himself and the Union placed in presence of two wars, for the avowed purpose of territorial aggrandisement, and in direct violation of the whole policy of America from General Washington to Mr. Webster.

The one with Mexico is so imminent that we are awaiting with anxiety the next arrivals from that country; the other with Great Britain, is more remote, but also more inevitable, if the menaces of the Americans are any thing but vaporing and bluster. Under these circumstances, a statesman of ordinary caution would direct the public attention, not only to the passions and objects which are likely to cause these wanton and wicked contests, but to the consequences which must attend them.

The United States Government is very apt to provoke quarrels, but is very ill-prepared to carry them on. The same democratic folly which makes them arrogant in the Cabinet, makes them habitually feeble in all that constutes a nation's strength in the field. In a military point of view, the consequences of a declaration of war by the Government of Mexico against the United States would probably be contemptible and indecisive; for neither of the belligerents possess an army at all proportioned to the vast extent of the operations necessary to accomplish any practicable result.

But if the actual contest on land would probably degenerate into something little better than the partisan warfare of the States of South America, it is not less certain that the *state of war* between the two countries, and the exercise of billigerent rights, would be attended with most serious consequences, not only to themselves, but to neutrals all over the world. The system of letters of marque, which the American themselves made no small use of in their last war with Great Britain, places the whole commerce of the United States, undefended as it is, by any considerable naval force, at the mercy of the privateers and adventurers of all nations.

And in a war entirely provoked by American rapacity and violence, no usuages which have ever been justified by the laws of nations, and by the example of the U. States, could be regarded as unwarrantable. The Mexican territory commands both oceans, and the position of the port of Acapulco on the Pacific would facilitate the most extensive operations against the whole Asiatic trade of the United States and their South Sea whale fisheries.

Such a war would be inglorious, and repugnant to the interests of civiliation, but it would be worthy of the nefarious transactions in which it had originated, and if Mexico has been plundered of a province by her powerful neighbor, the practices of war would amply justify her in making reprisals wherever she can find them. Letters of marque reflect no honor, & are of no great advantage to a power which may be duly represented on the seas by its own cruisers; but they tend to remove the maritime disparity which exists between to States like Mexico and the Union, and they are not an improper weapon in the hands of the weak for realiation on the aggressions of the strong.

It is extraordinary that the United States should have advanced so near the brink of war as to have carried through the Senate a measure for annexing Texas, and failed, by only two votes, in a measure for seizing Oregon, without having any perceptible care to provide for the means of consumating such unparalelled acts, of defending themselves from the consequences of them.

Are they not aware that in proportion as they assume the illegal exercise of sovereign rights on the desert shores of the Pacific, they expose the populous coasts of the Atlantic to the broadsides and blockades of British fleets? Have they forgotten, in their anxiety to extend their "domestic institutions" to the whole continent of America, that in the event of war they will have to encounter the most novel of all dangers—that arising from the presence of the standard of freedom among a population of slaves?

Or is their blindness and infatuation in proportion to the injustice and criminality of their designs, so that, in their eagerness to seize adjacent territories, they overlook the resources of their opponents and their own weakness. The consequences of such tea war will prove incalculably disastrous. They would make brave men hesitate, even in a just cause; but the boldness of democracies despises alike the justice of the cause and the terrible evils of the probable result.

We have no intention of aggravating the very serious difficulties with which the indiscreet language of Mr. Polk has already surrounded the Oregon question, and which render a speedy solution of it indispensable to the maintainance of pacific relations between the two nations. The language of this country in such emergency, and in presence of such opponents, cannot be too temperate or too decided. The language has been used, and with equal propriety and patriotism, by the leaders of each of our great parties. The rights of Great Britain are as clear and unquestionable as those which Mr. Polk has thought fit to make the subject of his inaugural address; and whatever he may be prepared to do, this country is, as the Prime Minister of the Crown declared last night, "resolved and prepared to maintain them."

Opinions of the New York papers.

The New York papers remark upon the news from England as calculated to excite serious apprehensions:

The Courier an Enquirer says—

The Oregon business seems to have assumed a decided—not to say startling—earnestness on both sides of the British House of Commons. It is not to be concealed, that the remarks of Sir Robert Peel afford grounds for grave apprehensions of serious difficulty. He as sternly and uncompromisingly maintains the British right to the disputed territory, as our Government, and we may add a great majority of our people, assert our own undoubted right to that territory. Still we do not believe and will not permit ourselves to believe that the two countries will suffer this question to involve them in the calamities of actual war. Some mode of settling this question satisfactorily short of an unnatural and profitless appeal to arms, must be devised.

The Journal of Commerce says—

"The principal matter of interest is the unusual stir excited in England by the announciation, in President Polk's Inaugural, that our title to the Oregon territory is clear and indisputable. Even the Ministers, on the floor of Parliament, expressed themselves in a tone which they are not accustomed to assume towards this country. They appear to have understood that announcement as in the nature of a threat, which demanded some bullying in return. They also appear to have understood it as in effect a termination of the negociation for the peaceable adjustment of the question. In both respects, we are persuaded, they have misinterpreted the views of the new President."

The Tribune says—

"It is now reduced to a moral certainty that the rival claims of the United States and Great Britain respecting Oregon must be settled by Arbitration or by War. We go for Arbitration.—Who is for War?

A letter from New York says: The foreign news created a considerable degree of excitement this morning, which is now subsiding. The Cotton market is a little firmer, and there is more inquiry for the article, although only a moderate business has been done.

WILL THERE BE WAR?

In looking over the speeches of Lord John Russell, of Lord Aberdeen, and of others in the British Parliament, it is impossible to escape the conclusion that the British government, and the British nation, believe that the right of Oregon is with them; and taking that with the tone of Mr. Polk on the subject, it is not strange there should be a tone adopted that sounds like *war*. We hope of course, that good councils will prevail, and our nation be spared the scourge. Whether this can *now* be done we do not know. We have rarely seen more indignation expressed in Parliament at any real cause, than was manifested on the receipt of Mr. Polk's message; and the London Times, that gives rather than speaks, the tone of politics, makes a statement to which we refer our readers.—That paper expresses an opinion strongly in favor of the claim of Great Britain.

We cannot conceal our opinion that, taking the blustering of Mr. Polk, and the "crowing" back again of the British Ministry, the aspect of the affair is *warlike*.—But will Mr. Polk take upon himself to plunge this nation into a war with Great Britain for such a cause as Oregon presents? or will Great Britain take the risk? One year must elapse after notice is given from either party to the other, of its intention to relinquish its clams on the provisions of the treaty; and Mr. Polk cannot give that notice to England, until Congress shall have acted upon the matter, and England is equally bound to give the same notice.—Before that notice is given, or before the year shall have expired after giving the notice, we may hope some measures will be adopted to maintain peace, as were in the case of the boundary question of Maine.

It must be remembered that the question settled by Mr. Webster and Lord Ashburton, was one that concerned an independent State, one of the old thirteen, Maine, in '76, having been a *district* of Massachusetts. There was, therefore, much national feeling, natural pride, and territorial attachment involved in the matter. Yet the dispute was settled, amicably and honorably The present question is one of territory, thousands of miles from the United States; of land in which we have no agreeable associations, in which we have no interest as a nation, and with which there can be little connected to create pride of attachment. It was not supposed that it could ever become one of the States of this Union. Mr. Jefferson, and hundreds of others since his time, believed that the most that could be done for, or with Oregon territory, was to assist in settling it with republicans, supplying it with republican laws, and then aiding it in becoming an independent republic. The idea of annexing that as a part of a government, whose centre should be Washington, would be an idea which could acquire no additional preposterousness from an attempt to annex Ireland on the other side. With this hasty view, we give a reason why we may hope for peace; we give a reason why the present peace should not be disturbed; and, we may add, if the people are wise, they will not allow Mr. Polk to play the game of war, to create a necessity for perpetuating his administration, or insuring the election of one of his party.

On the same subject the Baltimore American of yesterday holds the following language:

"When Mr. Polk took the responsibility of announcing, officially, that the British claims to the Oregon were not to be regarded by this Government, one would think that prudence might have suggested to him the propriety of taking some measures to make good such an announcement. Congress had already adjourned when the inaugural made known this declaration—it had adjourned leaving our relations with Mexico involved in doubt and danger, yet without the least preparation for difficulties; and, on the top of this confusion, the new President, before he had seated himself in the chair of office, threw another element of discord more pregnant with strife than all the rest together. And thus the country stands in a sort of stupid bewilderment, with a vague idea that some explosion is at hand, yet hardly conscious of any thing definitely, and in a state to be surprised at nothing. A strange indifference is the common feeling. There is no confidence in the government—for it shows itself listless and unconcerned.—The sentiment of patriotism—the throbbing pulsations of national life and energy—where shall one turn to find them? If war should come, then indeed the elements would be aroused, and the people, in spite of their incubus of a Government, would vindicate the national spirit and honor—but how much suffering would be the prelude to final victory!

FROM THE LONDON PUNCH.

MRS. CAUDLE'S CURTAIN LECTURES.

Mr. Caudle has been to Greenwich Fair

Hem! So, Mr. Caudle, I hope you enjoyed yourself at Greenwich. I know it very well sir: know all about it: I know more than you think I know. I thought there was something in the wind. Yes, I was sure of it, when you went out of the house, to day I knew it by the looks of you, though I didn't say anything Upon my word! And you call yourself a respectable man, and the father of a family? Going to a fair amongst all sorts of people,—at your time of life. Yes; and never think of taking your wife with you. Oh no? you can go and enjoy yourself out, with I don't know who: go out and make yourself very pleasant, I dare say. Don't tell me; I hear what a nice companion Mr Caudle is: what a good-tempered person. Ha, I only wish people could see you at home, that's all. But so it is with men. They can keep all their good temper for out of doors—their wives never see any of it Oh dear? I'm sure I don't know who'd be a poor woman?

"Now Caudle, I'm not in an ill temper: not at all. I know I used to be a fool when we were first married: I used to worry and fret myself to death when you went out; but I've got over that. I would'nt put myself out of the way now for the best man that ever trod. For what thanks does a poor woman get? None at all. No: it's those who don't care for their families who are the best thought of. I only wish I could bring myself not to care for mine.

"And why could'nt you say, like a man you were going to Greenwich Fair when you went out? It's no use your'e saying that, Mr. Caudle: don't tell me that you didn't think of going; you'd made your mind up to it; and you know it. Pretty games you've had, no doubt! I should like to have been behind you, that's all.—A man at your time of life!

"And I, of course, I never want to go out. Oh no! I may stay home with the cat. You couldn't think of taking your wife and children, like any other decent man, to a fair. Oh no; you never care to be seen with us. I'm sure, many people don't know your'e married: how can they? Your wife's never seen with you. Oh no; anybody but these belonging to you!

"Greenwich Fair, indeed! Yes,—and of course you went up and down the hill, running and racing with nobody knows who. Don't tell me; I know what you are when you're out. You don't suppose, Mr. Caudle, I've forgotten that pink bonnet, do you? No; I won't hold my tongue, and I'm not a foolish woman. It's no matter sir, if the pink bonnet was fifty years ago—it's all the same for that. No: and if I live for fifty years to come I never will leave off talking of it. You ought to be ashamed of yourself, Mr. Caudle Ha! few wives would have been what I've been to you. I only wish my time was to come over again, that's all: I wouldn't be the fool I have been.

"Going to a fair! and I suppose you had your fortune told by the gypsies? You needn't have wasted your money. I'm sure I can tell you your fortune, Mr. Caudle. And it would be no matter—none at all—if your wife and children didn't suffer with you.

"And you must go riding upon donkeys—you didn't go riding upon donkeys? Yes; it's very well for you to say so; but I dare say you did. I tell you, Caudle, I know what you are when you're out. I would'nt trust any of you—you especially, Caudle.

"Then you must go in the thick of the fair, and have the girls scratching your coat with rattles! You couldn't help it, if they did scratch your coat! Don't tell me; people don't scratch coats unless they're encouraged to do it. And you must go in a swing, too. You didn't go in a swing? And I'm a foolish woman to think so; am I? Well if you did'nt, it was no fault of yours; you wished to go, I've no doubt.

And then you must go into the shows? There—you don't deny that. You did go into a show. What of it, Mr. Caudle! A good deal of it, sir. Nice crowding and squeezing in those shows, I know—Pretty places! And you a married man & the father of a family. No, I won't hold my tongue. It's very well for you to threaten to get up. You're to go to Greenwich Fair, and race up and down the hill, and play at kiss in the ring. Pah! it's disgusting, Mr. Caudle. Oh, I dare say you did play at it; if you didn't, you'd have liked, and that's just as bad; and you can go into the swings, and shows, and round-abouts. If I was you I should hide my head under the clothes, and be ashamed of myself.

"And what is most selfish—most mean of you, Caudle, you can go and enjoy yourself, and never so much as bring home to the children a gingerbreadnut.—Don't tell me that your pocket was picked of a pound of nuts! Nice company you must have been in to have your pocket picked.

"But I dare say I shall hear all about it to-morrow. I've no doubt, sir, you were dancing at the Crown-and-Anchor. I should like to have seen you. No: I'm not making myself ridiculous. It's you that's making yourself ridiculous; and everybody that knows you says so. Everybody knows what I have to put up with from you.

"Going to a fair, indeed? At your time ——"

"Here," says Caudle, "I dozed off, hearing confusedly the words—hill—gypsies—rattles—roundabout—swings—pink bonnet—nuts."

Pleasant Man-trap.—Over the garden fence of a ladies' seminary, in the neighborhood of London, there is painted in large characters—"Man traps set on these premises. A wag, who was passing chalked beneath the notice—"*Vir Gins.*" Whereupon he was taken before a magistrate by a police officer. Being put upon his defence for thus defacing the wall of a respectable establishment, he argued "that *Vir* was the Latin for *Man*, and *Gin* the English for *Trap ergo*, that *Virgin* was only another word for *Man trap*; though the fact might be that it was a highly inappropriate term and ought not to be used." The magi were posed, and the man was sent about his business, with a hint to beware lest he should be caught in his own description of trap, as he might expect no mercy if he were.

FOREIGN NEWS.

15 DAYS LATER FROM RIO DE JANEIRO.

By the arrival of the brig Castro, Bearse, at Philadelphia yesterday, from Rio de Janeiro, 19th March, the Philadelphia Gazette is placed in possession of 15 days later intelligence. In a political point of view, we learn every thing was tranquil. The difficulty which existed between the United States and Brazilian Governments, in reference to the brig Porpoise, had been amicably adjusted through the interposition of our Minister, Mr. Wise. In commercial affair, the greatest activity prevailed. Flour held out a firm aspect, & the last sales that had been effected, were at advanced rates —say 17‖000 cash, equal to 18‖000 credit, for Richmond; 15‖000 cash, for Columbia Mills; and 14‖500 credit for Baltimore. In 1st hands there were 9000 barrels, and the entire stock may be set down at 58,000 barrels, and a further advance was anticipated. American Cottons were in good demand, and shipment ex "Brandywine," had been closed at saving prices; Coffee continued very scarce, and the market was bare of descriptions suitable for the United States, and may be quoted at the following rates, 2‖950a3‖200 for prime, and 2‖800a2‖900 for inferior qualities.

LATEST FROM MEXICO.

We received by the last Southern mail an extra from the New Orleans Picayune, dated 11 o'clock, A. M. April 2d, which gives us later intelligence from Mexico.

The news was received by the schr. Fanny, from Vera Cruz, which place she left on the 12th, being, ten days later than previous advices. We copy from the Picayune:

Mexico has not declared war against the United States: but the official paper, *El Diario del Goberno*, of the 3d inst. announces that it is in possession of certain movements on the part of the Government of a warlike character, which it is constrained to withhold from the public, as *secrecy is the soul of military operations* but that journal adds, that it trusts that the *speedy and successful issue of these operations* will soon relieve the public curiosity in regard to them.

The papers of the capital and of Vera Cruz are occupied almost exclusively with the subject of Annexation. There are not wanting those who insist that there is no alternative left to Mexico to preserve unarnished her honor but war. The writers take the distinction that though, from the necessity of the case, the acknowledgment of the independence of Texas might not be incompatible with national honor, the Annexation (*agregacion*) of that Department to a foreign country is a flagrant outrage. The logic of this is not so obvious as it might be. They go on to say that it is no longer an open question; that however they may have been distracted by civil dissensions, the present Government is bound by the pledges of previous administrations; and that the protests against Annexation, made many months since, should be followed up to avoid national humiliation in the eyes of the world, and the proceedings of the United States' Congress, sanctioned by the Executive, be insisted upon as a tacit declaration of war. The Mexican Congress has not yet screwed up its courage to assume the responsibility of this position.

On the 3d inst. Senor Cuevas, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, addressed to the Chambers a long and general memorial appertaining to his Department. We have not seen it, but it is represented as a cautions and guarded exposition of the topics upon which it touches; but by the liberal papers it is deemed entirely too tame and pacific in its tone, although *he* argues that Annexation should inevitably bring on a war. He places strong apparent confidence in the interference of European powers, which although assenting to Texan *independence*, may, he trusts, oppose the further enlargement of the United States territory. The more high-spirited editors rebuke him for these sentiments, and insist that no people can maintain an honorable, distinct national existence when relying upon foreign powers for its protection;—that Mexico should appeal to arms trusting nothing to diplomacy, (which is so swayed by European, instead of American interest);—and that, as her only hope of resisting the ultimate entire absorption of her territory by the Anglo Saxons, she should now take her stand and fight and if compelled to succumb, at least do so with honor.

A large portion of the Secretary's voluminous memorial is occupied with the presentation of the affairs of the Departments. They are more interesting to Mexicans than they could be to our readers. Suggestions are made in regard to the administration of different branches of the public service which are said to show much sagacity.

The *Siglo* of the 4th inst. contains a letter from Mr. Shannon to the Mexican Minister of Foreign Relations in reply to the official note of Senor Cuevas, announcing the termination of official relations between the two countries.

In his rejoinder, Senor Cuevas says that the intercourse between the two governments cannot be reestablished "before a complete reparation of that injury," (the annexation.)

Santa Anna's trial was slowly progressing. His health is represented as being very indifferent.

The British frigate Eurydice arrived at Vera Cruz on the morning of the 12th inst from Galveston with despatches, which were immediately forwarded to the capital.

Captain Patherson, of the schooner Fanny, spoke, on the 17th inst. in lat. 20° 46', lon. 95° 20' the American squadron consisting of the frigate Potomac, sloop Falmouth, and brigs Fairfield and Somers, bound to Vera Cruz.

Letters had been received in Vera Cruz from the American Minister, Mr. Shannon, who had retired to Tacubaya, that he would leave for the United States in a few days. It is probable that he is only awaiting despatches which he knows to be on their way to him, before taking leave of Mexico.

DREADFUL EARTHQUAKE AT THE CITY OF MEXICO.—The New Orleans Bee has been furnished by a merchant of that city with the *Vera Cruzano* of the 12th inst. containing the account of an awful EARTHQUAKE which desolated the city of Mexico on the 7th inst.

At the moment we write, says the Siglo (of the city of Mexico) of the 8th, the inhabitants of the capital of the Republic are still under the influence of the horrors excited by the earthquake of yesterday, the disastrous effects of which we are still imperfectly acquainted with.

Yesterday at 52 minutes past 3 o'clock P. M., the oscillations began, slight at first and then stronger. The direction of the motion appeared to be North and South. It lasted about two minutes. The shocks were terrible; nothing like them was ever experienced before, and the condition of the buildings too surely proves the absence of all exaggeration.

We were by chance upon the great square at the time, and we witnessed a spectacle not easily forgotten. In an instant the multitude, but a moment previous tranquil & listless, were upon their knees, praying to the Almighty and counting with anxiety the shocks which threatened to convert the most beautiful city in the New World into a vast theatre of ruins. The chains surrounding the portico were violently agitated; the flags of the pavement yawned open, the trees bent frightfully, the buildings and lofty edifices oscillated to & fro; the immense arrow which crowns the summit of the cathedral vibrated with astonishing rapidity; at 56 minutes past three the movement had ceased.

It is impossible to ascertain the destruction. Not a house or a door but bears the marks of this terrible calamity. Many of them are cracked and greatly injured, others entirely fallen. San Lorenzo, La Misericordia, Tompaste, Zapo and Victoria streets and the Grand street have particularly suffered. The aqueducts were broken in several places. The bridge of Tezontlale is demolished. The Hospital of Saint Lazarus is in ruins, and the churches of San Lorenzo and San Ferdinand greatly injured.

The magnificent chapel of Saint Teresa no longer exists. At the first shock the cupola, a building of astonishing strength and great beauty fell, and was soon followed by the vault beneath the tabernacle and the tabernacle itself.

Fortunately all those in a church so much frequented, succeeded in escaping.—At eight o'clock last evening, seventeen persons had been taken from the ruins of other buildings and carried to the Hospital.

At three quarters past six, and a quarter past seven, two more shocks were felt. They were, however slight, and occasioned nothing but a temporary renewal of terror.

The authorities did every thing that zeal and humanity could suggest, to carry help to the victims, and restore the aqueducts which furnish water to the city.

TROUBLE WITH BRAZIL.

The rumors from Washington have been multifarious in regard to our relations with Brazil. It will be recollected that Mr. Wise, our minister there, lately seized upon a slave vessel, the Porpoise, with her cargo of slaves and specie: This course, he stated, he adopted under the express law of the United States. In a Washington correspondence, it is stated that despatches have just been received by the Department of State from Mr. Wise. It is declared that they relate to the recent insult given by that government to himself, our Consul at Rio, and to the commander of our frigate Raritan, who had seized upon the slave vessel Porpoise by his order.

It is likewise stated that the despatches referred to from Mr. Wise call for definite instructions as to the course he is to pursue in his present relations with the Brazilian government. He urges the immediate appearance of a formidable naval force in that quarter, for the protection of our commercial and maritime interests, and the expediency of his withdrawal from that government, inasmuch as he cannot well see how the matter is to be settled amicably and hororably to ourselves, as the insult was gratuitous on the part of the Brazilians, who refuse to apologise, and continue to hold forth menaces to himself, and of course to the government of the United States.

It is said that there has already been a Cabinet meeting on the subject; that the naval force intended for Mexico will receive instructions to visit Rio; that Mr. Wise will not return until such time as our government is determined to act with efficiency and force, regarding, as it does the case as an exceedingly aggravated one.

A letter from Rio de Janeiro, dated February 9, 1845, says:—"The Brazilian Government have insulted our Minister here, and also the consul, and in fact, the American officers and the flag daily. The Minister has written on to Washington about it, to know how he shall act—whether he shall declare war, or not, and to send him out a large fleet. The Brazilians are fitting out all their ships of war, and preparing their forts; so that every thing looks like war here. They are impressing men every day on board their vessels of war, and they also come out boldly, and say to our commander and officers, thy are ready to go to war, and give the d——d Yankees a licking. We took an American brig called the Porpoise, of Brunswick, a fortnight ago, with the slaves on board, and $88,000 in gold and silver, with $20,000 worth of gold dust. We kept her for a week under charge of the frigate, but the authorities here demanded her, and in fact made the Minister and Commodore give her up, or they would have sunk us. They had all their ships around us, and their forts double manned, and their guns double-shotted, to blow us out of water if we attempt to resist, so that we must have a war or recall our navy home and pocket the insult."—Phila. Courier.

Temperance.—There are one hundred and twenty towns in Massachusetts, in which there is not a tavern.

TEXT.

"EXTRA SESSION.—There is some talk of an extra session of Congress being convened. The State Department is in great activity. Mr. Buchanan was closeted for some time with the President on Thursday and despatches have been handed in by Mr. Pakenham, about which much anxiety is felt, and the reply looked for with considerable interest It appears to be the prevailing opinion there that Mr. Polk will not retreat from the position he has assumed in his inaugural."

COMMENT.

We do not know where our friends of the New York Mirror get the information upon which this paragraph, copied from their paper of Saturday evening, is founded. As, however, they doubtless give credit to it, having assisted in giving it circulation, it is proper that they and others should be undeceived.

We think it quite likely that Mr. Buchanan did transact business with Mr. Polk on Thursday, as he probably does so every day in the week; but all the rest of the information contained in this paragraph has very little better foundation, if any, than the lively imagination of whoever furnished it. There is no talk here, at least, of an Extra Session of Congress. There is no extraordinary "activity" in the Department of State, that we have heard of; the Secretary, we believe, eats, drinks, smokes his cigar, and sleeps as usual. We do not hear of any particular despatches "handed in by Mr. Packenham," nor of course of any "anxiety" felt about them, or any "reply" to them that is "looked for with considerable interest." These intimations, from whatever source, are entitled to none of the consequence which appears to be given to them.

As to the feverishness which seems to have prevailed in the commercial and moneyed circles of one or two of our large cities in consequence of the recent tone of the British government and press on the subject of Oregon, it ought to be recollected that that question rests with *this* government, and that any actual agitation of it must begin here, at the Capitol. The wisdom of the Senate at the late Session of Congress postponed that agitation until the next Session, before the arrival of which it may be hoped, of the good sense and good feeling of the two governments, to be "postponed altogether." Come when it may however, the existing treaty secures a year's interval from the first step to the last in any change of position of the two countries in relation to that question.—*Nat. Int.*

TREMENDOUS FIRE—BOWERY THEATRE BURNT FOR THE FOURTH TIME!

A few minutes after six o'clock, last evening, a fire broke out in the carpenter's room attached to the Bowery Theatre, which instantly communicated to the theatre itself; and in three quarters of an hour that fine edifice was a complete ruin, with nothing but the high walls and the massive columns standing. The inside of the building, scenery, furniture, wardrobe, machinery, &c., were entirely destroyed, and several of the performers we understand, lost private dresses and properties to considerable amounts. The evening's performances were to have been for the benefit of Mr. Davenport, and the actors and actresses were in the building, just commencing to dress for the duties of the night. We are happy to state that so far as could be ascertained by the strict inquiry possible under the circumstances, every person in the theatre escaped in safety, although several of them with narrow risks of life and limbs.

In the Theatre nothing was saved, & we learn that there was no insurance on any part of the property or building. It is believed that Mr. Hamblin had no interest in the Theatre, it having passed, by a recent decree in Chancery, into the hands of James R. Whiting, Esq.—but the particular nature of the trust is unknown to us. We are informed, also, that the ground cannot, according to the terms of the lease, again be occupied for the purpose of erecting a Theatre.

This is the fourth time the Bowery Theatre has been burnt. First, in 1828, when it took fire about the same time in the evening, (6 o'clock) and was owned by Mr. Hamblin, who was partially insured. So vigorous were that gentleman's measures that in 60 days the Theatre was rebuilt & in full operation. It again burned down, we believe in 1836—was rebuilt, and again destroyed in the winter of 1837-8—the last two times without insurance.

We understand that Mr. Hamblin has just completed his arrangements for building a new Theatre on an extensive and costly scale, on Broadway, adjoining the Tabernacle—the lot purchased and paid for, the plan agreed upon, and all other preliminaries settled. To avoid the delay and difficulty in getting the stock taken, Mr. H. means to issue tickets to purchasers in sums of $100 to $500, until he has in this way raised sufficient to go on with the enterprize.—*N. Y. Tribune of Saturday.*

ANOTHER FIRE.

Scarcely had the fire at the Bowery been partially extinguished, when a second alarm was given, and it was discovered that the large Glue Factory at the corner of Twenty-Third street and Fourth Avenue was on fire. The whole establishment was consumed. We could not learn the amount of the loss, but it was probably considerable.

New Method of Playing All Fours.—Some wiseacre gives the following item:—Drink some bottled stout, two bottles of port, a glass of Mareschin, a jorum of whiskey punch, and a tumbler of brandy, and you will find before you get home how very easy it is to *play all-fours!* We believe this is not down in Hoyle.

Talleyrand said that the difficulty did not consist so much in winning a woman, as to get rid of her afterwards.

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