection of our public buildings we have some startling disclosures. For example, the original estimate for our new State Capitol was four millions; but after expending upon it, within a fraction, five millions, it is only one story above the ground, and, upon a fair estimate, ten millions more will be required to complete it. Here is something of the bad odor of our new Court House, and surely if there is a will there is a way whereby the Legislature can put a stop to these scandalous jobs. The pressing necessity of arresting the ruinous practices by which our harbor is being filled up and contracted is urged upon the two houses; a State appropriation is recommended for contingent expenses in connection with the representation of the State in the approaching national Centennial Exhibition; and then, after urging a forward movement in behalf of the proposed amendments to our State constitution, the Governor makes his bow to the assembled wisdom of the Commonwealth and gracefully retires.

This Message is lengthy; but is well worth the space it occupies. It exhibits a careful and conscientious consideration of the multifarious interests of the State and its people. It is the work of a scholar and a statesman and of a faithful public servant. It would be folly to hope for the adoption of its suggestions in detail as the programme for this Legislature; but, as an example of fair dealing with and for the people, this Message, in connection with the Governor's veto power, can hardly fail to operate as a wholesome check against dishonest jobs and corrupt combinations.

The New Cardinals.

On the morning of December 22 Pius IX. performed one of the most important ceremonies of his career as the Sovereign Pontiff. In the hall of the consistory of the Vatican he appointed twelve new cardinals, and on the 23d he handed four of them their scarlet hats. As statesmen and priests these high dignitaries of the Church will undoubtedly be assigned leading posts in the endeavor to re-establish the temporary power of the Papacy; for four of them have been Papal nuncios—Cardinal Chigi, at Paris; Cardinal Gregorio, at Lisbon; Cardinal Falicella, at Vienna, and Cardinal Franchi, at Madrid. Of the new cardinals Franchi is, undoubtedly, the ablest and most experienced. Without the impetuosity and rigid adherence to the letter of the Church dogmas which have distinguished many of the Roman statesmen, he has achieved a high reputation for delicate diplomacy and telling conservatism. The three other nuncios have all had considerable experience at the Catholic Courts, and Chigi especially is considered a man of remarkable powers. It can be said of all the successful prelates that they are men of pure lives and great eminence in the Church, all of them having discharged their ecclesiastical duties in a manner satisfactory to their general sees. Though it is somewhat remarkable that the Catholic Church in the United States is not honored with one of these twelve hats, doubtless His Holiness will not forget the claims of our learned bishops and archbishops, who certainly wield a more powerful influence in America than the majority of those who have been appointed to the Sacred College in Europe.

THE CONVERTIBLE BOND QUESTION is urged by Mr. Kelley upon the Committee of Ways and Means. He brought it up before the committee yesterday, but as no result was reached the consideration of it is to be resumed to-day. His proposition is to issue bonds bearing a low rate of interest—three sixty-five per cent a year, or a cent a day—and to make these convertible and negotiable with legal tenders at the will of the holder. Bonds bearing a higher rate of interest are to be taken up by these, and he proposes to allow the national banks to use them in place of the legal tender reserves. No doubt this would tend to make money cheap, and would regulate the rate of interest generally throughout the country. But why keep up the national bank circulation at all? Why not have a uniform legal tender currency? Then, what is to be the limit of the circulating medium? Or is there to be no other limit than the demands of the country? It is supposed, we presume, that the convertibility of bonds and money would regulate the needed volume of currency at all times. There seem to be good features in the proposition, but still it is a difficult one to handle.

CASTELAR HAS NO PART OR LOT IN THE MATTER—that is, in the reaction in Spain—if we can rely upon the reports from Madrid. It is said he has gone to Paris, after having expressed disgust at the demagogues and revolutionists who had overturned his government and established bayonet rule. Though he may not see any virtue in the revolutionists or honesty in their purpose, we have no doubt Mr. Fish will. It is natural that at first our Secretary of State should regret the overthrow of his friend and *propheta*, Castelar; but it will not be many days before Serrano and the rest of the revolutionists and reactionists will be invested by him with the best and most liberal intentions. Spanish influence and ideas are so powerful at the State Department that everything pertaining to Spain and her interests must assume a rose color.

The Herald, the State Department and the Virginian Negotiations.

We have confidently looked forward to the publication of the correspondence in the Virginian case for a justification before the country of our special despatches from Madrid, whose veraciousness was so steadily impugned by the partisan press at the instigation of the State Department. The diplomacy of Mr. Fish is a would-be Machiavellism, and counts a great deal on the way in which it can train the people to about. Nothing so much disconcerts it as the knowledge that the outside world is likely to discover whether the diplomacy is tending. If it could keep matters secret it might have its little surprise for the people. A single ray of light disturbs the burrowing diplomat, and a flood of luminosity drives him frantic. It would be difficult, indeed, otherwise to account for the studiousness with which the State Department inspired countless partisan pamphlets with denials of the truth of the Herald information. It was curious to observe the joy with which the partisan sheets struck out into all sorts of base charges against the Herald. According to these "inspired" worthies we were engaged exclusively in the fabrication of Madrid despatches for the purpose of fomenting a war with Spain. We have no doubt that, as the partisan editors were deceived by the wily Secretary Buchu, of Washington, some of the public were deceived by the partisan editor. Now that the correspondence has been published the truth appears—namely, that the Herald despatches were correct, and that Buchu diplomacy failed to obscure a question for us which it was muddling successfully for the rest of the world. The partisan editor, in such a case, is indeed an object of pity. Not daring to look into a question further than his party chain and collar will permit, his attempts to cry down the work of untrammelled searchers after truth must always be lamentable; for it is trampled manhood within him inventing an excuse for the garb of the flunky which he wears.

It will be remembered that the series of State Department denials of Herald despatches commenced about the time that the Herald published the points of the ultimatum of the American government, presented through Minister Sickles, in Madrid. It was freely stated that no such ultimatum had been presented. The correspondence entirely justifies the Herald. The demands were made substantially as telegraphed to this journal. If they were not held on to as an ultimatum should have been it was because an invertebrate Secretary of State allowed the case to be moved from Madrid to Washington. When the Herald stated that Minister Sickles was in danger from the mob the State Department again put forth its denials, and added that Spain was acting in good faith. When the news of Sickles' resignation was forwarded there came from the State Department first a denial, then a well-considered intimation that the Minister was exceeding his instructions and likely to bring about a war. These small, paltry dishonesties to the public are severely nailed in the correspondence. He had resigned, and he had not exceeded his instructions. What seems difficult of explanation even now is why the Secretary of State took the case to Washington at the moment when Spain was about to yield all in Madrid. The most charitable explanation is that the transfer was made out of a blind, enormous vanity which believed the Spanish Minister when he said in effect:—"We, and we alone, can settle this between us." The first effect of this removal was an encouragement to the Spanish government to insult our Minister by making a false statement of its position to him. The Secretary of State seems to have rather rejoiced in this duplicity. The Herald despatches of that date said that Minister Sickles doubted the sincerity of the Spaniards. Even Mr. Fish will admit that the Herald was right in this, for the correspondence reveals the same opinion, although the State Department saw fit to deny it. It is certain that from the moment the case was transferred to Washington it commenced to lose its clear-cut features. Then it was that all the small juggling points were introduced which left American such a barren victory. From the signing of the protocol to the furtive surrender of the fifth covered Virginian and thence to her sinking off Cape Fear, we have an instance of the political *diminution*, which, in music, Rubinstein could not equal. We hear something of a treaty right upheld; of a ship delivered; of survivors surrendered; but of the murders done by the Spaniards we hear not a word. It was one of the original demands "that the Spanish government manifest, by signal punishment to be inflicted on them, its sense of the misconduct of those of its servants who were concerned in the capture of the said vessel and in the execution of the passengers and crew thereof." The President declares that the right of a regularly documented vessel to carry the American flag is one which the United States alone can decide. He also declares that the right of search or visitation of such a vessel in time of peace does not exist. These two declarations are sufficient to show that no justification has been or can be given for the murder of the fifty-three persons taken from on board the regularly documented American ship Virginian. It is degrading indeed to think that, with such clear light on the subject, the punishment for the murdered and the indemnity for the killed should be allowed to lapse. The extract we have given above shows that the government was at one time conscious of its duty. The Herald has done its duty in the premises. It has advocated the vindication of the honor of the flag; it has told the true story of the negotiations from day to day. The State Department has failed to vindicate the outraged honor of the flag, and it deliberately discredited the truths told in these columns.

PROSPERITY AT THE LITTLE END OF THE HORN.—The Boston Advertiser says the cities of the Commonwealth make an excellent exhibit of prosperity in the annual official reports. And yet the indebtedness of the principal cities, with two or three exceptions, is shown to be materially increased over the indebtedness of 1873. Prosperity of this kind, it may be thought, if continually maintained, is likely to be productive of anything but remunerative elements.

Grant's Nomination of Williams—What Will He Do with It?

The Bar Association met last evening, and, although the rumor of the withdrawal of Attorney General Williams' name was circulated in the meeting, it was thought necessary, in the absence of official information, to pass a series of resolutions condemnatory of his nomination for Chief Justice. They are very severe and pointed, and will be found elsewhere. Many excellent reasons for the withdrawal of Mr. Williams' name have been given, but still it may not have been withdrawn; and in the cloud of contradictory statements from Washington on this point the weight of probability is with the assertion that the nomination will be left in the hands of the Senate, for the President is unlikely to relinquish a deliberately formed purpose. We have some dim remembrance of an observation on his part that he could have no policy to be maintained in opposition to an intelligent general view of the public interest; but on that point he may have changed his mind. It is scarcely credible that the President should not by this time understand that the nomination of Mr. Williams is thoroughly and irrevocably a bad one. No doubt a bad nomination might be made by any man in the President's position—more especially for an office like that of Chief Justice. With somewhat easy ideas of official obligation the President seems to fancy that one man is as good as another for almost any place, and his preferences and designations are certainly without relation to special qualities in his candidates; he, therefore, may not have considered very deeply the qualifications proper for the Chief Justiceship, and have thought he was choosing wonderfully well in naming Mr. Williams. But he can scarcely suppose the reasons made public against the confirmation to be fictitious, and they are such as should have induced him to reconsider his nomination; and the fact that he has not reconsidered it is discreditable, for his "adherence to his friends" in this case is simply an obstinate defiance to evidence against them.

Every one will regret to see a proposition made in connection with the probable rejection of Mr. Williams by the Senate for legislation against the office of Chief Justice, in which Senator Conkling comes forward as the champion of General Grant's unworthy purpose. It is not the first time we have heard the proposition to change some law under which General Grant's nominations had been found unsatisfactory; and such propositions are not pleasant for the people to contemplate, as they imply the notion that the President's will is of more consequence than the law—and that where the two are in actual or moral conflict it is the law that is probably unjust or improper, and ought to give way. Aside from this, the notion that the Chief Justiceship should be abolished forthwith because the Senate will not let the President fill it as he may choose has an air of childish peevishness that is amusingly little. That a child should storm out in its small way and annihilate some toy in regard to which it had been thwarted and crossed is natural; but that the President should imitate such childish conduct in grave political emergencies was hardly to be looked for. Shall we apply a similar reasoning through our political system? Shall we abolish every high place, every position of moral or political grandeur, because the appointing power has not in the list of its favored ones a man that fills the conditions of the office? Shall we level down our whole administrative system to "the meanest capacity?" We believe that Congress will fittingly rebuke this proposition if it comes before it.

Mr. Williams' opinion on the Virginian is, of course, the one immediate fact that has made his confirmation impossible, because its bad law affords the Senate sure and good ground for refusing to appoint him to the head place in our judicial organization. Other reasons there are in abundance—and some of them may be substantial and convincing ones to many minds—but the Virginian opinion has come to relieve Senators of the necessity of touching those reasons that are less proper to be brought forward in such a connection, however convincing they may in reality have been. Few intimations, and those unlikely, are given as to what the President will do next in regard to this appointment; but it is likely the course events have taken will insure us against a bad or unworthy Chief Justice, while they may give us one of the several gentlemen who are eminently fit for the place. We have seen the accomplishment, in great degree, of the object with which we first began, some months ago, to discuss the appointment of Mr. Chase's successor. Our apprehension that the office would be filled on the "personal favorite" principle was not ill-founded, but the success with which we attracted public attention to the subject has defeated that plan; and public attention, thus once fixed on a point of this nature, will not give way, and will exact the rejection by the Senate of every name but one in all ways proper.

The Cuban Insurrection—Important Victory Over the Spaniards.

One of the most important battles which has taken place in Cuba since the outbreak of the insurrection was fought early in December, between a Spanish column and the forces commanded by General Maximo Gomez. Victory remained with the Cubans, and the Spaniards left on the field over two hundred men killed. The details of the fight reached us through the little insurgent journal printed in Cuba Libre, which publishes General Gomez's report to the Cuban Secretary of War. The patriots have displayed remarkable energy and enterprise within the last few months, and the success which has attended their military operations furnishes strong argument in favor of the recognition of their belligerency. The Herald mission to Cuba Libre had the effect of awakening public interest in the Cuban question, and the events now transpiring are the best proofs of the accuracy of the information furnished by the Herald commissioners as to the really formidable character of the insurrection. Spanish sympathizers try to persuade Americans that the war is maintained only by fugitive bands of negroes; but the victories of Santa Maria and Palo Seco, taken in connection with the attack and partial destruction of important towns like Manzanillo, Jibara, Holguin and Santa Cruz, are sufficient answer to such statements. After struggling for more than five years against overwhelming

odds the vitality of the insurrection is greater than ever. In the first few months of the revolt there were more men in the field, it is true, but there never were so many armed soldiers as there are to-day. So far from the cause of Cuba being desperate, it never, at any time, looked so bright as now. With their own strong arms the men in the field have won the resources necessary to enable them to continue the struggle, and if only their emigrant countrymen would forget their quarrels and divisions and pull together the Cuban cause might, within a short time, be in such a position as to force a recognition of belligerent rights even from the pro-Spanish government at Washington.

Civil Rights in Congress.

The representatives of the nation are again called upon to create a legal equality for the colored citizens. Practically the equality exists in all matters political. Whether a people or class can be legislated into social equality is a question fairly open to controversy. The white people of the South naturally shrink from contact with the freedmen in social life, and urge that it is better to allow the status of the negro in society to be settled by time than to endeavor to settle it arbitrarily by legislation. At present the two races have churches and schools apart, an arrangement that is found to give good results, and satisfies all reasonable men on both sides. Some people wish to go a step further, and throw the schools and institutions open to all, without distinction of color. We scarcely think that this is necessary. The interest of the people of the South would be better served by allowing social equality to grow with time, as the result of an increased intelligence among the masses of the colored people. It may be well to remark that those men who so far forget the changed status of the colored people as to insult their representatives on the floor of the House of Representatives do more real harm to the cause of the Southern whites than the most fanatic of the equal rights party could do. The colored Congressmen will be protected in the exercise of all their just privileges by the public opinion of the nation, and it would be well for the semi-reconstructed to keep the fact in mind.

The reply of Mr. Elliott, a colored representative from South Carolina, to the arguments of Mr. Stephens, and his dignified rebuke to Mr. Harris, show that both in ability and good manners the colored Congressman is superior to some of the men who denounce all men of African blood as an inferior race. In so far as the Civil Rights bill seeks to protect the colored people in the free use of public conveyances and hotels we think it will meet the approval of the majority of the nation. The advocates of the measure ought not, however, to push the question into the public schools, or in institutions where the wants of the colored people can be as well provided for in separate establishments. Both parties might gain by the exhibition of a more conciliatory disposition.

Chaotic Spain.

Serrano's brand new government is threatened on all sides by the ill will of the populace. Partial risings are reported in Malaga and Valladolid, but no serious conflicts have taken place as yet. How long the armed truce will be maintained it is impossible to say, but the men who have seized on power in defiance of legality and popular right, in order to secure their power, have begun the disarmament of the republicans all over the country. The attack on Cartagena is being pushed with renewed vigor, now that the Republic is out of the way, and the military conspirators are putting forth all their energies to secure the position the weakness or sudden conservatism of Castelar has allowed them to seize. Everything points to Castelar's having prepared the way for the advent to power of the conservatives. Whether the result will meet their expectations or his remains to be seen. So far from hastening the return of Alfonso to the throne, as Serrano and his fellow conspirators hope, the coup d'etat may yet lead to the triumph of the red federal Republic. No one can tell what the morrow may bring in the matter of political developments in a country like Spain. The federalists at Cartagena, so far from being disheartened by the news of Castelar's overthrow and the advent to power of Serrano, rejoice at it. They have made several desperate sorties, and so far have successfully repulsed the attacks of the besiegers. It may be that before many days we may see a general uprising of the extreme republicans and the inauguration of a new struggle for power. It is to the tender mercy of such a band of brigands that our government abandons the Cuban people, under the pretence of friendliness to republican institutions. Surely the farce has been carried far enough, and it is time for us to show some respect for our national dignity, and a little sense of justice and humanity, by scaring away the vultures that are preying on prostrate Cuba.

The Savings Banks.

Governor Dix thinks the savings bank want a little regulating. He considers, evidently, from the language of his Message, that they are not as secure as they might be. He does not see how they can afford safely to pay six per cent on the enormous deposits in this State of three hundred and fourteen millions. But in the rivalry for business some banks pay or profess to pay more than six per cent. As the Governor well remarks, absolute security to depositors is the first and most important thing to be provided for. As a consequence he wants the law amended so as to prevent any director or other officer of savings banks being an officer of banks of discount. He wishes, too, the amount of deposit by any one person to be limited so as to prevent capitalists using these institutions. While we commend his views with regard to giving perfect security to depositors we do not lose sight of the fact that the savings banks make great profits. They do this in other ways than by loans and investments. For example, during the late panic a great deal must have been made by the forfeiture of interest on the deposits withdrawn. We know of one case where a savings bank held a deposit of five hundred dollars within a few days of six months, and refused to pay any interest when the money was withdrawn because the regular period for payment had not quite come round. How many other depositors lost their interest in the same way during the panic? The sum in the aggregate must have