THE EVENING CRITIC.

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THE AFGHAN DISPUTE

GENERAL KOMAROFF TELLS WHY HE OCCUPIED PENJDEH.

The Czar Expresses an Earnest Hope for Peace—Mr. Gladstone Replies That England Wishes the Same—The Question to be Decided by the Ameer

LONDON, April 16.—Dispatches from St Petersburg say the latest advices received from General Komoroff by the Russian War Office, contain the information that after the fight of March 30 on the Kushk River, the Afghans evacuated Penjdeh and fled in the direction of Herat, and that he has since been compelled to occupy Penjdeh in order to prevent the place from falling into the hands of anarchists and pillagers, who had already begun to make incursions, and had looted and burned portions of the city.

The Czar's Message to England.

LONDON, April 16.—Baron De Staal, the Russian Ambassador, to-day received a dispatch from the Czar in which His Imperial Highness instructs the Baron to assure Mr. Gladstone and the members of the English Cabinet that he earnestly hopes that a prompt and simple arrangement will be entered into by which the present threatening aspect of affairs may be overcome, and an amicable adjustment reached of all questions in dispute.

MR. GLADSTONE'S REPLY.

Immediately on the receipt of the dispatch the Russian Minister hastened to Mr. Gladstone's office and informed him of its contents. Mr. Gladstone thereupon requested Baron De Staal to wire the Czar the hearty acceptance by both himself and his colleagues of the Czar's kindly and peaceful message, and to assure His Imperial Highness that England on her part would put forward every effort consistent with her dignity and rights to effect a peaceful settlement of the differences between the two countries.

A Brighter Outlook.

LONDON, April 16.—M. Lessar, the special envoy of the Czar, was called on by a *Central News* correspondent to-day and asked what he thought now of the prospects for peace. He said matters had improved greatly during the past forty-eight hours, and that the outlook was brighter.

THE AMEER'S CONSENT NEEDED.

"But," said he, "what England and Russia may agree to in regard to the Afghan boundary line may not please the Ameer, and serious complications may yet arise. The question of the cession of Penjdeh is not settled as yet. Certain demands made by England, which she insists must be satisfied before she will consent to the ceding of Penjdeh, may not be viewed in a favorable light by my government. Still I can frankly say that negotiations are proceeding favorably."

War With Russia to Be Averted by a Concession.

The predictions of the Tories have been fulfilled to the letter, says the London correspondent of the *Philadelphia Press*. The Liberal Ministry has made the Afghans the scapegoats for that little affair on the Kushk. They may now nurse their own wounds and fight their own battles hereafter for all of England.

It is claimed that England has not backed down. She has only agreed to maintain the status quo after conceding Penjdeh to Russia. But it is to be noticed that the status quo is one of Russia's own making; that all efforts of England to change the course of events have resulted only in courteous palaver, and that Russia has steadily pressed onward until she has obtained all that she wants just now.

All that remains for the Afghan frontier commission to do is to draw the line between those bases and monument the boundary. This could be done by any party of surveyors, as well as by such distinguished engineer officers as Generals Lumsden and Selinow. The great point of the conference was gained by the Russian experts in convincing the British conferees that the national and ethnological boundary between the two countries lay south of Penjdeh—say about thirty-five miles south. The bases agreed upon for the new boundary are said to include Zulfikar, on the Heri-Rud River; Hauzikhan, on the Kushk, and Bala, on the Murghab.

This line is, on an average, eighty miles further South than that now printed on standard maps, which begins at Sarakhs on the Heri-Rud. Of course there are stipulations, but they are not of a nature to trouble the wily diplomats of St. Petersburg to any great extent.

The whole agreement is subject to an explanation of the Kushk River affair, but that has already been explained. General Komaroff must not make any further advance, but if he be "provoked" there is no knowing what he may do. The cession of Penjdeh to Russia is conditional upon the Ameer's consent, but that potentate knows that if he should refuse he would alienate both England and Russia at once. The Ameer will reach Cabul on the 18th instant, when he will announce his decision for peace or war.

THE RIOT IN CORK.

Fewer Casualties Than Were at First Reported.

CORK, April 16.—The rioting which broke out here last night after the adjournment of the Irish Nationalists' meeting was not suppressed until 2 o'clock this morning. The streets at that hour were almost deserted.

After midnight the people began to disperse, and the police, left to deal with the rioters alone, soon had them under subjection. A large number of arrests were made. A visit to the hospitals and police stations this morning reveals the fact that the casualities are comparatively small.

Banquet of the Loyal Legion.

CHICAGO, April 16.—Last evening the Illinois Commandery of the Loyal Legion gave a banquet at the Grand Pacific Hotel to the delegates to the fifth congress of the order. Covers were laid for 215.

Toasts were responded to as follows: "The guests of the evening," Rev. Dr. Sanderson of Milwaukee; "Our Country," Major-General Joseph R. Hawley of Hartford; "The President of the United States," Captain A. C. Kemper of Ohio; "The Army," General Hincks; "The Navy," Paymaster R. L. Watt; "The Military Order of the Loyal Legion," Major William H. Lambert of Pennsylvania; "Our Youngest Commandery," Colonel H. M. Duffield of Michigan.

The Exposition Excursionists.

NEW ORLEANS, April 16.—The special train bearing the party of newspaper correspondents from Washington, arrived here at 9 o'clock this morning.

Mr. Frelinghuysen's Condition.

NEWARK, N. J., April 16.—Mr. Frelinghuysen's condition, if changed at all, is improved a trifle. His mind is clearer than for several days past.

MONEY saved is money made. Remember, Salvation Oil, the great pain-cure, costs only 25 cents.

Cashmere that is embroidered in floral designs, rings, bars, etc., is used with watered silk in some of the newest combination suits. The silk is used for the plaited skirt and the trimming of the bodice. With these costumes the Zouave and Eton bodices are popular.

GENERAL GRANT STILL IMPROVING

An Intimation That His Disease May Not Be Cancer, After All.

NEW YORK, April 16—Ex-Senator Chaffee came out of the Grant mansion at 7:25 o'clock this morning, after a brief visit, and said:

"I think the General's condition is wonderful. He seemed to me to look much better every way. His eyes were brighter when I left than they have been for some time past. We spoke of the remarkable sympathy manifested by the people all over the country, and he seemed to be very much touched. There is one thing to be said about his throat, and that is that no one can deny the fact that it was ulcerated, and very badly ulcerated too. But the question is whether it is a cancer or not. If it is there is little hope for life. If it is not a cancer then there is hope. He, I think, has now hopes of getting well."

Mr. Chaffee intimated that the physicians had made a wrong diagnosis, but he would not say so positively.

Bulletin.

NEW YORK, April 16—6:30 a. m.—General Grant has passed a very quiet night; the improved condition continues. He has slept well and naturally for seven and a-half hours, nearly continuously, taking his nourishment well at longer intervals. He feels stronger and his voice indicates it.

J. H. DOUGLAS, M. D.

AN IMPORTANT APPOINTMENT.

A New Superintendent of Government Engraving.

Secretary Manning to-day appointed John Augustus O'Neil of Hoboken, New Jersey, to be superintendent of engraving at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, vice George W. Casilear of New York, whose resignation is understood to have been requested.

The position is an important one, inasmuch as it involves the designing of all artistic work for the Government, new notes and securities, etc. The salary is $3,600. The change is said to have resulted from Secretary Manning's dissatisfaction with the artistic appearance of the notes and securities of recent issue.

Mr. O'Neil is a middle-aged man, a practical and successful engraver, and a prominent Democratic politician, having just declined a renomination as Mayor of Hoboken. He was indorsed by Senator McPherson, Congressman McAdoo and others.

THE MARKETMASTER'S REPORT.

Oleomargarine Frequently Sold in the District.

Marketmaster Buell has reported to th District Commissioners on the sale of oleomargarine and butterine. He states that the law is frequently violated in this respect by offering the stuff for sale without its being labeled. He referred to the difficulty in securing sufficient evidence to convict. He also said that it has been demonstrated that some of this material is more healthful than alleged pure butter.

He said that the oleomargarine would, in time, drive out bad butter, and people would learn that good butter to be had would have to be well-paid for.

Warrants Against the Dealers.

A warrant has been sworn out against three dealers in the Centre Market for selling alleged oleomargarine. The warrant was sworn out by George H. McKay, an officer of the market company. The parties charged are not regular butter merchants, but alleged country people. The parties charged are Margaret Riley, Auntie Pignot and Samuel Titus. The specific charge against them is "selling and offering for sale an article and substance in semblance to butter and cheese into which the oil or fat of animals entered as a component part, the said substance not having been distinctly and durably stamped, branded or marked." This is the first prosecution of the kind that has come before the courts for two years. The previous cases failed for want of proof. The particular point on which the prosecution failed was the want of evidence to show the knowledge of the defendant of the nature of the butter. It was held that the person must have personal knowledge that the butter was of the kind described in the information. The punishment is very severe for selling imitation butter, the fine being $100. The Police Court authorities say the most wonderful feature of this law is, as half of the fine goes to the informer, there has been so few prosecutions. An officer said to-day that a good deal of money could be made by some enterprising informer. McKay says he is going to claim his moiety in the event of a conviction in these cases.

THE SQUIER & CO. CASE.

Another Attempt to Show Mr. Edmonds' Connection with the Firm.

The creditors of the suspended banking firm of Squier & Co., in their endeavors to show that Commissioner Edmonds was a partner in the concern, claim to have discovered during the taking of testimony the copy of an original agreement between the parties dated September 1, 1880, by which Mr. Edmonds was to furnish the firm money for investment in army and navy pay accounts and receive one and a-half per cent. a month on the sums thus invested. This agreement had been torn up by Mr. Squier, but Jay B. Smith states that he pasted the pieces together and thus ascertained its nature. A subsequent agreement was made August 1, 1883, which was the one produced by Mr. Edmonds in his answer as the only one in force. It was also developed in the testimony that this last agreement had been materially altered at different times by the parties to it, the creditors laying great stress upon the circumstance that the alterations were made in different colored inks.

MR. EDMONDS' STATEMENT.

Commissioner Edmonds was seen by THE CRITIC reporter this afternoon. He said that the agreement that was torn up was never entered upon. It was superseded by another agreement. It was supposed at the time that the unexecuted agreement had been torn up.

"All the evidence and papers in the case are now before the courts," the Commissioner said. "There were, in fact, a number of agreements. I loaned money to Squier on his notes. When he paid the monthly interest thereupon there was practically another agreement entered upon, that is, I continue to lend him money as the settlements were made by him, he paying the equivalent of 1½ per cent. a month for the use of the money advanced. No such agreement as that torn up was ever executed."

A Patch on the Eye.

The Tombstone *Epitaph*, that was, comes out with a patch over its right eye. An injunction having been served on it by the old *Epitaph* Company to prevent it using the cognomen under which the paper thrived, the "*Epitaph*" part of the paper has been pasted over pending the result of the injunction, which will be duly heard before the courts.—[Virginia (Nev.) Enterprise.

Thurman in Private Life.

No man in office to-day adorns the service more than Allen G. Thurman adorns private life.—[Macon Telegraph.

Satin shoes and slippers are very much worn, and it is a pretty fabric for the manufacture of foot covering, for its brilliant lustre has not only the effect of showing the pretty shape of the foot, but of making it look smaller. Satin the color of the dress is most used, although black is much in favor, and what can be prettier than a pretty foot daintily shod in black satin?

MYSTERY IN ST. LOUIS

THE STRANGE DISAPPEARANCE OF A YOUNG ENGLISHMAN.

His Supposed Murderer Thought to Have Sailed From San Francisco for New Zealand—Indications That the Deed Was Committed for Money.

ST. LOUIS, April 16.—The police of St. Louis are trying to unravel the mystery with which the murder of C. A. Preller in the Southern Hotel of that city is surrounded. The latest developments tend to show that it was a murder for money committed by Dr. W. H. L. Maxwell, who, like the murdered man, is from England. Preller's friends in England have been telegraphed the news of his horrible death.

WHO PRELLER WAS.

Preller was a young Englishman about 27 or 28 years of age. His father is a merchant at No. 80 Wood-street, London, and he has an uncle in New York. He was traveling in this country for Dickson & Co., an English furniture-house. He was a wealthy and highly cultured young gentleman, of excellent character and exemplary habits. He was certainly not a drinking man.

PRELLER'S HABITS OF LIVING.

He lived well, dressed well, carried large amounts of money with him and was on a business tour through the principal cities of this country, Australia and New Zealand. Exactly what previous acquaintance existed between him and Maxwell is unknown. There is evidence, however, that Maxwell, in the character of a young surgeon seeking a location, carefully attached himself to Preller. The commencement of the intimacy between the two was at a concert given on shipboard during the voyage to this country. They both admired the same composers.

THE INTIMACY ESTABLISHED.

An hour's talk on this theme founded an intimacy between them that had strengthened to positive friendship before the vessel came in sight of Boston Harbor. They put up at the Adams House together. It was Maxwell's first visit to America. In free confidence with his new acquaintance he said that he was an English baronet, but unfortunately a poor one. He could not afford to live in a style commensurate with his rank. He had studied at Oxford, taken his degree as medical doctor and was resolved to earn his living.

BEGINNING OF A BREACH.

Preller left Maxwell idling in Boston, and made a trip to Canada and the West. When he returned to Boston, he found that Maxwell had become infatuated with a young woman employed as waitress in a restaurant, and was not only wasting time, but squandering his money for her amusement. Preller did not know that his friend was a married man, but he disapproved of the intimacy he had formed. It had been arranged that the young men should go to New York together. Preller had promised to introduce Maxwell to some of his relatives and personal friends there. But Maxwell asked a little time and promised to follow Preller to New York in a few days. Finally it was agreed that they should meet in St. Louis. Maxwell proposed to accompany Preller to San Francisco and thence to New Zealand, if a remittance expected from England should reach him in time.

PRELLER'S DISAPPEARANCE.

So they met in the Southern Hotel, Maxwell having arrived first, on the last day of March. Preller disappeared on Easter Sunday. That evening Maxwell, a little tipsy with champagne, announced that his friend had gone to the country for a few days, and that he would pay for the room occupied by Preller's trunk. The next day Maxwell shipped a trunk and was seen no more, but no suspicion was aroused till a week's absence and a horrible smell attracted the attention of the hotel people to the room. Then followed the discovery of the corpse believed to be Preller's, and other discoveries indicating that Maxwell had chloroformed his companion on the 6th of April and slipped away the next day, leaving the trunks in the rooms to ward off suspicion and investigation as long as possible.

THE TRACES OF MAXWELL.

Maxwell has been traced to the ticket office where he purchased a ticket for San Francisco and left on the night of the 6th. Chief Harrigan of the St. Louis police last night received the following dispatch from the San Francisco chief:

"Maxwell sailed from here on Sunday last. He took passage on the steamer City of Sydney for Auckland, New Zealand. He registered by the name of George Desquire."

Chief Harrigan, upon receipt of the above, telegraphed the San Francisco authorities to use all the means at their command to effect the capture of the fugitive, and he informed them that the city of St. Louis would bear the expense incurred, as well as pay a liberal reward for the capture. It is now believed that Maxwell will be arrested upon his arrival at Auckland.

A MOTIVE SUGGESTED.

It has been learned that two or three days before the murder Maxwell was in great need of money, and that he attempted to pawn his watch and stereopticon apparatus and views, but failed.

A DUDE'S WIT.

A Recent Occurrence in a Fourteenth Street Car.

There was a scene in a Fourteenth-street car a short time ago that did not reflect very creditably upon one of the actors therein. That actor was a young naval officer of the genus dude. The car was crowded. People were swinging on to the straps. Among the swinging ones were several ladies. Only two men were seated. One of them was the dude naval duck. Another was a friend of the duck. The aquatic dude was talking very pompously. He was next to the fare-box. A lady entered. She worked her way up towards the box. When near the dude she stopped. With difficulty the lady got a nickel out of her pocket. She handed it to the dude's friend, who in turn offered it to the dude. Did the latter take it and deposit it in the box? Not much.

He leaned back, put his thumbs in the armholes of his vest, and looking the lady full in the face said: "The lady owes me nothing." He is a great man.

PERSONAL MENTION.

—Mr. W. W. Anderson of the *Elizabethtown (Ky.) News* is in the city.

—Mr. Blaine will leave Washington for Augusta as soon as the weather becomes warmer.

—Vice-President Hendricks is expected to visit this week the Confederate Bazar which is being held in Baltimore.

—Rev. Wilbur Watkins, formerly rector of Epiphany Church, and now of Holy Trinity Church, New York, is in the city.

—General A. F. Clark and wife, U. S. A.; Medical-Director Edwin Shippen, Commodore D. L. Braine, Captain Wm. E. Fitzhugh, U. S. N., will spend a few days at the Ebbitt.

—It is understood that Miss Van Vechten will return to her home in New York this week. Miss Cleveland has decided not to leave Washington this summer, but will stay with her brother.

—It is stated that Mr. Blaine has given up the lease of the Windom house, to take effect in June, and that he will leave for Augusta as soon as the warm weather sets in. He is now devoting about four hours a day to his literary work.

Wines—Go to Chr. Xander, who has a fine lot of imported and domestic. Also his well-known Virginia claret. Get it at 911 Seventh street northwest.

EMANCIPATION DAY.

How Its Twenty-second Anniversary Was Celebrated To-day.

To-day, the 16th of April, is the twenty-second anniversary of the issuance of the proclamation by President Lincoln, which, in 1863, emancipated the slaves in the District of Columbia. Four thousand slaves were set free by that proclamation. The owners of the slaves were compensated by receiving $300 for each person from whom the shackles of bondage were stricken. The money was disbursed by a committee of three citizens of the District.

Hon. Horatio King was the chairman of that committee. Every year since 1863 the 16th of April has been celebrated by the colored people in the District of Columbia. The date of the general emancipation of slaves is not celebrated here. At the first celebration of the 16th of April, there was no parade. The celebration consisted of a meeting held at the Fifteenth-street Presbyterian Church. John F. Cook presided at the meeting, and addresses were made by J. Willis Maynard, J. E. Green and others. The next year a street parade was added to the day's ceremonies, and has since been one of its features. Fred Douglass has delivered the last two orations.

His address to-night will therefore be his third. Among others who have been orators of the day are the late Representative Elliott of South Carolina and Professor R. T. Greener. Of late years the observance of the day has been falling off. This has been due to differences between the colored people. The Carson and Chase factions have fought over the management of the celebration. Owing to these quarrels many colored people who formerly took part in the day's doings have held aloof.

THE PROCESSION.

Thousands of colored people took a day off to-day. They celebrated with brass bands a long parade—with plenty of lookers-on—and a great deal of emphasis. The procession was one of the most Democratic ever formed. There was no placing of the military and uniformed organizations at the head to be followed by the unattractive vehicles in the rear. There was no discrimination. There would be a couple of militia companies headed by bands, then a detached drum or two, followed by carriages, carts and express wagons, with here and there a cab.

The large express wagons, upon which were bevies of beauty, attracted the most attention. There were several of these. Seated way up on a chair draped to represent a throne, would be a young woman sometimes black and sometimes of a lighter hue. She was dressed in white, with a tinsel crown on her head. Below her were small girls of varied hues who also wore pneumonia dresses. They waved flags to and fro, had their heads bedecked with flowers and held bouquets. The color of the stockings on each wagon-load of white dresses was varied. It was sometimes blue and sometimes red.

One cart contained only an old man and his driver. On the wagon was the following placard:

James Lawson, after leaving Dixie, was employed as a spy by both the army and navy. Better known as Potomac Jim.

The owners of the vehicles in line often advertised their trades. In a broken-down one-horse cart were a number of colored people. They were in keeping with the horse and cart. On the body of the cart was the legend: "Rubbish and ashes removed."

A one-horse cab attracted a great deal of attention. It was driven by a young white man. Inside was a dusky damsel of about 18 years of age, and fashionably dressed. The driver was laughed at all along the line. He took the chaffing good-naturedly. In an open wagon were a number of old ladies sewing, knitting, working, ironing and hanging out clothes. Every carriage, wagon or cart in line had more than its proper quota of occupants. The men on horseback, as a rule, rode well; their horses were above the average usually seen in parades.

At least 5,000 people were in line. It was a very creditable show. Thousands of colored people lined the Avenue and streets near the line of march. The peanut vender could be heard above the brass bands, drums and bugles. And he did a thriving business.

The procession was formed on Maryland avenue, west of the Capitol. The buildings in the vicinity were handsomely decorated. There were six divisions in the parade. A squad of mounted police led the first division. Following behind the National band came the Butler Zouaves, Washington Cadet Corps, Company A, Company B, Company C; Capital City Guards, Company A, Company B; Webster Rifles; O. P. Morton Post, No. 4, G. A. R.; Charles Sumner Post, No. 9, G. A. R.; the Knights of St. Augustine, Nos. 1 and 2; carriages containing the orator of the day, Hon. Fred. Douglas; presiding officer, Hon. B. K. Bruce; president of the day, W. Calvin Chase; secretary, J. F. Boston, and the committee and other speakers.

The second division was headed by a drum corps, and contained military and civic organizations and carriages. In the third division were the Emancipation Club of Georgetown, Laboringmen's Association, West End Cadets, with a chariot. Like all the other divisions there were wagons, carriages and carts following. The fourth division was led by the Germantown band. Uniformed and ununiformed organizations and vehicles followed. A drum corps headed the fifth division, and the Rockville band and the Hod-Carriers Union led the sixth and last division.

The procession was reviewed by the President at 2 o'clock, and it was fully an hour in passing.

The celebration this evening will take place at Lincoln Memorial Church, at the corner of Eleventh and R streets. Register Bruce will preside, and the speakers will be Frederick Douglass, orator of the occasion; Professor J. M. Gregory, A. St. A. Smith, Rev. R. S. Laws, J. T. Johnson and W. C. Chase, who will read the "Emancipation Edict."

THE KINDERGARTEN.

A History of Its Rise in America, By a Leading Educator.

Miss Elizabeth P. Peabody of Boston, the well-known apostle of kindergartening in America, gave a very interesting parlor lecture to the patrons of the Garfield Kindergarten Training School, 923 Nineteenth street, on Tuesday afternoon. Her lecture consisted of a review of the history of education in New England, from the days of the Puritans to the time when, through the acquaintance of Mr. Carl Schurz, Miss Peabody first heard of the kindergarten. She gave a vivid picture of the noble work, and her enthusiasm and devotion is as earnest as though eighty years had not made her the venerated mother of this Froebel school in America. Miss Peabody expects to leave Washington to-day.

Mrs. Anna B. Ogden, who has been spending the past three months in New Orleans, employed by the Board of Education to establish a kindergarten at the Exposition, has just returned to the city. She was delighted with her class there, and says it was the most prompt and interesting one ever had the pleasure of training.

She was obliged to return to her work here, and Miss May Crosby has taken her place in New Orleans. Professor Ogden has just left for Dakota, but will return in time to go with Mrs. Ogden to Martha's Vineyard for their summer engagement there.

SPRING Pants to order, Eisenman's, Seventh and E streets.

The Crushed Contingent.

A good many of the fellows who started out to run this Administration are already crawling out from under the wheels and demanding money on their accident policies.—[Philadelphia Press.

GOVERNMENT GOSSIP.

OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL IN AND ABOUT THE DEPARTMENTS.

Judge Buckner's Chances for an Appointment—The Hang Chow Consulship—Senator Fair on Silver—Non-Partisanship in the Land Office.

The Attorney-General sustains Minister Lawton's eligibility.

Representative Brewer of New Jersey has been in Washington several days.

The President has issued Andrew Jackson Gross' commission as Marshal for Kentucky.

Chief Clerk Lockwood of the Interior Department is confined to his house by a bilious attack.

The Government is taking every precaution against the introduction of cholera into this country.

Secretary Bayard denies the story that he has been endeavoring to force George W. Williams to resign the office of Minister to Hayti.

Commissioner Sparks of the Land Office says that he will not order longer hours for the clerks if work is performed faithfully and well.

Captain George W. Davis was yesterday officially announced as aide-de-camp to the Lieutenant-General, vice Major William J. Volkmar.

Postmasters throughout the country who are irregular in making the required weekly report of their official transactions are very liable to be removed.

The Costa Rican Minister has received a dispatch from President Zaldivar of Salvador, confirming the repeated Central American treaty of peace.

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Vance has issued an order directing that hereafter no patent cases be made "special" or acted upon out of their regular order.

The Stamp Division of the Internal Revenue Bureau is receiving the attention of the Treasury Commission. The Sixth Auditor's office is the next to be examined.

The resignation of Samuel Post, United States pension agent at Detroit, has been requested by Congressman Maybury of Michigan, but Mr. Post declines to move out.

Several persons were discharged from the Navy-Yard yesterday, principally from the Ordnance Department. It is understood that nearly 150 discharges will take place May 1.

A Tammany delegation spent a few hours in this city yesterday and was received by the President. The members of the delegation denied that their mission was political.

Ex-Governor Hubbard of Texas and Mr. Rufus Magee of Indiana, the newly-appointed United States Ministers to Japan and Norway and Sweden, have received their instructions.

Secretary Manning was closeted with the President for a long time last evening. New York appointments and the selection of Treasury chiefs of bureaus are supposed to have been under consideration.

Senator Fair of Nevada says Congress will not suspend silver coinage, and that the agitation is kept up, like a great many schemes, by men who want to show how much they know—that it is all for effect.

The Treasury Commission proceeds rapidly with its work. After going over the work generally it leaves the detail and routine portion of the inquiry to a subcommission composed of Messrs. Muhleman and Huntington.

The Secretary of the Navy will probably put the investigation of the charges against Paymaster-General Smith into the hands of the expert accountant who is making a general examination of the affairs of the Department.

Mr. Huntington of the Public Moneys Division of the Treasury Department has been instructed to make computations of the amounts due the United States and the Union Pacific Railroad Company under the recent decision of the Court of Claims.

A. M. Radcliffe, Henry Case, G. H. Walter, A. Sidney Smith, F. E. Taylor, Thaddeus Street, David Roberts, L. J. Walker, and W. R. Steedman of Charleston, S. C., are in the city to urge the appointment of Captain L. J. Walker as Collector at Charleston.

The board of naval officers recently appointed to inspect the dispatch boat Dolphin examined yesterday the contract for the construction of the vessel and other papers relating thereto, and will to-day proceed to New York to make an inspection of the vessel itself.

There are many vacancies in the pension boards of examining physicians throughout the country, and Commissioner Black has asked Senators and Representatives to recommend physicians to fill them. No removals from such places for political cause are contemplated.

Governor Pattison of Pennsylvania is mentioned in connection with the Second Comptrollership of the Treasury. Although the rumor is founded upon apparently good authority, it is more probable that Governor Pattison seeks the position for some friend than for himself.

It is not probable that First Assistant Postmaster-General Hay will be able to assume the duties of his office for some time. He is still in Florida in search of health, but communicates to the Postmaster-General that he has not been bettered by reason of the continued cool weather there.

General McMahon denies that on occasion of his recent visit to Washington the subject of the New York Collectorship was mentioned between himself and the President. He is backed for the position, however, by ex-Governor Seymour, Edward Schell and Representative Collins of Boston.

At the White House the statement is denied that the President is wavering in his intention to appoint local men to local offices, because the people of this city cannot agree upon whom they want appointed. It is asserted that the President adheres to his intention to appoint Washington men exclusively.

Counsel for ex-Surgeon-General Wales will to-day make an appeal to the United States Supreme Court from the decision of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, in overruling Dr. Wales' demurrer to the return of the Secretary of the Navy upon the writ of habeas corpus and in discharging the writ.

Commissioner of Patents Montgomery addressed his bureau heads the other day and gave them some wholesome advice as to the conduct of official matters. He urged upon them the importance of keeping up their desks, and cautioned them against haste in disposing of patent matters upon which so much was frequently at stake.

General Sparks, Commissioner of the Land Office, denies the report that he regards the Republican newspapers filed in his office as offensive partisans and proposes to turn the rascals out. He says that Democratic literature will hereafter have a place among the Land Office files, but that selections will not be made on a partisan basis.

Edmund McCurren, principal chief of the Choctaws of Indian Territory, has issued a proclamation calling upon all freedmen residing in the Choctaw Nation and entitled to citizenship according to the treaty of 1866, to assemble at the different precincts, June 1, to be identified and registered as Choctaw citizens; otherwise they will be expelled from the nation as intruders.

The clerks in the Third Auditor's office have contributed $12.10 to the Bartholdi Pedestal fund.

Representative E. K. Valentine of Nebraska is here looking after Department business.

Congressman Forney of Alabama thinks there are going to be very few changes in the Departments.

Mr. George A. Mott, the Republican postmaster at Pearsalls, L. I., has resigned in favor of his clerk, Mr. Joseph Simonson, a life-long Democrat, and the President says he will do all he can to favor the latter's appointment.

The following clerks of class one have resigned their positions in the Pension Office and their resignations have been accepted: H. R. Stockman, D. C.; W. W. Cheshire, Indiana, and John B. Aldrich, R. I.

J. W. Porch of St. Joseph, Mo., was presented to Secretary Bayard yesterday by Senators Vest and Cockrell. Mr. Porch is an aspirant for the Consulship at Hang Chow, China, where a vacancy is to be declared, the incumbent having been charged with bad conduct by Representative Barnes of the House Committee on Appropriations. Mr. Porch is the choice of Mr. Barnes.

Dr. A. B. Cooke of Louisville, Ky., is a candidate for Surgeon-General of the Marine Hospital Service. Applications of this class are useless, as Supervising Surgeon-General Hamilton will remain undisturbed. Dr. Hamilton is an efficient and energetic official, and Secretary Manning has never believed it advisable to take the Marine Hospital Service out of his hands.

There is a sensation at Fort Porter, near Buffalo, N. Y., over the disappearance of Lieutenant Julius H. Pardee of Company D, Twenty-third Regiment United States Infantry. It is thought that he is in Canada, but nothing definite is known about it. His sudden departure is due to the fact that he sold his salary two months in advance to different persons, duplicating the pay accounts. His debts are said to amount to several hundred dollars.

Ex-Representative Buckner of Missouri, it is said, will receive recognition at the President's hands by appointment to some important position. The appointment, it is said, will be made upon one proposition—that is, Mr. Buckner took such a determined stand, according to the Cleveland idea, on the question of suspension of the silver coinage when it was up in the House. The President has also made inquiries concerning Mr. Buckner's age and health.

The Navy Department has as yet received no official information concerning the blockading of the Juniata, near Foo Chow. The Secretary has received information from private sources that the Juniata in approaching Foo Chow was prevented from proceeding by the shallowness of water and was prevented from going back by the torpedoes placed in the mouth of the river to prevent the passage of French cruisers. The Juniata has been blockaded in this way for four months. Secretary Whitney proposes to investigate the matter.

A HEALTHY SHOWING.

Condition of the National Banks of the City.

The Comptroller of the Currency has prepared the following statement of the condition of the National banks of the city of Washington at the close of business on March 10:

RESOURCES.

Loans and discounts		$2,054,233 06
Overdrafts		2,570 84
U. S. bonds to secure circulation		730,000 00
U. S. bonds to secure deposits		100,000 00
U. S. bonds on hand		182,550 00
Other stocks, bonds, mortgages		197,915 85
Due from approved reserve agents		284,872 28
Due from other national banks		184,352 01
Due from State banks, bankers		9,576 09
Real estate, furniture, fixtures		369,648 03
Current expenses and taxes pd.		17,618 10
Premiums paid		41,016 71
Checks and other cash items		130,309 58
Bills of other national banks		53,442 00
Fractional currency		5,861 24
Specie, viz.:		
Gold coin	$123,514 50	
Gold Treas. cert's	195,100 00	
Silver coin	19,423 75	
Silver Treas. cert's	179,210 00	
		517,308 25
Legal-tender notes		416,098 00
U. S. cert's. of deposit for legal-tender notes		200,000 00
5 per cent. redemption fund		31,500 00
		$5,525,651 67

LIABILITIES.

Capital stock paid in		$1,125,000 00
Surplus fund		304,500 00
Other undivided profits		62,309 32
Nat. bank notes issued	$630,000	
Amount on hand	12,000	
Amount outstanding		618,000 00
Dividends unpaid		1,911 50
Individual deposits		3,184,412 78
U. S. deposits		73,663 69
Due to other national banks		138,383 00
Due to State banks and bankers		17,480 38
		$5,525,651 67

A Novel Hiding-Place.

A small colored boy broke the window of a dwelling-house on Third street northwest, on Tuesday afternoon, and ran away for dear life, pursued by several white boys of larger growth. Reaching Pennsylvania avenue, the little fugitive turned west and disappeared in the doorway of Messrs. Marinelli & Marini's Italian restaurant, near the old Globe printing-office. There all traces of him were lost. Some time later in the day, cries for help surprised those in the house. They were finally traced to the upper compartment of a new ice-box which was being built by Mr. J. B. Watson assisted by his two sons. The side door of the box was speedily opened and the little fellow descended by the small ladder that had assisted him to his almost living tomb about a couple of hours before. He made no explanation beyond the fact that his name was Ike, that he had broken a window and used the ice-box as a hiding-place in the absence at dinner of the builders. A summer screen in the restaurant prevented the bar-keeper from seeing the little fellow's entry into the box.

The A. M. E. Conference.

At this morning's session of the A. M. E. Conference, the system of presiding elders was adopted. It was announced that President Cleveland would receive the conference to-morrow afternoon at 1:30 o'clock. The credentials of a number of delegates were approved. At this afternoon's session the examination of characters was taken up.

Dr. Wales' Appeal.

The habeas corpus case of Surgeon-General Wales, which was appealed to the Supreme Court of the United States, was to-day set down for a hearing in that court next Monday.

Criminal Court Notes.

Robert Corbin was acquitted of the charge of assault with intent to kill James Carter.

George Newman, for larceny, was sentenced to 30 days in jail.

Baseball To-day.

The Nationals play the champion Providence nine this afternoon at 4:15 o'clock at Capitol Park.

Seats For "Lights o' London."

Sale of seats for "The Lights o' London" opened this morning at Albaugh's.

FOR wounds, cuts and bruises, use Salvation Oil, the great pain-destroyer. Price twenty-five cents.

Boys' suits, largest variety, at A. Saks & Co.

AS BUSY AS BEES.

BENEFICIAL EFFECTS OF THE DEPARTMENTAL INVESTIGATIONS.

The Administration Getting Its Forces to Work on Strictly Business Principles—Making Up for Lost Time and Laying Out a Systematic Programme

"The departmental investigating commissions are accomplishing at least one good result," remarked an official to a CRITIC reporter. "The clerical forces of the Government Departments are accomplishing more work than ever before in the memory of man. There is a general understanding that the clerks who will come out ahead are those who have their work up to date and who understand and attend to their business. This incentive is sufficient to wake up many who have never before cared what condition their work was in. Besides this, the impression prevails that Secretary Manning and some of the other heads of Departments have decided to require an extra hour of daily service until work is brought up.

"It is a fact that under former administrations a large percentage of Government clerks have never been given to understand that it made any difference whether their work was up to date or not. When they were appointed they found the work behind and the height of their ambition, if they had any ambition, was to keep it from falling back any further. President Cleveland has got an idea that never entered into the head of any of his predecessors. He believes that a day's work in the Departments should mean a disposition of the routine business of that day. He regards the Civil-Service as defective and unsatisfactory as long as it is unequal to transact each day the business properly appertaining to that day.

"He does not believe that clerks should be engaged on correspondence a year or a month old. He thinks the force is adequate to a prompt disposition of business, and that a correspondent of the Government is entitled to a reply at least as promptly as he would receive one from a private firm or corporation. One of the singular features of this new idea," continued the official, "is that the Treasury Commission agree with the President in the matter. They find that a little exertion and energy, and perhaps an extra hour of labor would, by the expiration of the present fiscal year, bring the work of the Treasury Department right up to date and enable it to dispose of current business as rapidly as it originated.

"Such a state of affairs seems incredible to the old men who regard a Treasury office as a receptacle of accumulated documents which never can in the ordinary progress of human events receive the attention of the same generation as that under which they originated. The work accomplished in the last month would astound anybody who is familiar with the methods that have prevailed for years in some of the bureaus and offices. Verily, the better day is coming for the citizen who is obliged to transact business with the Government and believes his affairs entitled to something like business-like consideration."

MINOR NEWS NOTES.

The condition of ex-Secretary Frelinghuysen is unchanged.

A dispatch from Cairo says it is believed that General Wolseley will soon return to England.

The French Government officially deny that there is any hitch in the peace negotiations between France and China.

M. de Freycinet has received an account of the seizure of the newspaper *Bosphore Egyptien* by the Egyptian Government at Cairo.

The Virginia Conference of the African Methodist Church, in session at Lynchburg, approved of President Cleveland's sentiments toward the colored race.

The Secretary of State of New Jersey refuses to receive, for filing in the archives, the minutes of the last Assembly, because the manuscript is mutilated.

The strike of the railroad laborers on the Canadian Pacific Railroad continues, and over 5,000 men have quit work. Poor pay and bad treatment are given as the causes of the strike.

At a meeting of the manufacturers of Fall River yesterday it was voted that the production of print cloths be curtailed by a four-weeks' stoppage of the mills between now and July 1.

A skiff containing Mary Draper, her daughter, aged 11, and her niece, Caroline Dempsey, 12 years old, capsized in the Ohio River at Evansville, Ind., yesterday, and all were drowned.

General John A. Logan delivered an address at the memorial services held yesterday in honor of Abraham Lincoln at Springfield, Ill. It was a review of the life of the deceased President.

J. X.