SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

Editorial Opinions of the Leading Journals upon Current Topics-Compiled Every Day for the Evening Telegraph.

LEARNED LADIES.

From the N. Y. Tribune. This being the annual saeson of University jubilees, it would be impossible not to notice the space which young women now claim in the reports of those highly interesting celebrations. A great many girls, we observe, in different parts of the land, are receiving the degree of A. M., which, for obvious reasons, in their case, seems to have been substituted for the Baccalaureate. It is utterly impossible to call a fresh, blooming, and beautiful demoiselle a "Bachelor of Arts," for the most enthusiastic tea-drinker of the Sorosis must see the solecism of such an addition. Neither, as we understand it, is the feminine "A. M. to be regarded as an initial expression of "Artium Magister," for that would be equally improper. It signifies, as we are told, "Mistress of Arts," and means about as much when it is given to women as when it is given to men-which is very little indeed. We have always felt that this Master's degree was about the absurdest legacy sent down to us from the scholastic We are tempted, about this time annually, to enquire: - "Master of Arts! What All of them? Painting? Poetry? Sculpture? Architecture? Law? Physic? Theology? Civil Engineering? The Useful? The Mechanical? The Liberal? The Polite? The Arts of War or the Arts of Peace? Alas! the cabalistic letters give us no information upon these points respecting the fortunate individuals who have been decorated. A student takes his "A. B.," and goes immediately into the cod-fish or cotton business. Three years after he boldly approaches his Alma Mater with the requisite fees in his hand, and demands of her a Master's diploma. The complying dame hastens to grant his request; and he marches proudly away, to the music of a brass band, bearing the attesting skin neatly tied up with bonny blue ribbons,

We have looked over the programmes of

several of the female commencements, and, for all that we can see, they are exactly like the programmes in the colleges devoted to the other kind of young human beings. These graduating girls, equally with the boys, develop a propensity to select ambitious subjects, and what is reported of the exercise shows the same queer aping of profound wisdom and the same suspicion on the part of the writers, that the reading of their performances subjects the world to some danger of a premature confiagration. Here, for instance (in a Chicago newspaper), we had an account of the commencement of the Northwestern Female College at Evanston. Everything was according to the orthodox pattern, including a "Salutatory" (in the Roman tongue), "Music by the Band," and "The Valedictory." The reporter is kind enough to give his opinion of the performances, as reporters are sure to do upon such occasions. Of the "Salutatorianess" it is observed that "her motions were extremely graceful." The next address was well digested, and had a vein of humanity running through it." The third "went on a little too fast." In the fourth, "Homer, Cicero, Demosthenes, and several other wellknown gentlemen now dead, were compli- urging with increased vehemence the futility mented." The fifth "was historical, geological, astronomical, romantic, high-flown, and comprehensive." The sixth (on "Geology") was "written with a dashing and flow-ing pen," The seventh "regretted the unsolved condition of the problem of the Northwest passage." The valedictory followed. "bringing tears to many a bright eye," for it was (says the discriminating reporter) "couched in choice language, went straight home, and was delivered in a feeling man-Then certain young women were made "Laureates of Arts," and certain "Mistresses of Arts," and still others "Mistresses of Science;" the alumni had the usual dinner

and all was over! We have but little to add to this account by way of comment, but we feel that we should show ourselves devoid of sympathy and wanting in gallantry if we failed to condole with the young mistresses of the N. W. University upon the extremely flippant and flabby way in which all their fine things (which no doubt cost them gallons of midnight kerosene) have been reported to the country. But reporters who are of an indolent disposition, or who are pressed for room, find a ready resource in adjectives, of which their assortment (especially of those which are complimentary) is usually (as the haberdashers say) "large and well selected." It is thought to be quite enough to inform mankind that a speaker was "eloquent," or "affeeting," or "humorous," or that "his remarks were well received by a large and "appreciative audience;" and what he really did say is generally considered of but little importance. But apart from curiosity, to a fair amount of which we are willing to make confession, we think it would be interesting and instructive to know something of the effect which a quasi collegiate course of instruction has upon the minds of young women. Does it, for instance, serve to develop and strengthen the logical faculty in which most women are deficient, so that hereafter, with these Mistresses of Art at least, we may be able to hold high argument without a jumble of premises and conclusions, without perpetual begging of the question, and without that most irritating of expedients, the argumentum ad hominem? Unquestionably, the Female University must be a vast improvement upon the old-fashioned boarding-school, to which misses were consigned with the "two towels and a spoon" required by the rules. Under any circumstances, it is, at least in opportunity, better than the curriculum of worsted work, painting on velvet (with a very little French, music, and drawing) which was formerly pursued in young ladies' seminaries; but it is an improvement only as it is likely to affect the pursuits and tastes of a more advanced period of life. To be sure, the rule here is the same which, in common fairness, we must equally apply to institutions for young men. If a student spends four years in acquiring an elementary knowledge of the Greek language, and at once upon his graduation begins to forget the little which he knows of that noble tongue, it may perhaps be saying too much to aver that his time has been wasted; but apart from a necessary improvement of his literary taste, that will be unpleasantly near to the truth. So if a young woman who upon leaving her "university" can construe Virgil or Horace without more than an occasional reference to an English translation, gets married, has half a dozen children, and is forced to devote herself to the constantly multiplying cares of her household, it is probable that in ten years she will hardly be able to read even the simplest Latin prose. Thus the classics applies with equal force both to the Austrian-Hurgarian empire. That is the compel the Government to ask for a very

boys and girls. It is only when there exists in the student of either sex an absolute and well-marked taste for these studies that they can be pursued with much hope of advantage. Still, the young women, who have now their colleges well endowed, and each with a respectable faculty, can no longer complain that they are debarred from what is usually called a liberal education. In this, as in many other matters, there no longer exists any reason for ancient protests and stereotyped fault-finding. For ourselves, we have always considered discussion of the equality of the sexes as a lamentable waste of time which should be precious; for the question, it appears to us, is not one of equality, but of difference. But when so much is to be decided, we must not object to experiments; and woman can no longer plead that she is cruelly and despotically cut off from Op-

ENGLAND'S RULE IN IRELAND. From the N. Y. Times. Mr. Gladstone's Government resorts to singular expedients by way of proving the earnestness of its desire for the pacification of Ireland. The reconciliation of the Irish people to English rule was one of the purposes professed at the formation of the Ministry, whose strength in the House of Commons seemed to be a guarantee for the fulfilment of its pledges. All its performances, however, have been inconsistent and unsatisfactory. Each succeeding attempt to do justice to Ireland has been followed by messures equivalent to a confession that no real progress towards an enduring settlement had been achieved. Coercive measures have cast a shadow over measures avowedly friendly in their nature. The disestablishment of the Protestant Church was attended with the enactment of authority to "proclaim" districts, and to subject newspapers to processes and penalties not known in England since the days of Castlereagh. The discussion of the Land bill in the House of Lords proceeds simultaneously with the passage of a Feleny bill through the Commons. An affectation of friendship and a stern exercise of force go on together. The Ministers who set out with a promise to give order and security to Ireland practically confess that they do not understand the causes of her trouble, or that they are unable or unwilling to apply adequate remedies. A liberal government, after months of trial, virtually acknowledges that the maintenance of its power in the disaffected isle depends upon the free use of weapons, from which even the despotisms of the present day have instinc-

tivety shrunk. The suppression of Protestant ascendance -for that is what disestablishment logically means-was doubtless the removal of a substantial grievance. But though it went too far to please the Anglican bishops, it did not go far enough to satisfy the Roman Catholics. The latter insist that the repudiation of Anglican pretensions in ecclesiastical matters should be followed by the restoration to the Roman Catholic Church of edifices and properties of which, in other days, it was despoiled; that the confiscations which were among the earliest evidences of England's supremacy should now be revoked. At the moment, then, that we were led to look for peace as the consequence of a great stroke of legislation, we actually witnessed unusual outbursts of popular discontent. Violent resistance to law became, in some districts, more frequent than ever, the "Nationalist" Press of all attempts at compromise. Then came the enactment of fresh coercive measures. which stand upon the statute-book a melancholy commentary on Mr. Gladstone's Irish

The pending Land bill promises to be not one whit more effectual. Judged by oldfashioned notions of landlords' rights, some of its provisions are radical enough. It asserts a right of interference which the landowners of England and Scotland cannot view with unconcern. But what to them would savor of agrarianism, only half meets the exigencies of the case in Ireland. The old, undying feeling of the conquered towards the conqueror complicates a question otherwise not difficult of solution. The tillers of Irish soil have no faith in the intentions of their "alien" lord. The sense of a common interest, and the presence of kindly feelings, which make possible harmonious relations between the owners and cultivators of the land in the other parts of the British islands, exist only to a very limited extent in Ireland. The result is, that ere the Land bill becomes law its failure as a measure of pacification appears to be assured. The Irish journals are analyzing its provisions, and demonstrating their insufficiency as means of averting the cruelty and wrong-doing which have rendered Irish evictions infamous throughout the world. Again, therefore, the spectacle is presented of the passage of a measure purporting to be for the removal of injustice, and designed by its authors as an indication of England's good will, but which is so manifest a failure that a new Felony bill must be contrived to make England's autho-

The good intentions of the British Government towards Ireland we cannot doubt. It has dared much and done much to prove the genuineness of its desire to remove chronic evils and mitigate chronic discontent. And yet there is no abatement of the popular aversion to English rule. "Where there is smoke there is fire" is a maxim as applicable to Fenianism to-day as to Chartism thirty years ago; and it is to confront Fenianism that felony bills are concocted and troubled districts "proclaimed." The revival of the repeal movement, which has slumbered since the death of O'Connell, is another sign of the popular fever to which imperial sedatives are in vain applied. significant still is the recurring expression of a conviction on the part of the men who are neither Fenians nor Repealers, that to Ireland must be conceded control over its own local concerns, leaving the Imperial representation possessed under the act of Union exclusively applicable to Imperial affairs. Whatever shape the final settlement may assume, this now seems certain-there can be no effective legislation for Irish grievances which does not recognize the means by which the Union was consummated as the crowning grievance of all. The organic relations of Great Britain and Ireland need revision and amendment as conditions precedent of

If England will act as frankly and as boldly toward Ireland as Austria has acted toward Hungary, Mr. Gladstone will realize the happy results which, under his present policy, remain beyond his reach. The task to which Count Boust has addressed himself, with no ordinary success. is identical in its nature with that which baffles the British Minister, There may be differences of opinion as to some of the results which have rewarded the exertions of Count Beust, but there is none in regard to the fact that under his administration the Hungarian difficulty has dwindled down, and that solid progress has been made the objection to spending too much time upon in the work of organizing and consolidating

an unwillingness to measure Irish grievances and Irish discontent by other than English ideas. Let them allow Ireland to be the interpreter of her own wants, and the true union will, for the first time, begin.

THE REVISION OF THE BIBLE. From the London Standard. Mr. Buxton hardly mended his case for transferring the revision of the Scriptures to a royal commission by changing the terms of his motion so as to invite the co-operation of the Government of the United States. Originally he called upon the House of Commens to affirm that "it is desirable the work should be placed in the hands of a royal commission, instead of being left to a committee of convocation," but upon further consideration he omitted all reference to convocation, and simply moved for an address praying the sovereign "to invite the President of the United States to concur with her Majesty in appointing commissioners to revise the authorized version of the Scriptures." Now it is a debatable question whether the work of revision should be left to a committee appointed by convocation; but, as the Premier and Mr. Beresford Hope pointed out last night, there can be very little doubt as to the inadmissibility of Mr. Buxton's second proposition. It is, of course, highly desirable that we should, if possible, produce such a version as may be acceptable to the thirty odd millions of English-speaking people on the other side of the Atlantic, but if this is only to be secured by the co-operation of American divines there are obvious difficulties in the way. Biblical scholars are few and far between in America, and it unfortunately happens, from their position in the religious world, that the three or our whose services might be acceptable would by no means contribute to render the new version popular among their countrymen. Moreover, there is a fundamental hindrance to the proposed joint action of the President of the United States, seeing that the Constitution expressly and designedly bars the chief magistrate and his colleagues from ident'fying themselves in their public capacity with any distinctively religious movement. As Mr. Hope reminds us, the influence of Jefferson was successfully exerted to exclude any reference to the existence of a Supreme Being or any official recognition of Christianity. Even if this obstacle could be removed, it would not be wise to overlook the dangerous influence which the large and flourishing Roman Catholic community would exercise in the composition the American contingent. The sects are at war, but the Roman Catholics are a powerful and united body, and their efforts would be directed, not so much to improve the Protestant version as to bring it into harmony with the Romish version. It is obvious, however, that Mr. Buxton's proposition to enlist American co-operation was an afterthought, and that his main object is to take the question out of the hands of convocation as the representation of the Established Church. The member for East Surrey asserts with perfect truth that the authorized version is the property not of any particular Church or sect, but of the nation at large, and, as a corollary, that no one Church or sect is entitled to monopolize the work of revising it. But we are not aware that either convocation or the Church have set up any claim of this kind. Perhaps, as the largest and most influential Christian body in the empire, the Church of England had a right, and was in some measure bound, to take the initiative: but no one who examines the constitution of the proposed committee and remembers that the most eminent Biblical scholars, totally irrespective of Church or creed, were invited to share in its labors, can doubt that convocation approached the work in the largest and most enlightened spirit. We can understand and sympathize with the protest of churchmen like Messrs. Henley and Newdegate, who shrink from tampering with the authorized version. We think their fears are exaggerated and that they overrate the danger of making the text of the Bible a subject of "free handling;" but they at least take up an intelligent ground of objection. But we cannot understand why the Church of England is to be debarred from playing a prominent part in a work in which she is so vitally interested and in which the scholarship of her clergy entitles her to take the lead. Mr. Percy Wyndham considers that ecclesiastics are unfitted by their professional habits for the work of Biblical revision; but is not this equivalent to saying that experts are specially disqualified, or that an architect is the last person to be consulted about a design for a house, or a railway engineer about a tunnel or a viaduct? It is easy to sneer at convocation as Mr. Buxton does. It is a venerable, but, thanks to State tyranny, an almost impotent body, and it is simply absurd to speak of it as given to "usurpation." Possibly it might become very tyrannical and despotic if it had the chance; but, considering how it is fettered and gagged at present, it would be as reasonable to charge a man bound hand and foot with abusing his liberty. All that convocation has done in this instance is to take the initiative in giving effect to the almost universal demand for a revision of the Scriptures. It has nominated a committee to undertake the work, which comprises, in addition to an impartial selection from the most learned divines of the Church, all the most eminent Biblical scholars among the Nonconformist bodies who could be induced to co-operate. No one can doubt the bona fides with which the committee has been chosen, and we question whether Dissenters will not be disposed to applaud rather than condemn the zeal which prompted convocation on behalf of the Church in taking initiative. We do not hesitate to say that under no other auspices would the labors of any body of revisers have had a chance of finding a general acceptance. Mr. Buxton contends that the work ought to be undertaken by the State; and Mr. Gladstone and his supporters appear to have at once perceived the awkward anachronism which would result if a liberal government were to assume the supervision of a purely religious enterprise just at the time when it the policy of the liberal party to break down every tie which links the State with religion. Of course Mr. Gladstone did not justify his opposition to the motion upon grounds like these. He declared that the Government were decidedly opposed, as a matter of principle, to placing such a work as the revision of the Scriptures in the hands of any civil or public body. He admitted it was highly necessary that the revision should be proceeded with, but professed himself persuaded that it could not be usefully undertaken by the State, and that it was undesirable that any version should be produced under circumstances which would warrant the impres-

sion that it was imposed upon the country by

authority. The present version, it is well to

remember, was the fruit of long-protracted

labors, and was not adopted as the authorized

version until it had been stamped by the

acceptance of a whole century. Reminding

the House that the motion, if carried, would

lesson which English statesmen may advan-tageously study. Their greatest hindrance is sisted that it would be best to leave the matter in the hands of those who were properly interested in it, and for his own part he was not disposed to censure convocation for undertaking, at its own cost, and on its sole responsibility, the conduct of a great work of public usefulness. Mr. Buxton was fain to withdraw his motion.

DEPRECIATION OF DICKENS.

From the N. Y. World. Of all disagreeable ways of saying disagreeable things, commend us to the way of saying them as things that one would not say on any account, and shifting the responsibility of their utterance upon some imaginary and scandalous third person, whom one avails one self of the occasion mildly to rebuke. As thus:--"The late so-and-so was a person whose estimable social qualities endeared him to a large circle of friends. It may perhaps be said by the censorious that the development of these very social qualities led to occasional manifestations of dissolute conduct abroad and domestic violence which estranged the fond heart of a once devoted and trusting wife and blasted the prospects of his unfortunate children, but far be it from us to revive these uppleasant reminiscences at such a time. We prefer to remember only his better traits." The advantage of such a course is that it affords ready recourse to the excuse of the street boy when collared for throwing injurious snow-balls-"Please, sir, it wasn't me; it was the other fellers as throwed it."

Of this sort, in a marked degree, is the eulogistico-depreciatory style very commonly adopted by pulpit orators and by the religious press; and nowhere has it been more prominently displayed than in the case of the late Charles Dickens. We have had praises of his morality sandwiched between hinted doubts of his Christianity; admiration of his genius and the philanthropic use he made of it in the alternate paragraphs with godly innuendoes of his want of reverence to the 'cloth;" and now the secular side of his character is attacked in an impersonally personal sort of way, and even his literary ability spologetically decried. "The genius of Dickens was not kingly; he was a king's jester," says the Independent, writing of him who, more than any other author of our time, guided his pen to a right royal, earnest purpose. Nor did he "invent the characters which he drew." As a matter of course, however, "this is not said to his disparagement." But-alas that dreadful harbinger of fur-

ther onslaught:-But his peacil took wild freaks till its liberty be-came license. If he found a character, he made a caricature of it. If he discovered a situation, he made a travesty of it. Deficient in plot, loose in style, frivolous in details, Carlyleish in expression— all these criticisms may be justly urged against cer-tain parts of his many books. But who cares to pick these flaws in Dickens at any time, and least of all the near hour of his inneral?

all the near hour of his funeral? Who, indeed? Surely not the Independent, which would not for worlds "emphasize the fact" that he "was not a daring thinker;" that "his mind was not east in an heroic mould;" that "he was never quickened by that fine instinct for popular liberty which, in a land of kingcraft, ought to have made him a democrat, a radical, an iconoclast." No, the Independent would "do him no injustice" of that sort, but "contents" itself 'with what he was-a lover of his kind: a friend of the friendless; a champion of the poor, the degraded, the outcast, the forlorn;' whose "career was a prolonged beneficence to his fellow-beings." Let you and us, dear reader, thank our stupid stars that in our appreciation of the latter qualities we were not profoundly critical enough to discover that their possessor could be a mere jester and caricaturist of unheroic mind, and devoid of the fine instinct which inspires in conoclasm and radicalism.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN application will be made at the next meeting of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE KEYSTONE STATE BANK, to be located at Philadelphia, with a capital of two hun-dred and lifty thousand dollars, with the right to increase the same to five hundred thousand

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be had at the Office of the Company, No. 238 South Third The Office will be opened at 8 A. M. and closed at 3 P. M. from May 30 to June 3, for the payment of Dividends, and after that date from 9 A. M. to 3 P. M. THOMAS T. FIRTH.

5 4 60t

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as above, A. M. Spencer, Jabez M. Tipton, G. F. Myers, Henry Adler, Martin Hart, William Douglas, William Chamberlin, Daniel K. Colby, Walter Smith, Samuel B. Wilcox, Henry Lovell. John Dockendorff, David Logen, William Ferry, Charles Nodine, A. S. Young.

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OFFICE OF THE PHILADELPHIA AND READING RAILROAD CO., No. 227 South

FOURTH Street. PHILADELPHIA, June 23, 1870. NOTICE.-In accordance with the terms of the leasand contract between the East Pennsylvania Bailroad Co. and the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Go., dated May 19, 1869, the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Go will pay at their office, No. 227 South FOURTH st., Philadelphia, on and after the 19th day of JULY, 1870, a divi dend of \$1'50 per share, clear of all taxes, to the stock solders of the East Pennsylvania Railros 1 Co., as they shall stand registered on the books of the said East Penn sylvania Railroad Co. on the 1st day of July, 1870. All orders for dividends must be witnessed a

Note.—The transfer books of the Fast Pennsylvania Railroad Co. will be closed on July 1 and reopened on 8 22lm Treasurer East Pennsylvania Railroad Oo.

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ROAD COMPANY, Office No. 227 S. FOURTH Street, Philadelphia, June 29, 1870. DIVIDEND NOTICE. The Transfer Books of this Company will be closed on the 7th of July next and reopened on Wednes-

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2 cents per toot, or 1-2 cent per gallon, ship INSURANCE & OF 1 PER CENT.

Extra rates on small packages iron, metals, etc. No receipt or bill of lading algued for less than 50 cents. The Line would call attention of merchants generally to the fact that hereafter the regular shippers by this line

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MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY'S REGU-LAR SEMI-MONTHLY LINE TO NEW OR. LEANS, La. The YAZOO will sail for New Orleans direct, on Thursday, June —, at S a. M. The YAZOO will sail from New Orleans, via Havana

WEEKLY LINE TO SAVANNAH, GA. The TONAWANDA will sail for Savannan on Satur day, July 2, at 8 A. M. The WYOMING will sail from Savannah on Saturday, July 2.
This CUGH BILLS CF LADING given to all the principal towns in Georgia, Alabana, Fiorida, Missussippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Tennessee in connection with the Central Railroad of Georgia, Atlantic and Gulf Rail-road, and Florida steamers, at as low rates as by competing lines.

SEMI-MONTHLY LINE TO WILMINGTON, N. O. The PIONEER will sail for Wilmington on Saturday, July 2 at 6P. M. Resuming, will leave Wilmington Saturday, July 9th.
Connects with the Cape Fear River Steamboat Com. Connects with the Cape Fear River Steamboat Com.
iny the Wilmin ton and Weldon and North Carolina
airroads, and the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad
all interior points.

Treights for Columbia, S. C., and Angusta, Ga., taken in W. mington, at aslow rates as leaven and Angusta, Ga., taken ia W. mington, at aslow rates as by any other route.
Insurance effected when requested by anippers. Bills
Inding signed at Queen street wharf on or before day WILLIAM L. JAMES, General Agent. No. 120 South THIRD Street.

THE REGULAR STEAMSHIPS ON THE PHILADELPHIA AND CHARLESTON STEAMSHIP LINE are ALONE authorized to issue through hills of lading to interior points South and West in connection with South Carolina Railroad Company.

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PRILADELPHIA AND CHARLESTON STEAMSHIP LINE.
This line is now composed of the following first-class Steamships, sailing from PIER 17, below Spruce street, on FRIDAY of each week at 8

ASHLAND, 890 tens, Captain Crowell, J. W. EVERMAN, 692 tons, Captain Hinckley, PROMETHEUS, 600 tons, Captain Gray, JULY, 1870.

Prometheus, Friday, July 1. J. W. Everman, Friday, July 8. Prometheus, Friday, July 15. J. W. Everman, Friday, July 22. Promethous, Friday, July 29. Through bills of lading given to Columbia, S. C.

the interior of Georgia, and all points South and Southwest. Freights forwarded with promptness and despatch. Rates as low as by any other route Insurance one-half per cent, effected at the office

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No freight received nor bills of lading signed after 3 P. M. on day of sailing.

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Or WILLIAM, P. CLYDE & CO. n first-class companies.

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pointed to sail as follows:

Etna, via Halifax, Tuesday, June 28, I P. M.
City of Paris, Saturday, July 2, 8 A. M.
City of Brooklyn. Saturday, July 2, 1 P. M.
City of Baltimore, via Halifax, Tuesday, July 12, I P. M.
And esch succeeding Saturday and alternate Tuesday
from Pier 45, North River.

BY THE MAIL STRAMER SAILING EVERY SATURDAY
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