

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

THE DAILY HERALD, published every day in the year. Four cents per copy. Annual subscription price \$10.

All business or news letters and telegraphic despatches must be addressed NEW YORK HERALD.

Rejected communications will not be returned.

Letters and packages should be properly sealed.

LONDON OFFICE OF THE NEW YORK HERALD—NO. 46 FLEET STREET.

Subscriptions and Advertisements will be received and forwarded on the same terms as in New York.

Volume XXXIX. No. 148

AMUSEMENTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING

OLYMPIC THEATRE. Broadway, between Houston and Beecher streets—VAUDEVILLE and NOVELTY ENTERTAINMENT, at 7.45 P. M.; closes at 10.30 P. M.

BOOTH'S THEATRE. Sixth Avenue, corner of Twenty-third street—KING JOHN, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10.30 P. M. Mr. John McCullough.

METROPOLITAN THEATRE. No. 585 Broadway—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, at 7.45 P. M.; closes at 10.30 P. M.

WOODS MUSEUM. Broadway, corner of Thirtieth street—THE ORANGE GIRL, at 2 P. M.; closes at 4.30 P. M. MARKED FOR LIFE, at 5 P. M.; closes at 10.30 P. M. Louis S. France.

DAILY FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE. Twenty-eighth street and Broadway—OLIVER TWIST, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10.30 P. M. Miss Fanny Davenport, Miss Helen, Mr. Louis James.

MRS. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE. WYDEN SQUARE, at 8 P. M. Mr. Frank Roche, Miss Jane Conroy.

NITELERS GARDEN. Broadway, between Prince and Houston streets—THE LADY OF THE LAKES, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10.30 P. M. Mr. Joseph Wheeler, Miss Jane Conroy.

LYCUM THEATRE. Fourteenth street—JAME AYK CAMELLIA, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10.30 P. M. Miss Eva Beaurgard.

TERRACE GARDEN THEATRE. Fifty-eighth street between Third and Lexington avenues—Operatic and Dramatic Entertainment, at 8 P. M.

THEATRE COMIQUE. No. 54 Broadway—ON HAND, and VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10.30 P. M.

WALLACK'S THEATRE. Broadway and Thirtieth street—WOODCOCK'S LIT. THE GAMB, and THE SERVANTS MAN. Begins at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Mr. Lester Wallack, Miss Jeffrey Lewis.

NEW PARK THEATRE, BROOKLYN. Fulton street, opposite the City Hall—GRISS AND LENA, at 8 P. M.; Baker and Faron.

BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE. Twenty-third street, near Sixth Avenue—NEGO MINISTERS, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10.30 P. M.

CENTRAL PARK GARDEN. Fifty-ninth street and Sixth Avenue—THOMAS CONCERT, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10.30 P. M.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF DESIGN. Fourth Avenue and Twenty-third street—ANNUAL EXHIBITION. Open day and evening.

COLOSSEUM. Broadway, corner of Third and Sixth streets—LONDON BY NIGHT, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10.30 P. M. Same at 7 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M.

ROMAN HIPPODROME. Madison Avenue and Twenty-sixth street—GRAND FAUCENT—CONGRESS OF NATIONS, at 8.30 P. M. and 7 P. M.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Thursday, May 28, 1874.

From our reports this morning the probabilities are that the weather to-day will be generally clear and warmer.

WALL STREET YESTERDAY.—Gold opened at 112 1/2 and closed at 112 1/2. Stocks were lower and irregular.

IT IS ANNOUNCED as an evidence of American influence over English taste that felt hats are worn for the first time in the House of Commons.

THE MEMORY OF ELLSWORTH, the gallant young soldier who lost his life at Alexandria in the first days of the war, was suitably honored by the unveiling of the monument at Mechanicsville yesterday with appropriate ceremonies. In such tributes as this we see no partisan rejoicing, but only the proper duty of patriotism, which would keep green the memory of the young heroes who so gladly gave up their lives for their country in the hour of its trial.

THE BRINCKLEY DIVORCE SUIT, which has been so long pending before Judge Van Brunt, terminated yesterday in a verdict for the plaintiff, Mrs. Brinckley. The point involved in the case is one of importance. The jury believed that a contract of marriage was entered into by the parties, and that, although the ceremony was not solemnized under any of the legal and accepted forms, it was nevertheless a valid marriage.

THE HERALD recently asked if we could not do something to relieve the burdens of the South—"something more than singing hymns and strew flowers over Confederate graves on Decoration Day?" To this question the Burlington Gazette, of Iowa, answers that to do this we must change the policy of the government, "by throwing out of power the corrupt men now ruling the affairs of the South who do once begin to brighten."

THE SANBORN DEBATE FINISHED.—The public had become weary of the Sanborn scandal and the debate on it in Congress. Yesterday the debate was ended, and the bill repealing the law on which the contracts were based was passed. There was, however, an amendment adopted, that of Mr. Beck, which has some significance. By this members of Congress are prohibited from acting as attorneys for claims pending in the several departments of the government. If this should become law and be faithfully observed a good deal of corruption and lobbying will be checked.

COLORADO has been knocking at the doors of Congress for admission into the Union as a State for so long a time that it is not surprising the Committee on Territories of the House is persuaded to report favorably on the measure. But Colorado is in too much haste. She does not need a State government, and the country can get along very well without the two Senators and the Representative who would send to Congress. Admission into the Union is not necessary to the development of her resources, and a State government would be only a burden upon the people. Nobody would be benefited either in Colorado or out of it, and it is to be hoped Congress will see the propriety of permitting the ambitious Territory to wait still a little while longer.

The New Civil Rights Bill.

We suppose no man of intelligence and candor is of opinion that the bill which has been forced through the Senate and awaits the action of the House can bring any solid advantage to our colored population. It is all in vain to declare by law that colored citizens shall be entitled to purchase proscenium boxes at the opera and seats or compartments in palace cars, and to enact heavy penalties of fine and imprisonment against proprietors who refuse to sell them tickets. Except to make test cases for political agitation privileges of this description will not be sought by the negroes of our time, nor even by their children's children. Such conveniences are expensive, and the negroes, as a class, will long remain poor. Luxurious accommodations in public places are desired only by people who are accustomed to a corresponding scale of comfort and expense in their own homes. The mere cost of the tickets is a trifle in comparison with the modes of dress and degree of social elegance which accompany the patronage given to the higher grades of public convenience. So far as the proposed law is designed to operate within this sphere it can do no great mischief so long as it is not resisted. If nobody contests the privilege it will hardly ever be practically asserted, because the negroes have no money to spend for superfluous accommodations, and their political patrons have no motive for inciting them to make a constant series of test cases unless there is a chance of stirring the embers of popular excitement. Unless proprietors refuse equal privileges to negroes this part of the law will be a dead letter; and, really, proprietors have no good motive for resistance. The law will sufficiently excuse them to their patrons, and their patrons, themselves, whom no law can reach, would take care to make the colored intruders—as they would regard them—sufficiently uncomfortable. No law can regulate or punish social manners, and persons skilled in the art of expressing contempt would have no difficulty in surrounding disagreeable people with such an atmosphere of contumely as would be inexpressibly wounding to the pride or vanity of the few negroes who could bear the expense of asserting their equality.

With the law as it stands negroes meet with no obstructions to the free use of ordinary railroad cars. People who shrink from contact with them have an easy refuge in the palace cars, which also protect them from disagreeable nearness to coarse-mannered, ill-dressed or bad-smelling passengers of the white race. In hotels the case would be somewhat different; but even in hotels there would be little risk of annoyance except at the public tables. The poverty of the negroes is a pretty complete security against their thronging expensive hotels, and if a vain or socially ambitious negro should occasionally present himself the managers could not only assign him a room in any remote part of the house they pleased, but they could give him any seat they pleased in the dining room without violating the law. If, in consequence of full tables, he should sometimes chance to be seated in unwelcome proximity to white people, they would have no difficulty in making their disgust so unpleasantly manifest without incurring legal penalties as to poison all the satisfaction the intruder might feel in eating his meals with persons who despised him. The opponents of the law may safely trust the play of social forces to annul and defeat it in most parts of the sphere of its operation, where it is calculated to alarm the sensitive of social caste. If they are only careful not to put themselves within the scope of its penalties the invincible white repugnance to near association with negroes will render the law a nullity by exposing negro vanity and presumption to wounds which vanity and presumption are always quick to feel. Considering the pecuniary condition of the colored population, it is clear enough that nothing but the most exorbitant vanity and insolence could impel them to thrust themselves into palace cars, opera boxes, or fashionable hotels, and the weapons which would be used against them in such places are of precisely that kind by which aspiring vanity or pretentious poverty most deeply suffer. Against such weapons the law can interpose no shield. What court of justice will arraign disgraced young belles for quiet and contemptuous insults towards negroes within six seats near them at the public table of a hotel? It was only under the rigors of martial law that General Butler could promulgate his unprecedented "woman order," and nothing similar to it can be put in force against the lady guests of a hotel, the lady passengers in a palace car or the lady spectators in a theatre. The proposed law will be inoperative except against the proprietors of such places; and if the proprietors have the good sense to passively submit to its operation the political agitators will be foiled. The true policy for the proprietors is to sell tickets and accord privileges freely to all comers, white or black, and leave it to their patrons to protect themselves by such social weapons as they know how to use. If this policy is adopted the offensive law will be mere waste paper except so far as it applies to schools.

In respect to schools it is more formidable and may do infinite mischief; but we doubt whether it will be worth while to contest it in the courts, even for the preservation of the common school system of the South. Of the nine judges of the Supreme Court only one—Justice Clifford—is a democrat, and there is a great preponderance of chances against the law being adjudged unconstitutional. A futile effort to get it set aside by the judiciary would only promote the object of its partisan authors. A rekindling of the extinct negro excitement would give them the advantage of the old issue, in which they always triumphed, and if their opponents are wary they will not, by bootless opposition after the law has passed, play into the hands of the agitators. "But," they may ask, "shall the infant system of free common schools in the South be ruined without a strenuous attempt to save it?" If there were a possibility of saving it this question would be pertinent; but it cannot be saved unless the Supreme Court should declare this law unconstitutional, of which there is no reasonable hope. Why, then, furnish fuel to partisan agitation by fruitless opposition in the courts? If this bill becomes a law the common schools of the South are irrevocably doomed, except in the two or three States in which the negroes are a majority, and a futile attempt to save them will only serve

to bring the negro question once more into undesirable prominence. Fruitless for any other good purpose as the recent financial discussions have been, they have at least fixed and concentrated public attention upon a different order of questions from those which have convulsed the country for the last fifteen years.

The present tendency of Southern State legislation is to provide equal advantages of elementary education for both races in separate schools. The negroes cannot complain that their children are not instructed, nor that the instruction offered them is inferior, but only that they are not permitted to receive it on the same benches with white children. In the Northern States, where there are few negroes, this bill will have no perceptible effect. If negro children are sent to schools where their presence is distasteful they will be so humiliated by the insults of the white children as to make their attendance intolerable. Even at West Point, where the school is under military discipline, one or two negro students have been tormented by white insolence almost beyond endurance, and it would be utterly impossible to repress such manifestations in an ordinary common school.

The negro claim to social equality is not a natural, but a forced growth. The negroes can rise in the social scale only by industry, thrift and intelligence—the true sources of prosperity and consideration. When people of the white race have succeeded in acquiring property they begin to thirst for social consideration; but this species of ambition is seldom exhibited by whites who have risen no higher in the scale of prosperity than the mass of our negroes. If the political patrons and pretended friends of these unhappy people were to give them sound advice, its purport would be to strive to secure respect by their industry and their virtues and to disarm prejudice by quiet diligence in their honest callings. The laws have already done for them all that mere law can accomplish, and the political agitators who feed them with false hopes are their worst enemies.

A Tenacious Secretary.

Mr. Richardson gives, every day and every hour that he remains in the office of the Secretary of the Treasury, a new evidence of his unfitness to be there. This evidence consists in his inability to comprehend the proprieties of the position, or in his unwillingness to act on that comprehension if he possesses it. It is an experience very common in our country for men to care more for their offices than for their dignity; but it should not be common in the Cabinet. It ought to be supposed that in high offices there is a sense of honor, and that only an ordinary moral tone would compel a man whose discreditable transactions had been shown to vacate an office whose duties he could no longer properly perform from the mere loss of general respect. It is a pretty fair rule on this delicate subject that a man who does not resign when his resignation is in order is of that kind of humanity whose moral nature is covered with a rhinoceros skin. There is no occasion to consider the sensibilities of such a man, and his successor may be appointed without apprehension of any consequent mental calamity. Perhaps the President has noted this in regard to his Secretary, as he is reported to have said that "when Mr. Richardson does resign" his successor will be named immediately. The man who does not resign with such an observation on foot could scarcely be blown out of office with a torpedo.

THE HOHENZOLLERN BOOK.—Business is dull in Paris, especially with the press; and as the Parisian must have his sensation, though the heavens fall, one of the city journals has made the discovery that Señor Sagasta and two other members of the Spanish Cabinet "favor the renewal of the Hohenzollern candidature" for the throne of Spain. What an inexhaustible mine of excitement is opened by the mere suggestion! There are not only the downfall of the Spanish Republic, the explosion of galvanized Carlism, the destruction of the hopes of the Alfonsists embodied in the thought, but there is also a renewal of the Franco-German war, with the probable result of another siege of Paris. When the Hohenzollern bogey first appeared before the eyes of frightened Europe people were puzzled to decide whether he was raised by the pious Kaiser or the plotting Emperor, and to-day the world is divided in opinion on that point. Now, however, it is quite plain that Sagasta is to drag him again into sight with the object of destroying the Spanish Republic, rekindling the Franco-German war and restoring the Empire to France. This certainly is a new and interesting phase of Spanish diplomacy.

THE UNLUCKY REDSKINS.—Official reports from the frontier predict a general Indian war, and one close at hand at that. General Sheridan announces warlike movements among the Sioux that are very ominous for the welfare of the settlers in their vicinity, and the most powerful tribes in the Southwest are also taking to the warpath. So much for the peace policy and government presents supposed to be sufficient to keep the savages quiet. Those reports also rebuke in a very significant manner the criminal policy that suggests skeletonizing our small army. A general Indian war would do much towards disabusing the public mind of such a suicidal course and showing what insufficient protection is exercised at present by the government over the frontier settlers. The entire army would be inadequate to the task of guarding such an immense extent of territory against a wily, unscrupulous foe, armed and trained at the government expense.

THE QUEEN DOWAGER OF SWEDEN, mother to the King, proposes to visit Norway. It is fifty years since she made her first visit. Then Bernadotte was King and she was Crown Princess. The Queen Dowager is the granddaughter of Josephine, and was first cousin to Napoleon III. She is now in the sixty-seventh year of her age, and was born when her father, Prince Eugene, was in the sunshine of Napoleonic splendor. She married the son of Bernadotte in 1823, two years after the death of Napoleon, and when, as matters were going badly with the Bonaparte family, it was well enough for a Beauharnais to marry a Bernadotte. Her first visit to Norway was in her youth, a fair and hopeful bride. She now returns in her old age, a widow and no longer Queen. The occasion of her visit will be made a public ceremony.

The Board of Apportionment and the City Taxation.

The revised estimates of the several city departments are now in the Comptroller's hands, and there should be no delay in the action of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment upon them. The law authorizing the revision requires that the new estimate shall be made by July 1. Before final action is taken by the Board the figures should be laid before the people, so that the taxpayers may learn whether proper reductions have been made in the expenses of the city government. It is not desirable that any necessary work of public improvement should be stopped or embarrassed through mistaken economy; but it is essential that all expenditures not demanded by the public interests should be postponed until the Treasury is in a better condition.

The Board of Estimate and Apportionment is one of the most important bodies in the city government, and it has hitherto been run after a sort of star chamber fashion. Its action has been a mere mechanical indorsement of the orders of the Comptroller. The remaining members of the Board seem to have been machines, without opinions of their own or independence of action. It is about time that this blind servility should cease. Each member is directly responsible for every act done by the Board, for the votes are mainly required to be concurrent. Mr. Wheeler, the President of the Department of Taxes and Assessments, and Mr. Vance, the President of the Board of Aldermen, have, therefore, as much responsibility as Mr. Green and his venerable assistant, the Mayor. It is their duty to ascertain that an appropriation is proper to be made, or that there is occasion for the issue of new bonds and stock, before they vote in its favor. In the revision of the city and county estimate they should insist upon publicity being given to the proceedings of the Board, and should vote on every question connected with the important subject on their own judgment, and not on the judgment or at the dictation of any associate. The proposed expenditures of every department should be closely scrutinized and economized, while at the same time, as we have said, the necessary works of public improvement should not be embarrassed. We have been promised a large reduction in the rate of taxation as the result of the reopening of the estimate, but care should be taken that the reduction is not secured simply by the "bridging over" process, and that the public interests are not made to suffer for the sake of a false appearance of economy.

The Omnibuses and the Omnibus Drivers.

As the strike of the stage drivers comes very near to the public convenience a general interest is excited in it not proportionate to its importance from any other point of view, and the discussion over it takes in the necessity of the very existence of the omnibus lines. Certainly Broadway is a great deal better without them. Seven hundred lumbering, clumsy, slow-going vehicles, that go down Broadway a dozen times a day and up it a dozen times a day, are themselves almost enough to fill and occupy a good street, but when they are added to an already great traffic we see good reason why the street should so often become absolutely blocked. Some years nearer to the millennium than we are now, we may be able to have in the city government such a supervision of affairs relating to the public interest as will limit the number of licensed vehicles with regard to the capacity of the streets. Since the strike has called attention to the relief that the retiring of all omnibuses would be to Broadway people are naturally led to discuss the point whether the convenience of the omnibuses and their general utility to the public are equivalents for the jams they so frequently cause, and it is a pretty general opinion that they are not. In pointing this lesson the strikers have been of some little use to the public, but they are not likely to be of much use to themselves. Apparently their strike was a repetition of an error very common with many strikers—they forgot that it is only in skilled labor that the withdrawal of service can do permanent or considerable harm. Some skill is required to drive an omnibus, but it is skill of a kind that is tolerably common in this country. To be able to drive a team and keep an eye on the pedestrian public at the same time, and count out a fare or only pull the string that drops a coin into the box, cannot be supposed to call for great skill or long special experience; and as there are doubtless now many thousands of persons out of employment who can drive tolerably well the more important part of the knowledge is ready to start with. No doubt the owners would rather have the experienced men at the same wages; but if the men hold out it seems probable that their places will be supplied by others.

The Beauties of Reconstruction.

We copy from a Charleston journal one of the most painful stories we have read since the war. In a single county in South Carolina there had been a public sale of property which had not paid its taxes. Within five days twenty-nine hundred pieces of real estate had been thus sold. In other words, the owners of twenty-nine hundred farms and homesteads are so poor that they cannot pay their taxes, and so submit to confiscation. Surely there must be a cause for this—a cause, the existence of which is a sin and a shame. We say nothing of the scenes of devastation inflicted upon the Carolinas by Sherman's army; upon the fact that the army was virtually permitted to pillage the State which generated secession and was the home and grave of Calhoun. Let history pass upon that as it may; we pass it as one of those dark memories which we would gladly forget. But here is a case for which no war necessity can be pleaded. South Carolina has been governed so wantonly, with such a total disregard of public rights and private security, that she sinks into immanitation, that liberty, comfort and the pursuit of happiness seem to be impossible. The single incident thus recorded illuminates the whole Southern situation and dishonors the administration of General Grant. When he accepted the Presidency his yearning was for peace. But can there be peace with a government which amounts to confiscation?

DON CARLOS still maintains his position in the northern provinces of Spain. General Concha, at the head of an army of twenty-five thousand men, pursues and harasses the Carlist body, Concha, however, if the news from Bayona

is to be trusted, finds the work hard and not altogether full of promise. The simple fact that Don Carlos is still in Spain is proof sufficient that the Madrid government has on hand a dangerous domestic foe. The Carlists claim a victory on the 24th of the present month, and Don Carlos still moves about like a king among his friends.

An Important Application of Agricultural Science.

A new and most important application of a waste product, in the practical processes of agricultural chemistry, has been recently proposed by a foreign engineer. In the manufacturing and coal consuming districts of Great Britain the enormous profits derivable from the utilization of slag, coal ashes and the refuse of minerals after passing through the furnace, have been within a few years much discussed. The so-called "volcanic stone," manufactured from slag and hydraulic lime, has been demonstrated to be one of the cheapest and most durable building materials. But now the far more economic and valuable use of the same waste matter for enriching the soil has been pressed upon public attention.

The great chemist, Liebig, long ago suggested the important part silicates, in a soluble form, would play in the economy of plants, and silica abounds in all the slag products. Lands otherwise highly improved and fertilized, but lacking in the one ingredient of soluble silica, may produce fine crops of wheat, but the straw is found to be too weak to sustain the ears, and whole fields of grain are thus easily prostrated by the summer storms. The free use of disintegrated slag, which supplies silica to the straw and hardens and strengthens it, enables the golden harvest to resist the tempest. It has been observed that in the midst of fields in which the grain has generally succumbed to the blast patches in which the ground had been fertilized with the silicious refuse of brick burning stood erect with their well-filled ears. In the wide wind-swept prairies of the West, whose wheat harvests are the main supply of food for many millions besides the home consumer, the application of this discovery may prove of the greatest benefit and largely add to the total annual yield of the grain growing States. The process of disintegrating the slag, so as to render it soluble, by running it into water while in a fluid state, appears to be inexpensive. And as the porous soluble fertilizer that results is rich in lime a double purpose is served, which would justify considerable expenditure in preparing it for the agricultural market. The utility of this important chemical compound will probably be felt in the sugar-cane regions, where silicious fertilizers are in so great demand, and where it is often necessary to burn the standing stripped cane for the sake of restoring vigor to the exhausted soil.

Science has a great work to do in transmuting the waste and refuse materials, elements of pollution, into sources of economy and wealth. The utilization of the sewage of our great cities, for agricultural ends, has virtually been a demonstrated success. We doubt not the same success, by patient experiment, is obtainable in the case of many other waste products, which, in ignorance of their value, we suffer to defile our streets, pollute our rivers and taint the air we breathe.

Army Headquarters.

The St. Louis and Chicago journals are discussing with some earnestness the order transferring General Sherman's headquarters, as the commander of the army, from Washington to St. Louis. The Missouri journals exult over the coming of the General as the pioneer of the capital. They have long dreamed that the greatness of the Republic demands that the capital should be built on the Mississippi, and Sherman's movement is only an omen of what is coming in the future. The Chicago journals are green with envy. "There is not," says the Tribune, "a single instance in the civilized or uncivilized world where the seat of government is at one place and the army headquarters at another." If Sherman should go West at all he should not stop at St. Louis, but go to Denver, which is West enough. At the same time the Tribune alludes to the fact that it possesses Sheridan, and, in a spirit of magnanimity, will spare Sherman to St. Louis.

Our opinion is that it does not make any material difference where the headquarters of the army are. The telegraph makes St. Louis as near to Washington as Bladensburg, for all purposes of administration and authority. We can understand why the commander of the army would prefer to make his home in a community where he was a conspicuous man, and not, as in Washington, where he is out-ranked and smothered by other men quite as conspicuous. In Washington Sherman is among the attractions, a satellite revolving around the War Department and the Presidency. In St. Louis he would be the shining central sun. As the command of the army is little more than a social position, or rather will be when Congress has pinched and clipped the army into a skeleton condition, St. Louis would be more attractive, especially to a soldier of the transcendent fame of Sherman, than any other city that could be selected. Still, the matter is not of much consequence. Capital moving is a dream. It makes little difference where we have the place of authority, so long as the telegraph obeys it. The natural capital is New York. When the government chooses to come here we shall welcome it. In the meantime Washington will do for a century or two at least.

COMPTROLLER GREEN periodically favors the public with a tirade against the system of giving out city work by private contract, without inviting bids, even when the law authorizes such action and the city interests are properly guarded. But this is when the work is done under a department which does not enjoy the friendship of the Comptroller. When a department is on the good books of the financial head the case is different. Take, for instance, the dry goods bills of the Department of Charities and Correction. The goods were sold to the city at an advance of from twenty-five to thirty-five per cent over their cost, in amounts over one thousand dollars, and yet no bids had been invited. How is it that the bills were paid by the Comptroller? Why were the detectives, examiners, investigators and other "contingency" employees of the Finance Department unable to discover their illegal character? We may not receive any explanation from the Comptroller; but is

it not about time for another indignant outburst against the fraudulent private contract system, in order that public attention may be diverted from the dry goods, flour and meat bills of the Charities and Correction Commissioners?

Muzzling the Dogs.

The fat has gone forth and the law has passed that henceforth all unmuzzled dogs found in the streets will suffer capital punishment at the hands of the authorities, and not all the tears of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals will save them. The new law requires that the head of each dog shall be encased in a wire muzzle, so as not to leave any opportunity for the canine prisoner to exercise his biting proclivities, and a fine will be exacted from the owner in any case where this ordinance is violated. In our crowded streets we can dispense with canines which are inclined at times to lurch off the leg of a passer by, and from the petted spaniel of the belle of Broadway to the vicious cur which acknowledges some beetle-browed rough as master, there is every reason to enforce the wearing of the wire muzzle. But what says the tender-hearted Bergh to this curtailment of the liberty of a portion of his flock? He will, perhaps, feel as if the Mayor and Aldermen had put a wire muzzle upon a padlock on him. We may look for a proclamation on this subject on any day, a document that will make the dog-muzzlers tremble.

THE TIME OF IMMIGRATION increases in volume as the spring advances. Upwards of 4,000 immigrants arrived on Monday. One steamship, the City of Paris, from Liverpool, brought 1,246 steerage passengers, besides 41 cabin passengers. The Spain brought 1,000 steerage and 113 cabin passengers. The Oceanic had 861 steerage and 56 cabin passengers. Nearly all of this vast number of immigrants sailed from Liverpool, though they were of different nationalities. Yesterday the influx, though not so great as the day before, was very large. All the efforts of the governments of Europe to restrain emigration and all the misrepresentations to divert emigrants from the United States and to the British Colonies or elsewhere fail to check the current to this Republic. The panic last winter retarded immigration hither to some extent. The action of the German government, to prevent its subjects leaving the Fatherland, and lately the misrepresentations made in England as to the alleged disadvantages which immigrants labored under in this country, had also some effect, but the stream flows on nevertheless and appears to be increasing. The truth is the mass of people in Europe are pretty well informed about the United States—that is, as to the cheapness and quality of the land and the freedom and excellence of our institutions—and they prefer to take the chances of life and to make their homes here. Well, there is plenty of room and abundant opportunities for well doing to the industrious. Only let the immigrants leave the crowded cities and go to the interior, where there is work for all and cheap land for all.

Compulsory Education.—Senator Stewart, of Nevada, has proposed an amendment to the constitution as follows:—

ARTICLE 14.—If any State shall fail to maintain a common school system, under which all persons between the ages of five and eighteen years, not incapacitated for the same, shall receive, free of charge, such elementary education as Congress may prescribe, the Congress shall have power to establish thereon such a system, and cause the same to be maintained at the expense of such State.

This is one of the most important amendments that has ever been submitted to Congress. The constitution imposes upon Congress the guarantee to every State of a republican form of government. Now there can be no such form of government, either in form or in spirit, without education. We are rapidly coming to the doctrine that ignorance is crime, and certainly it is a crime against the State. It is more necessary to build school-houses than jails, and quite as important to send children to school as to preserve the quarantine at our ports. We trust the Senator will press this amendment, or one similar to it in spirit, and that it will command itself to the prompt and intelligent consideration of Congress.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Randolph Rogers, the sculptor, is at the Windsor Hotel. Speaker James W. Husted has apartments at the Hotel Brunswick. Dr. Samuel G. Howe, of Boston, is residing at the Brevoort House. Rajah Kail Krishna, poet laureate of Bengal, India, recently died. Mr. A. T. Stewart and Judge Hilton left this city for Saratoga yesterday. Ex-Congressman F. E. Woodbridge, of Vermont, is at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. Assemblyman F. A. Alberger, of Buffalo, is staying at the Metropolitan Hotel. State Senator William Johnson, of Seneca Falls, N. Y., is at the Metropolitan Hotel. Judge William F. Allen, of the Court of Appeals, yesterday arrived at the Hotel Brunswick. General Rufus H. King and J. N. Knapp, of Governor Dix's staff, are at the Windsor Hotel. General William T. Sherman arrived from Washington yesterday morning at the Astor House. Captain Tyler and Lieutenant Tyler, of the British Army, are quartered at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. Congressman George F. Hoar, of Massachusetts, is among the recent arrivals at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. Ex-Solicitor General B. H. Bristow has left his old Kentucky home and is now at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. General Ben. Harrison, a descendant of General Harrison, and a brigade commander in Sherman's Atlanta campaign, is strongly urged for the republican nomination for Governor of Indiana. Sir E. T. Rogers, the British Consul at Cairo, Egypt, is about to place a marble monument over the grave of Burckhardt, the celebrated Eastern traveller, whose body reposes in the Massimian cemetery of Bab el Nasr, at Cairo. Dr. Kenealy, of Tioburne trial notoriety, is in Ottawa, Canada, where he was the guest of Lord Dufferin on Saturday. He is there on business connected with the development of the mining interests of Nova Scotia. Colonel Mariner, a veteran of the First Empire, has just died in France at the age of ninety years. He was, under Napoleon, an aide-de-camp to General Rapp, and at the Bourbon restoration became one of the gentlemen of the Chamber of Louis XVIII. The Duke of Edinburgh, though a sailor, must needs be identified with the land service; therefore the Ninety-ninth regiment of foot has been chosen to bear his cipher and coronet on its colors, and hereafter will be known as the Duke of Edinburgh's regiment. Mr. Driscoll's lack of health is causing considerable anxiety to his personal and political friends, and it is rumored that he may find it necessary to withdraw for a few months from the duties of Premier, which, in the meantime, will be performed by Earl Derby.