THE DAILY BEE.
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NEW ORLEANS:
FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 17, 1860.

SUBSCRIPTIONS BY THE WEEK.

The carriers of the BEE are authorized to receive subscriptions to our paper, at the rate of 25 cents a week, payable in all cases to the carriers themselves.

Sales at Auction To-Day.

By Blache & Lemonnier, at 10 o'clock, at No. 69 Chartres street, boots and shoes, hats, caps, clothing, &c.

By B. Turpin, at 10½ o'clock, at No. 36 Old Levee, trifles and truffled pants.

By Blache & Lemonnier, at 10 o'clock, at their auction rooms, No. 88 Chartres street, silver watches, gold pencil cases and pencils. At the same place and same hour, fancy tiles.

DRUMMING.

Much has been said of late of the somewhat novel and highly discreditable practice recently brought into vogue, and vulgarly known as "drumming." The system from first to last is vile, odious, and embecoming a high minded commercial community. As might be anticipated, it originated among the keen and unscrupulous Yankees of the North. There it is of indigenous growth, but among us its cultivation has been forced, and the noxious weed is at best but an imported exotic stimulated to luxuriant development by hot house appliances. This "drumming" is an unfair and unequal sub stitute for healthy and legitimate competition. Honorable merchants shrink from it, and would rather sacrifice a portion of their business than engage systematically in so distasteful a pursuit.

There are two modes in which drumming is now carried on. The first and principal one which we are about to describe is peculiarly pernicious, and marked by the most signal bad faith. The Southern merchant proceeds to New York or Boston, and there lays in an extensive stock, at certain rates and credit, in the full expectation, based upon past experience and knowledge of the trade, that he will readily dispose of it to his country customers. Hardly does he receive and unpack his goods when he finds business unexpectedly dull. Some of his best customers fail to make purchases. Others to whom he habitually sold thousands, restrict their orders to one-third or one-fourth the usual amount. The merchant, amazed, begins to make inquiries, and learns to his surprise and indignation that the Northern dealers, from whom he had obtained his supplies, had immediately after selling to him dispatched active, intelligent agents throughout the South with a view of drumming up the country merchants, and persuading them to give their orders direct. The latter, naturally pleased at this attention, and especially at the proffer of extended credit, are easily induced to comply with the request. Thus the Southern merchant loses a material portion of his business through the treachery of the Northern jobber whom he has helped to enrich. No wonder the community of New Orleans memorialize the Legislature to protection against a practice so well calculated to deprest, if not ruin Southern trade. These drummers, we are told, are peculiarly sharp and indefatigable. They find their way to the most remote and almost inaccessible places. Where ever a village storekeeper is to be found, there the drummer is certain to appear, and to remain until he succeeds in getting an order. Our country merchants, who are so fond of boasting their attachment to the South, and so prone to press a commercial independence, have, it must be confessed, a singular way of evinding their exclusive Southern devotion.

This abominable practice has led to a species of domestic drumming scarcely less obnoxious. For instance, numbers of respectable grocery and other houses in New Orleans employ clerks for almost the exclusive purpose of drumming in stores. These watch the arrivals at the different hotels, and so sooner do they learn that purchasers from the country have reached our city, than they pounce upon them as the eagle on its quarry. These drumming clerks haunt the hotels, boarding houses, and public places of public resort, and leave the new comers no peace until they promise to buy. It is needless to say that this is a most unworthy and censurable custom. It has been introduced only of late years, and is a foreign importation from that teeming and prolific granary of evil and ill-fated schemes for money making—the North. We learn from respectable authority that to such an extent has the system been pushed as to be productive of somewhat serious consequences. In their eagerness to secure customers the drummers not unfrequently offer to sell at cost price. This may do for a while, but must necessarily be ruinous in the long run. The apology made for persisting in drumming is that what some houses do must be imitated by others or the business will be chiefly confined to those who employ drummers. We should say that a better plan would be for the merchants to call a meeting, and agree among themselves to cease giving the slightest countenance or encouragement to the system. If most of our honorable and respectable business houses set their face against drumming, it will soon die a natural death.

It is worthy of remark that the practice is certainly detrimental in the end to those who are addicted to it. A shrewd, intelligent and industrious drummer becomes, in a few years, so indispensable to his employers that he can make his own terms. Controlling many thousands of dollars worth of business, he becomes quite independent, and imposes onerous conditions upon those he serves, or threatens to carry his influence and command of custom elsewhere. Thus he is enabled to give himself the airs of a master and to name his own salary, inasmuch as he is too serviceable to be allowed to leave. This result is but the confirmation of a truth too often overlooked—that evil is certain to meet with retribution.

HAVANA.

ARRIVAL OF THE EMPIRE CITY.

The steamship Empire City reached her wharf yesterday morning. The purser furnishes the annexed:

The Empire City, Capt. Gustavus Harrison, left New York on the 5th, at 8 o'clock, A. M., and entered Havana harbor on the morning of the 12th, having experienced much heavy weather. Here she received the semi-monthly mails and passengers from California per steamship North Star, and also those from Havana, and left at 3 P. M. the same day for this port.

The Empire City brings a very heavy cargo of merchandise from New York, and 109 passengers, viz 32 from New York, 49 from California, and 28 from Havana. Left in port U. S. propeller Crusader, Captain Maffitt, to continue her cruise the following day off the north shore of the island, and steamships Quaker City and Habana, Capt. McConnell reports 30 hours run from dock in New Orleans to anchorage at Havana.

The health of Havana is good, and the city teems with strangers. A general celebration, firing of heavy guns from the Cabanas fort, to multitudes ringing of bells and grand military display, testified to the joy of the Habaneros, at the late fortunate escape—another child born to the State and the Queen mother. All this was evidenced as we entered the harbor by the unusual commotion within, and the brilliant display of bunting from every possible place.

Sir Wm. Gore Ouseley is still at Havana, and politically speaking, "as deaf mute."

No more Coolies are to be brought into Cuba after December, 1860.

The following is the list of passengers by the Empire City:

From New York—Miss F Denison, Harry Hyslop, J Coit Smith, J M Payne, J D Pavella, Mr Stoddard, Mr Hanson, Mrs A Stimpson and 15 in steerage.

From Havana—A Wetmore, J Garcia, J Tourbet, N Salomon, F Alvarez, M Redd, J Rodriguez, L Durand, W Schmidt, F Durand, Mr Hays and lady, Miss Dwight, Mr Hamilton, Mr Cochrane, Mr Gibson and lady, Mr Lawrence, Mr Spurrier and lady and 16 steerage.

From Aspinwall—A Cogswell, B Bryant, lady and 2 children, Mrs M Malloy, Mr Hallenbeck, J Eagleburger, Mr Jasper Terry, T Sellers and servant, Judge Ford, Mr Wm Walker, Mr Wm Walker and child, A J Wetmore, A F Wetmore, Capt R Bates, 18 in the second cabin and 12 steerage.

Gold passed by the Empire City use to the latest dates, but they are wholly destitute of interest. The *Diario de la Marina* has a Vera Cruz correspondent, who predicts a bloody war between the United States and Mexico, in case the McLane treaty is ratified.

HAVANA LOTTERY.—The Royal Lottery was drawn on the 11th inst. The following numbers drew the principal prizes: No. 21,987, $100,000; No. 10,526, $30,000; No. 2508, $30,000; No. 19,928, $20,000; No. 110, $10,000; Nos. 14,232, 2417, 3782, 3806, 4490, 5316, 5523, 5818, 5897, 6190, 6328, 6903, 7142, 9269, 9253, 9304, 10,187, 10,235, 15,110, 15,900, 12,811, 14,743, 15,161, 15,514, 15,817, 16,273, 16,837, 18,621, 19,259, 21,082, 21,790, 22,518, 22,600, 22,822, 23,054, 23,600, 23,943, 24,475, 25,792, 26,211, 26,406, 26,501, 27,894, 27,794, 28,493, 28,531, 28,618, 29,823 and 29,873—each $1000.

THE BON TON.—Messrs. Bloomfield & Steel, No 40 Camp street, have favored us with the February number of this valuable publication. *Le Bon Ton* is issued by S. T. Taylor, 407 Broadway, New York. It is a complete and accurate journal of the latest fashions, and is of course highly serviceable to milliners, dressmakers and ladies in general. Each number is enriched with superb engravings, and contains two times paper patterns of some portion of a lady's toilet, such as the robe, cloak, bertha, zippet, &c.

MADY MCVICKER'S BENEFIT.—The charming little vocalist takes her benefit this evening at Odd Fellows' Hall. She will be assisted by Mr. H. Squires and Mr. Hoffman. We trust the appreciative citizens of New Orleans will offer her a substantial token of their liberality.

The old sentiments in Vermont and Crawford counties, Pennsylvania, is equal to the gold fever in California. The whole basin of Oil creek is full of it. It is only necessary to have some 1000 feet into the basins to get a fast stream of the oil, which is equal to the best whale.

The New Orleans Bee.

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RATES OF ADVERTISING.

TEN DOLLARS for every TEN lines in such language as the best interests of every individual may prompt him to pay.

Advertisements on the first page ONE DOLLAR per square each insertion.

Advertisements inserted at intervals will be charged ONE DOLLAR for every TEN lines, for each insertion.

The privilege of Annual Advertisers is limited to advertisements strictly within the line of their business, and to extend to our square every other day.

No subscription taken for less than one year. No subscription to advertising will be stopped until all arrearages are paid, unless at the option of the proprietors.

BY TELEGRAPH.

[TRANSMITTED TO THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.]

Further by the Prince Albert.

Increasing Discontent in Hungary—No Armed Interventions in Italy.

ST. JOHNS, N. F., February 16.—The latest advices by the Prince Albert, from Vienna state that the discontent in all portions of Hungary is increasing and becoming almost universal.

The Government of Austria is preparing stringent measures to prevent any demonstrations of popular feeling or insurrectionary movements.

The London *Post*, Palmerston's organ, says that the Western powers of Europe have contemplated no armed intervention in Italian affairs, and will not permit it except by the unanimous consent of all the great European powers.

COTTON MILL BURNED.

A fire had occurred at Winchester which destroyed the Hanover Cotton Mill. The loss is estimated at £30,000.

PARIS BOURSE

The Paris Bourse had somewhat improved. The three per cents rentes closed at 67f 10c.

LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE.

Gambling in the State of Louisiana.

BATON ROUGE, February 16, 1860.—The House of Representatives met this morning at 11 o'clock—Hon. C. H. Morrison, Speaker, in the chair. Seventy-eight members present. Prayer by Rev Raffelle Hubert.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Mr H. W. Allen, of West Baton Rouge, offered a joint resolution to deposit the notarial and colonial records of the State of Louisiana in the archives of the Historical Society of Louisiana.

The bill providing for the draining of Pointe Manoir levee and closing the canal dug by a second land commissioner, was favorably reported by the special committee to whom it was referred. The bill was taken up and passed.

Mr. Hayne introduced a bill which provides for the restrainment and prohibition of the practice of gambling in the State of Louisiana.

The bill as introduced reads as follows:

Whereas, The practice of gambling is generally known to be one of the great evils which entail many great and serious misfortunes and greatly adds to the demand so frequently made by the charitable institutions of the State, and

Whereas, The laws for the extirpation of gambling have never as yet accomplished their object, but on the contrary, having permitted its practice to be driven into retired and secret places, have left its victims exposed to the worthy victims wholly to the mercy of those who seek to ruin them by means which should never be tolerated in any community exposed to observation, thus effectually defeating the end of justice and the wise government; and

Whereas, Those who prosecute and profit from the business, thereby entailing a heavy expense upon the community at large, should above all others be made to bear the burdens imposed; and

Whereas, The experience of forty-eight years has fully demonstrated that in neglecting to tax gamblers, the Legislature of Louisiana is forced to tax the good citizens of the State for support of their victims—and

Whereas, All just and reasonable means should be employed for the purpose of diminishing this public burden, more especially at a time when so many causes are combined to increase them; and,

Whereas, it is a notorious fact that the large portion of the profits accumulated by gambling are secreted and hurried out of the State by persons who are not citizens of the State of Louisiana, these persons thus escape all taxation and leave the permanent residents of the State to pay what is not rightfully their share, therefore,

Section 1—Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Assembly convened, That the Auditor of Public Accounts and the Treasurer of State shall issue to any citizen of the city of New Orleans who will secure properly recommended, and give turnout in bond in the penal sum of $20,000 for the faithful performance of the bond, shall require the signature of the applicant, together with those of three irreproachable sureties, or more, among unimpeachable property, qualifying in aggregate to double the amount of the bond, a license of a nature adapted to gambling, and keep expressly for that purpose, in the city of New Orleans, shall be required to procure a license, paying to the State Treasurer the sum of $25,000 annually, and every house so kept, a further sum of $25,000 to be paid to the Treasurer and Auditor for the use of said license.

Section II—Be it further enacted, That the final strange bond, which license shall be paid into the State treasury together with the additional hereinafter provided, it shall constitute the State charitable fund for distribution in support of the Charity Hospital of New Orleans, the Deaf, Dumb and Blind Asylum at Baton Rouge, the Insane Asylum at Jackson, and to other charitable institution of the State as the certain amount to be given as their wants may require it.

Section III—Be it further enacted, That gaming-houses licensed under the authority of this act shall never be kept open during the hour of any building, or otherwise exposed to public view. The house shall, however keep their doors open at all times for the admission of all visitors, and the police, upon receiving evidence of forfeiting their license and bond after summary proceedings before any Court competent of jurisdiction.

Section IV. Be it further enacted, That any person, whether holding a license or not, who shall keep a private house or room where banks or hazard games are played, either for pay or against the house or by players amongst themselves, and where admittance is not free to the public, civil officers and to the police, shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to no less than seven months imprisonment at hard labor. The proprietor or proprietors of a gaming house found on upon such a footing shall moreover be required to pay a fine amounting to no less than two thousand dollars, and not exceeding ten thousand dollars. One half of this sum to be appropriated to the State charitable fund, one third to the most legally constituted gambling house, and the other fourth to the informer who shall be in no way and by no reason of interest to him be deemed incompetent as a witness against the offender.

Section V—Be it further enacted, That any person found in any room, house or other place where unlicensed banking or games are carried on under the proprietor of any other project, shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to imprisonment for a term of no less than three months, or more than twelve months, with or without hard labor. The person or persons found in such house shall furthermore be required to pay a fine amounting to no less than five hundred and not exceeding one thousand dollars. One half of the amount to be appropriated to the State Charitable Fund, the other half to the informer, who shall in no way and by no reason of interest to him be deemed incompetent as a witness against the offender.

Section VI—Be it further enacted, That any person who will open or keep a gaming table or room in any square, street, road or at any place of public resort, such as houses of rendezvous, steamboat halls or cabins, or other public places, shall forthwith be arrested by a police constable, or by any two citizens or bystanders, all his paraphernalia, apparatus, decks or money to be confiscated and the interest thereof to be given to the party engaged in the arrest. The person himself carrying on gambling in such a manner, upon due conviction, shall be sentenced to a term of not less than three nor more than seven years imprisonment in hard labor.

Section VII.—Be it further enacted, That the owner of any cape, ground or other boat, or steamer, or the captains and owners of any steamboat or other water craft employed as a common carrier, who shall allow any banking or other hazard game played on board of their vessel, upon conviction, forfeit a sum amounting to no less than one thousand and not exceeding five thousand dollars. One half of the amount to be appropriated to the State Charitable Fund, the other half to the informer, who shall in no way and by reason of interest be deemed incompetent as a witness against the offender.

Section VIII—Be it further enacted, That the Auditor of Public Accounts and the State Treasurer may, if they judge that the security offered in bond, allow the party applying for a license to carry on gambling to make a quarterly payment in advance, but the security bond shall be for a whole year's term, and no license shall be issued for a shorter period.

Section IX—Be it further enacted, That the Police Jury of any parish in the Legislature, the right bank of the parishes of Orleans and Jefferson, and the villages, towns and cities thereon situated excepted, as well as the municipal authorities of any incorporated town and city may, if they shall deem it proper, fix a rate, and request the Auditor of Public Accounts and the State Treasurer to issue a license for public gaming houses within their jurisdiction, provided that the price of license thus issued shall, in the city of Baton Rouge, be less than ten thousand dollars, and in any other place less than five thousand, one half of the proceeds to be appropriated to the State Charitable fund and the remainder to be expended for charitable and educational purposes in the parishes he or as the Police Jury shall think deserving in the parish where the license shall be issued.

Section X.—Be it further enacted, That the license may be issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts and the State Treasurer, in gaming houses on the right bank of the Mississippi river in the parishes of Orleans and Jefferson, but the price of such a license shall be the same as in New Orleans; one half of the proceeds to go to the State and the other half to charitable and educational purposes, as the Police Jury may best determine.

Section XI. Be it further enacted, That the prohibitions and penalties decreed by the present act shall be applied throughout the State to the offenses herein mentioned.

Section XII. Be it further enacted, That all laws and parts of laws conflicting with the provisions of the present act shall be, and the same are hereby repealed, and this act shall take effect from and after its passage.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SENATE.

The Senate met at 11 o'clock this morning, Hon. H. M. Hyams, Lieutenant-Governor and President of the Senate, in the chair. Twenty-eight members present. The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Mr. Lawrence presented a memorial from the Medical Department in the University of Louisiana. The Secretary having finished the reading of the memorial, Mr Lawrence obtained the floor and spoke as follows:

MR. LAWRENCE'S SPEECH.

Mr. President—I believe, sir, that no matter of this floor, or in the hall at the head of the Capitol, is more ready, sir, to do his duty, to guard the interests of the State, and to protect the Treasury than I. I think it is necessary that we should husband her resources and guard well the interests of the State in the appropriations we make in our institutions, but, sir, I believe that the time has now arrived when the State of Louisiana should protect and encourage the Cause of our institutions at home. It is due, Mr. President, to her and the gentlemen representing that college and the medical faculty of the University of Louisiana that we should give them all the aid in our power.

You are aware Mr. President, and I suppose that the Senate is also aware of the result of the late attempt to force upon us the doctrine of the irrepressible conflict, exemplified in Helper's book and the Harper's Ferry foray.

You are aware that there are from such students in the law and medical colleges in the North, who have been driven from their institutions to their homes and, sir, can be can, ready to welcome and open the doors of the treasury of the State of Louisiana to encourage them by enlarging our buildings, and to do everything in our power to educate them here at home.

The Speaker was here informed that he was out of order. On motion of Mr. Laidlaw, which was seconded, he was allowed to proceed.

Mr. President, I was going to state that I look upon this memorial as one which requires great and particular considerations on the part of our Senators.

I wish that on the presentation of every memorial which provides for the improvement, the increase and the enlargement of our institutions, to give such a full consideration and approval as far as the interest of the State will admit.

I will ask the Senate to allow me to make some remarks upon this important subject.

As I have said before, Mr. President, the young men of the South have been driven back to their homes, from the North, there to be educated.

And, sir, the State of Louisiana offers to the whole South better advantages than any other State in the Union for educating a medical faculty for the whole country. Where are they to go if we refuse to make an appropriation to enlarge our colleges and improve our institutions?

I admit the basis, fifty thousand dollars is a large appropriation. I don't know, Mr. President, if that amount can or will be given by the Senate when it shall have been referred to a proper committee. I hope that their report will be favorable.

But, Mr. President, to return to the point I do know that the time has now arrived when we should look with a very liberal eye upon our institutions.

We know that the State of Virginia is already overflowed with those young men of her State who were in the habit of being sent abroad to be educated. I want to give them encouragement to remain in the South, and be educated at home.

It is the duty, sir, of the State of Louisiana to see that this institution offers greater advantages in learning than any other in the State, or in the Union. The New Orleans Medical Faculty of the University of Louisiana is admitted to stand as high at least as any university in the world, and should we be called upon, it is our duty, as Senators upon this floor, to encourage the young men to remain South in providing for their education at home, and by giving them all the necessary advantages to accomplish this object.

But this cannot be done unless we construct an additional building and increase the number of rooms on the lot in New Orleans. There is only room enough for 150 dissecting students at once. There are 400 students in the college, and it is necessary that these 400 should have room to be able to dissect at one time. The lecture room is too small, and the class is growing rapidly; therefore the State should contribute to the institution, the appropriation not to be very large.

For one would give full extent to the State in aiding that institution. It wants modern improvement. The library is too small, the upper rooms want renovating, and the consequence is because they have not more room now.

I will not detain the Senate any longer I simply desire that the memorial be referred to the proper committee on Finance.

The memorial was referred.

Mr Bullington introduced a bill providing for the appropriation of ten thousand dollars to the Creole Guards. The bill was referred to the Committee on Militia.

Mr. Shadburne introduced a bill to authorize the Parish Surveyor in the parish of Madison to appoint adequate surveyor. The bill was taken up, read three times and passed.

Mr Laidlaw introduced a bill to authorize the Secretary of State to subscribe to fifty copies of Powell's map of Pointe Coupee, West Baton Rouge and other parishes, for distribution, and appropriating five hundred dollars to that purpose. The bill was referred to the Committee on Public Works.

Mr Flournoy, introduced a bill requiring the Board of Public Works to make a cut off at Scopinas Point, on Red River. Referred to the Committee on Public Works.

The following bills were passed by the Senate today:

The bill to amend the act relative to the jurisdiction of New Orleans parish, approved on the 15th of March, 1859.

The bill authorizing the appointment of an interpreter for the First District Court of New Orleans.

The bill for the relief of H. J. Baker.

The following bills were passed by the House to-day:

The bill to change the time of holding terms in the Tenth District Court; also the bill to change the name of Frederick Southgate Brown and others, of New Orleans.

Thirty-Sixth Congress—First Session.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, February 16.—The House met to-day at 12 M.—Speaker Pendington in the chair.

After prayer and the reading of the journal, Mr Bingham introduced a bill for publishing that portion of the acts of the Territorial Legislature which provides for the establishment or prohibition of slavery.

After a brief discussion the bill was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Sherman offered a resolution instructing the Post-Office Committee to inquire into the expediency of letting out the entire postal service by contract to the lowest responsible bidders. The resolution was adopted.

Mr. Sherman also, on behalf of the select committee appointed at the last session of Congress to inquire into the conduct of the President and Secretary of the Navy in relation to the contract for coal and live oak for the naval service, offered the resolution adopted by that committee, to the effect that the President and Secretary of the Navy had abused their powers in making contracts for coal and live oak for the navy, with a view of bestowing the patronage of the department for electioneering purposes, and that such a course deserves the condemnation of the House. The resolution was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SENATE.

In the Senate yesterday the Post-Office Deficiency bill, after being amended by striking out the provision abolishing the franking privilege, was passed by a vote of 32 yeas to 17 nays.

The proceedings in the Senate to-day were not of general interest or importance. A large portion of the sitting was occupied in a discussion upon the banking system of the District of Columbia.

The Senate adjourned over to Monday

WASHINGTON MATTERS—THE NEXT PRESIDENCY

WASHINGTON, February 16.—It is generally understood in political circles that if Senator Douglas fails to secure the nomination the Free Soil party, at Charleston Convention, he will transfer all his strength and influence to Senator Stephens, of Georgia. Senator Douglas has almost entirely recovered from his recent attack of illness.

THE CHARLESTON PLATFORM.

NEW YORK, February 16.—The Washington correspondent of the New York *Times* says that Mr. Bright, the Chairman of the National Democratic Committee, has named Messrs. Green, Pitch, Bigler and Stephens as the committee for preparing a platform for the Charleston Convention.

POST-OFFICE APPROPRIATION BILL APPROVED.

WASHINGTON, February 16.—The President has approved the Post Office Appropriation bill as passed by the Senate yesterday.

The bill appropriates $1,500,000 for arrears due by the Post-Office Department for postal service previous to the 30th June last, and $4,000,000 for the expenses of the Department to the 30th of June, 1860.

THE GREAT SOUTHERN MAIL.

WASHINGTON, February 16.—Arrangements have been completed for the dispatch of the mail twice per day, daily mails between New York and New Orleans, and the arrangement will go into effect next week.

DEATH OF STEPHEN WHITNEY.

NEW YORK, February 16.—Stephen Whitney, the wealthiest citizen of this city, except Wm. B. Astor, died to-day. He was seventy years of age.

SOUTH AMERICA.—By way of Panama we have received later advices from South America.

From Chili there is no news of interest. A destructive fire broke out at Valparaiso and swept away fifty houses.

From Buenos Ayres we learn that as the Paraguayan war steamer Tacuari was leaving the harbor with Gen Lopez on board, an English gunboat fired a shot across her bows, compelling her to return. Great indignation was caused by this occurrence.

BOLIVIA.—Letters from Puno, dated January 2, state that general discontent exists throughout the republic against President Linares. Revolutions had broken out in Cochabamba, Tarija, Sucre and other points, but they were put down by the troops.

Linares was at La Paz with three divisions of his army. Gen. Belzu was at Cercocito; Melillo and Gen. Urbina, of Ecuador, were at La Paz. Dr. Urcia is said to have been banished from Bolivia by Linares.

CALIFORNIA.—By the Empire City we have received California papers to the 20th ult. Their contents have been anticipated by previous arrivals.

J. B. WALTON.—It will be seen by an advertisement in another column that Mr. J. B. Walton, auctioneer, has removed from No. 10 Bank Place to No. 40 Camp street.

The Grand Council Royal and Select Masters began their annual assembly yesterday. The following are the principal officers elect for the Masonic year:

M. P. Grand Master, John H. Holland.
P. D. G. Master, S. M. Todd.
T. J. G. Master, A. S. Washburn.
P. C. of the W., A. C. Driver.
G. Capt. of the Guard, B. DaSilva.
Grand Treasurer, H. R. Swasey.
Grand Recorder, S. G. Rink.

BY EXPRESS.—Thanks to Mr. McKeever, agent of Adams's Express, for late Cincinnati and Louisville papers.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., February 16.—It was announced here this morning that the Rhode Island Exchange Bank at East Greenwich had failed, and that the cashier was defaulter to the amount of $72,000. The capital is $60,000, and the circulation $90,000. He is also a defaulter to the Savings Bank, at the same of which he is treasurer, to the amount of $36,000. He has lost money in stock speculations. The assets of the bank are ample for the redemption of its circulation, and the holders of bills ought not to sacrifice.

The successful laying of the telegraph cable between Sangapore and Batavia has occasioned the interchange of complimentary messages, not only between the governments of the two dependencies, but also between the merchants of both places. The utmost cordiality prevails on the subject, and it is hoped that the cable will be the means of cementing a still closer intimacy between the colonists of England and the Netherlands.

NEW YORK, February 11.—Wm. L. Tours was found dead in the street this morning with his skull crushed by some blunt heavy instrument. His watch-chain was stolen. There is yet no clue to the murderer. The deceased was employed as night watchman in the Customhouse.

ADDITIONAL FOREIGN NEWS.

FRANCE.—M. Thouvenel has assumed office as Minister of Foreign Affairs. On the 24th he issued a circular to the various Ambassadors pledging his best efforts to maintain and consolidate the existing friendly relations.

The commercial treaty between France and England continued to attract attention and speculation. The *Constitutionnel* publishes several articles of the treaty as the following:

"On and after July 1 next the import duties on cotton and wool will be suppressed; English coal and coke will be subject to the same duties as in Belgium. After October next a duty of 15 will be substituted for the actual duty on iron. From December duties on machinery will be diminished. From January, 1860, the sugar duty will be reduced. From June, 1861, prohibitions of the importations of thread and hemp will be replaced by a duty not exceeding thirty per cents, and from October, 1861, all remaining prohibitions will be abolished. The advantages granted to France will be stated shortly."

Some French journals report that the duty on French wines imported into England will be only 24 per bottle, and in instead of 5s 9d. per gallon; that silk will be admitted free.

The project for the annexation of Savoy and Nice to France was frequently alluded to in the French semi-official journals in an almost accomplished fact.

From Brazos Santiago.

The Brownsville *Flag* of the 9th contains the following additional particulars of the attack on the steamer Ranchero.

Since the fight at Rhost, Major Tobin and Captain Tomlinson, with their companies, arrived in the city. Subsequently Col Ford and Capt Littleton, with their companies, all of which the attacked steamer, returned and reported themselves at headquarters.

From various sources we have been able to gather the following particulars in reference to the fight: The enemy fired upon the steamer at or near Brass. They also fired upon the advance guard of Capt Tomlinson, all which was returned from the gunboat. About the same time the baggage wagons of Ford and Littleton's commands arrived; the guard in charge of them encountered a body of some 25 Mexicans on the side, and drove them across Resaca. Major Tobin and Capt Tomlinson arrived and conducted a party of men to the side. The firing upon the Mexican side was brisk, and Fountain B. Woodhill was mortally wounded.

Ford and Littleton were below making a reconnoissance. Littleton came up first, and a message was sent to inform Ford of what had happened. When he came he decided at once to cross. He sashed and proceeded to the operation of Major Tobin and Capt Tomlinson, 150 men, all told, crossed the river. Tobin and Tomlinson, being in advance, drove in Cortina's pickets. The enemy were posted behind a strong picket fence. Their cavalry, numbering about 60, were drawn up on the road in their rear. Tobin's men opened with a volley of rifles upon the Mexicans, he formed his line of battle opposite to that of the enemy, faced and moved to the right. By this manoeuver the bank of the river was gained, and an impregnable position secured to fight from. The Mexicans opened the engagement by pouring in a volley. The engagement gradually worked their way up the bank of the river, and answered the Mexicans by a sharp and well-directed fire. When the firing had lasted an hour, Lieutenants Pugh and Rogers, with a small party of mounted men, moved up this side of the river and opened fire on the Mexicans. The cavalry retreated, and Ford ordered a charge, which was gallantly made. The enemy fled, and the Rangers pursued them about three quarters of a mile, when night put a stop to the fight. The loss of the enemy is thought to have been about 25 killed. It is reported by Mexican authority to have been 60 killed and wounded. The Rangers lost one man mortally wounded and two slightly.

There were some horses, arms and other trophies taken on the field.

We have been well assured that had our men been mounted, they could have had annihilated the whole force of the enemy, which was not less than two hundred strong.

Our force recrossed the river the same night, but next day Ford and Littleton, with 48 mounted men, went back there and remained some time during the night ensuing, when Ford received an order from Maj Hunt, to join A, to return to this side, the latter having preferred with the remaining portion of the Mexican competitors, who had promised to guard the Ranchero against attack from the Mexican side, whereupon Col. Ford and Capt. Littleton, with their 48 daring spirits, returned to this side.

ESCAPE OF RONIO, THE IMPERIAL ASSASSIN FROM CAYENNE.—The Demerara *Colonist*, of the 27th of December, received in London, seven men—convicts—escaped from Cayenne, six days ago, in an open boat. Among them was Carlo de Radio, who was sentenced to hard labor for life for his share in the Orsini plot to assassinate the Emperor of the French, in January, 1858. They are described as a well blooded party. Having made their escape, they rushed to the beach, stove in six boats and put to sea in the seventh. They reached Berbice on Sunday. Radio immediately separated from his companions, and disappeared from the place. The rest subsequently arrived at Demerara. The French war steamer came in pursuit of them, accompanied by the Vice-Consul of France, and had an interview with the Governor respecting them. By the extradition treaty, the Governor has no power to deliver up an escaped convict. They still continue at large in the city.

WM E. BURTON, the comedian, died at New York on the 11th inst., in the 57th year of his age. A Northern paper says:

William Evans Burton was born at London in 1804. He was intended for the church, and received a classical education, and at an early age edited a monthly magazine. He at length became interested in amateur theatricals, wrote several dramatic pieces, and finally became a professional actor. In 1834 he came to this country, and undertook the management of different theatres in various American cities. In 1847 he purchased Palmo's Opera House, and for ten years that establishment, known as "Burton's Theatre," was one of the most popular and fashionable places of amusement in the city of New York.

Mr. Burton was a profound Shakspearean scholar, and possessed, probably, the finest Shakspearean library in the country. He has been engaged in various literary works, the latest of which was "A Cyclopædia of Wit and Humor," published by the Appletons.

No actor on the stage equaled him as a comedian. He had a wide range of comic and eccentric parts, and it was in his rich, unctuous style of character that he was most eminent. The Chadbands, Spicers and Aminadab Sleeks of the stage found in him their best delineator. Nothing in Shakspeare's plays his "Falstaff" and "Nick Bottom" were his favorite parts.

The death of Mr Burton will be received with regret everywhere.

A BUSINESS OPERATION.—The Cincinnati *Gazette* of the 8th says that a Dr. Hadedy, of that city, persuaded a likely negro boy that both could make a good operation by the boy holding the Doctor to sell him into slavery at Louisville, and then taking the underground road again to liberty. The Doctor took the boy to Louisville, sold him for $1100, and pocketed the money. The boy found himself in a tight fix, and could not so easily find the "track," and therefore divulged the fraud. Louisville officers arrested the Doctor at Cincinnati, and he will probably last in the Penitentiary.

THRILLING ADVENTURE.—On Monday last, a party of gentlemen visited the bay for the purpose of seeing the Indians and others fish for trout. About two o'clock they came in sight, and observed a boat of some kind in motion. It appeared there was a strong current in the water, but an examination disclosed the fact that the wagon which they were watching had upset from them and gone ashore, and that they were rapidly floating into Lake Huron. They at once put their horses into motion to find some point where they could get to the mainland, but could find no such place. In the meantime they were going very rapidly, the wind blowing a gale from the shore. Their situation was very dangerous, both as regards the danger of the breaking up of the ice upon which they were, and the severe cold, great excitement existed at Bay City among the inhabitants generally, and many plans for their relief were talked of and canvassed. The general feeling seemed rather, while one end of the ice was fortunately grounded on Squaw Point. They made a rush for the shore, after first getting off their horses and sleighs. The ice was broken, and they had to travel some distance over separate cakes to reach the shore.—*East Saginaw Courier, February 3.*

THE COINAGE OF CENTS.—Messrs Burnett & Co., well known bankers of Boston, furnish the following statement, which explains how the brokers can sell the new coinage of cents at a discount:

In order to accomplish the double purpose of removing from circulation the Spanish fractions of a dollar, and of introducing the new cent coin, it was, by the act of February 21, 1857, provided that the "pieces commonly known as the quarter, half and eighteenth of the Spanish silver dollar and of the Mexican dollar, should be received at the Mint "at the nominal rates of 25, 12½ and 6¼ cents respectively." Under this arrangement, brokers buy Spanish coin by the piece, or at weight, forward it to the Mint, and exchange it at the nominal value for the new cent coin at par. The coin brokers then sell the cent coin in large amounts at a little discount, and still make a profit. As there is now very little Spanish fractional coin in circulation, and as the law expires by limitation upon the 1st of May, 1861, the coinage of cents cannot be very largely increased.

According to testimony in a suit in Leicestershire, England, it appears that by working 12 teen hours per day his stocking knitters can earn from six to nine shillings per week. Of this they paid from one to two shillings a week to the employer for the use of his knitting frame, so that the actual wages were reduced to from five to seven shillings a week, of which they must take the larger amount in groceries of their employer at his prices. The average wages is about $1 50 per week. The condition of those having families to support may be imagined. Some of those summoned as witnesses could not appear in court till decent clothing could be borrowed for them.

Some of the German journals announce seriously that a company of English capitalists have made an application to the King of Naples for a concession for the extinction of Vesuvius. The principal seat of the fire of that volcanoes is situated several thousand feet below the level of the sea. By cutting a canal which would carry the water into the crater, the fire would be completely extinguished, and the operation, which would only cost 2,000,000f., would restore to cultivation land of ten times that value.

MAINE.—The valuation of property in Maine shows an increase of over sixty per cent during the last ten years. In 1850 the value was $96,242,254, and in 1860 $162,470,914. The greatest ratio of increase is in Aroostook county, the valuation in 1850 being $319,254, and in 1860 $1,174,316. In Cumberland county the increase was from sixteen to thirty six millions. The increase in polls is 23,690, over twenty two per cent, or but little more than one third the ratio of increase in valuation. In 1850 the average amount of estate to a single poll was $879 50. In 1860 the average is $1,182 25—increase of property to each poll $361 75. The population in 1850 was 583,923. Assuming the increase of population to be in the same ratio as that of the polls, Maine now has a population of 712,963, or an increase on 1850 of 129,038.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Amusements This Evening.—At the Varieties—"Everybody's Friend" and "The Advocate's Last Cause."

At the St. Charles—"Midas" and "London Assurance."

At the Amphitheatre—The Marsh Juvenile Comedians—"The Serious Family" and "Toodles."

At Masonic Hall—The Bible Panorama.

At the Armory Hall—"The Banyan Tableaux," illustrative of the world-renowned allegory of the Pilgrim's Progress.

At Vanauchi's Museum—An immense collection of curiosities, among them the "Ohio Mammoth Pet Hog" and "American Giantess."

Things Theatrical—Couldock's Benefit.—An admirably full house on Wednesday night testified the estimation in which Mr. Couldock is held by our theatre-going citizens. Right well is he deserving this estimation too. Merit is always acknowledged by the reason; they become the advocate for this cause; in this is their conservatism ever powerful, potent, grateful.

We congratulate Mr. Couldock for his having won the high estimation of our citizens, and for invitation the Varieties Theatre. His benefit was a brilliant one; and, to be simple and sincere in expression, we wish him "many happy returns of the same."

The light little moral story piece in which Mr Couldock personated, "the Advocate's Cause," is new to the majority of the theatrical world, though an adaptation from an old French *petit mélo-dr