THE DAILY RECORD-UNION.

MONDAY.....DECEMBER 27, 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 perio 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.

Business being universally suspended Saturday, no quotations for that day from London, New York and San Francisco are given this morning.

What is called Gould's railroad consolidations consist of 9,649 miles of track.

Three men were stabbed in a row at St. Louis Saturday—two mortally.

Miss Ada Hebden killed herself at Chicago Saturday.

A. M. Conkling editor of the Socorro (N. M.) *Sun*, has been assassinated.

Two children were burned to a crisp Friday night near Weston, O.

Fire at Ogdensburg, N. Y.; Norway, Me.; Elkhart, Tex.; and Pembroke, Ont.

Mrs. Henry Johnson was burned to death Saturday at Trenton, N. J.

No elevated railroads are to be allowed in Boston.

The total bank clearings at Chicago for the year are stated at $1,623,000,000—the heaviest in the history of the city.

A census of the Dominion of Canada is to be taken in April.

The situation in Ireland is steadily growing worse.

The Provincial Assembly of Eastern Roumania was closed Saturday by the Governor-General.

Anderwert, President-elect of the Swiss Confederation, killed himself at Berne Saturday evening.

Ex-Sheriff Matt. Woods died suddenly at Marysville Friday night.

A terrible storm of wind, rain and snow prevailed at the East yesterday, doing great damage.

John Hittson, one of the wealthiest cattle men in the West, was thrown from a carriage and killed at East Bijou, Col.

The principal points of the two Chinese treaties are foreshadowed this morning in a Washington dispatch.

Floods have destroyed 60 houses and killed 80 persons at Limasol, Sicily.

Four persons were killed and two injured by a train Friday night, near Lucan, Ont.

On the Arizona train between Dos Palmas and Walters stations, Saturday, a tramp drew a pistol on the conductor, who shot him.

Four prisoners effected an escape from the County Jail at Portland, Or., yesterday.

An old man named Donovan was fatally injured by a fall yesterday at Portland, Or.

Henry Ostrander shot and instantly killed his brother near Camden, N. Y.

The Boers are still punishing the British in Transvaal.

The return billiard match between Slosson and Vignaux for 20,000 francs a side is not fully arranged yet.

A riot occurred in Dublin Saturday between soldiers and civilians.

A great snow-storm prevailed in Scotland from Friday until yesterday morning.

General O. O. Howard addressed the Moody and Sankey audience at San Francisco last night.

THE DIFFICULTIES INCREASING.

It has often happened in history that the reluctance of a Government to use extraordinary means for repressing popular disturbances at the beginning, has produced effects necessitating the employment of far more rigorous measures in the end. It is quite possible that this may be the case with the Irish problem. The English Government has thus far refused to suspend *habeas corpus* in the neighboring island, but its course in this regard has only given new boldness to the Land League, and has in fact enabled that organization to secure control of the country, to the virtual paralysis of the entire administrative machinery. The Courts are rendered both powerless and useless. Jury trial is in effect abolished. The prosecution of the Land League leaders in the Courts is a foregone failure, and it has been evident for weeks that it might as well be abandoned. The inaction of the Government has therefore done nothing to improve the situation, but a great deal to render it more threatening. It is already a serious question whether the Land League leaders can prevent, even if they desire to do so, an uprising of the people. Their success thus far has been so great that they themselves may well imagine the game to be in their hands, and therefore perhaps they will not wish to avoid an open collision with the Government. In the event of an insurrection, however, the Government would have no option before it. It must then take the shortest and sternest means to sustain law and order, and it does not require to be pointed out that in such a case the present Governmental inactivity would have to be compensated by an amount of force which might have been altogether avoided had firmer measures been adopted at the beginning. There can, of course, be no room for doubt as to the result of an insurrection. It would be put down in blood. But when this Irish difficulty is over it will perhaps appear even plainer than it does now that hesitation in using strong measures in such cases may be the least considerate and merciful policy that could be adopted by the Government.

KELLY IN BAD TEMPER.

The recent defeat sustained by "Boss" Kelly appears to have soured his temper so much that he is making indiscriminate war upon all whom he suspects of having assisted his enemies directly or indirectly. For a man in his position this is of course very bad policy, and may not improbably complete his downfall. For when "Bosses" come to deal irritably with their power, they endanger it. It is always possible to their henchmen to combine against them, and this is what has happened to Kelly. He might have recovered his first defeat had he kept his temper, but he cannot improve his prospects by making more enemies, and in fact there are indications that Tammany Hall will shortly rise against him and repudiate him. Nobody will be sorry if this happens, but it would be still more satisfactory if Tammany Hall itself should encounter the fate of the Kilkenny cats. Unfortunately for the public, the cohesive power of public plunder prevents so desirable an event.

THE USUAL MURDER

San Francisco greeted Christmas with her usual murder. There was, however a certain novelty in the crime. Hitherto there has always been some motive for her accustomed homicides. Either the victim had unwittingly offended the murderer, or the latter thought to gain something by the deed, or there was a woman in it. The Christmas murder appears to have been committed without any other motive than mere wantonness. A man was walking home quietly when two drunken roughs staggered against him. He remonstrated mildly, whereupon one of them plunged a knife into his bowels and then fled. The murderer in this last case is unknown, and may probably remain so if he and his companion have wit enough to keep their mouths shut. It will be seen, however, that the tendency to commit murder in San Francisco is rapidly extending itself, and that the practical abolition of punishment for that crime is making it very difficult for inoffensive people even to walk the streets without endangering their lives.

THE CASE OF THE PONCAS.

The proceedings between the Ponca chiefs and the Secretary of the Interior are not altogether devoid of mystery. The public are asked to accept the statement that they have been deceived by false representations in regard to the situation of the Ponca Indians, yet to what extent these alleged misrepresentations go is not stated. It cannot be forgotten that Secretary Schurz himself, in several annual reports, has expressly admitted that great wrong had been done to this tribe. There is not, in fact, a shadow of doubt that they were forcibly driven from their territory in Dakota, and that they were transported to a reservation consisting of barren lands so badly situated that a large number of the tribe died the first year from diseases contracted on the spot. It is equally susceptible of proof that the Poncas then demanded to be returned to the healthy and fertile territory from which they had been driven so cruelly and wantonly, and it is not less true that Mr. Schurz in his report of last year declared their demands to be equitable, and advised their return to their former location. It is well known that several public-spirited and humane men in Boston and elsewhere took up the cause of the Poncas, and that through their instrumentality proceedings were instituted against the Government to establish the title of these Indians to the lands from which they had been evicted. And though the Courts have not yet adjudicated the question, the opinions of several jurists of national reputation have been expressed to the effect that the Indian title was good, and that they could and ought to obtain a verdict. To the non-judicial mind it would certainly appear that the case of the Poncas was a strong one. The Government had made a solemn treaty with them, under the provisions of which certain lands were ceded to them in perpetuity. On these lands they had established themselves, and had made many permanent improvements. They were a peaceful, industrious, intelligent tribe, causing no apprehensions to white settlers, and it was evident that if they were unmolested they would in a few years settle down quietly to agricultural occupations. The real motive of their removal has never appeared, but for some unexplained reasons it pleased the agents of the Indian Bureau to evict them, and this step was taken entirely without their consent, in opposition to their most earnest remonstrances, and in defiance of their rights under the treaty. But now, after they have suffered untold pain and misery, it is exultantly stated by the Indian Bureau that they only want to be let alone where they are; that they prefer the poor and insalubrious lands on to which they were forced, to the rich and pleasant territory from which they were driven; that they look upon their Boston friends as pestilent intermeddlers, and upon the Government which has done them so much injury, as their friends; and last, though not least astonishing, that they are eager to accept a proffer of $140,000 in settlement of their claims to lands which are admitted to be worth at least $900,000. It must be admitted that this sudden and unexpected change in the attitude of the Poncas ought not to be accepted without full explanation, and that the statements of their chiefs at Washington ought to be very carefully examined and verified before being acted upon.

Under the circumstances we regard it as very fortunate that the President has appointed a special Commission of experienced army officers and business men, to make a separate investigation of the case, and we are convinced that this Commission will find it necessary to look very closely into the representations of the Ponca Chiefs. It appears that out of the sum of $140,000 which the Government proposes to expend in various ways upon the tribe, a certain amount of $10,000 is to be distributed in cash to the heads of families. It is intimated that this money would naturally come into the possession of the Chiefs, and there are some people so uncharitable as to believe that these latter may have been induced to favor the Government proposition through their desire to get hold of this money. Certainly the position they now take is not a rational one. Why should they be willing to give up property valued at $900,000 for $140,000? Why, indeed, should the Government try to cozen them out of their heritage by making them an offer so disproportionate to their equities? Is it thus that the United States ought to proceed when the question before it is as to the redress of notorious wrongs committed by its own agents? Does Secretary Schurz believe that his administration is likely to be exalted by obtaining such a victory in finesse over a handful of poor Indians? The Poncas have suffered wrong enough at the hands of the Government. Surely it is neither necessary nor seemly that they should be subjected to an additional wrong in the form of chicanery? It is possible that the Ponca chiefs are accessible to bribery, and that the expectation of obtaining a few thousand dollars may have induced them to abandon their claims. But assuredly the Government of a great nation ought not to be concerned in any such sharp practice, and if the special Commission discovers that the real wishes of the tribe have not been truthfully stated, it will be its duty to report against the proposed compromise. In fact, in any case, the Poncas ought to be allowed to make the best they can out of their claims. Even if they are content to remain where they are they are entitled to the full value of the lands from which they were unlawfully ousted. The Indian Bureau should not be permitted to hoodwink and cheat them under any pretext, and we trust that the Commission will protect their rights to the utmost, no matter who may wish to force this iniquitous bargain to a consummation.

THE PROSPECTIVE SACK OF LIMA.

It appears almost certain that in a short time we shall be able to lay before our readers graphic accounts of the capture and sack of Lima. The Chilean army is slowly but steadily advancing on the doomed capital of Peru, and the announcement has already been made that as soon as it is taken the city will be delivered over to the troops for pillage. What this means we suppose everybody understands. It means that rape and murder, robbery and arson, outrages and cruelties of every description that a savage and intoxicated soldiery can invent, will be committed; that neither sex nor age will be spared; that all the devilish and brutal passions of the conquerors will be given free scope; that there will be neither pity nor help for the victims; and that when the sack is over Lima will probably be committed to the flames, together with the remains of her butchered inhabitants. This is what the sack of a city has always involved, and as the Chileans are little better than savages, and are moreover deeply exasperated against their enemies, it must be expected that they will be quite as brutal and ferocious as it is possible for victorious troops in such a situation to be. At this spectacle Christendom also will look calmly on, and it will not occur to any of its members that any obligations rested upon them in the premises. Of this peculiar composition is that modern "civilization" of which it is customary to boast.

PACIFIC COAST ITEMS.

There are about 250 Piutes at Truckee Reservation.

Lone Pine, Inyo county, reports a case of small-pox.

The Bear river dam has been accepted by the State authorities.

The Nevada State Printing Office is about ready for business.

The Carson (Nev.) *Daily Appeal* proposes to publish a weekly edition.

In Salt Lake county, Utah, there are 20,291 natives and 11,687 foreigners.

The Piutes take large quantities of Truckee trout to Winnemucca, Nev.

Dr. Schultz, of Hollister, owns a tract of land 60 by 90 leagues in Lower California.

The Willows *Journal* says that the small-pox has entirely disappeared from that section.

Violets, tube-roses and the loveliest varieties of flowers are in full bloom in Santa Barbara.

The San Juan *Times* says that there is a prospect of a railroad being built from Marysville to that place.

A whole family named Chase were accidently poisoned near Port Kenyon last week, but are recovering.

A petrified woman has been found in Cascade lake, Nevada. The relic is small, scrawny, brown and hideous.

The business of the Hollister Postoffice for the year 1880 shows a decided increase over that of any previous year.

Thomas J. Tennant is stocking the streams of Nevada with catfish, under the direction of Fish Commissioner Parker.

Several instances of teams miring down in the roads, and being with difficulty extracted, are reported from parts of Tehama county.

The rabbits about Walla Walla, W. T., are so fat that they are unable to run in the snow, and the fleet-footed Klickitat youths catch them alive.

The Litton Springs, Sonoma county, teacher, whose horse was shampooed and painted like a zebra, has sued the parents of some of the bad boys for damages.

The proceedings in the election contest for Assemblyman in Monterey county—Sargent against Kilburn—have been dismissed and the contest abandoned by Sargent.

An emigrant train of eight teams and about 300 head of horses and 500 head of cattle passed through San Diego recently from Ventura county, en route to Sonora, Mexico.

Workmen engaged in boring for water in the Wimmera district, Victoria, B. C., claim to have brought up fruit-stones from a tree which they discovered at a depth of 250 feet.

Sierra county contains 6,623 people, classified as follows: Males, 4,740; females, 1,883; native, 3,457; foreign, 3,196; white, 5,338; Chinese, 1,250; Indians, 12; negroes, 23.

Mr. Skibbe of The Dalles, Oregon, made a bet of $200 that he would be married in a month, and lost the bet because the freeze-up kept his intended and he apart until the month was up.

The *Sun* says the Colusa levee is completed, and thinks it is all right for the winter. The levee will stand twenty-seven feet raise, and the *Sun* says twenty-five feet is the highest Colusa has ever had.

The summit cut on the O. R. & N. Co. grade between the Touchet and Tukannon is 1,000 feet long and 26½ feet deep at the deepest point. It is made 35 feet wide at the bottom, so as to admit the use of side tracks.

The population of the five counties of Eastern Oregon—Baker, Grant, Umatilla, Union and Wasco—as rendered at the last census, was 35,247. There are eleven papers published in the same section, or one for every 3,204 of population.

A nine months' old daughter of L. Strosser, a German resident of Hillsboro, Or., died recently from being poisoned by tobacco, she having eaten, as is supposed, the stump of a cigar. The little one was taken very suddenly ill and died in spasms, after three or four days' suffering.

There is a well on the line of the N. P. R. R., situated about twenty-two miles from Ainsworth, W. T., which is 127 feet deep. The singularity about the well is that it is frozen up. Not only is there ice in the well, but it is froze so hard down there that a fine force pump was broken.

The Chico *Recorder* says: Beavers have appeared in considerable numbers on Butte creek, near Durham station. They have constructed several dams across the stream near the wagon road bridge, and their signs are plainly seen for three or four miles below. A few days since one man killed three with dogs.

The Salt Lake *Tribune* says: Several rounds of granite have been placed on the Mormon Temple this year by workmen who have scarcely seen cash enough to buy a tin whistle. The Lord's representatives in Zion pocket the money and feed the honest laborer on cabbage, carrots and shinbones.

The Las Vegas (N. M.), *Optic* says that a desperado named William Bonney is now at the head of twenty-five well-armed men in the neighborhood of Fort Sumner. He is possessed of considerable talent, and is one of the best shots in the country. He spent a number of years in Southern New Mexico and Arizona.

Two drunken fellows were put off the train near Alamosa, New Mexico, recently. One of them made his way back and reported that his partner had frozen to death. An engine was run out to look for the man, and it ran over him about a mile out. It is not known whether the man was dead before the engine struck him or not.

The hunters are said to be playing sad havoc among the buffalo in the Yellowstone region, Montana. Green hides are worth $2 each at any of the stations and $1 50 piled upon the ranch, and men are employed by the month to hunt and skin buffalo. Seventy-five dollars per month is paid, and all the loose men in the country are said to be employed. Some of them make $25 per day.

Travel has been fearful from the Salmon river to Idaho. The stage was 36 hours crossing the desert. Night overtook them, and the driver unhitched the horses, and in company with the single passenger, struck out for Snake river, but failed to make it. They scraped the snow away from the sage brush, and after repeated attempts, succeeded in building a fire. The thermometer was so low that the two men had to dance around the fire all night to keep from freezing.

The Victoria (B. C.) *Standard* says that a considerable extent of fertile land is situated at the head of the Alberni canal, Vancouver Island. The best authorities agree in estimating the amount of this land, easily available for agricultural purposes, at about 50,000 acres; but there is much more that could be brought into use by clearing off the timber. The character of the land alluded to is mostly deep black soil, covered with a luxuriant growth of fern, with scattered clumps of alder.

Says the Seattle, (W. T.) *Intelligencer*: J. M. Flowers, of Skagit, informs us that the country around the mouth of that river and the Stillaguamish slough is all under water to a depth of from five to six feet. The water is higher than was ever known before, and is doing a great deal of damage. A great deal of stock was caught by the flood and drowned before they could be driven to higher land. The big dam near the mouth of the Stillaguamish slough has been carried away. This piece of work cost, when completed, about $2,000, and now is a total wreck.

The rules of contrary: The Vicar—"Well, Mrs. Smith, tell your husband that I do hope he will come to church next Sunday." Mrs. S.—"Ah, you don't know Smith, sir! 'E'd never go if I told 'un that there. I'd tell 'un as you do 'ope as 'e wunt."—[London Fun.

TELEGRAPHIC.

LAST NIGHT'S DISPATCHES TO THE RECORD-UNION.

GREAT STORM IN THE EAST.

Railroad Traffic Impeded and Shipping Damaged.

PACIFIC COAST POSTAL CHANGES.

A Wealthy Coloradan Dashed to Death by a Runaway Team.

PRINCIPAL POINTS OF THE CHINESE TREATIES.

A Young Man Shot and Killed by His Brother.

MISCELLANEOUS FOREIGN NEWS ITEMS.

Terrible Accident in Ontario—Four Persons Killed.

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

DOMESTIC NEWS.

The Chinese Treaties—Principal Points Foreshadowed.

WASHINGTON, December 26th.—Official advices have been received by mail from Pekin, bearing dates about a week previous to the conclusion of the three treaties signed in that city on the 17th ultimo, but foreshadowing their principal points to an extent which, in connection with the official telegrams received last month, fully corroborate the statement heretofore telegraphed concerning them in these special dispatches, and also quite clearly outlined some additional interesting particulars. The precise language and minor details of the new treaty on the subject of immigration will not be known here in advance of the receipt of the document, but it may confidently be expected to contain, as the main provision stipulates, substantially as follows: The Emperor of China consents that whenever, in the opinion of the United States, the coming hither of Chinese laborers, or their residence in this country, affect, or threaten to affect, injuriously the interests of the United States, then the United States Government may regulate, limit or suspend such coming or residence in such manner as the United States may deem proper. It will be noticed that this form of provision, while giving Congress practically full control over Mongolian immigration, does not involve an absolute and perpetual prohibition, which the Emperor might consider offensive. The treaty, according to the latest foreshadowing, still contains some express stipulation permitting Chinese to come here as teachers, students and merchants, and for the purpose of travel, curiosity or pleasure, and it will also probably reiterate, perhaps in some strengthening form, the existing treaty guarantee of protection for subjects of China now in this country. The commercial treaty will provide, as a matter of permanent agreement, that Chinese vessels and cargoes and American vessels and cargoes shall not be subject in either country to any discriminating duties. It is understood that this treaty will, in its general features, closely resemble the existing treaties with other nations, but the remaining details are not known. Commissioner Trescott is expected in Washington with the two treaties by the 8th or 10th of January.

Great Storm in the East.

NEW YORK, December 26th.—A heavy northeasterly gale, accompanied by snow and sleet, set in at an early hour this morning, and still continues.

At Sandy Hook this evening the wind is blowing 68 miles an hour, and disasters to shipping are apprehended.

FREDERICKSBURG (Va.), December 26th.—A severe northeast storm of hail and snow has raged since early last evening. The Southern fast mail passed two hours late, and other trains are considerably detained. The Baltimore steamer approached within eight miles, but was compelled to return on account of ice. The country roads are badly blockaded by snow and ice, and communication is very difficult in all directions. The early winter has not been characterized by such severe weather for many years.

LEWES (Del.), December 26th.—A heavy gale set in here yesterday evening and still continues. The wind changed at 4 o'clock this morning to the northwest, and increased in violence. The bark W. T. Harward, here for orders, is high upon the beach above the railroad pier, and the little side-wheel steamer Wanderer, from New York bound south, has gone to pieces near the iron pier. The crews of both are safe. But few vessels are in the harbor, and no further disasters have been heard of. This is the severest gale since the one in October, 1877, at which time so many vessels foundered in the harbor. The gale has been accompanied by a heavy rain until 3 o'clock this afternoon, when it changed to a blinding snow-storm, which still continues, the wind changing to the northeast.

Pacific Coast Postal Changes.

WASHINGTON, December 26th.—The following postal changes for the Pacific coast are announced: Postmasters appointed—James Mitchell, Big Pine, Inyo county, California; Frank Bonnalta, Buchanan, Fresno county, California; Jas. C. Peacock, Jr., Colton, San Bernardino county, California; James H. Harding, Compton, Los Angeles county, California; Ephraim B. Tucker, Erie, San Benito county, California; Charles Warfield, Firebaughs, Fresno county, California; Benon O. Webb, Florence, Los Angeles county, California; David F. Carter, Limekiln, Tulare county, California; Wm. H. D. Raymond, Norodell, Tulare county, California; John Schmitt, Ortegalito, Merced county, California; R. D. Brown, Perno, Mendocino county, California; A. H. Dunlap, Rancheto, Los Angeles county, California; Charles H. Matthews, Soledad, Monterey county, California; John W. Tilley, Rock, Yolo county, California; James H. Swift, Coveland, Island county, Washington Territory. Office discontinued—Pacific, Yuma county, Arizona.

Westward-Bound Passengers.

OMAHA, December 25th.—The following through passengers were on to-day's train, leaving at 12:30 P. M., to arrive in Sacramento December 29th: Mrs. Dr. M. N. Rogers, Will S. Rogers, Marysville, California; Captain J. B. Whitten, Plymouth, Massachusetts; Frederick B. Taylor, Carrie Frances Taylor, Col. Charles E. Traverse, Mrs. S. W. Fuller, Master Henry Fuller, San Francisco; Master Geo. Fred. Foye, Master Rupert Foye, Montreal; Alexander Walker, Canada; Mrs. A. T. Thornton, Mrs. M. F. Templeton and two children, Indiana; W. De Willamon, Washington.

OMAHA, December 26th.—The following through passengers were on to-day's train, leaving at 12:15 P. M., to arrive in Sacramento December 30th: Mrs. Turner and daughter, Mrs. McMills, Fort Caldwell; Mr. and Mrs. Cummings, Oakland; Hiram Welch, Maine; W. W. Whitney, Toledo; Annie Lochsen, New York.

The President and the Oklahoma Colonists.

WASHINGTON, December 26th.—Robert M. Wilson, agent of the Payne Oklahoma colonists, succeeded Saturday in securing an interview with the President. Wilson was accompanied by "Colonel" Bourdinot, a half-breed, who acted as spokesman. The President received Wilson courteously, and after hearing his story frankly but bluntly replied that during the session of Congress he would take no action whatever in the direction of anything like an abrogation of the treaty. The Attorney-General had, after careful consideration of this subject, rendered an opinion which for the present must stand as the construction of the law. In the meantime, however, the President said if Wilson can bring forward any valid reasons for so doing, the Attorney-General might review his opinion.

Murder of a Young Man by His Brother.

UTICA (N. Y.) December 26th.—Henry Ostrander, aged 29, shot and killed his brother, George Lyman Ostrander, aged 26, at their home near Camden, in this county. Henry was jealous because his little sister Carrie was caressing his brother. He spit tobacco-juice into her face, and George warned him to stop. Henry shot George through the eye, killing him instantly. Henry says George had his pistol half-cocked, but he was too quick for him. He says George was trying to ruin the whole family.

The Ohio Homicide.

TOLEDO (O.), December 26th.—General R. K. Scott, who shot and killed W. G. Drury at Napoleon, O., yesterday morning, was last night taken to Defiance for safekeeping, in consequence of the excitement and strength of feeling against him at the former place. The preliminary examination takes place tomorrow morning. The evidence thus far indicates that the deed was committed in a fit of anger, caused by the refusal of Drury to admit Scott to a room over the drug store, to which Drury had taken a son of Scott's, whom he had found upon the street in an intoxicated condition. General Scott entered the army during the late war as Lieutenant-Colonel of the Sixty-eighth Ohio Infantry, and rose to the rank of Brigadier General of Volunteers. He was appointed Provisional Governor of South Carolina by President Johnson, and was afterwards elected Governor. He has resided at Napoleon since 1874.

Death of a Journalist.

NEW YORK, December 26th.—Jerome B. Stillson, a well known journalist on the metropolitan press, died of Bright's disease of the kidneys yesterday afternoon at the St. Denis Hotel, aged nearly 40 years. He was born at Buffalo, N. Y.

Senator Blaine Going to Europe.

WASHINGTON, December 26th.—Blaine is preparing for a European tour of eight months, leaving this country in March and returning next November. He would go in February if it were not for the close vote in the Senate.

The Secretaryship of the Navy.

CHICAGO, December 26th.—The *Tribune's* Washington special says it is reported that General Wickham, of Virginia, has been tendered the Secretaryship of the Navy, and it is believed that his appointment would hold good under Garfield.

A Fatal Runaway.

DENVER (Col.), December 26th.—John Hittson, one of the wealthiest and best known cattle men of the West, was killed yesterday at the East Bijou, near Deer Trail, at his home, by being thrown from a carriage by a runaway team.

FOREIGN.

The Trouble in Ireland.

DUBLIN, December 26th.—A circular of the Magistrates in reply to Forster's circular states that the Magistrates are unable to carry out the law, owing to terrorism.

A farmer's house at Portadown has been maliciously burned.

The Monaghan Anti-League Association has issued a manifesto calling on loyal men to combine for mutual defense, and to combat the hateful teachings of the Land League.

The Land League meeting which was to be held in Barris, in Ossory, Sunday, was prohibited. Both military and police were present to enforce the prohibition.

There was a riot Saturday in Dublin between soldiers and civilians. The police separated the combatants.

The *Gazette* publishes a proclamation prohibiting a meeting at Athgreny, Wicklow, Sunday, which was called for the purpose of denouncing a certain individual.

The *Gazette* declares the county of Limerick to be in a disturbed state, requiring additional police.

At Cork to-day, on the police ordering a disorderly crowd to disperse, a volley was fired at the police from revolvers. A policeman was shot, but not mortally wounded.

STARTLING RUMOR.

NEW YORK, December 26th.—The *World's* London special says: There is a great commotion in the War Office, in consequence of a rumor that the Dublin mail-bag has been intercepted by Fenians on the way to London, and rifled of its contents. Whether there is any truth in the rumor or not, it is certain that the War Office authorities have received no letters from Ireland since Thursday.

LONDON EXCITED.

The crisis in the Transvaal, coupled with the crisis in Ireland, has raised the excitement in London to an almost unprecedented pitch. Nothing else is talked about in places of public resort, and scarcely anything else is thought about by thoughtful people but the grave troubles which beset the Government on every side.

The Rebellious Boers.

DURBAN, December 26th.—The Boers fired on a detachment on the Pretoria and Lydenburg road under cover of a flag of truce. At Potchefstroom the greatest excitement prevails. Four persons have been murdered.

LONDON, December 26th.—A correspondent at Durban reports that the wagons which a detachment of the Ninety-fourth Regiment was in charge of got into a swamp, and all hands laid aside their arms to extricate them. The Boers suddenly appeared and demanded their surrender. The soldiers rushed for their arms, but before they were able to defend themselves they were shot down.

While a Boer was attempting to hoist a republican flag at Potchefstroom he was shot by a British officer, whom the Boers immediately shot dead.

The four persons reported to have been murdered at Potchefstroom were a commandant of the Cape mounted police and three civilians. They were brutally murdered in the midst of an assembly of 3,000 Boers.

A driver of the post cart was murdered and the mail-bag carried off.

Another report says the Boers were shelled at Potchefstroom and a hundred killed and many wounded.

LONDON, December 26th.—A Durban dispatch reports that the Boers have given notice that they will seize a certain town on a specified day.

LONDON, December 26th.—The authorities at Cape Town have communicated further with the home authorities in regard to reinforcements, and it is probable that two regiments of cavalry, two of infantry and two batteries of artillery will be sent to the Transvaal.

The Government Arraigned.

LONDON, December 26th.—The disaster in the Transvaal is almost universally ascribed to official blundering, and the number of those who ascribe the trouble in Ireland to the same cause is by no means small. It is openly charged that the Natal authorities were long aware of a contemplated rising by the Dutch Boers, and that they paid no heed to the repeated warnings, and took no precautions to protect themselves. When the storm broke it is charged that they were utterly unprepared to meet it, and the result of course could be nothing else but shameful defeat and disaster. The Home Government has decided, as usual, when it is too late, to send military aid to the colonists of Natal. They were asked to do this some time ago, but the request was put aside until now. The Sixth Dragoons, it is announced, will be sent to Natal in a few days, with instructions to report to the commandant at Durban. The flower of the army is rapidly leaving England for the inhospitable shores of Ireland and Africa.

Disastrous Floods.

NICOSIA, December 26th.—Sixty houses have been destroyed by floods at Limasol. Eighty persons were killed, and damage to the amount of £70,000 done.

Snow-Storm in Scotland.

LONDON, December 26th.—A great snow-storm prevailed in the north of Scotland from Friday until this morning. A number of trains are embedded in snow-banks and traffic is stopped.

Camels Recaptured.

LONDON, December 26th.—A dispatch from St. Petersburg reports that the Russians have retaken, with the loss of 20 killed, the 2,000 camels that were recently captured by the Turcomans.

The Slosson-Vignaux Return Match.

PARIS, December 26th.—The return match between Slosson and Vignaux for 20,000 francs is talked of to be played in New York, but Vignaux does not want to cross the Atlantic.

Terrible Accident—Four Persons Killed and Two Injured.

LUCAN (Ont.), December 26th.—A party of six were returning late Christmas night from visiting friends in the township of McGillivray, when, upon approaching the railway track, the horses bolted, and their sleigh was struck by a train of the London, Huron and Bruce Railway, near Clandeboye station. James McGrath, his wife and brother Matthew, and Ellen Blake, a cousin, were instantly killed. McGrath's child, 13 months old, was dangerously hurt, but may recover. The sixth, named Annie McGrath, saved herself by jumping.

MINT STATISTICS.

The report of the Director of the Mint shows that during the last fiscal year there was deposited in the Mints, for coinage, nearly $100,000,000 worth of gold; but two-fifths of that sum remained uncoined at the end of the year, because the Mints were kept busy coining silver dollars to put away in the Treasury vaults. Gold is practically the monetary standard in this country, as it is in international transactions, and for the gold coin the Treasury and the banks and the public have use. For the silver, beyond what is wanted for small change, the country has no use, and of the $72,000,000 in standard silver dollars thus far coined, $48,000,000 remain in the Treasury vaults, only a portion of which is represented in the circulation by certificates. An abundance of silver was deposited at the Mints for coinage on private account to meet the demand for silver coin, yet the Treasury was obliged by the present law to purchase, in addition to the private deposits, nearly $25,000,000 worth of silver, and coin it to be put away, to the exclusion of $38,000,000 of gold, deposited on private account, and for the coinage of which there was actually some reason. It doesn't require much argument to show a man who is open to conviction that the Mints should be allowed to make the gold coins that are wanted, instead of the silver coins that are not wanted.

An old fellow, who seldom draws a sober breath, was told that he would ultimately fill a drunkard's grave unless he mended his ways. "Well," said he, "I s'pose it will be all right. Somebody must fill drunkards' graves, or else there wouldn't be any use digging 'em."

LECTURE BY DR. DWINELL.

An Interesting Glance Over the Present East and South.

Rev. Dr. Dwinell gave a lecture last evening at the Congregational Church before a large audience, upon the changed and present condition of society, the country, and affairs at the East, as observed during his recent visit, after a residence of many years upon this coast. The lecture was interesting throughout, and received close attention. The speaker took as an initial point for his report from viewing the landscape o'er, Elijah's command to his servant upon Mount Carmel, when looking for rain after three years of drought, as mentioned in 1 Kings, xviii, 43: "Go up now, look toward the sea." He prefaced his lecture by saying that Agassiz says a serpent *sees*, a tortoise *looks*, that there is a higher intelligence back of the eye of the tortoise, enabling it to use its sight for a purpose, and measure and estimate what it sees, while the serpent perceives what is before it without observing it. Elijah wished his servant to go up, and observe what he saw, and bring back a report to others of the joyful indications. The speaker grouped in a general way the results of his observations at the East and South under four general heads: Industrial condition, Reconstruction, Institutions and Religion. The following is a brief synopsis:

INDUSTRIAL CONDITION.

One would not suppose there would be noticeable changes in the general industrial aspect of the country and towns of New England in twenty years, but there have been great changes. The carpenter, painter, gardner and florist, and the skilled agriculturist have been abroad all over New England, in every village and mountain town, and left their work. There are places where small farms have been absorbed in larger ones, and others where native Americans have sold out to Irish or Canadian farmers, in which neat homesteads have given place to untidiness, but the foreigners are rapidly adopting the general habits of neatness and comforts of those about them. On the whole the industrial aspect of New England is greatly improved and is improving. Although more than a million of her sons have migrated to other States, leaving only about four millions behind, those remaining are warmly attached to her, and in no way disposed to let her lose her position of influence in the nation. They have dotted her streams with manufactures, strung her valleys with villages as pearls, covered her hills and slopes with thrift and comfort as those adorning a heritage for a thousand years, and filled her cities with commerce, trade, art, culture and philosophy, as if that were the center of the world, and all men were to learn of them. To the eye there is no blight in New England, in what she raises, makes or enjoys. There is no appearance that she has passed the meridian and is on the decline. Excelsior! you see on the farms, villages and cities, and in the will, spirit and genius of her native sons. Her manufactories, mills and various productive industries are running at their topmost speed. Never, as I was told at the carpet manufactory and the Hamilton print works in Lowell, have they done better, or having more orders ahead. A similar hopeful industrial aspect also appears all along the New England belt, from the Hudson river to the Rocky Mountains, only varied when a population of other antecedents and tastes are in the ascendent. The swift improvements of the newer States are wonderful. There are towns in Ohio, Michigan, Iowa, Minnesota and Kansas to-day that have more of the genius of New England than certain towns in New England itself.

The industrial

"OUTLOOK IN THE SOUTH,"

Was by no means so promising. I passed across Virginia, from Washington to Bristol, in the Southwest, and the appearance of things suggested a disheartened or thriftless people. The country west of Washington, till we reached the valley of Virginia, looked as if it were occupied, rather than owned, and as if the occupants felt little interest in the land, homes or villages. The valley of Virginia appeared better, and East Tennessee much better still; but it will be many years before the mixed population of the South, as a whole, will give much attention to beautifying their homes and farms, streets and towns. They seem content with their present physical and social necessities. Still, they are gaining in confidence, and some show a decided spirit of improvement. In East Tennessee I saw a white man and a colored man sowing wheat with a patent drill, which deposited the seed and along with it at the same time a stream of phosphates. I observed that the white man drove the horses and the colored man attended the machine, but in other respects they worked and conversed as if on terms of equality.

RECONSTRUCTION.

The whites of the old school and hereditary prejudices are inclined to be gloomy or skeptical about the prospect of reconstruction. To them there is no hope of elevating the colored race. In their eyes they are going down, improvident and spoiled by their freedom and the very efforts made to raise them. One man told me in Nashville—an intelligent Christian, one of the last men I would have expected to be carried away by prejudice—that of the 15,000 colored people in that city 12,000 were living off from whites by stealing and other irregularities; that they support their ministers by plundering their employers; that his own servant girl had been caught by the police carrying soap and other articles stolen from his house to her pastor, and that with a large part of them all their warm, emotional piety has no connection with morals. Another gentleman who had labored among the blacks in the South remarked in my hearing in Boston, that it was customary in some places for the colored men to go to drinking places "to fire up," as they expressed it, for religious meetings, and that in one case eight colored deacons were carried home from meeting, drunk, in one wagon. Doubtless in many instances liberty is abused. The colored people must be superior to human nature if it is not so; but, as a class, they are beginning to improve their physical condition. This is the general testimony, and the leaven of a higher kind of educational and moral influence is beginning to work. Some of their numbers have already been educated and are raising the standard of the ministry. Already also the colored children that have had the advantage of the better class of schools are more intelligent than the old-time ministers, and the ministers themselves are beginning to feel the need of more preparation. The colored people are feeling the moral need, and thoughtful persons who reflect how slow and difficult an undertaking it is to lift up a race socially, think that as much progress has been made as could have been expected with the moral help that has been given them.

THE ASPECT OF THE FREEDMEN

In East and Middle Tennessee is bright and cheerful compared with the times of slavery, and compared favorably with the worried or depressed look of many of the whites. I was at Chattanooga on the day of the Presidential election and visited the polls, and was struck to see the cheerful, confident, bold bearing of the modern voters as they thronged about the ballot-box. One of them went up to the window with an open Republican vote, which looked very different from the Democratic ballot, held it high up in sight of all, gave his name, and when his ballot was dropped into the box said, "There goes a good Democratic vote." The only persons who seemed uncomfortable and ill at ease about the polls were those who felt it their duty to watch these new citizens, and see that there was no illegal voting. I saw nothing in Tennessee to show that the colored people were not in possession of their rights, and that the way upward is not fairly open to them. Chattanooga, however, is a Republican city, and Tennessee this year elected a Republican Governor.

The Fish University, Baptist College and other schools visited at Nashville, show good advancement of the colored students, but there is great need of multiplying Christian schools and colleges among them. What is done for their elevation must be largely from the North, for the Southerners are not in sympathy with the higher learning for colored people, and regard it as an attempt to force them out of their sphere, and make them discontented. They look on with cold or sarcastic criticism, and are ready to say with every discouragement and failure, "I told you so." Even Christians who are sending the Gospel to the heathen, seem to have no confidence in race elevation by the Gospel at their own doors.

As for the white people I think they are generally glad slavery is abolished. They are not responsible for it, however, they think, and are going to look coldly on and see how the experiment comes out. They are ready, if by any wonder colored people or the race can leap up into honesty and virtue, industry and a consistent religious piety, to give them a welcome and speak well of them. Their hearts and hands are ready for a regenerated people, but they know nothing of showing any help or