

SPRIT OF THE PRESS.

Editorial Opinions of the Leading Journals Upon Current Topics—Compiled Every Day for the Evening Telegraph.

WHAT THE ADMINISTRATION IS DOING.

From the N. Y. Times.

While the critics of the administration are deeply immersed in statistics showing how many drives General Grant takes, how many duffers he eats, and how many cigars he smokes, another class of statistics, from another source, is from time to time put before the public, also bearing on the same question of the "President's policy." The critics, however, are so intently occupied with the horse-and-carriage question that they naturally have little time for the other matters which only relate to public retrenchment and reform.

Let us look, however, at these latter statistics a moment. In the first place, we have an official announcement from the Treasury Department, that during the month of October seven millions more were taken from the national debt, making a total decrease for the eight months and less of Grant's administration of more than sixty-four millions. This is pretty good for a start, especially from an administration which is assailed by its opponents as "neglecting the public interests." Let us hope that it will go on "neglecting" them in the same way through the remaining third of the year.

In the next place, we are told that the exhibit of departmental expenses before Congress will probably show that they are all (unless possibly the Interior) keeping within the narrow limits of the appropriations made last year, while the Navy Department has confined itself thus far to its unexpended balance, and has not touched its appropriations for the current fiscal year. These appropriations are only about fifteen millions, at any rate, and during the first quarter of the year a saving of \$300,000 over the first quarter of the previous year was effected. This is the department about which we have heard so much, in connection with the alleged "mismanagement" and general "ignorance" of Admiral Porter and Messrs. Horie and Robeson. Can we get more of the same kind of "mismanagement" in other quarters?

But the War Department exhibits the most remarkable figures, to show what the administration is doing. This was the department most narrowly watched at first, as General Grant's personal influence and responsibility were supposed to be here most conspicuously manifest. Well, the army expenditures for the first quarter of the last fiscal year were \$27,696,244; those of the first quarter of the present fiscal year were \$15,141,282—leaving a difference to be passed to the account of army economy of \$12,554,962 in the first three months. Making all allowances for a relative decrease in the ratio of savings in other quarters, there is yet no reasonable doubt that, with peace continuing, the department's expenses will fall short of \$50,000,000 this year; and this, contrasted with the \$80,000,000 of last year, gives a gain of \$30,000,000. The reduction of the army by Congress, the change in our Indian policy under Grant, and the discharge of clerks and other civilian employes, are the secrets of this gain. "It is so perilous to peace," it is said, "to put a soldier at the head of affairs."

Finally, in the Post Office Department, the expense of the mail service has been reduced over \$100,000 already, and, we are assured, "this department will be very nearly if not quite self-sustaining during the current year." In the general civil service, we are informed that the cost of collecting the internal revenue has been reduced by fifteen per cent., as compared with last year, while by the discharge of superfluous clerks, in the Treasury Department alone, a saving of \$600,000 per annum has been effected.

BRITISH INDIA.

From the N. Y. Tribune.

The military revolt of 1857, known as the Indian mutiny, so full of bloody memories, has indirectly produced remarkable results affecting the well-being of the teeming population of the Anglo-Indian empire. For two centuries previous to that outbreak, British power in India was little more than unmitigated selfishness. And not without reason were the English once reproached with the charge that if they were driven from India their only memorial would be pyramids of empty beer bottles. But this has been changed. The mutiny broke upon England like a clap of thunder, arousing the nation to a sense of the precarious tenure by which it held India, and convincing its statesmen that a new policy of government, based upon justice and humanity, was absolutely necessary. The progress of British India during the last ten years, owing to the adoption of this policy, has been great; while the improvements already made are but the forerunners of important future enterprises.

BOILER EXPLOSIONS.

We quote the following from an important paper, republished in the November number of Van Nostrand's Electric Engineering Magazine, from the London Engineer:—

Every one at all conversant with the working of boilers is aware that when they are allowed to run short of water, the furnace crowns are apt to become overheated, the plate to be bulged downward or otherwise distorted by the pressure of the steam, and in many cases to be rent, from which cause explosions frequently arise. This is admitted on all hands, and the rationale is so simple that the whole must be at once apparent.

It is not, however, by any means so generally known that furnace crowns may be overheated and bulged out of shape—sufficiently so in some cases to cause an explosion—even when they are covered with an ample supply of water. Such, however, is unquestionably the fact, and I wish specially to call attention to the subject on the present occasion.

Overheating of boiler plates when covered with water has been found to arise from two causes—one, the too local action of an intense fire, the other the character of the feed-water. Injury from intense firing sometimes occurs to boilers heated by the flames passing off from separate furnaces constructed of fire brick, as in the case of puddling furnaces at iron works, when the flames are too frequently allowed to impinge directly upon the boiler, in consequence of which steam is generated so rapidly that the water is driven off from the plates, and overheating ensues.

of this Cimchona, planted in recent years, are growing up in the hilly regions of the northern provinces. While the industrial resources of India are being thus rapidly developed, the Government is holding out every encouragement to education. Colleges are multiplying, and 19,000 schools, attended by 600,000 native children, are in active operation.

What effect all this will have upon the continuance of British rule there—whether it will reconcile the Hindoos to foreign domination, and render impossible a renewal of the horrors of 1857—is yet to be seen. England has certainly been very obtuse in learning to govern justly her Asiatic dependencies, and has still to contend with formidable prejudices, the growth of centuries. Now, however, that she seeks to consolidate her power in the Orient by civilization rather than by the sword, her chances for retaining India are greater than they were, always providing that Russia does not interfere with her plans. But, in any event, her present policy will partially atone for some of the crime that has marked her progress in the East, and, persevered in, will lay the foundations, broad and deep, of what seems destined to be a great and prosperous nation.

THE HEALTH OF THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON—THE PEACE OF EUROPE.

From the N. Y. Herald.

Rumors are again afloat regarding the health of the Emperor Napoleon. It is said that he has had a return of his former illness. The rumor, of course, has been contradicted; and we are not unwilling to state that we have quite as much faith in the contradiction as we have in the report. It is undeniable, however, that in spite of the contradictions there is a very general conviction that the Emperor's health is not sound, nor can it be said the conviction is ill-founded. The opinion prevails that, while the Emperor may live for many years, his death within a brief period would not be a surprise.

This fresh rumor of his being ill revives a question in which we are all more or less deeply interested—whether the peace of Europe and the world would not be seriously imperiled by his death. It is undeniable that certain great national and social impulses are held in check mainly by him. The German races would be a unit to-morrow but for the opposition which is given to such union by the chief of the French nation. The smouldering elements of revolution which are known to exist in Eastern Europe would burst forth but for the combination of which Napoleon is the head-centre. Soon as Napoleon is gone the Hungarian empire will take the place of the Austrian empire, and the German races will consolidate under the imperial rule of the Hohenzollerns. Russia will become more imperious, and, taking her little sister Greece by the hand, will restate her in something of her former greatness. There are, besides, social questions which command attention far beyond the limits of any nationality—questions which in their development comprise a European confederation of all the nations to the distinctions of nations and to the distinctions of class. These revolutions will not be accomplished without much commotion—not, we fear, without large sacrifices of blood and treasure. That these forces do not command more attention now is due mainly to the fact that the strong repressive hand of the Emperor is upon them. That hand weakened, or removed by death, an explosion may be looked for.

This it is which explains the recent conduct of the great powers. It is well understood that Great Britain, Prussia, Russia, and Austria on the occasion of the Emperor's last illness, assured him of their sympathy, and, at the same time, of their determination to support the claims of his son. The Bonaparte dynasty, it is felt, is the best protector of thrones. The death of the Emperor would be a severe blow to the interests of royal families. It would let loose the "fierce democratic." The question is whether the son of Napoleon will have any restraining power.

HORACE.

From the N. Y. World.

It has been privately insinuated that Horace could "cuss" the hair of a brass monkey when he got his dandruff up. But this heroic aptitude of the veteran journalist has been carefully concealed lest it might alienate friendly votes and lend to defeat his aspirations for office. The Sun, however, with the reckless malice which characterizes it on all occasions, comes out with a ruthless exposure of the philosopher's profanity. From the specimen brick of malediction which it attributes to him we infer that his capacities in that exercise have not been overrated. There is a rotundity and an emphasis in his curses which we do not remember to have noticed in others, and they add such weight to his discourses that we wonder he does not enlighten his rather monotonous and inconclusive contributions to the Tribune with a sprinkling of them. They are not argument, it is true; but neither are the epigrams which he so liberally dispenses, and upon which he has built no small share of his celebrity. We would give our readers a specimen of the desperate profanity of Mr. Greeley, as reported by his old friend and associate, in order to show them what an awful pirate he is, but that we never admit such language to our columns under any circumstances whatever.

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This is more especially the case where the heating surface is a vertical one, so that the steam on rising forms a separate film between it and the water. Two explosions resulting from this cause may be referred to. One of these occurred at an iron works on the 9th of February, 1865, to an externally fired boiler of the upright furnace class, heated by the flames passing off from two puddling furnaces, as well as from a large fire-grate. Another explosion of a similar character occurred on the 7th of February, 1866, to a plain cylindrical egg-ended boiler, heated by the flames passing off from a mill furnace at a works employed in the manufacture of angle iron.

It is desired, however, on the present occasion, to call attention more especially to those cases in which overheating of the plates, whether in externally or internally heated boilers, has occurred simply through the character of the feed-water, and not from any peculiarity in the mode of firing. The feed-water which is found to be more particularly productive of overheating is highly impregnated with carbonate of lime. It forms but a little scale, and that seldom thicker than an egg shell, though perhaps in some cases it may be nearly equal to one-eighth of an inch. It deposits, however, a good deal of fine flour or color, as this dust is quite loose, a good deal of it is floated away with the water when the boiler is emptied, while the remainder is readily washed out, so that on account of the ease with which it is removed, and the light character of the scale, it frequently escapes attention. If grease be introduced into boilers in which this deposit is formed, the furnace crowns are found to give way, the plates to bulge downwards, and leakage to take place at the seams of rivets. The distortion of the furnace plates, however, does not, as a rule, take place suddenly; on the contrary, the crowns come down very gradually, progressing a little each day after day, though hard firing, in many cases, has an immediate influence. Grease is introduced into boilers in various ways. The feed-water is frequently heated by blowing the exhaust steam from the engines upon it, so that the grease in the cylinders is carried with the feed-water into the boiler, while, in addition, the discharge taps from the cylinders sometimes blow into the cistern from which the feed-pump draws, so that the boiler gets all the engine sewage. Blowing the exhaust steam from the feed-water has another effect beside the introduction of grease. It is sometimes lost sight of how much of the deposit formed within boilers is lifted out of the water by the steam and carried through to the engines, and thus disposed of either through the exhaust pipe in high-pressure engines, or in the hot well in low-pressure ones. When, therefore, the exhaust is blown upon the feed-water, this deposit is returned to the boilers, and a constant accumulation takes place, more especially if blowing out be neglected. That the steam lifts the deposit, and carries it along with it, is clear from the fact that it is frequently manifested at the glands and other parts of the engines, and also is heaped up in the steam dome when there is a shelf on which it can accumulate. These shelves are formed when the shell plate at the base of the dome is not cut away to its full size. This forms an eddy in the current of the steam, and leads to the deposit being dropped on the shelf plate, as last stated.

With regard to the manner in which this flourey deposit affects the plates over the fire, and leads to their injury, it does not appear to be necessary to suppose that this deposit becomes heaped upon the plates in order to lead to their overheating. It is doubtful whether it settles at all, as long as the boiler remains in active work; while, were it to do so, it would settle where the ebullition was the least violent, and thus not on the furnace crowns of internally fired boilers. Possibly this fine flourey deposit, by thickening the water, interferes with the due escape of the globules of steam, so that they are kept longer in contact with the plates over the fire than they should be, and thus the intimate contact of the water with the plates becomes interrupted, and overheating is produced. This may perhaps be illustrated in the following way:—Clear water placed in a clean saucepan may be briskly boiled over a fire without foaming over, but if a little meal be dropped into it, or the water exchanged for milk, the globules of steam are no longer able to escape freely, and in their struggle they upheave the whole mass, and vomit a portion of it into the fire. Such is thought to be somewhat the action that takes place within a boiler charged with this fine flourey deposit. The globules of steam imprisoned in the water lift it from the plates in their struggle to escape, and thus gradual overheating takes place in proportion to the character of the water and the intensity of the fire.

I am not desirous, however, of entering too minutely upon the precise manner in which this flourey deposit leads to the overheating of the plates, suffice it to say that the results are indubitable, that numbers of boilers have been injured by it, and whatever may be the precise modus operandi, it appears to have the power of preventing that intimate contact of the water with the plates which is essential for carrying off the heat with sufficient rapidity, so that although they may not be made red hot, yet they become sufficiently overheated to lose a portion of their tenacity, when bulging under pressure ensues. Numerous instances of this have come before my notice.

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FINANCIAL. A Seven Per Cent. Gold Loan \$6,500,000. THE KANSAS PACIFIC RAILWAY, now in successful operation from Kansas City to Seward, proposes to build an extension to Denver, Colorado. The Government has granted Three Millions of Acres of the finest lands in Kansas and Colorado, which are mortgaged for the benefit of a loan of \$6,500,000. This loan is secured in the most effectual manner. It represents a road in profitable operation, and will open the trade of the Rocky Mountain country and connect it with the great markets of the East. It is considered to be one of the best loans in the market. EVEN BETTER IN SOME RESPECTS THAN GOVERNMENT SECURITIES. The loan has thirty years to run, principal and interest payable in gold, semi-annually, seven per cent. The coupons will be payable semi-annually in either Frankfort, London, or New York, and will be free from Government taxation. The bonds for the present are sold in currency at 95, with accrued interest. Circulars, maps, and pamphlets sent on application.

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MILLINERY. WEYL & ROSENHEIM, No. 726 CHESTNUT STREET. OPEN THIS DAY. 10 PIECES ROMAN STRIPED SATINS, at \$2, \$2 50, and \$3 per yard; one dollar per yard below former prices. 40 PIECES SATINS, 16-inch, of all desirable shades, \$1 50 per yard; reduced from \$2. 15 PIECES BLACK VELVET, warranted all silk, at \$4, \$4 1/2, and \$5; one dollar per yard below the retail value. Also, a full stock of all kinds of RIBBONS, SILKS, HATS, FRAMES, FLOWERS, FEATHERS, ETC., AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL. WEYL & ROSENHEIM, 10 18 1m No. 726 CHESTNUT STREET. GENT'S FURNISHING GOODS.

THE FOUNT OF FASHION. GENT'S FURNISHING STORE. MRS. MINNIE CUMMINGS has opened the above-named place, at No. 119 South EIGHTH Street, where gentlemen can find everything in their line. The best fitting SHIRTS in the city, ready-made or made to order. Purchasers of twelve articles receive the thirteenth as a Gift. UMBRELLAS TO HIRE for 25 cents. Handkerchiefs hemmed free of charge. Police Salads in attendance. A call is respectfully solicited and satisfaction guaranteed. 93 MINNIE CUMMINGS. PATENT SHOULDER-SEAM SHIRT MANUFACTORY, AND GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING STORE. PERFECTLY FITTING SHIRTS and DRAWER made from measurement at very short notice. All other articles of GENTLEMEN'S DRESS GOODS in full variety. WINCHESTER & CO., No. 706 CHESTNUT Street, 11 2 FINE DRESS SHIRTS AND GENT'S NOVELTIES. J. W. SCOTT & CO., No. 514 CHESTNUT Street, Philadelphia, 5 21 1/2 Four doors below Continental Hotel. DRUGS, PAINTS, ETC. ROBERT SHOEMAKER & CO., N. E. Corner FOURTH and RACE STS. PHILADELPHIA. WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS, Importers and Manufacturers of White Lead and Colored Paints, Putty, Varnishes, Etc. AGENTS FOR THE CELEBRATED FRENCH ZINC PAINTS. Dealers and consumers supplied at lowest prices for cash. 13 41

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