# NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT. PROPRIETOR.

### AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway, between Prince and

UNION SQUARE THEATRE, Broadway, between WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and Thirtee

POOTH'S THEATRE, Twenty-third street, corner Sixth THEATRE COMIQUE, 514 Broadway.-- Keno AND

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway, between Houston

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—SLASHER AND CRASHER

WOOD'S MUSEUM, Broadway, corner Thirtieth st.-

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, Twenty-third st. and Eighth ATHENEUM, No. 585 Broadway. - GRAND VARIETY EN-

MRS. P. B. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE .-

BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE, Twenty-third st., corner

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, No. 201 Bowery .-FAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, corner 28th st. and Broadway. - Ethiorian Minstrelst, &c.

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway.-

# WITH SUPPLEMENT

New York, Monday, Jan. 20, 1873.

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

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EMANCIPATION QUESTION "-LEADER-

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AN IMPOSING MILITARY DISPLAY IN GER-MANY-PERSONAL NEWS-THE WEATHER REPORTS-LATE TELEGRAPHIC ITEMS-

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ONE WEEK OF WASHINGTON SOCIETY! THE SELECT COTERIES OF THE LAW, THE NAVY, THE CABINET AND CONGRESS!

RED-HANDED AND RED-SKINNED RORRERS THE EVILS WHICH THE APOSTLES OF THE INDIAN PEACE POLICY IN THE EAST ARE FOSTERING! THE TREACHEROUS SAVAGES NEED PHIL SHERIDAN'S MEDI-

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HAS SEEN SEA SERPENTS! WHERE, WHEN AND HOW-POSTAL TELEGRAPH

GERMAN TRIUMPH OVER CONQUERED FRANCE.-The German Imperial Crown has resolved, apparently, that the French people shall not forget the humiliations which their country endured in the late war. Eighty-six French flags captured in battle were solemnly placed in the garrison church of Potsdam yesterday for the decoration of the walls of the building. His Majesty Emperor William, the Empress Augusta, the Imperial Princes and a number of the most distinguished commanders of the army were present. The scene was completely national, of a compound of military, religious and corporate citizen character. The Emperor addressed the assemblage, and thanked the army for its heroism, pronouncing, like unto infallibist, the eternity of its glory. Whether France will accept the dogma, now that Napoleon is dead, remains to be seen.

THE RUSSIAN MARCH IN CENTRAL ASIA AND BRITISH INTERESTS IN THE EAST. -The Russian special envoy to the Court of St, James has failed to convince Queen Victoria and her Ministers that the Czar's armed advance on Khiva and the English interests in Afghanistan are of identical import, and that the two great Powers can march unitedly, but on separate lines, towards the consummation of a grand Christian and commercial triumph in that quarter of Asia. M. Schouvaloff, the St. Petersburg special representative in London, has not been able to accomplish the object of his commission from Alexander, and has consequently returned to the Russian capital—the cable despatch says, "without effecting an arrangement." This is a very diplomatic way of placing the event before the public, but the words are no doubt apropos to the case. The proposed arrangement in Central Asia is likely to fall through somewhat after the fashion of that which was projected for a joint adminis-

Spain and Cuba-An Extraordinary Loan-The Costs of the Insurrec tion-The Emancipation Question.

Leaving, for the present, as it stands the diplomatic question of veracity pending be-tween our Secretary of State, Mr. Fish, and Señor Zorilla, Prime Minister of Spain, in reference to the remarkable despatch of the former of the 29th of October last on the abolition of slavery in the Spanish West Indies, we turn to the consideration of another remarkable official communication—that which we published yesterday from our Minister at Madrid to Mr. Fish, bearing the date of August 16, 1872, on the finances of the Spanish Cuban government, and on the frightful costs and loss of life resulting from the insurrection for Cuban independence. This despatch, it appears, has been shown by Mr. Fish to several members of the Diplomatic Corps and of the Senate, as justifying his note aforesaid on slavery in Cuba, which Señor Zorrilla says he has not received. We are obliged to the Secretary of State, in any event, for the production of this August despatch from Madrid, because of its important official disclosures touching the condition of Cuba.

We are thus informed of an official publication of a decree, accompanied by a report of the Colonial Minister, authorizing the Treasury of the island of Cuba to issue bonds amounting to sixty millions of dollars, at eight per cent interest, and pledging for the payment of interest and principal of the loan the proceeds of the war tax, estimated at five millions a year, and the surplus derived from all other sources of revenue, ordinary and extraordinary. It next appears in the report of the Colonial Minister that the Cuban Treasury owes the Bank of Havana fifty millions of dollars; that twelve millions of this sum were borrowed to pay the expenses of the several expeditions against St. Domingo and Mexico, and that the remaining thirty-eight millions have been advanced by the bank towards the expenses of the Cuban insurrection. The whole fifty millions, it further appears, was advanced by the bank in paper money, the universal plan in times of war; but the large addition, ten millions, thus made to its paper money, has, it appears, brought things financially to a crisis in that section of the island held by the Spanish forces. This, too, is one of the inevitable consequences of a protracted war.

But it further appears that the amount raised in Cuba by taxes and imposts during the last fiscal year was twelve millions, which deserves a moment's attention. The whole population of Cuba is within a million; but we will say it is one million. Of this aggregate the black element numbers half a million, of which four hundred thousand are slaves. One-fourth at least, we suppose, of the white element is actively identified with the insurrection, which leaves a white population of some three hundred and seventyfive thousand, men, women and children, or say seventy-five thousand taxpayers, to raise these twelve millions of money, and with the island suffering all the evils from a protracted and still existing civil war. Of course under this condition of things there is a financial crisis. This loan of sixty millions is intended to clear off all the accumulations of colonial debts to the Bank of Havana, first, for the amount advanced for the Spanish contingent to the late Emperor Napoleon's Mexican expedition; secondly, for the sum advanced to meet the expenses of the Spanish expedition for the reconquest of St. Domingo, and then ten millions are to be paid into the Cuban Treasury for the prosecution of the war against the insurgents and for the other current ex-

penses of the next fiscal year. But after meeting all these requisitions there will be thirty millions of paper money due the Havana Bank, and to raise this sum the embargoed estates on the island are to be leased for a term not exceeding six years, and the proceeds, with certain. Treasury credits and the income from Crown property, are to be applied to this redemption. But as these sources of revenue have not hitherto produced anything, we apprehend that the bonds issued upon such collaterals are not likely to command a high premium in the market. Subscriptions are to be invited to the loan in Havana, Madrid, Paris and London, New York is not to be favored with these attractive bonds, and doubtless she is excluded from the favored cities for very good reasons. The loan is to be managed by fifteen commissioners, but the Captain General may suspend at pleasure any action of theirs on the subject. In the presence of this inviting scheme let our Crédit Mobilier and Crédit Foncier enterprises hide their diminished heads; but let all inclined to venture into this Spanish-Cuban loan of sixty millions first read up the rise, decline and collapse of the South Sea Bubble.

Such as we have presented it is substantially the official exhibit of the finances of Spanish Cuba. It is, too, in this condition of affairs, as our Minister at Madrid puts it, that, after a four years' war without quarter, "Spain is about to appeal to the civilized world to lend money on a pledge of the revenues of the island," and for the purposes of perpetuating African slavery and compelling the unwilling allegiance "of a large majority of the sorely oppressed native population." In this relation a statement is produced from the Imparcial, a semi-official journal of Madrid, that "from the beginning of hostilities in Cuba 13,600 insurgents have been killed in battle (acciones de guerra) and 43,500 taken prisoners, and that 69,940 insurgents have voluntarily surrendered." As it is believed that the prisoners captured in battle were shot as fast as caught, the total number of insurgents slain in this island war may be set down at fifty-seven thousand. And yet, though some two years ago Mr. Secretary Fish represented the insurgents as reduced to a few bands of stragglers in the swamps and mountains, which would doubtless soon be subjugated, there are probably not less than twenty thousand insurgents in the field to-day, and better armed and equipped than at any other time since the proclamation of the revolution.

The Spanish side of this war account as presented in this official despatch of August last from Madrid to Mr. Fish is equally suggestive of the stubborn fact that the efforts of Spain to subdue these Cuban insurgents have involved a greater sacrifice on her part of men and money than any other conflict against any of her revolted colonies from Mexico to Pern It was known at Madrid, from official sources, that in August last the Spanish army in Cuba exceeded a hundred thousand men; that its tration to the effects of the "Sick Man" of average yearly loss in the island, largely from the climate, has been at least fifteen thousand | imitate.

set down as at sixty thousand men for the four years of this destructive war. The worst of it is that even with the subjugation of the insurgents the island, from the waste and demoralizing effects of this war, especially upon the slave population, can never more be

valuable possession to Spain.

Nevertheless, the Spanish government is evidently impressed with the idea that with the suppression of this insurrection, and with the prolongation of her Cuban system of African slavery-the most terrible system known to the civilized world-Cuba may again become the financial mainstay of poor Spain. There can be no profit to Spain from Cuba with the abolition of slavery. The examples of Jamaica under slavery and under emancipation, and of Hayti and Dominica, establish this proposition. When Señor Zorrilla, therefore, declares that Spain will do nothing towards the practical abolition of slavery in Cuba until the last of the insurgents shall have laid down his arms, he means that, as Cuba would be valueless to Spain without slavery, she will maintain it while she holds the island. Spain means to hold the island, if she can, and to make it again, under her slavery system, if possible, what it was before the war-a source of golden revenues, and not an island gone to decay, like St. Domingo and

Jamaica, under emancipation. But in this design the moral sense of the civilized world is all against her. She stands now almost alone among civilized States as the upholder of this abomination of human slavery. But in her desperate extremities she cannot yet think of relinquishing the rich profits she hopes to recover from the system in Cuba. Hence the diplomatic hedging of Señor Zorrilla. He may not, however, have seen that disputed despatch of Mr. Fish. If not, can anything be easier than the sending him another copy of that interesting paper on emancipation in Cuba? President Grant, in our judgment, struck the keynote for the emancipation of the island in those brief remarks in his late annual Message on the question of the emancipation of the slaves thereof. The insurgents, in proclaiming their revolt, proclaimed the abolition of slavery, because they foresaw the consequences to Spain, and our government, in taking up the hint and in pushing the cause of emancipation at Madrid, next to the proclamation of belligerent rights for the Cubans, is doing the best thing it can

fairly do for the cause of Cuban independence. Upon this point we call again upon the four millions of emancipated blacks of the United States to prosecute in every city and town of the Union the agitation which they inaugurated recently in Cooper Institute for an active diplomatic intervention on the part of our government in behalf of the liberation of the four hundred thousand slaves of Cuba: for in the united voice of the colored voting element of the United States, seven hundred thousand strong, there is a power in behalf of liberty to the slave which cannot be disregarded at Washington.

### Lord Lytton.

A great man has passed away from the

world of letters. For more than a quarter of

a century Bulwer Lytton has been one of the

prominent literary favorites of the Englishreading public. A man of talent rather than a man of genius, highly cultivated, tasteful, industrious and fired with literary ambition, he fought for and won his place in the front rank of literary Englishmen. His efforts were numerous and varied. He tried the romantic novel, and he almost equalled Scott. He tried the society novel, and his success was generously admitted. He tried history, and his unfinished work on Athens gave proof that devotion to historical study might have given him a place side by side with Hume and Gibbon, and Macaulay and Grote. He tried poetry, and if his success as a novelist had been less his poetry would have commanded the attention of a larger and more sincere circle of admirers. He attempted the drama, when many had failed and when failure on his part would have been dangerous, and his "Lady of Lyons" promises to keep its hold of the stage so long as light comedy is cared for by an English-speaking audience. He tried his hand as an essayist, and, although he had not the ease and polish of Addison, the rough strength of Henry Rogers, or the brilliancy and vigor of Macaulay, he gave abundant evidence that he was a man of large knowledge, of liberal views and of great powers of expression. His published speeches are not numerous, but his addresses to the associated institutions of the University of Edinburgh and to the students at the University of Glasgow, as well as some of his Parliamentary orations, show that, although he had not the easy and ready utterance of Burke, he was not far behind him as a master of eloquent language. Faw men have tried so much and done so well. If he had attempted less his success could scarcely have been less great, but he might have left a deeper impression on English literature. It was not in the man to be a leader of thought in the sense in which Goethe was a leader, or Coleridge or Carlyle; but he has left us some novels which in the great future will take their place side by side with the best novels of Scott, and some poetry which will be as lasting as English speech. He was not a Thackeray; he was not a Dickens; but his "Eugene Aram," his "Last Days of Pompeii," his "Zanoni," will be read and admired so long as there is a taste for "Vanity Fair" or for "David Copperfield." Having reached the ripe age of sixty-seven, it cannot be said that Lord Lytton died young. but it is not unfair to say that in the whole course of the nineteenth century few men have wielded the pen with more persevering industry or with greater success. It cannot be said that he has left the world any great legacy of thought, that he has made it either much better or much wiser; but that he has contributed to the world's happiness and given an impulse to the cultivation of literature must be admitted, and such a man cannot be said to have lived in vain. He had won his laurels before Dickens commanded attention and before Thackeray was known. The illustrious three, the friends and teachers of our younger years, are gone! When shall we see their like again? Full of years and full of honors, Bulwer has laid his pen aside and gone to his rest. For the pleasure he has given us let us be grateful. The impulse he has given to the

cultivation of literature let us try to catch.

The example he has left behind him, so far as

that example is worthy, let us endeavor to

men, and that its aggregate loss may be safely | The Comptroller's Battle for the Champerminintp-A Suggestion for the State Legislature.

> Whatever may be the decision of Judge Barbour in the case of Palmer against Foley, in regard to the appointment of the Deputy Chamberlain, it is evident that Comptroller Green, who is so eager to undertake the management of the Chamberlain's bureau, is ignorant of the practical business of the office, and would be likely to involve it in inextricable confusion. In the matter of the interest on the city deposits the Comptroller refused to allow the interest to be collected by the Chamberlain and paid over to the credit of the general fund by that officer, as had been done by Chamberlains Sweeny and Bradley, after deducting the expenses of the bureau, and insisted that the banks holding the deposits should calculate the daily interest accruing on each separate fund, credit the same to that fund, and pay the several amounts only on the warrant of the Comptroller, countersigned by the Mayor or the President of the Board of Supervisors, according as the accrued interest might belong to a city or county fund.

> This order is of isself sufficient to show the unfamiliarity of the Comptroller with the simplest business of the Chamberlain's office. One bank alone is designated by the Chamberlain as the depositary of the public moneys, but the law provides that at least three banks shall hold the deposits or balances, which shall be equalized as far as practicable between them. The designated bank originally receives all the city and county funds-they caunot be paid into either of the other banks-and keeps a regular account of the several separate funds. When portions of the balances are transferred to the other banks of deposit they are drawn out of the designated bank in a lump sum on a warrant signed by the Chamberlain and countersigned by the Comptroller, and the banks receiving them receive them in a lump sum, and have no record of the particular funds to which they belong. If these banks pay interest at all they must pay it in one sum, without regard to the separate funds, and hence they could not, if they would, obey Comptroller Green's singular and unauthorized directions.

We could multiply instances to show how detrimental to the public interests it would be to gratify the Comptroller's unaccountable ambition to draw the Chamberlain's office under his immediate and direct control. We could show the injustice and absurdity of forcing the Chamberlain, who is under one million two hundred thousand dollars bonds for the safe keeping of the public moneys, and who has frequently millions within his reach, to accept at the hands of a third party a deputy who is by law clothed with all the powers of his principal except that of designating the banks of deposit, and who could at any moment bring the responsible head of the bureau to ruin. The very absurdity of the proposition should suffice to prove that the law could never have contemplated such an injustice. But it is only necessary now to point out the importance of some immediate legislative action by which the powers, duties and responsibilities of the several city departments and bureaus shall be definitely settled, so that the disgraceful and injurious conflict of authority and departmental squabbling and fighting, to which the city has for the past twelve months been subjected, may be brought to a speedy close. Judge Barbour's decision will probably prevent a repetition of the scandalous scene enacted in the Chamberlain's office a few days since; but there are other public offices that are either kept in turmoil or paralyzed by similar contests, and the sooner the Legislature puts an end to

them, one way or another, the better it will be

for the credit of the city. the Indians and Their Doctors Morality. While State rights, the currency and the tariff have each their doctors of rival schools and opposite treatments, our interesting savages can put in an equal claim to being the victims of the schools of lead and of hymn books. When they were not directly treated by either these patients of ours have met with quackeries of every class, from smallpox inoculation to whiskey dosing, and from being tanght the art of cheating by agents and border ruffians, to being left to their own sweet wills for a change. It has long been conceded that the prime evil of the matter is the Indian's existence at all. Since however. he has proved to possess a disagreeable tenacity in holding on to this life his complaint has been generally diagnosed as an expherance of animal spirits, leading him to consider murder in its most atrocious form a delightful pastime and robbery a high virtue. The hymn-book doctors aver that the ounce-dose-of-lead doctors have had full fling at the patient, and that the treatment, though "heroic," was not successful. So the Great Father gave the hymnbook doctors a chance at Poor Lo. For some three years past they have been pelting him with government rations and paper pellets inscribed with holy phrases, but the exuberant savage only seems to have taken notice of the food supply part of the process. He saved his ammunition during the Winter, and then when the grass was long went cheerily on his melodious way scalping as before. Friend Tatum, a worthy disciple of the hymn-book school, as described in a letter to the HERALD elsewhere, confesses himself discouraged; but his colleagues of the hymnbook University are still sound in their faith. At a recent meeting in Washington the Faculty assembled and held forth on the success of their efforts. Although the company looked at that article under the most powerful microscopes of complacently pious egotism they could not discover much to comfort them. and if they only examined it with the naked eye they would discover much less. The most determined professors of the lead school allow these gentlemen the merit of earnestness, and the magnanimous way in which they have given numerous shades of Christianity a chance to walk the hospitalswe mean the Territories-is evidence thereof. Still, there is not a little subject for satire left in the pious squabbles over the exact ratio in which the various sects should administer to

the Indians their respective doses of Christian-

ity. They are also sufficiently eclectic to ad-

vocate at times peculiar modes of cure. The

enthusiastic Mr. Lowry believed that we

book argun ant. How much Warren Hastings or Clive believed in the hymn book for the heathen Hindoo, or what events at Delhi and Lucknow the employment of native troops led to, Mr. Lowry possibly has forgotten or never learned. The humane picture of Lord Strathnairn blowing the Sepoys from English guns he might just as well recall and how the hymn-book people in England thanked God for the consoling sacrifice. Until he informs himself he had as well let the Indian troop theory alone. But "of such is the kingdom

We should indeed hesitate before saying an unkind word for these benevolent folk, but it is plain that they must fail unaided. Their most experienced disciples, not the stay-at-homes, admit it, and, however odorous of anctity the project may appear, it should not be allowed to merge into a pious but pernicious fraud. The Kiowas, Comanches, Apaches or Sioux, to name a few tribes, can never be subdued by biscuits, beef and Bibles alone. They must feel that murder and robbery will be punished inexorably before they will be menable to milder treatment. The sad spectacle of a perishing race is one that appeals to most human sympathies; but the most extravagant humanitarian, in weeping over the decadence of a race of constitutional murderers and thieves, should not allow that feeling to degenerate into maudlin apology for their crimes. From Montana to Texas they are a problem to settlers of the same kind as tigers to travellers in the jungle. Let them be caged, then, in their reservations with Uncle Sam's armed keepers to prevent their pulling down the bars. Then, by all means, let the hymnbook doctors move on them in battalions. The doctrine of love can have no chance with them until the doctrine of fear has been sternly

The Samana Bay Scheme-The Big and Little "Niggers" in the Wood

In article ten of the convention, as it is pompously called, between the government of St. Domingo and the Samana Bay Company, it is provided that "the company and its territories shall remain under the united protection of the Dominican Republic and the United States of America, and the company and its agents, when they deem it necessary, shall ask the protection and intervention of either of these nations or both." So the United States government is to be dragged into protecting this company and intervening to sustain it. Who gives this assurance? Does General Grant or Congress know anything about it? Or is this mere assumption on the part of the speculators in order to get off their bonds and stock? Then we find the cunning Baez looking

after the main chance and protecting his pecuniary interests in article eleven in a manner that may prove embarrassing to the company and lead to appeals to the United States. After stating that annual payment of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars in American gold shall be paid in advance by the company to the Dominican government (that is to Baez), it is provided that "the non-payment of the annual rent, alluded to in article ten, or the breaking out of war, or other circumstances of force majeure, will cause the said convention to be considered null and void after thirty days' notice has been given by the Dominican government." Baez not only wants his money in advance, as a prudent lodging house keeper does from a doubtful tenant, but should the company not pay up promptly the whole grand scheme will collapse. Should, therefore, the company be impecunious and not have the money ready at any time—the first, second, third or any succeeding year-"in advance," what is to become of the vested rights or property of immigrants, should there ever be any the company? Would the immigrants have any remedy? Would they be subjects of his mulatto Excellency, Baez, and have to remain in his dominions without redress? Or could they appeal, as citizens of the United States. to the government at Washington? These are some of the complications likely to arise, and it is well to know in time how they are to be settled. Unless the company can sell its bonds or stock under the spur of the extraordinary advertisement it has skilfully evoked we fear the hundred and fifty thousand dollars a year "in advance" will not be realized from Samana. Why did not the company propose to pay Baez in bonds or stock? Perhaps he was too shrewd to listen to such a proposition. American gold he will have every year "in advance," or the convention will be null and

Another "nigger" in the wood pile appears to be seen in the provision about sailing vessels "with the Dominican flag, or with any other which the company has a right to use. This last clause of the sentence means, of course, the American flag, for in a following paragraph it is said, "all vessels of the company which have the American or Dominican flag shall be manned and commanded by citizens of the United States or of the Dominican Republic." Is this intended to be a cunning evasion of our Rregistry and Navigation laws? This mixing up the American flag and American manned and commanded vessels with St. Domingo and a company of our citizens having the powers of an independent government looks as if there were some such intention. Does President Grant know anything about this proposition? If not, it will be well to look into that before giving countenance to this stupendous adventure. At all events it will be well for our people to guard against being misled by the great flourish of trumpets the Samana Bay Company is making.

THE RETIREMENT OF MARSHAL SERRANO FROM PUBLIC LIFE. - In a letter which he has just written to Senor Sagasta Marshal Serrano has announced his firm intention to retire from public life. It will be remembered by our readers that only a few days since Serrano had a long interview with King Amadeus. What was the object of that interview we have not yet learned. It is not unreasonable, however, to conclude that, in the peculiar circumstances in which Spain is now placed, with illsuppressed insurrection at home and with her most important colonial possession in open revolt, the King is anxious to rally to his support the leading statesmen of the country. Serrano was one of the young King's first friends, and it is most natural that the King should seek to benefit by the venerable statesman's wisdom and large experience. His letshould adopt the policy of the British in India by having Indian troops for service in | ter to Sagasta leaves little ground to hope that | filled and drawn off on tracks provided for

the Indian country. It is a very bad hymn- he will ever again take any active part in public affairs. When we remember that Serrano was born towards the close of the last century we have the less difficulty in understanding why he has no longer any strong desire to enter the stormy arena of politics.

#### The Department of Parks-Why Mr. Green's Place Should Be Filled.

Mayor Havemeyer in his recent Message directed public attention to the evident impropriety of allowing a Commissioner of a Municipal Department to act as a member of the Board of Apportionment, and in the latter capacity to pass upon the estimates for his own Department. As Comptroller Green holds two important offices under the city government—the head of the Finance Department and the Vice Presidency of the Department of Parks, and is also a member of the Auditing Board—he not only passes upon the estimates he himself makes for those two Departments, but, as Comptroller, he audits and pays all his own bills as Park Commissioner. The HERALD approved Mayor Havemeyer's condemnation of this old Tammany practice, and insisted that Comptroller Green should relinquish double office-holding and withdraw from the Park Commission, as a matter of consistency under a reform government. Mr. Green thereapon tendered his resignation as Park Commis sioner, but Mayor Havemeyer has not acted upon it and filled the position. We insist that he should do so at once, and we are prepared to give reasons for the demand, aside from the reproach of a "reform" city officer holding a plurality of valuable offices, after the fashion of Tweed and his associates of the old Tammany Ring.

A provision of chapter 593 of the laws of

1871 says, "No liability for any purpose

whatsoever shall be hereafter incurred by any department of the city of New York exceeding in amount the appropriations made for such purpose; nor shall the city or county of New York be held liable for any indebtedne so incurred." Comptroller Green has this extract from the Board of Apportionment act printed on the weekly statement of the condition of the appropriations for the several departments, and he very properly holds them all strictly to it. But we understand that the law has been disregarded in the Department of Parks; that in that Department the appropriation has been exhausted, and that a sum of eighty thousand dollars, or thereabouts, has been illegally taken from trust funds and disbursed on the maintenance of the Parks over and above the appropriation. We also observe that while all the other city departments have reduced their expenditures and estimates for 1873 the Park Department alone asks for and receives an increased appropriation over 1872. We do not charge that this money is improperly or unwisely spent, but we do insist that it is a remarkable illustration of the evil to which Mayor Havemeyer alluded in his Message, and shows how undesirable it is that the Commissioner and Vice President of the Park Department should pass upon his own estimates as the principal member of the Board of Apportionment and pay his own bills as Comptroller. We do not suppose that Mayor Havemeyer is in favor of reform only in the case of his political opponents, and hence we expect that he will appoint a Park Commissioner in place of Comptroller Green without further delay, and put a stop to the unpleasant rumors of a "job" now too current in the city.

#### The Resurrection of Our Streets and Railroads-A Lesson for the Future.

For nearly three weeks after the great

Christmas snow storm many of our streets and portions of our city railroads lay buried in graves of snow. Saturday was the first day of the complete resumption of travel, when the rails on Ann street were resurrected and ready for the cars. The stoppage of Ann street, which is fast becoming one of the most important business thoroughfares in the city. occasioned great inconvenience, and has again directed public attention to the necessity of the proposed widening of the street, now more imperative than ever. Years ago it was conceded that the best way to relieve Broadway in its most crowded part, below the City Hall Park, would be to widen Ann street to the river, and thus afford an catlet to the enormous traffic passing in that direction and now driven to seek the inconvenient streets below Ann. The project was then defeated by the "Ring," whose members failed to secure that pecuniary interest in it to which they believed themselves entitled. Now that the Post Office has been located in the Park, and large, commodious buildings, such as the great fireproof iron building on Nassau, between Fulton and Ann streets, have been erected to accommodate the increased business of the neighborhood, it is absolutely necessary that Ann street should be made a fine, broad thoroughfare, capable of thoroughly draining Broadway and affording facilities for the quick transit of the mails. At present Broadway is a destructive impediment to business in the lower part of the city, and between the lumbering stages, wagons and trucks the constant blockades are the means of sacrificing as much valuable time and money during the year as would suffice to build and equip five miles of railroad.

There is another lesson to be gathered from the extended blockade of many of our streets. It is certain that we have not yet hit upon an effective method of clearing away the snow when it falls in large quantities. Under the old contract system it was suffered to lie until it melted. The present street-cleaning authorities have done much better, but have not shown success in the late stormy period. It is certain that a combination of separate forces may be used with advantage in such an emergency, and probably if every individual householder would undertake to dispose of all the snow opposite his house and half way across the road, by sc ne means or another, we might find more speedy relief. But our recent experience has especially called to mind the wisdom of compelling the city railroads to clear the snow from the streets occupied by their tracks as a compensation for the valuable franchises they enjoy. These corporations are interested in such work, for by promptly clearing their tracks they would avoid loss of business and of money. If they were bound by their charters to do so they would provide the means to remove the obstruction efficiently and speedily, and this could readily be done by means of large snow carts, which might be