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Municipal Bonds

Editorial Indianapolis Journal, April 16, 1897.

"The municipal bond is coming to be one of the most important factors of the bond market. Thus far all that were offered have been freely taken at a price of interest and a premium which shows not only that investors have confidence in such securities, but that money was never so plentiful or so ready to accept a low rate of interest."

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NEW EXTRADITION LAW.

Provisions of an Act Passed by the Mexican House of Deputies.

CITY OF MEXICO, April 19.—The House of Representatives of the Mexican republic has passed the new extradition law substantially as reported to that body by the mixed commission representing the departments of foreign relations and justice. The new law defines a basis on which extradition may be granted and will form a complete scheme for new treaties, the existing treaties being imperfect. Under the new law no Mexican can be extradited to any foreign state excepting in special cases to be decided by the executive of the Republic, and naturalized citizens who have been made citizens for two years will be considered also as under these provisions. Delinquents living here may not be involved in judicial proceedings and if delivered on demand for extradition till they are either acquitted here or have served their sentence.

BOY POISONER CONFESSES.

Wanted to Get Rid of His Stepmother Because She Had His Hip Fit."

EXETER, N. H., April 19.—Frank Wentworth, the sixteen-year-old boy, who was arrested Saturday on the charge of having attempted to poison his father and stepmother, George H. Wentworth and wife, of Newcom, N. H., has made a confession, stating that he put arsenic in the food while eating breakfast. He gives as his reason for the act that he was jealous of his stepmother on account of her continually "getting him fits," but says that he had been feeling towards his father.

BLOODY FIGHT

TURKS DEFEATED IN A DESPERATE BATTLE AT REVENI.

Seven Thousand Moslems Reported to Have Been Killed and Wounded During One Engagement.

EDHEM PASHA PURSUED HARD

THE TURKISH COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF BARELY ESCAPES CAPTURE.

And, at Last Accounts, Was Being Pursued by the Victorious Army of Hellenes.

PREVEZA NOT YET FALLEN

ITS FORTS STILL FEEBLY REPLYING TO THE GREEK WAR SHIPS.

Another Vessel Sunk by the Turks, and the Gulf of Arta Closed by the Porte.

BATTLE OF MILOUNA PASS

THE SULTAN'S SOLDIERS DESCRIBED AS FIGHTING LIKE DEVILS.

While King George's Troops Made War Like the Greeks of Old—Possible Action of the Powers.

LONDON, April 20.—The warring Greeks and Turks in Macedonia and Thessaly spent all yesterday in skirmishing for advantageous positions in the mountainous regions that form their respective frontiers.

Sharp fighting was reported at several places, but the details are meager. Artillery was brought into play by detachments of both armies, and the shrieking of shells was added to the rattle of musketry. The Turks are said to be showing the best generalship, their leaders having the advice of some of the best officers in the German army. Besides, Edhem Pasha, the Turkish commander-in-chief, is one of the heroes of the Russo-Turkish war, and is a noted strategist. The Turks have also the advantage of superior numbers—two to one being about the ratio. The Greeks, however, have more patriotism than their Moslem enemies, and are fighting with a vim and spirit that almost makes up for their fewer numbers.

There is no means of learning the total casualties to date, many of the dead having been buried where they fell or carried into the valleys and laid in trenches. The various field hospitals are caring for numerous wounded, and many who were able to bear the journey have been carried to Ellassona and Larissa, the headquarters, respectively, of the Turkish and Greek armies. One Turkish officer reported he saw at least one thousand dead Greeks lying on the hillsides after the battle of Milouna Pass, while the Turks report their loss as slight. Although the main portions of both armies rested yesterday, there was, as stated, sharp skirmishing at several points. The troops of Edhem Pasha were half dead with fatigue and hunger when the firing slackened Sunday night. Most of them flung themselves down where they stood on the bare ground to sleep. The Turkish commander-in-chief prudently decided to allow his army to rest yesterday.

"FOUGHT LIKE DEVILS."

A copyrighted dispatch to the Associated Press from the scene of operations says: As details come in it becomes more and more apparent that the fighting in Milouna pass was of the most stubborn and savage character. The Turks fought like devils and the Greeks resisted in the spirit of their ancestors. The most inexplicable fact in connection with the whole engagement is the comparatively small number of killed. All the special correspondents agree to this. The Turks appear to have fired as wildly with their rifles at Milouna pass as they did at Arta, where the fighting consisted of an artillery duel between the rival batteries on each side of the river, lasting about four hours in the afternoon. There they fired only one out of five shots with any effect and their batteries were soon silenced by the Greeks, whose marksmanship was very much superior. The Turkish losses at Arta are believed to have been very heavy. On the Greek side there was not a man killed.

At 9 p. m. last night it was reported that General Smolnitz, ex-minister of war, was in command of 14,000 Greeks at Reveni, not far from Tynavos, northwest of Larissa. At that point Edhem Pasha, closely pressed, was nearly taken prisoner. His plan was to force the pass of Reveni, cut off the retreat of the Greek army with his cavalry and thus take Larissa without resistance. But this plan was defeated, Gen. Demopoulos, at the head of one Greek division, forced the Turkish line at Bougazi, close to Tynavos, and General Mavromachali broke through at Koniskos. The two generals united their troops near Damasi.

The news of this success at Reveni and of the imminent fall of Preveza has changed the dismay caused at Athens by the loss of Milouna and the wild rejoicing. The latest advices last night said that the Greek troops were advancing to recapture their positions at Milouna and at Grizovalli, the latter of which, it is al-

HAVE NO FEAR

FEW AMERICANS ENDANGERED BY THE GREECO-TURKISH WAR.

President McKinley Will, However, Endeavor to Protect All Who Are Residing in Either Country.

NAVY DEPARTMENT IS ALERT

AND OUR WAR SHIPS WILL BE SENT WHEREVER NECESSARY.

Little Probability that a Proclamation of Neutrality Will Be Issued Unless Complications Arise.

MESSAGES FROM MR. TERRELL

CONFIRMING REPORTS OF THE TURKISH MINISTRY'S ACTION.

Views of Ex-Minister to Greece Snowden—He Feels the Hellenes Will Suffer Sore Defeat.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—The outbreak of hostilities between Turkey and Greece has aroused the liveliest interest here in diplomatic, army and navy circles. The President and Secretary Sherman were in consultation several times this afternoon. It is gathered unofficially that they had under consideration the protection of American citizens at Constantinople, regarding the protection of American interests and the protection of Greek subjects which have been introduced to our minister to the Porte. Secretary of the Navy Long was also with the President.

It has been suggested that the President probably will be called on to issue a proclamation of neutrality now that war has begun. The officials have looked into the precedents in such cases and have concluded that the conditions at present do not require the issue of such a notice. The President has given instructions to the American minister to the Porte, Mr. Terrell, to guard American citizens against the consequences of infraction of the neutrality imposed on nations not party to a war. It does not directly concern either of the belligerents, but is intended to warn American citizens that if they espouse the cause of either combatant they will absolve their own country from extending protection to them. Conditions may arise later on, it is said at the State Department, warranting the issue of a proclamation, but the Americans in Turkey and Greece are so few in number and are of such character as to make it unlikely that they will involve themselves in trouble.

It is noted here with curiosity that the cablegrams so far received are so conflicting on one point, namely, whether war has been formally declared or not. Mr. Terrell declared that it is not yet possible to decide what the state of affairs is. The common belief in diplomatic circles is that there has been no such thing as a formal declaration of war, and it is recalled that of late years it has become the custom to reserve the right to make war actually without a formal declaration. In the present case, however, the fact is regarded among diplomats as of the first importance for the reason that the powers have given notice that the nation that is the aggressor in the conflict will not be permitted to reap any advantage from a declaration of war. The Turkish minister, Moustapha Bey, has communicated with Secretary Sherman on the status of the conflict. He officially informed the secretary of state of the termination of diplomatic relations between Turkey and Greece and of the attitude of the vessels which Turkey had been compelled to take by reason of the aggressive course of Greece. It was expressly made known, however, that no declaration of war had been issued. Until this official step is taken on the hostilities along the frontier are regarded as of a preliminary character. The Turkish government has been notified by the United States government, designed to secure strategic positions, that the United States will not be bound by a formal declaration of war, it is the strong belief among representative diplomats here that the war has been begun on the border will compel the European powers to renew with greater energy the effort to avert a long and bloody contest.

The United States navy is prepared to do all that is necessary for the protection of American interests, though it is not expected that the United States will take any direct action. The commander of the European squadron, consisting at present of the battleships, the cruiser, the torpedo boat, and the minesweeper, has been expecting an outbreak of hostilities, and from time to time has ordered the vessels of the squadron to be kept ready to move. The disposition of his little squadron to meet the war epoch was the receipt of a cablegram at the Department of the Navy, regarding the arrival of the United States cruiser Minneapolis at Smyrna. This is an island in the Aegean sea, and a point almost equally important to Constantinople as the entrance to the Dardanelles. So that it is admirably selected in the judgment of the department officials as a place of observation and a base of action in either direction where an American warship may be needed. The officials of both the State and Navy Departments, however, have little apprehension of the treatment of American citizens in either Turkey or Greece, and the only concern is about the only possible cause of friction now. Possibly at a later stage in the war, the events may take a turn which largely may be rioting at Constantinople or some of the larger Turkish cities, but that is not feared here.

THE PROGRESS OF THE ARMY OFFICERS.

The progress of hostilities is being watched with the keenest interest in military circles here. Already there has been a great demand for accurate maps of the scene of the first outbreak, and this has been responded to by the military information bureau by giving orders for the preparation of such a map as was issued during the war between China and Japan, a publication of great value to the student of war. It may be said that while the sympathies of the army officers are largely with the Greeks, they fully expect that the Turks will prevail in the end if allowed to make war untrammelled by the interference of other powers, and there are signs to indicate that such an arrangement has been reached by the British and other naval powers of Europe as will make this possible. The War Department experts say that Turkey will leave this week for the most formidable armies in the world,

GLASSCOCK LEVEE, 28 MILES BELOW NATCHEZ, GIVES WAY.

Reid Embankment, Below Vicksburg, Near the Biggs Break, Also Succumbs to the Flood.

FIRST CREVASSE SERIOUS

MANY FINE PLANTATIONS WILL PROBABLY BE RUINED.

Refugees Still Flocking by Hundreds to the Cities, and All in Desperate Circumstances.

STRAIN AT NEW ORLEANS

THE GREAT FLOOD TESTING THE STRENGTH OF THE LEVEES.

Efforts Concentrated at the Carrollton Works, Which Protect the City—Outlook Not Bright.

NATCHEZ, Miss., April 19.—The first break on the Concordia parish front occurred on Sunday morning last, when the Glascock levee gave way. This levee is located about twenty-eight miles below Natchez and is near the lower end of the levee system of the parish. It is an old levee and has received no attention since 1851. There was a large force of men at work on it Sunday morning raising and strengthening it. They were working their way to the lower end of it, when suddenly the laborers saw the muddy water begin to bubble up at the lower end and in less time than it takes to tell it the seething water tore a great hole through it. After the break started it was impossible to stop it and work on the embankment was at once stopped. The water rushed through at a great rate and began spreading out in the low lands adjacent. The catastrophe was not unexpected and its disastrous effects were in a measure discounted by reason of all the stock and other perishable property having been previously removed. The water from this break will inundate the lower part of the parish from Natchez down to Brabston, covering a number of fine plantations, but it was expected that most of this section would go under anyhow from the overflow that will take place in Delta river from the Biggs crevasse below Debar. It will entail a vast amount of suffering. The water from the neighborhood and relief will have to be extended to them. This levee was twelve feet in height and when the crevasse occurred the water on the front was between ten and eleven feet high against it and four feet on the back, while the fall of the water running through it is from six to seven feet. The break is near the old Bougara crevasse, through which the river has been running, and the waters of the two will mingle. Captain Derby, the United States engineer in charge of this district, and Assistant Engineer Hardie went down to the break to-day, carrying fifty men with them for the purpose of trying to "fill" the ends of the break. To-night the crevasse is reported to be from 800 to 1,000 feet wide and still caving.

Another Break Near Vicksburg.

VICKSBURG, Miss., April 19.—The United States steamer Vidette arrived at 8 p. m. from below, in charge of Capt. W. R. Brown, assistant United States engineer, under Lieutenant Newcomer. He reports a break in the Reid levee one mile below the sawmill and one and a half miles below the Biggs levee. At 3 p. m. the break was three hundred feet wide, and not widening fast, as the water behind the levee from the Biggs break prevented it going as wide with any great velocity. Captain Brown states that the condition is slightly improved along the upper portion of the line, and states that only a small force is at work maintaining and protecting work already done. There has been a fall of twenty feet in the water in East Carroll parish, to this point. The water from the Reid break joins that from Biggs levee and will only add to the volume of water going out.

Midnight—Major H. Willard, United States engineer, has just received a dispatch from Engineer Hardie went down to the Florence, ordered last night to Coon's Landing, Louisiana, to rescue flood sufferers, asking him to send all skiffs obtainable by first steamer, as people are drowning and cannot be reached except by skiffs. Coon's Landing is about thirty-five miles from this city and is being flooded by Biggs crevasse.

A dispatch arrived at midnight from Ashwood, La., saying the water is rushing rapidly into the swamps of Tensas parish, which are inaccessible by steamer, and this dispatch arouses many apprehensions. Skiffs cannot be sent to the levee.

Later—a dispatch from the Valley route operator, says the calamity at Coon's Landing is due to a break in the levee there and that another has occurred opposite Rodney. No details have been received. Boats cannot be sent before morning.

AT NEW ORLEANS.

Hundreds of Laborers Strengthening the Levees Which Protect the City.

NEW ORLEANS, La., April 19.—The river has attained the nineteenth-foot stage. There are now several hundred additional laborers engaged in strengthening the embankments, and a necessary vigilance is being exercised by the local authorities. At the Carrollton section of the parish levee the greatest activity prevails. Considerable inconvenience continues in the handling of merchandise to both boat and railroad depots, but all is being done that is possible to reduce the emergency strain. The levees in Plaquemine parish are reported as standing the pressure excellently. On the right bank of the river the levees are patrolled night and day. The levees are also being raised. All of the railroads entering the city are assisting in the work of protection. It can be reiterated again that while the local situation is certainly productive of some apprehension, there is really nothing critical about the condition. The levees during the past few weeks have stood a fourfold strain, and a necessary vigilance is being exercised by the local authorities. An admirable testimony as to their stability, and with extra precautions now being taken, the levees will leave this week for the most formidable armies in the world,

MINISTER TERRELL'S ADVICES.

Two Related Dispatches to Secretary Sherman on the Situation.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—After much effort, owing probably to some confusion in wire transmission, the State Department officials have succeeded in translating the dispatch received by Secretary Sherman last night from United States Minister Terrell, at Constantinople. The result was the following official statement: "The Department of State has received a dispatch from the United States minister to Turkey concerning the rupture of relations between Turkey and Greece, and the Turkish declaration of war. Mr. Terrell states that the minister from Greece has been informed that he must leave before next Wednesday. He is not permitted to communicate by telegraph with the Greek government. The Turkish government has ordered the subjects of Greece in Turkey; all subjects of Greece are required to leave Constantinople within the next day. The Turkish government disclaims any desire for territorial acquisition. The Greek minister in Constantinople, Mr. Terrell, remains on duty. The Greek government has reserved for military duty. The Greek troops seized and were fortifying the forts in the vicinity of the city. The Turkish minister, Moustapha Bey, has communicated with Secretary Sherman on the status of the conflict. He officially informed the secretary of state of the termination of diplomatic relations between Turkey and Greece and of the attitude of the vessels which Turkey had been compelled to take by reason of the aggressive course of Greece. It was expressly made known, however, that no declaration of war had been issued. Until this official step is taken on the hostilities along the frontier are regarded as of a preliminary character. The Turkish government has been notified by the United States government, designed to secure strategic positions, that the United States will not be bound by a formal declaration of war, it is the strong belief among representative diplomats here that the war has been begun on the border will compel the European powers to renew with greater energy the effort to avert a long and bloody contest.

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(Continued on Second Page.)