cessfully tested in practice by tracing the course of several rivers. By changing the width of the blade machine, rotating upon the plotter, the width of the river may also be indicated.

New-York.

PRINCIPLES, NOT MEN.

THURSDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 21, 1861

Branch Office and Bulletin.
NO. 21 BROADWAY, CORNER CHAMBERS STREET
(Underthe Shoe and Leather Bank.)

The Branch Office of this Paper has been removed to 21 Broadway, cor. of Chambers st., under the Shoe and Leather Bank, and will be open from 8 A.M. to 9 P.M. It is intended for those who do not find it convenient to send to Pennsylvania. A Bulletin will be found there similar to that in the Tower Office.

The Peace Conference, at Washington, it is thought, will take a final vote on the pending proposition, on the 22d inst.—WASHINGTON'S Birthday.

In answer to the questions of mail contractors whether they will be paid as heretofore, the Post Office responds affirmatively, stating that drafts will be issued to them on the Postmasters to be paid from the postal revenue collected within those States.

The House Committee on the President's Message have made a report which they conclude with a resolution censuring the Secretary of the Navy for accepting, without enquiry, the resignations of officers who were in arms against their country when they resigned.

Stirring news comes to us from Texas. It is said that Forts Chadbourne and Belknap have been seized by the Texans, also a coach with the mail, and that the mail agents and employes have been imprisoned.

The news from Arkansas is favorable for the Union Ticket.

Colonel Fort Kearney, according to a despatch to Nebraska City, had been seized by a party of from [illegible] men, and the Palmetto flag raised, and the Secessionists [illegible] mustering in their strength, re-took the fort, tore down the Union flag, hoisted the Palmetto flag, and fired the stars and stripes to their place. At New Fort Kearney, where Capt. MILES commands, the stars and stripes still flow, proudly, and Capt. MILES declares his intention to defend them against all traitors.

In the Virginia Convention, a report was made, stating that all but sixteen counties had been heard from, and that the majority for submitting the action of the Convention to the People was 52,857.

In the United States Senate, yesterday, the Tariff bill was passed by a vote of 25 to 14.

In the House of Representatives the consideration of the Volunteer bill, reported from the Military Committee, was resumed. Mr. BOCOCK, of Virginia, addressed the House, in opposition to the bill but before he had concluded his remarks the morning hour expired, and the Report of the Committee of Thirty-three was resumed. The Senate's amendment to the Navy bill, appropriating $1,200,000 for the construction of seven steam screw sloops-of-war, was then taken up, and Mr. GARNETT, of Virginia, offered a proviso that said sloops shall not be used to execute the Federal laws. A warm debate ensued, in which Mr. GARNETT openly declared that he was for Virginia seceding at the earliest possible moment. Mr. GARNETT's amendment, however, was rejected, and the bill was finally passed.

Italy.—One of the most interesting events in modern history is that which has been presented in Italy. The history of the progress of the Italians, since their overthrow of their despotic rulers, is one almost unprecedented. It could hardly have been expected that a people who had been so despotically governed as they had been, would have exercised the greatest moderation and self restraint was removed from the iron power of Church and State. Indeed, they have cast from out of them every vestige of freedom. Body and mind, had under the double form of despotism, were surrounded with the strongest shackles. Under this weight it seemed that humanity had succumbed. When it at length appeared that the Italians were growing restless, the universal opinion seemed to be that they were a sadly degraded race, and totally incapable to appreciate the blessings of freedom. Travellers in Italy spoke of the listlessness and the total want of energy in the Italian. They saw the effects of the oppressive rule which had lived, and erroneously supposed they fully appreciated the Italian character. But the truth was, that the opportunity only was needed to prove that the blood of the ancient Romans was not extinct—that the fire was smouldering, it had not been extinguished. When the crushing weight of the Church and State was removed, the Italians surprised the world by appearing to appreciate fully the benefits which they had escaped. There were no violent outbreaks, no retaliations upon those who had so cruelly wronged them. Their self-restraint was marvellous, and they presented the speculative people who had been despitefully governed, evincing a just discrimination between liberty and license. They gave rather a rude shock to the theory, that a people must give evidence of being prepared for freedom, before it should be conferred upon them.

Since they achieved their first success they have invariably exhibited all the moderation that could be desired. The more oppressive the despotism, the greater wonder must it excite. Thus far, it certainly seems that freedom could hardly have been bestowed upon a people who were more deserving. Their course has not been unattended with danger. Temptations of various kinds have been presented to them, but only to be resisted. The followers of MAZZINI have worked, but they have achieved nothing. The best friends of Italy have lamented the differences which have existed between CAVOUR and GARIBALDI. These differences have at times, threatened to be a rock upon which Italian freedom might be wrecked. Noble as seemed the desires of GARIBALDI, it was evident that the true policy for Italy was that of CAVOUR. That of GARIBALDI was one which certainly appealed to the passions of the people, if it held out promises of consummating their desires. The freedom of Venetia was what every friend of Italy desired, and what every person believed must eventually be secured. Wisdom dictated the awaiting of the time when events would warrant the securing of that freedom; but national feeling, and a hatred of the oppressor, urged the striking for that freedom at once. If GARIBALDI had brought yielding to the arguments of CAVOUR, the people knew that he had done so reluctantly. They knew what he earnestly wished, and they generally were guided by that. Whenever, therefore, they had it in their power to sustain the policy of GARIBALDI, that they did not sustain it spoke well for them. It showed that, notwithstanding their sympathy with the Venetians, they can be governed by wisdom. While the Cavour policy might be the true one, it certainly had not those attractions which would captivate a nation. The results of the recent elections in Italy, however, prove that the Italians have an appreciation of what their position demands, that could not reasonably have been expected. The temptation to attack Venetia was great, and had GARIBALDI been the ruler of Italy, Cavour's plan was from the outset, lost. Lastly anything else could have. It is certainly the most appropriate climax to the course which has been pursued, that Cavour's plan should be done for Italy is well known. Few men could have guided her as safely as he over the reefs and shoals she has passed. What her future will be under his guidance, can well be imagined. To GARIBALDI the highest praise is due for his having given up a project which was to him so dear, and for having yielded to a policy to which he has been so severe. Had an additional proof of his patriotism been needed, it would be found in this, his last and crowning act.

The Manners of Broadway.—The hour in which a stranger lands in New York, he is ushered into the great thoroughfare. He is called upon to admire the size of the hotels, the magnificence of the shops, and he does so. His attention is directed to the excellence of our building materials, the splendor of our architecture, and he willingly concedes the expected praise. The ceiling of the ladies receives appropriate tribute, and the gorgeousness of their plumage is acknowledged with wonder and awe. The dimensions and dignified carriage of the policemen are noted, and the force is favorably compared with that of London. Such are a few of the incontestable merits to be recognized in the great street of our island city; and there are many others which the observant and intelligent foreigner will as readily admit and admire. But there is no rose without a thorn. The sweetest cup of honey has a drop of gall at the bottom. In the most perfect work, there is still something to improve, and even in Broadway the finishing touches of beauty and elegance are yet to be applied before the eye of taste can quite approve the picture. The unpleasant truth must be told which attests that among our many virtues there are still defects. To commence, it is an absolute fact the majority of persons who promenade Broadway, do not precisely know how to behave themselves. They jostle and push and elbow and stare, and walk backwards, and hold conversations in knots conveniently stationed at the exact centre of the side-walk. They puff cigars in the faces of ladies, and send spinning jets of tobacco juice in gay profusion over steps and pavements where the fair sex must do congress. They have impudently turned from the bow-ways and windows of the great hotels, at the wives and daughters of sober citizens who are hard at work down town. It is idle to remonstrate with or to resist the social banditti who commit these solecisms. Could we even annihilate them by hundreds, successors would spring up like the phoenix from their ashes. These are faults not nuisances which are rather incidental to a provincial town than to a great metropolis, and New York ought now to be sufficiently cosmopolitan to be rid of them. To be sure, much of what is most objectionable arises from a certain geographical necessity. The island is long and narrow, most of the population live far up town, and the daily numbers passing up and down Broadway probably exceed those in any other civilized city. For the sake of the many, the street is more heterogeneous than is likely to be found elsewhere. The aristocratic and the plebeian equipages mingle in the street, and the *crème de la crème* and the *canaille* meet on the sidewalk. Mrs. LAVENDER's sweet little brougham is run into by a charcoal wagon, and Mr. AUGUSTUS PEWSIT is charged into the gutter by an apple-woman. This does not occur elsewhere, in the same degree. Abroad, streets are the recognized property of one class or the other. Regent Street is one thing, and Tottenham Court Road is another; the discontented Englishman says, Broadway is a cross between the two. Again, in most large cities, the gamblers and adventurers, the parasites of society, have their distinct locality, apart from the great shops and apart from the fashion. This may be said of Leicester Square—it may be the Quartier Latin. Not so with us. The hells, high and low, are chiefly on Broadway. The great spiders generally crawl down to sun themselves at about high noon. Everyone but the countryman knows them the instant he claps eyes upon them. They infest the corners of streets in groups. Their faces are pale, their eyes bloodshot, their hair oily. They are dressed in expensive clothes, exaggerations of the latest modes, but never look quite like gentlemen. Their expression is usually sinister and defiant; and they are partial to shreds and patches of hair ornamentally disposed on various portions of the visage. Those men make remarks on passing ladies, display their jewelry and bait their hooks to catch new gudgeons. Ladies complain more and more of the difficulty they experience in passing through Broadway, from the staring and jostling of these men. The well-garbed idlers, who swarm more especially at certain particular points. It would really be well if the police had special instructions to put a stop by some means to this species of annoyance. At the same time, it should not be forgotten that much of the evil springs from the unthinking conduct of a certain portion of the ladies themselves. There exists a class of young females, who, belonging to respectable families, and claiming unsullied reputations, think it remarkably fine to get up in their own persons, a sedulous imitation of the Parisian *demiole*. This imitation is exceedingly well executed to impose upon any one who had never seen the original, but however deserving of commendation in a histrionic point of view, it is far too well calculated to encourage the contempt and toward those liberties and intrusions which are the source of complaint. If a woman takes remarkable pains to make herself look and behave like a questionable character, she should never be surprised or aggrieved if people bear witness to the merit of her assumption. Let modest women do what lies in their power to discourage this practice, which arises in origin in thoughtlessness more probably than to radical viciousness, and we doubt not the deprecated evil will abate in a sensible degree. As things are constituted, an immense body of young men and women of all kinds and degrees make common use of this great street. In the course of a day they succeed in inflicting upon each other a vast amount of unnecessary suffering and discomfort, much of which could easily be avoided. Our specific is, for each and all, to bear constantly in mind the golden rule. This is the sum and end of all politeness. Neither BRUMMELL nor CHESTERFIELD could teach more than this, from the lofty to the low as well as to the high. It can be practised in the swollen crowd which rushes to see the incoming President, as well as in the parlor circle; and, independently, its universal adoption as a rule of action would be conclusive in effecting a much needed improvement in the manners of Broadway.

Death of the Hon. Cornelius W. Lawrence.—The Hon. CORNELIUS W. LAWRENCE died yesterday morning at his residence in Flushing, Long Island, in the 70th year of his age. Mr. LAWRENCE was, some years since, a prominent speechmaker and politician of this city. He was born at Flushing, Feb. 28, 1791, and in early manhood commenced his mercantile career by entering the auction house of SHOTWELL, HICKS & CO. Afterwards he became partner in the house of HICKS, LAWRENCE & CO., from which he retired in 1832. Mr. LAWRENCE represented New York in Congress from 1832 to 1834, and was Mayor of New York from 1834 to 1837, being the first Mayor elected by the people. In 1836 he was President of the Democratic Electoral College. He was Collector of New York under President POLK. For twenty years he held the office of President of the Bank of the State of New York. He was director of the Branch Bank of the United States, of the Bank of America, a trustee of the New York Life and Trust Company, and a director in various Insurance Companies. In 1856, he retired from active life to Flushing, his native place.

AFFAIRS IN WASHINGTON.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.

News is scarce to-day. Everybody asks for it, but nobody has any. Perhaps it is the thinking else to do, the quidnuncs are trying to pick the critic on Mr. LINCOLN's little addresses along his way from his provincial home to his "national" residence for four years to come. Most of these wiseacres are fearful of airing their opinions to the effect that Mr. LINCOLN should have kept entirely silent on national affairs, and merely tossed off a few common-place platitudes, or any nothings, to his people who so enthusiastically gathered around him. But this shows that these quidnunc critics neither understand the people, the man, or the occasion, and acquired greatness, unless it be a vulgar, bold, and unsubstantial as themselves. In the first place, the people, at a time like the present, have a right to know something real—however small may be the amount—as to what manner of man the cases and character of their future Administration, and ABRAHAM LINCOLN would be false to our apprehension of his character, if, when the people ask for bread, he should give them a stone, or for some substantial expectation, and he should answer by empty generalities. None but irreconcilable foes or hypocritical idiots will find any fault with Mr. LINCOLN's utterances, so far; and he and his friends can rest in the assurance that about them will silent contempt, if it be worth while to expend so serious an emotion on such merely malicious demonstrations.

Congress is not making so much haste as it ought with the public business, and there are but eleven days left. The Tariff was up in the Senate to-day, and several assaults upon its principles were voted down with a will. The bill, in fact, will be got through with to-morrow, for there is no just reason why it should not.

It is stated that Gov. W. SUMNERS, of Virginia, is much pleased at the tender of the place on the Supreme Bench; it would be a most gratifying appointment to two-thirds of the people of the Old Dominion.

I hear that communications have been received from numerous parties in South Carolina, who say they will fight the battle of the Union in that State and on that soil, if they can be supported from without by the Government of the United States. I have no doubt that the Cotton States enterprise will not be sufficiently cosmopolitan to be rid of them. To be sure, much of what is most objectionable arises from a certain geographical necessity. The island is long and narrow, most of the population live far up town, and the daily numbers passing up and down Broadway probably exceed those in any other civilized city. For the sake of the many, the street is more heterogeneous than is likely to be found elsewhere. The aristocratic and the plebeian equipages mingle in the street, and the *crème de la crème* and the *canaille* meet on the sidewalk. Mrs. LAVENDER's sweet little brougham is run into by a charcoal wagon, and Mr. AUGUSTUS PEWSIT is charged into the gutter by an apple-woman. This does not occur elsewhere, in the same degree. Abroad, streets are the recognized property of one class or the other. Regent Street is one thing, and Tottenham Court Road is another; the discontented Englishman says, Broadway is a cross between the two. Again, in most large cities, the gamblers and adventurers, the parasites of society, have their distinct locality, apart from the great shops and apart from the fashion. This may be said of Leicester Square—it may be the Quartier Latin. Not so with us. The hells, high and low, are chiefly on Broadway. The great spiders generally crawl down to sun themselves at about high noon. Everyone but the countryman knows them the instant he claps eyes upon them. They infest the corners of streets in groups. Their faces are pale, their eyes bloodshot, their hair oily. They are dressed in expensive clothes, ex-

THE STATE LEGISLATURE.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 20.

With the Enlarged Canal, the regulations respecting its navigation are to be framed with better judgment of what a little River like this seven by seventy stream can do. The Senate passed a bill providing that the speed of the boats might be eight miles an hour. When the trip from Buffalo to Albany can be made by one of these immense boats in three days, carrying as they do at once, the contents of a great warehouse, the question of transportation will be settled. Then there need be no anxiety for the prosperity of the Canals. They will take care of themselves, and of the State. Steam is the wisest of all legislation. The Canals once fully steam navigated, are invincible.

They would defy all competition. If the people would look at this, they would give every possible encouragement to those who are giving their time and their fortune to the work of the best of machinery and motive power.

The Assembly refused to continue the Entomological Survey, by declining to make the appropriation for the compensation of the Naturalist, Dr. FITCH's labors have thoroughly revealed the history of the destruction of the whole crop. Judged by the wisest and best friends of Agriculture, they have been of the greatest service to the Agricultural interest of all our sciences—the learning how to win from the earth our food.

Legislative fits of economy or extravagance are the spasms of the bull in the china-shop, a general losing up or crushing down of all around them. A calm, discriminating, wise judgment, finding results after reasoning, is not to be attained amidst the glare and noise and excitement of meetings under the chandelier. The estimates of the several Departments are made rather in routine than accompanied by any detailed argument, and the consideration of the Appropriation bills an affair of the good or ill humor of the hour. The best intentioned and best constituted Committees cannot avoid this, work they ever so hard.

The Albany and Susquehanna Railroad bill was passed by a majority vote. I can see no reason to change the views before expressed—that the passage of this bill would be of great utility to the City of New York, and through its influence the trade relations of a country of the best productiveness in all the life and strength of a new country, would firmly intertwine with New York. The City needs a new accolade from the strong arm of Northern industry: and this road, whenever it shall be built, will demonstrate how much of the force of capital is yet unwatched within our own State; and every railroad built therein, however much they may run through the pockets of the stockholders, runs swift and strong and sure between the harvest-fields and our seawharves.

The bill did not receive a two third vote, and hence, the objections of the Governor may again be presented. This Schoharie Valley, with its adjacent territory, is the most available of all the State for a new enterprise, and the people have looked at it till they almost see the steam plume of the engine amidst their forests. There can be but one end to such perseverance. The bars of iron, that pathway of prosperity, will be put down in Schoharie, and the city of New York, if it pays therefor, will remember the tax as of the best investments it ever made, and it has paid for so many losing projects that a successful enterprise will be welcomed.

The last appointed Commissioner to the Reform Constitution Conference, Mr. GRANGER, is in error in supposing that the State of New York would not give an hundred thousand majority for compromise. The town meetings, as they are held this spring, do not indicate this result. It is possible that in the form of words of compromise, a very different vote from that of the election of 1860 might be given, but it is a plain, direct shape, such as this—a submission to the people of the State of the question—Shall the Constitution be so changed as to declare slaves property, and to protect slaves, as property, in the Territories? the vote of this State would be gigantic against the proposition; and good reason why: Western New York has too long followed the leadership of Mr. GRANGER to be led away into a strange path now.

The truth is, our distinguished friends who "have so long been at our head, and around our flag, forgot that their lessons to us were so forcibly and eloquently given, that we cannot, if we would, efface their impression. We believed them, and think the teacher is not to be forgotten, if he forgets himself.

There is an uneasy desire to go to Washington, on the 4th of March, to see the Inauguration. As we have been prevented by distance and a required, that all the people who have the means of the hands of our people are ready to vindicate the Government under which they live, and which they have to bring down to their fathers. They tell me how truly a Government like ours represents the people. I may not tell me how truly the great, the good, and the honest man that you have elevated to the first position that the Republic can confer, represents at all times that loyalty which the citizen owes the Government, and that the strong arm and hands, you will rally to its support, in sunshine and in storm.

After Mr. Hamblin withdrew, the Band played "Yankee Doodle" and "Dixie." It being understood that it was the desire of Mr. Lincoln not to be disturbed, no attempt was made to call him out.

After the music had ceased the crowd gradually dispersed, but as late as half-past one o'clock a large number were still around the Hotel.

It is understood that Mr. HAMLIN will accompany the Presidential suite the rest of the journey. The time set for their departure is nine o'clock this morning.

NOTICES OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The Life of General Garibaldi. By THEODORE DWIGHT. NEW YORK—DERBY & JACKSON.

This volume contains a life of the distinguished Italian patriot, translated from his private papers. In it will be found a full history of his various exploits in Rome, Lombardy, Sicily and Naples, and the book is one full of interest and instruction.

Past Day Sermons; or, The Pulpit on the State of the Country. NEW YORK—BOND & CARLETON.

Here are collected no less than eleven sermons, preached since the first gun, which obtains a correct idea of the different views taken on slavery. Here are side by side the sermons of Dr. THORNWELL, of South Carolina, and of HENRY WARD BEECHER; and those of Mr. LAN DYKE and Prof. TAYLOR LEWIS. The last is one by Dr. ADAMS, in which he seems to occupy a kind of middle ground.

The Atlantic Monthly.—The first paper in the March number of this magazine, is upon "German Universities," and it will be found quite interesting. The "Professor's Story" is continued; "Gymnastics" is a strong plea in favor of the physical exercise which can be obtained at well regulated gymnasiums; "Land Locked" is a story of a people linked together by a common "Ananias" and "The Man who was Never Young," are good tales; "The Men of Schwyz" is a historical fragment; "A Nook of the North" is an entertaining sketch of a trip into Canada; "Behind the Mask" is a short poem; "Diamonds and Pearls" contains some interesting information regarding those gems. Among the reviews and literary notices, those of "Mother's United Netherlands," and "PARTON's Life of JACKSON," are most prominent.

AMUSEMENTS

The first performance of the *Bohemian Girl* attracted a numerous and intelligent audience to NIBLO'S on Tuesday, and not withstanding some striking drawbacks, it was, with some slight exceptions, a distinct success. Mad. BISHOP looked admirably, and sang as she always does, in a thoroughly good style. The impression she made on the audience, by her hard labor in some time, and established himself as one in the favor of the audience. The *Devil's Dyke* of Mr. Coe was picturesque, spirited, and appreciative. Mr. BOWLER appeared to much better advantage than in Lucia, and if Mr. GIOVANINI could act as well as he can sing, the *ensemble* of the principals would have left little to desire. The lady who played the *Queen of the Gipsies*, which other strongly interested were the *Meg Merrilies* role,—gave a striking and effective picture. The applause throughout was frequent and hearty, and we believe the repetition to-night will draw an excellent house. We should not omit to mention that after the Bohemian Girl, the Opera, the National Flag made its appearance upon the stage, and that Mad. BISHOP sang with great fervor a patriotic song, which was received with immense enthusiasm.

Winter Garden.—The engagement of Mr. J. W. WALLACK, Jr., had lent additional attractions to the performances of Mr. BOOTH. These artists appeared every night this week in the play of *Othello*, each taking a different part nightly. Mr. BOOTH's *Iago* has been considered the best representation of that character ever admirably rendered. Mr. WALLAK has always been a favorite here, and he seems always to be well and fully fond during his present engagement. His *Iago*, without doubt, is a far better production than his *Othello*.

The Readings at the Hall of the Board of Education.—Professor J. SOYER THOMAS has volunteered to give one of his popular readings for the benefit of the Library of the New York Teachers' Association, this evening, in the Hall of the Board of Education, corner of Grand and Elm streets. LONGFELLOW's Apostrophe to the Union, with selections from SHAKESPEARE, will be read by the President of the Association.

RECEPTION OF MR. LINCOLN BY MAYOR WOOD.

SPEECHES BY MAYOR WOOD AND MR. LINCOLN.

Yesterday morning, Mr. LINCOLN and some members of his suite took breakfast with Mr. THOMAS H. GRINNELL, at his residence, corner of Fourteenth street and Fifth Avenue, and returned to the Astor House about ten o'clock. At eleven o'clock he went to the City Hall, and was formally received by Mayor WOOD.

The ceremonies took place in the "Governor's Room," punctually at 11 o'clock. As early as 10 o'clock, the Police, under the immediate supervision of Deputy Clerk Carpenter, took their station at the City Hall, and a space was enclosed by chains, leading to the stairs, within which none but those having the privilege of entry into the "Governor's Room," were admitted. A half-past ten, a large crowd of persons had assembled in the park, awaiting the arrival of the President-elect. A few minutes before eleven o'clock, Mayor WOOD, accompanied by the members of the Common Council and of the city press, took up their position in the Governor's Room, and shortly afterwards the shouts of the people outside announced that Mr. Lincoln had reached the City Hall. He soon appeared, accompanied by the Committee of the Common Council appointed to meet him in Albany, and was introduced by the Chairman, Mr. Cornell, to Mayor WOOD.

The Mayor stood on one side of a table that occupies the upper end of the room, and Mr. Lincoln took up a position immediately opposite to him, on the other side of the table. The appearance of the two men was not striking. The Chief Magistrate of the City, dressed, with his usual good taste, in a suit of black, the black overcoat buttoned tightly across his broad breast, and readily at his disposal, the President-elect, in a rather rude fashion, with a long-tailed black coat, and never mind his eye, from him during the delivery of the two addresses. The Chief Magistrate of the Nation, also dressed in black, and tailor by the side of the Mayor, looked calm and collected, and returned the steady gaze that was fixed upon him.

Mr. Wood, in a clear, distinct voice, spoke as follows:—

MR. LINCOLN: As Mayor of New York, it becomes my duty to extend to you an official welcome in behalf of the Corporation. In doing so, permit me to say, that this city has never offered hospitality to a man clothed with more exalted powers, or resting under graver responsibilities, than those which circumstances have devolved upon you. Coming into office with a disassembled Government to reconstruct, and a disconnected and hostile people to reunite, it will require a high patriotism, and an elevated comprehension of the whole country and its varied interests, opinions, and prejudices, to so conduct public affairs as to bring it back again to its former harmonious, consolidated, and prosperous condition.

If I refer to this topic, sir, it is because New York is deeply interested. The present political divisions have sorely afflicted her people. All her commercial interests are paralyzed. Her commercial greatness is endangered. She is the child of the American Union. She has grown up under its maternal care and been fostered by its paternal bounty, and we fear that if the Union dies, the present supremacy of New York may perish with it. To you, therefore, chosen under the forms of the Constitution, as the head of the Confederacy, we look for a restoration of fraternal relations between the States, only to be accomplished by peaceful and conciliatory means, aided by the wisdom of Almighty God.

When Mayor WOOD ceased speaking, a murmur of half-suppressed applause passed round the room, and Mr. Lincoln replied readily, and with a firm, slow utterance, as follows:

Mr. Mayor, I am with feelings of deep gratitude that I make my acknowledgments for the reception which has been extended to me in this great commercial city of New York. I can not remember that such reception is tendered by a people who do not by a majority agree with me in political sentiments. It is the more grateful on this account, because it is an evidence that in support of the great principle that underlies our Government, the people are nearly or quite unanimous.

In regard to the difficulties which encompass us at this time, and of which your Honor has spoken (for the subject is becoming, and is justly as I suppose, I can only say that I agree with the sentiments expressed by the Mayor.

In my devotion to the Union, I hope I am not behind any man within the Union; but in the wisdom necessary to so conduct affairs as to secure the preservation of the Union, I fear that I may be deficient, and that too great confidence may have been reposed in me. I am sure, however, that I at least bring a heart devoted to the Union.

There is nothing which could ever bring me to consent willingly to the destruction of that Union under which, not alone my own personal welfare, but that of my fellow-citizens generally, is so largely bound. I believe that for which the Union itself was made.

As I understand it, the ship is made for the carriage and the preservation of the cargo; and so long as the ship can be saved with the cargo, it should never be abandoned.

We should never cease in our efforts to save it, so long as it can be done without throwing overboard the passengers and the cargo. So long as the prosperity and liberty of this people can be preserved in the Union, it is the duty to purpose and shall be my effort at all times to preserve the Union.

And now, Mr. Mayor, again thanking you for the reception which has been given me, allow me to close my remarks.

The utmost order and silence were preserved during the delivery of Mr. Lincoln's reply. At its close, the members of the Common Council and of the State Government were introduced to the President-elect, and shaking police regulations below were relaxed, the restraining chains were removed, and "the People" allowed to invade the City Hall with a rush, and to push their way to the door of the Governor's Room.

The crowd continued to pour in until one o'clock, when the doors were closed. Mr. LINCOLN was then conducted to the balcony, and after quiet had been restored, spoke as follows:—

Friends—I do not appear for the purpose of making a speech; I design to make no speech. I came merely to see you, and allow you to see me—(cheers)—and I have to say to you, as I have said frequently to audiences on my journey, that in the sight I suppose I have the look of the multitude (Cheers.) Assuming that you are all for the Constitution, the Union,—(cheers)—and the perpetual liberties of this people, I bid you farewell.

The Mayor then conducted him to his carriage, and he returned to his hotel. On reaching the hotel, he found several gentlemen assembled in a presentation, among whom was Governor FISH and Wm. M. EVARTS. Immediately after he had shaken hands with the party, Mr. BARNUM had an interview with him. As the President did not visit the Museum, it is to be supposed that he declined the invitation extended to him. During the afternoon a large number of prominent citizens and sojourners in the city were introduced to him, among whom was Col. JOHN C. FREMONT, Judge PEABODY and HIRAM BARNEY. According to programme, the Illustrious Stranger left at 5 in the evening, accompanied by several of his suite. His appearance in the private box was the signal for a round of cheers. During an intermission "Hail to the Chief" was sung with striking effect. The carriage-that carriage whose comforts are his, and not its care—a luxury which few carriage owners possess.

The Fourth of March comes and the voice of millions will be heard saying, "Hail, to the father of fair ELLEN demanded of LOCHINVAIL.

"Now come ye in peace here,
Or come ye in war?"

SENTINEL.

ARMY AND NAVY INTELLIGENCE.

Orders for the departure of a considerable portion of Gen. TWIGGS' troops from Governor's Island, are daily expected. At present, over three hundred men are on the ready list, and ambulance materials for a force of that number are susceptible of almost immediate use. It is said that three companies are detailed to go with the soldiers, whose destination has not transpired.

Another detachment of recruits has arrived on the Island, and one of U. S. Dragoons left for Carlisle, where they are to be drilled and fitted out for regimental duty.

The ordnance authorities of the Brooklyn Navy Yard have not been other busier than they are now. Batteries for the *Ferry*, *Savannah*, *Harriet Lane*, and other vessels, are preparing, and will soon be mounted. The work of putting on steam frigates *Roanoke* and *Wabash* are to be increased by four guns each, and the batteries of the *Mohawk* and *Crusader* will be put in a most complete state. The crew of shot and shell on hand is large enough to supply any contingencies. Capt. SANDSWORD has got the entire department in the most perfect order.

The U. S. Steam frigate *Mississippi* is now almost ready for service. Her crew in Boston. Her condition has been reported to the authorities, and orders for her immediate outfit are said to be in contemplation.

A steamer left Governor's Island yesterday, with ordnance for Fort Monroe from Governor's Island.

The Court Martial on Lieutenant BARNOT, of the Steamer *Mohawk*, accused of shooting gunner's mate BENNETT, of the same vessel, whilst lying in the port of Key West, was continued yesterday at the Lyceum in the Brooklyn Navy Yard. C. D. HUNTINGTON, Esq., was examined. He was the first witness for the defence, and his testimony may be considered as much in favor of the accused.

The next witness was Paymaster's Clerk J. H. DILBIN, and the deposition made by him was as to what he heard and saw, and also as to what subsequently passed between himself and BENNETT, the wounded man. There was one or two other witnesses called on the part of the prosecution as well as the defence, but the main points relied on adverse to the accused, have been already elicited. The case will probably occupy four or three days longer.

The Manhattan Life Insurance Company.—The annual statement of the fiscal affairs of this Company for the year 1860, will be found in another column. The figures show a flourishing condition of the Company, and how well it is entitled to that public confidence which it has always enjoyed, and to the attention of those who are desirous of availing themselves of the benefits of Life Insurance.

AMUSEMENTS

The first performance of the *Bohemian Girl* attracted a numerous and intelligent audience to NIBLO'S on Tuesday, and not withstanding some striking drawbacks, it was, with some slight exceptions, a distinct success. Mad. BISHOP looked admirably, and sang as she always does, in a thoroughly good style. The impression she made on the audience, by her hard labor in some time, and established himself as one in the favor of the audience. The *Dey's Dyke* of Mr. Coe was picturesque, spirited, and appreciative. Mr. BOWLER appeared to much better advantage than in Lucia, and if Mr. GIOVANINI could act as well as he can sing, the *ensemble* of the principals would have left little to desire. The lady who played the *Queen of the Gipsies*, which other strongly interested were the *Meg Merrilies* role,—gave a striking and effective picture. The applause throughout was frequent and hearty, and we believe the repetition to-night will draw an excellent house. We should not omit to mention that after the Bohemian Girl, the Opera, the National Flag made its appearance upon the stage, and that Mad. BISHOP sang with great fervor a patriotic song, which was received with immense enthusiasm.

Winter Garden.—The engagement of Mr. J. W. WALLACK, Jr., had lent additional attractions to the performances of Mr. BOOTH. These artists appeared every night this week in the play of *Othello*, each taking a different part nightly. Mr. BOOTH's *Iago* has been considered the best representation of that character ever admirably rendered. Mr. WALLAK has always been a favorite here, and he seems always to be well and fully fond during his present engagement. His *Iago*, without doubt, is a far better production than his *Othello*.

The Readings at the Hall of the Board of Education.—Professor J. SOYER THOMAS has volunteered to give one of his popular readings for the benefit of the Library of the New York Teachers' Association, this evening, in the Hall of the Board of Education, corner of Grand and Elm streets. LONGFELLOW's Apostrophe to the Union, with selections from SHAKESPEARE, will be read by the President of the Association.

THE LEGISLATURE AND BROOKLYN.

To the Editors of the Courier & Enquirer:

The tax-payers of Brooklyn, or at least that portion of them who do not blindly surrender themselves to demagogues, and grow rich by means of extravagant public expenditures, are greatly agitated in view of designs of so called "Public Improvements," which will, if carried out, greatly add to burdens of taxation, which are already so onerous as to cause property, in many cases, to be abandoned to the tax-gatherer.

The condition of public affairs in Brooklyn is such as may well awaken the attention of the political philanthropist, and induce him to exert himself to avert, if possible, or in some measure diminish the imposition of the wrongs now threatened. The real estate of Brooklyn is more heavily taxed than that of any other portion of the United States. In many wards, the aggregated tax, including the water rate, is about *four per cent. on the assessed value of the property.* The late city of Williamsburgh, now forming a portion of the present city of Brooklyn, was reduced to bankruptcy previous to the consolidation, and the same evil influences seem combined to force Brooklyn to that disastrous emergency.

For the Western District, there is projected an extended system of parks and connecting avenues; and for the Eastern District, widening and extending streets, and increasing taxation, is the project pursued. It would be a long story to fully expose the wrongs of either scheme. Suffice to say, that the former is urged principally by unfortunate land speculators, the land proposed to be taken for parks being worth less per acre than was paid for it twenty-five years ago. Brooklyn has now several parks unimproved, and avenues improved, and if her case was that of a private individual, it would be considered the height of folly to add, at such a time as this, to unimproved real estate. It is urged that these parks and avenues will be needed in time,—but they are not needed now, and the taxpayers of Brooklyn have enough to do now to pay for them at any price. "Nothing is cheap that we do not want."

The "improvements" in the Eastern District are designed for the advantage of Ferry Companies, and to enhance the value of the property which will pay nothing toward the expense, because it has already been sold over and over for taxes, but which, when the improvements shall have been completed, will be quietly bid in—by the "enterprising" owner—for a single year's tax, and the long deficit imposed upon the public at large. There is no necessity for the widening of Grand street, or the widening and extension of South Seventh street, which has any appreciable relation to the expense and distress which would be imposed thereby, upon people who now find it extremely difficult to keep off financial disaster. The ferries deserve no such favor. With the exception of Roosevelt Street Ferry, they are mismanaged, and the rate of fare to Williamsburgh is higher than to any other immediate suburb. So long as the present ferry management rules, neither of the projected improvements will produce any of the benefits that might otherwise flow from them. The gentleman who keeps his private carriage, will find himself completely hemmed in by extravagant charges, should he take up his residence in Williamsburgh. Surrounded on all sides, except one, by toll-gates, he will, if he attempt to live in New York, find himself taxed twenty cents for crossing the shortest ferries—less than half a mile long—with a vehicle drawn by one horse, when he may cross from South Brooklyn—a mile and a quarter—to Jersey City—two miles—for twelve cents. Not *only* the ferry houses, but the cabins of the boats of the Hoboken Ferry, are intolerable of occupancy in the winter; and the boats, in fact, are undoubtedly be subject to police regulation. A few days since, a gentleman residing in Williamsburgh, crossing Houston Ferry, sought out an employee, and begged him to set the doors of the cabin open for the benefit of a drench, having obliged him to vacate them for the open air. As long as the abuses of extortionate ferry charges, and illiberal ferry management, are uncorrected, the enterprises which Williamsburgh presents to pure air, clean streets, an orderly population, and many rural characteristics, are lost. With an exorbitant taxation, to pay for just such schemes as the parks and the widening of streets, in the future, the people are wholly unable to sustain additional burdens. A wide system of sewerage is being pushed unnecessarily along whole blocks of vacant land to the Bushwick creek. The Collector of Taxes of Brooklyn has just announced that assessments for sewerage amounting to about $50,000, must be paid in a few weeks, on about two hundred parcels of property situate in the Thirteenth ward of Brooklyn, and that Brooklyn, or the property will be sold; and the collection of so large a sum from so few persons, must at this time produce real distress. A large proportion of the property is sold for the tax sale this month because the owners, usually prompt, are utterly unable to raise money to pay their taxes. The tax-payers need relief, and certainly ought to be protected from further burdens, until the load of taxation now borne, is lightened.

We write in the hope that the schemes now on foot, involving large expenditures—(it is proposed to do nine or ten years work in one year)—are mile—an undertaking proportionate, as regards the ability of Williamsburgh, to widening Broadway, New York, on equal distance)—may be postponed for one year, when the financial and commercial skies having resolved upon them, we have no hopes of defeating them. But, "let not the poor (in conscience) oppress the poor, for, 'tis like a sweeping rain."

E.

MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE.

Sir Benjamin Brodie is recovering from the operation for cataract, which was performed upon the right eye, and which promises to be successful.

The port of Quebec is closed by Canadian's Summer Palace which was reserved for Napoleon III., arrived in Paris on the 2d inst., packed in thirty-three large cases.

There has been an exhibition during the past week in the Arcade, at Watertown, a perfectly white Bear, which was taken in the great woods in the northern part of this State.

An English paper says that in punching the eye-holes of needles by hand, children who are employed acquire such a dexterity as to be able to punch a human hair and thread it with another for the amusement of bystanders.

Two ladies had their pockets picked in a horse railroad car in Philadelphia, a few days since, by a couple of rogues who operated boldly upon their pockets while their hands, with a pair of false arms and hands lay innocently across the lap of each.

Ex-Postmaster Fowler, it is said, is not in destitute circumstances, as lately alleged, but in receipt of a handsome salary as agent of a large Company in New Mexico. Independently of that, he has a respectable sum on hand in cash—sufficient, at all events, to enable him to live comfortably for the twelvemonth, at least, and in case he