WASHINGTON.

The Contest for the Speakership of the Forty-Fifth Congress.

MR. MORRISON COMING TO THE FRONT.

A Decision Adverse to the Centennial Board of Finance.

THE GOVERNMENT TO GET ITS OWN.

FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.

THE SPEAKERSHIP—DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLICAN COMPETITORS.

WASHINGTON, April 9, 1877.

The St. Louis *Republican* hoists the name of Mr. Morrison, of Illinois, for Speaker of the next House, and the contest on the democratic side will, it is now thought, be chiefly between Messrs. Randall and Morrison. In the meantime General Garfield, the republican candidate, has for his chief competitor Mr. Foster, who has not resigned his claim to the chair, the reports to the contrary notwithstanding. The case between Messrs. Garfield and Foster will be settled by the developments which follow the disposal of the Louisiana question. If this is amicably adjusted Mr. Foster will be pressed, as likely to win Southern support.

GENERAL WASHINGTON DESPATCHES.

WASHINGTON, April 9, 1877.

THE INDEBTEDNESS OF THE CENTENNIAL BOARD OF FINANCE—A DECISION IN FAVOR OF THE GOVERNMENT.

The following decision was rendered in the Supreme Court of the United States to-day:—

Eyster, Assistant Treasurer, &c., vs. The Centennial Board of Finance—Appeal from the Circuit Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.—The single question in this case was whether, in the distribution of moneys remaining in the hands of the Board at the close of the affairs of the corporation, as provided for in the act of June, 1872, the appropriation of $1,500,000 made by Congress in February, 1876, must be paid into the Treasury before any division of assets is made among the stockholders in satisfaction and discharge of the capital stock. The Court hold it to be apparent that the object of Congress in all its legislation with reference to the Centennial Exhibition was to enable the people of the United States to commemorate the completion of the first century of their national existence by an exhibition in which the people of the whole country should participate, and which had the sanction of the government. The object, therefore, was national; but until the act of appropriation it was expected that the entire expense should be borne by the people without assistance from Congress. The previous acts only provided the necessary organizations under the auspices of the government. The act of 1876 appropriated money, to be paid back under certain circumstances, and the acceptance of the money by the Board of Finance created a liability to repay it. By the act of 1872 the assets of the corporation were to be divided among the stockholders only after the payment of all liabilities, and, unless the contract entered into otherwise provides, it is clear the United States must be paid in full before the stockholders can claim distribution among themselves. After a lengthy examination of the statute the Court came to the conclusion that if the net receipts are to be treated as the net profits of the Exhibition there is no difficulty in the way of a construction in favor of the United States. The act of 1876 requires the payment of debts, and then the reimbursement of the United States before the distribution of profits to stockholders. Not a word was said about restoring capital. There was no intention in the act of 1876 to change the order of distribution as provided by that of 1872, except by giving a preference to other liabilities over that of the United States. The terms used are identical, and the statutes are relieved from all discrepancies, without violence to the language of either.

The decree of the Circuit Court is reversed, with directions to enter a decree directing the payment of the $1,500,000 into the Treasury before any division of remaining assets among the stockholders. The Chief Justice delivered the opinion.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

The President to-day appointed Alonzo Bell Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

Major Bell will assume his new duties to-morrow. He is a native of New York city and has been in the public service over twelve years, having served nearly eleven years in the office of the Second Auditor of the Treasury. From this he was summoned to a responsible position in the office of the Secretary of the Treasury. Subsequently, on the 8th of November, 1875, he was appointed chief clerk of the Interior Department, an appointment entirely unsolicited on his part. Since his connection with the Interior Department Mr. Bell has thoroughly familiarized himself with the workings of the department in all its branches and has been instrumental in bringing about many reforms of value to the public service. He was formerly and for several years president of the New York Republican Association of this city. He is a law school graduate, and is a gentleman of conceded ability.

SUBSIDIARY SILVER COIN IN EXCHANGE FOR CURRENCY—MANNER OF OBTAINING IT.

The following circular will be issued by the Treasurer of the United States to-morrow:—

NATIONAL BANK REDEMPTION AGENCY.

Under the provisions of Treasury Department circular No. 43, of March 23, 1877, relative to the manner in which subsidiary silver coin may be obtained in exchange for currency, the Treasurer of the United States and Redemption Agent will cause to be forwarded from some mint of the United States, the expense of transportation to be paid by the mint, to any point in the United States reached through established express lines by continuous railway or steamboat communication subsidiary silver coin in return for national bank notes forwarded to him for redemption, in sums of $1,000 or any multiple thereof not exceeding $10,000.

A. U. WYMAN,
Treasurer of the United States and Redemption Agent.

THE LEGAL TENDER NOTES RECEIVED IN EXCHANGE FOR SILVER—A SPECIAL FUND.

The Secretary of the Treasury has directed the Treasurer of the United States to keep as a special fund, separate and apart from all other money in the Treasury, the legal tender notes received in exchange for silver coin under the provisions of the first section of the joint resolution for the issue of silver coin, approved July 22, 1876. The Treasurer will open an account with these notes at once, and they will be held only for the purpose of redeeming the silver as required by the provisions of the joint resolution.

RETURN OF SECRETARY SCHURZ.

Secretary Schurz returned from New York to-day. His family did not come with him, but will be here some time next week. The Secretary has not yet definitely fixed upon a house for his residence in Washington.

CONTRACTS FOR MAIL MESSENGER AND STATION SERVICE—A READVERTISEMENT IN THE CASE OF NEW YORK.

Contracts for mail messenger and station service in the cities of Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, bids for which were opened on Saturday, were awarded to-day by the Postmaster General in each case to the lowest bidder, except in the city of New York. In this case there was an informality in the proposal of the lowest bidder (G. K. Otis), in that his bond was signed and dated one day anterior to the certificate of the Postmaster, which, under the ruling of the department, rendered it void. The certificate of the next lowest bidder (S. N. Hoyt) was signed by the Assistant Postmaster at New York, which was claimed by the next bidder to be informal, but the amount of the bid being over $9,000 in excess of the present price, the department availed itself of its reserved rights and decided to readvertise the service without acting on the question of irregularity as to the second proposal.

SUICIDE BY A FARMER.

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., April 9, 1877.

A farmer named James McCumber to-day committed suicide by strangling with a suspender. Liquor was the cause.

THE HOSTILE SIOUX.

SUCCESS OF SPOTTED TAIL'S MISSION—BANDS COMING IN TO SURRENDER—SITTING BULL GONE TOWARD BRITISH COLUMBIA.

WASHINGTON, April 9, 1877.

The following telegram was received at army headquarters this morning:—

CHICAGO, Ill., April 8, 1877.

General W. T. SHERMAN, Washington, D. C.:—

General Crook informs me that 1,500 hostile Minneconjoux, Unopapas and Two Kettles are on their way in to surrender, and were last heard from at Bear Butte Creek, on the Fort Reno route. They were accompanied by Spotted Tail and Joe Magriville, a scout, who sent this information to Captain Vroom, of the Third cavalry, at Deadwood City. Crazy Horse, with Cheyennes, Ogallalas and Arapahoes, are coming in on the west side of the Black Hills. Sitting Bull, with his small party, was followed to the mouth of the Powder River, but could not be communicated with, and has gone toward British Columbia. If all this proves true it will only change the character of the contemplated operations in the Department of the Platte. There will be no change of those contemplated in the Department of Dakota. P. H. SHERIDAN, Lieutenant General.

CONFIRMATION OF THE NEWS.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs to-day received, via Sydney, Neb., a telegram from J. M. Lee, Indian agent at the Spotted Tail Agency, dated April 4, reporting that Spotted Tail, with 200 lodges, estimated to number 1,400 Indians, were expected there in about ten days. This is confirmatory of a despatch received to-day by the War Department. It is understood that a large proportion of these Indians have been heretofore hostile, but have now been won over by Spotted Tail to the ways of peace.

GENERAL SHERMAN TO GENERAL SHERIDAN.

General Sherman has sent the following in reply to the telegram from Lieutenant General Sheridan yesterday:—

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,
WASHINGTON, D. C., April 9, 1877.

General P. H. SHERIDAN, Chicago, Ill.:—

Your despatch announcing the coming in of the Indians is received and fulfilled your prediction. Now, will there be too many at the Red Cloud and Spotted Tail agencies to be fed and guarded economically? Ought not these agencies to be moved right away to the neighborhood of Fort Randall, where $1 will go further toward feeding them than $3 or $4 will at the agencies? Besides, these two agencies are in Nebraska, and must be moved sooner or later.

W. T. SHERMAN, General.

THE MILITARY ACADEMY.

APPOINTMENT OF CADETS AND ALTERNATES BY THE PRESIDENT.

WASHINGTON, April 9, 1877.

The President to-day made the following appointments of cadets at large to enter the Military Academy at West Point in June, 1878:—H. W. Gilman, of Fort Leavenworth, Kan., son of Captain J. H. Gilman, commissary of subsistence, United States Army; William E. Woods, of Newark, Ohio, son of Colonel Charles R. Woods (retired), late major general of volunteers, commanding Second division, Fifteenth Army corps; Charles Lee Collins, of Cincinnati, Ohio, son of H. E. Collins, of Cincinnati, late lieutenant colonel Second Kentucky cavalry; H. B. Looker, of the District of Columbia, son of Pay Director T. H. Looker, United States Navy; G. D. Fitch, of Indiana, son of late Captain H. S. Fitch, United States volunteers, who served on the staff of General Pope and General Sherman, and grandson of Dr. G. N. Fitch, who served during the war as colonel of the Forty-sixth Indiana volunteers, and was also United States Senator from Virginia; William W. Le Due, of Minnesota, son of W. C. Le Duc, late brigadier general of volunteers; Warren Putnam Newcomb, of Massachusetts, only male descendant of Generals Joseph Warren and Putnam, of Revolutionary fame.

ALTERNATES.

The following have been appointed alternates to take the place of any of the above named who may fail to pass the preliminary examination:—B. W. Lightburn, of Pennsylvania, son of General Lightburn, who commanded a division of the Fifteenth army corps and served at Vicksburg and Chattanooga; G. K. Davidson, of Missouri, son of General J. W. Davidson, late United States volunteers, now lieutenant colonel Tenth cavalry; C. M. Mendenhall, of California, son of Captain J. Mendenhall, Fourth artillery; A. S. Gregg, of New Mexico, son of Colonel J. J. Gregg, Fifth cavalry, late brigadier general of volunteers, in command of a cavalry division; A. Thorn, of Maine, son of Lieutenant Colonel George Thorn, United States Engineer corps; C. C. Gilbert, Jr., of Montana, son of Lieutenant Colonel C. C. Gilbert, Seventh infantry, and Victor Richardson, of Wisconsin, nephew of General John C. Robinson, United States Army.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

ORDERS AND DETACHMENTS.

WASHINGTON, April 9, 1877.

Assistant Engineers William Rowbotham and A. V. Zane have been ordered to temporary duty on board the United States steamer Dictator, and on the arrival of that vessel at League Island, Pa., they are to regard themselves as detached and placed on waiting orders. Ensigns B. A. Fiske and John W. Stewart have been ordered to the receiving ship Wyoming, at Washington, D. C., in place of Ensigns Albert Wertz and James P. Underwood, detached from that vessel and ordered to duty in the coast survey. Ensign Winslow Alderdice has been detached from duty in the coast survey and placed on waiting orders.

MOUTH OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT ENGINEER ON THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE SOUTH PASS.

WASHINGTON, April 9, 1877.

The sixth report of General Comstock, the government engineer charged with the inspection of the progress of the works for the improvement of the South Pass of the Mississippi River, under J. B. Eads, was received at the War Department to-day. The report is quite lengthy and is accompanied by maps and diagrams fully illustrating the work. It will be sent to the public printer for publication at once. The following extracts are of interest:—

At the mouth of the South Pass, between November 18, 1876, and March 16, 1877, a few new wing dams have been built and some old ones repaired. About sixteen thousand cubic yards of material have been dredged out at points where the channel was worst. A storm of December 20, 1876, damaged the ends of the jetties and the wing dams near them quite severely; 26,000 feet of the west jetty has been raised by mattresses two or three feet thick built in place; a layer of stone eight-tenths of a foot thick on this portion gives it a height varying from five-tenths of a foot to two feet above average flood tide. The other end of this part is 700 feet from the sea end of the jetty. One hundred and sixty-seven new piles have been driven in the jetty. Little work has been done on the east jetty. The channel of twenty feet in depth at the mouth of South Pass, which on December 27, 1876, had a width of 200 feet from the Pass to the Gulf, has narrowed at a point near the sea end of the jetties so as to be but seventy feet in width, and at a point a little below the head of the west jetty so as to be 180 feet in width.

THE INCREASING DEPTHS.

A table accompanying the report shows that depths could be taken through between the jetties as follows:—

June, 1875, 9 2-10 feet; May, 1876, 15 feet; August, 1876, 19 8-10 feet; November, 1876, 20 3-10 feet; March, 1877, 20 5-10 feet.

A comparison of the soundings off the ends of the jetties with those of June 21, 1876, shows that in that period the 50, 70 and 100 foot curves have on the whole remained in the same position. At the head of the passes the west T head has been extended up stream to meet the line of mattresses across the head of the Southwest Pass, and its upper part has been made a solid dyke. A line of mattresses has been carried from the east T head down to the head of Goat Island. A solid mattress dam has been built across the old east entrance to South Pass. About 30,000 cubic yards of dredging has been done, making the total amount of dredging here 40,000 or 50,000 cubic yards. The river began to rise on January 24, and caused a sharp scour between the T heads, so that twenty-three feet nine inches could be taken from the Mississippi River into the South Pass on March 7, 1877.

BRIGHAM YOUNG'S INFAMY.

THE TEAMSTERS OF '58 WHO WERE FOREWARNED AND FOREARMED—THE STORY OF A SURVIVOR.

HAVERHILL, Mass., April 9, 1877.

Mr. George Lowery, of this city, is one of the few survivors of the body of teamsters for the murder of whom, while under Mormon escort, Brigham Young is alleged to have issued an order on the 19th of April, 1858. Mr. Lowery is very positive that the order had reference to the party of which he was one, and not to the party so brutally murdered at Mountain Meadows the september previous. The survivor states that he was a teamster in General Johnson's expedition against Utah in 1857. He and eight other teamsters separated from that command and started for California. They got lost in the mountains, wandering about for a month, finally coming out into Molada Valley, where they were captured by a Mormon sergeant and taken to Box Elder City. From thence they were taken to Salt Lake City. At that point a party of forty-two teamsters were gathered, who wanted to go to California, and Colonel Lee, then in command there, gave permission for their departure, turning them over to Captain Smith, with an escort of seventy-two men, proposing to accompany them to Castle Rocks, a distance of 150 miles. Before starting they accidentally heard of the order from Young for their massacre at a point 100 miles away, but concluded to arm themselves and take the risk. They purchased guns and ammunition of apostate Mormons, the guns being taken apart and secreted with their ammunition in sacks of flour, constituting part of their supplies. The party of forty-two were only allowed to take one double-barrelled gun and a revolver. The teamsters and their escort had separate camps, and at the end of the first day's march, on entering camp for the night, the teamsters prepared their guns and were ready by morning to give 121 shots without reloading. In the morning the Mormons were astonished to find an armed party in charge, but moved on in another day's march, which took them fifty miles away. On the morning of the third day the Mormons announced their determination to leave the party there, instead of accompanying them to Castle Rocks, and did so, returning to Salt Lake City. Had the teamsters been unarmed they would doubtless have been slaughtered in obedience to Brigham Young's order. They proceeded in safety, reaching California in June, 1858.

METHODIST CONFERENCES.

DIFFICULTIES OF A RENEGADE CLERGYMAN IN RECOVERING HIS ORDINATION CERTIFICATE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

HARTFORD, Conn., April 9, 1877.

At the session to-day of the New York East Methodist Conference, Presiding Elder Fletcher, of the New York district, reported a very encouraging condition of affairs, with large interest in revival work.

The case of Rev. E. J. Haynes, who recently withdrew from the Methodist Conference and united with the Baptist Church, was brought up under an application from Mr. Haynes for his certificate of ordination. Bishop Peck ruled that the certificate or "parchments" could not be returned. It was stated that Mr. Haynes was to be reordained in the Baptist Church, and the matter of returning the certificate was left with the presiding elder.

Rev. Joseph Pullman desired some expression of censure passed on Mr. Haynes for the course which he had pursued, but at the suggestion of Bishop Peck the delinquent minister was voted leave to withdraw.

The sum of $6,000 was subscribed by the members of the conference in aid of the Wesleyan University.

Memorial service was held this afternoon on the deaths of Revs. Benjamin Redford, of Smithtown, L. I., and Henry Hatfield, the latter a superannuated clergyman who died in Brooklyn. It is expected that the Conference will not be able to close its labors until Wednesday.

NEW YORK CONFERENCE—AN INDORSEMENT OF PRESIDENT HAYES.

RONDOUT, N. Y., April 9, 1877.

The Conference session to-day was mainly occupied with a consideration of the claims of various church educational institutions.

CONCILIATION AND GOOD WILL COMMENDED.

The following resolution, offered by Rev. Asa Lyon, and seconded by Rev. Dr. George S. Hare, was adopted:—

While, under ordinary circumstances, we should decline to discuss the political affairs of the nation, we deem that the present exigencies call for an expression of confidence in the upright intentions and statesmanlike purposes of President Hayes, firmly believing that the policy thus far adopted of conciliation toward those formerly in rebellion and good will toward those formerly in bondage cannot fail to advance the welfare of the nation and the interests of God's kingdom.

A copy of the resolution was ordered to be sent to President Hayes.

LIQUOR AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

BOSTON, April 9, 1877.

In the session of the New England Conference to-day a resolution was adopted expressive of gratitude to the President and Mrs. Hayes for banishing liquor from their public and private receptions at the White House

THE RUSSIAN FLEET.

THE FLAGSHIP VISITED BY A BEVY OF FAIR LADIES—THE SAILORS ON SHORE.

Captain the Grand Duke Alexis gave a breakfast yesterday morning, at half-past twelve, on board the Svetland. The table was spread in the dining room of the Admiral and Grand Duke, which is on the gundeck. During the breakfast the fine band of the frigate played on the deck in front of the cabin. There were present Mrs. Paran Stevens, Miss Stevens, General Shiskin, Russian Minister at Washington; Admiral Boutakoff, Baron Schilling, Dr. Condroni, Captain Novassilsky, executive officer of the Svetland; Flag Commander Alexieff, and Sub-Lieutenant the Grand Duke Constantine.

LADY VISITORS.

During the day quite a number of ladies visited the Svetland, some in company with officers of the United States flagship Powhatan. They were shown by the Russian officers over the flagship, the gangway and cabin stairs of which were carpeted in anticipation of the advent of the fair ones.

SAILORS ON SHORE.

At one o'clock some forty sailors in charge of an officer went on shore on liberty. The men wandered in parties of two or three or more over the west side of the city, being notified to return at six o'clock to the landing stage. The officer in charge was in uniform, and during the hours that the men wandered at their own sweet will, also passed the afternoon in the city. As he was the first Russian officer in uniform that had been seen on the streets since the Russian advent, he attracted a good deal of attention on, the part of the fair promenaders especially. Strange to say, the sailors were all on hand to return at the appointed hour.

THE GRAND DUKES IN THE CITY.

At half-past one Mrs. and Miss Stevens, accompanied by the Grand Duke Constantine and the Russian Minister, came ashore in the Svetland's steam launch. The Russian Minister proceeded to the Clarendon, while the two ladies and the young Grand Duke entered Mrs. Stevens' carriage and were driven into the city. The Grand Duke Constantine returned to the Svetland at half-past five P. M. Captain the Grand Duke Alexis went ashore with his dog at two o'clock.

Admiral Boutakoff, Baron Schilling, Flag Commander Alexieff and two other officers were in the city during the afternoon. The Admiral, after a walk, returned to his flagship at six o'clock.

To-day parts of the crews of the Asroid and Bogatyk will be allowed a few days' liberty on shore, and to-morrow another lot of the Svetland's crew will be on liberty, and so on until the end of this festive Russian Easter week.

The Grand Duke Alexis spent the evening in the city and remained on shore last night, stopping at the Clarendon.

CONTINENTAL LIFE TROUBLES.

In the Supreme Court, Kings county, before Justice Gilbert, application was made yesterday for an order to compel William R. Grace, receiver for the Continental Life Insurance Company, to pay the salaries of certain employés of that company. The amounts claimed to be due are for services rendered between the removal of the last receiver, Mr. Anderson, and the appointment of Mr. Grace. It was stated that the latter official had found the claims correct, but in view of the proceedings of the Attorney General to annul the receivership, which, if successful, would render the payment of the salaries void, he had declined to act in the matter. Counsel for some of the stockholders of the company said that he had no objection to the payment of any of the employés, except Mr. Blake, who, he said, was indebted to the company to the amount of $32,000, which he is unable to pay. Justice Gilbert granted the order allowing Receiver Grace to make the desired payments, provided he found the accounts to be correct.

Charles E. Appleby, receiver of the Metropolitan Fire Insurance Company, expects to wind up the affairs of the concern in the next thirty days. All but about 200 policies have been called in, and when they are settled up the stockholders will receive about seventy-five cents on the dollar.

The official examination of the Universal Life is progressing and the estimate of the liabilities nearly completed. The officers of the department are now so much occupied in the preparation of the annual report that the labor of examining new companies is temporarily interrupted.

Daniel J. Noyes, having been released from arrest on a nominal bail of $2,500, some interesting revelations are waited for respecting the New Jersey Mutual and Continental. He had an interview on Saturday with Mr. L. Coudert, the attorney for Receiver Grace, and is now in Washington.

O. U. A. M.

ITS OBJECTS AND AIMS EXPLAINED, WHILE THE FOREIGNERS GET A GENTLE HINT.

An entertainment was given last night in the hall of the Cooper Union by the Warren Council, No. 85, of the United Order of American Mechanics,

Mr. William F. Hanse, of Maryland, the National Councillor of the organization, delivered an address, in which he explained the principles of the U. O. A. M. The Order did not take the place of the Church, he said. It was not political in its character, politics never entering into the deliberations of the council chamber. With business it never interfered, except when a member followed a dishonest calling. It did say that it shall always assist a member of the Order, and give preference to one born on the soil over a foreigner. The Order was not a charitable institution, as it only gave general instructions to its members to relieve the distressed. It encouraged the circulation of the Scriptures among its members, and, while it did not supersede a preached gospel, it prepared the mind for the ministry of gospel truth. This Order of United American Mechanics was charged with being a proscriptive and exclusive society, and yet the Society of the Ancient Order of Hibernians has for fifty-three years proscribed every American born citizen from becoming a member of that society. In illustrating the invasion of the sacredness of the Sabbath, Mr. Hanse said that in Baltimore on Sunday week one hundred Germans met together for the purpose of organizing a movement for the obtaining of legislation by which all the lager beer gardens and lager beer saloons were to be opened on Sunday. In this purpose every ward in the city was to have its organization. The U. O. A. M. offered every beneficial feature that every other benevolent organization offers, and with the establishment of the order of the American Mechanics, other organizations that are more or less controlled by foreigners, would cease to exist.

THE MAYOR AND THE POLICE.

Within the past few days several citizens have complained to the Mayor concerning the terrible condition of the streets. It was yesterday rumored around the City Hall that formal charges would soon be made against the Police Commissioners on account of their neglect to keep the streets clean. If so the Mayor will doubtless take speedy action in the matter. If he approves the charges they will of course have to be forwarded to Governor Robinson.

AMUSEMENTS.

MR. JOHN M'CULLOUGH IN "RICHELIEU" AT BOOTH'S.

A fine house greeted Mr. McCullough last night, when the second week of his engagement began with the performance of Bulwer's ambitious play. We suppose Mr. McCullough has added "Richelieu" to his répertoire not because he found in himself the materials for the part, but because every aspiring tragedian on the English-speaking stage has presented the public with more or less careful studies of this great Frenchman as seen through the somewhat distorting spectacles of the late Lord Lytton. Mellifluous—indeed, over-honeyed lines, picturesque situations, a clever but easily read plot and the fascination of the lofty central character make up a play that in good hands always proves attractive, but whose shortcoming of greatness we can painfully measure by putting the Wolsey of Shakespeare besides the Richelieu of "the man who wears the stays." The scornful epithet of Tennyson indeed could be as fitly applied to his works as to the man. Beneath his pen the subtlety of the great Cardinal became artifice, and hence, while describing the actions of Richelieu, he comes nearer in reality to a sketch of another famous Cardinal, but smaller man—Mazarin. Little in common with such a character has the virile genius of John McCullough. Hence in the two opening acts we saw the actor struggling unsuccessfully with the mincing niceties of Bulwer. It resulted in an unevenness which was only saved from being patchwork by the long training of the player. Thus Richelieu was one moment a feeble old man of ninety and the next a hale man of sixty. Ripe manhood was struggling with the tricks of the dramatist, and changing the years instead of the mood of the character. It must not be imagined that at any time McCullough touched the edge of mediocrity; but he has another decade to pass and another school of art to study before he can give in the Richelieu of Bulwer—a statement which tempts us to hope that he may not hereafter waste his time in studying a branch of art which is unreal, however necessary it has been deemed these thirty years. With the third act came a grateful change. As the action rose in intensity Mr. McCullough rose with it, and reaching forth out of his proper nature grasped the real Richelieu and gave a series of powerful pictures which swept the wheezy trickster of the first two acts out of sight and was not lost upon the house. In the fourth act, where the Cardinal comes to life to find himself defied and humiliated, when, invoking sacred thunders, he draws a charmed ring about the girl who seeks his protection from the King, every word and gesture was instinct with majesty and force. The magnetism of the man had found vent, and the spell which brought Baradas to his knees was keenly felt by every soul in the audience. The fifth act, recording Richelieu's triumph, was well sustained, but again at times McCullough was seen wrestling with the unreal. It is, unfortunately, a performance which cannot be noted as a triumph throughout, but which, nevertheless, is magnificent in the most exacting parts. Where limited talent, perfecting the minutest details, might have constructed a pretty mosaic McCullough was not seen to the best advantage, but in the opportunities which only broad genius can make its own his success was only measured by his endeavor.

The support was generally efficient, the De Mauprat of Mr. F. B. Warde, which is not unfamiliar to New York, being particularly so. Mr. E. K. Collier's Baradas was fair and the Francois of Mr. Willie Seymour earnest and natural. The Julie de Mortemar of Miss Maud Granger was acceptable, good looks, fine costumes and gentle grace helping her, even when the part soared a little beyond her histrionic capabilities so far as developed.

"Richelieu" will be repeated this evening, and to-morrow evening, Mr. McCullough will appear as Richard III.

THE NEW BROADWAY THEATRE.

"The Mechanic's Daughter; or, the Curse of Drink," is a very temperate temperance drama, which in its mild and wholesome influence resembles gin and milk. The plot is intricate, and as difficult to analyze as a cocktail. There is a flavor of whiskey, bitters, lemon peel and absinthe, and the ingredients are admirably mixed by the dramatist. The play is different from the celebrated drama of "The Drunkard," in which tragedy was predominate, and contains more mirth than sorrow. The characters may be classed either as drunkards, villains, temperance lecturers, heroes or heroines. One of the illustrations of the curse of drink is a scene wherein a betrayed young woman leaps into the river and is followed by her sister, who risks her life to save her, who is followed by the drunken mechanic, who, though opposed to water, jumps in to save them both, and who is followed by one of the heroes, who undertakes to save the three, a difficult task, in which he, of course, succeeds. The appreciation of the curse of drink was shown by the fact that between the acts large numbers of the audience went out in search of root beer, soda water and ginger ale. The neighboring barrooms were all deserted, and it is plain that either they or the theatres must close at an early day, as they cannot continue to co-exist. At the close of the play the entire company signed the pledge, amid shouts of approval from the galleries. The audience was invited to join in this festive ceremony, but respectfully refused. The acting was good, and much of the scenery effective and new.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

The Italian opera repeated "Un Ballo" last night, with the same cast as on Wednesday evening. The audience was not so large as on the two previous occasions, nor did the opera "go" as well; this may be in a measure owing to the spare attendance which almost always dispirits the actors and singers. Signor Celada was not in as good voice as on the first night of this opera; we hope he is not already feeling the ill effects of our climate. It is a strange fact, but one too often proved to admit of doubt, that New York air is fatal to Italian tenors. Long ago poor Benedetti's voice succumbed to it, and later, Mazzoleni, who came over here a magnificent tenore robusto, lost note after note until he sank to a baritone, and he had been back in Europe some time before he recovered his voice.

There was a delightful lack of connection between the singers and the orchestra; at various points in the opera the singers were taking their time, while the orchestra placidly pursued theirs. More than once the performance degenerated into a race between the two parties, and justice compels us to admit that the orchestra generally came out ahead. We hear a great deal about the way in which Wagner smothers his voices with his orchestration, but no one has thought of making the same complaint of Verdi. Not even in the "Walküre" are the voices so frequently swallowed by brass as in this "Ballo." The fact is that people do not seem to appreciate the difference between massive and noisy orchestration. We have before mentioned the too loud playing of this orchestra when accompanying the solo voices. It may be as well to mention, and thus account for the apparent incongruity of scenery and costumes, that the scene of this opera was originally laid in Naples and its vicinity. The plot was taken from facts connected with some powerful families in Italy, whose descendants are still living and who at the time this work was first produced felt insulted by the use made of their family history, and used their influence to have it suppressed until the *locale* and names were changed. Why Verdi selected "Boston" we of course cannot say; he might as well have changed the name of the place to "Africa." At the date of the supposed scenes we know what the penalty would have been for the participators in a masked ball at Boston—the pillory, no doubt. Much interest awaits the production of "Don Carlos," which is announced for performance on Thursday evening.

CHICKERING HALL.

This house was comfortably filled last night, on the occasion of the benefit of Miss Annie E. Beere, who sang two songs, "Ah Mon Fils," from the "Prophet," and "Il Segno," with two encores. The lady is a pure mezzo-soprano, nicely cultured, with a good stage presence, and will after a little time make her mark in the musical world. Mr. Hill sang "I was My Ship." Mr. Oudin, a fine baritone, was deservedly encored twice. Miss Gedney gave two excellent readings from "London Assurance" and "The Lovers." The whole concert was under the management of Signor Moderati, who may well feel proud of his pupil.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.

That old time favorite, "Humpty Dumpty," reappeared last night at this house, with Grimaldi in the *rôle* which made poor Fox famous. There was a fair attendance to welcome back so esteemed a friend, but there was wanting the ringing enthusiasm which used to greet the original Humpty. Yet the performance was excellent, and in reality had nothing to fear from comparison with those given in the palmiest days of Fox's popularity. Grimaldi is an excellent clown, and manages with great tact and adroitness to amuse his audience. He is assisted by a number of artists of real merit. Humpty Dumpty is as full of fun as ever, and the marvelous way in which he gets in and out of scrapes furnish legitimate amusement to the patrons of pantomimic fun. The gymnastic feats of the Almonte brothers would of themselves well repay a visit to this theatre. These athletes perform some prodigious feats of strength and activity in an easy and peaceful manner. These feats have the additional attraction of not endangering unduly life or limb, and therefore may be viewed by all with pleasure. Whoever wishes to enjoy a hearty laugh can visit the Olympic with the certainty of returning home contented with his evening's pleasure.

BARNUM'S NEW SHOW.

Mr. P. T. Barnum opened his new show at Gilmore's Garden yesterday evening. He had previously excited the public curiosity by the gratuitous display of two processions in the public streets, by which the people, young and old, obtained a temporary moving panoramic view of his troupe of performers, his trained horses, his chariots, and all the newest additions which have been made to his great combination of zoological wonders with the attractions of the circus. The venture will prove a success if we can judge fairly from the opening. The building, which has been altered to suit the purposes of the entertainment, was crowded to almost its utmost capacity. The people strolled around from the opening of the doors, at seven o'clock in the evening, wondering at or admiring, as feeling or taste prompted, the additions which have been made to the menagerie, and talking of nothing but beasts, birds and reptiles. Then they saw "human prodigies" and trick horses, as of old, and duly marvelled at the unflagging industry and genius of the man who had collected and arranged them. The performances were really very fine, particularly that of six coal black horses, splendid animals, which Mr. Barnum has specially imported from the Old World. The performers acquitted themselves admirably, and the exertions of half a dozen clowns kept the spectators in good humor during the intervals of the equestrian exhibitions.

THE TELEPHONE.

A SUCCESSFUL CONCERT IN WASHINGTON—WAVES OF SOUND CARRIED BY PARALLEL WIRES.

WASHINGTON, April 9, 1877.

Lincoln Hall was crowded to-night with a large and delighted audience assembled to hear the telephone concert. Although the singing of Miss Fannie Kellogg and Signor Tagliapietra was received with great favor, there was evidently considerable impatience to hear the performances on the telephone, which were near the close of the programme. Eight airs, commencing with "Home, Sweet Home," and ending with "Yankee Doodle," were played by Mr. F. Boscovitz in Philadelphia and distinctly heard by every one in the above named hall in this city. The audience listened with profound attention, and the conclusion of each tune was enthusiastically applauded. The intonations were remarkably clear and perfect, exciting additional wonder and astonishment.

REMARKS OF PROFESSOR GRAY.

Professor Gray, in the course of his explanation of the means by which the sounds were transmitted, remarked that, whatever criticism might be made upon the present musical merits of the telephone, it must be at least regarded as a decided scientific success, a remark which the entire audience indorsed by hearty applause. He also stated as a wonderful fact, discovered in his experiments with the telephone, that the electric waves of sound sent through a single wire are frequently conveyed inductively by other wires running parallel with it on the same poles though entirely disconnected. This statement was verified to-night in the Washington office of the New York Associated Press, where a number of the tunes played in Philadelphia were distinctly heard on a "relay" used in the office which had no connection whatever with the wire that was attached to the telephone. The tones thus conveyed, although not loud, were audible at a distance of several yards from the instrument.

ART MATTERS.

THE KOHN COLLECTION.

There is now on exhibition at the Leavitt Art Rooms a small but choice collection of paintings which will impress the public with a pleasant feeling of novelty and freshness. All of these paintings are new works, produced within a year or two at most. They have been chosen with excellent taste and rare judgment, and will appeal to the picture-buying public as few collections have done. A high level of merit is maintained throughout, and there is scarcely one of the seventy pictures at present on the walls which does not possess special merit. The various orders of painting are also well represented. The place of honor is occupied by Jacques Leman's fine historical painting, "The Birth of Louis XIV.," in which the artist has displayed a resource of invention in composition rarely met with, even among the great masters. The large numbers of figures introduced are so arranged that while each group is individualized it contributes to the general effect. The interest of this picture is heightened by the fact that a large number of the figures are in reality portraits of distinguished men who were present when the important event recorded on the canvas took place. On either side of this work hang two large and important paintings by Zion of Venetian subjects. They are admirable specimens of this painter's work, warm and harmonious in color with delightful atmospheric effects. A beautiful pastoral subject by Voltz hangs near by—"The Return from Pasture." It shows us a group of cattle going to water under the cool shade of a grove of trees, while in the distance we catch a glimpse of a summer landscape full of sunshine. It is one of the sweetest compositions we have seen from this artist. Lambinet is represented by two landscapes, both showing a tendency to brighter and more joyous color effects than we usually get from his brush. This is especially the case in the landscape, which is described in the catalogue as "Near the Island at Bougival." There is remarkable force and vigor in this work, and the luminous sky effects have been painted with a force and freshness that leaves nothing to be desired.

THE GEM.

But the best and strongest of all the landscapes is from the easel of Diaz. It is a glade in a forest, the trees in the foreground being in shadow and a bright sunlight effect on the stretch of meadow beyond. The artist has thrown over this simple composition a delightful sentiment, which attracts irresistibly. The treatment is strong and vigorous, with that certainty of touch which brought Diaz nearer to the old masters than any of his contemporaries. Two of the Bonheurs are happily represented by sheep subjects, both of them admirably painted though differing widely in style. The most important is from the easel of August Bonheur, and shows us a group of "Sheep on the Scotch Highlands," which as a composition will deservedly take a high rank. The sheep are painted with almost perfect realization.

TWIN BEAUTIES.

Under the title of "The Romance" Casser gives us the portraits of two charming beauties, whose bright eyes will certainly win their way to general favor. These graceful figures are painted with rare breadth of treatment and the color is brilliant and harmonious. A less ambitious picture, but one which will appeal to all hearts, is "The Proposal," by Michette, which tells the old story which is ever new. An Italian peasant has popped the momentous question to the shepherdess of his adoration, who puzzled out pleased, still hesitates to speak the word she evidently wishes to utter. This story is admirably told on the canvass. One of Pilotty's pupils, Julius Kronberg, is represented by an admirably painted figure subject, which he calls "The Daisy." It is a young girl, in the first bloom of womanhood, consulting the daisy to know her fortune. The painting is very careful and forcible. Among the other important works are a "Still Life" by Desgoffe, "A Bourbon Courtier" by Zamacois, Dupray's "Marshal of France After a Review," "Una Senorita de Sevilla" by Madrazo, and Schreyer's "Wallachian Smugglers Crossing the Frontier." Two important pictures by Detville and Boldini will be added to the collection before the sale, which is appointed to take place at Chickering Hall on Tuesday evening, April 17.

FEMALE DOCTORS.

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT IN STEINWAY HALL.

The fourteenth annual commencement of the New York Medical College and Hospital for Women took place last night, when nine lady graduates received their diplomas. Among those present were Peter Cooper, the Rev. Dr. H. M. Field, Drs. Lilienthal, H. R. Stiles, J. A. Carmichael, Professor J. Wilson Macdonald, Drs. Carlton, Hill, and others.

The exercises of the evening were opened by the chairman, Colonel H. E. Stebbins, who made a short and appropriate address, after which the president of the college, Mrs. S. C