

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING.

- KELLY & LEON'S MINSTRELS. at 8 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M. FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE. James Lewis' Benefit at 8 P. M. PIQUE matinee at 1:30 P. M. Fanny Davenport. GLOBE THEATRE. VARIETY, at 8 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M. WOODS' MUSEUM. UNDER THE GALLOWAYS, at 8 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M. BROOKLYN THEATRE. PRIDE, at 8 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M. Charlotte Thompson. SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS. at 8 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M. THEATRE COMIQUE. VARIETY, at 8 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M. CENTRAL PARK GARDEN. ORCHESTRA, QUARTET AND CHORUS, at 8 P. M. GILMORE'S GARDEN. GRAND CONCERT, at 8 P. M. Offenbach. WALLACK'S THEATRE. HOW SHE LOVES HIM, at 8 P. M. Matinee at 1:30 P. M. Lester Wallack. TONY PASTOR'S NEW THEATRE. VARIETY, at 8 P. M. UNION SQUARE THEATRE. CONSCIENCE, at 8 P. M. Matinee at 1:30 P. M. C. R. Thorne, Jr. EAGLE THEATRE. VARIETY, at 8 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M. PARK THEATRE. BRASS, at 8 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M. Mr. George Pawcett Rows. BOWERY THEATRE. BUFF AND BLUE, at 8 P. M. CHATEAU MABILLE VARIETIES, at 8 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M. OLYMPIC THEATRE. HUMPTY DUMPTY, at 8 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M. PARIAN VARIETIES, at 8 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M. THIRTY-FOURTH STREET OPERA HOUSE. VARIETY, at 8 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M. THEATRE FRANCAIS. LA CAGNOTTE, at 8 P. M.

TRIPLE SHEET.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MAY 20, 1876.

From our reports this morning the probability is that the weather to-day will be warmer and cloudy, with, perhaps, 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.—Gold opened at 112 3/4, advanced to 112 7/8 and closed at 112 5/8. The stock market was feverish, with a lower tendency. Coal stocks were weaker. Money on call loaned at 2 1/2 per cent. Government bonds were firm.

HOW THE COLORED PEOPLE of the country were plundered by the managers of the Freedman's Bank is shown in our Washington despatches.

RAILROAD FERRIES.—The property of New York city on the North River shore has been used freely by some of the railroad companies, and the question has been raised whether they should not be compelled to pay for the privilege. The opinion of Mr. George Ticknor Curtis, elsewhere given, is to the effect that the railroads should pay the city something for ferrage. New York should protect itself and receive its due revenues; yet we should regret to see any new impediments to travel.

MR. BOWEN'S EXPULSION from Plymouth Church reminds us of Falstaff's mock trial at the Boar's Head Tavern, in which he exclaimed, "Banish plump Jack, and banish all the world." The Prince, personating the King, replied, as Mr. Beecher did, "I do! I will!" But what Plymouth Church will do for dramatic effect without Mr. Bowen is hard to imagine. "Othello" could not easily be played without Iago, and we are afraid that Mr. Beecher has injured his own popularity by the separation from his old friend and pitcher.

THE EXPOSITION OF SUNDAY.—The Presbyterian General Assembly, which is in session in Brooklyn, yesterday adopted resolutions congratulating the Centennial Commissioners on their determination to close the grounds of the Centennial Exposition on Sundays. The next resolution should be to congratulate the authorities of Philadelphia upon their success in not enforcing the laws which forbid the sale of liquors in the Park where the Exposition buildings stand, and which require the closing of the taverns on Sunday. The policy adopted by the Commissioners closes what Archbishop Wood calls a harmless and instructive entertainment, and drives the people to seek more expensive and demoralizing amusement. We regret to see that the Presbyterians still hold fast to the exploded theory of religion which would prohibit Sunday newspapers, Sunday cars, Sunday parks and Sunday freedom, and which would stop the sun itself on Sundays, like Joshua.

THE RECEPTION OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.—The reception of the Prince of Wales in London, after his visit to India, recalls the parable of the Prodigal Son. The Prince expended the money of the English nation freely in that visit, but the people are proud of their royal family, and seem to rejoice in the opportunity of welcoming the heir apparent to the city. It would be a graceful act on the part of the Prince of Wales to use his powerful influence in favor of amnesty to the Fenian prisoners. Great national festivals ought to be marked by great acts of mercy on the part of the government, and England has not yet treated Ireland with that true justice which entitles her to look upon rebellion as an unpardonable sin. Mr. Disraeli was prevented by illness from attending the banquet and the ball which the city gave to the Prince, but it is in his power to utilize the festival for the benefit of his own administration and the good of the United Kingdom.

The Revolt at Constantinople.

Constantinople may send us any day some very bad news—news of a repetition of the tragedy of Salonica on a far more extensive scale. In any city in the world it would be a horrible event for the sum of the people to be arrayed against all who are socially their superiors. Paris once had a faint taste of the possibilities of such an occurrence. It once saw for a few days what might happen if all the repressive machinery that commonly preserves order is set aside and the ferocious instincts of the mob are freed from every restraint. All who are familiar or have only a slight knowledge of the darker side of life in London can conceive the carnival that city would furnish in such circumstances, and even here the people have once or twice had a vague sense of this horror. But in every city in a Christian country some thought of humanity, some ray of compunction, would mitigate the evil, as, even at the worst moment of the Paris community, the city was in a condition of tranquil security compared to what it might have been.

But the Sultan's capital is the only city in Europe where murder, arson, robbery—the general butchery of a third of the population—could be presented to the minds of the perpetrators in the light of acts of the highest virtue by the priests of the orthodox religion of the country. Perhaps the class of the Moslem population whom the softos could most influence in this direction would not go far out of its way to perform any acts of exalted virtue; but if acts that were agreeable to their impulses and that opened the way to rapine and plunder were presented in that attractive light it would increase the zest with which the knife would be handled. Unfortunately the world has seen what uses may be made in Christian countries, by bigotry, ambition and political intrigue, of the zeal of the people in the cause of a religion that teaches charity and good will to all men. How much more terrible might it be to set loose the fanatic ferocity of a mob which is taught from infancy the barbarous lessons that every Christian's life is an obstacle to the progress of religious truth!

But if the crisis in which the foreign residents of Constantinople suddenly find themselves shall pass away without a tragic episode then the Christian subjects of the Sultan will ultimately have cause to rejoice over the demonstration of the softos; for politically the effect of this event must be to deprive the Ottoman government of its last hope to resist the enforcement of such reforms as must practically deprive Moslemism of all power to do further harm. As an actual government—as one of the political realities of the age—as an administrative machinery, which might be held responsible for the good conduct of many millions of people—the great Powers dealt with the Porte on terms of quasi equality; they respected its existence, and they have on this ground repeatedly refused to take action or to permit action to be taken, on the ground held by Russia, that this government was only a fictitious remnant of Asiatic conquest—a mere serpent's slough, from which the serpent once terrible was gone. But now the Powers have their eyes opened to the truth of this view. Now they see for themselves that the government of Turkey is in the mosques—that the Sultan himself is the creature, the plastic tool of the last expression of the densest bigotry in the world. In the ages when the Sultan was sustained or dethroned as he acted the pleasure of the janissaries he was a picture of dignity and splendor compared to this, for it was no prejudice to the prestige of a ruler in the eyes of foreign nations to say that he held his throne only at the pleasure of the finest body of infantry in Europe. Roman emperors held their thrones on no other tenure. But the power that was held by the janissaries must exist somewhere in every State. Countries that have no such institutions as exist in constitutional countries for giving force to national purposes must have resolute and great-willed sovereigns; and when that resort fails the power to determine action in critical moments of the nation's history will drift and lodge in some unexpected place, and in Turkey it is found now to have lodged with those who make a trade of the national religion. It was to no purpose, therefore, that the janissaries were rooted out, since the Sultan has become not independent, but only the slave of a more contemptible master, though of a master capable of terrible harm.

Negotiation with the Porte by the great Powers must now all be seen in a new light. Such negotiation was necessarily based on faith in the Sultan's power to carry out any terms he might make with others, but the guarantee apparently given to Russia in the appointment of a Vizier is already broken. And if five great Powers are to formally confer and lay down a programme for the government of Turkey, and to be treated on the first occasion just as Russia has now been treated, that sort of politics will become very farcical. It has been held by Count Andrassy that the execution of the reforms which would make life and property safe in Turkey might be entrusted confidently to the Turkish authorities. Austria does not wish to see the disintegration of Turkey at the present moment, because she is not herself in a position to profit by it, as she believes she may on some happier occasion. She wishes the day of partition to be deferred until the time when she may in some degree dictate the terms. At present, if Prussia and Russia should agree upon the division of the spoil, Austria could only tamely accept what they might accord. Her only hope to secure a Prussian support for her view of the equities of such a division would be by dangling in the eyes of the statesmen at Berlin the tempting bait of a German province; but the statesmen at Vienna are wise enough to recognize that it would be a poor bargain to purchase even a Danubian empire at the expense of any one of the little States whose possession leaves polyglot Austria with the spirit, energy and capacity of the German race.

Austrian policy has, therefore, received a severe blow by the event which demonstrates the complete incapacity of the Sultan to "deliver" the political goods he sells to his neighbors, even in very small lots. Russia resisted resolutely the Austrian policy for many months, for the patent reason that it was mere nonsense to make with the Sultan compact he could not keep. She was

not willing to concede that the reforms should be left to the execution of the Sultan's authorities, but wanted them put into the hands of a commission so strong and so well guaranteed that it would have been, in fact, an actual protectorate. But when Russia saw the apparent impossibility of obtaining her demand she set about to see what could be done next, and by compromise or intrigue obtained the appointment of a Grand Vizier of her choice. If she could not have the reforms carried out by an independent foreign commission she might assent to their execution by the Sultan, if she could choose an important part of the Ministry that was to act on these reforms. Successful in this compromise, her support to the programme was apparently secured. But now the condition on which her assent was given is withdrawn. There is a possibility, therefore, that the agency of the softos has been brought on the scene in obedience to some intrigue. Russia is assumed to have assented without ostensible regard to the presence of the Vizier of her choice, though certainly with an *arrière pensée* that involved him; and it is thought, perhaps, that his removal would not justify the withdrawal of her assent, though it will defeat her purpose to have the reforms administered under her influence.

But if they reason thus at Vienna they reason with shallow conceptions of Prince Gortschakoff's courage. He will not hesitate when an event has thrown the whole game into his hands, whether that event was produced by intrigue or was the result of spontaneous impulses.

Centennial Illusions.

Our Philadelphia friends are awakening from their Centennial illusions. One was that all the people of Europe would hurry over to their placid town and there abide for six months. But there have been a half dozen exhibitions in Europe within twenty-five years, and foreigners, we are afraid, do not care enough about quartz mountains and machinery to run the risk of a stormy mid-ocean trip.

Nor have our Philadelphia friends utilized their advantages. Instead of accepting the Exposition as a material benefit, the results of which would be felt for a long time, they have done everything to keep people from their city. The advance in hotel rates, which was officially announced as twenty per cent, was a blunder. Vienna showed this in the long range of magnificent hotels which stood tenantless. Philadelphia passes through the same experience now, and it will be June before its people are wiser. There is no remedy for outside extortion except the Vienna remedy; but we are surprised to hear of inside extortions. Correspondents write us that they have to pay unusual prices for food and beverages. One angry German goes into details on the beer question. The glass, he says, is much smaller than it should be; there is a false bottom, and the waiters give him one-third beer and two-thirds froth. This may seem a small matter to write about, but any great enterprise like this depends for its success upon small matters. Not long since a riot took place in Frankfurt arising out of the beer question. There had been either an increase in the price of the beer or a reduction in the size of the glass—we are not quite sure which—and the people, who had much stronger feelings about the integrity of the beer mug than that of the German Empire, took to window smashing.

This complaint from Philadelphia is typical of the manner in which the Centennial is managed. Thus, on the opening day, as one of our correspondents noted at the time, the press accommodations were something like the accommodations vouchsafed to beef cattle on cattle trains. We paid no attention to this, because as a general thing we have little sympathy with press complaints. Most of them when sifted down turn out to be efforts to "dead head" or blackmail, and we always direct our own people to attend to their business, ask no favors and accept none. But in commenting upon the Centennial management this press complaint comes before us as a fair idea of the manner in which the show is managed.

The truth, we fear, is that the Centennial is running itself. It needs a head. So far as it represents individual energy it is well. So far as it shows what a people can do toward beautifying and aiding their city it deserves commendation. But in the large sense there are many things to deplore. What was to have been a great national exhibition of skill, genius, energy and taste threatens to become a county fair. The only way to save it is for some strong man in the management to take hold of it, bring order out of chaos, stop abuses, eliminate the narrow, selfish spirit, prevent it from degenerating into a mere advertising scheme and make it what it was intended to be—a World's Exposition in the largest sense of the term.

The Indian War.

As soon as the fine weather begins we have an Indian war. This is the experience of years, and the HERALD has frequently called attention to the fact. Now we have another proof of it. The Sioux are on the warpath, and have massacred our citizens on the Plains, and, not contented with murder, have gratified their passions by mutilations of the dead bodies. The disorders in the Indian Territory have, as usual, compelled the government to organize a military expedition at great expense to punish these savages. The old, old story will never have an end until the entire Indian policy is revolutionized. These barbarous tribes, whose utter savagery is indicated by their grotesque and wretched names—Little Big Man, Run-Away-From-a-Bear, Spotted Tail, &c.—and whose actions are still more savage than their words, are fed by the United States all winter only to fight the whites all summer. It is folly to keep up the system of failure for the benefit of speculators, Indian agents and government rings, and for the injury of the whole West and the discouragement of emigration and enterprise. The only true policy is to give the entire control of the Indians to the War Department. The army is needed every summer to whip the Sioux and the Pawnees and the rest of the savages, and it would be better to employ it in preventing the hostilities which it is now obliged to suppress.

The Bayou Sara "Outrage."

The harrowing stories of riot and bloodshed in Northern Louisiana spread all over the country by telegraph several days ago receive no confirmation by subsequent advices. The fact that three or four days elapsed without any further intelligence justified a suspicion that the public had been imposed upon by the first despatches. Wishing to ascertain the truth we telegraphed to our correspondent at New Orleans to send us an exact and unvarnished statement of the real facts. We printed his answering despatch yesterday, from which it appears that the first accounts were wild and reckless exaggerations. It seems to be true that there was a small local riot. Some negroes had stolen a cow, and the natural indignation of a rural community against cattle thieves was intensified by the circumstance that the culprits were negroes. The result of the disturbance was the killing of two whites and four negroes (two of the latter having been hung) and the wounding of a few others. Most certainly the stealing of a cow did not justify a resort to mob violence; but, on the other hand, there was no justification for the lying exaggerations which were scattered broadcast over the country to excite and unsettle the public mind and poison Northern feeling against the South.

In justice to President Grant we must say that he has acted with caution and discretion in relation to these bloody tales. Governor Kellogg was in Washington when they came, and tried to induce the President to interfere; but General Grant wisely decided to take no sudden steps on doubtful information. It was ridiculous for Governor Kellogg to ask the federal government to interpose for putting down a small local disturbance in a remote rural corner of Louisiana. Governor Kellogg is commander-in-chief of the Louisiana militia, and if he had thought this affair serious he should have hastened home and have despatched a regiment or a few companies to Bayou Sara to quell the disturbance and restore order. If there should be a local riot in Chautauqua county, in this State, Governor Tilden would not make frantic appeals to the federal government for aid while he had the whole militia force of the State at his disposal and a single regiment from a neighboring county would be sufficient to disperse the mob if it should find a mob assembled on reaching the spot. A State government which applies for federal assistance to put down a local riot brands itself as imbecile and unfit to be trusted with power. We are glad that President Grant kept his head and declined to accede to Governor Kellogg's foolish and cowardly request.

The wild exaggerations sent abroad in relation to this trivial affair are to be regretted as tending to influence public opinion. It is absurd to hold the whole Southern people responsible for every accidental local disturbance which occurs in any part of that vast region.

Tramways and Cheap Cabs.

The sketch of the Paris horse-car railroads which is given in the HERALD to-day will show that the French have not been slow in adopting the cheap transit system of New York. At the same time it is well known that, despite the low fares and the extensive accommodation of the "tramways" in Paris, the cabs of that city are liberally patronized and are fairly profitable. The principal argument against the experiment of cheap cabs in New York has been based on the idea that, as we have a number of horse-car lines running through the principal avenues of the city at cheap fares, the travel across town would be about all that could make a demand for cab conveyances. But this ignores the fact that if cabs could be hired at reasonable rates many thousands who now travel by the street cars would gladly pay the extra charge and patronize the cabs. The truth is, that we are on the verge of an experiment; that we have not heretofore had an opportunity of ascertaining whether cabs would be a success or a failure in New York, because we have never yet placed them within the reach of the general class of citizens, and that all calculations based upon the supposition that people would not patronize cheap cabs are a mere matter of guesswork.

The cab proprietors are their own enemies in this controversy. The owners and drivers of cabs are an industrious and deserving class of men as a rule, but they fail to comprehend that it is to their interest to establish a reasonably low rate of fares for the use of their vehicles. They have hitherto found that few people, considering the population, ride in hacks, and have in consequence been disposed to make as much money as possible out of their customers. Heavy charges have deterred persons from trying a second experiment with New York hacks, and thus the business has been restricted almost wholly to the absolute necessity of using that means of conveyance. If the hack drivers could be persuaded once to try the experiment of cheap fares they would soon find that a small profit would be attended by an increase of patronage large enough to secure them a very profitable business. It is certain that a fortune awaits any enterprising proprietor who will place cheap cabs at the service of the people of New York, and it is surprising that with so many enterprising men in the hack business we have not some one who will venture on the experiment.

THE SITUATION IN TURKEY.—The most important event in the Eastern situation is the refusal of England to join with the other great Powers of Europe in the memorandum to Turkey. The reasons given for this action are not without weight. The English government, ever since the downfall of the imperial power in France, has been without an ally on the Continent, and the commercial influence of the country has been opposed to any "entangling alliances." Yet England will in the end join with Russia, Austria, Germany and France in any proper effort to protect the interests of civilized Europe against the anachronism of Turkish barbarity. The interests of the English in the East will compel them to act with other nations in the settlement of the present question. We do not believe that the plucky little island would submit to see the affairs

of Turkey arranged without being admitted to the general council of nations. It is certain, in any event, that, with England or without it, the troubles in Turkey must soon be brought to an end.

A Cloud on the Democratic Prospect.

The silence of the leading democratic organ on the fresh folly perpetrated by its party in Ohio is in striking contrast to the scathing and contemptuous denunciations it launched against the Ohio inflationists when they first promulgated their heresy last fall. It seemed possible then to bring so strong a body of outside democratic opinion to bear upon them as to prevent the spread of that political epidemic. The denunciations, however, failed of their aim; for within a few weeks the Pennsylvania democrats followed the Ohio example. It then became the wish, more or less openly expressed, of the party in New York that the Ohio and Pennsylvania tickets should be defeated, in order that the inflationists might learn a wholesome lesson from experience and that the democrats of other States might profit by their punishment. Defeated they were, in a most signal manner; but the inflationists belong to that class of political Bourbons who "learn nothing and forget nothing." The only effect of opposition and denunciation from the hard money democrats of other States was to arouse their resentment and cause them to ascribe their defeat to outside interference rather than to the inherent weakness of their cause. Instead of abandoning this insane platform they clung to the wreck, and they have again put to sea in the same crazy craft. The strength exhibited by the soft money wing of the party in Congress during the winter has strengthened and emboldened the followers of Allen, and they are certain to make a strenuous and troublesome fight in the National Convention.

The hard money democrats of other States, seeing that such a struggle at St. Louis is inevitable and that its issue is doubtful, do not quite know what line of tactics they ought to adopt. They do not dare to denounce the inflationists with the same unsparring vigor with which they pursued them last year, because it would further inflame and enrage them and alarm the timid hard money democrats of other States for the safety and unity of the party. If the supporters of Governor Tilden push the quarrel to extremities the rag money men will bolt from the St. Louis Convention if they cannot control it, and a grand split in the democratic party now would prove as disastrous as it did in 1860. The bold action and defiant attitude of the Ohio Convention is a most untoward event for the democratic party. There is no certainty that the hard money democrats would win at St. Louis if they should make an aggressive fight. The ability of the soft money democrats in Congress to foil the sounder wing of the party throughout the session is a bad omen which casts doubt on the result of a determined battle in the National Convention. If the hard money men make the fight and get beaten the party is utterly ruined. If they make the fight and succeed so much violence of passion will be engendered by the contest that the defeated inflationists will bolt and run a candidate of their own, which will leave the party only a possibility—the bare shadow of a possibility—of carrying the election into the House. But this faint possibility is not worth counting on. It is not likely that the rag money democrats could get the electoral votes of any State; and, in that event, the election could not go into the House, for the republicans would triumphantly elect their ticket.

In any event the democratic schism on the currency will strengthen the republican party. It gives it all the political capital that is to be made out of the hard money issue. It will be ridiculous for the democrats to ask the confidence of the country on this important question in the face of the deadlock which has prevailed during the winter in Washington and the unabashed boldness of the Western inflationists.

How the Cattells Have Wronged Robeson—A Chance for Andy Garvey.

It now appears in evidence that A. G. Cattell, the friend of Robeson, purchased a cottage at Long Branch for the Secretary of the Navy, that E. G. Cattell loaned money to Robeson and borrowed money, and, we suppose, loaned more than he borrowed, because he now has Robeson's note for eight thousand dollars. The Long Branch place Cattell regards as worth thirteen thousand dollars—a figure so low that it will surprise holders of seaside cottages. This adds up, according to the evidence, twenty-one thousand dollars in all, money and property given to Robeson by the Cattells. It appears, furthermore, that Robeson so favored the Cattells that they made three hundred thousand dollars in "commissions" out of naval supplies alone. This does not count the money A. G. Cattell made out of the Syndicate in London. It appears in evidence that one firm which had furnished live oak to the Navy Department for half a century was compelled to pay the Cattells fifty thousand dollars as "commissions."

Two things are apparent in this—first, the princely generosity of Robeson in allowing the Cattells to make three hundred thousand dollars; and, second, the unparalleled meanness of the Cattells in only giving him twenty-one thousand dollars in property and notes.

It is due to Garvey and Keyser to rescue them from any imputation of Cattell-like meanness. When Garvey was allowed to make three hundred thousand dollars in plastering and Keyser the same amount in plumbing they paid the Boss and his confederates sometimes as much as sixty-six per cent. Cattell only pays seven per cent. If Mr. Robeson is a prudent man he will send the Cattells about their business and ask Garvey and Keyser to look after the "commissions." The sun will not shine after March 4, and he should make his hay now.

LOST BUOYS.—Any changes in the guides to ocean navigation are of importance to our commerce, and the announcement that the buoys on Lone Rock, Old Man's and Sand Hammock, in Vineyard Sound, have been gone since the 1st of May, will, therefore, be read with interest by merchants and sailors.

Christian Conferences.

Brooklyn is leading just now as the city of religious gatherings. On Wednesday there closed in that city the annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Long Island. Seven years ago the island was created a diocese, and its growth, under the administration of Bishop Littlejohn, has been one of the marvels of the Church in this region. Sixty-four parishes are in union with the Convention, but there are many more than this, including mission stations, which number sixteen in the diocese. There are ninety-five clergymen of the Church on the island, and very much of the wealth and respectability and culture of the population is represented in the Church. The Convention was large and dignified and its deliberations covered all the interests of the diocese, including the ministry, the parochial, Sunday school and mission wants of the Church. Some of the discussions were warm and earnest, but they were conducted with the utmost feeling of good humor, so that no jar was heard throughout the proceedings. The Convention deeply felt the absence of Bishop Littlejohn, who has been visiting the European missions of the American Protestant Episcopal Church, and while abroad has been bereaved in the death of his son-in-law. This loss has detained him a few weeks later than he intended to be away, but the Convention, with feelings of kindly sympathy for him, recommended the Bishop to study his own and family's health in his return home.

On Thursday morning another, a larger and more important branch of the Church of Christ convened also in Brooklyn. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States (North) gathered in the Tabernacle. This body consists of five hundred delegates or commissioners, representing more than four thousand ministers and one hundred and seventy-three Presbyteries from Maine to California, besides missions of the Church in every quarter of the world. Delegates from India, China, Japan, Western Africa and South America are present, so that even the most distant interests of the Church will not fail to receive due consideration. Of the delegates present a majority are in middle life and not a few come here for the first time, so that New York and Brooklyn and their appointments and surroundings are new to them. But they will receive a warm welcome in Brooklyn, and when a couple of weeks hence they prepare for home it will be with regrets at parting from such warm friends. An indication of the welcome that awaits them here was given on Wednesday evening by Dr. Talmage and his deacons in the church prayer meeting, and several of the delegates expressed their joy at the cordial reception they had met everywhere. This hearty greeting was repeated on Thursday by the newly elected Moderator, Dr. Van Dyke, of Brooklyn, so that the commissioners already felt quite at home among their new made friends. Important questions will come before this body, and the very best and ablest men of the denomination have been sent hither to consider and act upon them. The proceedings of the Assembly will be given in the HERALD from day to day. Yesterday an important paper was presented by the delegates from the Presbytery of Newark, N. J., touching the relation of the Presbyterian Church to the German population of our country. The Germans have become so great an element in the United States, and their influence in the future promises to be so weighty, it is high time that all the religious bodies made note of the facts and sought by increased efforts to win them to Christ.

THE IMPROVEMENTS AT HELL GATE. We publish on another page an article descriptive of the general plan of these interesting operations, the causes which necessitated the undertaking and the effects likely to be produced by its successful completion. The experience of the past half a century, during which New York has been growing steadily in commercial importance, has gone to prove that as long as Hell Gate remains a gate of terror and difficulty to the navigator so long will a large portion of the island of Manhattan and of the neighboring counties of Queens and Westchester remain barred out from any share of the prosperity which has settled upon the lower parts of New York, Brooklyn and Jersey City. The intelligence and energy which have governed the operations are highly creditable to the distinguished engineer in charge, and New Yorkers may point with justifiable pride to a great work designed and executed for the benefit of the city, which must be regarded as one of the best illustrations of American engineering, both in point of conception and execution. Truly, the skill and audacity of man are every day demonstrated to be superior to almost every obstacle which nature erects to bar our advancement. We have seen oceans tied together by the iron links of the railroad and seas commingling their waters in spacious transisthmian ship canals. The mountain chains are perforated and roads constructed through their rocky bowels. Time is set aside by our telegraphs and distance annihilated by the messenger lightning. The creation of new seas in Asia, Africa and Western America is gravely considered and deemed practicable, and here at our doors our engineers dig the rocks out of rushing cataracts and burrow under whirlpools or lower the bed of a river bodily without disturbing its flow. Surely these are achievements in the physical sciences which go far beyond the wildest dreamings of the Eastern story teller, who had to call in the aid of supernatural agencies to render the wonders he related intelligible to his hearers. Our slaves of the lamp are the busy miners who dig the tunnels and galleries at Hell Gate for two dollars a day. Our winged horses are locomotives. The mythical roc is represented by the billow of the scientific observer, and, with our talismans of iron and diamond drills, we say "open sesame" to the rocky gateways of nature, and they open at the word.

OUR OLD PEOPLE are not old enough. Now here is a young lady of ninety-one years talking about the Revolution. Then we have a young gentleman of ninety who had the honor of being blessed by General Washington. A third youth of only seventy-eight can hardly recall the Revolution, but