

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 \$12.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.—On and after January 1, 1875, the daily and weekly editions of the New York Herald will be sent free of postage.

All business or news letters and telegraphic despatches must be addressed New York Herald.

Rejected communications will not be returned.

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. 343

AMUSEMENTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING

WOODS MUSEUM, Broadway, corner of Third and Third streets.—THE OGAN MAN, at 5 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mr. Dominick Murray, Matinee at 2 P. M.

METROPOLITAN THEATRE, No. 88 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 5 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.

OLYMPIC THEATRE, No. 624 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 5 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, Twenty-third street and Eighth avenue.—THE BLACK CROOK, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.

PARK THEATRE, Broadway, between Twenty-first and Twenty-second streets.—LITTLE AGES, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mr. John T. Baymond.

THEATRE COMIQUE, No. 314 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 5 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.

BROADWAY THEATRE, corner Twenty-third street and Sixth avenue.—RED TAPE and THE WIDOW HUNT, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mr. John S. Clarke.

ROMAN HIPPODROME, Twenty-fifth street, near Fourth avenue.—FETE AT F&KIN, afternoon and evening, at 7 and 8.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway.—THE SHAGBHAUN, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mr. Boucicault.

TERRACE GARDEN THEATRE, Fifty-eighth street and Lexington avenue.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

NEW YORK STADE THEATRE, Bowery.—DUCHESNEAU, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Miss Lina Mayr.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-eighth street and Broadway.—YOHICK and MY ENGLISH WIFE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Miss Sara Jewett, Mr. Louis Jance.

BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE, West Twenty-third street, near Sixth avenue.—NEGRO MINSTRELS, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Dan Bryant.

BROOKLYN THEATRE, JANE EYRE, at 8 P. M. Miss Charlotte Thompson.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, Broadway, corner of Twenty-ninth street.—NEGRO MINSTRELS, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

THE NEW PARK THEATRE, BROOKLYN, THE HOODLUM, Mr. W. A. Mestayer.

ROBINSON HALL, Sixteenth street.—EGGON DULL CARE, Mr. MacLaine.

GLOBE THEATRE, Broadway.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Miss Jennie Hughes, Matinee at 2 P. M.

LUCRUM THEATRE, Fourteenth street and Sixth avenue.—CHILPERIC, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Miss Emily Zellone.

GERMANIA THEATRE, Fourteenth street.—DER VETTER, at 8 P. M.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Wednesday, Dec. 9, 1874.

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

WALL STREET YESTERDAY.—Stocks were quiet and the market dull. Gold declined to 110½. Money on call loans ranged from 2½ to 4 per cent. Foreign exchange was unchanged.

JOHN MITCHELL spoke about Ireland and "Home Rule" to a number of his countrymen at the Cooper Institute last night, and was very warm and decided on the subject.

THE SPANISH REPUBLICAN TREASURY is about to be relieved by a loan which will be advanced from the Paris branch of one of the most eminent banking houses in the world. This looks well for the Madrid Republic.

THE PARLIAMENTARY PARTIES IN THE FRENCH ASSEMBLY are negotiating and balancing interests, with the view of organizing an effective opposition to the constitutional—as they are termed—bills of the Paris Ministry.

THE CONSERVATIVES OF GREAT BRITAIN have commenced in earnest to consider the most important question which presents to them, as politicians, who among them will succeed Mr. Disraeli as leader of the party. The present condition of health of the distinguished Premier is not by any means satisfactory to his friends.

THE GRASSHOPPERS' victims in Nebraska are in a lamentable state of destitution, according to General Brislin and ex-Governor Sanders from that State, who addressed the members of the Produce Exchange yesterday on the subject. This insect plague seems to be as disastrous in its effects as the one which devastated the banks of the Nile in the days of Pharaoh.

THE POOR OF ST. PETERSBURG have sustained an aggravation of their daily misery by the severe visitation which has reached them in consequence of a sudden inundation of the lower portion of the Russian capital, the result of a storm. The government of the Czar is, however, charitable as well as magnanimous, and there is little doubt that official measures will be promptly taken for the relief of the poverty-stricken population.

THE SURGEON GENERAL'S REPORT.—Our army is certainly an active little force. It appears by the Surgeon General's report that in the past year two hundred and seventy-six men in every thousand were wounded—more than one-quarter of the whole force wounded, therefore, in the year—and of the deaths one-third were due to injuries; ten per thousand died from diseases and five per thousand from wounds. The low percentage from diseases indicates a very intelligent and efficient sanitary supervision, more particularly when we consider the rigors of climate to which our soldiers are exposed and the grave diseases, like yellow fever, to which they are often necessarily subjected.

Reception of the Message. It seems to be the general verdict, both in this city and in Washington, that the President's Message is a failure, if judged by any influence it is likely to exert on the legislation of this session. This results partly from the impracticability of the most important of his recommendations and partly from the tone he assumes toward the body to which the Message is addressed. The evident attempt to cast upon Congress the responsibility for the shortcomings and failures which have brought the administration into discredit is not well received by the members of that body, who came together in no very amiable temper toward the President. He reminds Congress that he invited their action on the Louisiana case last winter and that they treated his suggestions with total neglect. Had they acted and solved the difficulty they would have relieved him from an odious responsibility and might have ended the Louisiana troubles instead of leaving them to plague the President and damage the party. But, if Congress were disposed to retort, it might tell the President that he got himself into the Louisiana scrape by his own action, without their advice, and that after he had created a spurious government in that State on his own responsibility he had no right to feel personally aggrieved that he was left to bear the consequences. If he had not chosen to intermeddle the McCreary government would have been peaceably installed, and the State have escaped the turmoil and the republican party the scandal of these two years.

The President seems also to charge Congress with the failure of civil service reform, and in this part of the Message he gives way to a sharpness of tone which does not quite befit so grave a document. He threatens to abandon the experiment unless Congress comes at last to his relief. Here, again, Congress might retort upon him that he was a volunteer in this business; that, in adopting the civil service rules, he acted on his own mere discretion; that if a law of Congress was necessary to make the rules effective he should have foreseen that necessity, have recommended suitable legislation at the outset and not have begun the experiment until the conditions existed for making it successful. The President is put by his rather ill-tempered threat in this dilemma:—If a law of Congress was necessary he should not have started without it; if Executive discretion was sufficient there is no excuse for impudently abandoning the reform. Had it succeeded he would have taken the sole credit, and since it has failed Congress may reasonably decline any part of the blame. Be this as it may, the temper he exhibits toward Congress is not calculated to secure its indulgent judgment of the Message.

It must be further borne in mind that the Congress to which this Message is addressed is the same Congress whose majority he confronted and humiliated by his veto last spring. They silently swallowed their indignation and chagrin lest the party should be weakened by an open breach with the President. Many of them are more free-spoken now, and as they feel sure of retaining the compromise currency bill which the President concluded to sign there is nothing to be lost by open censure. They are strengthened in their opposition to the financial recommendations of the Message by the fact that they can impugn them on grounds which the hard money men endorse. Even those who approve and commend the decided attitude of the President on specie payments dissent from his methods. Intelligent advocates of resumption think that a repeal of the Legal Tender act instead of the initial should be the final step, or, as the Evening Post expresses it, "the repeal of the Legal Tender act should be the crowning event in the restoration of specie payments." The President has given an advantage to the inflationists by proposing a method which the friends of resumption repudiate. Among other objections made by the hard money men is the formidable fact that the repeal advocated by the President would compel the banks to suddenly contract their business to the diminutive scale of the specie in their vaults. Their greenback reserves would have to be replaced by gold reserves, and, as the banking law requires their reserves to be in a certain proportion to their liabilities, they would be forced to curtail their business and adjust it to the amount of gold in their possession. The consequence would be ruinous stringency in the money market and universal distress. To begin by repealing the Legal Tender act would be as absurd as to attempt to split a log by driving the wedge butt end foremost. It is quite possible to restore and maintain the specie standard without requiring the banks to meet their obligations in gold. In Great Britain the notes of the Bank of England are a legal tender everywhere except at the bank itself. All the other banks are permitted to redeem their notes and pay their depositors in Bank of England notes, which are also a legal tender for the discharge of private debts. The advantage of this system is that it economizes the use of gold while maintaining it as the standard of value. It would be wise for us, considering the great dearth of gold in the country, to begin the specie experiment on a similar plan, giving legal tender notes the same function that is discharged by Bank of England notes in that country. The redemption of the greenbacks in specie would maintain them at par, and keep the bank notes redeemable in them also at par, while the temporary continuance of the Legal Tender act would economize the use of gold by saving the necessity of more than one considerable stock in the country. The Treasury would have to keep a gold reserve—which need not be large if the volume of greenbacks were reduced by funding to three hundred millions—but the two thousand national banks might continue to meet their obligations in greenbacks with entire safety to the community, and in entire consistency with stability of values. The time might come—it is never likely to come in England—for making nothing but gold a legal tender; but there would be no need of hurry or precipitation, and we might enjoy all the advantages of a currency constantly maintained at par for many years before the Legal Tender act is repealed. President Grant has put the cart before the horse and given the inflationists the advantage of opposing his recommendations on grounds which the advocates of resumption must admit to be well taken. The consequence will be

that the Message, so far as it relates to this momentous subject, will have no weight with Congress, and nothing will be done at this session to improve the financial situation. It is deeply to be regretted that President Grant has been unable to make recommendations which have any chance of adoption by Congress. If the President and the republican majority in the two houses were of one mind on the great subjects requiring legislative action the republican party might recover the ground it has lost. As it is, the heavy republican majority will be of no use, and a great opportunity will pass unimproved, never, perhaps, to return. This is to be regretted more for the sake of the country than for the sake of the republican party, but it is only by wise action and sound measures that the party has any chance of regaining public confidence.

Congress Yesterday. Mr. Kelley brought up his grotesque scheme in the House yesterday for the purpose of giving everybody all the money they needed, and, of course, General Butler supported it. The General is always original in his views, but on financial questions he is astounding. He traced the panic to financial causes arising out of our legislation, and called upon the country to contemplate the evils of a foreign debt. We do not attribute to General Butler a serious advocacy of repudiation, but it is hard to see how the logic of his position can reach any other result. General Garfield replied in an able and sensible speech. Mr. Cox, who shares with Mr. Phelps, of New Jersey, the reputation of the "comic vocalist" or the "end man" of the House, came in with his accustomed joke and the House adjourned in good humor. In these serious times Mr. Cox and Mr. Phelps are a great comfort to the House and we do not see how we could get along without them. Uncle Dick has as yet said nothing, but the country awaits his views with impatience. Uncle Dick had a splendid chance yesterday to demolish Butler, but he is a new member and modestly bides his time. A debate between Uncle Dick and Ben Butler on finances would make a great impression. Something in the air tells us it is coming. The Senate did nothing of any importance.

Bismarck and the Jesuits. Prince Bismarck is giving the debates of the German Parliament an interest they never yet have possessed to foreign readers. The other day he had his haughty speech upon Alsace and Lorraine, in which he reminded the people of those annexed provinces that he cared nothing about their own interests, but would govern them as an appanage of Germany. Then came his amusing debates with the ultramontanists, and now we have him giving us an extraordinary theory of the French and German war. "I know," says the Prince, "from the very best sources, that Napoleon was dragged into the war very much against his will by Jesuitical influences. He strove hard to resist these influences; at the eleventh hour he determined on peace, and kept his resolution for half an hour. Ultimately he was overborne by the persons representing the Vatican."

We are disposed to pay the utmost respect to any statements coming from Bismarck. It is quite certain that his information on the causes leading to the war with France came from the highest sources, but we observe in most modern discussions, especially on the religious question, that when a speaker becomes hazy or doubtful as to his position it is a safe argument to fall back upon "the Jesuits." When we discover on the part of any orator or writer a disposition to attribute unusual or extraordinary events "to the Jesuits" we are apt to conclude that he is uncertain about his subject. The Court of Napoleon was never famous for its devotion to the interests of Rome. Napoleon III. had a good deal more respect for Persigny and Fleury and Roubier and his companions of the coup d'etat than for the priests. If our recollection of the latter years of his reign is correct he was constantly in trouble with the Pope. The Pope's favorite topic of public speech was to pray for the health of Napoleon's body and for "peace to his soul." It would be surprising to learn that under all this—his liberalism and cosmopolitan tendencies, the desire to be at peace with all institutions and systems—there was really a strong Jesuit instinct bent upon war. If it is true, also, that the Pope incited Napoleon to war, as Bismarck charges, how are we to understand the celebrated letter which His Holiness addressed to the two Emperors, imploring them to accept his mediation in the cause of peace? In that beautiful and pious correspondence we remember that the German Emperor was most touching with his acknowledgments of the Pope's benevolent interposition, and said he had no war with France, but only with Napoleon. How much more effective could he have made this letter had he told the Pope what the Chancellor now tells the world, that he alone was responsible for the war, and but for his unholy influence over Napoleon the nations would still be at peace!

Rapid Transit. We have found so much to praise in the administration of Governor Dix, which now draws to a close, that we wish we could approve his reasons for the veto of the bill for the extension of the Elevated Railway. The Elevated Railway, running along Greenwich street, is the first accomplished step in the way of rapid transit. The enterprise has gone through various vicissitudes of fortune, has been in all manner of troubles, and has finally become a success, not so much as a road as an experiment. It demonstrates that without any inconvenience to traffic or the inhabitants on the line, the decorum and comfort of the city, a steam train can run from the Battery to Thirty-fourth street in fifteen minutes. We have no doubt, if there were two tracks a little more substantially built, the journey could be made in ten minutes. But certainly the managers of the road have kept their promise to the people. They have put the line in operation. They have given rapid transit to the west side of the island. There is no reason why they should not be allowed to carry this line to the Central Park and to Yonkers. It seems to us that Governor Dix was bound to confirm this measure, if at all within the range of his responsibilities as Governor. It would have been a crowning act to a long and illustrious life marked with many achievements in pub-

lic service, to have given the first measure of rapid transit to New York. We regret the Governor did not accept this opportunity, and at the same time congratulate Governor Tilden on the fact that it is now open to him to win this trophy for his fame.

The Clerical Scandals—Glendenning and Beecher.

The Beecher case was in the courts yesterday and goes over until Monday. The Moulton case, which, after all, is only a side issue in the Beecher scandal, will be called up today in the federal Court. Both sides are fighting for time. The Beecher lawyers want the Moulton-Proctor case tried first because a verdict against Moulton would have a moral effect in favor of Beecher. The Tilton lawyers desire the civil suit to be tried first because they feel that it is their strongest case. The ablest lawyers at the New York Bar are pitted against each other, with General Butler as a reinforcement. It does seem a pity that Beecher's friends should drag the maiden name and fame of an esteemed and gifted young lady into the courts for the purpose of protecting their client; but many curious things have been done in this deplorable contest. The comfort is that the end must come soon. The Glendenning case has come to an end. The Jersey City Presbytery find that Glendenning has committed none of the crimes charged against him; that he did not seduce Miss Pomeroy; but that he behaved in an absurd, trifling and unclerical manner in his attentions to a young lady he never intended to marry. Accordingly, after acquitting him of any crime, they dismiss him from the ministry for his follies.

This is a lenient verdict and a severe sentence. We are bound to accept it as just. But we think it would be wise for some of our reverend friends to consider the propriety of establishing "a society for the protection of the character of clergymen." There is scarcely a mail that does not bring us "a new development," or "a religious sensation," or an "astounding outrage" on the part of some clergyman. Somehow or other these scandals are connected with women. We do not often hear of clergymen committing assault and battery, or being arrested for drunk and disorderly conduct, or stealing, or any of the general run of offenses that burden the statute books. The scandal which astonished the civilized world in Brooklyn seems to have generated a brood of small scandals. In all of them—except, perhaps, that of the Catholic priest in Philadelphia whose doubts about the infallibility of the Pope took so grotesque and personal a turn—the congregations of the assailed clergymen only drew closer and closer to their pastors. In Plymouth church the religion of Jesus Christ has been succeeded by a religion the supreme commandment of which is to believe in the integrity of Mr. Beecher. Mr. Glendenning has had, in all his trials, the most comforting support from his congregation, and will no doubt be preaching next Sunday to a faithful remnant of his followers; the Frankfort clergyman, Cooper, receives a letter from his flock expressing their abhorrence of his assailant; and although in West Chester it is proposed to "execute summary vengeance" upon the latest accused clergyman, his parishioners are zealous in his defence. This certainly shows the value of the religious relation, in the fact that it binds the congregation with a personal tie to the pastor. Certainly the fame of a person who accepts the sacred calling—a calling peculiarly susceptible to slander—would rest upon uncertain tenure if at the first breath of suspicion his congregation would fall from him. Wicked or worldly men, we fear, take a peculiar pleasure in the downfall of a clergyman. Somehow the assumption that a human being like the rest of us should be the paragon of virtue, the instructor in discipline, the monitor of error, the minister of Jesus Christ, the champion and ambassador of the supreme and awful power which rules the universe—this assumption, which is involved in the clerical office, becomes, as it were, a rebuke to the mass of mere worldly men, who, in their hearts, believe that religion is hypocrisy and rejoice in the downfall of a clergyman because it is simply a manifestation of insincerity and deceit.

As we say, the existence of this worldly feeling makes the ministerial calling more and more dangerous. It imposes upon those who accept it severe caution. We are far from thinking that because a man is a clergyman he should not be as other men in his tastes, accomplishments and ways of life—that he should not have the resources of a gentleman in all things. But the respect he owes his holy place, the vast power he holds upon the hearts and lives of innocent trusting, credulous and not always over-intelligent masses, and the shock which comes to so many thousands by such a scandal as we saw in Brooklyn, should impose upon every clergyman the most rigid method of life. If he objects to the limitations thus implied then the pulpit is not his vocation. If he feels that he is called upon to serve Christ, then he must do all that is required in that service. The Catholic Church, by its extraordinary discipline, removes from its ministers many of the temptations which surround the clergymen of the Protestant branches. But the very independence of so many Protestants of a hierarchical episcopal power only makes it more important for clergymen by their life and conversation to avoid these scandals which bring so much misery upon themselves and reproach upon the Christian name.

MAYOR VANCE has reappointed Messrs. Howe and Bowler Commissioners of Accounts. These Commissioners were removed by the late Mayor Havemeyer without cause. At the time of their removal they were engaged in the investigation of some of the municipal departments, and their restoration is designed to enable them to complete their work. Their first duty, in accordance with the provisions of the charter, will be to examine the books and transactions of the Finance Department for the year, and to report the exact condition of the public debt and of the sinking fund securities. Their past experience will enable them to make a thorough scrutiny, and the result will be looked for with interest. It is proper that the citizens of New York should know their exact financial condition, and if the accounts and securities of the Finance Department are found to be correct the report of the Commissioners will restore public confidence and thus greatly benefit the city.

The Modern Drama—Mr. Boucicault.

So much has been said about the decadence of modern art, and particularly of the drama, under the influence of French adaptations and English burlesques, that we are only too glad to note and applaud any effort to revive the spirit of the old stage, when the classic taste ruled dramatic art. Some time since there was a wide discussion as to the absence from our drama of a play that could be regarded as distinctively American, and our authors were called upon to save American literature by writing an American "Hamlet" or a "School for Scandal." If we could call Sheridan and Shakespeare, like spirits from the vasty deep, to do our bidding and create immortal dramas, this would be possible. But at the same time there are many things in modern drama of which we should be proud. Nothing is more absurd than the argument that modern taste has become so vitiated by opera bouffe and moral French plays that legitimate drama has no longer an audience, that to minister to popular taste it is necessary to play the banjo and dance in clogs. The popular taste is pure and unerring. It will have its freaks now and then and indulge in strange adventures after unworthy performances, but in the end the highest instinct will prevail. Whenever we hear of managers complaining of bad business we are apt to think the cause lies in bad actors and worse plays. Of course the depression of the times affects the theatrical as well as other business; but there has been no such engagement for a long time as Miss Cushman's farewell performances at Booth's Theatre. Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Clarke are great comedians and they have had great success. This is because Miss Cushman as well as Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Clarke have represented the highest forms of dramatic art.

There has been no success however, so marked as that of Mr. Boucicault at Wallack's in his new comedy of "The Shaughraun." This is a dramatic event of great interest and is only another triumph in the career of an extraordinary man. This gentleman has been for a long time before the people and he has had his own share of criticism. We are told that he is feeble and commonplace, that he steals his plots and effects from the French; that he is a shameless literary pirate; that one effect is from Victor Hugo, another from Byron, a third from Shakespeare. But the truth is that Mr. Boucicault has written more successful plays than any living dramatist, that he has founded a new dramatic school in his creation of the modern Irishman of the stage, and that our present drama owes more to him than to any other writer. Mr. Boucicault is certainly an extraordinary man, and he deserves this public tribute to his genius. He is the Admirable Crichton of literature. He writes prose and poetry as well as Sheridan, he has consummate knowledge of stage business, his performance of the tutor Tourillias, as a Frenchman, and of the Shaughraun as an Irishman, are gems of acting. In their way the stage has nothing finer. The Shaughraun, an idle, shrewd, lazy, cunning, thrifless, true and brave Irish dependant is as subtle and perfect a picture as anything on the stage. So that we have the extraordinary combination of the highest genius for acting with the highest genius for authorship. In this Boucicault surpasses his most illustrious predecessors, for Sheridan was an author merely, and Shakespeare, supreme in his poetic art, was only a third class player. It is the highest fulfillment of genius to be able to create a drama and at the same time to step on the stage and illustrate your own creations.

This Mr. Boucicault has done. "The Shaughraun" is a masterpiece. No wonder Wallack's beautiful theatre is crowded every evening, with the seats nearly all taken for two weeks in advance. Here we have all the requisites of dramatic perfection. The theatre as perfect as a drawing room, the company perfect in tone, capacity and fitness, the scenery as fine as the painter's art can desire, the comedy witty, pure, effective, natural, dramatic, and, at the same time, sensational, and the great actor himself representing his own creations. Mr. Wallack has won the blue ribbon of dramatic success for this season, and he owes it largely to his association with the wonderful man whose genius now rules his stage, and will no doubt continue to rule it for the remainder of the season.

Fashionable Smuggling.

There has been a good deal of comment recently in the newspapers in reference to funds upon the revenue arising out of the custom of many people who go to Europe returning with large quantities of dutiable goods which they bring in without payment of revenue. A contemporary recently published an account of a "young English lady" who arrived from Havre with "eight large, heavily laden trunks." This person claimed that the trunks contained the dresses necessary for her profession as a performer in an opera troupe and they were admitted free of duty. The officers discovered that this story was incorrect, traced her to a millinery store up town, found that the trunks contained from "fifteen to twenty thousand dollars' worth of silk and velvet dresses, embroideries, laces and other apparel for ladies," that there was "a list of consignees for whom the articles were intended" and that "the list included the names of two grand dames of Murray Hill and Fifth avenue." The duties on these goods would have been eight thousand dollars. We learn, furthermore, that the government has been giving attention to the whole subject, and from statistics in Washington it would seem that many millions of dollars a year are lost to the revenue from this custom of fashionable smuggling.

The laws governing the entrance of baggage into New York from Europe are plain enough. We do not think their provisions at all severe. It is desirable to prevent any undue system of espionage in the operation of our tariff and revenue laws. Yet it seems difficult to enact a measure that would reach this evil of fashionable smuggling. When a traveller returns with trunks filled with dutiable goods which he knows should pay the revenue he is apt to take his own measures for having them admitted free of duty. The more scrupulous traveller, who goes to Europe for pleasure, observes the law and does not seek to defraud the revenue, is, of course, perfectly indifferent as to his relations with the Custom House officer. During Mr. Boutwell's administration of the Treasury it was proposed to establish a system of foreign inspectors, persons who

would reside in Paris or London, keep their eyes on the movements of Americans, obtain a list of their purchases, and indicate this list to the officers in New York, so that there could be an intelligent examination of their baggage when they returned home. Mr. Boutwell, however, considered this system as a violation of private rights and beneath the dignity and honor of the government. We think that the Secretary was right. The whole system of espionage is sure to lead to abuse, as the calling itself is an abuse. No government has a right to assume that its citizens are necessarily thieves. It would certainly be beneath its dignity to have detectives shadowing its citizens through the warehouses of London and Paris, copying their invoices and wantonly preparing for their arrest and dishonor upon their arrival at home.

The government, so long as it has a revenue law, and compels merchants to pay duties on laces and silks and articles of the same character, should, of course, see that private citizens do not invade its provisions. This is due not only to the importing interests but to the demands of its own treasury. At the same time we think there should be a simple, plain statute, making a liberal allowance to travellers, enabling them to bring into the country a moderate amount of articles, and beyond this to enforce the law rigidly, and make no reservations or limitations. This can only be a step toward its prevention. So long as there are tariffs there will be smuggling. It is one of the evils of our wretched financial system. Buckle, in commenting upon the protective system when it was in force in England, said that "the history of the commercial legislation of Europe presents every possible contrivance for hampering the energies of commerce." Blanqui, whose "History of Political Economy in Europe" is a very high authority, declares that "if it had not been for smuggling trade could not have been conducted, but must have perished, in consequence of this incessant interference." The rise of smuggling in Europe was a necessary part of the protective system; no laws, however severe, could exterminate the smuggler. In France, so late as 1786, some smugglers were hanged, some burned alive, others broken on the wheel. Buckle, commenting upon this, truly says that these crimes "were directly chargeable on the European governments by whom they were provoked. The offences were caused by the laws, and now that the laws have been repealed the offences have disappeared." As soon as we have a system of wise legislation in reference to the tariff, smuggling, even in its fashionable aspect, will disappear. As it is, the United States and Spain are the two countries where the protective system flourishes to a great extent, and they are the two countries where smuggling has become a tolerated, if not a recognized, industry.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Professor Allen Carr lectured in Quebec last night. Mr. Lucius Robinson, of Elmira, is stopping at the St. James Hotel. Mr. Dewitt C. Littlejohn, of Oswego, is staying at the Metropolitan Hotel. Ex-Governor Ambrose E. Burnside, of Rhode Island, is at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. Assemblyman George S. Easteller, of Saratoga, has arrived at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. Aristarcus B. Turkish Minister at Washington, has apartments at the Albemarle Hotel. Governor Henry Howard, of Rhode Island, is among the latest arrivals at the St. Nicholas Hotel. Naval Constructor William L. Huscom, United States Navy, is quartered at the Union Square Hotel. State Senator Franklin W. Tobey, of Port Henry, N. Y., is residing temporarily at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. An artificial harbor on a grand scale at Dover is a favorite project with the present English government. If Tennyson wrote that "trance" letter, poetry is evidently very closely related to common nonsense. Mr. David L. Follett, of Norwich, Judge elect of the New York Supreme Court, is registered at the Metropolitan Hotel. Congressman John O. Whitehouse, of Poughkeepsie, is sojourning at the Albemarle Hotel. Key-Not in Washington? Baron W. de Wagstaff, of Russia, arrived from Europe in the steamship Haussa yesterday, and is at the Brevoort House. Señor Don F. Gonzales Errazuriz, the Chilean Minister, arrived from Washington yesterday and is at the Clarendon Hotel. Mr. R. S. Joyce, of the Irish Ride Team, arrived from Europe yesterday in the steamship City of Brooklyn, and is at the Windsor Hotel. Four of Fortuny's principal pictures brought him together \$31,000. One of these was the "Academical of Sausages Choosing a Model," sold to M. Stuart for \$12,000. There is great impatience in Paris to know when the Vendôme Column will be ready for the people who have been waiting these many months to throw themselves from the top of it. Sir John Bruges Karlskae, the eminent English lawyer and Queen's counsel has become totally blind. His affliction was caused by overwork, and there is hope that it may prove temporary. The French Academy of Sciences will propose the international adoption of the meridian of Greenwich. French navigators now reckon from the meridian taken at the Paris Observatory. Since the 24th of May, 1873, the date of the fall of the Thiers government, 113 newspapers have been subjected to various penalties by the French government for too great freedom of comment on the acts of the government. Cham, the great caricaturist of France, is old, but lingers with superlative pencil, and his designs are flat and dull. He never had any malice, and when wit loses its edge and malice is not there to take its place caricature becomes mere toast and tea. It is stated as probable that one of the Paris theatres will curl the rule of closing the doors as soon as the curtain rises and keeping them rigorously closed while the curtain is up, so that late comers may not interfere with the comfort of all who are seated betimes. Admiral Saisset, of the French navy, evidently had faith in Don Carlos. He bet Mr. Leonce Drouot, of the Paris *Liberte*, a dinner for twenty persons that Carlos would return in Madrid before the 24th of last September, and he has paid for the dinner, which it is reported were good. They were taken at the Café Anglais. The Empress of Russia was imprudent in England, made unseasonable excursions and caught cold. Her attendants were alarmed, for Her Majesty's health is delicate at best and her lungs are not strong. So Dr. Bokrine, her regular medical attendant, was urgently sent for. He at once declared that the Empress must leave England, and she is now on her way to some point on the shores of the Mediterranean. Commander William B. Cushing, United States Navy, whose mental condition has recently been a subject of some anxiety to his friends, has been removed to the Government Hospital for the Insane. Commander Cushing is well known as the distinguished officer who led the attack on the ram Albemarle during the late war. He has been stationed at the Navy Yard since some time.