

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.

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 XL.—NO. 2

AMUSEMENTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING.

TONY PASTORS OPERA HOUSE. Bowery.—VARIETY, at 3 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

PARK THEATRE. Broadway between Twenty-first and Twenty-second streets.—GILDED AGE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mr. John T. Raymond. Matinee at 2 P. M.

OLYMPIC THEATRE. No. 63 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 3 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.

BOOTH'S THEATRE. Corner of Twenty-third street and Sixth avenue.—LITTLE EMILY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:50 P. M. Mr. Howe. Matinee at 1:30 P. M.

NEW YORK STADI THEATRE. Bowery.—LA BELLE HERBES, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Miss Anna Mayr.

ROMAN HIPPODROME. Twenty-sixth street and Fourth avenue.—BLUE BEARD and PEE at FLEAS, afternoon and evening, 2 and 5.

TIVOLI THEATRE. Eighth street.—VARIETY, at 3 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE. Twenty-eighth street and Broadway.—PYGMALION AND GALATRA, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Miss Carolina Lockhart. Matinee at 1:30 P. M.

BRANT'S OPERA HOUSE. West Twenty-third street.—NEGRO MIMICRY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M. Dan Bryant. Matinee at 2 P. M.

METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART. Fourteenth street.—Open from 10 A. M. to 5 P. M.

NIBLOS. Broadway.—JACK AND JILL, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.

BROOKLYN THEATRE. Washington street.—MAGRETH, at 8 P. M.; Mr. Frank Koch, Mrs. Conway. Matinee at 2 P. M.—LEAD.

CONCERT. at 3 P. M. Miss Heilbrun.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS. Broadway, corner of Twenty-ninth street.—NEGRO MIMICRY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.

ROBINSON HALL. Sixteenth street.—REGINA DELL GARE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Mr. Macabee. Matinee at 2 P. M.

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

BROOKLYN PARK THEATRE. KING JOHN, at 8 P. M. Mrs. Agnes Booth, J. B. Booth. Matinee at 2 P. M.

LYCEUM THEATRE. Fourteenth street and Sixth avenue.—MADAME L'ARISTOCRAT, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Miss Emily Soldene. Matinee at 1:30 P. M.

WALLACK'S THEATRE. Broadway.—THE SHAUGHRAUN, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Mr. Bonicant. Matinee at 1:30 P. M.

THEATRE COMIQUE. No. 214 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.

WOODS MUSEUM. 272 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. AFTER DARK, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. J. H. Timon.

METROPOLITAN THEATRE. No. 385 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Matinee at 1:30 P. M.

GERMANIA THEATRE. Fourteenth street.—THE JOURNALISM, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE. Twenty-third street and Eighth avenue.—THE BLACK CROOK, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Matinee at 1:30 P. M.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1875.

From our reports this morning the probabilities are that the weather to-day will be warmer with snow or rain.

THE LOUISIANA INVESTIGATION continues, but nothing was elicited yesterday to shed any new light upon the situation.

MAYOR WICKHAM called on Mayor Vance yesterday and the two changed places as naturally and quietly as the new year took the place of the old.

THE VICKSBURG TROUBLES will soon be sufficiently "investigated" to make their origin as doubtful as the cause of the disorders in Louisiana. In both cases the testimony is so contradictory that the committees will need an expert to find the truth.

THE INAUGURATION OF GOVERNOR TILDEN at Albany yesterday passed off without incident except in the somewhat unusual speeches made by the outgoing and the incoming Executive. The two old gentlemen talked at each other in a very familiar way, and by their amiable treatment of one another set an example that will not soon be forgotten.

VON ARMIN ON JOURNALISM.—Count Von Armin's knowledge of newspapers and newspaper writers is one of the unexpected revelations of the recent trial. In his letter to Privy Councillor Von Balan there are a number of unique little "personals" about the Parisian writers for the German press, and not the least remarkable thing about them is how readily they may be translated into colloquial English. For instance, he says Mr. Häfner, who "writes the strongly democratic Paris letters" of the Augsburg Allgemeine Zeitung, also "works for the Tagespresse. Then he speaks of "a certain Cervany" as "the husband of the pianiste Claus," and follows with a neat little biography of Simon Deutsch, quite full enough, but entirely too good for a biographical dictionary. Apart from his great knowledge of journals and journalists the Count shows the peculiar qualifications which would fit him for the guild, for he writes as well as the writers whom he discusses. The subject, however, has another aspect. This letter reveals the importance that is attached to the newspapers as a political power by the great European leaders, the German Empire itself not feeling secure unless it has the fullest information in regard to the press and those who write for it.

The Revolution in Spain.

The revolution in Spain would be an unexpected event if in Spain anything could be regarded as unexpected. It is just a year since Serrano and his friends took possession of the government. The republic of Figueras and Castelar fell before the cannon of Pavia. Serrano has retained power without making any serious effort toward pacification of the country. Power has simply been a pretext for the monarchy. After the coup d'etat there could be no solution to the problem but the monarchy or a new revolution. A new revolution died away with the fall of Cartagena. Many of the republican experiments alarmed and did not assure the people. From the time that Figueras and Castelar failed to consolidate the republic upon the basis of a recognition of all republican interests there has been no hope for a republic. However beautiful the dreams of Pi y Margall and the transcendentalists, they were impracticable. The Spanish republican leaders proved to be dreamers and not statesmen. As Castelar said, "they knew all about the theory and nothing about the practice of republicanism; they saw only the wide-spreading heavens above them and stumbled over the first stone in their path." One illusion succeeded another until in time all interests became alarmed, and those who yearned most earnestly for a republic abandoned it. Castelar himself surrendered when he avowed himself a Spaniard before he was a republican; when he confessed that there were higher interests in Spain than those which a republic could serve. Castelar fancied that it was possible to unite all classes in immediate support of a republic; that the men who had sustained the monarchy; who owed to royalty that which they most cherished—money and rank—would really support a system which would give them no money they did not earn, and no rank higher than citizens of Spain.

Serrano came into power as an expedient. He did not proclaim the monarchy because it was necessary to make terms with the monarch. He has held power until the completion of these negotiations. Don Carlos has been found impossible. His claim of legitimacy is untenable, as Ferdinand VII had as much right to change the law of succession back to the custom which prevailed when Isabella was Queen with Ferdinand, as Philip V. had to annul that ancient law. Personally, Don Carlos would not have pleased a party who want a king they can rule, and not a king who will insist upon ruling. "Divine right" is a holy legend, and looks well on coins and proclamations; but Don Carlos would be too much of a king for a soldier who has too often held the substance of power. Serrano ruled Spain through the affections of the foolish woman who was recently its Queen, and he may rule it again through the helplessness of the lad who now stumbles up the steps of the throne. Don Carlos is a real soldier and a real king, and not a half-formed lad. Furthermore, the system which Don Carlos represents would be almost as impossible as the system of the "irreconcilables" who held Cartagena. He is a religious monarch at the head of a religious party, ultramontanist, legitimist, regarding the Pope as the infallible ruler of the political and religious affairs of the earth. In some happy future state—in heaven, let us suppose—where religious influences will have their proper value, and we shall all know precisely what religion does represent, a government like that of Don Carlos would be feasible. But in this vulgar, questioning, thinking world, where human beings have opinions, government must recognize liberty and independence of thought. This is the bar in the way of Don Carlos even in Spain. The difference between Alfonso and Don Carlos is the difference between expediency and a principle. Alfonso's supporters will not restore the Inquisition; they will not give back the confiscated lands; they will limit the influence of the Church, so far as political affairs are concerned; they will respect the Pope without obeying him, and deal with him as a bishop and not as a prince.

The new King who comes to the throne of Spain is only a name, in spite of the high-sounding talk about constitutional monarchy which the cable attributes to him. It would be a waste of time to consider him as in any real sense a ruler. To our minds there is nothing so much as a burlesque upon the whole monarchical system as the fact that it is "necessary for the welfare of Spain" that a lad of seventeen, without sense or experience enough to manage a bell-punch on a street railway car, should be called upon to guide the destinies of a great country. The question arises, who will be the favorite. We do not see how it can be any other than Serrano. It is his trade. This conspiracy is as much his work as though he had summoned Alfonso to the throne by an order of the day. But the Prince he now calls to Madrid is the same Prince whose family he only a few years since drove from the throne. We presume His Majesty has pardoned that act of treachery, which, after all, gave him a crown; but as treason is never really pardoned, at least by kings, we may have our own opinion as to the sincerity of the reconciliation. In the nature of things Serrano must be for a little time the master of Spain. He controls the army, though nominally the command has been turned over to General Laserna. He has a large personal party. He will have to confront a strong republican sentiment. Spain is more republican than it was even under Castelar, for republicanism thrives in opposition, and the generation of Spaniards now coming to the front is largely republican. The new King will need a strong government, that is to say he will need cannon and men who can use them. These he will find with Serrano. He will probably make him a prince and add to his emoluments and throw a handful full of titles and decorations around among the men who have "pronounced" for him, and do what he can to satisfy the nation.

But it is not an easy task, not even for a prince who rules by the grace of God, with Serrano to look after the cannon. There will, of course, be the first blush of enthusiasm, as there always is when we have anything new. People will be interested in the innocent young stripling, who is summoned by an absurdly cruel fate from his cricket balls and ponies to the responsibilities of a throne. There is a sentiment about the new King—his youth, his freshness, his novelty—which

will not be lost upon a people so sentimental as the Spaniards. Then even a prince who has ancestral claims to respect is better than this coarse, reckless adventurer who took Spain by force, and has been for a year holding his sword at her throat. Alfonso XII is respectable, which Serrano could never be. He will have the sympathy of the ruling Powers in Europe, who have never been friendly with republicanism, that not being their trade, nor a trade to be encouraged. The kings who would not recognize the republic, after it had been confirmed by the votes of the people, will hasten to recognize this Prince who represents a usurpation. A usurping king is a much more desirable neighbor than an honest accepted republic. The real trouble will come with the internal government. Spain is in a bad way. She is governed by the worst influences—the protective spirit, the gambling spirit; a standing army, composed mainly of officers; an established church, whose ministers are anxious for government support and protection. The reforms which would have saved Spain and which the republicans began have been arrested and they will not be resumed under a king. The credit of the country has fallen into shameful repudiation. The provinces of the North are held and pillaged by an army. The provinces of the South are disturbed. Spain has stood still while other countries have advanced, and she has done nothing for years but appeal to the pity and forbearance of the other governments. "She is a nation by suffering."

And yet there is a glorious future for Spain if her people would only rise up and take it. The republic is the only way, because the republic is the only influence that can destroy the monarchy, the standing army and the established church. These are the institutions that have brought so much misery upon Spain—a monarchy which has produced the worst of rulers; an army which has done all an army could do but make war, and an established church which has repressed all national growth in education and political progress. Spain can be saved by a policy which overthrows these institutions. The republicans began the work, but they were defeated. When they begin again it will not end in defeat. Our only fear is that the second revolution will remember the treachery and perfidy which destroyed the one that now ends, and, in the angry suspicion thus aroused, deal with the kings, generals and priests in a less gentle spirit than Figueras and Castelar. We feel that the republic is postponed, not destroyed, and we tender to Alfonso XII our sincere condolences upon the burden which falls upon his young shoulders with the beginning of this happy new year.

Lady Franklin.

In another column will be found an interesting communication, made in the name of Lady Franklin, by the hand of her niece, Miss Cracroft. It relates to the search in the Arctic regions for the much desired results of the labors of Sir John Franklin, as would indeed be immediately understood by all familiar with the great aspiration of the brave and high-minded old lady. Life for her has but little left to be compared in importance with what may be done to secure whatever traces of Sir John's voyage and record of his observations have been concealed at points designated in accordance with the theory or hypothesis of those who have faith in the existence of such records; and whatever may come of such a search, when made, and whatever thereby may be the ultimate result in geographical science of Sir John's expedition, the world will always be the better for the example of the tenacious faith of the widow who has given her life, not to idle mourning, but to the systematic endeavor to secure for science the advantages of her husband's sacrifice. The communication referred to is complete in itself, and gives a comprehensive outline of the facts involved in the possible existence of the records for the discovery of which the reward is proposed. We sincerely hope this renewal of a long standing offer may inspire some one filled with the spirit of the knight errantry of the nineteenth century—the ambition of exploration and discovery.

The "Message."

We print elsewhere some interesting letters from Madrid and Washington in reference to the "Message" of the President telegraphed to us by the Associated Press, and from here to Europe by Mr. Reuter. Our Madrid correspondent sends us the text of the Reuter despatch as printed in Madrid and the angry comments of the Spanish press. As will be seen, the Spanish journals assumed that the President was about to interfere in Cuba in conjunction with other Powers, and, naturally, there was much indignation. The despatch of Reuter certainly justified this construction, but the Message did not. The question arises, Who is responsible for the warlike tone of menace toward Spain which was infused into the summary of the "Message"?

Our Washington correspondent goes over the whole ground, and shows that the summary telegraphed from Washington as an official abstract of the Message was correct except in this allusion to Cuba. This demonstrates clearly that whoever wrote that summary or furnished it to the press had read the original Message, or was given very correct points about it by the President himself or some one in the White House. Indeed, one of our Washington correspondents gives a semi-official explanation, emanating from a convenient friend of the President, from which it is made to appear that the agents of the Associated Press and the American Press Association received their information directly from General Grant himself. We respectfully submit, however, that this indirect semi-official explanation is not enough. In a matter of such grave importance the President owes it both to himself and to the people to expose officially and unequivocally the origin of the so-called garbled abstract.

THE FIRST DAY OF 1875 passed off most happily in this city. At the City Hall Mayor Vance handed over the keys of office to Mayor Wickham, and the new incumbent received his many friends in the Governor's Room. The Sheriff and the County Clerk spread hospitable tables for all who came, and Comptroller Green uttered a soliloquy that caused some merriment at his expense. As a harbinger of probable peace and honest government the opening day of the new year brought no disaster or crime in its train, making the omen a hopeful one.

An Unfortunate Plea for Mr. Green.

It is urged as a reason why Comptroller Green should be continued in the office he at present occupies that his removal is advocated by parties who hold dishonest claims against the city treasury which they do not hope to collect until Mr. Green is out of the way. If the friends and beneficiaries of the Comptroller can use no better argument than this in favor of his retention they must have a weak and hopeless cause indeed. Their plea for their patron would be a good one, provided, first, that their assertions were true, and, next, that Mr. Tweed had been chosen Mayor of New York at the last election and was about to take control of the city government. But William H. Wickham is our Mayor elect, and he will have the power of appointing a Comptroller in the event of Mr. Green's removal. To argue that Andrew H. Green must be kept in office through the personal intervention of Governor Tilden, because his successor would be likely to favor the payment of unjust claims against the city treasury, is to charge that Mr. Wickham is capable of appointing to the head of the Finance Department a knave or a fool, and to insist that the citizens of New York are in such a deplorable position that they must look to the Governor of the State for protection against the unfaithfulness or incapacity of their newly elected Mayor at the very commencement of his administration.

Mayor Wickham's happy allusion to the "home rule" principle of the democracy at the Manhattan festival shows that we shall not much longer be troubled with the present Comptroller. Mr. Green must be removed from office because of his unfitness, his unreliability, his arrogance and his impracticability. He is not large enough for the place he has attempted to fill. He has no doubt resisted the payment of unjust claims; but any Comptroller appointed by Mayor Wickham would just as resolutely and just as effectively protect the public treasury against the raids of dishonest men. No one can suppose that John J. Cisco, E. P. Fabbri, George S. Forrest, Frederick Tappen, W. Seymour, John T. Agnew, Edward Cooper, Abel Denison, or any other person who would be likely to be chosen as Green's successor by Mayor Wickham, would pay out a dollar of the people's money improperly, either through connivance or ignorance. The insinuation that the next Comptroller would do so, conveyed by Mr. Green's beneficiaries, is a serious reflection on Mayor Wickham's integrity or capacity. Governor Tilden could not decline to approve Mr. Green's removal on such grounds without placing a personal affront on Mayor Wickham. If the Mayor elect should resolve that the retention of Mr. Green in the office of Comptroller would be detrimental to the interests of the city and prejudicial to the harmony and efficiency of his administration, Governor Tilden could not reply that Mr. Green's presence at the head of the Finance Department is necessary to protect the city treasury from spoliation without affixing on the Mayor elect the brand of official dishonesty. These special pleas, put in to save Mr. Green, are in reality damaging to his cause. The people hope now for a rule of genuine reform. They have been furnished for two or three years with a bogus article and are disgusted with the experience. The property owners of the city find that under our present financial policy the public debt has increased from forty to sixty million dollars in three years. The uncertainty as to the actual amount is an evidence of the dishonesty or incompetency of their financial managers. As Mr. Green's friends insist that he has not paid out a single dollar of the public money to dishonest claimants it follows that the enormous increase of debt and taxation is due to his own extravagance or incapacity as a financial manager. At the same time the city has been suffering from suffocation. What the people now want is relief from financial quackery. It is too late to raise the absurd cry that there is only one honest man in the city of New York and that his name is Andrew H. Green. Mayor Wickham's Comptroller, while quite as honest as Mr. Green, will be less arrogant, less prejudiced, less impractical and far more capable. It is an unwarrantable reflection upon Governor Tilden's good sense and sterling democratic principle to insinuate that he would oppose Green's removal on the absurd and insulting pretence that Mayor Wickham might appoint a Comptroller who would connive at the robbery of the public treasury.

Religious Advertising.

An Australian journal shows us a new feature, not only in advertising, but in propagating religious truth. The Melbourne Leader comes to us with a sermon of four columns in the advertising department of the paper under the head of "Publications." This sermon is on Elijah, the Tishbite, by the Rev. Dr. Krummacker, and especially discusses "the Departure for Zarephath." It is an extract from Dr. Krummacker's famous book on Elijah, which has long been one of the theological classics. The advertisement begins with a notice of this kind:—"Sermon publishing fund. All persons desirous of aiding in the good work of continuing the publication of the sermons are earnestly desired to forward subscriptions. Contributions should be sent to S. Warren, office of the Leader." At the end of the sermon is the memorandum, "Read I. Kings, xvii, and James, v." This is a unique and not a bad idea—the dissemination of religious truth by paying for it in the advertising columns of leading newspapers. The difference, however, between American and Australian journalism is that we publish as news, without payment, the sermons of living men, of the great masters of the pulpit. By this means we give impulse and freshness to the religious thought of the hour. On the whole we think it is a better plan and more consonant with the spirit of true journalism than that of our brethren in Australia.

Business in the General Sessions.

During the last year the business in the courts, and especially in the Court of General Sessions, was unusually heavy. While the Court of Oyer and Terminer, with five judges, tried only fifty-two cases, the two judges of the General Sessions disposed of the immense number of sixteen hundred and seven indictments. It is no disparagement to City Judge Sutherland to say that the bulk of this business fell upon the shoulders of Recorder Hackett. Few men have the physical endurance necessary for the work which the Recorder daily performs, and no judge who

has ever presided over our courts brought to the Bench more remarkable qualities for the despatch of business. The trial of so many indictments, nearly all of which were for crimes that would be felony under the common law, and requiring in the presiding justice great patience and skill, is a work that is simply enormous. There can be no complaints of a court which at the close of the year is able to show such a record, and we believe there never was an instance in the history of criminal practice where two judges tried so many causes of magnitude in a single year.

The Proposed Submarine Railway Between England and the Continent.

The great engineering project of tunnelling the English Channel is beginning to excite on both sides of that narrow sea a growing interest akin to that we feel in our rapid transit. In a recent editorial the London Times decidedly encourages the undertaking and remarks:—"It will not, after all, be the greatest achievement which the present generation has seen actually accomplished." The scheme, which aims to connect Great Britain and the Continent by a submarine railway, is auspiciously inaugurated by two associations of capitalists, one British and one French, and proposes to proceed without dependence upon governmental aid. The only thing asked of Parliament is the right to purchase land at St. Margaret's Bay and a portion of the beach and foreshore about halfway between Deal and Dover. A similar request is, of course, to be made of the French government for the purchase of land on the opposite shore. But no subsidy or money grant is solicited.

The scheme is certainly a magnificent one, and, though its boldness is startling, its execution does not appear so difficult as some of the later engineering feats of the century. The Suez Canal, constructed through a moving sea of sand, coursing through an isthmian waste of over a hundred miles, was a work equally stupendous. The perforation of Mont Cenis and its monumental Alpine rock, as well as the great undertaking of the submarine cable, seemed in the initiation quite as formidable as the cutting of the gray chalk which stretches across the straits from Dover to Calais. The scene of the engineer's operations in the latter case must lie beneath the ocean, and yet this fact constitutes no difficulty of known insurmountability. For a long time mining has been extensively carried on beneath the sea bed, and in some instances where the latter was attenuated to comparatively a mere shell. In Cornwall, Cumberland and Northumberland coal and other strata have been worked so near the bottom of the ocean that the beating of the billows could be distinctly heard in the miners' galleries. It is said that one of the Cumberland pits extends more than four thousand yards under the sea floor, and the manager states that the amount of sea water finding its way into the mine is scarcely appreciable.

It should be borne in mind that the Channel tunnel would be cut, not through adamantine rock, as the Alpine tunnel and much of the Hoosac, but through a geological formation of looser texture, and yet sufficiently firm to bear the superincumbent body of water. About four hundred feet of water is near the maximum weight that would have to be sustained, and as the tunnel would be strongly supported and braced as rapidly as made, the pressure from above would be the least thing to be feared. The whole question seems to be one of money and time, scarcely involving any large demand upon engineering skill and invention; for within a very short space of time the machinery and science requisite for such piercings have been greatly increased and perfected. The extensive researches already made by geologists and mining experts afford strong evidence of the continuity of the chalk bed along the line of the proposed railway, and the regularity of the stratum, if further experiment confirms it, will preclude the supposition of any fissure likely to endanger the structure.

By employing a well-tested tunnelling machine, invented by Mr. Brunton, for perforating chalk deposits, it is estimated the Channel opening could be finished in two years, at a cost per mile far less than that of the London Metropolitan and District railways. The distance between the points to be connected is about twenty-three miles, and the total estimated cost of the work, inclusive of railways at either end, is about ten million pounds. We shall look with great interest for further tidings from the great enterprise.

The Festivities of New Year's.

Yesterday was to a very great extent one of the old-fashioned calling days which were always a feature of New Year's in this city. Making "calls" is one of the customs which the "Dutch" bequeathed to New York as a reminder of New Amsterdam that is likely to be cherished for many years to come. It is a custom which gives a particular character to the day and has always proved exceedingly enjoyable. The only thing to be urged against it is the excess of hospitality, and this is not so deplorable after all. When the hospitality ceases the custom itself will die out, for it would be intolerable to spend New Year's Day in posing and being posed to. As a matter of course excesses are always to be deprecated, but the offering of a glass of wine on the first day of the year is not so great an offence as to justify the imperipence of a crusade from the temperance societies. Indeed, in their zeal we are afraid these societies sometimes forget what is due to courtesy and good manners. No desire to do good, however praiseworthy in itself, can excuse a request to the President not to offer his visitors wine on New Year's Day. What it would be impolite to ask of the President it is impolite to ask of any citizen. In this matter of hospitality to "callers" there has been a good deal of cant of late years, and very unnecessary cant, for it is seldom that New York hospitality is abused. When gentlemen have many calls to make they usually avoid too much wine, for hospitality does not require that a man shall drink off a goblet in every house he enters. The general quiet and sobriety which reigned throughout the whole of yesterday were proofs—if proof was wanted—that much preaching would be work of supererogation. Those who had the most calls to make seemed to be the brightest and happiest of our people, and whatever drunkenness disgraced the day was confined to those who

limited their festivities to the public houses. One day of visiting in the year, and that the initiative, is a delicious social custom, and it is to be hoped it will be very many, many days before it falls into desuetude.

American Credit.

There are two or three causes about to come before our courts which have an interest outside of the issues involved. In California we observe that the attorneys for certain German bondholders have brought suit against a company for default of the payment of interest upon certain bonds sold in Germany. In New York an action has been brought by English stockholders in the famous Emma Mining Company against some distinguished citizens of the United States, charging them with having made false representations for the purpose of securing the sale of the mine to English investors. Pending the determination of these suits we have nothing to say upon their merits. There is, however, a thought involved in this investigation important to us in a national sense. Should not some method be found for protecting American credit? Is there no way of so amending our law as to give the innocent purchasers of spurious or repudiated bonds some remedy?

Of course, one answer will be that the purchasers of securities in Europe must take the same risk as purchasers of other property in America; that before an investor buys a bond he must acquaint himself with the true value of the security it represents, or, failing in that, incur his own risk. We do not see how it is possible for a government to make one law for merchandise in bonds and another for cotton and sugar. At the same time, there is another misfortune. Under the wretched governments that have controlled the Southern States legislatures have virtually repudiated the most solemn obligations. An act of repudiation by a sovereign State affects the credit of the general government. The same may be said of the bonds of those great railways which have been, more or less, aided by the government. Not only do the innocent bondholders suffer, but our national credit. There should be some means of protecting the fame of the country from these mischievous experiments of unscrupulous adventurers, and, if possible, of guarding foreigners who desire sincerely to aid in the development of the country from being swindled for their pains.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Lieutenant S. C. Paine, United States Navy, is quartered at the City House. Congressman H. H. Hathorn, of Saratoga, is staying at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. Congressman James S. Negley, of Pittsburg, is residing at the St. Nicholas Hotel. Captain John Mironson, of the steamship City of Montreal, is registered at the New York Hotel. Another admirable provision of nature! In Nevada there is a Portuguese family on whose heads no hat grows. P. E. Havens, formerly State Senator, &c., has, with his family, taken rooms for the winter at the St. Denis Hotel. Queen Victoria dispensed her usual New Year bounties of beef, coal and breadstuffs at Windsor Castle yesterday. Sir James Ferguson, Governor of New Zealand, and Hon. Thomas Russell, of England, are at the Brevoort House. Congressman George W. Hendee and ex-Congressman F. E. Woodbridge, of Vermont, are at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. Was there any money, millions more or less, in that change in the President's message with regard to Cuba? And, if there was money in it, who got the money? And they say the President "changed his mind" in regard to Cuba. This is the only theory that is untenable. Grant does not change his mind. Not spontaneously. Though Pacific Mail Irwin is a great-grandson of Benjamin Franklin it must not be hastily assumed that his operations are the ultimate result of the Poor Richard theories in finance. The New York Star enters the new year with a largely extended area in which to indulge in its sparkling scintillations. We congratulate the Star upon this evidence of increasing prosperity. Is it not somewhat like a confession that so many officials coming into office with the new year press prematurely to qualify themselves under the old oath? Did they, then, really fear the new one? The French transport La Gloire has arrived at New Caledonia from Brest with 291 convicts and thirty-five Communists deported. Among the latter is one—said to have held high rank in France—condemned to imprisonment for life in a fortified place. Vice President Wilson has returned to Washington and intends to preside in the Senate during the remainder of the session. The report that he is now going to Europe is therefore incorrect, although he may make a short trip abroad during next summer. Pettis' confession throws floods of light on the reason why criminals are never caught by our police. Detectives get their percentage, then by official copy the case is given to the officer who has received the percentage on it, and he works it up so as to get plenty of "claws," but not to catch the criminal. It is reported from Berlin that the Emperor wrote to Bismarck on the 15th inst. a very gracious letter, thanking him for the zeal with which he had defended in Parliament some items in the military budget. That looks as if there were a coldness that the Emperor had supposed that Bismarck might reasonably neglect those points. The Council of the Bank of France has been somewhat bothered at the small quantity of gold in circulation, but upon investigation it is ascertained that the gold does not go out of the country and is not melted, but is absorbed by the savants of the people. It hopes to remedy all that by the speedy payment of cash to the extent of 300,000,000 francs. Of the two expeditions which went into Darfour from Egypt in December, Colonel R. E. Coleson and Lieutenant Colonel H. B. Reed were in charge of one and Colonel R. S. Purdy and Lieutenant Colonel A. M. Mason were in charge of the other. These are all American officers, and were especially chosen for the service by General C. P. Stone, Chief of staff to the Khedive. That well-known veteran of the Southern press, the Richmond Enquirer, halts the new year under new and beneficent auspices. Mr. John H. Bryant has become its proprietor, and what with a new typographical suit, an exceptional corps of editors and reporters, and himself as business manager, it is expected that the Enquirer will not only regain its old-time popularity, but enter upon new fields of usefulness and enterprise with every augury of success. The Art Journal makes its appearance to-day in a modified form. It is now international in its interest, and in future a good deal of attention will be given in its pages to American art. All the old excellency of the London series will be preserved in the American edition, with the added interest which must accrue from the introduction of papers relating to the art progress of America. The new venture is made by the Apollons, who have acquired exclusive right to the English engraving of Turner Abbey, by Leader; a moonlight scene on the Wye, with many clever wood engravings. A splendid engraving of Poley's masterpiece, the equestrian statue now erected in Calcutta, will convey a strong idea of the loss which art sustained by the death of the great Irish sculptor. The Art Journal will supply a want long felt in American art literature.