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Has beautiful instruments are as in strongly recommended by the follow.
Ing among the leading artists in America as any Pianos made in this country or in Europe.
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considered superior in all respects to the instruments
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PIANOS. | and moderate in price, I have dealt in for
PIANOS. | fourteen years, and give a tive years'
The country of the process of the proces

MR. WOLFSOHN'S CLASSICAL MATINEES. -The second of this series was given yesterday afternoon, at the Foyer of the Academy, to a large and interested audience. The novelties of the programme presented were a lovely Impromptu of Schubert, interpreted by Mr. Wolfsohn with considerable delicacy of treatment, and a Scherzo Cappricioso of Mendelssohn, a beautiful morceau, possessing that indescribably chaste beauty that marks all his plano works, but at the same time not equal to the other two numbers of the same set.

Mr. Wolfschn also performed the F minor Fantasia (op. 49) of Chopin, perhaps the composer's greatest work; and his own Album Leaves, a series of six unpretending little studies, several of which possess great

Mr. Pollak's performances evidence study and a good school; but his voice and manner are not of the pleasantest character. His singing of the Mozart aria Addio, was much superior to his rendering of one of Schumann's beautiful songs, Fluthenreicher Ebro, which was not a success. Mr. Rosse, the accompanist, is evidently inexperienced in the business; he frequently seems to forget that the principal duty of the accompanist is not to drown out the singer, but to support him.

Mr. Wolfschu gives his next matinée on Friday, January 11.

THE SUNDAY TRANSCRIPT.—By a dieplayed advertisement in to-day's paper it will be seen that Mr. E. W. C. Greene announces that the Sunday Transcript will to-morrow be printed with new type, on a new press and with a number of new features of literary interest. The Transcript is one of the ablest and most fearless of our weekly cotemporaries, and its success has been almost unsurpassed in the field of journalism. We should be very sorry to be responsible for its political tone, but we can heartily commend its literary and critical ability, and its enterprise in securing all the news of the day. May the Transcript go on and prosper!

BEETHOVEN'S SEVENTH SYMPHONY WILL be performed this evening at Musical Fund Hall, being the first of the series of Symphony Concerts organized by Messrs, Jarvis and Schmitz. It has been thoroughly rehearsed by the excellent orchestra, and there can be no doubt that it will be very well done. There will be, in addition to the symphony, some excellent miscellaneous music, both vocal and instrumental.

## FROM NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Three more victims of the tenement house are in Thirty-first st, have died—Mrs. Webb, who jumped from the window, and two others, who were urned or suffocated.

The Phelan family, who perished in the

Division street fire, were buried yesterday. They were followed to the grave by two companies of the old Volunteer Fire Depart-

The Committee of the State Senate, ap-pointed to consider the various Broadway railroad projects, unanimously agreed yes-terday to report in favor of the underground plan, which contemplates the construction of a double track through a tunnel under Broadway, from the Battery to Park row, and of two branches from that point to the Harlem river, one running under Chatham at., the Bowery, and the Third avenue, and the ther under Hudson street, and the Eighth and Ninth ayenues.

The arrival of canal boats laden with grain, to be discharged at the Atlantic docks, Brooklyn, during the past week, has been in such unprecedentedly large numbers as to completely fill the water space of the ba-tin, although it has a capacity of forty acres, o the great danger of those boats near the entrance of the basin in case of storms, which may be expected at any time at this season of the year.

The trial of Michael J. Whelan, Peter Wart,

Michael McCoy and Michael Dougherty, charged with robbery in the first degree was finished yesterday in the General Sessions. When the jury came into court for further instructions, Recorder Hackett withdrew the case from further consideration by making the startling announcement that it was officially communicated to him that Mr. Wm. H. Bolton, one of the jurors, fiered to disagree for the sum of \$250. Mr. Bolton denied the allegation, whereupon tte Recorder informed him that the matter would be presented to the Grand Jury, and that he would have an opportunity to re-

fute the charge at the proper time.

An opinion was given yesterday in the Supreme Court Chambers, by Justice Ingraham, in the case of William R. Babcock, one of the parties alleged to have been im-plicated in the Lord Bond Robbery, and who recently made application, through counsel, for admission to bail, denying the motion and remanding the prisoner.

The internal revenue officers seized two

more distilleries yesterday, and it is esti-mated that not more than ten or twelve distilleries are now at work in this city. Various rumors were afloat yesterday respecting changes which are to be made in the nternar reven Congressional investigating committee has arrived in town, and will commence its labors on Monday next.

The Compton House, on Third avenue. corner of Twenty-fourth street, was the scene of an explosion yesterday, supposed to be of a barrel of gasoline in the lamp room, and a consequent fire. Eight persons were terribly burned, and three of them it is supposed will not recover. The firmes did not extend above the basement story, and

the damage will not amount to more than one thousand dollars.

The American Tract Society has made an appeal to its friends for a special subscription of \$100,0 0 to provide an adequate stock of books to be issued and reproduced perof books to be issued and reproduced per-jetually. The appeal has been favorably received and nearly \$40,000 have been sub-scribed, on condition that \$50,000 is raised by January 1, 1867. Thirteen individuals have subscribed \$500 each, twelve \$1,000 each, one \$2,000, one \$3,000 and one \$5,000. The sale of pews in the Rev. Mr. Chapia's clurch, in Fifth avenue, between Forty-fifth and Forty-sixth streets, was continued last evening. The highest price paid for a

last evening. The highest price paid for a seat over the premium as fixed upon by the trustees was \$200: \$56 was the next highest and so on down to par. No. 46 was knocked down to Mr. Horace Greeley, the price of which is \$1,200. About fifty pews were sold. Between one and two hundred persons were

The funeral of Mr. George H. Gilbert, late stage manager of the Broadway theatre, took place yesterday from his late residence 114 West Sixteenth street. The services were conducted by Rev. Mr. Merritt, of the Methodist church. Last evening a fire originated on the third floor of the premises, No. 111 Liberty street,

and rapidly spread through the upper portion of the building. Before the fire was extinguished the three upper floors were burned out, and the remainder of the building deluged with water. The basement, first, second, and third floors were occupied by Mackey & Bro., importers of fancy glass ware, crockery, earthen ware and articles of vertu. The stock was a very large one, and t at portion of it on the third floor was completely ruined. The loss by water on the first and second floors and basement is also very considerable. The actual loss will probably be about \$70,000. Probably insured, but in what companies could not be ascertained, owing to the absence of the occupants.

The fourth and fifth floors were occupied by Henry H. Heimendinger, wholesale dealer in boots and shoes. His stock is almost completely destroyed. Loss about \$20,000. Probably issured. The building is damaged to the extent of \$8,000. Insured. Lengths of hose were taken through the building No. 33 Courtlandt street, in order to reach the fire from the rear, and in so doing the stock on some of the floors was damaged by water. The first floor is occupied by Lyon & Bro; dealer in Yankee notions; loss about \$200; insured. The second floor is occupied by P. Goldmark, manufacturer of percussion caps; loss about \$300; insured. The third floor is occupied by O. A. Wilcox, manufacturer of floor and sauce sieves; loss

about \$200; insured. A monster petition, fifty-two feet in length, containing the names of nearly every prominent citizen of New Mexico, has been forwarded to the authorities at Washington, praying for an increase of the military force in that Territory as absolutely necessary to protect the lives and property of the inhabi-tants against the Indians, who are reported to be plundering and murdering almost with

THE bill extending the time fixed by the present Stay law for the collection of debts in Virginia, which was defeated in the House of Delegates on Wednesday, was reconsidered and passed on Friday by a vote of 45 to 37. The extension of time is from January, 1867, to August of the same year.

National Progress Among the most noticeable results of the late rebellion, is: the now universal admission of the fact that this country ranks as one of the most formidable belligerent. powers of the earth. Yet, while our mar-ial achievements have been so truly wonderful, they have in no way outstripped our unexampled progress in science and the useful arts, or in the creation and development of either of the elements of a great and constantly increasing material pros-perity. The ruling characteristics of our people are patient industry, self-reliance, and ready as well as fertile inventive genius n the use of practical resources, and to

those features must our national greatness

be mainly attributed. — Our purpose at the present time, is to alour purpose at the present title, is to all title more particularly to our extraordinary strides in manufactures, in which, although we may be said to have had only a little over half a century's experience, we have in many instances fairly surpassed all competitors. As its construction calls for the highest conditions of mental genius, as nighest qualifications of mental genius, as well as mechanical skill, and as it was conceived abroad, but perfected here at home, we have concluded to adopt the Pianoforte, one of the most pleasurable companions of life, as our theme on this occasion. It is truly remarkable that while poetry, architecture, sculpture, and probably painting attained their highest state of perfection among the ancients, it has been reserved for the moderns to achieve excellence in music; and this fact is undoubtedly owing to the superior mechani-cal skill of the present age. Thus the music of the old composers was but a fair example of the instruments for which it was written; but as new instruments were invented and but as new instruments were invented and old ones improved, music was elevated to the level of its sister arts. The Pianoforte of that time, though but a feeble illustration of the instrument of the present day, was one of the principal aids in effecting this result. It was an improvement on the old instruments known as Harpsicord Spinet, etc., and was first conceived in Italy, about a century and a half ago.

We have no positive evidence as to when the manufacture was first introduced in

the manufacture was first introduced in America; but we find from authentic re-cords, that: "On the 12th of February, 1800, tent was granted to John J. Hawkins of Philadelphia, for an improvement in Pianofortes, which he manufactured and rold at fifteen South Second st." It seems, however, that this claimed improvement must have been of little or no value, for hen Jonas Chickering, the General Grant f Pianoforte construction, commence t usiness in Boston, in 1823, nearly all of the instruments sold in this country vere imported from Europe. Mr. Chicker-ing was a man of superior mechanical skill and scientific powers, of exquisite taste, an undaunted will, and a full confi-Gence in his "mission." He well knew that our national resources were equal to those fany country on earth, and his after life cave unqualified demonstration of this fact. He commenced the manufacture of the pianoforte with confidence in his ability to improve it, and many of his inventions, particularly the iron frame and circular cale, have been universally adopted. His hole mind was absorbed in a perfect planof rte, and up to the day of his demise, which recurred in 1853, he left no available means cesideratum. At the time of his decase, Mr. Chickering, in connection with his sons, who had already become his business associates, was engaged in recting the superb edifice, fronting on remont street. Boston, which is over one hird larger than any other building world used for the exclusive manufacture of the pianoforte. His children, who inherited their father's great business qualifications, and were educated expressly for the purpose, continued the work so auspiciously inaugurated, and now, as the establishment is entering the forty-fourth year of its existence. We find the whole musical world oming forward to do homage to its incor parable products. Not only the musical professors and experts of this and foreign countries worship at the shrine of Chickerings' pianofortes, but the most emident manufacturers of Europe, the Broad-woods, the collards, and others, pronounce them unsurpassed and unsurpas-

we could readily fill a dozen columns with the recommendations of such great masters as Thalberg, Plaidy, Poznanski, Wehli, Pychomski, Reinecke, Gottschalk, Von Arnold, Satter, Bassini, Musio, Jael, De Meyer, Benedict, Strakosch, Napoleon, Goldbeck, Hoffman, Burke, Sanderson, Warren etc. but our space compels up to Warren, etc., but our space compels us to make brief extracts from only two or three of them. Gottschalk says: "Harmonious of them. Gottschalk says: "Harmonious roundness of tone, force in the bass notes, limpidity in the upper notes, equality throughout all the registers, singing quality in the middle tones, and above all an astonishing prolongation of sound, without its being confused. The upper notes are markable for a clearness and purity, which I markable for a clearness and purry, which ido not find in any other instrument, while the bass is distinguished for power without harshness, and for a magnificent sonority." Wehli says: "I have never known so noble a tone; it yields every expression needed in music; and its quality is capable of change to meet every sentiment. In depth, volume, and the property of the stream to be sent to all demands. and power of tone it is equal to all demands and however it is forced, it loses none of its original purity of tone and its softest whis-pers can be heard in the remotest corners of the largest balls, even when crowded. I believe that in every particular your Pianos are, for the reasons here given, superior to any I have ever seen in this country or in Europe. Poznanski says: "The superiority of your grand piwnos over all others I have seen and thoroughly tested, render my decision as easy in the matter as prompt. I have reognized in your extraordinary excellent usruments all these qualities of which Thalberg formerly spoke to me. Your rand pianos well sustain the claim of your instruments to superiority over all others."

Music says: "I consider your planes the tinest I ever played on." Satter says: "For clume and fine quality of tone, with nicety articulation, the Chickering planes are unequaled." unequaled."
While the musical qualifications of Chick-

ering & Sons' pianos are so jealously guarded, the mechanical construction is ratched and perfected with equal excellence After the wood remains on the premises for wo or three years, in order to acquire a uitable seasoning, each case is several months in the course of construction, and in their most minute details, every instrument must come up to the highest standard of excellence before it can be received in he warerooms. In regard to the durability of Chickering's pianos we can only say, ask your neighbor; for of the forty thouand they have already made and sold, you are sure to find one in your vicinity. We can vouch that our Chickering has been in constant use nearly eighteen years, and we would not exchange it for a new one of any other maker extant. In regard to durability, Gottschalk says: "As a proof of the rare solidity of their construction, I may remark, that in a period of 1,100 concerts, I bave never broken a string in public, although my planes, from constant change of locality, are exposed to all the wear of transportation, and often to inclemency of the weather." In truth, the instruments are made to wear. Every part, inside and out, is honestly, faithfully, and thoroughly completed, so it will readily bear the most minute inspection.

oute inspection.

The Chickering & Sons Planes have been shibited at all the prominent industrial exribitions throughout the country. They received the prize medal at the World's Fair in London, and up to the present time have been awarded sixty five first prize medals. The Chickering planes embrace all the usual modifications of Grand, Square and Upright—the latter a specialty which is

necoming exceedingly popular, owing to the small space it occupies. The firm have just finished about one dozen examples, just inished about one dozen examples, which are to be placed in the Grand Industrial Exhibition in Paris, which opens to the public early next Spring. Our countrymen can depend upon these products fully sustaining the enviable reputation of the Chickering planofortes.

The establishment of the Chickerings is a provide Newtone one owned and con-

purely a National one, owned and con-ducted by Americans, with American capi-tal, upon upright American principles. The proprietors are thorough practical men, who invent and draw their own scales, design exteriors, and, in short, plan the instruments from beginning to end. Their workmen are nearly all to the "manor born," many of them, as boys and men, having spent the major portion of their existence in the employment of the house. The instruments, even to cutting the veneers, and making the castings are wholly and solely made on the premises. In fact, American genius directs, American skill manipulates, American materials are consumed, and throughout the products are eminently American, and really aid in giving an impetus to National aggrandizement.—N. Y.

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