

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL NEWS.

Bold Robbery of an Express Train.

The east-bound passenger train which passed Cheyenne, W. T. at 3 p. m. on the 18th, was stopped and robbed by thirteen masked men at Big Springs, 160 miles east of that place on the same night. The robbers first took possession of the station, destroying the telegraph instruments, and compelling the agent to hang out a red light. When the train stopped, the robbers took possession, putting the train men and passengers under guard. The express car was broken into and the safe robbed of about \$85,000. The passengers were also robbed, of what amount is not yet ascertained. The fire in the locomotive was wet down, but a freight train overtaking the express, its engine was sent to Ogallala, from whence its report of the robbery was made. The robbers are believed to have gone north. The railroad company offers a reward of \$5,000 for the arrest of the thieves. Big Springs, the station where the robbery of the express train was committed, is a water station 163 miles east of Cheyenne. There are only one or two houses besides the station. The robbers came to the station in the evening, and took possession of everything, tearing the telegraph instruments, and throwing them away. A red light was then hung out to stop the train which reached there about eleven o'clock. On the conductor's stepping off to see what was wanted, he was confronted by men armed with revolvers, who ordered him to throw up his hands. The engineer and the fireman were secured and a guard placed at the end of the coach door. The station agent was compelled to knock on the express door, and on its being opened for him the robbers rushed in and overpowered the messenger, Miller, and took possession of the car. They secured \$65,000 in coin, and about \$500 in currency from the express car. The through safe, which is stationary, and has a combination lock, they left undisturbed. It contained a very large sum of money. The passengers on the coaches were then visited, and relieved of cash and valuables. The plunder taken from the passengers is stated to be \$1,300 in cash, four gold watches, and tickets to Chicago. One man named Morris lost a gold watch and \$480 in money. The arrival of a freight train evidently interfered with their plans, for after putting out the fire in the locomotive of the express they mounted and rode away without disturbing the occupants of the sleeping car. The Union Pacific railroad and the Union Pacific Express company have offered a reward of \$10,000 for the arrest of the thieves and recovery of the money. A pro rata reward to be paid for the recovery of any portion of the money or capture of any robbers. The sheriffs of surrounding counties and commanding officers of military posts throughout Nebraska and Wyoming, and along the Union Pacific railroad have been notified of the robbery, and everything possible will be done to effect the capture of the perpetrators.

Massachusetts Republicans.

The Massachusetts Republican State Convention met at Worcester on the 19th inst. and nominated the following ticket: Governor, Alexander H. Rice; Lieutenant Governor, Horatio G. Knight; Secretary of State, Henry B. Pierce; Attorney General, Charles R. Train; Treasurer and Receiver General, Charles Endicott; Auditor, Julius L. Clark. The resolutions reaffirm allegiance to the original principles of the Republican party; congratulate the country on the rightful accession of a Republican President; cordially approve the President's Southern policy; demand the early resumption of specie payments; endorse the President's civil service reform; endorse any further land grants and subsidies; endorse the State Registration law and pledge the party to stand by the causes of temperance, suffrage, labor reform and education.

Pacific Coast Hoodlums.

A San Francisco dispatch of Sept 18th says: Last night, the entire Chinese quarters of Grass valley, except one house were burned over. Forty buildings were destroyed, supposed incendiary. A body of armed men left Roseville, Placer county, and proceeded up the Auburn road warning all Chinamen, numbering some six or seven camps visited, to leave before midnight under penalty of death. Some left at once. Twelve at Burdocks camp refused to leave though threatened. The proceedings were conducted quietly, and no violence offered. It is believed by Wednesday, not a Chinaman will remain in township number one. The refugees are mostly gathering at Folsom.

Sturgis Defeats the Nez Percés.

A Crow agency courier arrived at Bozeman on the 17th, brings information that Gen. Sturgis had struck the Nez Percés Indians on the Yellowstone seven miles below Clark's Fork, and after an all day fight had captured several hundred horses and killed a great many of the savages. He lost some soldiers. It is also reported the river Crow Indians from Muscle Shell had headed off the hostiles and were driving them towards Gen. Sturgis. The Crows captured nearly 1,000 horses, and were to join Sturgis when pursuit would be resumed. Howard was 25 miles behind the Indians.

The Pittsburgh Mine Claims.

Mechanics interested in the property destroyed during the strikers' riots at Pittsburgh, July 1st, met in Philadelphia on the 17th. A motion accepting the proposition of the Pennsylvania railroad, of Sept. 14, was offered, but Mr. Bateman proposed the following as a substitute, which was adopted: Resolved, that we shall adhere to the resolution passed at this meeting of Aug. 30, not to put our claims in the hands of the railroad company unless they will guarantee the recovery of the money for us within two years from the date of loss.

The President's Reception in Louisville.

On the morning of the 17th President Hayes and party left Cincinnati for Louisville Ky., with the committee of escort of the latter city. Upon arriving at the Galt House, Rev. Dr. Stuart Robinson delivered an address

of welcome. Speeches were also made by Secretaries Everts, McCray and Thompson, Gov. Wade Hampton and Gov. Van Zandt of Rhode Island and others. The exposition building was then visited and in the evening was held one of the most brilliant receptions that ever occurred in Louisville.

Canadian Money Stolen in the Mails.

Large sums of Canadian money sent through the mails have been stolen at various points in this country. Detectives have for some time past been working up such cases. Recently \$5,000 of Canadian money was presented to a broker in Chicago by a woman, who received in return therefor American bills. She has not been seen since. Soon afterwards it was reported that \$5,000 had been lost in the American mails. The officers are working on this clue, although their movements have been kept secret and little beyond these facts are known.

Reply to President McMahon.

An address to the nation, signed by a number of Parisian and provincial candidates for the chamber of deputies, representing all shades of republicanism, was published on the 21st. It replies point by point to President McMahon's manifesto. The following is the concluding paragraph: "Your duty will increase with the audacity of those who will presume to impose themselves on France. You cannot become the instrument of clericalism. The republic must have republican functionaries, and the country expects order, peace and stability through the republic."

Continuation of the President's Journey.

From Chattanooga the Presidential party moved on to Knoxville, Tenn., where they were received by a large concourse of citizens and escorted by the Knoxville rifles and University cadets to the Lamar House, where the usual speeches were made. Later in the day the points of interest about the city were visited and in the evening a reception was tendered them at the house of Col. McGhee, after which they again took the cars en route to Atlanta, Ga.

Second Day of President's Reception.

The second day of the president's reception, Sept. 18th, at Louisville, was as on the first marked with the warmest welcome, and whole-souled hospitality. The day was spent in visiting the schools and the public benevolent institutions, and in speech-making, which was indulged in by the President, his secretaries, Everts, Thompson, Key, Gov. Hampton, and other celebrities. In the afternoon the party took the train for Jeffersonville, Ind., en route for Nashville Tenn.

The Extra Session of Congress.

Congressmen arrived in Washington think the extra session will be confined to the purpose for which it is called, the passage of the army bill, and one for the deficiency in the navy. The army estimates are ready. The first question will be whether the army shall be increased. Letters from members do not indicate much sentiment in favor of an increase. The question will hardly be discussed at the extra session.

Coe's Plan of Resumption.

The plan for the resumption of specie payments submitted by Geo. T. Coe, of New York, to the bankers' convention, was discussed freely and favorably at an informal meeting of the New York bank presidents a few days ago, and resulted in the appointment of a committee to mature a plan of action, to be submitted to Secretary Sherman after it shall have been approved by the New York bankers.

Honoring Revolutionary Heroes.

The dedication of the new Paoli monument at Paoli, Pa., in honor of fifty-three American soldiers under General Anthony Wayne, killed by the British troops under Gen. Grey, one hundred years ago, took place on the 20th. Hon. Wayne McVeigh being the orator of the day. Among those present were Gov. Hartranft and a grandson of Anthony Wayne. The attendance was large.

A Fever-stricken Ship.

The whaling schooner Charles Thompson, of Provincetown, Mass., arrived at New York on the 13th from a cruise via Ferdinandina Fla., in charge of the mate of the bark Cinqua which vessel found the Thompson drifting about without a navigator, Capt. Leach having died of the yellow fever and the mate being down with the same disease.

Telegrams to be Submitted to Congress.

The secretary of war will submit to congress at its coming session a copy of telegrams which have passed between the war department, among commanders and State officials in different States in connection with the strikes, and with the removal of troops from the Southern States.

The African Explorer heard from.

A dispatch from Stanley, received at London Sept. 18, announces that his expedition arrived at St. Paul de Loanda the 23d of August, in a gunboat lent by the Portuguese government. Stanley's followers were prostrated by dysentery, fever and ulcers.

Chinese Immigration Slackening.

From statistics contained in the annual report of the quarantine officer of the port of San Francisco it appears that the Chinese coming to our shores during the period of one year was only 1,460 in excess of those returning home.

Land Office Matters.

Secretary Schurz and Commissioner Williamson, of the Land office are giving much attention to the methods by which within the past three or four years, large tracts of public lands have been obtained as results of the rights given soldiers to make additional entries.

Maryland Republicans Endorse Hayes.

The Maryland State Republican Convention met in Baltimore on the 20th, J. Henry Sellman presiding, and nominated Dr. E. G. Porter for Comptroller. Resolutions were then adopted warmly commending the southern policy of the President and demanding specie resumption.

An Iowa Village Burned.

At 8 o'clock on the morning of the 21st

THE CONFLICT IN THE OLD WORLD

There is hardly room for doubt that the week's operation about Plevna did not result as favorably for the Russian army as was reported in view of reports from Russian sources. The Turkish bulletins about affairs at Plevna reads: See the 18th, the Russians have made contemptuous assaults, but have been repulsed. We have recaptured two redoubts on the Lovich road, which recently fell into the enemy's hands. This coincides with detailed narratives received and with later Russian bulletins. The friends of Russia have reason to be, therefore, that the capture of the Grevena doubt is of much less significance than was at first represented. If so, Osman Pasha may wait his reinforcements without fear of their immediate materialization. These reinforcements are, according to a Vienna dispatch, already on the way from Sofia.

The London Daily News, strong pro-Russian, thus sums up the situation: Looking impartially at the facts presented, we are unable to form any other conclusion than that the attack on Plevna is not only failed, but so failed that it cannot be renewed under conditions in which the Russian commander finds himself placed. He is attempted what the great German commanders attempted in their French campaign, and has used up his slight superiority of men with extraordinary rapidity. He is liable to be attacked at any given part of his front by a force larger than any which he can assemble there. In a word, he is beaten. The battle reported at Dubruk, in which the Russians were said to have been defeated, must have been, if at all, a village five miles northwest of Vratsa on the Rahova road. Reports say Osman Pasha has fortified a position almost impregnable naturally at Vratsa, upon which he will retire if driven from Plevna.

A Pera dispatch says news has been received at the English embassy that Sulleman Pasha carried the remaining Russian positions in Schipka Pass on the morning of the 18th, inflicting enormous loss. The detail is now entirely in possession of the Turks. A late official dispatch published at Constantinople denies the correctness of the rumor that the Russians had completely evacuated Schipka Pass. It states that on the contrary, two Turkish brigades which captured Fort St. Nicholas, retired to their former positions for strategic reasons after having occupied the fort for six hours.

It is stated in well informed circles that the Porte will not accept mediation while a Russian soldier remains on Turkish soil, nor will it consent to an armistice unless the basis of subsequent peace proposals are at the same time defined. Chevkel Pasha, commanding the relieving force at Orhanie, has communicated with Osman Pasha. The re-activating of Plevna is therefore expected very shortly.

It is reported at Constantinople that a great battle was fought Sept. 21st, at Biela lasting from nine in the morning till 7 in the evening, and that the Russians were completely defeated. A dispatch from Shumla asserts that the Russians lost 4,000 killed and 8,000 wounded in the battle.

McMAHON'S EDICT.

It Looks Like Revolution in France.

The following is the full text of McMahon's manifesto:

FRENCHMEN: You are about to be called upon to nominate your representatives in the chamber of deputies. I do not assume to exercise any pressure upon your choice, but I feel bound to dispel any doubt upon what you are about to do. What I have done is this: For the last four years I have maintained peace, and the personal confidence with which I am honored by foreign sovereigns enables me daily to render our relations with all powers more cordial at home. Public order has never been disturbed for a moment, owing to the policy of concord which brought around me, devoted before all things to their country. Public prosperity, momentarily arrested by our misfortunes, has recovered its elasticity. The general wealth has increased notwithstanding the heavy burdens borne by the people. The national credit has been strengthened, and France, peaceable and confident at the same time, sees her army always worthy of her, reconstructed upon a new basis.

These great results were, however, threatened with danger. The chamber of deputies daily throwing off the leadership of moderate men and more and more dominated by the avowed leaders of the radical party, at length forgot the share of authority which belonged to me and which I could not allow to be diminished, without invading the honor of my name before you and before history. Contesting at the same time my rightful influence in the senate, the chamber of deputies aimed at nothing less than substituting for the necessary equilibrium of public powers established by the constitution, the despotism of a new convention. Hesitation was no longer permissible. Exercising my constitutional right and in conformity with the opinion of the senate, I dissolved the chamber of deputies. It is now for you to speak. They tell you I seek to overthrow the republic, but you will not believe it.

The constitution is entrusted to my guardianship and I will make it respected. What I look for from you is the election of a chamber which, rising itself above party rivalries, will occupy itself before all things with the country's affairs. At the last election an abuse was made of my name among those who then proclaimed themselves my friends. Many have not ceased to oppose me. People will speak to you of their devotion to my person and assert that they only attack my ministers. Do not be duped by this artifice. To frustrate it my government will designate among the candidates

those who alone are authorized to make use of my name. You will naturally consider the bearing of your votes. Elections favorable to my policy will facilitate the regular conduct of the existing government. They will affirm principles of authority opposed by demagogues and will assure order and peace. Hostile elections would aggravate a conflict between public powers as well as impede the course of business and maintain agitation, and France in the midst of these fresh complications would become for Europe an object of distrust.

As for myself, my duty would increase with the danger. I could not obey the mandates of demagogues. I could neither become the instrument of radicalism nor abandon the post in which the constitution has placed me. I shall remain to defend the conservative interests with the support of the senate, and shall energetically protect the faithful public, who at a difficult moment have not allowed themselves to be intimidated by vain threats. Frenchmen, I wait with full confidence the manifestation of your sentiments. After so many trials France desires stability, order and peace, and with God's help we will secure to the country these benefits. You will listen to the words of a soldier who serves no party and no revolutionary or retrograde passion, and who is guided by nothing but love for his country.

The manifesto is countersigned by the minister of the interior. The decree fixing the date of the elections for October 14th will be published on the 23d inst.

MINNESOTA IN 1877.

Facts of Interest to Every One.

To the Chamber of Commerce, St. Paul and Board of Trade, Minneapolis:

GENTLEMEN: The undersigned committee, representing the chamber of commerce, St. Paul, and board of trade, Minneapolis, to whom was referred the matter of obtaining such statistical information as deemed necessary to the interest of agriculture and immigration at the recent State Fair, would respectfully represent that in obedience to the duty assigned them, they attended the fair during its continuance, and from what they were enabled to gather on that occasion, as from personal observation, they would report:

That the wheat crop of 1877 in Minnesota far surpasses that of any previous year. Never in the history of the Northwest has there been such a bountiful harvest. It is too early in the season to give a close estimate of the number of bushels produced in the State, but your committee feel justified in placing the product in excess of 33,000,000 bushels. The lasting properties contained in the soil of Minnesota for the propagation of wheat is remarkable. In a number of instances your committee have reliable instances of over twenty bushels to the acre, on land which has been in cultivation for more than twenty-five years, and upon which no fertilizers or manure has ever been used, but what year after year has been grown in the same fields, and the product of the last crop as good as the first, when the land was new. While your committee cannot approve of such a constant and continual drain upon the soil, the fact is only mentioned as an instance of the extraordinary fertility and endurance of the wheat lands in question.

When we consider that but a minor portion of the arable lands of the State in cultivation at this time, and that millions of acres of just as rich, fertile lands are now opened for settlement, as those which have already been occupied by the husbandman, and have every convenience necessary for the emigrant, being readily reached by the different railroads and the public highways, and embraced in one of the most healthy, vigorous climates, capable, with the proper cultivation of producing copious crops of wheat, oats, corn, barley, potatoes, and vegetables of many varieties, together with stock, it would seem proper that the chamber of commerce of St. Paul, and the board of trade of Minneapolis should take immediate steps, and act in conjunction with the State and other authorities, with a view of an early occupation by emigration of those broad vast tracts, which, when once settled upon, will add so much to the wealth of the State and to the prosperity of St. Paul, Minneapolis and the other cities and towns within our boundaries.

It would seem that most of the wheat crop for 1877 is of such a superior quality that it is graded as No. 1. For instance, out of over 50,000 bushels sold one day to the millers of Minneapolis, less than 300 bushels was graded as No. 2, and none under that grade.

From the sources of information gathered at the fair, your committee are led to the conclusion that the product of oats and barley this season has been more than an average crop. It appears that an unusually large breadth of land was set aside by the farmers last spring throughout the State for the purpose of seeding it with these two varieties of grain, and that the yield is very heavy. Returns from the State indicate something less than the average yield of corn, yet the product will be creditable. Potatoes will not be an abundant, but fair crop, while vegetables will hardly be an average. In relation to fruit the crop is light. These are the opinions of those in attendance at the fair.

A great interest is being developed in regard to the growth of stock. It is demonstrated beyond all doubt that in all portions of the continent where the agriculturist devotes attention to this branch of industry the farmers are forehanded, thrifty and have the most wealth. The stock producing counties of New York, for example, are much more wealthy than the exclusive grain regions of the Genesee valley. Vermont has become rich with her dairy, sheep and horses.

The portions of the west which have

for the past few years been afflicted with the grasshopper plague have not suffered to any extent where the farmers were mostly engaged in the manufacture of cheese, butter and raising stock.

Our climate and soil appears to be peculiarly adapted for grazing purposes. Its healthfulness for cattle of every kind is well established. The abundant and prolific yield of both tame and wild or natural grasses, of every description incident to the west, affords abundant and cheap pasturage during the summer, and the choicest hay for winter, which is produced at less expense per ton than in most any of the States in the Union. If necessary your committee could refer to count less instances in regard to the profit of raising stock in the State. The demand for horses has always been in excess of the supply. Thousands are introduced into our midst every year from the adjoining States. The demand will increase as the country west of us becomes settled. Choice herds of cattle have been imported into the State during the past few years, and attended in every instance, as far as your committee have been able to learn, with much profit to the enterprising parties who embarked in the lucrative business. The dairy is being introduced in the shape of cheese and butter factories in many neighborhoods, and attended with much success. It appears that shipments of both these home products have been made to England, with satisfactory results. The sheep fold to some extent has been neglected, but those who have engaged in wool growing are greatly encouraged. Stocks of sheep which have been brought from the east, have, with their progeny improved to such an extent by the influence of our climate, that they have been purchased by those from whom they were originally bought, and transported east, to improve the breed of their stock. The wool becomes of a finer texture produced in the State, and an increase in the size of the carcass of the sheep.

The superiority of our beef over that of a more southern latitude is well known to the outside world. To such an extent is our beef desired in the army, that the frontier posts are mostly supplied with Minnesota beef. Frequently stock which has been raised in Texas, but herded in fertile valleys in the West, in order to fit the beef for market has come in competition with our beef, and the preference is univacally in our favor.

A gratifying part of the recent exhibition was the display made by the farmers residing on the line of the Northern Pacific. Comparatively speaking, this section of the State is new. When fully settled and developed, as it will be in the near future, it will add much to our resources. In this connection, your committee would add, that from the Iowa line, in southwestern Minnesota, through the whole length of the State to the Manitoba boundary, vast tracts of lands of the very best quality should receive the attention of those seeking new homes in the West. It is unnecessary to say that the Winona & St. Peter, the St. Paul & Sioux City, the Hastings & Dakota the St. Paul & Pacific, as well as the Northern Pacific railroads traverse through these lands, which afford such facilities to emigration.

It affords your committee much pleasure to report that the fair was successful in every department. All of the different classes were fully represented, which proved conclusively the rapid growth and development of the rich agricultural, manufacturing, mechanical and horticultural interests of the State. Herewith your committee transmits to your respective bodies an interesting and instructive report made to them by Prof. Lacy, of the Minnesota State Agricultural College in regard to the participation at the fair by that department.

In conclusion, your committee would congratulate the managers of the late fair for the grand success which attended their efforts. At the same time they return their most profound thanks for the many courtesies received from their hands.

Respectfully submitted,

HERALD THOMPSON,
on the part of the Chamber of Commerce,
St. Paul.

FRANKLIN STEELE,
Board of Trade, Minneapolis.

A New Operatic Star.

Mr. Jennings' London letter in the New York World says: As I wrote you lately about the apparent decline of opera in England, it is only right that I should record the sudden and unexpected revival it has undergone at Her Majesty's theatre, owing to the appearance of a new prima donna, a Hungarian named Etelka Gerster. She only sang last Thursday night for the first time, and already her fortune is made—lucky woman! She has jumped from obscurity to popularity and great wealth in less than a week. Scarcely anybody except a few musicians who know everything, had heard a word about her, and when she came on the stage as Amina, in "Somnambula," she met with no reception whatever. It was a very different story before she got half through her evening's work. The audience at once recognized the fact that a great star had appeared, and twice more this week she had to repeat her performances, and it may be safely said that her voice is worth at least \$250,000 a year to her while it lasts. Who wouldn't be a prima donna! Madam Gerster is luckier than any heiress of the day. The moment it was telegraphed over Europe that she had made a great success, engagements poured in upon her from Paris, St. Petersburg and Vienna, in which city she is to take up the repertoire hitherto filled by Patti. All these arrangements were made in less than three days. The romance writers never imagined a greater change in the affairs of a comparatively unknown young woman.