The Cæsars and Bonapartes.

[For The Press.]

We can nowhere find two series of events which are more nearly parallel than the rise of the Cæsars and the rise of the Bonapartes.

The founder of each dynasty arose in a time of confusion, and established, upon military power and renown, a new empire, and in each case a crafty nephew and namesake appropriated the spoils which had been lost and won by his warlike uncle.

But the resemblance is more particular. While Rome was all disordered by strife and proscription, Julius Cæsar was sent to Gaul, and made it the theatre of those wonderful deeds which rendered him the idol of his nation. Napoleon Bonaparte, just after the Reign of Terror, goes from Paris to Italy, almost over the same track, the nations being reversed, and there displays adroitness and celerity which are equalled in Cæsar alone. A similarity may also be traced between the unsuccessful effort of Cæsar in Britain, and of Bonaparte in Egypt.

Each was led by his transcendant genius to anticipate futurity, and to attempt conquests which were yet immature. Each being threatened by the existing Government, returns to the city where the power of his nation is concentrated, and Bonaparte, in overawing the Legislature, establishing a triumvirate, and afterwards an empire, does exactly what Cæsar did before him. But each encountered a distinguished competitor. Moreau, though an inferior, had much in common with the great Pompey. They represented the aristocratic factions in their respective countries, and both attained great military renown; both were supplanted by more ardent aspirants, who had been their friends; and both were driven into exile, resulting in death.

Cæsar and Bonaparte are extremely unlike in character, but in their amazing success one can be compared to the other, only in each case a splendid career came to a sad termination, and they both left unestablished dynasties. But now the similarity only becomes more remarkable. Octavius Cæsar, the nephew and favorite of Julius, without any of his dazzling qualities, succeeded, by his political intrigues, in gaining the army, and ultimately informally establishing the empire. The course of the present Emperor of France is fresh in the memory of all. Where can we find two other great rulers whose careers so coincide as those of Augustus Cæsar and Louis Napoleon? Their policy, too, is the same. It is energetic but crafty, liberal yet economical, and is based upon internal system and decisive war.

It is impossible to believe that the French empire can ever become the stage of tragedies and comedies like those which were enacted in the empire of Rome, but it remains to be seen whether the empire of the Bonapartes will be equally permanent. C. S.

THE CITY.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

WHEATLEY & CLARKE'S ARCH-STREET THEATRE, Arch street, above Sixth.—"Everybody's Friend"—Peter Wilkins.

WALNUT-STREET THEATRE, corner Walnut and Ninth.—"Leshia."

NATIONAL THEATRE, Walnut street, between Eighth and Ninth.—Dan Rice's Great Show.—"The Magic Ring."

ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS, Chestnut street.—"Parisina"—"The Martyrdom of John Huss, &c."

SANFORD'S EXHIBITION ROOM, Jayne's Commonwealth Building, Chestnut street, above Sixth.—Tibbo's Museum of Art.

MCKNIGHT'S OPERA HOUSE, Race street, below Third.—Entertainments nightly.

TEMPLE OF WONDERS, northeast corner Tenth and Chestnut streets.—Signor Blitz.

AN IMPOSTOR ON HIS TRAVELS.—We have been furnished with a description of a travelling impostor who has been travelling around the city swindling our citizens. His plan of procedure is to call about meal time, and inquire for the gentleman of the house—always being well posted as to the name, the church that the family attends, &c.—and, when he appears, to state that he has just arrived in the city from Savannah, Charleston, or some other city; that he has been to the post office, and finds that his letters, with funds from his father, will not reach before the following afternoon; that he does not want to ask for accommodation in the shape of money if he can avoid it, but is hungry and in want of a meal's victuals, and in some cases has had the effrontery to say, "It is about your tea time, I will go in and take tea with you." Several times he has assumed the name of the person he has called on, at other places he has given that of Fulton, Lyman, Baker, &c. &c. He generally excites sympathy by merely asking for food, and in many cases has had a bountiful meal prepared for him, and a dollar or two given him to keep him *until he receives money from his father in next afternoon.* He has called on many of the congregation of St. Clement's Episcopal Church, as also on those of the Atonement—making very free use of the name of the latter rector, Rev. Kingston Goddard, and has likewise represented himself as a Roman Catholic, studying at Georgetown for the priesthood, claiming that Bishop Wood knew all about him, and has thus received assistance from some Catholic families. He is a rascal dressed quite genteel, in dark clothes, and wears an overcoat with a cape, a *choker* collar and black hat; he is about five feet nine inches high, thirty to thirty-five years of age, very short whiskers, and has a fair face (which is a wonder), dark hair, rather good-looking, and very easy in his address; as a proof of which it is stated that one gentleman in Summer street had his feelings so enlisted, he took him in and gave him a good supper, then said good-evening, and introduced him into the room of the Young Men's Christian Association, where he joined in the exercises; and another kind-hearted person took him home and gave him a bed.

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Daniel Price, Jas. Gheegan, John Carr, George Alexander, and William Hortz were charged with the killing of Jno. Eichele, on the night of the 29th of April last, and plead not guilty. These defendants went to the house of the deceased, and called for some beer and cigars, for which they did not pay, and then endeavored to go away, but were stopped by the wife of the deceased. They then pulled out their pistols, it is alleged, and shot the deceased. The case of the Commonwealth was opened by District Attorney Mann, who is assisted in the prosecution by William Brantley Mann. The examination of the witnesses occupied the attention of the court up to six o'clock last evening. Subjoined is the testimony:

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WE NEED only draw attention to the ball in favor of the Passenger Railway Relief Association, to be given at National Guards' Hall, this evening. The object of the ball is a benevolent one, and we are assured that it will be a grand affair.

UNION PRAYER MEETING.—This afternoon, at four o'clock, there will be a Union prayer meeting, in the Cedar-street Presbyterian Church, above Eleventh street.

Coroner Fenner recalled.—I examined the barroom; saw four or five shots behind the bar, and seven on the left-hand side of the wall, and several in the ceiling; the officers took one out of the frame of a picture; they were all as if shot from the front part of the room.

Cross-examined.—I examined on the fourth day of May; I can't say whether it was a wall or boarding behind the bar; the shots were on the right-hand side of the wall; I did not see any bullet marks on the door; some of the marks were a half inch deep; I saw no balls; these holes were not nail holes; they attracted my attention; they were deeper than one-sixteenth of an inch: those behind the bar were four or five; they were three-eighths of an inch in breadth; seven on the left hand wall; they had glanced; they were not together; they were near the ceiling; those in the ceiling were glanced shots; can't say how many; I saw no balls; the wall was not papered.

Dr. Reid recalled.—I have the thigh-bone of Eichele; Dr. Meir gave it to me, at his office; there was a bullet lodged in the ligament; I was at Dr. Meir's when he returned from the post-mortem examination; except from his declaration, I don't know that this is Eichele's thigh-bone.

Thomas R. Mitchell sworn.—I am a police officer; I was not on my beat; a small girl came to get me to go to the house; I got within three or four doors; I heard three or four shots; I saw four of those men in the dock come out—Price, Carr, Alexander, and Hatz; I saw them before I had hold of Price; as he came out, he broke from me and ran away; I went in and saw Gheegan on the floor, with his face down; I raised him up and saw he was shot; he was lying in the bar-room, and was shot in the forehead; in the meantime, Officer Shear went in, and fell on the floor; I saw a man standing at the east end of the bar—a German—pointing a pistol; I stood on the step, jumped off, and heard the report of a pistol; I had not seen Gheegan yet; I followed Shear in; I did not see Gheegan when I first went in; Shear started after the others; I went in the back room; they had the proprietor on a settee; I can't tell what became of the man who pointed a pistol; we arrested them in Reed street, below Second, in the Shiffler Hose House; they had not got out of sight; they ran from us a little too fast; they were in the down-stairs room of the hose house; Officer Shear picked up the caps; don't know who they belonged to.

Cross-examined.—I was about three houses below Morris street when called on; Mrs. Eichele did not call me; did not see her; a girl came for us; I went immediately after I was called; I ran there; I saw four men; nothing in their hands; Shear was half a square ahead of me; he went before me; I was on the step when I saw Shear dodge; I saw no one but the German pointing the pistol; after the report I went in; Shear went out; I found Gheegan with his face down on the floor, alongside of the bagatelle table; the house faces north; he was lying east and west; head to the west; the room is 16 feet front, nearly square; I heard the pistol; then went in; I can't say whether it hit Gheehan; I did not take notes; I saw the German pointing the pistol; Gheehan was shot in the forehead; I did not look at him after I went through; I did not see the proprietor was shot, and started after Officer Shear; I did not see the German afterwards; there were two men there besides the proprietor; both German; the one who fired the pistol was sandy-haired; I did not see the other; I did not make no search in the house; I was not in there over a minute; I think I saw one at the inquest; the defendants were in sight of us; they were in the house house; Officer Shear opened the door; they made no resistance; did not then search; did at the station house; we found no weapons; they did not run from our pistols.

Re-examined.—I know the man was a German sandy-haired, "voice of Mr. Sharkey here;" I did not judge from hair; never saw him before; I judged from his looks that he was a German; the man we suspected we were told had left the neighborhood; when I jumped from the door Gheegan broke from us; but Gheegan was in when Officer Shear went in; he dropped on the floor as Price was coming out; I had Price by the collar before I saw the pistol pointed.

Wm. Sheer sworn.—I am an officer; was on duty the day of this occurrence; was with Mr. Mitchell; some one came after us; I went to the house; heard shots; hurried in and saw Alexander, Hatz, and Carr coming from the house; they ran out before I got there; as I was going in I saw Price with a pistol and fired at me—threw myself down; he was a small man, sandy-haired, who did it; Gheegan was on the floor; saw him as I stepped in; I ran out; I had not proceeded far; I did not see the one who shot at me; I went back to the house; Officer Mitchell followed them up to Tasker street; had two of their caps; there was a little smoke in the room, not a great deal; can't say who the last one was that came out.

Cross-examined.—When spoken to go to the house I was at Fifth and Morris streets; no one could go in without my seeing; in three or four minutes I was at the house; I only saw three come out; I saw the pistol as I stepped in and dropped down; Gheegan was on the floor; I had my star on as now; he was down before the shot was fired; I saw that; I followed the three men; the one who shot was a German, five feet high, and sandy haired; he went in the back room; I saw no other men; I did not follow him; he was in the back room when he fired; never saw him since—never before; did not go to the back room until we brought Price down; no men there but Gheegan; I followed the men, arrested them in the Shiffler Hose House, searched them, and found no weapons, they were in the hose house not over twenty minutes before they were arrested; Gheegan was bleeding; that is his cap; the wound was in the forehead; there were more than two wounds.

Dr. Nicola sworn.—Am a clergyman of St. Alphonsus's Church; I was sent for to attend John Eichele; I saw him on Saturday, after he was shot; he knew he was in a dying condition; he told me he expected to die; he spoke to me on religious subjects, about the saving of his soul; I believe of nothing else, but of his wound and suffering; he told me he suffered; I knew he was in a dying condition; I told him so; he said, "I feel myself dying, and will prepare myself for death."

This was all the evidence elicited up to the hour of adjournment. Messrs. Leonard B. Fletcher and John Goforth represent the prisoners. The court room was crowded to its utmost capacity during the proceedings yesterday.

CITY ITEMS.

MISSIONARY MEETING.—A Sunday-school missionary meeting was held last evening in Rev. Albert Barnes's Church, on Washington Square. Ambrose White, Esq., presided. The object of the meeting was in aid of the mission work of the American Sunday-school Union.

The grandest festival of the season was that at the Musical Fund Hall last evening. The scene was gay and impressive. Among the numerous and fashionable gentlemen present, we saw none that had not exhibited his good taste by securing his *bal costumes* at the palatial store of Granville Stokes, No. 607 Chestnut street.

N. B.—A superb stock of ready made winter clothing selling at reduced rates, in order to close out, preparatory to the reopening of the spring trade.

THE PEYTON DINNER.—The local event of the day which is exciting most attention is the Balle Peyton dinner, which took place at the Academy of Music, on Saturday evening. The scene was gorgeous and striking in the extreme. The elegantly-spread tables, the dazzling lights, the rich banners, the gilding, and, above all, the troops of bright-eyed ladies, arrayed in splendid attire, and accompanied by gentlemen, most of whom were clad in garments made at the Brown Stone Clothing Hall of Rockhill & Wilson, Nos. 603 and 605 Chestnut street, above Sixth.

ARRIVALS AT THE PRINCIPAL HOTELS,

UP TO TWELVE O'CLOCK LAST NIGHT.

GIRARD HOUSE—Chestnut st., below Ninth.
D Compton, Del
Edw J Richardson, Balt
R S Pendleton, N Y
A A Wightman, N Y
J J Henry, Del City
Miss H N Foster, Troy
D E Fout, Reading
D Ransom Jr, N Y
A Miller, N Y
G Burchard, N Y
Geo Bacom, Mich
H S Shearer, Lancaster
E Wise, N Y
A E Colbert, N Y
Capt Williams, N Y
P S Martz, Pottsville
J L Plumer, N Y
J R Osgood, Boston
C S King, N Y
T A Jones, N Y
J Wells, N Y
Geo H Woolridge, N Y
Miss Peyton, Va
Geo Lapham, Detroit
W T H Duncan, N Y
A C Gray, Del
S M Shoemaker, Balt
B Arnold, Providence, R I
R A Witcher, N J

JONES' HOUSE—Chestnut st., below Seventh.
Wm G West, N Y
J Murphy, Balt
T Dugan, N J
Joel Cook, N J
V H Vickers, N J
J B D Smith, Va
J G Growler, Balt
J S Mitchell, N Y
J W Smith, N Y
John J Hinchman, N Y
Cyrus Winchester, Conn
J Franklin, Balt

MERCHANTS' HOTEL—Fourth street, below Arch.
J S Sarver, Phila
P Kreuze, Stroudsburg
Miss A E Greenwood, Pa
G J Bell, Erie, Pa
W M Bryson, Balt
H Ruby, Shippensburg
C H Skriner, Beaver co
Miss Bateman & sa, Pa
G H Halfrich, Ashland
Capt Eichelberger, Cin
W H Ely, Ohio
J Buchanan, St Louis
J E Coleman, Balt
A K Nielson, Philadelphia

AMERICAN HOTEL—Chestnut st., above Fifth.
C K Manly, N Y
C J Mason, Boston
W Butler, West Chester
T Darlington, West Ches
C F Patmstock, Lancaster
Wm H Pittcraft, Pa
Jas C Kay, West Chester
W C Lamson, Auburn, Pa