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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

- THEATRE COMIQUE, 514 Broadway. AFRICA; OR, THE GREAT EAST INDIA COMPANY.
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THE NEWS OF YESTERDAY.

To-Day's Contents of the Herald.

IS THIS A REPUBLIC AND IS LOUISIANA ONE OF THE UNITED STATES?—LEADING EDITORIAL ARTICLE—FOURTH PAGE.
FULL PARTICULARS OF THE LATEST RAILROAD SLAUGHTER! THE KILLED AND WOUNDED: CAUSES OF THE DISASTER—FIFTH PAGE.

THE CONFLAGRATION ERA: THE CENTRE STREET HOLOCAUST! SIX GIRLS MISSING! SAD SCENES AT THE STATION HOUSE—BARNUM'S FIRE BOX—THIRD PAGE.

THE IMPERIAL HIGHNESS THE CZAREWITZ ALEXANDER OF RUSSIA IS INVOLVED BY A SEVERE ATTACK OF TYPHUS FEVER. The medical bulletins issued in St. Petersburg indicate that he is seriously ill.

THE EXTREME PRICE OF FOOD IN ENGLAND IS NATURALLY CALLING PUBLIC ATTENTION TO THE GREAT EXTENT OF UNPRODUCTIVE LAND IN THE KINGDOM. Conventions of laboring people ask that the parks and game preserves be devoted to tillage and feed for men instead of merely affording sport to the wealthy class.

Is This a Republic and is Louisiana One of the United States?

Either this is a republic or it is not. Either the States manage their own local affairs or they do not. Whichever appearance may denote, we believe we are not rash in assuming that the people of the United States do live in a republic; further, we boldly quote the constitution and the decisions of the Supreme Court to prove it incumbent upon the United States "to guarantee to every State in the Union a republican form of government."

Undoubtedly it was a mistake in the liberal republicans of Louisiana to dally with Warmoth in the late elections, for pitch defiles. In spite of their aversion they accepted his aid; but his is the power of the boomerang, and returns to delay, if not to destroy, reform.

They ask the federal government to make a candid and impartial investigation of the facts we have so often put before our readers. They maintain, and we have every reason to believe them, that they have not heretofore been concerned in the controversies among the political classes which have endangered the peace and brought scandal upon the State.

Yet, undaunted by the despatch of December 13, the Attorney General is happy in his official phrasology, as "a fellow by the name of Jack Wharton" can testify. If manners make the man, what a man the Attorney General must be!

His Majesty Kamehameha the Fifth, King of the Sandwich Islands, died at Honolulu on the 11th inst. He had been ailing in health for some short time past, but the exact nature of the disease by which he was finally removed from life is not stated.

THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT AND EMANCIPATION IN THE COLONIES. The Spanish government seems at last resolved to do something towards the emancipation of the slaves in her colonies. A bill has been introduced in the Cortes providing for the abolition of slavery in Porto Rico; and on Monday Señor Martos, Minister of Foreign Affairs, announced that the government had taken measures to prevent persons purchasing slaves in Porto Rico and conveying them to Cuba.

fish-pot. How is it possible, then, for the President to see more than one side, and that the wrong one? Let us be grateful that he leaves the matter with Congress.

The Attorney General declares with Delphian wisdom that "what is past is past; it is only the future that can be controlled." It remains to be seen how much weight an indignant public opinion can have over its representatives at Washington.

The resolution was received with the same partisan animosity that characterized the reception of Senator Sumner's generous proposition to strike from all regimental flags the names of battles fought with conquered brothers. We repeat the oracular language of Attorney General Williams in saying that "what is past is past." General Grant asks for peace, and we contend that a peaceable union is utterly impossible so long as there is usurpation in any part of the country.

Christmas and Its Observance.

Christmas Day, 1872, will doubtless long be remembered in New York and throughout the Northern States as one of the coldest Christmas days within the memory of the oldest inhabitant.

The pitiless coast of Labrador, if it was "an eager and a nipping air," it was still wholesome and bracing in the sun. And never before in this metropolis and its surroundings, on the islands and the mainland, was the day so generally observed as a social holiday and a day of religious thanksgiving and of the good works of Faith, Hope and Charity.

Death of the King of the Sandwich Islands.

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Britain, by his not being able to recognize a monarch while engaged in executing the honest duty of serving potatoes.

The Tinder-box Buildings in New York—A Grand Opportunity for an American Hansensmann.

The burning of the Brooklyn Tabernacle, and of the circus on Fourteenth street, in this city, both of which were covered with corrugated iron, has attracted general attention to the use of that article for building purposes, and the conclusion has not been in its favor. It was found in both instances that the iron, covering as it did wooden structures, only served two purposes; first, by intensifying the heat, to add to the more rapid spread of the flames, and next, to prevent the water from the engines reaching the seat of the fire.

Corrugated iron is no doubt a valuable material for building purposes if properly used. A firm interested in its manufacture protest against the general condemnation it is just now receiving, and declares that the abuse, and not the use, of the article should bear the blame. Although they are interested parties there is much truth in their remarks.

The Latest Railway Disasters.

From one of the charming valleys at the west end of this State there came a mournful wail to mingle in the merriment of our Christmas festival. Near the ridge which divides the streams whose waters feed the Ohio and so seek the ocean through the Mexican Gulf from those which descend into Lake Erie and passing Niagara and the Thousand Islands find an outlet in the far north of the St. Lawrence, flows a rippling brook, whose high banks are spanned by the trestle bridge of the Buffalo, Corry and Pittsburg Railroad, near the station house at Prospect, a few miles southerly from the thriving village of Mayville.

board of the new Post Office is now one of the most important and valuable localities in the metropolis, or, indeed, in any city in the world. The Essex Building, the Park Bank, the new iron building on the Nassau, Fulton and Ann street block, are all handsome structures, and thoroughly fireproof.

More Victims of Criminal Neglect.

The Centre street fire was far more disastrous than was at first supposed. It now appears certain that five or six of the operatives in the upper stories of the building, where the fire began, have perished in the flames.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Senator Lot M. Morrill, of Maine, is quite ill. A sister of Edgar A. Poe resides in the Southern part of Ohio. It is the Rev. W. R. Alger, of Boston, who is writing the life of Edwin Forrest. The city editor of a newspaper in Zanesville, Ohio, has been nominated for Mayor.

allowed to exist in Cuba. If it is right to carry out emancipation in the one island it cannot be right to allow slavery to continue in the other. Exceptional legislation will but aggravate the Cuban difficulty. It is doubted by some whether the Spanish government is really in earnest in this matter of emancipation.

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