The Press.

FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 1859.

FORNEY'S CALIFORNIA PRESS

Will be Ready

On Monday, 21st Instant, For Mailing

This week to all parts of the

CALIFORNIA GOLD FIELDS.

A Complete Compendium of what has transpired in our City, State, and the Atlantic States, since the departure of the last steamer for California.

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Orders addressed to the good man of the Democratic party, robbed and insulted by the recent Cabinet election Convention at Harrisburg, to have immediate steps to resist and rebuke that act of insolence and oppression.

And we have no doubt this will be speedily done.

The News.

Yesterday morning, in the lifeless body of Mike Walsh was found lying at the bottom of a flight of steps in front of premises 135 Eighth avenue, New York. It is supposed that he accidentally fell down the flight, and broke his neck. Mr. Walsh, well known throughout the whole country here of the Spirit Mission. He was subsequently elected to Congress, and filled it by election by a very small vote. He visited Europe after leaving Congress, and subsequently settled at the Chimes. Though very radical in his opinions, and very bold in their utterance, he possessed a vigorous native intellect, and a mind which detested political falsehood and dishonesty.

In the State Senate yesterday, the bill to incorporate the Lombard and South-Streets Passenger Railway Company was reported favorably, while the Twelfth and Thirteenth streets road was reported to adversely. The bill to amend the Common School law was under discussion, and after some debate in further consideration was postponed for the present.

In the House, the bill to incorporate the Union Railway Company (which provides for the tunnelling of certain streets in this city) was reported with amendments. The act incorporating the Richmond and Schuylkill Passenger Railway passed finally. The act authorizing the Reading Railroad Company to build a road from Harrisburg to Dauphin also passed.

The question of an extra session of Congress was under consideration by the Cabinet yesterday. It is said that a decision will be arrived at before Sunday, so that the next California steamer can take out the President's proclamation, in case an extra session is to be called.

The "People's" City Convention reassembled yesterday, and, after several ballotings, nominated Mr. Bryan M. Brown as the candidate for City Treasurer, and Mr. Charles M. Neal for City Commissioner.

In the Stephens poisoning case, up to the recess yesterday, nothing specially interesting or new occurred. George Davis, the alias leader of the church fracas, is connected with, was the only witness, and testified that he had thought the Bell girls less culpable than he discussed they should have been, [illegible]

Dr. Thomas D. Mutter, professor of surgery in the Jefferson Medical College in this city, died in Charleston, S. C., on Wednesday night. Dr. Mutter's reputation was not confined to the United States; it was world wide.

Hon. John C. Ten Eyck, Republican, was yesterday elected United States Senator from New Jersey, by the Legislature of that State, in place of Hon. William Wright, Democrat.

There has been some disturbance in Kansas growing out of an attempt to break up a political meeting. A despatch from Leavenworth, in another column, gives some particulars.

A respite has been granted to the four condemned men at Baltimore, Gambrill, Crop, Corrie, and Cephus, who were to be hanged to-day, until Friday the 8th day of April next. The Governor, in his letter to the sheriff on the subject, says that he has been actuated by the earnest solicitation of the spiritual advisers and parents of the prisoners, who represent them as being entirely unprepared, and beg that further time may be granted them to prepare for their doom. He also desires the sheriff to make known to those unfortunate men that this extension of time is allowed for the purpose of enabling them to prepare, not their solemn fate, and that all hope and expectation of further Executive clemency must be entirely banished from their minds.

They are making efforts in Boston to establish a "Paupers' Bank," to secure the advantages arising from an opportunity to obtain money for a time on small pledges of chattel property, and at the same time to obviate the shadows of the present pawnbroking system. Such an institution as they propose, and it is called a bank of Charity or Savings, and it may be a great benefit to the poor, and if this title is a true description of the institution, it may be a great improvement upon the present pawnbroker's shop, which, with everything else, "charitable" institution, is a speculation.

Another adulteration has been discovered in Illinois. J. P. West, late sheriff and collector of Mason county, in that State, has disappeared, and the signers of his bond are hidden to the State for a deficiency in the amount of State revenue collected of about $7,000.

The police commissioners of New York have instituted seven thousand suits against persons in that city for selling liquor without licenses.

An Italian image maker in New York committed suicide on Wednesday night, because he was without employment and destitute.

The regular meeting of both branches City Councils was held yesterday. Our city column contains the proceedings.

George Ridings, an alleged skilful and notorious shoplifter, who is said to be owner of $8,000 worth of real estate at West Hoboken, N. J., was committed to prison in New York yesterday.

On Wednesday the funeral of the poet Bryant, Mr. Thurston, took place in Adrian, Michigan. The few remains that were collected, together with the clothes found with them, were placed in a coffin, and after lying in state for a day, at the residence of Miss Thurston, they were followed to the grave by a few friends, without any parade, in accordance with Mr. Thurston's known sentiments while living, and the wishes of his daughter.

The "Bulls and Bears Club" is an association of printers of New Haven, which holds its first annual soiree on the 22d inst.

Major Thomas J. Helm, of Glasgow, Ky., who was clerk of the State Legislature of Kentucky for twenty years, died last week at Glasgow, in that State.

The steamship Philadelphia, Captain Harrison, sailed yesterday from New York for New Orleans, via Havana, with fifty passengers.

Steamship Etna arrived at New York yesterday from Liverpool, with an unusually large and valuable cargo.

Piccolomini has arrived at New Orleans.

Additional Trains to Germantown.

There is, perhaps, no city in the world which is surrounded by a country so beautiful, so romantic, so rich in natural wealth, of such a salubrious, lovely climate as Philadelphia; nor is there a city which has equal extent of country so well suited to suburban residence, nor land which can be had at such moderate cost.

We have Media, Darby, West Philadelphia, Hestonville, Mantua, Germantown, Chestnut Hill, Frankford, and intermediate country, within convenient distance, and well adapted to the wants of a large city population—a population ever seeking the vivifying influences of pure air, exercise, and change from the cramped routine of business; but, alas! too often compelled to forego these requisites of health and happiness.

Of what good have been all these advantages, without the means of making them available? Until recently, it was some hours' ride, in a slow, dusty stage-coach, to Media; it was an hour's ride to West Philadelphia, and to reach Frankford was almost a journey. Germantown connected with us by railroad was most convenient of access; but the facilities of reaching it had been slowly meted out to partially meet the wants of the fashionably rich.

A new era has dawned. We now count our railroads in every direction, opening up avenues to quiet country scenes, pleasant rural cottages, deep shaded woods and open fields, where all can enjoy, according to their means and tastes, the boundless beauties and goodness of nature.

Ere long, within any point within ten miles around, can be reached with the greatest ease. The people of Germantown are to be favored with a new passenger railroad penetrating the very centre of one city, and the old road, as it connects with the proper public [illegible] about to run half-hourly trains, much to public convenience, the interests of Germantown property-holders, and the country-loving community at large; and we doubt not that other lines will, in due time, offer equally desirable additional facilities of travel.

We can now go out on good stone-paved roads, lined with fencing in every direction from its centre, far away into the country, towards a star the beauty of which shall never diminish.

The best interests of society, of business, of the world, at large, demand the diffusion of population throughout the country adjacent to our large cities, and we hail with pleasure any movement which leads to such a desirable end.

The Adherents of the General Administration in Session at Harrisburg.

The indifference of the people to the Convention of the adherents of the General Administration, which assembled at Harrisburg on Wednesday last, was the result of a double feeling of contempt for its managers, and a full fore-knowledge of its policy. Nobody expected decent, much less Democratic, action. The great body of the delegates did not come to reiterate principles, but to earn wages. They did not vote the wishes of the people, but thanks to their masters. They had mostly been elected as office-holders, or by office-holders; and although they might have averted defeat from a great party by some unexpected concession to truth, they dared not to perform an act of magnanimity, which, while it would have won for them the applause of a surprised and gratified people, would have lost them their places, and the smiles of an Administration which now stands a reeking infamy before the nation. Having performed their work, and returned to their official haunts, or fled to Washington as the only place where they can find a welcome, let us look for a moment at some of the things they have done.

A fair translation of the resolutions (adopted by the Convention, and published in another column) relieved of all surplusage, would make them read about as follows:

1. That the General Administration, standing as it does before this nation, covered with disgrace and convicted of reckless recreancy to political principle, and of conduct destructive of public morals, must be, and is hereby, sustained by the dependants of the aforesaid Administration.

2. That this Administration *must* be supported in the teeth of its outrages upon the people of Kansas, and in the face of its monstrous expenditures in Utah.

3. That the President *must*, be applauded for his views on the tariff question, though all aid to our languishing interests was defeated by his creatures in the Cabinet and his echoes in Congress.

4. That the Paraguay expedition is right because inaugurated by an Administration under which the most of us hold office, or expect to hold it.

5. That under the Administration plan of corrupting a civilized Government and insulting a united people, we can acquire Cuba, and degrade ourselves; and, *therefore*, the acquisition of Cuba is righteous.

6. That the new overland and Isthmean routes to the Pacific are an achievement of superfine statesmanship, costing millions of money, and offering scarcely any facilities to either passengers or mails.

7. That our idea of Popular Sovereignty is to attack all who really advocate it, and to say that we are in favor of it ourselves.

8. That inasmuch as the General Administration sets so shameless an example of fraud and favoritism, we are not in favor of that example being followed in our own State.

9. That Senator BIGLER, being the embodiment of the genius, integrity, and consistency of the Federal Administration, and particularly hostile to jobs of every kind, (especially all jobs relating to the post-office blanks,) we *endorse him as eminently worthy of support and confidence.*

The action of the Convention on the resolution in regard to Governor PACKER, was a delicious dessert after such a course of "funeral baked meats" as the above. Three persons, one of them a small dependent on Federal bounty here, and another an eager office-hunter from Northampton, were the leaders in this wretched scene. Such assaults on the integrity of Governor PACKER, by a set of hacks in and out of office, who are silent over the infamous malpractices of those in power at Washington, and full of applause of the men guilty of these crimes, show how utterly debased any organization must become that has no guiding star but submission to Treachery. We really congratulate Governor PACKER that he received the only positive compliment from the Convention. A body that so flagrantly defies the popular will only taints a good man by its suspicious eulogy. The two candidates nominated—Mr. ROWE, of Franklin, for Surveyor General, and Mr. WRIGHT, of Philadelphia, for Auditor General—are worthy and upright men. Mr. ROWE has acted as Surveyor General for the last two years and a half, and has done his whole duty ably and faithfully. Mr. WRIGHT closes his career as a State Senator from Philadelphia with the present session. His honesty is wholly bribe-proof, which is a great deal to say in these times. But the Convention should have selected standard-bearers more deserving of the rites of sacrifice. Why tie men like these to the stake? The Administration at Washington proceeds, it would seem, upon the theory that it is not victory, but victims, which the Democracy require, and, therefore, Messrs. ROWE and WRIGHT must take the chances of war. We trust, they shall choose to stand upon this platform, they will announce the fact before the cars have started. Let us have no more juggling.

Peace or War in Europe?

The European news by the *City of Washington* steamer is as late as the 2d of the month. The newspapers speculate upon the chances of war, but it is evident that England has no such apprehension, for she is actually reducing her military force, and Lord DERBY, Lord MALMESBURY, and Mr. DISRAELI have declared, in Parliament, that they have no reason to believe that the Emperor NAPOLEON is about breaking faith with England, by aiding Sardinia to attack Austria. Lord COWLEY, the British Ambassador to Paris, has been sent to Vienna on a special mission to the Emperor of Austria, to attempt to persuade him, in fact, to treat his Italian subjects with humanity and justice.

If a war in Italy should take place, England will endeavor to avoid being dragged into it. Prussia, it is likely, will adopt the same pacific policy. At the same time, Prussia would be well pleased at an attack upon Austria. We should not be surprised to find Russia joining against Austria, privately if not openly, on account of the manner in which Austria behaved to the late Czar, during the Crimean war. We do not believe, with some of our cotemporaries, that Europe is drifting into a general war. At least, we do not think that NAPOLEON will precipitate such an event.

☞ Let us be thankful, that while organizations and administrations are falling to pieces, the Coates and Green street, and Germantown Railroads have made a formal union and consolidated their respective forces. The great war between these rival interests, so abundantly exciting to those immediately interested, has only been troublesome to those not interested. The bill is, we believe, in the hands of the Governor, subject to his approval.

☞ The Hon. STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS arrived in this city yesterday, and is stopping at the Girard House, where he will remain for a day or two.

MADAME MARIO.—At the close of this lady's lecture on Italian affairs, delivered on Monday evening, it was unanimously resolved to invite her to deliver another lecture next week, and one of her hearers begs us with great earnestness to call attention to the proposed lecture, of which due notice will be given.

Madame Mario speaks with great fluency, and interests her hearers very deeply in her statements. Her manner betokens intelligence and cultivation. The present condition of affairs in Europe gives a special interest to her subject. The accounts she gives of the struggles and of the sufferings of Italian liberty cannot fail to touch the public heart deeply. Her reception at Washington was particularly cordial and gratifying.

FIRST PAGE.—The Derby-Disraeli Reform Bill; Letter from Harrisburg; The New Reform Bill; The City; The Courts. FOURTH PAGE.—Proceedings of the Democratic State Convention at Harrisburg; Marine Intelligence.

JAMES Wright, a citizen of Conway, who was fifty-one years old, and six feet six inches high, in September, 1858, has grown since then full two inches, and now stands six feet and eight inches high in his shoes.

LARGE SALE OF ELEGANT FURNITURE, PIANOS, &c.—The sale this morning, at ten o'clock, at Birch & Sons' auction rooms, No. 914 Chestnut street, includes suites of elegant parlor furniture in satin, brocatelle, and plush; three piano fortes, cottage furniture; also, a quantity of household furniture, to be sold by order of the sheriff, an assortment of silver-plated ware, &c.

☞ Mr. PETER BISHOP, of Dauphin county, Pa., boasts of recent ly having felled a locust tree on his farm which was over one hundred feet long, and made thirteen lengths of posts.

TWO FINE SHAD, the first in the New York waters this season, were caught Friday evening last, by George Snook, off Staten Island.

BY MIDNIGHT MAIL.

From Washington.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, March 17, 1859.

It is almost universally acknowledged that the Administration has fallen under heavy odium. Some assign one reason, and some another; and, doubtless, there are many causes of its want of popularity—some well laid, and others not. But the chief among them, according to the observation of one who has had the amplest opportunities for judging, is the utter want of business capacity, or business habits, in the heads of departments. Go to the leading hotels in the city, at any hour when there is a gathering of the guests, and you may hear any amount, not of simple complaint merely, but of severe malediction, against one or the other of the departments, for the vexatious delays, and consequent expense, of attending to business before them.

"*Mr. Buchanan, I have endeavored to discharge all my public duties faithfully.*" This was a remark addressed by the late Postmaster General, on his dying bed, to the President, and it contained strictly the truth. Gov. Brown *did* faithfully discharge all the duties of his post. He was, emphatically, *the* working man of the Administration, or rather of the Cabinet ministers. Citizens having business with his department were never delayed weeks and months in expense. Uniformly they had the quickest despatch.

It would be fortunate for those having business with the Government if the other heads of departments could conscientiously take to themselves the consolatory reflection which soothed the dying hours of the late lamented Postmaster General. But they are not entitled to it, unless the complaints of thousands upon thousands of respectable citizens are all falsehood and humbug.

It is perfectly well known here that, for the simplest matter of business, a citizen is detained for weeks, and often leaves it unadjusted in disgust, and with curses upon a Government which so little heeds the rights and convenience of the people. Instances are not wanting in which men have been kept waiting a whole twelvemonth for a matter which should have been decided in an hour. In truth, one had as well have a claim depending in a British Court of Chancery as before some of the departments of the Federal Government. And, worse than all, the citizen is often the victim of ignorant and incompetent clerks, whose erroneous decisions annul his rights, and are final, because the heads of departments either will not take time to make review, or repose in the decisions of their incompetent subordinates—a confidence they do not merit.

These *strictures* apply as well to those having public business with the Government as to those, having private demands upon it. The least inquiry will develop numerous instances of the former as well as of the latter. There is, in fact, no despatch for the citizen; on the contrary, an almost insulting indifference to his accommodation, and very often he is put off without even the consolation of receiving from his own servants the customary civility and politeness.

This picture, I assure you, is not over-drawn. It might be much higher colored, and truth yet be vindicated. Nor is the public dissatisfaction overrated; it is not only expressed here, but all over the Union.

The grievance is certainly an unendurable one. This Government is the people's Government. Those who administer it are their servants, not their masters. It is the duty of these servants to despatch the business of their masters without delay. It ought to be done on the spot. They ought not to be kept running to and fro between the public offices and their boarding houses, and to be detained from their homes for weeks and months, on business which could be disposed of in a few hours; and if these servants of theirs will not do their duty to their masters, the President, the chief executive head of the nation, ought to take the delinquents in hand. There certainly *ought to be some reform in the matter. How it is* to be effected is plain enough. Let no politician be allowed to enter a department in business hours; let heads of departments see that none but competent subordinates be appointed; require them, under pain of dismission, to be not only prompt, but accommodating and polite; and, lastly, let them not trust too implicitly to the decisions of their subordinates, and themselves cultivate patient attention and constant assiduity. Let this be done, and soon the Federal Government will be what it was in former times—a Government of the people, and for the people, and its administrators their servants, not their masters.

In this communication I have not "put down aught in malice." I have rather "extenuated" than otherwise. I am no sufferer—have no claims against, nor business with, the Government. I am a Democrat, wishing well to the Administration, and desiring the success of the Democratic party as the surest maintenance of our national institutions; and so, in friendly spirit, have ventured this warning. I am entirely convinced that the present Administration has suffered far and wide from the cause here assigned, and if there be not reform, it will suffer yet more. The people cannot and will not be loyal to an unparental Government, and ought not to be.

RAMPDEN.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, March 17.

There are various rumors afloat as to the final decision of the Administration in regard to calling an extra session. It seems to me to be unavoidable. The highest interests of the nation imperatively demand that the transmission of intelligence should be kept up among its citizens, and the efficiency of this great branch of the public service should not be jeoparded for any trifling cause. It is conceded on all hands that an imperative necessity exists for an extra session, and the only objection to it is of a purely partisan nature. The Administration has been so badly damaged already, however, that it is difficult to conceive of the possibility of its being sunk to a much lower depth; and when the small modicum of prestige or character it now retains is weighed in the scale against the danger of deranging the whole machinery of the Post Office Department, I can hardly believe that our rulers are so deficient in patriotism as to provoke still greater public indignation by a shameful neglect of their plain duty. The theory that the Post Office revenues may be applied to the payment of the expenses of the department without previous appropriation, is one of the most dangerous that have ever been advocated in this country. It completely robs Congress of its constitutional power of controlling the public revenues, and makes "the Administration" the sole power in this Government, as it is in Russia or Turkey. If the Post Office moneys may be thus expended, why may not the Treasury Department expend, without previous appropriations, every dollar received from customs?

OCCASIONAL.

Letter from Harrisburg.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

HARRISBURG, March 17.

The devotees of the despised and degenerate "James" have once more, in the frenzy of their idolatry, advanced to the altar of their abominations, and the incense have placed, as a victim to their sacrificial ceremonies, the name and fame of the Democratic party. Faithfully, fully, and recklessly have they worked out the despot's will and vindictiveness of their graceless chief, and have crowned with confusion and contempt the professions and principles of former days. This Convention—composed of but few who have been signally able and active in maintaining the purity of the party, yet many who are naturally and suitably serviles and Government employees—instead of acting out a worthy and dignified drama, such as former Conventions exhibited, to the honor of the organization, has played a farce drivelling and despicable. It is a remark, universally current and indisputably true, that no Convention ever heard of has been so stupid and uninteresting. I shall not weary your readers with a lengthy review of its scenes, but merely note a few evidences of the diminutiveness of their deeds. The first failure was in organizing with such an unfit and inefficient man as Arnold Plumer for president. Slow of speech, lacking decision, and at the mercy of friends, his presiding was very defective and confusing. No candid man, much as he may esteem this veteran, can say anything to the contrary. It was thought that amid the discords and ruptures of party feeling and fortune, conciliation would be one of the shining graces of the Convention; but no such disposition was manifested or encouraged. A method of selecting a committee to report resolutions—one from each senatorial district, to be selected by the delegations from the respective districts—fair and practicable, was, by a vote of 59 to 66, defeated, and the power of making a select committee of fifteen transferred to the chair. The opposition to the plan adopted was not based on any distrust in the President of the Convention, but upon a desire to have a free and full expression of sentiment. This was refused, and the work of desolation and unfairness commenced. During one of the afternoon recesses when the Committee on Resolutions was out, Mr. Snowden, of your city, (by call) made a bold resolution—his rhapsody on Buchanan was ridiculously weak, and just such an exhibition of impudence and ignorance as needed the eloquence and sarcasm of Hugus of Somerset to demolish it. Mr. Hugus made many happy hits, and gave this sham Democracy the keenest cut of the occasion. The world-renowned "Professor Gardner," of soap notoriety, interspersed the "waitings" on this resolution-making power with a dissertation on the utility of soap as a *dirt*-remover; (he disclaimed any *instructions*.) You can judge how *smartly* things moved—how dignifiedly the Convention progressed.

After the resolutions, rank with an endorsement of Mr. Buchanan's blunders, were reported and adopted seriatim, Mr. Lamberton, of Dauphin, offered an additional resolution, which commended the State policy of Governor Packer. In support of this, he delivered the most masterly and stirring speech of the evening; his tone of argument was sensible and elevated, his views liberal and democratic, and his appeal highly eloquent. He was joined in his view of the subject by Col. Hopkins, of Washington, and Mr. Jenks, of Jefferson, who spoke at length. Mr. Monaghan's theatrical plunges while belching forth his foul accusations of "treason, empty-headedness, hollow-heartedness," &c., &c., against John Hickman, and "dishonesty, treachery, and Black Republican sympathy," against the Governor, Attorney-General Knox, and his various appointees, were disgusting and disgraceful. His action as a speaker is as awkward as his charges and threats are empty. The attempt to fasten reproach upon Governor Packer, for his official acts and appointments, will prove powerless; for Conventions of even greater numerical strength cannot create a sentiment among the people adverse to a just Administration. As you will, doubtless, have seen their resolutions ere this reaches you, I will not indulge in any further allusions. What the consequence of such a course as they have adopted may be, I leave to the political prophets. Thirty-seven votes were cast in favor of a resolution endorsing the Governor. Governor Slack, of Nebraska, cheered "heavy hearts" with a magnificent speech after the final adjournment of Convention. He set forth his views on the Kansas Nebraska act, and its train of theories and interpretations, in a clear and beautiful manner. His appeal in behalf of the President, met by all kinds of difficulties and anxieties, was peculiarly pathetic. At a night the curtain of the scene fell, and this sad blaze of Democracy reached its expiring flicker.

ALBE

Public Amusements.

THE "WINTER'S TALE" AT THE ARCH-STREET THEATRE.—Of all Shakespearian revivals which were seen, that now playing at Arch-street Theatre is pleased us most—for its completeness and correctness. The Winter's Tale will be played this evening, the last time, and we assure those who have not yet seen it, that they will lose a great pleasure if they neglect this final opportunity. Scenery and costumes are admirable, and the acting very good. The trial scene very imposing, and the dance of the Dionysia very gay (it was encored), but the celebrated statue-scene the greatest of all, so wonderfully did Mrs Wall, as *Hermine*, represent the marble statue. We not imagine any representation more complete.

Mr. Wallack, as *Leontes*, had a difficult character to sustain. He played it finely. The only drawbacks a certain harshness of intonation, which greatly unpleasantly on the ear. It is a mannerism the semblance mars some of Mr. Wallack's performances.

Mrs. John Drew's *Paulina* was the most thoroughly sustained performance of the evening. The womly nature of *Paulina*, so gentle in heart and so outspoken in indignation, was very truthfully presented to the audience. She was very much applauded. Miss Ina Taylor, as *Perdita*, looked charmingly, and played charmingly too. Mr. Shewell was the *Florizel*, and, with his usual good judgment, did not attempt to be too much of the part.

The Clown, by Mr. S. D. Johnson, was boldly attempted, but we cannot say that we admired the attempt. Mr. Johnson is too *hard* in his humor in the other hand, how genial and how amusing was John Gilbert in the character of *Autolycus*. He is superior in this difficult part to Mr. Burton, and, in saying much, Mr. Bradford's *Polixenes* was a *wofully good performance*. *We take leave to inform* Gilt, who appeared as *Camillo*, that none but feeble specimen of Bohemian.

"King Lear" is underlined as in preparation at this theatre. "The Stranger," and "Guy Mannering" are also to be produced here, in a short time.

MISS DAVENPORT'S BENEFIT.—This evening this accomplished lady and admirable actress, Miss Fanny Davenport, takes her benefit at Walnut-street Theatre. She will perform in "Evadne," and in "Masked Faces." There is much difference in the character of "Evadne," the representative of female purityand of "Peg Woffington," the clever, good-natured actress, who was ready, regardless of her reputation, to avoid all her faults, possessed a warm heart. "Evadne" (first played in February, 1819) was written for the celebrated Miss O'Neil, and undoubtedly takes rank as Mr. Sheil's most successful dramatic performance. The heroine is a truly feminine and noble character, and Miss Davenport will present her as such. None can be more impressive than the scene said the ghost of her ancestors, where "Evadne" puts herself, if were, under the protection of the marble image her father, who had instructed the licentious Reginald saved his life. This scene, Leigh Hunt once said, was the best, and perhaps the only novelty of incident in living tragedy. On the other hand, "Peg Woffington" is a part in genuine comedy—an attractive part, too.

MRS. BOWERS.—"Money", was repeated at the Academy of Music last night, and, as we expected, it is off even better than on the opening night, when theperformers were new to the house. They have learned, also, to make themselves better heard than onthat occasion. We understand that that sterling actor, Conway, is about joining Mrs. Bowers' company, Mr. Walcot has made a great impression, and Mr. Dacre is already recognised as one of the best low comedians we have had in Philadelphia for many years. We pull not forget Miss Annie Lonsdale, who has achieved a great success. She is a thoroughly good soubrette. Mrs Bowers herself has never played better than at present.

MR. JOHN DREW.—The many friends of Mr. Job Drew will be glad to learn that he is winning fame and gold in California. The *Era*, a paper published in San Francisco, has the following:

"Mr. John Drew is still at the Lyceum, where he has just concluded his fourth week. His success here must be as gratifying to himself as his excellent Irishmen must be profitable to the management by whom he has been greeted. Mr. Drew will remain for another month, when he will leave for Australia. Mr. *Bartholomew Rosse, his agent being already on the* way to meet him. He has made a favorable impression on the people of the Colonies must give Mr. Drew a hearty welcome, as he is a most talented and worthy representative of the mimic art."

By the way, the *Era* tells us some Philadelphia news—namely, "that there is a project to convert Jones' Amphitheatre, Chestnut street, Philadelphia, into a theatre, and to be put into the hands of McDonough, the actor." On the contrary, Jones' is in the hands of new and spirited lessees, and Mr. McDonough has a theatre of his own, called "The Galeties," in Race street, below Third, where there has not been one sleep night during the nine or ten weeks he has been in management.

THE HARVEY AND HERBERT CONCERT.—On next Wednesday evening, Mr. William B. Harvey and Mr. M. Herbert will give a Concert at Musical Fund Hall. The performance will be chiefly instrumental; including piano and violin solos, with four duets for two pianos. That excellent young contralto, Madll. Anna Wiesler, will sing several solos. A good concert may be anticipated.

THE LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—The Cabinet met at an unusually early hour to-day, and resumed the consideration of the affairs of the Post Office Department. The question of an extra session of Congress is still undetermined, the members being divided in opinion. There is, however, the best authority for stating that there will be a decision on the subject before next Sunday, so that, if in the affirmative, the President's proclamation may go out by the next Pacific steamer.

The Grand Jury to-day brought in a presentment against Mr. Sickles for murder, and there is no doubt a true bill will be found against him, when a day will be set for the trial. Whatever may have been the proceedings relative to Mr Butterworth, it was the understanding about the court house that they will take no further action of the nature complained of in the Post Office department when completed, as it is hoped it will be during the ensuing spring, will be an architectural ornament to our city.

At four o'clock precisely, Mr. Moses Thomas mounted a temporary stand erected in the centre of the chancel, and after announcing the terms of the sale, and the various other preliminary matters in connection therewith, called for the first bid. The choice pews were then numbered 66 and 49, on the south side of the aisle. The value of these pews, as rated by the vestry, is $1 200 for 66, and $800 for 49. After some little parleying the two pews were knocked down to Mr Power at $210 premium for each. The purchase will cost him, when all expenses are paid, $2 420, or $1,210 for each.

The bidding for the next pew, No. 68, was quite animated. Mr. Gresson finally received it at $290 premium, or $1,360 clear of expense.

Prices fell considerably at this juncture. No. 50 was sold at a premium of $100 to Mr. Henry, or $900 clear; No. 51 to Mr. Arbuckle, at $100 premium; Nos. 113 and 126 were sold to Mr Bohlen at a premium of $100 apiece, or $2 200 for both, free of expense.

The prices of the balance ranged from $75 to $5. The bidding in many of these pews was much interested, being taken in the sale by the speculators. The number of pews sold at a premium were 56, the number for sale being, including those in the north and south gallery, 200. The sale commenced at half past ten and was over in a few minutes after five. A number of ladies were seated in the gallery, evidently much interested in the mercantile proceedings below.

A committee of the vestry will be in session on Monday and Tuesday afternoons next, to redeem the prices proffered for the seats

ST. PATRICK gave us beautiful weather yesterday, contrary to all precedent, and much to the delight of his many friends. The Hibernian element of our people celebrated the day with great fervor in many ways. High Mass was said in several of the churches, lectures were delivered by eminent people of the Catholic persuasion, and the military paraded. We looked at the soldiers as they passed up Chestnut street about three o'clock, and a very fine-looking body of men they appeared to be. Their drill was excellent, and the various causes of crime are commented on at much length, and with great clearness.

Speaking of the causes of crime, it is said that ninety-nine hundredths of the crimes committed in our community are the fruit of one or more of the following six causes, ranged in the order of their productiveness: 1, intemperance; 2, idleness (including the trade); 3, ignorance; 4, vicious associations (including improvident marriages); 5, irreligion; and 6, poverty.

The concluding observations are eloquently written, and full of the earnestness of truth. "Temptations to excitement and crime," adds the writer, "must be removed. Whatever obstacle bigotry or sectarian jealousy may present, deep and broad foundations of moral and religious, as well as of intellectual character, must be laid in our elementary schools, and the children of the people must be there to be so trained."

SALE OF PEWS.—A large number of persons congregated, yesterday afternoon, in the new church of The Holy Trinity, on Rittenhouse square, under the rectorship of Rev. Dr. Vinton, to bid for pews. The edifice is not quite finished, although the finishing touches are being applied as rapidly as possible. It presents a very handsome appearance, internally and externally, and when completed, as it is hoped it will be during the ensuing spring, will be an architectural ornament to our city.

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