zation of the nineteenth century, the com-

anion for which we can find in extracts from

a letter written by the sister of another Fenian

prisoner, now undergoing punishment in an

English prison, though he is neither a

"military offender," nor a "Manchester mur-

derer," nor a participator in the "Clerken-

well outrage," but purely a civilian political

prisoner. "I shall feel grateful," writes the

sister, "if you can bring any influence to bear

on the prison authorities in order to get my

brother some books, as even these are refused.

He is the worse treated in the prison. The

Governor was kind to him until last Sep-

tember. Since then his manner is much

altered, by order, no doubt, of the

government. I wish to call your attention to

the fact that he ought to have been liberated

with the other men. I have no doubt he

would have been had his case been looked

into. He tells me the only thing that has

kept his reason has been the exercise of his

youth. He was only twenty-one when he

went through that farce of a trial." Evidently

Mr. Gladstone and the Times have been read-

ing James Russell Lowell, and, laying their

warm hands upon their warmer hearts, can

say in the classic language of the "Biglow

Substitute "Fenians" for "niggers" and the

Nor have we done. In this matter of con-

sistency there is absolutely an embarrassment

of riches. Turn not aghast, readers of the

HEBALD, if we put before you a mirror wherein

to contemplate "the most Christian govern-

"Home Rule," declared the Attorney General

at a Liverpool meeting, "aims at an end

which I think absurd, impracticable and un-

tenable, but an end which they have a perfect

right to aim at if they can get it. Home Rule

professes to respect the monarchy and to move

that "until the Irish are disfranchised in

America Mr. Froude has but a small chance of

getting an importial verdict?" Of what avail.

then, to protest? Our sympathy with Ire-

I do believe in freedom's cause
Ez fur away ez Paris iz;
I love to see her stick her claws
In them infernal I harisees.
It's well enough agin a king
To draw resolves and triggers,
But liberty 's a kind o' thing
What don't agree with niggers.

· Bear in mind his

religion. •

Papers,"

parallel is complete.

ment of the world."

NEW YORK HERALD BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT. PROPRIETOR.

THE DAILY HERALD, published every day in the gear, Four cents per copy. Annual subscription price \$12.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

ROWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—Bonnie Fishwife.—

WOOD'S MUSEUM, Broadway, corner Thirdeth st-GRAND OPERA HOUSE, Twenty-third st. and Eighth av. -Round the Clork.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway, between Prince and

UNION SQUARE THEATRE, Broadway, between

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fourth street-

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and Thirteenth

THEATRE COMIQUE, 514 Broadway.-AFRICA: OR, BOOTH'S THEATRE, Twenty-third street, corner Sixth

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway, between Houston and Bleecker sts. - Tar ONE HUNDRED VIRGINS.

MRS. P. B. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE.-BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Montague st.-

BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE, Twenty-third st., corner 5th av. -NEGRO MINSTRELSY, ECCENTRICITY, &c.

ATHENEUM, No. 585 Broadway.-Splendid Variety CANTERBURY VARIETY THEATRE, Broadway, be TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, No. 201 Bowery. GRAND VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, &c. Matineo at 25.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, corner 28th st. and BARNUM'S MUSEUM, MENAGERIE AND CIRCUS.
Fourteenth street, near Broadway.—Day and Evening

STEINWAY HALL, Fourteenth street.-LECTURE NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway.-

WITH SUPPLEMENT

New York, Monday, Dec. 23, 1872.

THE NEWS OF YESTERDAY. To-Day's Contents of the

Herald.

"FOOD FOR MR. FROUDE'S DIGESTION "-FIRST EDITORIAL ARTICLE-FOURTH PAGE.

BURNING OF THE BROOKLYN TABERNACLE! A HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS IN CHURCH PROPERTY SWEPT AWAY IN AN HOUR! HISTORY OF THE CHURCH: SYM-PATHETIC TENDERS OF AID-TENTH PAGE. THE HUNGRY SEA! THE STEAMSHIP ADRIATIC DISABLED AT MIDNIGHT IN MID-ATLAN. TIC! A MARVELLOUS RESCUE! THE LOSS THE LOG OF THE FOUNDERED

STEAMSHIP ST. LOUIS-THIRD PAGE. CABLE TELEGRAMS FROM EUROPE AND CEN-TRAL ASIA! THE KHAN OF KHIVA PRE-PARING FOR WAR-PERSONAL NEWS GOSSIP- FIFTH PAGE.

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON! PREPARING THE SLATE OF THE NEXT CONGRESS: THE AS-PIRANTS: BOUTWELL AND THE MASSA CHUSETTS SENATORSHIP-FI RES-MARIN INTELLIGENCE-TENTH PAGE.

AFFAIRS IN NEW ORLEANS-STATE AND PRO-BABILITIES OF THE WEATHER: HEATING APPARATUSES EXPLODING-FIFTH PAGE.

OAKES AMES AND ALLEY'S CREDIT MOBILIER ELIMINATING THE STARTLING FEATURES OF THE HERALD EXPOSURE: A GIGAN-TIC SWINDLE: LOOK OUT FOR A SQUALL-

WHAT MAY BE EXPECTED FROM THE ALBANY SOLONS! TROUBLE AHEAD: THE SPEAKER-SHIP-MRS. WOODHULL REFUSED A

THE FINANCIAL FIELD AND THE OUTLOOK! THE MONEY PROBLEM: ERIE AND MR. GOULD'S COUP: THE WEEKLY BANK STATEMENT: PACIFIC MAIL-NINTH PAGE. MORE ABOUT THE NORTHWEST "CORNER"-OBITUARY-HELP FOR THE GOOD SHEP-

ALAS, POOR TENNISON! CLIPPING THE FLY-SIUM OF FREEDOM: IS HE SANE?-MIS-TAKEN IDENTITY-SECOND PAGE.

FOOTPRINTS OF THE GOSPEL! MALE AND FEMALE DIVINES PREACHING FREE GRACE TO DIMINISHED CONGREGATIONS: THE COLD WEATHER VS. CHURCH-GOING-EIGHTH PAGE.

MUSIC FOR THE HOLIDAYS-FOLLOWING THE RED FLAG-CHRISTMAS BOOKS-THIRD

THAT COLD ATMOSPHERIC WAVE from the Northwest, the approach of which was predicted some days ago in the HERALD, came in upon us yesterday, with the sharpest cold of the season, and from the Rocky Mountains to the Atlantic coast and from the great lakes to the Southern border States the reports are the same—the sharpest cold of the season. Indeed, our weather philosophers are getting into the secrets of our rains and snows and winds and frosts to a remarkable degree.

PRESIDENT THIERS AND THE COMMITTEE OF Pardons. - On Saturday President Thiers had a conference at Versailles with the Committee of Pardons. A number of Communists, who have been sentenced to death, are to be executed before the end of the year, if the sentences are not commuted. It is not stated whether the President is in favor of commutation of sentence. Let us hope that he is. and that his influence will prevail. The policy of revenge has been pursued long enough. At this particular season of the year the President can afford to stretch a point in favor of mercy. Further punishment will but defeat its purpose.

CERTAIN CONGRESSIONAL WISEACRES are greatly concerned lest the United States should have a navy. While ready to vote away millions of the public domain to speculators they object to putting on the seas ships of war worthy of the flag once respected on the ocean. Intelligent and patriotic citizens are more anxious to learn why we have not fifty first class ships of war than to determine the price of six or ten sloops. Congress is behind the people, and the people know it.

By THE RIGHT FLANE.-It has been urged that the possession of St. Domingo by the United States would give us the possession of Cuba in a few years. If Cuba is a desirable possession why not take it now? St. Domingo would be more acceptable as a falling pear in time to come than the Queen of the Antilles. | Surely "is is a thrilling picture of the civil- lillnoon,

Food for Mr. Proude's Digestion. said by poets to be a jewel so rich and rare as to be well nigh unattainable. For once, at least, poets are not indebted to their imagination for their facts, and we turn to the record of England's Premier for confirmation of a statement more true than fanciful. Clemency to political prisoners is claimed to be a prevailing English sentiment. Many years ago Mr. Gladstone won golden opinions by his humane efforts to ameliorate the condition of political prisoners brutally treated by the Neapolitan government. When Orsini and his fellow conspirators attempted to take the life of Louis Napoleon Mr. Gladstone was one of a Ministry that refused to surrender them, on the ground that the offence was political. Ten years ago Mr. Gladstone vehemently advocated the cause of American rebellion, declaring that Jefferson Davis had made a nation, and, because of this sympathy, gave great impetus to the cause of Fenianism, which he now is the first to denounce. Only a few weeks since a statement was forwarded to the London Times, signed by several Communist prisoners confined in the Chateau d'Oléron, complaining of their inhuman treatment, and the manager of that journal despatched a special commissioner to France for the purpose of interviewing the complainants, and devoted four columns of "The Thanderer" to their wrongs. This was noble, this was enterprising; but has Mr. Gladstone's government, has the virtuous Times, shown equal concern regarding certain Irish political prisoners, tried as Fenians, and accused of supplying arms to the brotherhood? Does Mr. Gladstone's soul publicly revolt at it does the Times publish a statement vouched for by two witnesses and made by Mr. Reddin, who, having undergone five years imprisonment for connection with the rescue of Kelly at Manchester, now issues forth freed, shattered in body, though not in mind, his legs paralyzed, his life a burden? Oh, no! And so for the benefit of Mr. Gladstone and the Times we copy from the Irishman the following remarkable evidence of the way in which moral England follows her own

to its ends, which I think absurd, by means humane teachings of the manner in which which they have a perfect right to use, and she tempers justice with mercy :she tempers justice with mercy:—

Immediately after my conviction, avers Mr. Reddin on oath, I was removed to Millbank Prison and placed in a cell fastened by a padlock, whereas the ordinary prisoners' cells were merely botted. I remained here in solitary confinement nine months, without sufficient food. While here I was condemned to two days' bread and water for simply looking at Richard Burke; I also received one day's bread and water for preaking to General Halpin. From Milibank I was removed in irons to Chatham, and company with Moscophures and Carvoll and while which are perfectly legitimate. Home Rule has for its head a Queen's counsel, an able and accomplished lawyer, and not a Fenian centre." And then, what follows? The metropolitan police visit those taverns where Home Rulers resort for the purposes of discusbread and water for speaking to General Halpin. From Millbank I was removed in irons to Chatham, in company with Moorehouse and Carroll, and while there, being asked to wheel a barrow full of fifty wet bricks, which I had not sirength enough to do, I was in consequence subjected to bread and water for three days, without even a bed to lie upon. Some time after this I received one day's bread and water for simply nodding to O'Donovan Rossa, and because I had the temerity to speak again to General Halpin and Mr. Costello I received an additional punishment of three days' bread and water. In October, 1870, I was taken very ill while working at my trade as plasterer at the prison infirmary. A warder named Taylor, noticing my condition, had me conveyed into the infirmary and brought before the head doctor, was, refusing to believe in my illness, peremptorily ordered me out again. All this took place during dinner. After dinner I was ordered out to work, having received no medical aid whatever. On the following day, being much worse, I was ordered into the casnal ward of the infirmary, and left there during the entire evening without food. The next day I was removed into a cell, seven feet long and four feet wide, and confined in it for six days on eight ounces of bread and one pint of arrowroot. I was discharged from this cell on Saturday and ordered into the regular ward; but, being unable to walk, it would have been an utter impossibility for me to have reached sion, and warn the proprietors that if such meetings be permitted their licenses will be jeopardized. Mr. Martin, M. P., sits in the House of Commons in order to ventilate the very subject which Home Rulers may not argue in an adjoining tap room—a tap room that must be closed at twelve, while every club in town and taverns on familiar terms with the police authorities burns midnight gas defiantly to prove what a thoroughly impartial, consistent animal is John Bull. "England is the land of liberty, America the land of liberties," said Punch, some years ago. The phrase is neater than it is true. It would be truer, though not so neat, to affirm that England is the land of privilege, America, with all its faults, the land of right. used but, being unable to was, it would have hard but, being unable to was, it would have it were it not for the kind assistance of an ordit vere it not for the kind assistance of an ordit ary prisoner, who carried me to it. On the day following (Sunday) I was ordered out on the parade ground to exercise, but being, as I have just stated, totally unable to walk, or in fact to stand, the principal warder, named Pepper, and two ordinary prisoners literally dragged me round the parade ground, eventually dragging me from the parade ground of the parade ground. The principal was stripped naked from half-past ten in the morning till half-past two in the afterneon of a cold, bitter day in October, for no offence that I have any knowledge of other than my inability to perform exercise on the parade ground. This punishment having ended, and being obliged to resumm work on the following day, I managed, with the assistance of sellow prisoner, to reach the scaffolding the to stand, I sat down on a window-sill to rest. my fellow prisoner doing my portion of the work as well as his own. The principal warder approaching rather suddenly, I attempted to resume work in order not to compromise my fellow prisoner, and in trying to do so fell from the scaffolding and severely injured my bead. I was then lifted from the ground and again placed on the scaffolding and severely injured my bead. I was then lifted from the ground and again placed on the scaffolding and severely injured my bead. The effect of this inhuman torturing was to overthrow my reason, for at this stage I can remember nothing until I found myself in the ordinary ward of the infirmary, in company with the other prisoners, which beneficial change I attribute to the kindly intercession of first steels. In the following Barch I was discharged from the infirmary by order of br. Steels. In the following Barch I was discharged from the lindrary by order of br. steels. In the following hard his was discharged from the lindrary of a beauty placed in the sollowing the prison "If, then," says Mr. Froude, "America will counsel England what to do that she has left undone, what wrong she can yet redress that Ireland may justly complain of, England, I am certain, will listen respectfully, cordially, gratefully." Mr. Froude reckons without his host. England has told Mr. Froude, in words more plain than polite, that she will not listen at all; but, if we were sure of being heard, we should protest, after the former manner of treatment of Fenian or any other political Does not the London Echo-calling itself the people's paper, because it is cheap-assert

land's wrongs simply means an appeal to "the Irish vote," and so we leave one Fenian paralyzed, another languishing in prison for want of decent treatment, and humble, law-abiding Home Rulers without a tavern in which to discuss a Parliamentary question, until the Irish shall have been disfranchised in this land of universal suffrage. GERMAN IMMIGRATION TO AMERICA. - A North German newspaper in Berlin has entered on the task of explaining to the Prussian people and of defending before the nation the recent act of the Imperial Executive for the regulation of emigrant fares, the advance of the railroad's tariff charges for emigrant baggage, and other edicts of similar import tending to repress the voluntary exodus of the people to America by increasing the cost of travel to the home points of embarkation for the United States. This press duty, if it be a duty, is all very fair, and it may be very patriotic. But when the German writer comes to charge "exaggeration" and "distortion" of facts against the American press for its manner of recording and commenting on the facts, and also to indirectly accuse the Washington government of failing in its treaty negotiations, by a willful delay in the completion of a satisfactory instrument for the regulation of emigration during many years, the whole matter of this emigrant law movement in Germany is made to become rather serious; not only to the Germans who wish to come to the Republic and to their friends who await to receive and assist them on landing, but also to the diplomatic comity which should always be maintained between great and friendly nations. ENGLAND AND RUSSIA IN CENTRAL ASIA .-Russia, it is again said, is about to undertake the campaign against Khiva. It is understood that the British government has decided not to interfere in the matter. The subjugation of Khiva, therefore, while it will bring Russia nearer to British India, will

Captain Fagan, who ordered my removal to quarters somewhat more comfortable, where I remained until my discharge on October 25. Such, you will at once perceive, is but a brief and hasty outline

at once perceive, is but a brief and hasty outline of the treatment I experienced as an irish political prisoner. If time and circumstances would allow me I could furnish you with a fuller and more com-

plete and detailed statement, supported by such an array of facts as would completely damn the statements of Gladstone and his confrere, Mr. Bruce, as to the nature of the punishment to which the frish political prisoners were and are still subjected.

Asia, but that time is not yet. THE PRINCE PREMIER OF GERMANY has just shone in grand convivial brilliancy in the glittering circle of a ball given by the British Minister serving at the Imperial Court in Berlin. It is gratifying to know, even thus indirectly, that the eminent Chancellor is completely recovered from his recent attack of

ers into conflict. The time may come when

the battle must be fought for supremacy in

for the Union Pacific Stockholders

and the Investigating Committee. We publish in the HERALD to-day some further information in regard to the transac tions between the Union Pacific Railroad and the Crédit Mobilier, which will no doubt be of interest and value to the present stockholders of the former company, as well as to the Congressional Investigating Committee. The original contract made with Oakes Ames for the construction and equipment of six hundred miles of the road; the assignment of the contract two months afterwards to the famous ring of trustees and the Crédit Mobilier: the singular conditions attached to the contract and assignment, are now placed before the public for the first time. Taken in connection with the list of shareholders in the Crédit Mobilier, published in last Saturday's HERALD, and the developments already made before the investigating committee at Washington, they will afford a fair insight into the secret working of the stupendous job, and into the means by which it was made such a magnificent success. The contract was entered into on August 16, 1867, and the assignment was made on October 15 following. It appears from the list of stockholders of the Crédit Mobilier, as already published by us, that the first dividend of twelve per cent, in first mortgage bonds and stock of the Union Pacific Railroad was made as early as December 12, 1867, or less than two months after the transfer of the contract was completed.

We have no doubt that the facts thus brought to light will be thoroughly sifted by the innocent stockholders of the Union Pacific Railroad, and that the question of the legality of a transaction by which the large profits, apparently belonging legitimately to that company, were diverted into another channel and shared between a favored few, will be properly tested in the courts. Indeed, Mr. Richard Schell, in a conversation with a Herald reporter, states that a suit is likely to be brought at once against the Crédit Mobilier stockholders, although he disclaims any intention to take part personally in the litigation. He doubts, indeed, whether the officers of the Union Pacific Railroad will act in the matter in their official capacity; but, as any stockholder has a right to sue, there is no question that the action for the recovery of the amount alleged to have been misappropriated will be brought, and that the plaintiff, whoever he may be, will be backed up by the whole strength of the corporation. In the meantime ex-President Durant may have it in his power to throw much valuable light on the mysterious and intricate transactions of the managers of the adventure if it should please him to do so, and it would be curious to learn whence came the dividends so lavishly distributed to the stockholders of the Credit Mobilier so soon after the date of the Oakes Antes contract and transfer.

We must insist, however, that no new inter-

est in the foreshadowed suits between the vic-

timized Union Pacific stockholders and the

fortunate Crédit Mobilier "ring" shall be permitted to divert attention from the investigation pending before the Congressional Committee. Hitherto there has been no great confidence felt in the result of the committee's labors, probably, mainly on account of its unfortunate determination to hold its sessions with closed doors. As we have remarked heretofore, some persons familiar with our Congressmen have fancied that a committee better qualified to conduct such an investigation might have been formed, but no one has imagined that there would be any dishonest attempt to suppress or distort evidence on the England's Premier, against the barbarous part of its members. Congressman Cox possesses and deserves in an eminent degree and elsewhere, and the fact that the committee was of his selection is sufficient proof as to its integrity. But something more than an honest intention is required of those who have been assigned such an important duty. They have sharp, unscrupulous men to deal with. If the charges made are well founded their own immediate friends and associates are implicated in a disgraceful and illegal transaction. They must bring to bear upon their labors inexorable firmness, stern de termination and unceasing watchfulness, if they would discharge their trust fully and faithfully. If there has been a doubl as to their qualifications in these respects, they have only themselves to thank for it. The Crédit Mobilier scandal was of too important character to be hushed up or smothered over by a mere whitewashing process, and the people were not satisfied that the evidence should be concealed from them. When the seal of secrecy was placed upon the investigation it is not to be wondered at that an uneasy suspicion crept into the public mind. It is to be hoped that it will be removed by a reversal of the action of the committee and the opening of its sessions. There is no reasonable doubt as to the implication of some Senators and Representatives in what, in plain language, is Congressional bribery and corruption. The trick of allowing brothers, sons, wives and sons-in-law to receive the price of a purchasable vote, in the hope of hoodwinking the people and escaping responsibility, is no longer available. It is now thoroughly understood and can deceive no person. The committee are bound to discover what members of Congress or other public officers received the favor of stock from the Crédit Mobilier at about one-eighth of its real value, and then voted for the measures required by those interested in the company. If they should fail to do this, and to present the facts without fear or favor, they will find it difficult to persuade the world that they have faithfully or

GRANITE FORTS .- A trial has recently been made at Picklecombe Battery, Plymouth Sound, to test the power of resistance in the iron-plated granite walls of the series of permanent fortifications which at great cost Great not for the present bring the two great Pow-Britain has built to resist attack from the direction of the sea. Twenty or thirty heavy guns were discharged under the observation of high military officers, and yet the walls of Picklecombe Battery still stand. It is suggested that a far better test would be to send the Devastation or some other ship to try the effect of a few shots from one of the Woolwich thirty-five ton guns. If such an assault proved harmless it would contradict the opinion of high military authorities and the experience of our late war, as well as recent European

efficiently discharged their duties.

The Progress of Tyranny in Louisiana. There is no new feature in the Louisiana trouble to-day, but the longer the outrage is permitted to live the more hideous and revolting it becomes. Judge Bradley is not to go to New Orleans; at least that appears to be the present decision at Washington, and it is announced by the republican organs as a partisan triumph. The people asked that he might be permitted to do so, in order that the alleged illegal and arbitrary action of Judge Durell might be subjected to his calm and fair revision; but their reasonable request is refused. They are to be left under the heel of a judge who has trodden on the neck of the State, and now holds it helpless under his foot, with a federal bayonet at its throat. With a refinement of tyranny, the people of Louisiana are told that they have their remedy in an appeal from Judge Durell's final decision when that shall be reached, while at the same time it is announced that the proceedings hitherto had before that convenient Judge are only interlocutory, and hence not subject to appeal! Meanwhile the press-the only remaining safeguard of the liberty of the citizen-is suppressed at the will of those who have already overthrown the government, outraged the laws and defied the constitution, and the administration at Washington looks approvingly on and issues its edicts that the usurpers shall be regarded as the only lawful authorities of the State. Could these things have happened before the Presidential election?

Still More Disasters at Sea.

The details of the loss at sea of the steamer St. Louis and the British ship Allan, as well as the injuries to the White Star Line steamer Adriatic, are published in another column. It will be remembered that information of these disasters reached us some days since by telegraph. Happily, we have no story of lost life to add to the dismal record, but of human suffering and endurance, of courage and coolness in the hour of danger, there are moving examples. The great mid-winter Atlantic storms have wrought their annual destruction. The total loss of the Allan, of Glasgow, was one result of these storms. By one of those providential occurrences which we call strange coincidences the steamer Adriatic had two blades of her propeller broken on the night of the 12th inst. This delayed her progress considerably, and at seven on the following evening she came across the drifting wreck of the Allan, with twenty perishing souls on board. It should long be one of the traditions of the seas how, in the darkness of that night, third officer Barker, of the Adriatic, and his gallant boat's crew, rescued amid the boiling surges around the doomed ship every person on board.

The loss of the iron steamer St. Louis, one hundred and seventy miles from New Orleans, is attributable to a leak discovered too late. In clearing from New Orleans the day before her foundering she touched what was believed to be a submerged wreck. The captain states that she sustained no apparent damage, but it does not appear that any careful examination was made at the time. That she did sustain an injury, probably the starting of a plate, was proved by the sequel. The motion of the vessel doubtless widened the breach and increased the leak, and so the vessel was lost. A meed of credit is certainly due to the captain for the efficient means he took to save the lives in his

Burning of the Talmage Tabernacle. The destruction by fire of the Tabernacle on Schermerhorn street, Brooklyn, yesterday morning, about the hour when the congregation were preparing to go to worship, was an event which startled the City of Churches. About twenty minutes to ten the as sexton discovered a fire in one of the flues connected with the heating apparatus. The alarm appears to have been given as early as possible, and the Fire Department hastened to the spot. It was, however, too late to save the structure. Built exteriorly of a thin sheeting of corrugated iron, lined inside with wood, it was floored with wooden planking and piled with wooden pews and church furniture. Kept continually heated by the warming apparatus the wood was dry as tinder. Where the flue passed through the flooring the fire burst out, and despite every effort the entire shell was soon in ashes. In a building of this kind it is almost impossible that any other re-sult should follow the breaking out of fird. While deep regret must be felt that so popular a place of worship should be destroyed, it is a subject for gratitude to Providence that the fire did not occur an hour or an hour and a half later, when the large congregation would have been assembled. It is difficult to believe that a serious loss of life would not have resulted had the catastrophe been ninety minutes delayed. In the construction of such places of worship this fatal facility for being burned out is something that should not exist. Poverty of means and the extreme desirability of affording to numbers the consolation of religion at a low rate of expenditure may be an excuse, but it is not desirable that the worshippers should be continually liable during the Winter months to be burned at divine service or trampled to death in an attempt to escape on the alarm of fire being given. In our Winter months churches certainly must be heated. How to do this sufficiently in a wooden church and yet be safe from fire is a problem not likely ever to be satisfactorily solved. We are glad that the trustees have determined on erecting a brick edifice instead of the late corrugated innovation on ecclesiastical architecture. The action of the reverend gentlemen-

the use of Mr. Talmage and his churchless flock is highly commendable. Service was held last evening in Plymouth church by the burned-out pastor as a result of this hospitable offer. The loss will be considerable. The "big organ," a relic of the first Boston Jubilee, was destroyed with the Paber-GLASS HOUSES AND STONE THROWING .-

Brothers Beecher, Duryea and Cuyler-in

offering their respective churches for

While the model city of London is disordered by mutiny and strikes among the police, the postmen, the civil service clerks and the gasstokers, causing serious inconvenience and general dismay among peaceful citizens, the Morning Post takes our republican institutions to task on the score of the abuses which marked our late Presidential election. It argues from the startling characteristics of the appaign in which the American people by I to fit a man to become an inhabitant of the

declared their preference for General Grant for the highest official position in the country. that universal suffrage and the vote by ballot would be a fearful curse for England. We know the workings of these institutions pretfy well here, and though not anxious to prescribe them as an infallible cure for the irregularities. of the British body politic, we are fully content to continue their use and fail to discover that anarchy and insecurity over which the London journal sheds such copious tears.

Christmas and Other Sermons

Considering the near approach of Christmas

and the supposed importance of the event

which that day commemorates there was less uniformity of thought and topic in the pulpits yesterday than is usually the case on such occasions. But if the ministers and their adult congregations affect to ignore this season the children will not forget it, nor will they fail to remind parents and friends of its approach and its arrival. The Roman Catholic and the Episcopal preschers call attention to this event annually in its season. Other clergymen give it little or no prominence. In the Cathedral yesterday the Rev. John M. Farrelly presented the condescension of God in the gift of His Son, Jesus Christ, as a motive for Christian humility and as a marked illustration of the abhorrence with which the Almighty looks upon pride. The folly of building hopes upon or being proud of transient and trivial possessions, the comparative insignificance of man in creationbubble upon the ocean of life," the certainty and nearness of death, and other considerations of a like nature, were also presented by Father Farrelly as correlative reasons why men should endeavor to imitate the humble Saviour of the world, and thus work out the great end of their salvation. Father Bierring told his congregation that by following the light which Jesus kindled upon earth, by striving with all earnestness after that virtue which He taught to men, only thus shall we find peace to our souls. But before peace there must be repentance, and the nature of this repentance—not the putting on of sackcloth and ashes, but the putting off of the deeds of the flesh and taking on a new heart and a right spirit-was explained by the Rev. Mr. Bjerring. A man must absolutely be born again of the Spirit, so that old things shall pass away and all things shall becom new, ere he can hope to please God. This, said Mr. Bjerring, is the doctrine of the Christian Church. Rev. Dr. Porter, of Brooklyn, had the birth of Christ also for his theme yesterday. The memories of Bethlehem, he said, are revived by the words of cheerful hope and the deeds of generous love which the Christian world to-day perform. Christ-mas is a very hard time for grumblers and churls. To go through any day without a word of kindness or a smile of encouragement must be a trial to a full-grown, rightly developed man or woman; but to ge through a week that was ringing with angel melodies, when the very air was redolent as with sweetness from the paradise of God, in narrow, cold, selfish exclusiveness. must be hard for any one wishing to be selfrespectful or to participate in the joys of our common humanity. Rev. Dr. Bellows dwelt on this important theme also, and in his discourse he contended that as Christ came when the world desired him He would have come sooner had He been longed for. This waiting and anticipation had been the moral education of the world for his coming. But had He come sooner His message would not have been heard at all: for even when He did come the world was barely ready to receive Him, and He was recognized as the hope and the redeemer of the race by a very small but glorious minority. Christ is really born for us, the Doctor thought, in the beauty and sweetness of His love-in the power and plentitude of His truth-if we strive to copy His life and make ourselves the living temples of his holiness. "Jesus' love" is an appropriate subject for

contemplation at any time, and especially so at a season like this. Hence Mr. Frothingham gave it some attention yesterday. But what is that love worth if Jesus was a Jewish dreamer, as intimated in the discourse? Of what avail is faith in Christ if He Himself asked for it only because He was a leader? If He did not insist upon any belief in His divinity or infallibility, and sought only sympathy, wherein lies the merit of his life or death for a sinful race? We think the Bible is read to little purpose if it is not seen therein that Christ never lost sight of His own divinity and of His infallibity also, and that He challenged His opponents to bring forward any man who had done such works as He had performed, and if they could not, then to give good reason for their unbelief. His condemnation of Pharisees and murderers, kid-gloved or bare-handed, eighteen hundred years ago or now, has very little judicial weight if He was not God as well as man. It is this fact that gives point and pertinence to His mortal career and has made Him an object of adoring faith in all ages, and which gives prominence to the festival of Christmas, which we now celebrate. The vanity of worldly achievements which must appear in any thorough retrospect.of our lives and our moral obligations to God were presented by Mr. Hepworth. Three parties know us better than we know ourselves-God. our children and the world-and it therefore behooves us to know ourselves. Hence the importance of retrospective examination, that the value of the soul may become more apparent and devotion to God more faithful and earnest. Dr. Charles S. Robinson dedicated a Presbyterian church yesterday and preached on the Gospel as a thing not to be ashamed of. Some ribald tongue has said evangelical preachers belong to the "come-poor-sinnercome" style of oratory. Is it best to be quite ashamed of the Gospel of Christ? The churches should stand by the preachers in the simplicity of faith; and thus shall the Gospel go on, "still achieving, still pursuing," until it shall have encompassed the world.

There is nothing very noteworthy in Mr. Beecher's pulpit utterances yesterday. His sympathy with Mr. Talmage in his loss was what might be expected. His sermon was designed to show the inability of morality to create Christian manhood. The true man is he who does right because it is easier to do that than to do wrong, and he whose character is only as high as society requires can never be noble. Mr. Beecher did not undervalue morality. however, but he insisted that it is not enough