FRANCE.

The Question of Municipal Government by Cabinet Appointment—Legislative Majorities for the Government.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

PARIS, Jan. 17, 1874.

During the discussion in the National Assembly to-day of the clauses of the bill providing for the appointment of mayors by the government, the Left proposed an amendment requiring that the mayors shall be chosen from among the members of municipal councils, but it was voted down by a majority of 5.

The same amendment was afterwards offered by the Left Centre, and it was again rejected, this time by a majority of 14.

ENGLAND.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LONDON, Jan. 17, 1874.

The amount of bullion gone into the Bank of England on balance to-day is £10,000.

CUBA.

Spanish Official Report of the Latest Battle—Summary Arrests.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

HAVANA, Jan. 17, 1874.

The official report of the engagement on the 6th inst., near Puerto Principe, states that 300 insurgents made an attack on forty-seven Spanish soldiers who were out foraging, killing thirty-nine of them and wounding three.

SUMMARY ARRESTS.

Señor Quijano, a lawyer, and Señor Penalver, a planter, have been arrested on the charge of being Carlist agents.

They will be tried by court martial.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Charles Bradlaugh is again at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

Francis Kernan, of Utica, has apartments at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

General Lew Wallace, of Indiana, has arrived at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

Paymaster S. D. Hurlbut, United States Navy, is quartered at the Everett House.

General N. P. Banks, of Massachusetts, arrived last evening at the Astor House.

Commander Selfridge, United States Navy, is registered at the New York Hotel.

Smith M. Weed, of Plattsburg, occupies his old quarters at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

State Senator F. W. Tobey, of Port Henry, N. Y., is staying at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

W. Oswald Chariton, of the British Legation, is at the Brevoort House, on his way to Washington.

S. Aoki, Japanese Chargé d'Affaires in Germany, is among the recent arrivals at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

Senator Conkling is expected at Albany next Monday to appear in the United States Court as counsel in the Central Railroad tax case.

A Western paper refers to James A. Weston, "now democratic Governor of New Hampshire." In this instance, at least, straws do not show, &c.

The diamonds and point lace worn by the wife of the Hon. Benjamin Wood at the Roman Cathotic Orphan Asylum ball were valued at over $140,000.

Captain Whiting, commanding the North Atlantic flagship Worcester, and Lieutenant Marix, Flag Lieutenant to Admiral Scott, arrived in the city yesterday morning from Washington, where they have been in attendance upon the Commission inquiring into the sinking of the Virginius. They left at three o'clock in the afternoon on the Texas steamer Clyde for Key West, where they will join the Admiral.

MEXICAN WAR VETERANS.

They Call Upon Their Old Comrade, the Present Tenant of the White House—General Jackson's Vase—Permanent Organization.

The Mexican veterans, at their meeting this morning, agreed upon a memorial to Congress asking pensions for those who were engaged in that war, or their surviving widows and children.

In accordance with previous arrangements the Convention in a body proceeded to the Executive Mansion and arranged themselves in line in the East Room, when the President entered, and was received by ex-Governor Herbert, of Louisiana, who, as Marshal of the Convention, said the members of the Convention were glad to recognize in him an old companion in arms in the glorious and victorious battles in Mexico. The President bowed his thanks in reply, and then, accompanied by General Denver, the President of the Convention, passed from one veteran to another, shaking hands.

Among the incidents were the following:—Colonel Ruddock, of Maryland, asked permission to pin on the President's coat the rosette badge of that State.

General Cadwallader, of Pennsylvania, presented to the President, in a few humorous remarks, an old colored man, named Benjamin Johnson, who during the Mexican war served as General Scott's cook.

One of the veterans, who was President Grant's classmate at West Point, made known the fact to him, and a brief but pleasant conversation followed.

Among the spectators were General Sherman, Senator Fenton and a number of ladies.

The President and the members of the Convention seemed to be much gratified with the meeting. The Convention then returned to their hall to resume business.

President Grant was a lieutenant and a regimental quartermaster of the Fourth United States Infantry during the Mexican war.

THE JACKSON VASE.

On the return of the veterans to their hall the President called their attention to a beautiful vase which had been placed on a centre table on the front part of the platform and which came from South Carolina. He asked the Convention to receive it standing. He then called upon Judge Mackey, of South Carolina, to give its history. The vase stands upon a square base of about ten by twelve inches wide and three inches in height, resting upon eagle's claws, all of solid silver and beautifully chased in frost work, representing the charge and repulse at New Orleans. This vase was purchased solely by the ladies of South Carolina, 2,000 subscribing for that purpose, and bore the following inscription on the front:—

"Presented by the Ladies of South Carolina to Major General Andrew Jackson, January 8, 1815."

The inscriptions on the obverse are the coat of arms of South Carolina, and the motto on both sides in full:—

"Presented by General Andrew Jackson to Captain W. B. Stanley, in trust for the last survivors of the Palmetto regiment."

Judge MACKEY said:—The vase was presented to General Jackson by ladies of South Carolina at the close of the war of 1812. General Jackson bequeathed it to the State, to be given to the man, who, in the next foreign war, should be deemed entitled to it by acts of valor and gallantry. It was decided, after the last war, that no one man should be selected to hold it, and it was presented to Captain W. B. Stanley, to hold in trust for the last survivors of the Palmetto regiment.

A resolution was adoptod asking Congress to remove the disabilities of those who took part in the Mexican war, but who were engaged in the late civil war, from receiving pensions.

PERMANENT ORGANIZATION.

Judge MACKEY reported a constitution and by-laws for the government of the permanent association, to be known as the "National Association of Veterans of the Mexican War," and providing for its officers, mode of management and for an annual meeting in Washington on the 22d day of February, that being one of the days upon which the battle of Buena Vista was fought, as well as being the birthday of Washington.

Mr. J. W. GRIFFITH, of Iowa, offered a resolution, which was adopted, urging all the delegates to use their influence with the State Legislatures to pass joint resolutions calling upon members of Congress to pass acts carrying out the objects of the Convention.

The Convention elected the following officers of the permanent association:—

President, General George Cadwallader; a vice president and counsellor from each State and Territory; five secretaries and a treasurer. Those representing the District of Columbia are General J. W. Denver, Vice President; General Albert Pike, Counsellor, and A. M. Kenaday, First Secretary.

The Convention adjourned to-night *sine die*.

The proceedings throughout were harmonious, and the delegates rejoiced that old friendships had been renewed among persons coming from all sections of the Union.

AMUSEMENTS.

"Money" at Wallack's.

The revival of Lord Lytton's comedy, "Money," which took place at Wallack's Theatre last evening, may be set down as the comedy success of the season. Written of and for the England of thirty odd years ago, it shifts itself easily into the present. The blue frockcoat and buff waistcoat which Macready wore when it was first produced change easily into the black frock and white vest of Mr. Lester Wallack. Like all true comedy the character sketches in "Money" are as true to-day as when they were written; for humanity does not change like the cut or color of one's clothes. Indeed, the lord and the knight of the piece excepted, the characters might be picked up in society here without any difficulty. There is not much plot to follow. Alfred Evelyn, an orphan, the scholarly and eccentric dependent of Sir John Vesey, in the first act is in love with Clara Douglass, also a dependent and an orphan; and we all know that the kindly gods of comedy are bent on improving their worldly prospects, tying them up in the bonds of matrimony and labelling them happy. But all this is done in a way peculiar and pleasing in itself, and then the ingenious manner in which the underplot of Graves and Lady Franklin is inwrought with the main plot is very charming. The character of Evelyn is one which Bulwer could revel in. It does not at all times cohere, but the whimsicalities and disproportions are amusement in themselves. It is the old character, as old as the first disappointed man—namely, the being who, by going to war with humanity in general, believes he is in some fashion revenging himself. We are on the verge of losing patience with this Alfred Evelyn, because, having a letter which either of two ladies must have written, he does not ask both which it was. His friend, Sir Dudley Smooth, would tell him that the chances were even, he would ask the right girl first. But, then, comedy is comedy, and we have the sorrowing Graves to console us if Alfred is not half the sharp one we took him for. Alfred's greatest fault, and one which the author of his being (Bulwer) never could avoid, is his tendency to platitudinize and sentimentalize. They are sometimes of the weakly flavor which one might term Shakespearian rinsings. Bulwer was, perhaps, vain enough to think his Thames water platitudes the real Helicon, but nobody else could follow the author of "Money" so far. They have one merit, however, and that is, they are all healthy in tone. Of course, the sentiment is nothing and the fun everything. Here praise can be unstinted, for that never lags. Repartee and epigram sparkle through it from beginning to end, and there is not a single *équivoque*. The cast last night was as follows:—

Alfred Evelyn	Mr. Lester Wallack
Benjamin Stout, M. P.	Mr. John Brougham
Henry Graves, Esq.	Mr. Harry Beckett
Sir Frederick Blount	Mr. W. R. Floyd
Captain Dudley Smooth	Mr. J. B. Polk
Sir John Vesey	Mr. J. W. Carroll
Lord Glossmore	Mr. W. J. Ferguson
Mr. Sharpe	Mr. G. F. Browne
An Old Member	Mr. T. E. Mills
Clara Douglass	Miss Jeffreys Lewis
Lady Franklin	Mme. Ponisi
Georgina Vesey	Miss Dora Goldthwaite

This partition of characters was in every respect a strong one. So strong, indeed, was it that a very little shortcoming in any one of them became instantly prominent. We have sufficiently alluded to the excellence of Mr. Wallack's Evelyn when we say that it is all it has been, easy, vigorous, playful, tender, satirical, and only falling short of being powerful because the dramatist stopped short always on the hither side of genuine pathos or power. A marked feature of the evening was the hearty reception given by the house to genial John Brougham, who reappeared after two years' absence from Wallack's. His Benjamin Stout is a comical creature, and sets his political foil, Lord Glossmore (Mr. Ferguson) considerably in the shade. The two genuine, and in some measure unexpected, successes of the evening were the Sir Frederick Blount of Mr. W. R. Floyd and the Henry Graves of Mr. Harry Beckett. The lisping swell who turns r into w is very apt in indifferent hands to become a bore and a nuisance. Mr. Floyd humanized him, gave color to his inanity, robbed his mean tricks of some of their sordidness, and gave a thoroughly comical air to his subservient snobbery. When such a character is removed so far from the repulsive to be actually amusing an actor has done well. Mr. Beckett could not fall short of success in the part of Graves. The peculiar chopped-wood expression of face which belongs to Mr. Beckett when his physiognomy is in repose suited the widower sorrowing for sainted Maria; his burlesque experience made the Highland fling scene convulsing, and he acted all through with such care that he achieved a genuine triumph. Mr. Polk's Dudley Smooth was a nice, quiet piece of acting, whose self-restraint this actor might carry forward through other parts with advantage. Sir John Vesey, by Mr. Carroll, could be polished up a little—made a trifle less angular. The female characters were all admirably filled, Miss Lewis, Miss Goldthwaite and Mme. Ponisi being each excellent alike. A word of high praise must be said for the fine setting of this piece. Every scene is a gem, and that at the club simply magnificent. It requires to be seen to be appreciated. The preparation of this fine set causes a falling of the curtain, and as there are thus five intervals a little cutting of the dialogue would be judicious. For this purpose we would indicate the tradesmen business, which is usually omitted for the scissors; and if Mr. Wallack could spare a little of the sentiment so much the better. The piece is destined to have a long run.

Third Philharmonic Concert.

The Academy of Music was pretty well filled last night on the occasion of the third concert of the Philharmonic Society. The two predecessors of this concert were not calculated to inspire confidence in the general success of the season, as the attendance on both occasions was anything but large and the performance not satisfactory. There was a visible improvement last night. The concert commenced with the lovely Mendelssohn overture, "Zum Märchen von die schöne Melusine," opus 32, in F Major, which was played about seven years ago by the society. It is one of the most poetical of this genial composer's works, and has not an uninteresting bar from beginning to end. The German legend of the fair nymph, or Meermädchen, Melusine, has been told at length in these columns, and nothing in the list of the gifted composer's works can be accredited with more genuine poetical thoughts than this overture. The opening theme, so felicitously worked out in various instrumental forms throughout the overture, is one of those taking subjects that catch the ear, and is withal of such a delicate texture that it may be readily ascribed to the mind that conceived the musical thoughts of the "Sommernachstraum." The fanciful story is told as ingenuously as that of Puck, Oberon, Titania and the mortals in the "Wood near Athens."

Mr. S. B. Mills, an honorary member of the society, and one of the representative pianists of America, was the soloist of the occasion, and he essayed one of the most trying of the works of piano literature, Henselt's concerto, opus 16, a *cheval de bataille* of technique and warmth of expression. Gottschalk and Pattison, who made it a study of years, and who at one time seemed to claim the monopoly of this great work, first brought it before the New York public. The poetry of the one and the nervous, fiery style of the other placed this concerto in its best light. The technical difficulties alone would suffice to deter many a pianist from attempting it in public; but, of course, with such trained fingers and steeled wrists as those of Mr. Mills, mere difficulties in execution could not mar his performance. The fault of his playing was in the absence of the desired warmth, color and expression that such a work demands. There is much of *tempo rubato* in it, and mere mechanism in style is calculated to rob it of its desired effect. Take the second movement, *religioso*, in C major, for instance. The opening instrumental subject, *quatuor con sordini*, a simple chorale, is afterwards colored in the most vivid manner by the arabesque figures woven beneath the fingers of the pianist. But those fingers must be instinct with poetry. Mr. Mills lacked that necessary quality. The main difficulty lies in the third page of the *Larghetto*, a perfect ideal of melody. There is work enough for four hands in this passage, and orchestra and piano must be in perfect accord in *tempo* and expression, which was not the case last night. The *finale* is full of technical difficulties, insurmountable except to inspired fingers or to an artist who has made the work a study of years. To Mr. Mills must be accredited the praise of faultless technique in playing the concerto, but beyond that we can say nothing in commendation. He also played the Etude in C sharp minor and Tarentella of Chopin.

Schubert's fantasia in F minor, originally composed as a piano work for four hands, was another feature in the programme. It was orchestrated by a Mr. E. Rudorff, and although the instrumentation gives evidence of a practised hand and is at times effective, yet we cannot commend the work in such a garb as compared to its original shape. It was one of the matured thoughts of Schubert, opus 103, and nothing can be more beautiful than its delicacy of treatment, a very rare quality in four hand pieces for the piano. It is not always safe to attempt the orchestration of a piano work of a great composer. We have abundant examples of it here on the operatic stage, where the inability or unwillingness of the impresario to pay for the orchestral score of a new opera has driven him to the necessity of buying a piano score in Europe and getting the orchestration done here.

The last work on the programme, Schumann's first symphony in B flat major, which heads a list of the most valuable and enjoyable of the instrumental works of the composer, is admirable in the first three movements and only defective in the last, *Allegro animato e grazioso*, which seems to be at variance with the spirit of the symphony. The orchestra is not improving, as might be expected, from the admirable example set before them by Mr. Thomas and his band. The strings were sluggish and expressionless last night, and the wind instruments, the oboes in particular, uncertain in tone and ineffective, even where they were most desirable. The next concert takes place on February 14, when Brissow's "Arcadian" symphony will be played.

Musical and Dramatic Notes.

Majilton-Raynor family deny being present at the French ball.

The "Scouts of the Sierra Nevada" will go trapping for popularity at the Bowery next week.

"Humpty Dumpty Abroad" seems to have entered on an eternal run at the Grand Opera House.

Mr. O. D. Byron at Wood's Museum plays; but, we are pained to remark, does not go "Across the Continent" this entire week.

Miss Charlotte Cushman's first reading at Steinway Hall, on the 28th inst., will include the principal scenes from "Hamlet" and a miscellaneous selection.

"La Femme de Feu" will consume the evenings at Booth's Theatre throughout the week. The shortening of the first and second acts will probably allow the piece to run better.

"Man and Wife" will be given at the Fifth Avenue Theatre on Monday, and "Saratoga" on Tuesday. A new piece called "Folline" is underlined for an early day, which, it is mildly hinted, will lash the follies and frailties of the present day. They deserve it.

The Maurel-Wieniawski concert combination, in Boston, has drawn audiences, says a local critic, "not so large as the high merits of the performance really deserved, but those who were present were evidently cultured and appreciative, and made up in enthusiasm what they lacked in numbers." The cultured few of Boston think their presence a compensation for all other absences. Wonder if the Maurel-Wieniawski treasurer thinks so.

The musical event of this week will be the opening of the Kellogg English Opera troupe at the Academy of Music on Wednesday evening. Nine performances only will be given—seven evenings and two matinées. On Wednesday evening "Lucia di Lammermoor," on Thursday evening "Martha," on Friday evening "Maritana," and at the Saturday matinée "The Bohemian Girl" will be given. Miss Kellogg will sing the leading parts, Lucia, Lady Henrietta and Arline.

The proceeds of the performance given by the Charity Amateur Dramatic Association, on the 20th ult., in the Academy of Music, will not, as was formerly reported, be exclusively distributed among the families of Captain Fry, Jesus del Sol and Señor Cespedes. It is now to be divided among a number of poor Cubans who have made their exceedingly necessitous condition known to the Daughters of Cuba League, of which patriotic society Mrs. Emilia Villaverde is secretary.

The Strakosch operatic opening at McVicker's Theatre, Chicago, on Wednesday last, was the occasion of Mme. Nilsson's début there in opera. The "Huguenots" was given. The scene in the auditorium touched a tender string in the precremate, ante-panic memories of the *Post*, which says:—"It carries the mind back to the white and gold interior of Crosby's upon a gala night, when happy thousands, flush in the accomplished results of the great inland metropolis, gladly lavished their ducats on the best operatic talent that Europe or America could afford."

The Olympic Theatre, having closed its successful run of "Gabriel Grub," opens to-morrow evening with a vaudeville entertainment, by which is meant to be understood a high order of variety show. A farce, comedietta or operetta will be given every evening, and Japanese jugglers, bounding brothers, Ethiopian artists, trained dogs, infant phenomena. Punch and Judy will bring the programme to its concluding effort, a Buntlinear drama, entitled "Life on the Plains," with Very Man Himself in the part of Scott, the dead shot. There is, we believe, room for such an exhibition in New York, where genuine farce might be induced to take root. The Holman Opera Troupe will appear at this theatre on February 2 as part of the entertainment.

A WASHINGTON ROBBERY.

Seventy-five Thousand Dollars in Treasury Warrants Stolen from the Internal Revenue Department—Two Men Arrested in New York and $1,000 Recovered.

On the morning of the 3d inst. Mr. Chapman, chief of one of the divisions of the Internal Revenue Department at Washington, entered his office at the usual hour and discovered that a robbery had been committed. On leaving the office the night previous he had left on his desk $75,000 in Treasury warrants. These were gone, and the broken transom window over the door leading to the room told plainly that a forcible entrance had been effected. Consternation followed. Who the thief or thieves could be was beyond conjecture. Information of the robbery was at once telegraphed broadcast over the country and the ablest detectives in the employ of the government were set at work on the case. Mr. Chapman took an early train for this city, where he has been ever since working night and day with Colonel Whitley and his officers.

Fortunately for the government a gentleman by the name of Thompson, who lives in Buffalo, was recently in Washington on business connected with the Treasury Department, and there learned that a robbery of some kind had been committed. He did not obtain much information in regard to the matter, but just enough to know that somebody had stolen something; but this being in Washington, where, according to the popular idea, everybody and his wife steal, he thought but little of the affair.

Mr. Thompson came to New York a few days ago, and while walking up Broadway yesterday afternoon met Mr. Edward Edmonds and Mr. H. N. Mason, both of Washington. Mutual handshaking ensued, and it was proposed that the party adjourn to a neighboring saloon and partake of some wine. The wine was partaken of, after which Mr. Edmonds invited Mr. Thompson to a sleighride "up the road." Mr. Thompson accepted, and, leaving Mr. Mason at the Gilsey House, the two other gentlemen stepped into a cutter and were soon flying over the road at a handsome pace. The ride was exhilarating, as was also the wine which the party had drank before starting. Mr. Edmonds became talkative and had considerable to say about Washington and its various attractions.

After an hour's drive the two returned to the Gilsey House, and on going to the clerk's office Mr. Edmonds remarked that he was out of money, but had a Treasury warrant about him which was as good as the gold. He told the clerk that Mr. Thompson would vouch for him, and he was right, for Mr. Thompson knew the clerk and assured him that Mr. Edmonds was a gentleman of standing and was perfectly reliable. The warrant was handed over to the clerk, who cashed it, and just at this moment Mr. Thompson remembered something about what he had heard in Washington in regard to the theft of some Treasury warrants or something else. He thought it strange that Edmonds should have such things instead of money; but of course he said nothing about it. In the course of fifteen or twenty minutes the two gentlemen parted, Mr. Edmonds to go up town and Mr. Thompson to return to his hotel. While on his way to his abiding place Mr. Thompson chanced to meet Mr. Chapman, whom he, as in the case of Edmonds and Mason, had last seen in Washington. Chapman said something about being in New York on very important official business, and this reminded Thompson of the little incident in regard to the Treasury warrant just left by Edmonds at the Gilsey House. He mentioned the matter to Chapman, who at once came to the conclusion the warrant in question must be one of those stolen. The two gentlemen went direct to the Gilsey House, where the clerk exhibited the mysterous document, which Chapman instantly recognized as one of the lost.

The hotel detective was called and put on the case. He went to Mason's room and found that gentleman rather the worse for liquor. Without much circumlocution he arrested him and took him, together with a small travelling bag, to the Central Office, where he was detained. The officer then went to the Fifth Avenue Theatre and got Detective Golding, and together the two set out to look for Edmonds. He was found about nine o'clock in a house in Thirty-sixth street, and from there he was driven in a carriage to Police Headquarters. Here he was searched, and in a leather pocketbook which he carried were found some half-dozen of the stolen warrants. He was asked if he had any more?

"None," was his laconic reply.

"Have you any baggage?"

"None."

"Not even a little black travelling bag?"

"Well, yes, I have something of that kind."

"What's in it?"

"Nothing but a wash list."

The wash list turned out to be 191 Treasury warrants, amounting in the aggregate to a little over $10,000.

The two prisoners were locked up. They are both said to be remarkably connected, and Edmonds had considerable to say while in the inspector office about the influence he had with one of the "reform" judges, with whom he claimed relationship.

WASHINGTON.

Popular Approval of Conkling for Chief Justice.

HIS PROBABLE SUCCESSOR.

The President's Opinion of the Republican Party and Its Burdens.

WILL HE VETO THE SALARY REPEAL?

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17, 1874.

The Chief Justiceship and Political Partisan Calculations—Senator Conkling's Position.

The demand for the HERALD to-night was so great that the newspaper stands were quickly rid of their supply after the arrival of the New York train. The cause of this rush for the paper was the fact that it contained in these despatches the reason why it was necessary that a decided partisan leader should be selected to fill the position of Chief Justice. The present political status of the Supreme Court was not before generally known, but is now, among republicans, a subject of considerable comment. The fact that three of the Judges were avowedly democratic in their tendencies, and another somewhat doubtful, and, therefore, not to be relied upon should the emergency arise of passing upon the constitutionality of certain laws enacted for political purposes, had a startling effect. It was such an unexpected danger that it took everybody aback. All the members of the Court, except the senior, had been appointed either in Lincoln or Grant's administration, and at the time of entering upon their judicial duties were known to be stanch republicans, and yet these very men, in spite of their antecedents, could not now be entirely trusted. Politicians, discussing this new development, said that its old time traditions made the Supreme Court a conservative body, and that new members gradually gave way to these influences, and thus their judgment was warped against innovations or the enactment of laws different in their workings and nature from those of past legislation; that putting a republican upon the bench, unless he was very strong in his political faith, in but a little time converted him into a conservative. If already four of the Bench had become such it was of vital importance to the party that the new Chief Justice should be a stanch republican, in whom could be placed the most implicit confidence that he would not yield to the conservative influence of the position. Should a man of a doubtful political record be appointed he might at any moment, by uniting with the four who are considered opponents or unreliable in some of the decisions, render null and void some of the most important of the laws passed by the strength and for the benefit of the republican party.

Mr. Conkling's appointment has therefore become a political necessity. In the opinion of many partisans it is absolutely essential to the preservation of the party. Last summer, when Mr. Conkling was offered the appointment, in writing, it was declined in the same way. This action was studiously concealed. The Senator has high political aspirations. It was probably thought by him that the disclosure of this offer might somewhat interfere with these aspirations; that it would be said that he declined so as to keep himself among the prominent Presidential candidates, as the life appointment of Chief Justice virtually takes its occupant out of political life. So the offer was kept silent and it was allowed to be extensively circulated that it was only a rumor growing out of the friendly feelings existing between the President and the Senator. Now, however, circumstances have brought it to light. The leaders of the party might not then have deemed it of especial benefit to any other than the person thus honored; but, with the recent divulgement, it has become of the greatest political importance. It is imperatively demanded that Mr. Conkling shall accept the position, and the sentiment is so strong on the subject that if left to the Senate he would probably be nominated and confirmed by acclamation.

Popular Interest in the Chief Justiceship—The New York Delegation Fix on William A. Wheeler as Senator Conkling's Successor.

The extraordinary interest manifested throughout the city to-night in regard to the nomination of Chief Justice pervades all circles, and the question most freely and almost unanimously asked is, "Who is going to be Chief Justice?" This anxiety in the popular mind as to the forthcoming nominee is so great that it extends even to the colored people, who, with an instinct peculiar to them in many things, especially in what pertains to their welfare, are more solicitous even than their white brethren, for the reason that they know many legal questions which have a bearing on their race will come up to be decided by the Supreme Court of the United States.

That Conkling is to be the coming incumbent of the office is evidenced by the fact that the members of the New York delegation in Congress have taken up consideration of the matter, and are to-night casting about for the best man to be the successor of the present United States Senator from Central New York; and their consultations have resulted in the choice of William A. Wheeler, of Malone, Franklin county, member of Congress from the Eighteenth district, who is conceded by them to be the best man, as he combines in his good general qualifications those of a clear republican record, popularity and more party strength than any other available candidate. Conkling's presence in New York will be turned to advantage in consulting the leading members of the Legislature, to agree upon a suitable, safe ands trong man to be his successor. It is true some of Conkling's friends assert that he is in New York toattend to professional business, but this will serve as a cover to screen the Senator from public attention, and divert the scrutiny which since his enviable distinction has followed his every movement; but, with the exception of reference to his just ripened years, on all hands Conkling's name is favorably treated, and no unkind or adverse opinion seems to exist against him. It is believed that he will add great strength to Grant's administration and increased safety to the republican ship, which has been buffeted about considerably of late on dangerous coasts, and threatened with wreck in the breakers. His youth alone is mentioned as a bar to public satisfaction with the fitness and expediency of his nomination.

President Grant Thinks the Republican Party Overweighted—The Southern States to Settle Their Own Quarrels.

Perhaps the most significant speech the President has ever made of a political nature was addressed last evening to some prominent republicans who called upon him at the White House. The President said:—"I begin to think that it is time for the republican party to unload. There has been too much dead weight carried by it. The success of our arms during the rebellion and the confidence that the republican party was strong enough to hold up any burden have imposed all the disaffection in the Gulf States on the administration. I am tired of this nonsense. Let Louisiana take care of herself, as Texas will have to do. I don't want any quarrel about Mississippi State matters to be referred to me. This nursing of monstrosities has nearly exhausted the life of the party. I am done with them, and they will have to take care of themselves."

Will the President Veto the Salary Repeal Bill?—Southern Sentiment Against Reducing Official Pay.

The Southern members are especially anxious to know about the signature by the President of the bill known as the Salary Repeal bill. It is asserted that the President will veto it, as it is a direct slap at the members of his Cabinet, who contend that as it was the salary was small enough, in view of the expenses they are compelled to incur in keeping pace with the republican court system of weekly receptions, in which they vie with one another in making them imposing and expensive, especially in the matter of grand suppers and magnificent floral decorations. The President is cultivating Southern influence in a conciliatory way, to carry out, as he says, the general amnesty policy; and the Southern members, who are not blessed with as liberal allowance of worldly means as most of their more fortunate republican brethren, are working quietly to have the President veto the bill for two potent reasons:—

First, they do not want the republican party to be relieved of the weight of public opinion again it on account of the salary grab; and, second, they have need for all the money they can get.

It is also said that the incorporation of the Cabinet and heads of bureaus was an adroit master touch of Conkling, so as to accomplish by indirection what could not be had by direction—viz., keep the salary just what it is now—and to do that by means of necessitating the President's veto in protection of his official family.

Maryland Republicans Exchange Compliments with the President.

The representatives of the republican party in the Maryland Legislature called on the President to-day to pay their respects. Colonel Salt presented a brief address to the President, expressive of their confidence in his administration, and also assuring him of their endorsement of his recent nomination of Judge Williams to be Chief Justice. The President, in thanking them for the compliment of their visit, said he was glad that the republican party had presented so strong a front in the State of Maryland as to be able to check improper legislation on the part of their political opponents.

Civil Service Examination.

The Board of Examiners for the Treasury Department have presented the names of Charles Chesley, Solicitor Internal Revenue Department, and E. C. Banfield, Solicitor of the Treasury, to the Civil Service Commission as those of proper persons to act as associate members of the Board in preparing for conducting and reporting the examination to be held on the 23d inst. for the purpose of filling the vacancy in the office of the First Deputy Commissioner of Internal Revenue. The nominations have been approved by the Commission.

Hon. William D. Kelley on the Currency Question.

The usual school-boy custom of reading written speeches on Saturday in Congress in a drawling tone for home consumption was varied to-day by a sterling, snapping, robust declaration of principles on the financial question by the Hon. William D. Kelley, of Pennsylvania. He advocated the adoption of his plan of issuing a three-sixty-five convertible bond, which he claims will relieve the present widespread difficulties of the currency. During his speech he called attention to several letters he had received from various parts of the country from leading financiers, Boards of Trade and Finance, and from manufacturers approving of his plan, and he quoted from a former speech, delivered in 1866, which sounded like prophecy from the fact that he cautioned Congress and the Treasury against the late deplorable panic. Mr. Kelley's views are gaining strength with many leading members in the House, and more than one Senator has said that he did not know but he would vote for Kelley's bill when it came up in the Senate. He will bring it up for a final vote by the Committee of Ways and Means on Tuesday next, when he is confident it will be favorably reported to the House and passed. The views of Mr. Kelley, as published in the HERALD and in pamphlet form, have been placed by Mr. Kelley on the desk of every Senator and member of Congress.

WEATHER REPORT.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 18—1 A. M.

Probabilities.

FOR NEW ENGLAND, THE MIDDLE STATES AND THE LOWER LAKE REGION GENERALLY CLEAR WEATHER AND RISING TEMPERATURE WILL PREVAIL DURING THE DAY, WITH SOUTHWESTERLY WINDS.

For the South Atlantic and Gulf States cloudy weather and rising temperature, with northeasterly to southerly winds and rain near the coast.

For Tennessee and the Ohio Valley clear or partly cloudy weather and southerly winds, with but slight changes of temperature.

For the upper lake region, and thence southwestward to the lower Missouri Valley, generally cloudy weather and light rain, the temperature remaining above freezing, with southerly winds, veering to westerly.

The Weather in This City Yesterday.

The following record will show the changes in the temperature for the past twenty-four hours in comparison with the corresponding day last year, as indicated by the thermometer at Hudnut's pharmacy, HERALD Building:—

	1873.	1874.		1873.	1874.
3 A. M.	48	14	3:30 P. M.	42	25
6 A. M.	49	15	6 P. M.	36	25
9 A. M.	49	18	9 P. M.	35	24
12 M.	45	21	12 P. M.	30	21

Average temperature yesterday 20¾
Average temperature for corresponding date last year 41¾
Average temperature last week 27 2-7
Average temperature for corresponding week last year 30 5-7

THE TEXAS DISPUTE.

Attorney General Williams Advises Davis That His Claim to the Governorship is Very Doubtful—No Aid To Be Given Him.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17, 1874.

Attorney General Williams this afternoon sent the following telegram to Governor Davis, of Texas:—

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, WASHINGTON, Jan. 17, 1874.
Governor E. J. DAVIS, Austin, Texas:—

Your telegram of yesterday stating that according to the constitution of Texas you were Governor until the 28th of April next, and that Hon. Richard Coke has been inaugurated and will attempt to seize the Governor's office and buildings, and calling upon the President for military assistance, has been referred by him to me, and I am instructed to say that after considering the fourth section of article 4 of the constitution of Texas providing that the Governor shall hold his office for the term of four years from the date of his instalment, under which you claim, and section 3 of the election declaration attached to said constitution under which you were chosen, and which provides that the State and other officers elected thereunder shall hold their respective offices for the term of years prescribed by the constitution, beginning from the day of their election, under which the Governor elect claims the office, and more than four years having expired since your election, he is of the opinion that your right to the office of Governor at this time is, at least, so doubtful that he does not feel warranted in furnishing United States troops to aid you in holding further possession of it, and he therefore declines to comply with your request.

GEORGE H. WILLIAMS, Attorney General.

Governor Davis Waiting Advices from Washington—No Transfer of State Offices.

GALVESTON, Jan. 17, 1874.

A *News* special from Austin, dated to-day, says Governor Davis still holds out, and no transfers of other State offices have been made. His friends say he will await the result of the Cabinet meeting at Washington to-day.

This evening seven of the ringleaders of the mob who seized the Mayor yesterday were arrested on a civil process. They were four negroes and three whites. This caused quite a sensation in the basement of the Capitol, but no demonstrations were made and everything is otherwise quiet.

The following correspondence took place at the State Capitol on January 16:—

To the Hon. EDMUND J. DAVIS:—

SIR—I was on yesterday, the 15th day of January, duly and constitutionally declared elected Governor of the State of Texas, and, having fully qualified as such, I have to ask of you respectfully the delivery into my possession of the executive office of the State, with the papers, archives and all property pertaining thereto, as well as the office of the Secretary of State and its archives, papers and property. Very respectfully, your obedient servant, RICHARD COKE.

To the above letter the following response was made:—

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
STATE OF TEXAS, Jan. 17, 1874.

SIR—Acknowledging receipt of your communication of yesterday, I have to say, in reply, that I do not, as you know, regard you as the Executive officer of this State or entitled to the possession of the Governor's office or any official records. I am myself the Governor of the State until the 28th of April next. So much on this point. I will add, sir, in my view, and I hope, also, to yours, that it becomes us, as citizens desirous of the peace of our State, that we should without delay concur in some plan for settling the question as to which is the legitimate State government, and of putting an end to the disturbed condition of the State. As matters now stand, every day adds greatly to the injurious complication of our affairs. I therefore now propose to you to submit the question of recognition of the legitimate State government to the Executive or Congress of the United States, or to both. As the Executive of the United States is bound under the constitution to protect the legitimate government against domestic violence, this question is a proper one for him to decide. I pledge myself to abide the decision to be thus made, and will advise all good citizens to do the same. I also propose to join with you in adopting the means best calculated to secure a prompt decision of this question. Greatly desiring an early settlement of these troubles, and trusting that you will meet this offer with a similar spirit, I remain respectfully,

EDMUND J. DAVIS.

To Hon. RICHARD COKE.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, AUSTIN, TEXAS, Jan. 17, 1874.

To the Hon. E. J. DAVIS:—

SIR—Yours of this inst. in reply to mine of yesterday is to hand. By the will of the people of Texas, fairly and legally expressed at the polls, and the recognition of their representatives, the Fourteenth Legislature now in session, it has been decided that I am the constitutional Governor of Texas, and as such I have been duly installed, and, holding this decision absolute, and declining, under any circumstances, to consider your proposition to refer the matter to other authority, I respectfully renew the request made in my note of yesterday. Very respectfully yours, RICHARD COKE.

Following these Captain George Clarke made a demand on J. P. Newcomb for the State Department, &c., and was answered that Mr. Newcomb would comply with whatever Mr. Davis ordered; that he held by his order, and till Mr. Davis surrendered the executive office he would remain.

GENET'S VACANT SEAT.

The Men Who Are Anxious for Assembly Honors.

The election to fill the vacant seat of Henry W. Genet in the Assembly comes off in the Twenty-first Assembly district on Tuesday next. The preparations which have been going on for the past week are now finished, and all sides are ready and eager for the fray. The Apollo Hall and "independent" candidate, Mr. J. H. Sullivan, seems determined to win, and is sparing neither time nor trouble to gain that end. The presence of Mr. William Wood in the race has been considered by Sullivan's friends as augmenting the favorable chances of their candidate, for the reason that his presence in the field would divide the democratic vote of the district into three parts. The withdrawal of Mr. Wood, when coupled with certain scraps from the history of the Apollo Hall candidate, seems to diminish the last named gentleman's chances for election. Mr. Sullivan being a contractor the workingmen of the district, it is said, are not as favorable to him as they might be, owing to his employment of what they term "Italian greenhorns" upon a certain occasion over native and naturalized citizens.

Last night the Tammany General Committee met at 116th street and Third avenue to ratify the nomination of Charles Crary. That Mr. Crary will be elected is the fixed impression of his friends and political supporters. The fact of the independent democracy being weakened by one of its candidates having declared for Crary seems to have removed all uncertainty as to the result of the election. The orthodox Tammany people in the district say that the "independent" democracy of the district went for Harry Genet, and now that he is gone there is no democracy but Tammany.

The republican vote of this district never tells until there is a State or national issue at stake. In contests for local officers it has always been divided. Perhaps this may have been caused by a desire on the part of many honest republicans to vote for some one other than a political hack. It is hoped by the republicans that Mr