

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

THE DAILY HERALD. Published every day in the year. Three cents per copy (Sunday excluded). Ten dollars per year, five dollars for six months, two dollars and fifty cents for three months, or at a rate of one dollar per month for any period less than three months. Sunday edition included without charge. Subscriptions in advance. Single copies five cents. Advertisements as ordered. Sent by mail or express, postage paid. No money returned at risk of sender. In order to insure attention subscribers wishing their address changed must give their old as well as their new address. All business, news letters or telegraphic dispatches must be addressed New York Herald.

PHILADELPHIA OFFICE—No. 112 SOUTH SIXTH STREET. LONDON OFFICE OF THE NEW YORK HERALD—No. 40 FLEET STREET. PARIS OFFICE—No. 10 AVENUE DE L'OPERA. NAPLES OFFICE—No. 10 VIA CALABRITTO. Subscriptions and advertisements will be received and forwarded on the same terms as in New York.

4TH YEAR. NO. 360

AMUSEMENTS TO-NIGHT.

HAVERLY'S THEATRE—THE GALLEY SLAVE. ARBELL'S THEATRE—THE MILK VANDER. NIBLO'S GARDEN—HEARTS OF STEEL. STANDARD THEATRE—PRINCESS TOBI. WALLACK'S—OLD HEADS AND YOUNG HEARTS. GERMANIA THEATRE—DOROTHY. FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE—H. M. S. PINAFORE. ACADEMY OF MUSIC—IL FLAUTO MAGICO. UNION SQUARE THEATRE—FRENCH FLEET. DALY'S THEATRE—ARABIAN NIGHT. GRAND OPERA HOUSE—SOTHEBY'S BENEFIT. NEW YORK CIRCUS—HENRY DUMPEY. Matinee. BROADWAY OPERA HOUSE—SIBYRIGI. THIALIA THEATRE—DER VERKLEIPTE SCHLAFER. SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS—THOMPSON STREET PLACE. THEATRE COMIQUE—MELINDA GUARDS CHRISTMAS. KOSTER & BIAL'S CONCERT HALL. TONY PASTOR'S THEATRE—VARIETY. Matinee. MADISON SQUARE GARDEN—WALKING MATCH. STEINWAY HALL—MUSICAL MATINEE. CHICKERING HALL—JOSEPHY CONCERT. BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC—PINAFORE.

NEW YORK, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1879.

The probabilities are that the weather in New York and its vicinity to-day will be colder and cloudy, with snow, followed by clearing toward night. To-morrow it will be very cold and fair.

THIS IS THE DAY of days for expeditions shopping. All the stores will be well supplied with elbow room.

DON'T PUT AWAY your Christmas memories with your presents; they are excellent antidotes to the blues and other mental maladies.

MORE THAN A dozen pedestrians retired from the Madison Square truck yesterday without the Christmas boxes that they went there to get.

DO POLICEMEN ever report upon streets and sidewalks that are obstructed by building materials? If they do, who pigeonholes the reports?

SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION of rubbish has caused another costly fire, and thousands of large establishments are undoubtedly preparing for a similar end.

ANOTHER HUSBAND has been discovered who loves his wife so dearly that he feels compelled to shoot her. There are many queer ways of showing affection.

A NEW HORSE DISEASE has broken out in Kentucky, as similar maladies are likely to do wherever animals have been brought to that sensitiveness which is inseparable from extreme physical development.

THE POINTS of the new plea in favor of the Tichborne claimant appear in a letter published on another page, and show that even in conservative England a seamy map hope to outwit the law through the law.

MANY YEARS have elapsed since thousands of New Yorkers, without regard to belief or nationality, rose in a crowded house and intoned a patriotic prayer to heaven, as the audience at the Academy of Music did yesterday.

EVEN THE DEVIL seems to have respected Christmas, for the almost inevitable daily record of murders will be sought in vain in the papers to-day although there were some quarrels and fights in which he was represented by his trusty lieutenant, whiskey.

STILL ANOTHER PLAN of stopping the noise of the "L" roads is offered in our "Complaint Book," and the companies probably already know of plenty that would be effectual. But what do they care for the noise so long as none of the directors' houses face the tracks?

THE NOTORIOUS JAMES GANG, which has made life and property uncertain in various localities of the Southwest, is again represented in a Kansas jail. To suppress a single member of such a party is worth as much to Kansas as a score of respectable citizens.

PEOPLE MAY EMERGE several seconds sooner from an "L" road train if the doors are opened while the station is yet two or three hundred yards away, but those who endure the piercing blast that sweeps through an open car in rapid motion do not understand why they should suffer as seriously as they do to so small purpose.

A PECULIAR FEATURE of yesterday was the number of religious services. Churches of all denominations seem to have realized that Christmas has a legitimate place in the list of days honored by public religious exercises. It is rather odd that the idea should have been so long in developing, but better late than never.

A CITIZEN of Texas objects, through the Herald, to his State being credited with the ownership of the ruffian Currie, who shot Porter, the actor, a few months ago. We do not wonder that Texas should be glad to deny responsibility for the murderer, but unfortunately great States, like great cities, are charged with whatever is done by their residents. New York has frequent occasion to feel just as Texas does.

THE WEATHER.—The meteorological conditions have become very much disturbed throughout the Middle Atlantic and New England coast districts by the expansion of the depression which was over the ocean off the Nova Scotia coast. The area of high barometer which dominated the weather over the western sections of the country during the past few days has moved eastward, and its centre is now over the Central Mississippi Valley. Rain fell in the Atlantic and Gulf coast districts, and snow in the lake regions. The weather west of the Mississippi River was fair. The temperature fell in all the districts, with the exception of the New England States and the extreme West. The decline was especially marked in the Western Gulf States and the lake regions. The winds have been brisk in the West and Southwest, and from fresh to light elsewhere. The weather in New York and its vicinity to-day will be colder and cloudy, with snow, followed by clearing toward night. To-morrow it will be very cold and fair.

The Situation in Maine.

We have at no time believed that the blaming indignation and flaring threats of the Maine republicans would lead to a disturbance of the peace of the State. It is a curious circumstance that the wildest of the warlike utterances have proceeded from the pulpits of evangelical clergymen—a class of men who live in an atmosphere of emotion, and have not sufficient contact with affairs to give them the calculating coolness and cautious appreciation of difficulties possessed by citizens "hackneyed in the ways of men" and who have a more practical acquaintance with life. In the combustible state of public feeling which exists in Maine our confidence that the peace of the State will be preserved has rested on our estimate of the good sense and practical sagacity of Senator Blaine. While it is his interest to kindle the indignation of his party and carry it to a high pitch, it would be fatal for him to take the incendiary responsibility of a local civil war. In his willingness to rouse indignation he has gone some steps too far, but he is strong enough to restrain his followers within legal limits. It was a blunder to give a loose rein to bravado about a resort to force, because it furnishes a handle to the fusionists. They denounce the republicans for their incendiary threats, and are able on this ground to make a strong appeal to the peace loving citizens of the State against revolutionary violence. Mr. Blaine sees that the republicans must retreat from so untenable a position, and he is conducting the retreat with consummate skill.

Of course the able and plausible letter of ex-Senator Morrill, the chairman of the Republican State Committee, was not prepared without consultation nor sent to Governor Garcelon without the sanction of Mr. Blaine. It is exceedingly clever and dexterous. Maintaining throughout a tone of decorous moderation and couched in language of respectful deference for Governor Garcelon, it conveys the impression that the republicans of Maine are extremely anxious to have this controversy settled by legal and peaceful methods. By holding out the prospect of a judicial determination it tends to allay the spasmodic passions which clamor for violent redress. It is the main purpose of Mr. Morrill's extremely adroit letter to exert this tranquillizing influence on the republican party of Maine without abating their sense of the injustice with which they have been treated. Nothing of the kind was ever more skillfully done.

We do not suppose that either Mr. Morrill or Mr. Blaine has any expectation that this proffer will be accepted. If this case were submitted to the Supreme Court it would doubtless decide, as Judge Virgin decided, when he was applied to for a mandamus, that the question is beyond the jurisdiction of the Court. Mr. Morrill perceives this as clearly as anybody could tell it to him. He is careful to say that he would expect the Court to act only as an "empire." But if it were to travel outside of its jurisdiction and express opinions as an "empire," such opinions would have no binding effect. It may indeed occur to many persons that they have read reports of judicial decisions in which courts have decided on the validity of elections. But we must guard against the confusion of view which results from false analogies. None of the cases in which courts have delivered judgments on the election of public officers has related to members of a legislative body. Courts have jurisdiction in relation to the election of State or county officers, and in such cases if canvassers have made an illegal award the office may be given to the rightful claimant by a judicial decision. But in every State each branch of the Legislature is made the final judge of the election of its own members. There is no appeal from its decision and no authority to review its judgment. Each branch of every Legislature possesses exclusive jurisdiction and is a court of final resort as to the election of its own members. While it is certain that no judicial court ever has, it is safe to assume that none ever will interpose in this class of questions, which all the State constitutions reserve for the purview of the judicial power and commit exclusively to the respective houses of their legislatures.

The necessity for quieting down the prevailing excitement is the motive of Mr. Morrill's letter. Its closing sentence is intended rather as a hint to the belligerent republicans than as an appeal to the Governor. Mr. Morrill says:—"I address Your Excellency not simply as an individual, but as chairman of the committee of the republican party, all of whom are desirous, above all things, to avoid every possible disturbance of the public tranquillity and to reconcile popular discontent." This is equivalent to saying to the republicans of Maine, cease talking about force until all peaceful methods have been exhausted.

It was full time to send forth this cry of "Halt!" There has been a narrow escape from bloodshed in the streets of Bangor. The Governor, in the exercise of an authority which undoubtedly belongs to him, ordered a transfer of arms from the Bangor Arsenal to Augusta. The arms were loaded upon wagons to be conveyed to the railway station, and while the teams were passing through the streets of Bangor they were stopped by a republican mob, and the officer in charge, to avoid bloodshed, sent back the arms to the arsenal and hastened to the State capital to report the proceedings to the Governor. It is high time that public feeling should be quieted and the supremacy of law restored. It is all important for the republicans to keep the law on their side in this angry and bitter contest. If they put it in the power of their opponents to brand them as incendiary revolutionists they will be fatally weakened.

The machinery for canvassing votes in Maine is bad and ought to be amended. It is unwise to make the Governor of the State a member of the Canvassing Board. It is a great mistake to have no intermediate body of canvassers between the towns and wards which furnish the original returns and the canvassers at the State capi-

tal. We manage things better in New York. Our boards of county canvassers have to bear the brunt of the counting, and the work is so distributed that it is not in the power of any one body seriously to interfere with the intentions of the voters. No Assembly district passes county lines, and the prima facie title of members of Assembly to seats is derived from the Board of County Canvassers, the State canvassers having nothing to do with the votes for the lower branch of the Legislature. Under this system there can be no wholesale injustice. The votes for Senators are indeed examined by the State Board of Canvassers, because the Senate districts extend beyond the limits of counties; but all the substantial part of the work is nevertheless done by the county canvassers. The State Board merely sends up the returns received from the county seats. Under such a system there can be only isolated cases of a false declaration of results, and the main body of the Legislature always consists at the outset of members whom the people intended to elect.

How Christmas Sped.

Yesterday dawned through skies lowering and wet, just as if St. Nicholas, the patron saint of the city and the manager of Christmas festivities, was determined that no one's eyes should have excuse to stray from the bounteous attractions that had been provided for them indoors. Phoebus did not provide his customary reveille, but nobody slept later on that account, for everywhere, except those sad prisons denominated well regulated families, there was an early hurrying to and fro of feet ridiculously small for the noise they made, and parents who turned over in bed to enjoy another nap learned speedily that they had reached that day of the year in which the last is first and the least becomes the greatest. People who hurried through the chilling, damp air and almost empty streets to an early service at church were reminded that the day belonged to everybody, rich and poor, Christian and pagan, for wreaths or flowers or Christmas trees adorned every window. If people could not publicly display their hearts on their sleeves they seemed bound at least to prove that they wore them there. Nearly everybody was too excited to eat much breakfast, but handsomely regained consciousness by dinner time, while thousands who had no breakfast to forget found at midday that if their aching voids were not filled there was no one but themselves to blame. Later in the day there was manifested a general determination to find crowds to be happy with. Hard hearts were softened by prayer and praise at the churches; sober faces broke into smiles at the theatres, and good will toward men, for one day at least, was an accomplished fact. Lights burned late in almost every house, and when Christmas itself was at last ready to retire heaven kindly dropped a snowy covert upon it, as was no more than the due of a day that had been marked by more human purity and joy than any other day of the year.

A Letter of Livingstone's.

A very interesting and hitherto unpublished letter of Dr. Livingstone's has just been printed in London. It treats of the Transvaal Boers, whose disaffection is just now creating some anxiety to England, their history, their manners and, what is of peculiar interest, on their method of fighting the Zulus. It is not too much to say that had this letter been known to Lord Chelmsford when he opened the campaign against King Cetwayo he might have come out of his South African experiences with some little glory beyond that which he has received since he returned home. In the first place, Dr. Livingstone shows that the principles which regulated the treatment of the natives by the Transvaal Boers was the source of all England's subsequent difficulties with the natives. Be this as it may, the Boers evidently understood how to fight the Zulus, then, it may be added, armed with the assegai. Says Dr. Livingstone:—

The Zulus were commanded by a bloodthirsty tyrant named Dingaan, who treacherously murdered a large party of Boers. To avenge this cold-blooded massacre a fight ensued, in which from 2,000 to 5,000 of Dingaan's warriors were slain. We have only the Boerish version of this affair, yet it is sufficient for the purpose of comparison. They state their loss to have been ten. The vast superiority which the possession of horses and guns imparts is thus sufficiently obvious. The mode of fighting is the following:—The Boers approach the Zulus to within three hundred or four hundred yards, then fire and gallop off to a considerable distance and then reload their guns. The Zulus, pursuing, have by this time come sufficiently near to receive another discharge from the Boers, who again retire as before. This process soon tires out the footed warriors, and, except through the accident of the stumbling of a horse or the rider's drunkenness, no Boer ever stands a chance of falling into their hands. The Boers report of themselves that they behaved with great bravery on the occasion. The Zulu warriors advanced in close columns, and their enemies were thus enabled to kill more than one with a single bullet. Such being the case, the Zulus were advancing in the face of almost certain destruction, without the possibility of engaging any except the six whom accident threw into their power.

It appears certainly very strange, after reading the above letter, that the English commander had apparently not the slightest notion of the methods of Boer warfare, which, properly understood, would have saved England the disgrace of Isandula and the lives of some thousands of her soldiers. The Zulus during the last campaign were armed, as at the time of which Dr. Livingstone speaks, for the most part with the assegai, the musket playing a very unimportant part in their attacks, and had the Boer method of warfare been understood by Lord Chelmsford he should have been able to settle the Zulu war with most insignificant losses.

Rain at Panama and Suez.

The condition in which the Vicomte de Lesseps will find traffic on the Panama Railroad upon his arrival at Aspinwall may give him different impressions about the difficulty of tide level canal construction there from the jaunty assertions he lately made in the North American Review. As Mr. Tennyson remarks in "Enoch Arden," things seen are more wondrous than things heard, and when he sees the devastation caused by a single November storm along the Chagres River he may attach more importance to the opinions of Sir

John Hawkshaw, Mr. Menoel and other engineers familiar with the American tropics, concerning the effects of the rainfall, than he did at Paris last summer. The intelligence to-day from the Isthmus is that "the date is quite uncertain, it may be ten days and may be a month," when repairs can be completed so that traffic will be resumed. While the mean annual rainfall on the Isthmus of Suez is less than two inches on that of Panama it is more than ten feet, and a tide level canal there, in Sir John Hawkshaw's words, "would receive and must provide for the whole drainage of the district it traverses."

The Judiciary in Politics.

The provision of the constitution of Maine, under which a republican committee—through Mr. Lot M. Morrill, himself formerly Governor of the State and since United States Senator and President Grant's last Secretary of the Treasury—requests Governor Garcelon to require the opinion of the judiciary upon all the points of law which the Governor and Council have ruled at their discretion in passing upon the election returns, reads thus:—

They (the justices of the Supreme Judicial Court) shall be obliged to give their opinion upon important questions of law and upon solemn occasions, when required by the Governor, Council, Senate or House of Representatives.

Maine copied this provision into her constitution from that of Massachusetts upon their separation in 1820. It was written into the Massachusetts constitution in 1780 by John Adams in these words:—

Each branch of the Legislature, as well as the Governor and Council, shall have authority to require the opinions of the justices of the Supreme Judicial Court upon important questions of law and upon solemn occasions.

In both States instances of resort to it have been frequent. As lately as December of last year a very important opinion was rendered by the Supreme Court of Massachusetts upon a question suggested by a dispute between the two branches of the Legislature as to the rights of the State Senate concerning money bills, and it was adjudged that the power to originate a bill appropriating money is not limited there to the House of Representatives. It is highly creditable to the character of the judiciary, both in Massachusetts and Maine, that opinions of this kind, though rendered without any opportunity being afforded for argument to the court, always have commanded universal acquiescence, no matter how acute was the controversy over the points involved. The Maine judges are paid salaries very little larger than those of New York policemen, and the Supreme judges of Massachusetts several thousand dollars less than the police justices in this city, and yet the dignity of both benches has been well sustained and they are filled with able and learned men who command the confidence and respect of all the political parties.

Christmas Day at Cabul.

It was Christmas day yesterday for the five thousand British soldiers who have been pent up for nearly a fortnight in the cantonments of Sharpur. We may presume that General Roberts and his men made merry and ate the traditional Christmas turkey and plum pudding just to keep in good spirits and have a good think of home and the country in whose service they have to fight so desperately just now. The latest news from Cabul, indeed, would lead us to infer that the one-armed general was determined to have a quiet Christmas, in spite of Afghans and hillmen. News from Jagdullah says that heavy firing had been heard on Wednesday in the direction of Cabul, and a despatch published in our cable columns this morning informs us that the noise resulted from the work of a small column of infantry, which had been sent out from the cantonments to clear the close country between Sharpur and Cabul. This energetic action would at least insure quiet for some days at Sharpur, and consequently we are justified in assuming that the imprisoned forces had a chance of spending the day as merrily as could be hoped for under the circumstances. The General and his men are not only thoroughly well provisioned, but it will be remembered that they found large quantities of cigars, tobacco and even pipes in the Bala Hissar, and the traditional plum pudding could easily be concocted from the materials of the ordinary army commissariat. As for the Christmas turkey, this was in all probability a pagan bird, of which there are any quantity in Upper India and Afghanistan. And, omitting to note the difference of time, it is very probable that when Mr. Sullivan was delivering his address on national hymns in the Academy yesterday, and touching on the influence of the well known national melodies in campaigns and battles, the surrounded Britishers were joining in solemn chorus to render their familiar "God Save the Queen" expressing their loyalty to Victoria and love of their native land: Outside the sentinels kept, doubtless, good watch, and peered earnestly toward the passes, hoping moment after moment to catch a glimpse of the green braided puggaree of Gough's native troops hourly expected to bring them relief. And, as our latest despatches state, the watching of the sentinels was rewarded with success, for General Gough succeeded in reaching Sharpur yesterday, and the entire British people of a terrible anxiety. The joy that must have prevailed in the Sharpur cantonments last night can, we imagine, to use a pretty familiar phrase, be better imagined than described. But, at

any rate, Christmas Day near Cabul must have been a joyous one for the long threatened British.

Our Chronic Troubles with Venezuela.

Our chronic condition of unpleasantness with the Republic of Venezuela takes the shape this morning of a search by the Navy Department, at the request of Secretary Everts, for a man-of-war that can be spared to cruise along the coast of the country and try to convey an impression that consular and diplomatic representatives of the United States are entitled to respectful treatment. Mr. Eckert, our commercial agent at Laguayra, has taken refuge in St. Thomas and reports that the lives and property of American citizens are unsafe at his post of duty; and our Minister, Mr. Baker, is said to be on the eve of returning to the United States. Meanwhile a revolution is impending from causes of which one of the principal is said to be our State Department's long delay to pass on the application of the Venezuelan government that the awards of the international commission against it upon American claims to the amount of a million dollars shall be set aside for fraud. Perhaps, after things are turned upside down again for the twentieth time at Caracas, we shall get along more amiably with a new President of Venezuela, whom our government will recognize officially, as it has not the present executive chief.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Trouble is as easily borrowed as an umbrella. If you would see interesting architecture of the long ago you will find it at Rouen, France. A daughter of Justice Strong, of the United States Supreme Court, is studying art in Philadelphia. Wade Hampton is thought by many to be the democrat who will try to extinguish Blaine in the Senate.

Senator Sharon paid taxes in San Francisco this year to the amount of \$30,000. He owns the Palace Hotel. Many elegant evergreen trees surrounding vacant summer residences near Baltimore were cut and sold by thieves for Christmas in the city.

Mr. Eugene Hale arrived at Portland, Me., yesterday from Iowa. He is in good health and will take his seat in the Maine Legislature at the opening. Captain Burton's "History of the Sword" is said to be nearly ready. The author has inspected almost every great collection of swords in Europe.

The Full Moon Gazette believes that the comparative youth of Pope Leo makes him of a different temper of mind from Pius IX., who was a revolutionist, while Leo is a diplomat. President Hayes will leave Washington to-day for a short holiday visit to relatives in Plainfield, N. J. He will stop one night in Philadelphia with ex-Minister Walsh, where he will meet General Grant.

In one of the towns of Normandy is a sign over a shop, "English and American spoken," and over another is the sign, "Dentistry, dancing, fencing, shaving and hairdressing taught in one lesson." The politician who claims the right to utter false, wild and absurd statements that are likely to mislead people is usually the person who declaims against what he calls the reckless journalism of the period.

There is reliable authority for the announcement that Governor Charles C. Van Zandt, of Rhode Island, has been tendered and will probably accept the position of Minister to Russia. The Governor returned from Washington yesterday.

A London society journal says:—"The Princess Louise has finally determined to sail for Canada again on the 23d of January, and this fact may at once put an end to all speculations as to any domestic visit preventing her early return."

John B. Gough, the lecturer, has a family which consists of a wife and four nieces. He makes about \$20,000 a year, but has saved only about \$100,000, and has a nice farm near Worcester, Mass. He has a very large collection of Oriskany's caricatures and loves to play trapeze. After a lecture he is rubbed down like a prize fighter.

Lord Napier of Magdala was given such short notice of his being selected to represent Queen Victoria at the Spanish marriage that Lady Napier found herself compelled to telegraph full instructions to a court milliner at Madrid as to the dresses which she would require. Lord Napier's hotel expenses were \$250 a day and another \$250 for incidentals.

Captain Williams says that he can hit a man with his fist harder than he can club him. He says that a crowd will never go back by simply being told to do so. He claims that if a man is quibbled the man always says that Captain Williams did it. He believes that as vice cannot be exterminated the best thing to do is to collect all the haunts in one place and exterminate them.

"It is a curious fact," says London Life, "that three female sovereigns are ill at the same time—the Empress of Russia, the Queen of Italy and the Queen of Sweden. Some facility has attached itself to the number three during the year 1879. Serious attempts have been made upon the lives of three of the crowned heads of Europe—the Emperors of Russia and Germany and the King of Italy. Three foreign potentates have been dispossessed—the Ameer of Cabul, the Khedive of Egypt and the King of Soudan. Three famous actors have died—Falmer, Buckstone and Matthews, and the fourth estate is not without its fatal adhesion to the unlucky numeral. Three editors or proprietors of our foremost newspapers have had a long farewell to all their greatness—Lawson, Delane and Sergeant Cox."

It appears that after all the great pyramid does not indicate the actual end of the world in 1881, as Professor Smyth has fondly hoped. Whether it is that a more exact estimate of the book of dates generally has caused him to entertain doubts on this point, or that he has actually found pyramidal promise of a period of preparation, the Professor (this is becoming touchingly alternative) now allows us to draw our breath for a while. The year 1881, it seems, to be the beginning of a time of preliminary trial which may last for half a century—a little too long, we see, for any chance that the Astronomer Royal for Scotland can be proved, during his lifetime, to have been mistaken. Yet, should it so chance that the world did come to an end in 1881, he would be able to suppose time allowed for the purpose, a point respecting which in the absence of exact information respecting the arrangements for that occasion we can express no opinion) to refer to his earlier prediction as happily forecasting the event. "That it was sufficiently definite will, we think, be admitted. 'From the north beginning of the gallery floor,' he says, quoting Mr. Robert Menzies, 'there is a southward procession begin the years of the Saviour's earthly life, expressed at the rate of a pyramid inch to a year. Three-and-thirty inch-years, therefore, bring us right over against the mouth of the well, the type of his death, while the long, lofty grand gallery shows the dominating rule of His religion in this world, defined by the floor length in inches (1,881 inch-years) as to its exact period,' though the time may 'terminate very much sooner than most men expect, as is shown by the southern wall IMPENDING.' (The capitals are Professor Smyth's). This was written before the Russo-Russian war, and Professor Smyth found in that war, when it seemed likely that England might interfere and occupy the land of the pyramid, the promise of the end. Since that trouble passed we have heard nothing of any thing likely to happen before 1881. But we had hoped that the question would be settled in 1881. And now we are again told to wait—fifty years, too, as though we were planets or stars, in whose life-time centuries count for nothing.

"BAUOE FOR THE GOOSE."

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP CO. } NORTHERN, Va. Dec. 25, 1879. } TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:— I noticed in the Herald of the 21st that an accident had happened to the steam yacht Henri-

etta—breaking the shaft, I believe. In this particular case retribution has followed swiftly. On the 11th of December, on the passage from New York to Aspinwall, the Clyde broke her shaft and lost her propeller overboard. Under our law it was to get to westward, in the track of passing steamers. On the 12th inst. the steam yacht Lafollet crossed our bows less than two miles off, steering southwest, the Clyde then reaching in about west-north-west, wind north. I made signals of distress, but she passed on, taking no notice of us. Early on the morning of the 13th, four o'clock, the Henrietta heaved to under our lee. I saw her burning distress signals and throwing up rockets. I asked her to wait by an until daylight, and reported to him our condition, but she distinctly refused, and pursued her course. She arrived at Fortuna Monroa the same day, and did not even report us on her arrival. His vessel was in a similar condition to what the Clyde was. Very respectfully, THOMAS H. MOULTON, Commander.

LITERARY CHIT-CHAT.

"Beautiful Snow" is coming out once more with other poems by one of its exclusive authors from Peterson's. A new novel dealing with ancient Egyptian life may shortly be looked for from the pen of Professor Georg Ebers.

Donaloe's Magazine for January has a portrait of Mr. C. S. Parnell, the leader of the Irish people in the land agitation.

The Italian ex-Minister, Signor Bonghi, has been employing his enforced leisure by translating the entire works of Plato into Italian.

Miss L. Penney has prepared No. 3 of "Readings and Recitations" suitable for schools and temperance organizations, which the National Temperance Society publish.

The Orient, a Church Magazine for December, of which Rev. Nicholas Bjerring is editor, has a tart article on "English Rule in Cyprus," among other interesting papers.

Captain Burton's "History of the Sword" is nearly ready. The study of the question is intended to be exhaustive, for Captain Burton has inspected almost every great collection of swords in Europe.

"American Ballads," by Thomas Dunn English, have been added to the Harpers' Half-hour Series. How many remember that Dr. English wrote:— Don't you remember sweet Alice, Ben Bolt, Sweet Alice whose hair was so brown?

"A History of Bedding, Conn.," will be issued next month by Mrs. Charles Burr Todd. Nearly one-third of the book is devoted to a sketch of Joel Barlow, the poet and statesman, who was a native of Bedding.

"The Illustrated Catholic Family Annual for 1880" (Catholic Publication Society Company of New York), with its church calendars, copious ecclesiastical information and religious biographical notes, makes an early appearance.

Mr. John C. Bell writes to say that one of the sons of the late Charles Dickens, Francis J. Dickens, is an Inspector in the Canadian Northwest Mounted Police and is now stationed at Fort Walsh, where he has been for the past four years.

On the 20th of January next will be published in Rome the first number of *Misereva*, a new English monthly magazine, which the conductors promise to make cosmopolitan in tone, and for which they anticipate a welcome among the widely scattered English communities throughout the world.

An account of M. J. Dupuis' journey up the Red River (the Song-Koi) of Tonquin in 1872-73, which has of late caused considerable discussion in some French periodicals, has been published (Paris: Chalmel) as part of the transactions of the Societe Indochinoise.

The Russian authorities are contemplating the publication of a geological map of the Caucasus and Transcaucasia, on the scale of 1:2,100,000, which is to give details as to the localities where asphalt, minerals, &c., are found. A large staff of geologists is employed in examining the country for this purpose.

Messrs. B. Bentley & Son have in the press a description of a lady's visit to the less known portions of the Great Dominion, giving sketches of social life, sporting and agricultural prospects, and traveling facilities in those comparatively unknown regions. It will be issued immediately under the title of "A Trip to Manitoba," and is dedicated to Lady Dufferin.

The *Astracum* having noticed that honestly admits the fact:—"A correspondent has pointed out a palpable mistake—in our notice of the late Mr. De. Lane. Sir Robert Peel's letter was written, not in 1846, but when he retired from office in 1835, and therefore was written before Mr. Delane's connection with the *Times* began." Still it was a queer mistake for an English literary paper.

A translation of the Talmud is a desideratum, and it will interest students to know that a new Jewish paper, the *American Hebrew*, of this city, is now publishing weekly a translation of the book on "Idolatry," by Rabbi de Sola Mendes. The difficulties in the way of a translator are here very great. The Talmudic dialect is difficult, its form of expression syncopated, and, besides this, the closest familiarity with Jewish jurisprudence, history and archeology are required.

J. W. Bouton announces a life of Rowlandson, the caricaturist, with a selection from his works, by Joseph Gough, Gully's biographer. The work contains 400 illustrations and is published in two handsome volumes. Rowlandson owes a large part of his fame to his illustrations of "Dr. Syntax" and his designs to "The Dance of Death." The author of this work shows that he was more than a caricaturist and that his influence upon the society of his time was considerable. He was the "spotted pet" of a coterie which included a goodly proportion of the cleverest men of his day in art, literature and the drama.

"One of His Schoolmasters" writes the Herald to say that Dr. Gerhard Uhlhorn, the learned author of "The Conflict between Christianity and Paganism," has his title of Abbot from the Stift Loccum, the monastery for young Protestants, founded by which he presides. This was aware of it, but it may be interesting to learn, in our correspondent's words, that "the income of the Abbot of Loccum, as such, is about \$5,000 a year, the best and almost only source for clergymen in Hanover. Dr. Uhlhorn has gained this high position entirely through his own merit, he being the son of a worthy shoemaker of Osnaburg, Westphalia."

The *Celtic Monthly* seems to be prospering, for in its December number it comes out with a new dress of type and a new and handsomely designed cover. Its contents have a Christmas flavor in appropriate poetical garlands and prose romances, which will render it acceptable to its Irish-American readers, while more solid pabulum is furnished in its regular departments. That a magazine devoted to the state of Ireland should be the reverse of interesting, as wonderful as that success has hitherto been wanting to many efforts in the same field. We may note at the same time that *Donaloe's Magazine*, published in Boston, appears to be doing well also.

In the forthcoming volume of Prince Metetrach's memoirs a novel light is thrown on the origin and motive of the Holy Alliance. He describes it as a "high sounding suit," and says that it was "aimed at the outcome of a pietistic mood of the Emperor Alexander." He adds that it was "not an institution for the suppression of popular rights, for the promotion of absolutism and tyranny." "Out of a mixture of religious and politically liberal elements," says Metetrach, "the idea of it was developed under the influence of Madame V. Kondekar and Herr V. Bergasso." His estimate of Napoleon and the Emperor Alexander are the reverse of flattering. "The latter is described as 'a wonderful mixture of manly endowment and feminine weakness,' and the former was told was neither good nor bad."

Scribner's for January is a particularly good and varied number. Two instructive articles, with plentiful illustrations—one on the United States Life-saving Service, by J. H. Merzmyer, and another on American arms and ammunition, by William C. Church. The series of "Success with Small Fruits" takes us to "strawberries," very tempting and anything but small in the woods. "Young Artistic" Life in New York," illustrated by Virtuosi, is a lively paper. Personal reminiscences are furnished from a Revolutionary Congressman's note book and the late Henry J. Raymond's journals. "If Grandfather of Mr. Cable grows in interest as the Congress of the 'Mad James' Journals" is concluded. Julia Ward Howe, E. L. Glider and Mr. Stoddard are listed from in poetry, the latter in a "Hymn to the Sea." We thought Byron had said almost all that was to be said this century on that subject. Mr. Glider's poem is dainty, as usual.