THE DAILY PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

ESTABLISHED IN 1786. PITTSBURGH, MONDAY MORNING, MARCH 18, 1861. VOLUME LXXIV---NUMBER 92.

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PITTSBURGH:
MONDAY MORNING, MARCH 18.

The Decision of the Gaines Case.

From the great interest of this celebrated case, which has been decided by a full bench of the Supreme Court of the United States, in favor of Mrs. Gaines, a brief resume of its material facts will perhaps be acceptable to our readers.

Daniel Clarke was one of the early settlers in the colony of Louisiana. He was a very remarkable person; sagacious, prudent, and with business tact which soon placed him at the head of its monetary world, while his fine personal appearance, popular character and agreeable manners won him a similar position in the social circle. A writer in the *N. Y. Times*, thus narrates the circumstances out of which this celebrated case originated:

In 1802 he became acquainted in Philadelphia with a lady of extraordinary personal beauty, named Zulime Carriere. She was born in the old French colony of Isiboni, and her parents were emigrants from the land of poetry and romance—Provence—the favorite home of the Troubadours. When Clark first met her, she had been living in wedlock with a swindler named Jerome De Grange, who, having dazzled her with a glittering coronet, married her, and then disclosed the astounding facts that he was a confectioner and a bigamist. Zulime appealed for protection to Clark, who being warm hearted and chivalrous, at once espoused her cause, and after becoming convinced that De Grange had another wife living, espoused herself. The marriage was keep secret, and in 1805 Myra, now Mrs. Gaines, was born. Being naturally desirous of having her connection with Clark a publicly acknowledged one, Zulime went to New Orleans to obtain legal proof of her first husband's rascality. While she was gone, Clark, who had grown into an influential politician, became enamored of Miss Caton, a grand-daughter of Charles Carroll, with whom he contracted an engagement, though when reports were brought to Miss Caton alleging her lover's marriage to Zulime, she at once insisted upon a release from the engagement, and she subsequently became the Marchioness of Wellesley.

In the meantime, Zulime had returned to Philadelphia, and sought to obtain proofs of her marriage with Clark, who had, with singular treachery, destroyed all that he could discover. Finding herself helpless, in a strange country, and with a child dependent upon her, she was wholly at a loss what she could do, and in her destitution, driven almost to despair, she accepted the hand of Mr. Gitdeite, who, with kindness and generosity, united his fortune with hers. Clark, in the meantime, had become penitent, but, on hastening to find his former love, ascertained that she was the wife of another. He took the child Myra, placed her under the care of a friend, and had her most liberally educated. Zulime lived for a long time after this, attained the age of 78 years, and died at New Orleans but a few years since.

Clark, whose business talent was proverbial, amassed an immense fortune in Louisiana, Missouri, Kentucky, and Maryland, which he bequeathed by will, in 1813, to his mother, Mary Clark, naming Beverly Chew and Richard Relf, bankers of New Orleans, as executors. Charges have been preferred against the executors of bad faith and embezzlement, but however that may be, Myra—then Mrs. Whitney—having discovered at maturity that her mother had been the wife of the deceased millionaire, with an impulse of honorable affection for which she cannot be too highly praised, determined to assert her right, as the legitimate child and consequent heiress, to the entire property.

That she met with opposition and with obstacles of all sorts may well be imagined, but she battled for her mother's honor, and evinced the most commendable spirit and perseverance, in spite of most fearful odds. Her husband died, but she married, and in so doing enlisted a powerful auxiliary in the person of Gen Gaines, who believed in her legitimacy, and sided her with all his might. It would be wearisome merely to index the various legal struggles, the attempted social ostracisms, the treacheries, the sorrows, the hopes and fears experienced by Mrs. Gaines in this work of her lifetime. She sued in numerous Courts, and with varied success, until her fortune was gone, her friends convinced of the uselessness of further trial, and all but her own indomitable spirit fled. She still struggled on, and, as a last resort, brought the case in its amplitude and its labyrinths of legal technicalities to the Supreme Court of the land. There, after a long and patient hearing, she has obtained her victory. The Court has unanimously decided that Myra Clark Gaines is the only legitimate child of David Clark, and that, as such, she is entitled to all the property left by him. Nor are the years and energies of the courageous woman too far spent to prevent her enjoyment of her vast wealth. Mrs. Gaines, though now in her fifty-fifth year, is represented as being as agreeable specimen of what old people delight in calling "ladies of the old school." She is in good health, and possesses an abundant flow of animal spirits, which have buoyed her up for over thirty years under circumstances of an unusually trying nature.

Mr. Justice Wayne, in closing the decision of the Court, seems to have placed peculiar and significant emphasis on the words, that the Supreme Court would see that the provisions of the decision were carried into effect—a statement of more than ordinary importance when we reflect that possibly the State of Louisiana may decline to take cognizance of, or be bound by, a decree emanating from so less a tribunal than the Supreme Court of the "late United States of America."

The New Patent Law.

In another column of the *Ledger*, this morning, will be found the new Patent Law, passed at the last Congress, and for a copy of which we are indebted to the *Scientific American*. There are important changes in the law which affect the interests of many classes of our citizens. The law allows the patent, except for designs, to exist seventeen instead of fourteen years, and not to be renewed. All patents granted, and now in force, previous to the passage of this Act, can be extended for seven years from date of expiration, upon the same conditions as have hitherto existed, except in the amount of fees, which are clearly stated in the bill. On filing each caveat the fee is $10; application for a patent, except for a design, $15; issuing an original patent, $20; re issue of a patent, $30 No withdrawal of a portion of the patent fee in case of rejection. There is no discrimination in regard to fees against the inhabitants of other countries, except of those which discriminate against the United States. Inventors of all countries, with the exceptions mentioned, are placed on the same footing in this respect.

The most important change in the law is that which relates to designs, which is highly encouraging and protecting to artists and inventors. Paintings may be patented by artists, and piracy, by copying the best works, be stopped. So may pictures, prints, and artistic designs of every possible description, and no person can use or duplicate the same without the consent of the originator. Architects, draughtsmen, engineers, photographers and designers may patent their plans and every new specimen of their work; new designs for bank notes, certificates of stocks, bonds, and all combinations of an artistic character, may be patented. Any new form of an article may be patented, new patterns, new decorations and new styles of work, which is a very important provision for the protection of our designers, manufacturers and traders. Trade marks may be patented, and even the labels affixed to goods. Every new style of article, tool or pattern, used or produced in any trade or profession, may now be secured by federal government. Patents may be taken out for these things at the following rates: For a patent of 3½ years, $10; for a patent of 7 years, $15; for a patent of 14 years, $30. The new law went into force on the 4th of March.—*Phila. Ledger.*

A WASHINGTON correspondent of the New York *Tribune* thus writes concerning the withdrawal of the troops from Fort Sumter:

The Fort Sumter question is one of absorbing interest in all political circles. On Sunday several Western members of Congress had an interview with the President and besought him not to consent to the evacuation of the fortress unless it was absolutely a military necessity. Ben Wade is reported to have said, "If the Administration follows in the footsteps of Buchanan in this matter, it will prove the Hopkinsian theology to be true—it will be damned before it is born." But the Administration will do no such thing. If Sumter is abandoned it will be Mr. Buchanan's, not Mr. Lincoln's fault, and the facts will show it. It is, however, true that Messrs. Blair and Chase were, yesterday, very much opposed to giving the order to evacuate to Major Anderson for the present at least, and it is generally understood that Mr. Seward favors the withdrawal of the troops.

The ecclesiastical movement is proceeding rapidly at Naples, and bids fair to form a prominent feature in the history of the next few months. While the Cardinal Archbishop is denouncing and preaching against Padre Gavazzi, the Padre has opened a *ripolo* in effectionate proximity to the Duomo, where, on Wednesdays and Fridays, he gives controversial lectures, and on Sunday he preaches twice a day. Last Sunday evening, among a great number of Italians, there were five priests present, who applauded the Padre during a part of his discourse, the audience joining in the demonstration, which Gavazzi immediately endeavored to check. One priest has thrown aside his robes and declared himself a Protestant. The police have on several occasions sent to warn the Padre that his life was in danger, but he told them that it was their duty to protect him, and that he should persist in doing what he considered his duty. Gavazzi has shown immense moral courage and great self denial in very straitened circumstances.

M. MIRES—THE FALLEN MILLIONAIRE.—The Paris correspondent of the *N. Y. Tribune* thus sketches the rise and fall of this meteoric luminary of the Bourse, now the universal topic in that city:

Mires the great has fallen. Fallen from the topmost place among the great ones of the financial world to a strictly private cell in the prison of Mazas! The sudden decline and fall of Mires is the Paris news of the week.

Twelve years ago M. Jules Mires was worth pecuniarily little more than the soles of his boots. One year ago, he was one of the kings of French finance, of the new religion. Bold speculation had raised this clever Bourdeaux Israelite, along with his brother Hebrew adventurer, Millard, from the condition of a retail broker to the tip-topmost teetering hights of financial glories. He was the managing head of no end of 'grandes affaires;' of Roman railways, Spanish railways, foreign loans, la Caisse des Chemins de Fer