THE DAILY RECORD-UNION.

THURSDAY.....DECEMBER 16, 1880.

THREE ORIGINAL STORIES.

During the coming year, and commencing December 1st, the WEEKLY UNION *will publish three Prize Stories of California. The first, publication of which will commence in the first week of December, will be entitled, "The Ventures and Adventures of Charlie Gould." This is an intensely interesting story of the Stock-Gambling period of California, and was written by Edward F. Cahill, of Los Angeles. The price of the* WEEKLY UNION *will be $2 50 per annum.*

NEWS OF THE MORNING.

In New York yesterday Government bonds were quoted at 118¼ for 4s of 1907; 101 for 6s of 1881; 111½ for 4½s; sterling, $4 79@4 82; silver bars, 111⅛.

Silver in London yesterday, 52d; consols, 98 9-16d; 6 per cent. United States bonds, 104⅝; 4s 117¼; 4½s, 115⅝.

In San Francisco half dollars are quoted at ⅛ discount to par; Mexican dollars, 91c.

At Liverpool yesterday wheat was quoted at 9s 9d @10s 1d for good to choice California.

Mining stocks were less active in San Francisco yesterday, and prices were less satisfactory. There were but small variations in values as compared with Tuesday.

Steps are taking at Salt Lake to unseat Cannon, the Mormon delegate to Congress.

The sentence of Smith, for killing Sigourney at Nevada City, was again postponed yesterday until next Monday.

David A. McKinley of California has been nominated by the President to be Consul at Honolulu.

Bullion to the amount of $750,000 was withdrawn from the Bank of England yesterday for America.

Secretary Schurz will leave Washington for St. Louis in April, and make the latter city his home.

The funeral of Madame Thiers at Paris yesterday was a very imposing affair.

Several persons were injured by a railroad accident near Eureka, Mo., Tuesday night.

A vacancy has been created in the British House of Lords by the death of Earl Crawford.

In the municipal election at Boston yesterday the Democrats elected the Mayor, but the Council stands 45 Republicans to 26 Democrats.

The President yesterday nominated William B. Woods, of Alabama, to succeed Justice Strong in the United States Supreme Court.

The Missouri State bonded debt amounts to $16,600,000.

A man fell from the bridge at St. Louis yesterday and was drowned.

It is again rumored that the Czar of Russia is about to abdicate in favor of the Czarowitch.

According to the census returns, the population of Oregon is 174,767.

Two children and a woman were burned to death Tuesday night at Olean, N. Y.

An unknown man was found dead in a field near Lincoln, Placer county, yesterday.

The 2050-foot level of the Alta mine was flooded yesterday by an unexpected flow of water.

The trial of Carrick, the defaulting County Treasurer, began at Virginia, Nev., yesterday.

Small-pox is gradually spreading at Virginia, Nev.

George Parrot, road agent and murderer, was sentenced at Rawlins, Wyoming, yesterday, to be hanged in April.

Argument commenced at Los Angeles yesterday in the McFatridge case.

Within the past week two railroads have been completed to Park City, Utah.

The National Board of Trade began its annual meeting at Washington yesterday.

The appointments of Generals Hazen and Miles were unanimously confirmed by the Senate yesterday.

Charles A. Burt shot his mistress at Albany, N. Y., last night, and then killed himself.

THE NICARAGUAN CANAL.

It looks as though the projectors of the Nicaragua Canal were at least as much in earnest as M. Lesseps. They have not, it is true, so audacious and energetic a *claqueur* to help their scheme forward, but then they are free from the inconveniences which not infrequently attach to bold and soaring imaginative projections. For example, M. Lesseps, whose honesty, a contemporary gravely asserts, has never been questioned save by "blackguards," has within the past two weeks been announcing, through his Paris organ, that subscriptions to his canal were pouring in at San Francisco at the rate of millions of dollars daily, and that the American press and people were perfectly delirious over the amazing success of the enterprise. This is no doubt an evidence of the honesty of Mr. Lesseps which none but blackguards can question, but unfortunately the kind of blackguardism which entertains suspicions of this sort of statement is distressingly general. Nearly all capitalists and business men are depraved enough to think that a man who lies as intrepidly and as frequently as Mr. Lesseps has lied cannot be deserving of implicit confidence. Those who have followed his meteoric career are not at all likely to accept his representations of the state of the subscription without more trustworthy confirmation. On the other hand the Nicaragua Company has at least a number of very well-known and substantial business men at its head, and it has furthermore the great advantage of having on its side engineering reports much more promising than any respectable engineer has yet made concerning the Panama Canal. Of course if the Nicaragua Canal is pushed, and if it is as easily constructed as is alleged, it can be completed long before M. Lesseps has accomplished his undertaking. And in this event the stock of the Panama Canal will very certainly not remain at a premium, or be in great request among investors. The struggle between the rival enterprises meantime promises to be lively, and the public need not care greatly which is victorious.

THE PORTER CASE.

Congress has passed a bill empowering the President to reinstate Fitz John Porter in the army, with the rank of Colonel, on the retired list; the conditions being that he shall not be entitled to any back pay or other emoluments for the time during which he has been out of the service. The bill was passed by a strict party vote, the Republicans all voting against it, save a few in the Senate who declined to vote, and the Democrats all voting for it. Senator Logan made a very bitter and abusive speech on the occasion, comparing Porter unfavorably with Jefferson Davis, and intimating that if he had had his deserts he would have been shot by a drum-head court-martial. The vituperation of Senator Logan demands explanation; for assuredly there has not been any evidence adduced in the later and more careful investigation of Porter's case, to warrant such expressions. On the contrary, it has been proved as conclusively as anything human can be, that Porter was greatly wronged by Pope; that he was not accorded fair play on his first trial; that his actions and his positions were flagrantly misrepresented; and that in fact he had been condemned on testimony which was nearly all worse than worthless. This, moreover, is the opinion of some of the best military judges in the land, and of these more than one has intimated that if strict justice were done another officer than Porter ought to have been court-martialed in this connection. Logan's partisanship appears to have mastered his sense of justice, in fact, and it is to be regretted, since party never seems so mean as when it impels men to defend flagrant injustice rather than admit that a political opponent is in the right.

Travel north of Reno, Nev., has been almost suspended on account of the snow.

THE FAILURE OF THE LAW IN CAPITAL CASES.

Whatever the cause or causes may be, whether a morbid sentimentalism in public opinion, or defects in the machinery of the Courts, the fact is undeniable that the legal penalties for the crime of murder have fallen into desuetude in this State. When we review the history of criminal law during the past ten or twelve years in California, we are compelled to conclude that no form of murder is too atrocious, deliberate, wanton or cold-blooded, to be condoned by juries, and we see also that the tendency to acquit murderers becomes more marked, instead of declining, as time passes. Punishment in capital cases is neither prompt nor certain. Men under homicidal charges are suffered to lie in prison for months, and even years, before being tried. It might almost be supposed that there was a set purpose to wait until all recollection of their crimes had died out, to the end that the defense might be the better able to influence the jury by sentimental appeals. So various have been the forms of homicide which have escaped punishment that thinking men must doubt whether there remains any protection for human life beyond what every individual can supply for himself. It has lately been suggested that the public should be disarmed, in order to guard against the frequent accidents which result from the common habit of carrying weapons. In view of the average results of our murder trials, however, it would be far more logical to propose the abandonment of all laws and ordinances against the carrying of concealed weapons, for at the present time no man can know when the preservation of his life may not depend upon his own ability to resist an attack, and it is evident that the practical impunity with which murder is now committed must encourage homicidal assaults greatly. As the case stands there is in fact no adequate restraint imposed upon the malignant, the passionate, the quarrelsome man. He has been taught by a series of notorious cases that he who commits a murder has little or nothing to fear beyond a short imprisonment. Even in the exceptional instances in which a jury sentences a murderer to a term in the Penitentiary, the convict knows that his period of incarceration will really not be half of the ostensible term. For when he has been in the State Prison two or three years it is always possible to get up a petition for commutation or pardon, and it will be strange indeed if the very men who sat upon his case and best know his guilt do not lend themselves to his enfranchisement—often for no better reason than to escape importunity. The result is that murder has become to all practical intents a crime of less gravity than burglary or highway robbery or forgery. The man who is convicted of any one of these offenses is apt to serve out his full term, but directly a murder is committed strong interest is excited in the fate of the criminal, and there are plenty of soft-hearted and softer-headed people to enlist themselves in the mischievous work of nullifying the laws and making them contemptible.

It is time to ask the public in all seriousness where they think these tendencies will lead them, if no steps are taken to prevent homicide and to protect human life. Very probably the public have not given any thought to the subject at all. They are either indifferent, or they are influenced by morbid sentiment, or they content themselves with a passing expression of disgust at each fresh failure of justice, and so let the matter go. But if we may judge from similar experience elsewhere, the paralysis of justice which now characterizes our Courts in murder cases must before long lead to the setting up of lawless methods of vengeance. That is to say, that when men realize the impotence of the machinery Society has established, they will take the administration of the law into their own hands. It does not necessarily follow that Lynch law will be adopted. But the conditions which obtain in the Southern and some of the Western States, where blood feuds are still common, must be expected. Thus when a father or a brother has been shot down on some trivial pretext, his next of kin will take up the quarrel and assume the duty of the avenger, and in this way primitive barbarism will be reverted to. We say that this is one of the natural and inevitable results of the kind of conditions at present existing. Men will not always be content to see murderers turned loose after farcical trials. Presently there will come to the front people whose resentment is too strong and their passions too high to submit to these fiascos, and they will do what the law has failed to do. If it is alleged that what we predict would be in effect an arrest of our civilization and a movement backward, we entirely agree with this interpretation. But we must point out that the backward movement has already begun, and that it is manifested in the disgraceful impotence of our laws against murder. There is no test of real civilization more trustworthy than the degree of regard paid to human life, and the degree of precaution used to guard it. Neither wealth nor commerce are nearly such sure evidences of advancement. California may increase in riches, but so long as human life is not protected by her laws it cannot be said with truth that her civilization is progressing. Murder unpunished begets murder, and the driveling sentimentality which grieves over the fate of an assassin has nothing in common with the well-poised spirit of justice which realizes that the first duty of Society is to protect the individual, and to punish crime sternly.

McCORD'S AMENDMENT.

Congressman McCord has introduced an amendment to the United States Constitution which provides as follows: "That the "Presidential, State and county elections "shall be held on the first Tuesday after "the first Monday in November; that "State Legislatures shall divide the State "into election precincts containing not "more than 500 electors; that such district "shall have not less than one public school, "accessible to all children from 5 to 21 years "old, without distinction on account of "race or color; that no funds shall be ap-"propriated for sectarian schools; that no "citizen born within the United States "who has not attended a public or other "school five years, and is unable to read "and write, shall vote; that the failure of "any State in these points shall be deemed "a failure to maintain a republican form "of government, and Congress may by act "exclude the representatives of such State, "and the electoral vote of the same, until "the required legislation is enacted." The central purpose of this amendment appears to be to introduce what is loosely called an educational qualification, and to unite with this a method of securing the complete distribution of the public school system, while putting up a new barrier against the aggressions of sectarianism. If the result was to enforce a common school education throughout the Union there can be no doubt that it would be productive of much benefit to the Southern States especially, and that it would lift the colored people out from under the influence of prejudice in that region. The provision against any diversion of State school funds to sectarian schools appears to be justifiable. It is very certain that systematic efforts are being made in various parts of the country to secure such a division of the school fund as is here prohibited, and the danger appears to be greatest in some of the centers of population, where the effect of such a change would be most marked. As regards the idea of establishing the reading and writing test, however, we question whether the results would be satisfactory. So much education as consists merely in the ability to read and write cannot be regarded as an efficient safeguard against the dangers which belong to ignorance of the duties and obligations of citizenship. The difficulty of framing an educational test of any kind which would not do at least as much harm as good, has hitherto prevented the adoption of such a plan, and we do not see that Mr. McCord has overcome this difficulty. For example, there are many really shrewd and clear-minded men who cannot read and write; and there are many utter simpletons who can do both. To exclude the first and admit the second would certainly not strengthen or elevate the suffrage. Reading and writing are in truth no tests of mental capacity, or of fitness to possess the franchise, and this proposition would break down from its inherent defects, if ever tried. Aside from all considerations of the difficulty attending any proposal for a restriction of the suffrage, we must hold that the way to elevate the masses lies in other directions. It is after all a practical acquaintance with their own institutions and the principles underlying those institutions, which is needed to make the employment of the franchise safe, and that kind of knowledge is not so taught in the public schools as to be retained in after life. In a word, it is not education in the abstract which is required, but a particular kind of education, and to obtain this it is necessary to reorganize the whole system. We think Mr. McCord has therefore begun at the wrong end, and though some of his propositions are sound, we do not think that his amendment as a whole deserves to be adopted.

CARRYING THE GOSPEL TO THE INDIANS.

A new element has been infused into the Oklahoma invasion. Some missionaries have joined the raiders, and announce their pious purpose of carrying the gospel to the Indians in this novel way. The so-called colonists appear to have caught eagerly at the new catch-word, and they seem disposed to assume the pretense of a sort of Holy War, as a convenient cover for their real designs. We are not informed what church is honored by the membership of these missionaries, but they must be singular men if they fail to perceive that evangelization is not to be prosperously introduced by law-breaking and outrage. It is true that in times past Mohammed carried the Koran in one hand and the sword in the other, and gave the people whom he conquered their choice between the two; but the world has grown wiser since then, and it is not now permitted even to fanaticism to present the gospel at men's heads in this highwayman fashion. The Oklahoma raiders intend nothing less than the forcible appropriation of lands which do not belong to them, and they propose to gain these lands by defying and violating the solemn engagements of the United States with the Indians. They are therefore preparing to break the laws of their own country, and to trample upon its undertakings with its wards, and if the missionaries can find anything in the Gospel to warrant such a line of action they must have an edition of that work not known to the world at large. Their foolish and weak-minded course is, however, calculated to give force to the lawless men with whom they have cast their lot, and the result of their preposterous experiment may quite possibly be to precipitate a collision between the United States troops and the raiders, and to expose the latter to serious punishment. Whoever really wishes to evangelize the Indians will have to persuade them in the first place that the Christian religion has some practical connection with the course of treatment to which they have been subjected by the United States Government and people, and we fear that this is a task beyond the capacity of even the most enthusiastic of missionaries.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

M. Lesseps has been greatly assisted in floating the shares of his canal by the peculiar condition of the money market. There has been a plethora of capital seeking investment for some time past, and during the last three months this condition of things has led to the inception of a great number of highly speculative enterprises, and to the creation of a period of inflation generally. It was at the top of this flood-tide that M. Lesseps launched his scheme, and the result is that it has been successfully floated, if the reports which reach us may be credited. Under the circumstances a very much more doubtful project would have had an equally cordial welcome, for the spirit of speculation is as general and as feverish as at the culmination of any of the gambling eras which precede financial panics. Of course the floating of the stock is not equivalent to the successful accomplishment of the scheme. It only means that there are enough people willing to bet upon its success to make the attempt financially practicable. If the views of some of the most experienced engineers living are trustworthy, the difficulties to be overcome before the canal is an accomplished fact will try the skill and courage of M. Lesseps to the utmost; and if their views are correct it by no means follows that even if the canal is finished it will be possible to maintain it in operation. So far it must be remembered that nothing has occurred to disprove the assertion that the canal is not a feasible undertaking.

PRISONER EN ROUTE. — Sheriff F. M. Rahm, of Yolo county, came over last night en route to Folsom with a prisoner named John Roach, who has been sentenced to a term of two years for grand larceny. Roach was in a saloon in Woodland a few evenings since, when a milkman came in and casually remarked that he had been collecting. An acquaintance jokingly asked where he carried his money, and he replied, "Under the cushion on the wagon-seat." Roach immediately afterward slipped out of the saloon and took the money. He was arrested a few days afterwards on suspicion, but denied all knowledge of the matter in talking to the Deputy Sheriff, who arrested him. Sheriff Rahm, whom Roach did not know, afterwards had a talk with him as if a confidant, and Roach admitted the whole matter, and hence he was convicted.

FOR THE COUGHS AND COLDS now prevailing, Hammer's Glycerole of Tar is a specific.

REGULATE THE LIVER with Hammer's Cascara Sagrada Bitters, and health is the result.

TELEGRAPHIC.

LAST NIGHT'S DISPATCHES TO THE RECORD-UNION.

NATIONAL CAPITAL AFFAIRS.

Southern Senators Indignant at One of the President's Appointments.

PASSENGERS COMING WEST BY RAIL.

The Business of the Country, as Shown by Clearing-house Transactions.

MISCELLANEOUS FOREIGN NEWS ITEMS.

Another Rumor that the Czar Intends to Abdicate.

Etc.....Etc.....Etc.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

The Appointment of McKinley—Indignant Southern Senators.

WASHINGTON, December 15th.—The nomination of D. A. McKinley as Consul at Honolulu to-day was procured by his brother, Congressman McKinley, of Ohio, there being, so far as known, no recommendations for his appointment on file from any member of the California delegation. It is learned that his brother, who is an old friend of President Hayes, tried to get him appointed Collector of Internal Revenue for San Francisco district, but the President, while readily agreeing to provide for him, preferred to give him the place vacated by John M. Morton at Honolulu.

There is much comment this evening concerning the nomination of Circuit Judge Woods for the seat on the Supreme Bench resigned by Justice Strong. He is conceded to be an able Judge, and is highly esteemed by lawyers of the Southern circuit; but there is much indignation among Southern Senators, and no little amusement among disinterested outsiders, that he is credited to "Georgia," although a citizen of Ohio by birth and residence until the period of the war of the rebellion. Several Southern Senators to-day declared emphatically that they will oppose his confirmation upon the ground that it is grossly unfair to proceed in this way to fill the Supreme Bench with Ohio men, and the present indications are that a pretty stormy fight will be made against Judge Woods' confirmation on this account. It is the general belief, however, that he will be confirmed, in which case he will relieve Justice Bradley of the Southern Supreme Court circuit, and Bradley will be assigned to the Pennsylvania, Delaware and New Jersey circuit, hitherto the field of Justice Strong. Woods is described as a small man, fifty years of age, with bright, keen eyes, and a great worker. He has a wife and two children, and has recently built a residence in Atlanta, his home for a number of years previously having been in Montgomery, Alabama.

California Indian War Bonds.

WASHINGTON, December 15th.—Senator Farley to-day introduced a bill directing the Secretary of the Treasury to pay J. B. Smith, of Baltimore, $570, the amount of coupons of 37 Indian war bonds issued by California in 1852, the liability for which was subsequently assumed by the General Government. It appears that these coupons were not presented for payment until the balance of the Congressional appropriations had lapsed into the United States Treasury.

National Board of Trade.

WASHINGTON, December 15th.—The National Board of Trade begun its annual meeting to-day. About 60 members, representing 15 or 20 leading Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce of the principal cities of the country were present.

Retirement of Small Legal Tender Notes.

WASHINGTON, December 15th.—The bill introduced to-day by Senator Hill of Colorado, for the retirement of small legal tender notes, provides that in place of legal tender notes of denominations less than $5 which may be held in the treasury or hereafter presented for redemption, the Secretary of the Treasury shall each month substitute a note of the same character but of higher denominations, to the amount (as nearly as practicable) of the standard silver dollars coined during that month, and that no more legal tender notes of a lower denomination than $5 shall hereafter be printed. A copy of this bill was introduced in the House to-day by Representative Belford.

Miscellaneous Washington Items.

CHICAGO, December 15th.—The *Inter-Ocean's* Washington special says: Officials of the Northwestern and Milwaukee and St Paul Railroads are here, striving for a treaty for Sioux lands which shall give their respective roads the first opportunity to reach the Black Hills.

Senator Mahoney intimates to-day that he will vote for George C. Gorham for Secretary of the Senate. Gorhams is his personal friend.

General Grant remarked to your correspondent that his interest in the Isthmus Canal dated from early life. He tried to have something done about it before he was President, but failed, and when he was elected caused a survey to be made of every possible route. In this way he learned that Nicaragua was the best. There were many reasons for this of special character. Nicaragua was further north, and more direct and nearer the United States. He did not think the country could sit by and see a canal built across the Isthmus by Europeans. It would be the same thing as though the United States had gone to Suez and tried to take possession of it. As to the railroad opposition, he did not expect that they would be friendly, but if it was built of course commerce would go as usual through that channel.

The letter of Wade Hampton, disclaiming that he intended to challenge Secretary Sherman when he informed Sherman that his address was at Columbia, attracted much attention. This disclaimer from Hampton was published because of a severe letter from a South Carolinan living in California, who charged Hampton with causing the defeat of Hancock. After summing up the Democratic blunder, the writer adds: "But these causes put together were not so potent for harm as General Hampton's utterances. His speeches upon the nomination of Hancock and at Staunton told terribly against us, but the worst and most unfortunate of all was his correspondence looking to a duel with John Sherman. But for that, Hancock might have been President and the people of the South free from Federal interference for the next four years. The writer is an admirer of Hampton. His great services to the people of South Carolina entitle him to their lasting gratitude. He has many friends in this country, and they are not altogether confined to the Democratic party. I have heard but one feeling expressed in relation to his Sherman correspondence, and that is one of deep mortification and disappointment that with one breath such a high reputation for prudence and statesmanship should be irretrievably lost." This letter has resulted in the publication of Hampton's attempt at self-defense.

Rush for Investment—Fish Culture.

CHICAGO, December 15th.—The books for subscriptions to the four per cent. loan, with which it is proposed to take up the $840,000 of six per cent. bonds, were opened yesterday, and up to this evening $300,000 worth of the bonds have been subscribed for at par. So great was the rush, and so evident was it that capitalists and bankers would secure the whole loan, and thus keep it out of the hands of the people, that restrictions were placed on the subscriptions which will, it is hoped, result in the poorer people being able to invest in these securities.

The Central Western Fish Cultural Society met here to-day, to consider the question of propagating fish in western streams and lakes. N. K. Fairbank was elected President, Fred. Mather Secretary, and A. Booth Treasurer.

Entered Upon Their Work.

NEW YORK, December 15th.—The *Tribune* says: Two of the missionary Bishops elected by the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church during its recent session in this city have already entered upon their work—one in New Mexico and Arizona, and the other in Montana. The third, Dr. John A. Paddock, is to be consecrated to-day in Brooklyn in the parish church of which he has been Rector for more than twenty-five years. He is to cross the Continent and devote his remaining years to arduous missionary service in Washington Territory.

Clearing-house Transactions—Gains and Losses.

NEW YORK, December 15th.—The *Public's* take of Clearing-house transactions for the week shows the following gains and losses over the corresponding week of last year: Losses—Philadelphia, 8 and 5 10 per cent; Milwaukee, 7. Gains—New York, 30.1; Boston, 22; Chicago, 19 9; Cincinnati, 35 2; Baltimore, 13 7; New Orleans, 3 3; San Francisco, 14 3; Louisville, 27.6; Pittsburg, 18 1; Providence, 17.3; Kansas City, 55.9; Indianapolis, 39 8; Cleveland, 6.9; New Haven, 20 9; Lowell, 32 5; Syracuse, 12.4. Speculation of all kinds has been checked, and a period of reaction may naturally be expected. The immediate cause is tight money and the refusal of lenders to put out money at 6 per cent., when they can get from 45 to 90 per cent. The more remote cause is that speculation has swallowed up all the funds left available by an enormous legitimate business and unprecedented hoarding, and thus placed itself at the mercy of the private lenders of money. There is evidently some hesitation in the movement of cotton since the speculation in that article became rampant, but the business at nearly all the trading and manufacturing cities continues decidedly larger than it was last December. The cause is in speculation, or in movements particularly affected by speculating.

Westward-bound Passengers.

OMAHA, December 15th.—The following through passengers were on to-day's train, leaving at 12:15 P. M., to arrive in Sacramento December 10th: Christian Lorange, W. W. White and wife, Bradford, Pa.; A. E. Hoffman, wife and child, J. R. Hoffman, Miss Lillie Hoffman, Miss Virginia Hoffman, Fort Wayne; E. M. Walker, J. J. Bartlett, San Francisco; F. A. Bettis, Oswego, Kas.; S. E. Bliss, Chicago; D. B. Gillet, Arizona; E. T. Goodrich, Buffalo, N. Y.

Murderer Sentenced to be Hanged.

CHEYENNE, December 15th.—The *Leader's* Rawlins, Wy. T., special says: The famous road agent and murderer, George Parrot, alias Big-Nosed George, was to-day sentenced by Judge Peck to be hanged next April. George is the last but one of the worst band of road agents and train robbers that ever infested Wyoming. The last act of the gang was an attempt to turn a Union Pacific passenger train into a chasm 150 feet deep at Big Springs in 1878. Two Deputy Sheriffs pursued the gang, and were killed. George confessed this crime, and desiring to be hanged in expiation.

Order Explained.

NEW YORK, December 15th.—A Washington correspondent thus explains the order assigning Hancock to duty according to his brevet rank: Colonel Getty of the Third Artillery is in command at Fortress Monroe, with the brevet rank of Major-General. He was brevetted on the same day with Hancock and before Hancock was made a full Major-General, and consequently, so long as the order under which he was brevetted lasts, he ranks Hancock, whose brevet rank as Major-General ceased when he became Major-General in fact. His rank by brevet, however, took precedence over Getty's brevet rank, and it is now restored to avoid possible complications in the impending army changes.

Will Not Return to Her Husband.

NEW YORK, December 15th.—Mrs. Bergman was in her old room at the police headquarters to-day, determined not to return home. She will take care of herself in this city, her husband having completely thrown her off, and she is gratified by that fact. Her mother says she was always a spoiled, petted child, and was made to marry a cold, stern man, from whom she broke loose at once.

The Railroad War.

NEW YORK, December 15th.—The Baltimore and Ohio are met by unexpected difficulties in getting freight moved over the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railway, and advise shippers to send as little freight as possible by them at present.

Silver and Stocks.

NEW YORK, December 15th.—Silver bars, 111⅛; money at 6; Governments strong; stocks closed strong; Western Union, 82⅞; Quicksilver, 12; Pacific, 52½; Mariposa, 1; Wells Fargo, 112; New York Central, ex dividend, 143¾; Erie, 47; Panama, 225; Union Pacific, ex dividend, 108¼; bonds, 115¼; Central Pacific, 84½; bonds, 114¾; Sutro, 1¼.

Railroad Accident.

ST. LOUIS, December 15th.—Two coaches of the Kansas City Express, which left here at 9 o'clock last night, were ditched near Eureka and several passengers injured. Rumor says twelve persons were hurt, but the railroad company are reticent.

The New York Stock Market.

NEW YORK, December 15th.—Advices from Washington that the three per cent. funding bill was likely to pass, and an easier condition of the money market late in the afternoon, had a tendency to stimulate the upward movement in stocks.

The Massachusetts Elections.

BOSTON, December 15th.—Full returns for Mayor give Prince (Dem.), 21,286; Stebbens (Rep.), 20,754. The Democrats elect seven and the Republicans five Aldermen. The Council stands 45 Republicans and 26 Democrats.

LYNN, December 15th.—The Republicans carry both branches of the city government and the School Committee.

Murder and Suicide.

ALBANY (N. Y.), December 15th.—Tonight Charles A. Burt, a maltster, and son of William Burt, deceased, some years ago a famous brewer and maltster of this city, shot Kate Smith, his mistress, and then killed himself. No cause is assigned.

Heavy Business Failure.

NEW YORK, December 15th.—The announcement was made to day of the failure of Sidenbery & Co., manufacturers of cigars and importers of tobacco at Reade and Church streets and at Key West, Fla. They were the largest manufacturers of cigars in the country.

Unanimous Confirmation.

WASHINGTON, December 15th.—The Senate unanimously confirmed Hazen and Miles to-day.

An Immense Mail.

NEW YORK, December 15th.—By the steamers Aran, Batavia and City of Austria, 159,000 letters were dispatched yesterday from the General Postoffice. This is the largest number sent out in one day by foreign mail steamers in the history of the Postoffice.

FOREIGN NEWS.

The Trouble in Ireland.

DUBLIN, December 15th.—At the Cork Assizes to-day, John Power and a party of armed men who forcibly entered a house from which the tenants had been evicted near Tralee, County Kerry, in the night about a fortnight ago, and split the ears of the occupant, a bailiff, were acquitted, although identified by the prosecutor.

LONDON, December 15th.—William Bence Jones, an Englishman and a large landowner, residing at Lisslane, County Cork, writes to the *Times* that he expended £250,000 on the improvement of his property, and has hitherto enjoyed good relations with his tenants; but because he refuses to accept Griffith's valuation his tenants have been deterred by threats from paying their rent. He is threatened that his grave will be dug opposite his door. His laborers are compelled to leave him, and none dare buy his produce, because when it is sent to market, it is surrounded by a howling mob.

A correspondent of the *Times* at Cork says: When Jones on Tuesday tried to ship 80 head of cattle and sheep to Bristol for sale, a number of large shippers informed the steamship company that they would cease their dealings with it if the cattle were shipped, and the company consequently refused to take the cattle, as also did the Clyde Shipping Company. Finally the drovers refused to tend the cattle, which, after straying through the streets, were finally driven by the police to the Great Western Railway, and that company forwarded them to Dublin by train, in spite of the efforts of the "Boycotters" to prevent the company from supplying a train. Jones is unpopular because of his writings in the periodical press in opposition to public works. The police promised to protect the laborers if they would remain until Mr. Jones arrived, but they refused. The Land League will support the laborers who left the estate. The family of Mr. Jones are attending to the remaining cattle, protected by armed police, and the house is guarded at night. The seizure of the lodge is expected.

When Jones' cattle arrived at Dublin they were treated the same way as at Cork. An attempt will be made to-day to ship the cattle to Glasgow or Liverpool. If that fails, Jones' agent will telegraph for instructions whether the cattle shall be consigned to Bristol by way of Belfast. In the meantime the police guard the cattle.

DUBLIN, December 15th.—The trial of Healy and Walsh, for intimidating farmer Manning commenced this morning. They pleaded not guilty. The court was crowded.

LONDON, December 15th.—Manning, the person who, it is alleged, was intimidated, denied the petition put in by the prosecution, in which he (Manning) stated that Healy and Walsh threatened him, and now states that he was neither threatened nor afraid.

NEW YORK, December 15th.—The *Herald's* Dublin dispatch says: Judge Lawson, at Belfast, yesterday, charged the Grand Jury as follows: While only one agragrian case is before me for trial, I cannot ignore constabulary returns. I am sorry publicly to state that the clear conclusion to which I have arrived is that the system of intimidation which has so long been prevailing in southern and western counties is gradually, but surely, making itself felt in this great northern province. I have known this county for nearly half a century, and never in the course of my lifetime do I remember any state of things at all parallel to that which is now existing. A system of intimidation on a large scale is perfectly organized and openly avowed. It is practiced on those concerned in the administration of the law, from every Judge on the bench down to the bailiff serving an ejectment process—all are sought to be made subject to its influence.

NEW YORK, December 15th.—The *World's* London special says: The Land Leaguers are leaving no stone unturned to defeat the Government in the coming trials of the indicted members. It has just been made public that several commercial travelers, representing Dublin firms, whose names have been drawn on the jury panel, have received warning from their customers all over the country that if a verdict of guilty should be found they need expect no more business with them. This, together with the announcement that a Dublin merchant has been summoned to appear before the Clare Land League to answer for an old eviction carried out a year ago, and threatened with "Boycotting," in case he should fail to appear, has caused a profound excitement in Dublin business circles.

DUBLIN, December 15th.—The jury, after an hour's deliberation, acquitted Healy and Walsh.

Parnell, Demill and Dillon have each received a letter threatening them with death.

LONDON, December 15th.—The Executive Committee of the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland, at a special meeting yesterday, adopted a resolution to raise a fund for the purpose of providing means of protection for loyal men in remote districts.

The stage of siege at Jones' residence continues.

All furloughs to the army in Ireland will be canceled.

CORK, December 15th.—A great popular demonstration took place to-night, to celebrate the victory of Healy and Walsh, who addressed a large crowd in front of their hotel. Healy said the result of the trial would be reflected at Dublin in the acquittal of Parnell.

LONDON, December 16th—A. M.—It is stated that 100 men will start for Dublin to-night to reinforce the Coldstream Guards there. A battalion of Scots Guards has been ordered to be ready to proceed to Ireland Friday.

NEW YORK, December 16th—A. M.—The *Herald's* Dublin special says: A number of men who were leaving on a furlough for England this evening were stopped before going on board and directed to return to their quarters. Officers and men now on leave from regiments stationed in Ireland have been ordered to rejoin their regiments without fail before the 28th inst. Great excitement was caused here by the news that orders had been issued by the War Office in London to the Scots Guards to proceed to Ireland on Friday. The battalion musters 800 bayonets, but instructions have been issued to bring the force up to 1,000. A majority of the men are Scotch, the Irishmen numbering less than 100, of whom 40 are Catholics. The Coldstreams are to be reinforced to-morrow, bringing the force up to 1,000.

The Czar to Partially Abdicate.

ST. PETERSBURG, December 15th.—A rumor, current for some weeks, of the transfer of the Czar's authority to the Council under the Presidency of the Czarowitch, is renewed with this addition, the marriage of Princess Dolgorouki with the Czar to be declared legal, she receiving the title of Duchess of Holstein Gottorp, and her children will be Princes and Princesses of that title. The Czar will retire to Livadia in the Crimea, he remaining Emperor in name, the actual authority, however, residing in the Czarowitch.

A Hitch in the Dulcigno Business.

LONDON, December 15th.—An Aid-de-Camp of Prince Nikita of Montenegro, went to Scutari to arrange for the possession of two villages, which the Turks refuse to surrender. His visit was fruitless and he refused to sign a declaration formally taking possession of Dulcigno.

Friendly Merchant Tailors.

LONDON, December 15th.—At a banquet last night given to General Roberts, recently returned from Afghanistan, by the Merchant Tailors' Company, the master of the company proposed a toast to foreign Ambassadors, coupled with it the name of United States Minister Lowell, and said he hoped the English and American flags which were floating side by side in the hall might know no rivalry but that of peace, and Lowell, responding to a toast, eulogized General Roberts' service in Afghanistan.

The New Turkish Note.

CONSTANTINOPLE, December 15th.—The terms of the Turkish note relative to the Greek question have been decided upon. In the note the Powers are asked to recommend Greece to enter upon the path of negotiations instead of resorting to armaments.

Secret Assassination Society.

BUCHAREST, December 15th.—It is reported that the man who attempted to assassinate Premier Britana acted under the order of a secret society which had already given Britana notice that he was condemned to death.

A Pacific Phase.

LONDON, December 15th.—The *Agence Russe* of St. Petersburg states that the question pending between the Chinese and Russia has entered a pacific phase.

Fined for Libel.

PARIS, December 15th.—The *Tribaulo* and *Mond Parizen* newspapers have been sentenced to pay a fine of 2,000 francs each for libelling Colonel Ria, commander of the guards at the Chamber of Deputies, who ejected Baudry d'Asson.

"Call Me Pet Names."

PARIS, December 15th.—The *Intransignant*, Rochefort's journal, to-day calls Gambetta a liar, robber, forger and a wretch worse than Thiers or MacMahon. *Le France* states that in consequence of rumors about Rochefort's sanity, it suppresses an article in type.

Advices from Mexico.

CITY OF MEXICO, December 6th.—President Gonzales sent no message to Congress on the occasion of his inauguration.

A delegation of citizens of the United States, resident in Mexico, visited Gonzales, and were cordially received.

Several journals complain of the conspicous attention shown the French Minister. They say neither the United States representative in Mexico nor the Mexican Minister at Paris received such diplomatic attentions.

The populace cheered ex-President Diaz when he left the palace after delivering the Executive Departments to President Gonzales.

The *Monitor Republico* says no party supports President Gonzales. The inhabitants witnessed his inauguration with the greatest indifference, and the honors were paid for.

A Distressing Situation.

STELLARTON (N. S.), December 15th.—Destitution and famine stare the families of the miners in the face. The situation is distressing in the extreme.

Narrow Escape of the Princess of Wales.

LONDON, December 16th—A. M.—The Princess of Wales yesterday had a decidedly narrow escape from severe injury, if not from death. It appears that while following the hounds in Norfolk her spirited hunter shied and threw the Princess. Fortunately Sir Dighton Probyn, the Comptroller and Treasurer of the Princess of Wales' household, who was closely following, with great presence of mind rode rapidly up, caught the Princess just as she was falling, and saved her from injury.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The President has nominated Eugene Schuyler, of New York, to be Charge d'Affaires and Consul-General at Bucharest; W. F. Peddrick, of Pennsylvania, Secretary of the French Claims Commission. United States Consuls—John Farrell, of New York, at Bristol; David A. McKinley, of California, at Honolulu; Theodore Canisus, of Illinois, at Gelstemunxe.

Amount of bullion withdrawn from the Bank of England on balance yesterday, $750,000—all for America.

The St. Louis *Post-Dispatch* says that Secretary Schurz will leave Washington and make St. Louis his home early in April. He will manage his paper there and write a book for the Appletons.

Captain Eads writes the Mexican Consul at St. Louis from the City of Mexico that he is progressing finely, and will shortly proceed to the Isthmus of Tehuantepec to examine the country.

The funeral of Mme. Thiers at Paris yesterday was a very imposing pageant.

The President yesterday nominated Wm. B. Wood, of Alabama, to succeed Justice Strong in the United States Supreme Court.

The Missouri State bonded debt amounts to $16,000,000, besides $3,000,000 St. Joseph Railroad bonds. It must all be refunded at the present rate of interest.

A confidence man, pursued by the police at St. Louis yesterday, fell through the ties of the big bridge ninety feet to the water, and was drowned.

Earl Crawford is dead, and his son succeeds to the Peerage, making a vacancy in the English House of Lords.

Reinarch, whom Rochefort challenged at Paris, is Gambetta's Secretary.

By the aid of kerosene and benzine, Tuesday night, incendiaries attempted to fire Forrman's nickel plating works at Cleveland. The scheme was very ingenious, but the fire was discovered in time and put out with small loss.

The population of the State of Oregon, according to schedules returned to the Census Office by enumerators, is as follows: Males, 103,383; females, 71,379. Total, 174,767. Native, 14,437; foreign born, 30,440; white, 163,087; colored, 11,680.

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