

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

Volume XXXVII.....No. 73

AMUSEMENTS TO-MORROW EVENING.

- ST. JAMES THEATRE, Broadway and 25th st.—BURLESQUE OPERA—LUCRZIA BORGIA.
OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway, between Houston and Bleecker streets.—MURPHY DUETTY.
UNION SQUARE THEATRE, Union square, between Broadway and Fourth st.—A BUSINESS WOMAN.
WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and Thirteenth street.—JACK GARRICK.
BOOTH'S THEATRE, Twenty-third street, corner Sixth avenue.—DADDY O'DOWD.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, Twenty-third st. and Eighth av.—UNCLE SAM.
BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—AN INQUIRY FARM—DRASTIC, &c.
ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Fourteenth street.—ITALIAN OPERA.—PAZZO.
THEATRE COMIQUE, No. 514 Broadway.—DRAMA, BURLESQUE AND OILY.
NEW FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, 728 and 730 Broadway.—ALICE.
WOOD'S MUSEUM, Broadway, corner Thirtieth st.—ESPERO, AFTERNOON and EVENING.
ATRENIUM, No. 128 Broadway.—GRAND VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT.
NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway, between Prince and Houston streets.—LEO AND LOTUS.
MRS. F. B. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE.—MORTO OSTRO.
PARK THEATRE, opposite the City Hall, Brooklyn.—LADIES OF CHERRY BLOSSOM.
RYAN'S OPERA HOUSE, Twenty-third st., corner 6th av.—NIGRO MINSTRELS, &c.
TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, No. 201 Bowery.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT.
STEINWAY HALL, Fortieth street.—READING FROM SHAKESPEARE AND THE POETS.
COOPER INSTITUTE, Third avenue and Fourth st.—LAUGHING GAS EXHIBITION.
NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway.—SCIENCE AND ART.

QUADRUPLE SHEET.

New York, Sunday, March 16, 1873.

THE NEWS OF YESTERDAY.

To-Day's Contents of the Herald.

'THE DECISION OF GOVERNOR DIX; LAW AND ORDER MUST PREVAIL, COST WHAT IT MAY'—EDITORIAL LEADER—EIGHTH PAGE.
GOVERNOR DIX GIVES THE GROUNDS OF HIS DECISION IN THE FOSTER APPEAL! HE IS THANKED IN THE NAME OF LAW AND ORDER! THE SAD DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE! THE KINDEST FEELINGS FOR THE FAMILY OF FOSTER! 'SHAME IN CRIME, NOT IN ITS PUNISHMENT!'—FIFTH PAGE.
WILLIAM L. ALLEN'S CHARGE AGAINST MRS. PUTNAM OF ACCEPTING A BRIBE! WHAT HE HAS TO SAY AND WHAT HE FAILS TO ESTABLISH! QUEER CONDUCT!—FIFTH PAGE.
DISRAELI'S DILEMMA! ANOTHER CONSULTATION WITH EARL DERBY! HE DECLINES THE PREMIERSHIP! GLADSTONE MAY RESUME HIS DISCARDED ROBES! THE PARLIAMENTARY CRISIS!—NINTH PAGE.
ENGLISH FINANCIERS "TAKE" A NEW AMERICAN LOAN AT A PREMIUM! THE NEW YORK, BOSTON AND MONTREAL RAILROAD BONDS SNAPPED UP IMMEDIATELY ON BEING OFFERED!—NINTH PAGE.
FRANCE TO BE EVACUATED BY THE GERMAN ON THE 5TH OF SEPTEMBER! THE CONVENTION SIGNED BY THE FRENCH PRESIDENT AND THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR! BARRING BROTHERS AND THE ROTHSCHILDS TO ARRANGE FOR THE PAYMENTS!—NINTH PAGE.
A DRUNKEN HUSBAND MURDERS HIS WIFE! HER SKULL CRUSHED WITH AN AXE WHILE ASLEEP!—NINTH PAGE.
AMERICA'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE WORLD'S FAIR AT VIENNA! WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED BY THE COMMISSION—MELHANEY DOOMED!—FIFTH PAGE.
EUROPEAN NEWS DESPATCHES BY CABLE—GENERAL TELEGRAMS—NEWS FROM WASHINGTON!—NINTH PAGE.
LEGAL PROCEEDINGS—MARINE NEWS—TWELFTH PAGE.
HOW ST. PATRICK'S DAY WILL BE CELEBRATED! A TEN-MILE PROCESSION AND GRAND MILITARY, RELIGIOUS, SOCIAL AND CIVIC OBSERVANCES!—FIFTH PAGE.
AN EXTENSIVE LAPSE IN THE WALL STREET MARKET'S GOLD STRADY! MONEY EASIER! THE SALIENT POINTS OF BUSINESS AND THE QUOTATIONS!—SIXTH PAGE.
GLEANNINGS FROM THE RELIGIOUS FIELD AT HOME AND ABROAD! SERVICES IN THE VARIOUS CHURCHES! THE NOTES AND QUERIES OF CORRESPONDENTS! MINISTERIAL AND DENOMINATIONAL CHANGES!—SIXTH PAGE.
MICHIGAN ENACTS THAT IT SHALL BE PENAL TO EXCOMMUNICATE—THIRTY-FOURTH STREET SYNAGOGUE!—SIXTH PAGE.
FRANCE'S DAY OF FREEDOM FROM FOREIGN INVASION.—France has arranged for the final liberation of her soil from the presence of the Prussian hostage indemnity guard. President Thiers and Count Von Arnim, the German Ambassador in Paris, signed a convention yesterday by virtue of which the French government makes provision for the payment of the fifth milliard of the war indemnity money by instalments, and the Berlin authorities have accepted the offer. The final payment is to be made on the 5th of September next, at which time all the French territory occupied by the Prussians, including Belfort, is to be evacuated. Messrs. Baring Brothers and the Rothschilds will undertake the financial arrangements. The 5th of September will thus be made a remarkable day in the future history of the civilization of the present period. A great nation restored to itself; a people vindicated by their own self-exertion against imperialism, invasion, absolutism, foreign assault and commercial demoralization. It will be the baptism of the people in their morality and honesty, instead of the baptism of the Bonaparte Prince in fire and blood.
AMERICAN RAILWAY SECURITIES IN EUROPE.—The Herald special telegram from London which appears in our columns goes to confirm the fact that the American railway securities remain a favorite investment with European capitalists.
AMERICAN CLAIMANTS SEEKING COMPENSATION from Mexico for damages have written to the Herald from California and other portions of the United States territory, asking information concerning the work and progress of the Claims Commission appointed by the governments of the republics to adjust and settle the bills and differences. They should write to Washington. The work goes slowly.

The Decision of Governor Dix—Law and Order Must Prevail, Cost What It May.

The fate of Foster, sealed as it is by the decision of Governor Dix, continues to be so general a topic of discussion that we will be excused for again returning to it at length. From the broad differences of opinion on the matter among the press previous to the final death decree it might have been expected that the Governor's determination not to interfere with the execution would have produced a variety of comment. A unanimous acquiescence in his justice is, instead, seen everywhere. To our inflexible Governor this must be especially gratifying. It is a recognition of the highest conscientiousness and fidelity to duty in one of the most painful positions wherein the Executive of a State ever found himself. The care and intelligence he brought to bear upon the subject, and his firmness in resisting all extraneous appeals when once his convictions were formed, will elevate him higher in the estimation of his friends, while equally commanding the respect of his bitterest enemies. We are rejoiced to observe this unanimity among the press. It indicates a healthy tone in those who do so much to control and direct public opinion. To read the utterances of some journals a few days ago beside those made since the decision will show how powerful a lesson can be learned from a single action performed by a man placed under such awful responsibilities as General Dix. Among the best authorities on law in the State the Governor's decision has produced the same impression that it has made upon the general public. The members of the Constitutional Convention remaining in Albany called upon the Governor yesterday and congratulated him upon the sound logic in law and equity which enabled him to clear the subject of its mists and decide it on its merits alone. But the Governor, in face of all this expression of lay and professional approval, still preserves his dignified attitude of an unimpassioned Judge of the last resort. To a correspondent of the Herald, yesterday, he made an explanation of his course, whose words will stand out in flaming letters beside the apothegm which became so famous during the civil war. They should be graven on the minds of the criminal classes. To the law-abiding citizen they will be a stern promise of justice when crime attempts to spread its baleful sway. He said:—"I made the decision I have made utterly regardless of the clamors and so-called influences which have been brought to bear to secure the commutation of the sentence of the prisoner. I have looked upon the case and decided upon it after the most careful study and deliberation, solely on its merits. Law and order must prevail, cost what it may. The position of Governor often puts upon him duties that are hard to perform—and duties; but for all that they are duties from which he cannot shrink. I will not shrink from them." These are noble, fearless words, and they are the death-knell of the hopes that count on the majesty of the law in matters of human life being destroyed by a mistaken lenity. The promise that "law and order must prevail, cost what it may," is, we believe, certain to be kept while it lies in such hands. To this decision the Herald can point for its justification in the unfinishing course of demanding justice upon the murderers who have made life so unsafe in this city, and whose long impunity has lowered the respect for law in what should be its most impressive forms. We feel pity for the family of the wretched being condemned to an ignominious death. Their sufferings, as well as his own, are the sad but necessary consequences of his reckless disregard of what pain and suffering his crime would cause to the victim and his near and dear ones. This branching out of the penalty of murder radiates not merely from the murderer, but from the victim. The family of the homicide, in addition to acute grief for the degrading doom of one they love, feels itself crushed under a sense of shame, which, however illogical, will assert itself. To the family of the victim, outside of the anguish caused by his murder, there is another cause of grief to which the world does not give sufficient weight. It must stand by in silent sorrow while every little action of the dead man's life is paraded, while every fault or blemish in his character is made rich matter for lawyers in court to wrangle over. The dead man and his family are put on trial almost as much as the murderer, no matter how much victim and murderer may have been strangers before the fatal meeting. The "skeleton in the closet" which the family had in decency and resignation kept carefully hidden is dragged out before the ruthless world. It is the innocent family must bear the finger pointing and shameful burden, when the dead man might say:—"Out, even in the blossoms of my sin. No reck'ning made, but to my account with all my imperfections on my head. It is an inexorable law that "breaking into man's bloody house" entails pitiable suffering to those free from every stain of the sin. Perhaps the strongest words that can be used in sympathy with those whose hearts are being wrung by the Governor's decision is where he says:—"The shame was in the commission of the crime and not in its punishment." It is one of the bad signs in a civilization when being the relative of a man who lawlessly took life is accounted a small thing beside being the relative of a man hanged for the crime. If the law were more certain in its action there would soon be an end to this distinction. As the law now stands there is a good deal to keep alive this distinction in the long delays, the variety of appeals that can be made, and the uncertainty that makes condign punishment seem small among the chances. It has been our duty as journalists to lay aside elements of pity that have no right in such cases, and where crime has been committed to advocate even, swift, unerring justice. This has been our guiding principle in the painful and thankless discussion which has been ended by the decision of Governor Dix. No other consideration in the honest discharge of duty should, with the journalist, be of a feather's weight. The subject before us calls to mind that we have other murderers yet to deal with. Murder runs in classes of infamy as well as being accomplished by a variety of means. The reckless, drunken murderer has its companion in the cool and calculating murderer. There is the murderer of passion, the

That he may have the full benefit of what self-condemnation there is in the letter we print it here.

That he may have the full benefit of what self-condemnation there is in the letter we print it here. The utter unlikelihood of its being genuine prevented it from being published yesterday. We did not believe he was so lost to all sense of decency as to pen the following in face of what he had said and done before:— TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:— SIR.—The statements in the daily press that Mrs. Putnam received a bribe from the friends of William Foster through me are not correct. I have not known or said I knew that she was paid any sum of money for her petition to the Governor for the commutation of Foster's sentence. WILLIAM L. ALLEN. 67 PEARL STREET, NEW YORK, March 14, 1873. This is not all. One of our reporters yesterday called on him—when of them the writer to whom he made the statement about the bribe—he hung his head and had nothing to say in defence of his statement, in defence of his denial of his statement, in defence of himself. O courageous Allen! truth-telling, manly Allen! Allen, who one day makes a slanderous statement against the honor of a bereaved woman, denies having made it five days after, and has nothing to say for himself, his statement or his denial on the sixth day! Let us hope that Providence makes few men like you in these troubled days. The taint that comes from the presence of pestiferous disease creates a horror akin to the actions of a man whose motto is cowardly flander, brazen denial and self-convicting silence. Independent Journalism.—The Causes of the Success of the Herald. Independent journalism, which started with the Herald, has no better example both of its growth and its importance than in the Herald itself. Forty years ago such a thing as an independent newspaper was unknown. News-gathering had not yet become a science. Most of the editors of that day cared very little whether they printed the news to-morrow or next week or not at all. Advertising was almost as meagre as the news. Politics stood uppermost in the minds of publishers. Every editor was a politician. Every journal was a political organ. The paper sustained the party and the party gave the paper whatever vitality it possessed. An honest and independent opinion was rarely, if ever, expressed from one end of the land to the other. When the Herald appeared it wrought a magical change in every branch of journalism. Founded to print the news, it printed it and continues to print it in advance of all its contemporaries. Every event of any significance received and continues to receive its earliest attention. Politics was only news, and, contrary to all precedent, news that was to be treated from an independent standpoint. Independence found favor with the public, and the Herald of to-day, crowded with news and crowded with advertisements, is a magnificent illustration of the greatness of the popular favor which is extended to a newspaper that is first in enterprise and most untrammelled in opinion. Look at our advertising columns to-day, and day after day. They occupy more space than some of our contemporaries are able to give to both news and advertising. They often reach and sometimes exceed sixty columns in a single issue. In to-day's issue they exceed sixty-five columns. The only journal in the world which rivals the Herald in this respect is the London Times, but even the Thunderer fails to surpass the Herald. In every news aspect it is inferior to this journal. It has no such news-gatherers as daily fill the Herald with information gleaned from every part of the world. It has no such splendid special correspondents as enrich the pages of this paper. It gains no such triumphs as the Herald is gaining at home and abroad. Unlike the Herald, it is little better than its contemporaries. It cannot point to a long series of triumphs like the successful search after Dr. Livingstone and the investigation of the state of the Cuban insurrection. The Herald is never content with what is on the surface, but sends its commissioners to all parts of the world to ascertain what is under the surface. When the Lowery gang of outlaws was putting the people of North Carolina in constant fear the Herald Commissioner went among them and brought back with him the singular story of their lives. When Captain Jack began his cruelties a Herald correspondent was the first to see him, and the Herald has had the full story of his grievances and of the negotiations for their settlement. The political troubles in New Orleans are another example of Herald enterprise in obtaining the quickest and fullest information on subjects of great importance. Our stories of the second inauguration of President Grant were more widely read and more generally commented on than any similar accounts ever before printed. The Herald's letters on French politics have been among the best which ever appeared in any newspaper on like topics. We gather news from all quarters, interviewing sovereigns or bootblacks, as the case may require, and offer at every breakfast table an amount of information that is in itself a volume. It is easy to predict the place of the Herald in the progress of the future. It will always be, as it always has been, in the front rank. Its enterprise and independence have a recognized value. Its success is due to these attributes, and in maintaining them it goes forward in advance of all its contemporaries. The people know that they can depend on a paper like the Herald at all times. When a voice is to be raised in behalf of the people which shall take the side of the people, free from all partisanship or bigotry, the public expects it from the Herald, confident that there will be no disappointment. A case in point is the prevalence of crime in this city. Notwithstanding the Tombs is full of murderers some journals have sought to have convicted criminals exempted from the penalties of murder. In this the Herald could not join. The many letters we have received commending our course, some of which we have printed, show that the public fully appreciates and endorses the course of the paper. The same thing is true of the Crédit Mobilier investigation. It is a very common remark that in that matter the course of the Herald was right, and the action of the committee and of Congress wrong. Whenever frankness or fairness is demanded people expect it in the Herald, because they have learned that independence is the certain policy of the paper. The proud position which the paper occupies in this respect was not gained without diffi-

The British Cabinet Crisis.

By a Herald special telegram from London we have intelligence of the fact that the British Cabinet crisis, which was induced by the resignation of Premier Gladstone, was maintained at a late hour of the evening yesterday. Mr. Disraeli took counsel with the Earl of Derby during the night of Friday. The result of the deliberation was that the conservative leader in the Commons sought audience of the Queen at Buckingham Palace yesterday and communicated to Her Majesty his reasons for declining office and the task of forming a Ministry. Lord Derby endorses Disraeli's position, the Peer being convinced that the conservative party cannot accept the responsibility of forming a government at the present time. This resolve of the titled young statesman denotes his possession of a considerable amount of prudence and goes to prove, also, that the political party chivalry of his family has been toned down to a very reasonable and rational extent in his mind by his collegiate training, his University Rectorial experience, and his public communication with the middle class masses of his countrymen. He does not appear to be by any means ambitious to undertake the exercise of "tooling" a "Derby dilly, with its six insides," at the present moment, and thus accepting the almost certain chance of having it "spilled" by the wayside, as was the Tory ministerial conveyance when his deceased father held the lines. Apart from the fact of Disraeli's declination of office there is not anything extraordinary in the news. Mr. Gladstone is rivaling with a friend. The Queen has gone to Windsor, where, it is said, she will see the ex-Premier. The comments of the English metropolitan press are variable and without point. Earl Granville's name is again mentioned in connection with the idea of a Ministry, of which his lordship would be the head and Mr. Cardwell Chancellor of the Exchequer. Public opinion points to a general election, notwithstanding that it is said the Parliament will be held over to Midsummer or, perhaps, a later period. A general election entails a vast deal of expense on would-be legislators in Great Britain, and the people are, as yet, poorly educated in the intricacies of the ballot box, so that some new and very unexpected results might ensue from a universal exposition of the national will under the new form of voting. Allen, the Brave-Hearted—Slander, Denial and Silence. Extraordinary occasions produce extraordinary men equal to the occasion. The Augustan age of murder has not only produced a Dix, but it has also dragged up an Allen from the depths. We have recorded our admiration for the action of the Governor, but what shade of feeling will be applicable to Allen? Will the deepest contempt be strong enough for him? He is a relative by marriage of the widow of Avery D. Putnam. He calls himself her adviser, and therefore should be one to shield her from slanderous accusation. But he becomes her slanderer, says he is aware of her having sold her claim on vengeance for a bribe of money, and that he advised her to do it. He tells this to neighbors, acquaintances, merchants and reporters. Three of these have sworn to his words. Our reporter, to whom he made the avowal, is ready, if necessary, to swear to his words also. The bereaved woman to whom he had, under the mask of friendship, done this heinous wrong, writes a denial, and then Mr. Allen comes forward with a mask of brass and sends us a denial of his having used the word swear to by numbers as being his

The Religious Press and its Topics.

Our religious contemporaries do not appear to be inspired this week with any general or striking topic of discussion, although the Foster case naturally furnishes a text for comment in the columns of some of them. Their tone collectively on the subject may be regarded as in favor of allowing the law to take its course. The Golden Age argues that "nine-tenths of all the murders which have been brought to the notice of the newspapers during the last five years have been the result of just as little motive—of just as little pre-intent to kill—as in this case" of Foster. The Age proceeds:— In other words, they have been the rash acts of drunken men who, in their brains and under the stimulus which liquor produces at a heated brain, have struck blows with the same blind, brutal, unpressing strength which led Dr. Tynge's Sunday school scholar to kill a citizen without deliberately meaning to do it. If Foster justly escapes the gallows (and it is just that he should), then the large proportion of his fellow criminals should escape with him. There is equal justice on their side. His case differs from the majority of murders only in the fact that most criminals do not mean to kill as Dr. Tynge did. His instructions furnish, and therefore do not bring upon themselves so high a degree of moral condemnation for their crime. The Age profoundly hopes that Foster's case, which it regards as a fair and average type of manslaughter, neither better nor worse than the majority of instances, may lead a humane community to consider the wisdom of commuting, by law, the death penalty to life imprisonment. The Independent declares it is not thirsting for blood, but it protests against that sentimentalism in behalf of individuals which jeopardizes the safety of the community by its reluctance to inflict penalty. It does not believe it to be wiser than the Courts that have already declared Foster guilty of murder in the first degree. "There is no use of capital convictions at all," concludes the Independent, "if they are to be rendered abortive by gubernatorial clemency. The law that fails when it comes to the crisis of execution is simply a sham, and the public sentiment that tolerates such shams greatly needs reforming." The National Baptist sums up a review of the Foster case by remarking that "it is not on the ground of vengeance; it is not as an act of satisfaction to the ghost of the murdered man; it is simply from a regard for the welfare of the living, from a regard for the safety and happiness of the millions of innocent citizens, that we express our most earnest hope that the Governor will let the law take its course." The Freeman's Journal (Catholic organ) has its death grip on the condemned Foster and the Rev. Dr. Tynge, and smashes away generally about car hooks and iron rods. In an editorial leader it accuses the Rev. Dr. Stephen H. Tynge of a "very gross indecency," says that clergymen have just "added a new feather to the tar surface with which his old reputation is besmeared," in having the execrable taste "to inform Governor Dix that the family of the convicted are all members of our one household of faith." Suppose, suggests the Journal, that in place of John A. Dix it had been Francis Kernan that had been elected Governor. "Suppose it had been some poor wretch who had been a Catholic, whose life was trembling in the scales of executive judgment." And suppose some Catholic pastor had ventured the bold indecency of this Dr. Tynge to Governor Dix, and reminded Governor Kernan that the man whose case was before him had decided on principles of law, was one of a family who "are all members of our one household of faith"? We are very certain that such a letter would not have weighed in the scale, either for or against the legal merits of a case for executive clemency; but, if we could suppose so gross an impropriety on the part of a Catholic priest, the man who Kernan would not have suffered such an improper appeal to have passed without a rebuke to its author as public as the offence. The Journal also publishes the following advertisement extraordinary, under the heading "Car Hooks Wanted":— WANTED.—Iron rods, well wrought and not liable to snap—regulation length of dress sword, thirty-nine and a half inches. A large supply will be required so soon as the order for them is sanctioned by Governor Dix. After Governor Dix's approval they will present the following advantages:—A man, a car hook will be much more effective than a rapier. The sword requires its holder to know how to deliver its edge or its point; but a car hook is edge all round. Second, by supradicial argumentation through hired journals and need lawyers, the car hook is declared not to be a deadly weapon. The advantage of this point, for men-hunters, is not to be overlooked. Persons ready to supply in large quantities will please apply to Rev. Stephen H. Tynge and look for his address in the New York Directory. The Journal is hard at work endeavoring to boost Don Carlos upon the throne of Spain. Referring to the present republican authorities in that country, they are pronounced "a pack of blackguards, neither feared nor respected," and we are told that "Spain calls out, by her misery as well as by her chivalry, 'Make way for King Charles VII.'" The Journal is no King Charles spaniel—not it. But it does dislike the unfortunate Rev. Mr. Tynge—there is no mistake about that. The Jewish Messenger descends upon "Mercy of the Merciless" and affirms that "the safety of the people depends upon justice being sternly rendered the man who resort to vio-

lence, and who are the natural enemies of decency, order and quiet."

lence, and who are the natural enemies of decency, order and quiet." The Tablet discourses on "Persecutions in Switzerland" and other matters, and does not wonder at the rapid progress the Carlists are making in every part of Spain, asserting that "they, of all the contending parties, have undoubtedly the strongest claims on the sympathy of every Spaniard who loves his God as well as his country." The Liberal Christian (Rev. Dr. Bellows) devotes editorial space to an article upon the new charter, in the course of which it states that it has just heard from excellent authority "that the Board of Aldermen has already been tampered with, and promises of place and plunder made to the supporters of the new charter," and adds:— While this charter is in some respects an improvement on our present charter in its most important features, and notably in that one which proposes to deprive the Mayor of the appointing power, leaving him a mere tool or figure-head of the Board of Aldermen, it is only a new kind of document, pushed by Ring republicans for Ring purposes. We do not believe that, when passed, the charter will obtain Governor Dix's signature; but if it should, after Mr. Green has been removed and the people are called on by his Ring successor to settle the five or six millions of unadmitted claims which at present are not allowed, they will doubt, probably, open their eyes wide enough to see the difference between true and pretended reformers. The revival movement continues to progress most favorably. It is no Crédit Mobilier flicker or spasm of the spirit of grace, but the substantial workings of a deep-rooted and widespread love of righteousness. The Theatres—How Ought We Receive Sardou's "Uncle Sam"? Changes in the bills of our theatres seem to be made on the principle of the old motto, "It never rains but it pours." Sometimes the pieces at all our places of amusement run smoothly and together, and then a change of the play at one house is the signal for a change at nearly all the others. For weeks we have had no notable dramatic event; but when the Centenary at the Union Square gave up the ghost it was only to be followed by the withdrawal of a half a score of equally successful plays. With the exception of "David Garrick" at Wallack's, which has had an unusual lease of life, all the other comedy theatres will have new plays next week. "Alice," at the Fifth Avenue, yields to "False Shame," which was interrupted by the burning of the little theatre in Twenty-fourth street. Mr. Boucault comes back to Booth's with a new play of his own, which he calls "Daddy O'Dowd." This is a drama in which he delicately as an actor his work as a dramatist, and is to give us another glimpse of Irish character in a vein as truthful as that which he exhibited in his cabinet picture of "Kerry." The Grand Opera House also enters the list of comedy theatres and offers for public amusement M. Sardou's most talked of play of "Uncle Sam." Our readers are aware that this play is the one which the French authorities would not allow to be performed in Paris because it was supposed to be offensive to the American people. In consequence it has been the subject of a great deal of gossip, and its first production here has much of the flavor of a genuine dramatic sensation. In view of all the circumstances, it is not surprising that there should exist a strong desire to see "Uncle Sam." We are told that the play is pure comedy of the French school of dramatic writing, and we know that its author is one of the best comedy writers of the day. Because it deals with American manners and types of American character was no reason why the play should not have been produced in Paris, and is a reason why it should be produced here. While we recognize the compliment which was intended by its prohibition, we can not regard that prohibition by the French government as in fact a compliment to the American people. The French official action presupposes a sensitiveness which we believe does not and which certainly ought not exist. "Uncle Sam" cannot be a severer satire upon American life than was "The School for Scandal," for instance, upon the higher classes of English society a century ago. Even Frank Marshall's quiet play, "False Shame," is in itself as severe a reflection upon English society to-day as M. Sardou's most barbed words can be upon things which are supposed to be distinctively American. We could not do our countrymen the injustice to suppose that they would refuse to see themselves on the stage as they are in real life, and they certainly would not refuse to look at themselves through M. Sardou's spectacles. On the other hand, we believe that wherein the French dramatist has drawn a faithful picture of our foibles we are all ready to admit its truth and admire his skill, and where he is in error he can only afford us occasion for a smile. We observe a disposition on the part of some of our contemporaries to decry the management of the Grand Opera House for the production of this piece. We cannot join in any crusade so useless. Indeed, we are rather pleased that the first distinctively American play, by a foreign dramatist of acknowledged merit, should be first produced here, and especially under the circumstances of an over-sensitive regard for American sensitiveness. In common with most of our readers we are anxious to see how the Frenchman has painted us, and we shall not take umbrage at his picture unless it is a daub. The management is to be commended rather than blamed for the enterprise which led to the production of "Uncle Sam," and with the resources of the Grand Opera House the piece ought to be as well mounted and played as it would have been at the Gymnase or the Odeon. Properly produced the play has claims upon us, apart from any morbid curiosity as to the ill-natured things M. Sardou may have written. It is presented to us as a picture of ourselves, but we care not to look at it merely on the grounds which impel most people to look at themselves in a mirror. It is the mirror itself that we care to see most of all. The play has art claims upon us, and these we would not disregard while the American comedy is still a problem. Perhaps, most of all, the production of "Uncle Sam" is to be commended because it is in itself a protest against the presumed over-sensitiveness of Americans. It is the attribute of children to cry over reflections upon their togery. Only shrillish old women would when somebody turns the laugh upon them. Our people will show by their reception of "Uncle Sam" that they are neither children nor shrews. M. Sardou acquired his notions of the American character from the American journals and from the American colony in Paris, and whatever they may be his reputation as a dramatist and our respect for his art