The Press.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1858.

First Page.—Street Travel, at Home and Abroad; Importance from Venezuela; Horses; General News.

The News.

The New York *Tribune* classifies the members of the next Congress thus: Already elected—Buchanan, 56; anti-Buchanan, 111; remarking that, "in addition to the (2) nominal Americans from Mississippi, with the Buchanan men, as also Messrs. Schwartz and Montgomery of Pennsylvania; Messrs. Hickman of Pennsylvania, Haskin and Clark of New York; Messrs. G. Davis of Indiana; Adrian and Riggs of New Jersey, with the Opposition. The five Douglas Democrats just elected from Illinois we have not ventured to class at all. The two members elect from California are undoubtedly anti-Buchanan, but two others are likely to be elected next year, who will pretty surely be Buchanan men, and will probably have the regular certificate. In that case, the two just chosen cannot take their seats.

In these States, in 1856, the Opposition had a majority of twenty, and they now have a majority of seventy-five. In the States yet to elect, nineteen anti-Buchanan and sixty-five Buchanan men were elected in 1856.

The *Minnesotian*, of October 29, says the Republicans have carried the House and lost the Senate in that State; but that, on joint ballot, they will have a majority of seventeen.

Later news from Oregon and California has been received by the overland mail, at St. Louis. In Oregon, it was rumored that two noted hostile Indian chiefs had been captured and shot. The forces now in Oregon and Washington Territories are deemed sufficient to keep the Indians in subjection without additional aid. It is said that a filibustering expedition against Sonora is in contemplation.

The Indians, in Utah, having committed outrages upon Mrs. Marker and daughter, Governor Cumming demanded the surrender of the culprits from their tribe, which was refused until a detachment of United States troops obtained their surrender. One of the Indians was accidentally killed, and it is feared this circumstance may cause serious disturbances.

The Supreme Court have filed with the Prothonotary at Pittsburgh an opinion in favor of the plaintiff, in the case of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad *vs.* Cooper; thus deciding that the act of Assembly for the sale of the canals is constitutional. This is the famous case in which the Attorney General of the United States, Judge Black, made a written argument for the defendant, which the court declared to be in the highest degree disrespectful. The Judge began his labors by losing his temper, and has ended by losing his case.

The weekly statement of the Philadelphia banks, made up to yesterday afternoon, presents the following aggregates: Loans, $418,561; specie, $7,637,257; deposits, $17,472,897; circulation, $2,687,878. This is a large increase over the previous week in loans, and also an increase in specie, deposits, and circulation.

The New York bank statement for the last week shows an increase of $716,000 in loans, and a decrease of $370,500 in specie.

Staunton, the great English chess player, has at length peremptorily declined to play the match which had been in contemplation between Morphy and himself, on the ground that his pressing engagements and ill health prevent him from meeting the victorious young American.

Cairo and Cropps, the two Baltimore desperadoes who are charged with the murder of Police Officer Rigdon, were arraigned yesterday morning, and will shortly be tried in the Baltimore County Court.

The report of a billiard match between Phelan, of New York, and John Scorelter, of Detroit, is pronounced by Mr. Bird, of this city, who is good authority on such subjects, to be unfounded.

Capt Dobson, late master of the brig Isle de Cuba, was arrested at New Bedford on Monday, on the charge of having been engaged in the slave trade.

The Triumph of the Right.

It is a curious fact, and a remarkable evidence of the popular regard for the anti-Lecompton Democrats who bravely stood up for the right during the last session of Congress, that all of them who were candidates this fall have been re-elected, and they all were candidates except CHAPMAN, of the Bucks district, in this State, who declined running, (but who could undoubtedly have also been returned if he had consented to be a candidate,) and one or two of the members from Illinois. These men had won the public regard and approval, and it mattered not under what particular system of partisan organization they were presented, the people nobly sustained them. Thus DOUGLAS, HARRIS, and MORRIS, of Illinois, ran as the regular Democratic candidates against a fierce and relentless opposition from the Republican leaders and the Administration. MONTGOMERY, of this State, was also what is termed a regular Democratic nominee, with no regular Republican candidate in the whole district to contend with, but his antagonist was a candidate nominated by a portion of the Republican party, and pretty generally supported by the Dallas of his district. HICKMAN ran against two candidates, one of whom claimed to be a regular" Republican, and the other the regular Democratic nominee. Neither, HASKIN or CLARKE of New York, DAVIS of Indiana, or ADRIAN of New Jersey, received a "regular" Democratic nomination, but they were sustained by a number of Democrats, and by nearly all the Republicans and the Americans of their respective districts. The people felt that these men had acted nobly and justly, and the mere fetters of partisan organizations could not control their honest judgment and their noble impulses. The overthrow of nearly all the Northern Lecompton votes showed that the people know how to punish their betrayers, and the re-election of the anti-Lecompton members shows that they are equally determined to reward their faithful Representatives. Altogether, the result is one of the most striking proofs of the capacity of the people for self-government, and of their determination to adhere to the right, despite the frowns of Administrations or the despotism of party dictators, that have ever been given. The people are mighty, after all, and know how to use their power.

Washington Gossip.

"I learn that there has been a most unpleasant "flare up" between President Buchanan and his new Minister to Austria, the Hon. J. G. Jones. It appears that the President was for hurrying Mr. Jones off immediately to his new field of labor, while the latter insisted that his confirmation by his nomination was confirmed by the United States Senate. A rumor was started that Senator Douglas would make war upon this nomination, and it so alarmed the new recipient of Executive favor, that he was unwilling to go as General Scott did, "learning a fire in the rear." The intimate friends of Judge Douglas, residing in this city, were consulted, and they gave Mr. Jones an assurance that the Judge would wage no war upon any proper appointment of Mr. Buchanan, but that he would resist the confirmation of some of the disreputable appointments in Illinois. It is now understood that he will leave it six weeks whether his nomination be then acted on or not, provided it be not previously rejected.—*Washington correspondent of the New York Times.*

The precedent of a foreign minister not going abroad till he is confirmed was insisted upon by Mr. BUCHANAN himself, when, in 1853, he was appointed American Minister at the Court of St. James by President PIERCE. He refused to stir a step till he was confirmed. The Senate had adjourned, and an extra session had to be convened to take up and dispose of the case. Why should not the illustrious Jenny have the benefit of the same example? Why should he be sent to the Old World, to taste of its pleasures, only, in all human probability, to be torn away from them by some rude hand?

While upon this point of the Austrian mission, let us refer to the following, from a correspondent:

In March, 1844, the lamented Henry A. Muhlenberg, of Berks county, was nominated as the Democratic candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania. His sudden demise, a few months afterwards, prevented the people from electing him to the Gubernatorial chair.

On the 9th of May, 1844, while Mr. Muhlenberg was yet alive, and a candidate, President Buchanan, then United States Senator, in a letter written at Washington city, and addressed to Wm. Nichols, Esq., of Lewisberry, York county, held the following language:

"Respected by all, Mr. Muhlenberg continued ably and faithfully to represent his district in Congress until February, 1835, when he was appointed our first Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Austria. *A statesman of German descent, and a thorough German scholar, was thus* MOST APPROPRIATELY selected to open our diplomatic relations with the Austrian Empire.

This reminiscence is suggestive, and the question arises, whether the claims of the ex-Reverend John G. Jones, either as a statesman of German descent or a thorough German scholar, were such as to make his selection a "most appropriate" one for the mission confided to Mr. Muhlenberg, or qualify him to carry out with honor, "our diplomatic relations with the Austrian Empire?" Who can answer?

REJOICING.—The late great victory of the friends of Kossuth, sovereignty was celebrated yesterday at the city by the firing of two hundred guns—the heavy rain on Saturday preventing the celebration coming off on that day, as originally intended.

The Press, on both Sides of the Water.

The advantages which are realized, in this country, from an untaxed, unfettered press, are scarcely appreciated as they ought to be. There is an old toast, which used to be popular in England, at public dinners, which partly will show what we mean: "The liberty of the Press: like the air of heaven, if we have it not we die." If taxes were placed upon the paper on which books and newspapers were printed; if a Government censor were to look over every journal before it was issued to the public, literally cutting out articles which he did not like; if newspaper editors were liable to receive official notification that upon some subjects they must not write; if every article had to be signed by the writer, under penalty of having the newspaper wholly suppressed; if, before a man could publish a newspaper, he should be compelled to deposit a very large sum of money in the Public Treasury, out of which fines levied upon him by the Government should be deducted, without trial and without appeal; if the newspaper publisher were subject to the necessity of giving heavy bonds, by himself and responsible sureties, against libels on the State or upon Religion; if he were liable to receive cautions or warnings from the Government, three such being followed by the total suppression of his publication, if the Government pleased; if, besides paying a tax upon paper, he was to be heavily mulcted for each unstamped copy which he issued; if all his "exchanges" were to be seized, at the post office, without reason assigned; if he were prohibited from selling any copies of his paper in the streets, in hotels and houses, in railway-cars, at railway-stations, or any where, except at his office; if the post office retarded the transmission of his papers, or even declined mailing them at all; if, in fact, every impediment to the free publication of intelligence, or the free expression of thought, were stringently prescribed, th en the American journalist, and the American newspaper reader, would be in arms against a system which has been carried out, in Europe, in the most oppressive manner; nay, if even *one* of these restrictions were attempted to be enforced. We gratefully thank God, that among the many blessings which He has been graciously pleased to shower upon this happy land, the full liberty of printing men's free thoughts is included.

More or less, every particular restriction which we have here enumerated is laid upon the press in Europe. Practically, there is more freedom of the press in England than in any other country, except this. Yet, even there, a newspaper cannot be published without the proprietor's giving bonds to the Government, by himself and two solvent householders, against the publication of seditious and blasphemous libels. It is very true that, of late years, owing to the good management of the newspapers and the good sense of the Government, such prosecutions have been excessively rare.

Until within the last three years, in addition, there was two cents payable as stamp-tax upon each separate copy of every British newspaper, and thirty-six cents upon every advertisement. Previous to 1836 the stamp upon each journal, paid in advance, was eight cents, and the advertisement duty was eighty-four cents in every case. Even now, amid an immense amount of palaver about the advantages of communicating knowledge to the masses, the British Government *turns a deaf ear to all solicitations for a repeal* of the duty upon paper. It amounts to three cents per pound, indiscriminately levied upon all descriptions of paper, the ordinary wrap around a washerwoman's pound of sugar paying exactly the same as the finest laid paper upon which a peeress writes notes of invitation, with a crow-quill pen.

At the recent Liverpool meeting of the British National Association for the Promotion of Social Science, this paper-duty question was fully discussed, and this last of the taxes upon knowledge was almost unanimously condemned. The only person who stood up for its continuance was Mr. H. G. BOHN, who has published more good cheap books during the last fourteen years than any other man in England. He contended that the removal of the duty would be a great loss to the Government, no benefit to the trade, and none whatever to the reading community, because it would lead to competition, which would increase rather than diminish the value of good paper, and would not lessen the price of paper or publications. On the other hand, Mr. JOHN CASSELL, a publisher of very cheap periodicals of the highest class, said that "the addition of 5 per cent. to the duty upon paper some years back stopped one hundred mills, and the increase had to be paid out of profits, for it could not be added to the price of paper; and it made to him a difference of £400 per annum. He had been engaged in the education of the working classes, and the *Educator*, devoted to lessons, circulated 200,000 in weekly numbers and monthly parts, the taxation upon which was £7,000 to £8,000 a year; and if he had that money to apply to educational purposes he could indeed command the best productions of the best minds for the instruction and elevation of the people. *There being no tax in America, the people were being educated there.* The Americans came over here and could afford to buy up *material, and they could go to the continental* markets and outbid the English manufacturers, as *the Americans consumed three times as much as the English did.* Remove these imposts and the consumption would in a short time be double."

Finally, with only one dissentient voice, the Association adopted a resolution, "That the Legislative restrictions affecting the manufacture of and trade in paper are injurious to the progress of education, and ought to be abolished." The present Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. DISRAELI) is himself a man of letters, and is pledged to consider this question, with a view, if possible, to the abolition of the duty upon paper. It is necessarily a matter of revenue with him, to a great extent, being a lucrative tax, and his difficulty will be how to substitute another less oppressive source of income for it. As Lord DERBY is himself a man of literary tastes, and as Sir EDWARD BULWER LYTTON, Lord STANLEY, Lord JOHN MANNERS, and the Earl of MALMESBURY, (all of them Cabinet Ministers,) are authors also, we dare say the paper-duty will fall. Whatever Ministry repeals it will indeed be public benefactors.

For, emphatic in their simple truth are Mr. CASSELL's plain remarks, "There being no tax upon paper in America, the people were being better educated there" than in England. Mr. CASSELL visited this country a few years ago, and speaks, therefore, from personal knowledge. What a credit it is to us that a foreigner makes this admission, and that its truth cannot be impugned! The advantage which Scotland has always had over England, during the last century and a half, is that education there is so cheap and good that every Scotchman is sufficiently instructed to fit him for any rank in life, even the highest, to which he may rise. But the United States have a decided advantage, in this respect, over Scotland, and every other country in the world. Education *is* within reach of every child, however humble its station; and hence the intellectual status of our country.

The Americans, Mr. CASSELL admitted, consume three times the quantity of paper that the English do. Recollecting that the population of the two countries is much the same, here is great cause for legitimate triumph. We have more newspapers, and we publish more books than any other country. And why? Is it not because Education is more generally diffused? because literature is cheaper? because there are no restrictions upon publication? because taxes upon knowledge are unknown here, and would not be submitted to?

William A. Stokes.

We publish to-day extracts from the speech recently delivered by this gentleman in Westmoreland county, on *the horse*, which will be appreciated as an original and eloquent tribute to the noblest of animals. Recently we printed General Stokes's address at the fair of the State Agricultural Society, in Pittsburgh, abounding in strong sense, but with rare felicity of compact argument. Our readers will recollect his speeches on the Lecompton question, reported for this paper; overwhelming with irresistible logic, profound discussions of the philosophy of Government, and clear expositions of the true application of the Constitution. General Stokes's learning as a lawyer, and his eloquence as an advocate, are well known throughout the West, and he has, in numerous productions, exhibited extensive literary attainments, and the power of an accomplished scholar and elegant writer.

DEATH OF A MISSIONARY.—The Rev. Frederick Crowe, a well-known missionary, died at the Westchester House, in New York, on Sunday morning last.

"Exasperation."

The most refreshing instance of consistency on the part of an Administration organ is the following extract from the Chicago (Illinois) *Herald*, a daily Administration paper conducted under the auspices of LEIB, PINE, and other worthies, well known in this section. It appeared the day after the election:

"The fact having become known on the eve of the election, that *the entire Catholic vote of this city*, notwithstanding professions to the contrary, *would be thrown for Douglas*, the National Democrats became exasperated at such *wholesale treachery*, and despite all the efforts that could be made to prevent it, they voted *en masse for the Republican candidates*, as the most effectual way of defeating Douglas. Although by voting thus, they, beyond question, prevented the election of two of the Douglas candidates for the Legislature, we do not approve of their course. *We go for a strict adherence to principle and to party organization*, whatever may be the present results, fully believing that such a course will in all cases insure ultimate success."

So the "Catholic vote went for DOUGLAS." What extraordinary audacity! These daring Catholics must certainly be turned out of the party for such "wholesale treachery."

And then the superfine Democrats "voted for the Republican candidates as the most effectual way of defeating DOUGLAS." But this was, doubtless, according to orders from headquarters. The cry at Washington was, and is, anybody but DOUGLAS.

But you go for "a strict adherence to principle and to party organization." As Cassio said, "This is a more exquisite song than the other."

What a rare set of Democrats these Administration Democrats are! Against DOUGLAS, against the organization, against the platform, and against the party.

Senator Hammond's Speech.

The following extracts are taken from the recent speech of Senator HAMMOND, of South Carolina, at Barnwell:

"But this bill, (Kansas-Nebraska bill) with these new features, neither of them of any practical importance, magnified and exaggerated by orators and newspapers into a great Southern victory, led the South into *the delusion that Kansas might be made a slave State, and induced it to join in a false and useless issue*, which has kept the whole country in turmoil for the last four years, and gave fresh life and vigor to the Abolition party.

"*Through the most disgusting, as well as tragic scenes of force and fraud*, the Territory of Kansas at last came before Congress for admission as a State with what is known as the Lecompton Constitution, embodying slavery among its provisions. But at the same time the Convention, by an ordinance, demanded of the United States some twenty-three millions of acres of land, instead of the four millions usually allowed to new States containing public lands. *It was almost certain that a majority of the people of Kansas were opposed to this Constitution*, but would not vote on it, and this additional nineteen millions, which, if allowed, would probably have kept them again from the recent polls, was what the South was expected to pay for that worthless slavery clause, which would have been annulled as soon as Kansas was admitted.

"*I confess my opinion was that the South herself should kick that Constitution out of Congress.* But the South thought otherwise.

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"The only principle involved in this whole Kansas affair—if an affair so rotten from beginning to end can have a principle at all—was this: *Would Congress admit a slave State into the Union?* The Senate said yes. The House, by adopting the Crittenden substitute, said, yes, if we are assured that a majority of the people of the State are in favor of it. For this substitute all the opposition voted in both houses, so that every member of Congress of all parties, first and last, committed themselves to the principle and policy that a State should be admitted into the Union, with or without slavery, according to the will of its own people—thus re-enacting one feature of the Kansas and Nebraska bill. *I should myself have been willing to rest there, and let Kansas rest also. Whatever there was of principle involved in the matter was secured by the votes already given.* The English bill, however, came up in due course, and I voted for it cheerfully, believing that it was better calculated than any that had been offered to close up this miserable business which has furnished so much the most disgraceful chapter, so far, in our history."

These extracts are significant, and show that in the South, as well as in the North, the real merits of the Kansas controversy are beginning to be clearly understood and commented upon. The theory which the Northern Democracy have long maintained, that the idea of making Kansas a slave State was a delusion, is freely confessed, as well as the "disgusting as well as tragic scenes of force and fraud" by which a "false and useless issue" has been kept up, chiefly by the aid and influence of a faithless Administration. Senator HAMMOND tells his constituents that he thought with DOUGLAS, WALKER, WISE, and the anti-Lecompton Democracy, that the Lecompton Constitution should have been "kicked out of Congress." And he acknowledges that he would have been willing to let the whole question rest upon the basis of the Crittenden-Montgomery bill, which received the support of every anti-Lecompton member of the last Congress. Thus has a leading Southern statesman, *in the very hot-bed of nullification*, frankly, fully, and freely confessed the justice and wisdom of the anti-Lecompton policy on this question.

Mr. Staunton Shows the White Feather!

The *London Illustrated News*, received by steamer *America*, contains the reply of Mr. Staunton to the letter of Mr. Morphy, urging him to fix a time for the chess contest between them. It is as follows:

LONDON, Saturday, Oct. 9, 1858.

SIR: In reply to your letter, I beg to observe that you must be perfectly conscious that the difficulty in the way of my engaging in a chess match is one over which I have no control. You were distinctly apprised, in answer to the extraordinary proposal of your friends, that I should leave my home, family, and avocations, to proceed to New Orleans for the purpose of playing chess with you, "if that a long and arduous contest, when in London, would be an undertaking too formidable for me to embark in, without ample opportunity for *the recovery of my old strength in play, together* with such arrangements as would prevent the sacrifice of my professional engagements." Upon your unexpected arrival here, the same thing was repeated to you, and my acceptance of your challenge was entirely conditional on my being able to gain time for practice.

The experience, however, of some weeks, during which I have labored unceasingly, to the serious injury of my health, shows that not only is it impracticable for me to say that I will that purpose, but that by no means short of giving up the great work on which I am engaged, subjecting the publishers to the loss of thousands, and myself to an action for breach of contract, could I obtain time even for the match itself. Such a sacrifice is, of course, out of all question. A match at chess or cricket may be good thing in its way, but none but a madman would for either forfeit his engagements and imperil his professional reputation. Under these circumstances, I waited only the termination of your late struggle to explain that, fettered as I am at this moment, it is impossible for me to undertake any enterprise which would have the effect of withdrawing me from duties I am pledged to fulfil.

The result is not, perhaps, what either you or I desired, as it will occasion disappointment to many; but it is unavoidable, and the less to be regretted, since a contest wherein one of the combatants must fight under disadvantages so manifest as those I should have to contend against, after many years' retirement from practical chess, with my attention absorbed and brain overtaxed by more important pursuits, could never be accounted a fair trial of skill. I have the honor to be,

Yours, &c.

H. STAUNTON.

PAUL MORPHY, Esq.

P. S.—I may add that, although denied the satisfaction of a set encounter with you at this period, I shall have much pleasure, if you will again become my guest, in playing you a few games *sans façon.*

Investments in Real Estate.

We alluded yesterday to some of the causes which were beginning to enhance the value of real estate and to increase the disposition of capitalists to invest in it, in Philadelphia. A similar state of things seems to exist in New York. A late number of the *New York Times* says:

THE REVIVAL IN REAL ESTATE.—There are unmistakable signs that a new speculation in real estate is brewing, which will probably send up the prices of real estate to a much higher point than they have reached in many years, if not higher than they have ever risen. There is everything to discourage capitalists from investing in real estate on this island, in the enormous taxes which are yearly levied on property of all kinds, in the fraudulent assessments for opening streets, the wretched mismanagement of the city government, and the uncertainty as to the character which a street or avenue may assume in the future. Yet, with all these disadvantages, there are *the certainties of a rapidly-extending population*, contracted city limits, and the splendid realities of magnificent fortunes made by purchasers of real estate during the past thirty years. Lots which sold at $200 to $300 ten years ago, are now selling at $5,000; and lots which could have been purchased at $2,000 would now be regarded as cheap at $20,000. What has been once may be again, and the same rush to get hold of a piece of real estate for speculative purposes, which has been witnessed here at intervals during the past twenty years, will doubtless be witnessed again. The signs are indicative of our being on the verge of another surge, and there are thousands of adventurers eagerly waiting for an opportunity to launch their barks on the sea of speculation, that they may float on to fortune at the first turn of the tide. An old gentleman, who had become a millionaire by the accidental purchase of a cabbage garden, which happened to become a fashionable part of the city, gave it as his opinion that the safest and surest way of becoming rich in New York was "to get hold of a snug piece of property and keep it." The rule is a very excellent one; and there can be no doubt that any one who follows it will be sure of becoming a millionaire if the piece of property *he gets hold of is large enough and he holds it long* enough.

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A correspondent sends us an exceedingly glowing account of the present prospect of real estate speculation, and insists that "at no time during the past seventy years have there been so many elements at work calculated to produce an increase rise in real estate." It may be so, but the only elements that can cause a rise of real estate on this island are an increase of population, an efficient and economical city government, and the general revival of trade in all the departments of business. Every intelligent capitalist is competent to decide for himself what the chances of these elements working together are, and will act accordingly.

Public Entertainments.

WALNUT-STREET THEATRE.—Notwithstanding the attractions elsewhere,—at the Academy of Music, Arch-street Theatre, National Circus, Musical Fund Hall, Concert Hall, and other places—Mrs. Bowers had a crowded house last night, to witness the revival of "Caius Marius," a tragedy, written for Mr. Forrest by the late R. P. Smith, and re-produced now by Mr. F.'s permission. The dramatist has produced a good acting play, in which while there are some striking passages, powerful or poetic, there are none which can be condemned as commonplace. Fair, level writing most of it is. Into five acts Mr. Smith condensed the history of fourteen years—thereby not evincing any regard for "the Unities." The first act opens with the triumphant return of Marius from the defeat of Jugurtha in Africa, followed by his own election for the sixth time, to the Consulate. This was 100 years B. C. The death of Marius, 86 B. C., ends the drama.

The leading characters are *Marius*, by Mr. Conway; *Sylla*, by Mr. McDonough; *Granius*, by Mr. Keach; *Sulpicius*, by Mr. Perry; *Metellus*, by Mr. Richings; *Metella*, by Mrs. Bowers, and *Martha*, by Mrs. Conway. The acting was good, all through, as might be expected from such excellent performers.

Mr. Smith has so closely followed the career of *Marius* that we need not give the plot, further than to say that soon after his re-election as Consul, he is banished from Rome, by the power of Sylla, his rival; that, at Minturnæ, the Cimbrian slave ordered to slay him drops his sword, awed by his looks, and the people permit him to embark for Africa; that he is represented sitting amid the ruins of Carthage, whence he starts for Rome, on the invitation of Cinna; that, re-entering Rome, he was elected Consul for the seventh time, and dies of poison, (he actually had a natural death at the age of 80,) to prevent his falling into the hands of Sylla.

In this play there are several fine situations The finest was Marius giving shelter to Sylla, when pursued by a crowd who sought his life—the scene where the Cimbrian, awed by his look, drops his weapon at the feet of Marius, which, presently after, proves a weapon of defence in the hands of Marius against Sylla—the scene amid the ruins of Carthage, (it formed the finale to act IV, and caused Mr. Conway to be specially called out by the audience,) and two or three parts of the last act. This, by the way, is the weakest act of the play. The banquet scene was within a hair's-breadth of being absurd.

Mr. Conway, who was rather in the *ore rotundo* line in the first act—and, all through, his subdued acting was the best—played the part of *Marius* as a scholar would who had studied the history of the time. Mr. McDonough never played more entirely to our satisfaction than in the part of *Sylla*. Mr. Keach, as *Granius*, had very little more to do than make love (a pleasant duty where such a pretty woman "was to the fore") to Mrs. Bowers, as *Metella*. She had very little to do, but was beautifully attired, played charmingly, and made a great point in the act where she turned round on *Marius*, after he had refused mercy to her father, *Metellus*, an aged Senator, personated very cleverly by Mr. Richings. Mrs. Conway, as a fair Sorvian, named *Martha*—whose relation to *Marius* is not clearly defined—filled a *rôle* which reminded us of Ionian Myrrha, in "Sardanapalus." Lastly, Mr. Perry had to represent a blunt, rough, brave, cynical old soldier, named *Sulpicius*, and played the part very well—where occasion required it, with a bruque humor which was amusing. Some anomalies we noticed. Cinna spoke of "the pomp" of a Roman embassy to *Marius*, consisting of one spokesman and five supernumeraries; how the word Marius was to be pronounced seemed doubtful, some calling it *Marry-us*, while others Anglefied it into *May-rius*; lastly, though there was no dramatic necessity for Mr. Conway's looking in advanced years, he surely might have made up a little older than he did. As it was, Conway and Keach, father and son, looked much about the same age.

The play had a decided success. At its close Mr. and Mrs. Conway complied with a call of the house, and appeared to receive the bouquet-mingled applause of the audience. Some enthusiastic young friends of Mr. Perry's raised a cry, loud and long, for that gentleman, until Mr. Richings appeared, and stated that he had changed his dress and left the theatre. One of the juvenile admirers in question immediately asked Mr. Richings, "Why is not H. A. Perry here to tell us *that* himself?"

NATIONAL CIRCUS, WALNUT STREET.—This house, which has been handsomely refitted, was opened last night to a very large audience. The equestrian performances, on the whole, were very good. Mr. Mogilton (that is the name, we believe,) was unable to give his acrobat feats, owing to an accident. Dr. Thayer, the conversationalist of this establishment, seems to be a gentleman of wit and humor, devoid of coarseness. He did not say much, but his jokes had the merit of not being hackneyed. They showed that brains are *there* (Thayer)! N. B.—He did not make so bad a pun as *that*. The prices at the Circus are on the decimal plan. The undertaking will succeed.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—Well, Madame Colson appeared last night, in the character of *Marie*, in "La Figlia del Reggimento." In speaking of the performance, we might almost say that Madame *Colson's singing was the opera. Barili*, the baritono, who made a *début* as the Sergeant, was not much minded, though he sang and acted well. Brignoli ought to have taken the tenor part, but in his absence it was attempted by Signor Labocetta, who may claim the doubtful merit of having acquitted himself most indifferently. One good *thing he did—under the circumstances: he out*-*out*-*alias* skipped—as much of the part as was practicable.

Madame Colson is a very good *Marie*, but scarcely the very best that we have seen and heard. Her first solo, "Apparva alla luce," won the favor of as large an audience as we recollect to have seen for the last season or two in the house. She was greatly applauded, and called out to receive the compliments of the auditors The farewell towards the close of Act I, ("Convien partir!") was sang with exquisite skill, fine voice, and pathotic effect. Several ladies were audibly sobbing when it closed. She was called out, and the stockholders all stood up in attestation of their admiration.

In act II Madame Colson was attired with great taste and richness. Nothing could well surpass the enthusiasm with which her singing lesson ("Sorgeva il di del bosco") was received. This piece was encored. Her sing*ing was capital, but her fine acting fairly* throw the audience into convulsions of laughter. The sweet, regretful song, "La Ricchezza," was also beautifully sung. The audience were quite carried away by it. The finale, given by Madame Colson, was a charming waltz, composed by Maretzek, we think, for Madame Laborde. The repetition of "*La Figlia*," with *something* like a tenor, would be well received, we are sure, so great was the *estro* which last night's performance caused. Among the audience, we noticed Miss Harriet Lane, niece to President Buchanan.

The first opera-matinée of the season will take place this afternoon, commencing at half after two o'clock. Uniform price of admission to all parts of the house, 50 cents. Madame de Wilhorst, Signor Amodio and Signor Brignoli will sustain the principal characters in "Lucia di Lammermoor." To-morrow evening, "Il Trovatore," with the first appearance of Signora Parodi and Madame Strakosch. It will be seen, by the announcement on the next page, that there are new regulations as to the prices of admission. By the way, whoever draws up the advertisement makes Mr. Strakosch actually play the critic upon his audience, when he says that they "have *very properly* endorsed the opinions of Paris" as to Madame de Wilhorst's singing. What were these *opinions?* Would it have been *improperly* done to entertain different ones?

Park Benjamin's lecture, on "The Ridiculous in Life," delivered at the Musical Fund Hall, last night, was well attended.

Father Kemp's original Old Folks' Concert Troupe, consisting of 37 performers in antique *costume*, last night gave the first of seven concerts, at Concert Hall, which they have announced. The room was well filled. The second concert will be given this evening.

At Thomas's Varieties, the company has been yet further augmented. Singing, dancing, eccentricities, burlesque, and a farce are the staple of his amusements.

The Broadway Murder Case—Willis Committed for Murder.

At the Tombs, in New York, yesterday, Justice Connolly rendered his decision in the case of Robert L. Willis, the keeper of a Broadway gambling saloon, who has been undergoing an examination on a charge of murder. After reviewing the case at length, he concluded by committing the accused on a charge of murder, when Willis was taken below, and handed over to the warden of the city prison.

INFORMATION WANTED of the whereabouts of C. A. Kutter, who left Berlin, Europe, in 1849, and whose family last heard from him at Cincinnati in 1853. Any person who knows of his whereabouts, if he is living, or knows of the time and place of his death, if he is dead, will confer a great favor by communicating on the subject with H. A. Kutter, Hamburg Hotel Belvidere, Hamburg, Europe.

SUDDEN DEATH OF DR. HUNTINGTON.—Considerable excitement was caused in Poughkeepsie, on Saturday night, by the report that Dr. Geo. W. Huntington, of Philadelphia, had committed suicide at the Gregory House in that city, by saturating a handkerchief with chloroform, and then tying it over his mouth. On arriving at the Gregory House, our reporter learned that this report was incorrect. It originated from the fact that he had frequently sent out for chloroform and laudanum, to ease the pain of rheumatism, with which he was afflicted. About 6 o'clock, on Saturday evening, a person went up to his room, to call him down to supper, but no answer being returned, the door was opened, when the unfortunate gentleman *was found dead in his bed.* An inquest was held upon the body the same evening by Coroner Taylor, and the jury rendered the verdict that the deceased died from apoplexy. Dr Huntington was about thirty years of age, and leaves a wife and family to mourn his untimely death.—*New York Commercial Advertiser.*

BY MIDNIGHT MAIL.

Letter from "Occasional."

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, Nov. 8, 1858.

Washington is, of all places in this country, a delightful winter residence. Society is deprived of the exclusiveness that disfigures and contracts it in other cities, from the fact that men and women are thrown into each other's way at most of the public and official resorts, and must be good friends. It is not necessary, to enjoy the winter, to be possessed of a large amount of money. Good manners and reputation are all that is requisite. Money will not buy position here. Bennett, of the New York *Herald*, intends trying the experiment, nevertheless, next winter. He has failed in it in New York, and will not make a better effort here. That amiable ogre is now eager to get into what is called the best circles. He will get any number of *men* to come to his house, but no *lady* will attempt to cross such a threshold as his. The poorest clerk, with his three dollars a day, will be more successful than this rich and reckless Scotchman. Even Mr. Buchanan, who did dine Bennett some months *ago, will not be willing to bring the Bennetts into* contact with the society that he sees, and if he is willing, you will see some "scattering," I do assure you. In Paris doubtful people can live like princes, can have their chevaliers, their consuls, their sweethearts, and their wives; for Paris is not a very inquiring city, but in *Washington there is a difference*, mark ye. Americans are not yet accustomed to "plum gut" morals, and to Parisian *abandon*. They are not yet ready to introduce their wives and daughters into questionable quarters. We may, however, improve as we grow older and richer. Bennett is an example.

Willard's Hotel will be, when finished, a splendid structure. They are working hard to open it with the commencement of the short session.

The new minister to Russia, Hon. F. W. Pickens, writes glowing letters from St. Petersburgh, full of praise of all he sees. An extract may not be uninteresting:

"*The interests of the two Governments (the* Russian and American) are becoming daily more intimate. Our commercial settlements and trade in California and on the Pacific are bringing us into intercourse with the Russian possessions on the Amoor river and the Asiatic coast, as well as with their possessions in America. The trade of the Amoor river is immense—something like $30,000,000 a year—and growing rapidly.

"I have consulted under my jurisdiction through Asia as well as Europe, and their reports and accounts to me bring me into official communication with a large portion of the globe. I had no idea that the actual business of this office was so extensive and important as it is. We have large American ships at Cronstadt now, and more than those of any other nation except Great Britain. Thirteen ships arrived this season direct from Charleston and New Orleans, loaded with cotton, without having touched at Liverpool at all, as has heretofore been the case. The direct trade must increase every year. Manufactures in cotton are increasing immensely about Moscow; and one may see loads of cotton here every day in the streets, passing to the railroad for that point."

Hon. W. Gore Ouseley, the British member of the American Cabinet, not being here on the ground, doubtless some new appointment will presently be announced. As Chevalier Wykoff is here, why will not he do? He has just returned from Europe with a full budget. He had a secret mission from here to somebody, and who knows but he may be ready for new occupation? He is able, skilful, and experienced.

The President is very angry because of the report that nearly all the office-holders of Ohio are denouncing his Kansas policy; and what is worse, everybody else does the same thing. Better tolerate those now in place than put in new ones.

OCCASIONAL.

Letter from New York.

CHESS TESTIMONIAL TO PAUL MORPHY—APPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM CALDWELL AS ASSISTANT POSTMASTER—"INCOMPATIBILITY" AND SEPARATION AMONG THE SPIRITUALISTS—A NEW STAR IN THE HORSE FIRMAMENT—A PHILADELPHIA LAWYER PUZZLING NEW YORKERS—MR. HODGES—TRINITY CHURCH ORGAN—THOMAS FRANCIS MEAGHER—STOCKS—MARKETS.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

NEW YORK, Nov. 8, 1858.

The chess gentlemen of New York, who comprise a goodly portion of the educated and refined people of the city, have taken the initiatory steps for presenting to Paul Morphy such a testimonial as his transcendant talent as a chess player, and his brilliant victories in Europe, entitle him. A committee was appointed at a meeting of the New York Chess Club, on Saturday evening, to confer with all the chess clubs throughout the country, in order that the testimonial may, as far as possible, partake of a national character. Among those constituting the committee are the names of Rev. Dr. Walton, Baron de Trobriand, Col. O. D. Mead, Henry R. Washington, and W. J. A. Fuller. The character of the testimonial has yet to be determined upon.

The election of Assistant Postmaster Waterbury to the District Attorneyship has led to the appointment of William Caldwell, Esq., as assistant postmaster. Mr. C. has long been connected with the post office as cashier, and enjoys as much genuine and well-deserved popularity and esteem as any official gentleman in the city. It is too little the habit of those in whom is vested the appointing power to seek the right men for the right place, the exigencies of party or the desire to promote the interests of personal friends generally outweighing all other considerations; but in this instance the appointment has been conferred upon the exactly right man, and it is a source of gratification to be able to "make a note of it."

A few weeks since the papers were full of the interneine war between the celebrated spiritualist, Mrs. Cora V. L. Hatch, and Mr. Cora V. L. Hatch—both lecturers—trance-lecturers I think they designate themselves on the posters—of that gorgeous science. Their "incompatibility of temper" was of so chronic a character as to render separate establishments imperative; whereupon the matter was referred to three eminent spiritualist friends for adjudication, who have decided in favor of a separation, and that Mr. Cora V. L. pay Mrs. Cora V. L. $700. It is said that the net receipts of the lady's recent lecturing tour amounted to about six thousand dollars.

Friday last witnessed quite a firing up of turf on the Union Course—a new horse, named Native American, beating Lantern, two straight heats in 2.34 and 2.32¼ Purse, $2,000. The new animal is a black gelding, owned by J. B. Mounot, and, considering that this was his *debut*, it was certainly a brilliant performance. It places him among the first artists on the turf. On the 16th *I.anost is matched against Ethan Allen, mile* heats, best three in five, to go in double harness, for $5,000. The owners are at liberty to select either a runner, a trotter, or a pacer to go with their horses. The bold gamblers and other men who wear fancy coats, jaunty hats, and any quantity of gold pin, and diamond ring, who call for bibbibles at Ex. White's, and are eternally smoking cigars, asseverate in language strikingly nervous but entirely wanting in elegance as the fastest double-team match ever locked in America. I don't understand much about "horse," therefore I say nothing.

"Enough to puzzle a Philadelphia lawyer" is a proverb familiar to the whole country, and quite complimentary to the legal acumen of your practitioners. One of your exportations to