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JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS TO-NIGHT.

- CHATEAU MARILLE VARIETIES, 8 1/2 P. M.
OLYMPIC THEATRE, 8 P. M.
PARISIAN VARIETIES, 8 1/2 P. M.
THIRTY-FOURTH STREET OPERA HOUSE, VARIETY, 8 P. M.
KELLY & LEON'S MINSTRELS, 8 1/2 P. M.
FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, 8 P. M.
GLOBE THEATRE, VARIETY, 8 P. M.
WOODS MUSEUM, UNDER THE GALLONS, 8 1/2 P. M.
BROOKLYN THEATRE, PRIDE, 8 1/2 P. M.
SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 8 1/2 P. M.
THEATRE COMIQUE, VARIETY, 8 1/2 P. M.
CENTRAL PARK GARDEN, ORCHESTRA, QUARTET AND CHORUS, 8 P. M.
GILMORE'S GARDEN, GRAND CONCERT, 8 P. M.
WALKER'S THEATRE, HOW SHE LOVES HIM, 8 1/2 P. M.
TONY PASTOR'S NEW THEATRE, VARIETY, 8 P. M.
UNION SQUARE THEATRE, CONSCIENCE, 8 1/2 P. M.
EAGLE THEATRE, VARIETY, 8 P. M.
PARK THEATRE, BRASS, 8 1/2 P. M.
THEATRE FRANCAIS, MADAME COVERLET, 8 P. M.
BOWERY THEATRE, BUFF AND BLUE, 8 P. M.

TRIPLE SHEET.

NEW YORK, TUESDAY, MAY 16, 1876.

From our reports this morning the probabilities are that the weather to-day will be cooler and cloudy, with, possibly, rain.

NOTICE TO COUNTRY NEWSDEALERS.—For prompt and regular delivery of the HERALD by fast mail trains orders must be sent direct to this office. Postage free.

WALL STREET YESTERDAY.—Stocks were heavy and the market dull. Gold opened and closed at 112 1/2, with sales meanwhile at 112 5/8. Money on call loaned at 2 and 2 1/2 per cent. Government and railway bonds were quiet and steady.

CHREEDMOOR seems a dangerous place for burglars to practise at since the rifle range has been in operation there. August Bauer thinks so, at any rate.

THE CUBAN INSURGENTS are determined on a war to the knife with the Spaniards, and denounce all as traitors who in the name of the Cuban Republic offer any terms to Spain, save those of independence, for closing the insurrection.

FLON PLON has been elected at last to the French Chamber of Deputies from Ajaccio, which looks as though the Corsican tiger was changing its stripes, but is by no means a proof that he has lost his claws. Prince Napoleon carries out the old Napoleonic legend of making love to the Republic as the way to power. Roubert represents the idea that the people want the Empire.

THE WAR OF THE POLICE BOARD upon the Board of Health is one of the most unseemly exhibitions of official arrogance, petty jealousy and narrow mindedness conceivable. We had a great many extraordinary episodes in the days of Matsell and Disbecker, but nothing more Philistine has been seen in police affairs since the days of Dogberry than the attempt to oust the Board of Health from its quarters, which Judge Speir, of the Superior Court, stayed by his decision yesterday.

RAPID TRANSIT.—The first fruits of the Fourth avenue tunnel improvement to the city of New York are now presented in the shape of sixteen extra trains running from the Grand Central depot to Williamsbridge and back at fares rising from ten cents as far as Mott Haven to thirty cents at Williamsbridge. The patronage which these trains will receive even at these fares will probably induce Commodore Vanderbilt to increase the accommodation as far as possible without endangering the safety of the other regular trains running on the same tracks.

FLOWERS FOR THE POOR.—How the eye of sickness is gladdened by a flower is an experience that has come at some period or other to nearly every human being in bearing the burden of life. When we think of the bare walls of an hospital ward, where sickness always is, or the unrelieved squalor of the tenement house where it has crept in among the rags of poverty, we can think of few things more angelic than the mission which undertakes to place a bouquet of flowers by the bedside of the sufferers. Such is the work of the "flower ladies" of New York, and may the bud-blowing sunshine and the bloom of the flowers be in their hearts forever.

HATE is putting up a nine-pin government which is announced as "provisional" with a superfluity of expression doubtless born of late exciting events. They are to have five black pins of one sort and four black pins of another sort set up, and it is all arranged how they are to be bowled out unless some unforeseen episode sets the balls rolling before the appointed time. They appear to want honesty down there in public office, but views differ so as to the amount of stealing which really constitutes honesty that we have no hope they will know an honest man there until they find him turning the customs duties in a steady stream into his private coffers. To provide against all misadventures the last clause in the new constitution is "Long live revolution."

The Fifth Avenue Flies on a Political Coach Wheel.

A list of the participants in the Fifth avenue conference shows that they are, almost without exception, republicans, ex-republicans or quasi republicans, and consist, in unequal proportions, of soreheads and sentimentalists, the sentimentalists being the mere tenders or entourage of the soreheads. Disappointed ex-office-holders and ex-candidates for office make so large a figure in the gathering that the public will not fail to note their presence and speculate on their motives. A few of the most prominent may serve as samples of their quality. Mr. Schurz, long a favorite and popular stump speaker on the republican side, was rewarded first with the mission to Spain, then with a high command in the army, and was elected Senator from Missouri when so large a proportion of the Missouri democrats were disfranchised that the republicans had a majority. When his Senatorial term was half out and the disfranchisement of the democrats was removed, giving them control of the State, Mr. Schurz broke with the republican party, of which he was so distinguished and honored a member, losing its favor and yet failing to be re-elected by the democrats. So he is out of public life and dissatisfied with both political parties. Mr. John Jay has been a zealous republican, was appointed Minister to Austria, had a falling out with the administration, and now appears in this conference as a member from New York. Mr. David A. Wells was nurtured as a republican, gained great distinction as Commissioner of Internal Revenue, has been several years out of place, ran this spring as a democratic candidate for Congress, was defeated, and now consults on the welfare of the nation in sympathetic company. Quite a proportion of the leading spirits in this affair have their grievances, but would, nevertheless, be glad to return to the republican communion if they could do so on terms that would save their pride. If they could make a reform candidate for the Presidency believe that they helped him to a nomination they would support him with zeal in the canvass, and thereby re-establish a title to recognition by the party. The soreheads who got up this conference saw that it would not quite do to have it consist entirely of men of their own stamp, and so they have contrived to merge themselves in a body of well-meaning, disinterested gentlemen, who are eminent and venerable in their own walks of life, but are babes and sucklings in politics.

This bevy of political flies has lighted on the wheels of the republican coach, and when it gets in motion they are prepared to claim their share of the credit, and cry out to the horses that pull the vehicle, "What a dust we raise!" That they can exert no real influence on the nomination is obvious to all bystanders. The greater part of the delegates to Cincinnati have been chosen and will follow the wishes of their constituencies. So far as they look to the country at large they will try to please the republican party, not the soreheads and sentimentalists who assume to instruct them without any warrant from regular constituencies or any right to speak for republicans who are inside the party. Nothing will be done at Cincinnati either to please or displease these self-constituted advisers. They will be as completely ignored as if they had never existed. There is no advice which they could offer to the Convention which would not be superfluous or mistaken.

On the currency question the Cincinnati Convention is certain to go right, in order that it may take advantage of the insane blunder of the Western democrats. The inflation platform put forth in Ohio last year made it a point of strategy for the republicans to unite as a solid phalanx for hard money, and their brilliant success on that platform makes their future course so clear that the Cincinnati Convention cannot miss the right road. On the other great question of the canvass—administrative reform—the policy of the republicans is marked out for them with equal certainty by their democratic opponents, though in a different way. The Cincinnati Convention will be constrained to nominate an honest man by the fact that the democratic canvass will consist almost wholly of vehement and incessant denunciations of the corruption of the republican party. The democratic leaders have spent the whole winter at Washington in storing their magazines and arsenals with weapons and ammunition for this kind of attack. There is a preponderance of chances that Governor Tilden will be placed at the head of the assaulting column; but whether he is or not the democratic plan of campaign will be the same. They will make it their chief business to keep up incessant discharges along their whole line of the missiles they have been so industriously accumulating since the meeting of Congress. It is not what the Fifth avenue conference may tell them, it is what they themselves know of the democratic plans that will cause the republicans at Cincinnati to be careful and wary and fortify themselves on the side where they must meet the brunt of the democratic attack. It is, therefore, altogether probable that the coach will be drawn in the same direction for which the flies on the wheels are buzzing and give them the excuse they seek for exchanging congratulations with the horses.

But it is, nevertheless, certain that the Cincinnati Convention will not consent to make reform the sole nor even the main issue of the canvass. To do this would be to permit the enemy to select the battle ground and to compel them to fight on the defensive throughout the campaign. The republican leaders are not such blundering strategists as to put their party in a position where it must stand and take blows, or ward off blows, and give none in return. The great issue presented by the republicans will be the imminent danger of the ex-slaveholders of the South regaining their old ascendancy in the government. They will attempt to show that the politics of the country are reverting to the same condition in which they stood previous to the civil war, when a united South, aided by subservient democrats in the North, were the impelling force of our politics. It is quite true that the South is as solidly democratic as it was before the war, and the inopportune speeches

of some Southern Congressman like Ben Hill afford a color for the charge that the malignants are as rabid as they were in the worst times of Southern domination. Be the truth as it may, it is certain that the republicans will give that turn to the canvass, and so far as they act on the aggressive, it will be against the threatened reorganization of our politics on the old basis of a united Southern dictation assisted by the Northern democrats. All the stress and emphasis of the Cincinnati platform will be laid on this point. Now, if this is to be the chosen battle ground of the republicans they are not likely to select a candidate like Mr. Bristow, who would merely represent reform and not the leading issue of the party. The spirit of this conference, so far as it has been developed, indicates a decided preference for Bristow; but he is not publicly identified with the questions which connect the republican party with its history and its triumphs. Instead of him the Cincinnati Convention will select a candidate whose record makes him a representative of the past struggles of the party and of the issue on which it will mainly rely in the present canvass. The Cincinnati nominee will have to be a man of unassailable integrity, but he must also satisfy the demand for an aggressive campaign directed against a party which the united South will control as soon as it is once in power. We are not stating our own view, but that which will prevail at Cincinnati, and it is too evident that with hostility to Southern domination as the chief issue Mr. Bristow will have no chance for the nomination. The attempt of the Fifth avenue conference to give him a boost will be "love's labor lost."

The Mustang Race.

The race against time, which comes off today in Fleetwood Park, is a trial of human as well as equine endurance. The thirty horses will deserve less credit than the one man, Francisco Peralto, who has undertaken what is, even for a Californian, a severe ride. The wild horse of the California plains, descended from the Arabs which Cortes and his successors brought into Mexico, has retained many of the features and qualities of the Arabian horse. It is a small horse—not a pony, though pony-sized; it has immense endurance, is very sure footed, has good though seldom extraordinary speed, and can live and prosper on very rough fare. It is singular that among the native horses of California, as among the Arabs of Spain, the fino, or piebald, is a favorite color where speed and bottom both are desired. A well known Southern Californian once rode from Los Angeles to Santa Barbara and back, a distance altogether of nearly two hundred miles, in a day, using but three horses for the ride, and stopping two hours in Santa Barbara to transact business. The road is an extremely rugged one, and crosses two high mountains, and the rider was nearly fifty years of age. This feat shows what such horses and riders can do. There is no doubt, however, that the dry, pure air of California gives both horse and rider there an advantage in such violent exercises which our moister climate does not offer.

The mustang is usually broken at from three to four years of age, and the process is one which teaches him at once the superior power of man. The animal, singled out of a herd, is lassoed, thrown to the ground, blindfolded, and the saddle put on while he lies prone. A nose strap is used instead of a bridle and bit, and the rider mounts before taking the blind from the creature's eyes. Then begins a contest between man and horse, in which the spur is freely used, and the object is to force the horse to go ahead at top speed until he is exhausted. This treatment, continued for some weeks, is followed by a more regular training with the heavy bit used by Californians, and he is finally taught to obey the slightest impulse of his rider's leg or finger and learns to take an intelligent and almost human delight in the management of cattle and in all the tricks of the rodeo or annual cattle marking.

The Comptrollership Question.

Public sentiment will endorse Comptroller Green's action if he decides to resist by all legal means at his command the consummation of the bargain by which the Finance Department of the city government is sought to be again turned over to the control of Tammany. Lawyers, who have examined the charter, express the opinion that, in consequence of the peculiar wording of the section relating to the appointing power, the authority of the Mayor to nominate and the Aldermen to confirm a Comptroller is at least doubtful, while some insist that the appointment of that officer is positively prohibited. The official acts of a Comptroller illegally appointed would be null and void, and any bonds and stock of the city issued by him would be worthless. Hence an injunction should be granted in the public interests restraining the Mayor from nominating and the Board of Aldermen from confirming a successor to Mr. Green until the legal point involved shall have received a judicial decision. Under the law Mr. Green holds over until his successor is duly appointed and qualified, and his official acts performed after the expiration of his term would, therefore, be legal. If the courts should decide that the Mayor and Aldermen have the appointing power no injury would be inflicted on the city and no wrong done to anybody by the delay pending the decision. The people of New York desired that Mayor Wickham should be prevented by legislation from appointing a Comptroller for four years within a few weeks of the expiration of his own term of office. The bill for that purpose was defeated at Albany by a corrupt combination. If the contemplated legal proceedings accomplish the same result as would have followed the enactment of the proposed law, by postponing the appointment of Mr. Green's successor until the next Mayor comes into office, the respectable portion of the community will be well satisfied.

A TRINITY COLLEGE FOUR on the Schuylkill is the best Cambridge University can do toward our Centennial regatta. We shall be glad to greet the English oarsmen in whatever guise they come, but it is too bad they cannot send us representative university crews for the contest on Saratoga Lake.

The Turkish Danger.

The desperate position of Turkey needs all the care which astute and cautious diplomats can bestow upon it to prevent the crumbling ruins of the Ottoman Empire from falling to the ground. Like a house propped on every side it depends for safety upon the support of each of the guaranteeing Powers, and the effort of the imperial architects is at present directed to keeping them in their position of beams against the walls of a crazy structure. That it would be to the benefit of all of them to have the present Turkish government torn down and something adapted to modern civilization reared in its stead is true, but there must be a present loss to them in the tumbling of Moslem rule, and no one of them can be certain that they would be pleased with the new government. Hence the finess of conferences where the three Empires of Europe feel each other's pulse. Hence, also, the subtle intriguing at the little courts of the principalities, where every move of Russia and Austria is tested upon the populations surrounding the revolted provinces and by them carried, electrically, almost, into the insurgent camps.

On her side Turkey has done worse than nothing toward smoothing the difficulties of her position. Let the Porte do what it will in giving its adhesion to diplomatic notes and pacificatory plans, it has only to attempt obeying the first or putting the second in practice to find its Moslem subjects obstinate and insubordinate. This is what makes Turkey's position desperate. Harassed with importunate demands for money from the Sultan's bankrupt Treasury, the Mussulmans find that all their pecuniary sacrifices only bring the infidel that knows not Mohammed closer to their doors, and an order to elevate the Christian dogs whom they have trampled on for ages to equality with themselves. The disgust of the Southern planter for a condition of government in which his late slaves became from their voting power his masters is not deep or bitter compared with the repugnance with which the true Turk would regard any attempt to make the despised rayah his equal. To the difference of race must be added a religious fanaticism whose brightest traditions are those which picture the Moslem scimitar at the Christian throat. To such a people a holy war would be hailed with joy. The murders at Salonica point this with extreme force, and the slightest indiscretion on the part of the government would make every town and village of Turkey a shambles for Christians and next for the Turks themselves, when Europe would rush to the new crusade. From such a prospect the great Powers, though each anxious for its aggrandizement, may well recoil in horror, for the end of the holy war would only mark the beginning of a still more stupendous struggle—that of the elated victors striving for the spoils. To gain, therefore, as long an armistice as possible with the insurgents, to punish sternly the murders at Salonica and so give the Porte a fair and final chance for making some effort at administrative and financial reform, is a politic programme. It is the best devisable, but its success depends on more than the simple acquiescence of the Turk. It needs positive enlightened action on his part, and that is its fatal weakness.

Operatic Plans and Possibilities.

In the report of a conversation with Mr. Strakosch we yesterday laid before the public some news that was certainly read with great pleasure. Both the tenors whose illness interrupted the season of Italian opera are nearly recovered, and the performances will shortly be resumed, when the people will be able to appreciate fully the quality of Mlle. de Belocca, of whose talents they have formed already a good opinion. But Mr. Strakosch, full as he is of pleasant promises for the immediate future, holds up to our eyes a more tantalizing vision of what he may possibly present next winter. He has "conditional agreements with some of the most eminent and celebrated artists in Europe," he would support these artists with "a good company, a good orchestra and fine scenery," in this spirit of management he believes the opera could be made permanently remunerative here, and he would evidently like to make the Academy of Music the scene of an experiment to test the possibility of sustaining here regularly year in and year out this noble entertainment.

It is one of those bits of cross purpose from which the public so often suffers that while one man seems to have all the ambition, and ample resources in the way of artists, another man has possession of the Academy. Possibly Mr. Mapleson has at his command, in addition to Titens, artists of whom we do not hear, and who in talent and number will, in the hands of so experienced a manager, leave us no reason to regret that the Academy has fallen into his hands. But what he may be able to do is in doubt, while the campaign sketched by Mr. Strakosch is definite, and the public has acquired the habit of depending upon this gentleman's promises. Without the slightest disposition to make invidious distinction, it may be said that Mr. Strakosch is an old acquaintance, associated with very pleasant parts of such musical history as we have; almost a New Yorker, in fact, though since the great triumphs achieved with Patti, which were initiated by him in the Academy of Music, he has spent less time with us than formerly. This regard for old acquaintances never goes with the public to the extreme of establishing a camaraderie in the interest of any manager; but it is commonly a guarantee that the manager thus distinguished has a thorough intimacy with the tastes of the musical public and has catered to them successfully.

There is one point happily touched by Mr. Strakosch. He promises a good company. We may concede his view as to the necessity of a star, or two or three stars; but we would carry it just a step further and wish to see every part in the hands of an artist of starlike quality in his way. Our most successful theatre is conducted on that principle. Lately the city has laughed at a tragic buffoon who played Hamlet with "an imaginary company," and apparently he thought it a new idea; but in fact it is plagiarized from the star system, where one actor or artist stalks to and fro amidst figures that are im-

aginary artists—also. This has been carried to even greater extremes in opera than in the drama, and it is the bane of the entertainment. It reduces the opera to a concert. There is no art but when the principle performer comes on. Let Mr. Strakosch reform this for us, give us a well balanced, capable company, and he will have no difficulty in the project of making an opera season a permanent feature of our city life.

Secret Investigations.

The House has refused to throw open the doors of the investigating committees, mainly by a democratic vote; and now we see that the republicans in the Senate follow the mistaken example of the democratic House, and are investigating the condition of Mississippi with closed doors and in secret. This is all wrong and a blunder besides. Nothing is gained and much time is lost by secret investigations. Not only this, but committees are likely, when they work in secret, to lose many important witnesses. An open inquiry attracts the attention of the country; everybody reads or hears about the evidence, and new and voluntary witnesses turn up from unexpected quarters. This has been the experience of all the committees which have sat with open doors.

We hope the investigating committees in both houses will abandon the un-American and useless practice of working in secret. If it is continued much longer it will make all these inquiries odious or partisan, or both, in the public esteem; and thus the ends of justice and the public good will be more injured than they could possibly be by the utmost publicity. There is no greater mistake than that which petty and partisan men make in thinking that secrecy increases the importance of their proceedings. The contrary is true. It oftentimes defeats the very object of the inquiry. There can be no doubt that if the Committee on War Expenditures had made the Belknap investigation with open doors they would have been saved some mortifying blunders, and would have brought Mr. Belknap's offence to light just as surely; for it is well known that all the persons implicated knew of the inquiry going on—only the public was kept in the dark. There is little doubt that several important investigations begun in the present Congress have failed of results mainly because the committees closed their doors and kept their work from the public. We trust there is common sense and public spirit enough in both houses of Congress to order the doors of all investigating committees thrown open at once.

Miss Dickinson's Opinions of the Stage.

Miss Anna Dickinson's courage will be universally admired, for having once put her hand to the plough it would have been folly to have turned back because of the adverse criticism she received. The opinions she expressed in the HERALD yesterday show that she has lost nothing of that determination and faith in her own ability which distinguished her in her earlier life. She believes that she succeeded both as author and actress, and says that she carried the feelings of her audience with her to the very end. This is a consoling belief, and one which all great actors have possessed. It does not follow, however, that all who possess it are great actors. Her criticism of the critics is quite lively and amusing. She does not in the least degree regard their opinion, in which she also resembles all great actors, for we have never known one who did not insist upon his indifference to what newspapers said in censure of his performances, and this is a proof that the dramatic profession is not as sensitive as the world supposes it to be. Miss Dickinson's complaint is that she can find no two critics who agree; one says she has no humor, another that she has no tragedy; so that while they are nearly all united in the belief that she failed they differ as to the reasons. Inexperience, she concedes, was one cause of her shortcomings; human beings would oppose her way on the stage, and she would become "painfully aware of a chair or a table, and her enthusiasm would be shocked as by a cold water plunge." This was to be expected, for the difference between the lecture platform and the stage is great; far greater than Miss Dickinson appreciates. An illustration of how much she has yet to learn of her new art is supplied by her noise answer to the question why she wrote her own play. It was because she could find no character that suited her. There is an almost pathetic simplicity in this confession, for it is the peculiar characteristic of dramatic genius, that he seeks expression in forms different from his own nature. An actor ought not to expect his characters to suit him; he should suit himself to the characters. Ability to personify is the ultimate test of fitness for the stage, and Miss Dickinson cannot hope to prove that she has it by making her own parts as she does her costumes. In writing "A Crown of Thorns" she evaded the usual standard of comparison by which a debutante is judged. If she had appeared in any of Shakespeare's characters (and surely the women of Shakespeare, if not as good as Miss Dickinson's Anne Boleyn, are not wholly unworthy of her consideration) the extent of her success might have been more easily measured. Nevertheless, we applaud her bravery and hope she will persevere in her dramatic experiment, and that the public, which generally judges rightly, will, at the last, take from her intellectual brow its present crown of thorns and replace it with a wreath of laurels.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Five hundred Indians live in Florida. Ohio's capital sends delegates for Thurman. The Eastern fine cut tobacco manufacturers are trying to foil the Westerners. Edward Everett Hale is in Texas, near Mexico, but he is still a man with a country. The Louisville Courier-Journal says that "Grant uses glasses." Does this mean goggles or gurgles? The Columbus (Ga.) Enquirer says that Columbus is prosperous because his women wear common clothes manufactured in its own mills. The country newspapers are pictorial with giraffes looking over palm trees and of non-amers putting little rings around big lions. The circus is coming. Said a man in a car yesterday:—"What is the use of taking Washington's false teeth to the Centennial when they can go to Mount Vernon and find the real ones?" Fox was, like Pitt, extremely fond of partridge shooting; but he used to grow so excited when the birds fell that he often put the shot into his gun before the powder. Is it any sign of the times that Bristow is the only candidate in whose name political clubs are being formed? What is the essential meaning of clubs in politics? An Eastern writer in San Francisco says that the Chinaman is a glazier, stepping after a white man has left, and doing the small, but valuable work that a white man would scorn to do. The Chicago Tribune praises Bristow because in a time of republican deadness and corruption he introduced a system which gave to the party all the life and worth of life that it now possesses. The Cincinnati Gazette, touching the subject of the products of the soil commanding a higher price than those of skilled labor, advises men who are idling around cities to go to the Western fields. So great is the superstition of the Southern negro and so strong his faith in the power of witchcraft that a Georgia colored man believes that an Atlanta woman charmed and tricked him, and that he now has forty-nine live snakes in his leg. Ex-Senator William M. Stewart, of Nevada and of Emma mine fame, is in California, and is fond of reiterating that Conkling has the inside chances for the Presidential nomination. He found a growing Conkling sentiment in Nevada. The Phil. Mail Bulletin says:—"Nothing could be more spiteful or more ignorant than the barangues in which men like Mr. Webster, Mr. Seward and Mr. Charles Sumner cultivated the favor of the Irish brogue electors—holding up England to execration as a tyrant, ruthlessly trampling the lives and liberties of the Irish people in the dust."

A Good Reason for a Station Enough.

The Territory of New Mexico, with an area almost three times that of the State of New York, has a population of less than one hundred thousand souls, of whom only about two thousand are Americans, the remainder being Mexicans, Indians and half breeds. It has been settled by Europeans, as Mr. Stevenson, of Illinois, remarked the other day in the House of Representatives, for two hundred and fifty years; it has been a Territory of the United States over a quarter of a century; it has mines of gold, silver and other minerals to attract population; and yet of such small general attractiveness is it that, after all these years, it contains less population than some wards in New York, and fewer Americans than are found in many villages in the interior. In 1873, in the whole Territory, there were only one hundred and sixty-four schools of all kinds, and in only ten of these was the English language taught. Mr. Stevenson showed that a single county in Illinois produced more grain and had nearly as large a population as New Mexico, and has two hundred and fifty-four free schools, besides academies and colleges. It seems absurd to make a State of a wild and unimproving region, which, after being for nearly thirty years under our flag, has to-day no more than two thousand Americans among its scant population, and which produces less than many single counties in other States. In fact, there is but one reason for making New Mexico a State. That reason is named Elkins. Mr. Elkins is the Territorial Representative in Congress from New Mexico. If you ask anybody in Washington about him you will learn that "Elkins is a good fellow—a very good fellow." During the last session of Congress the House nearly voted to make New Mexico a State, and the reason which was given by many Representatives was that they "couldn't resist Elkins—he was such a good fellow."

It is hard to oppose in such a case, and we will not doubt Mr. Elkins' goodness of every kind. But this is too serious a matter for trifling. It is not Elkins that congress is asked to erect into a State, but New Mexico, and New Mexico as a State would be a rotten borough. We have enough of these already. We hope the House will resist the blandishments of Mr. Elkins and leave New Mexico what she is for the present.

MISFORTUNES OF A POLITICIAN.—EX-SPEAKER BLAINE IS AN UNFORTUNATE MAN.

Politically, the Fates seem bent on working him mischief. He has a brother, like the farmer in the play of "Toodles," and this brother's name being J. E. Blaine, in sound so similar to J. G. Blaine, the stock transactions of the one, who is unknown to fame, are naturally attributed to the other, with whom the world is familiar. Then again, the ex-Speaker has a cousin, General Thomas Ewing, Jr., who so closely resembles him that they are frequently mistaken the one for the other. Thus Speaker Blaine is supposed to have held a private interview with J. B. Stewart and received from him a transfer of twenty-four thousand dollars' worth of Kansas Pacific bonds, when lo! it is discovered that Stewart's visitor was Blaine's cousin and not Blaine himself. All this is unfortunate, especially as it will take Mr. Blaine so long to explain that he is likely to be left behind in the race for the Presidential nomination.

SPANISH FINANCES in Cuba seem to be administered in a strangely empirical way. No sooner is a new style of tax devised and decreed than it is changed for some other more or less odious tax. The philosophers have there a fine opportunity for studying how high the percentage is to which a people may be made to pay taxes. The Cuban financiers make no senseless distinctions between taxes which are unjust or oppressive, but they are continually stopped in their bold tests by inability to collect beyond a certain point. The latest experiment seems to prove that thirty per cent on incomes is too high.

NO WONDER THEY CHANGED THE SUBJECT in the Methodist ministers' meeting at Newark yesterday, when Rev. Mr. Graves made the remarkable statement that he would play with fire to snatch a brand from the burning, even to the extent of scorching his moral fingers "a little."