

WAR NOTES.

THE RUSSIANS NERVOUS.

The Turks Threatening their Positions all Around. (Special to the Democrat.)

LONDON, Aug. 24.—A correspondent at the Russian headquarters telegraphs that it is a nervous time for the Russians...

Russia and Roumania Fail to Agree. (Special to the Democrat.)

LONDON, Aug. 24.—A Vienna correspondent states that a telegram from Bureharts says that negotiations respecting the conclusion of a military convention between Roumania and Russia fell to the ground.

Insurrection in Crete and Thessaly. (Special to the Democrat.)

LONDON, Aug. 24.—An insurrection has broken out in Crete. Two engagements have been fought, in which thirty-six Turks and seven Christians were killed.

The Turkish Attack on the Passes. (Special to the Democrat.)

LONDON, Aug. 24.—The Times' Vienna correspondent remarks, relative to the attack on Schipka Pass, that all along the main range of the Balkans, especially along Tundja Valley, the face of the mountains is a precipitous rock, through which the road leads up in steep curves.

Bainkoi Pass. (Special to the Democrat.)

LONDON, Aug. 24.—The News' correspondent at the Russian headquarters explains the mystification which has arisen concerning the reported capture of Bainkoi Pass by the Turks.

Germany Hostile to Turkey. (Special to the Democrat.)

LONDON, Aug. 24.—Several special dispatches remark the hostile tone of the German semi-official press towards Turkey.

Slow Arrival of the Russian Reinforcements. (Special to the Democrat.)

LONDON, Aug. 24.—The Daily News' correspondent telegraphs from Russian headquarters, Wednesday, that the defenders of Schipka Pass consist of twenty companies.

Another Turkish Victory. (Special to the Democrat.)

LONDON, Aug. 24.—The Times' dispatch from Therapsa reports that the Porte has officially informed the British Embassy that Mehmet Ali has gained a victory between Osman Bazar and Eski D'juma, capturing several guns and inflicting great loss.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

The Connecticut Greenbackers. (Special to the Democrat.)

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Aug. 24.—At a meeting of some fifteen thousand greenback men last night resolutions were adopted calling for a repeal of the resumption act; the full re-coinage of silver; the passage of an act making greenbacks full legal tender and interchangeable with bonds; the adoption of an equitable system of taxes; the abolition of

monopolies; opposition to subsidies, and condemning Secretary Sherman and calling for his removal.

OUR POSTAL RELATIONS.

THE POSTAL CONVENTION'S ADDRESS TO OUR COMMERCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

New Orleans, South and Central America and the West Indies. To the Chamber of Commerce, Cotton Exchange and Produce Exchange of New Orleans, La.

Resolved, That the Chamber of Commerce and other commercial bodies here represented be requested to confer with the Representatives and Senators in Congress of these several States and urge upon them the warmest and most persistent support of the memorial as set forth by the convention.

That the following important measures be provided for: 1. The establishment of limited mail service, passing through Washington and connecting the great cities of the Atlantic and Gulf States from Boston to New Orleans.

2. The establishment of other through and trunk lines of fast mail communication between such points in the East, North and Northwest on one hand and such points in the Southeast, South and Southwest on the other hand as will bring the benefit of such lines within reach of the most important centers of trade and commerce.

3. The extension of railroad post-offices over mail routes within the area of the above named States (Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana).

4. The extension and improvement of star services, of services to rivers and coasting steamers, and of country mails generally throughout this area.

5. The establishment of some substantial basis of mail contracts of steamship lines between Southern sea ports, and ports of South America, Central America and the West Indies.

6. The extension of the sixth section of the convention memorial, and urging the claim of New Orleans as the Southern port most suitable for mail connection with South America, Central America and the West Indies.

In this we think the commercial bodies of the Mississippi valley and of the principal Southern cities would join, and we suggest that they be requested to co-operate.

J. T. TUPPER, J. A. ALLEN, J. C. WALKER, C. L. CHAFFEE.

HARD TIMES IN CONSTANTINOPLE. (N. Y. Times.)

CONSTANTINOPLE, July 8.—The people of the country are being pressed for money contributions to an alarming extent. The financial distress on the part of the government is something terrible, and that of the people is pitiful to see. Here in Constantinople no one can say without some hungry-eyed woman or child appearing at our door and crying for bread. If you go in the street with ever so small a parcel in your hands, you are beset with offers to carry it, finally ending in the imploring wail, "Please let me carry it; I won't ask much, but I want some bread to eat."

There are well-to-do families who have not eaten anything but dry bread for weeks, and are thankful to get that. There are mothers whose babes are dying of starvation; there are families whose young girls are being besought to go on the streets to beg bread, and whose young men wander about the whole day in search of work, and stagger home wearied and heart-sick every night with the same cry, "Chi k'dar—I couldn't find it." This is the condition of many of the Christians of this city. The same story comes up from all neighboring cities, with cries for help, and it is evident that help must come to them from abroad, or many will go down to their graves with the blackness of famine on their faces.

This being the condition of the women and children left behind by the Moslem volunteers and conscripts may be imagined. Their wretchedness is hidden in the distant villages, unreached by any highway, and the story is unchronicled in any public print. There is imminent danger of famine and pestilence coming in the track of this war.

MORE SECRET ORDERS OF AGITATORS. Some of the Organizations in Pittsburgh—Their Sympathy and Object. (Pittsburgh (Penn.) Telegraph, August 10.)

The agitation in labor circles during the past three years, and the busy, cunning work of scheming men who seek agrardization by exciting the prejudices of the ignorant among the lower classes, has caused the outgrowth of numerous organizations, which, while working independently, have the same ultimate object in view, and propose to accomplish this purpose through the same channel, namely, the ballot-box. The recent troubles in this city and elsewhere have given a great impetus to the growth of these organizations, and working men by the hundreds are paying their necessary dues and taking their strange oaths which, with their explanatory adjuncts, seem to lend a dignity to the order. When the Ancient Order of United Workmen was first started it had for its prime object the liberation of labor from its bondage to capital, but this order soon lapsed into a mutual insurance society, and has now a vast membership.

The Sovereigns of Industry are nearly as mild in their instructions, though smacking somewhat more strongly of antagonism to capital. The Bees is a society of recent organization, whose membership is confined almost wholly to this county at present. One Frycock, of Allegheny, is or was the head centre. He is illiterate to the last degree, cannot even read or write, but invented a remarkable cipher, which holds inviolable the secrets of the order. Frycock has worked extensively among the miners of the county, and probably has made a pretty good thing out of it. The oaths contain expressions of the bitterest enmity toward capitalists, and look upon violence as excusable if the ballot is not sufficient in the accomplishment of their object. A slightly more dignified order is one whose name is unknown to any but

MEMBERS, but which is symbolized by five stars. It has probably been productive of more sedition in the ranks of working men than any other order.

The Junior Sons of '76 is the most extensive order among working men in this State. It was organized simultaneously in Beaver, Dauphin and other counties about eighteen months ago. At present all these organizations, except the first named, are drawn closely together, their rituals are similar, and a coalition is probable. At least they will work together in all movements, political or otherwise, this autumn. An intelligent, sagacious member of at least three of these organizations informed a Telegraph reporter this morning that the best, most intelligent and industrious working men are not active workers in these orders, but that they are captured by the ignorant, prejudiced, hypocritical, scheming and vicious, and must, if not exposed and broken up, create serious trouble.

REPUUDIATION IN KANSAS. More of the Kansas Counties Repudiating Their Debts. (Chicago Times.)

LEAVENWORTH, Aug. 19.—The State of Kansas is plodding steadily upon its way to repudiation, and if this recklessness of voting bonds to aid every scheme which is thrown upon the voice of the people continues, it will not take this commonwealth long to reach the goal arrived at by Minnesota. State finances at the present time are in an excellent condition, but the counties, and particularly those which have been settled long enough to catch the railroad fever which was epidemic from 1865 to 1873, are rapidly running into bankruptcy. The debt of this county, together with the interest thereon, is about \$1,200,000, and the assessed value of all taxable property in the county but \$800,000, so that if the county were sold to-day at sheriff's sale for what it is assessed, it would leave its creditors \$400,000 in the lurch. Numbers of other counties are in the same situation. The Franklin county commissioners, following Leavenworth county's example, have declined to levy a tax for the payment of any interest upon its railroad bonded indebtedness. The commissioners of Anderson county have also done the same, and, more than that, they refuse to set a time when they will meet for that purpose. The citizens of Douglas county are to vote upon the 4th of next month upon its proposition to compromise the railroad indebtedness at five cents upon the dollar, and Doniphan county has flatly refused to make any levy whatever to pay the interest upon her railroad indebtedness. The railroad debt of Douglas county, together with four years accrued and unpaid interest, amounts to \$900,000. The citizens of Chetopa, who owe \$125,000 and whose property is assessed at \$80,000, are offering to compromise at twenty-five per cent. Johnson, Allen and several other counties are similarly situated, and must either compromise or repudiate, and in the present state of feelings against the bondholders, the latter seems to be much the more in favor.

A REMARKABLE REINFORCEMENT. (N. Y. Tribune.)

The Russian babes are shouting "On to the Balkan." One night about a month ago a dozen children were missing from a Kischeneff. One father after another sent word to the police that a child was lost. The streets, the back yards and the Hebrew quarter were ransacked, but the urchins could not be found; and when morning came their mothers were convinced that they had either been kidnapped by a gipsy tribe or chopped into sausage meat by Dashi-Bazouks. Mounted patrols set out in the direction of the Pruth to scour the country, and about ten miles from the city the youngsters were found. The taller boys were armed with second hand muskets and pistols, and the smaller urchins in the rear had sticks and wooden swords; and all were marching on Constantinople! They had passed the night in a little wood by the roadside, and after their bivouac had resumed their march in excellent order. Their commissariat had been managed admirably, for they had taken luncheon with them from town and had breakfasted heartily in camp. When the police asked them where they were going they replied, briskly, "To reinforce the army." The advance of the recruits was checked and a retreat was ordered on Kischeneff. Such spirited lads ought not to have been whipped after they got home, but we dare say they were. The domestic proverb, which applies to the Russian children as well as his wife, runs, "Love them as your own soul, and beat them like your fur jacket."

PROPOSED INCREASE OF THE ARMY. (Cincinnati Enquirer.)

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17, 1877.—There is a movement on foot which will be vigorously pressed at the coming session of Congress to induce that body to increase the infantry regiments of the army to twelve companies each, instead of ten, as now constituted, and allow each regiment an additional lieutenant colonel and major. If successful, it would give to the army twenty-five lieutenant colonels, and the same number of majors, fifty captains and one hundred lieutenants; in all 200 commissioned officers. The pressure for such increase comes from the South, the object being, if successful, to induce the President to select the officers thence to be appointed from that section. It is thought by those who will agitate the subject that if the President will assure Southern Representatives that he will select the officers from the South, it will receive almost the solid support of its Representatives, sufficient to carry the measure through Congress. It will be urged upon the Southern Representatives that such legislation will tend to produce a good feeling toward the army in the South, and will remove the prejudice which has existed against it since the close of the war. Inasmuch as such movement would tend to further popularize the President among the Southern people, it is more than probable that he will recommend legislation looking to the increase of the army, and will cite the experience of the recent railroad strikes as evidence that a larger military force is desirable.

THE SUGAR CROP.

INTERVIEWS WITH SOME OF OUR LEADING BROKERS AND MERCHANTS.

The General Opinion is that the Prospects are Fair.

Our climate is so changeable and uncertain that it may perhaps appear premature to give to the public opinions concerning the sugar crop, ultimate success of what depends so largely upon the conduct of the weather and the general deportment of winds and temperature. With a view to give a general opinion, however, of the present status of the crops, going far to give an idea of the prospects so interesting to a large portion of our community, we thought that interviews with our leading sugar merchants and brokers would be good reading for the community, and, therefore, our reporter went around and talked about the matter with the parties most interested in the business, with the idea of giving to the public what facts he might elicit from the shock of conversation.

After careful reading of the subjoined interviews it appears that the situation at present is good, and that the prospects are fair. It is true that the cane is somewhat backward in general, but that is made up by the greater acreage planted. The stubble, it must be said, has been in many, we might as well say, in most localities, a failure, but the plant cane by its steady growth and healthy development has more than compensated the loss and sickly results of its inferior sisters. As far as we can judge from the interviews published below, there will be a very small difference between the growing crop and that of last year. If the season is very favorable there will be no doubt an excess over last year's products, and if the weather happens to be untoward a little diminution may be expected. As matters now stand the prospects are good, and our merchants interested in the sugar business may depend upon a fair crop. At all events, unless all the elements combine against the sugar planters the present data tend to show that the crop will be at least equal to last year's.

We give as follows the result of our various interviews:

RICHARD MILLIKEN, ESQ.

The inquiry as to the progress and prospects of the crop was not unattended with some difficulty. In the first place, those who thought they knew all about it didn't feel inclined to furnish all the private intelligence they were possessed of for reasons obvious to commercial men, and those who didn't know too much did not care to let out what they wanted to know. On the whole, it was somewhat of a difficult task for a reporter to average the opinions expressed in the coming sugar crop, for at this season of the year it is next to impossible to form any accurate estimate. In his tour through the sugar mart the reporter happened to greet first that veteran in the trade, Richard Milliken, Esq., when the following colloquy ensued:

Reporter.—Mr. Milliken, the DEMOCRAT is about to publish a fair statement of the coming sugar crop, and as you are one of the most experienced men in the business, I thought a call on you might develop the true condition of things.

Mr. Milliken.—I am just a little busy now, but I'll give you all the information I can. I had much rather that you should call a little later.

Rep.—Mr. Milliken, it would be a source of considerable satisfaction to our readers to know something about our coming sugar crop, and if you would be kind enough to give me your opinion it may be of interest to our readers.

Mr. Milliken.—Well, as things now stand, I can't give you an opinion about the crop, for nobody can. You take us just as we are, between seasons, and I couldn't give you an opinion that would be authentic or sure, because nobody knows anything about it. I would dislike to express any positive opinion.

Rep.—Mr. Milliken, what do you think of the coming crop? Will it compare favorably with that of last year or not?

Mr. M.—You can understand about as well as I can that I cannot form an opinion now any more than you can, and I cannot express a positive opinion any more than you can.

Rep.—Taking all things into consideration, do you think our sugar crop of this year will come up to that of last?

Mr. M.—To give you my own opinion from what I have seen, and that in a very few words, I think we will have this autumn what might be called a fair crop. As it is true the stubble is very poor, so far as I have heard, but the plant cane looks favorable. If we have a good fall, one or two during the latter part we have rain, the crop will turn out well.

Rep.—Taking all in all, don't you think we will have what might be called a fully fair crop?

Mr. M.—That's hard to say. I haven't got time to go to you at length, or I could tell you much more. All I know is what I've seen comes to me. As everything now is, the stubble is late and the cane not like that of last year.

A. THOMPSON.

After some little delay the reporter was ushered into the presence of A. Thompson, Esq., whose prominence in sugar circles is too well known to need comment. Mr. Thompson, after the object of the reporter was made known, in a most agreeable manner received the quill driver and expressed much pleasure at the visit. The reporter opened the subject.

Rep.—Mr. Thompson, the DEMOCRAT desires to publish, as nearly correct as possible, a statement of the prospects of the coming sugar crop. Could you give me what information you possess on the subject?

Mr. Thompson.—With pleasure, sir; I have been suffering for some time past, and have been really too much indisposed to be thoroughly up in the market. From what I have heard we can expect a fair crop this year.

Rep.—From your correspondence what would you judge the yield to amount to this season?

Mr. T.—That is something I could not definitely state. The crop so far is much better up the coast than down, and as far as one can judge the yield will be good. On Enbridge's and Miller's plantations the crop will be very good if we have weather that is at all favorable. The cane is now drawing well, and it looks fine for ripening. Taking all in all I think we'll have a crop of 175,000 hogsheads if the weather is good for the growing crop.

Rep.—Don't you think that is a rather high estimate?

Mr. T.—No, not at all; if we have the weather for us, it all depends upon that. There has been a great deal of fertilizer used this year, and the result has been that they have increased the size of the cane, but whether the production of the saccharine matter has been increased remains to be seen. As a rule, however, from those places I have heard from the stubble is very poor, and it will produce but very little, if anything, in the way of sugar.

Rep.—What would you consider a fair estimate of the condition of the sugar crop as it now stands?

Mr. T.—From what I have seen I would judge the crop to be what might be called fully fair, and the prospect favorable for a good crop, that is a good fair crop.

The reporter next called upon Mr. William Agar, of the well known firm of

AGAR & LELONG.

After the usual civilities Mr. Agar expressed the opinion that it was now impossible to give a clear opinion about the coming crop. The reporter said:

Mr. Agar, knowing your long connection with the sugar business, and as the DEMOCRAT desires to publish a careful estimate of our coming sugar

crop, I have called on you for such information as you might be able to furnish me.

Mr. Agar.—That is a question a little difficult to answer off hand, and as our firm are only buyers, we don't know so much about the market as a number of others do.

Rep.—From your correspondence with the planters in the country are the reports favorable?

Mr. Agar.—At present our correspondence with planters is very limited, and we can't estimate for the condition of the growing crop.

Rep.—But you keep fully posted as regards the condition of the growing crop?

Mr. Agar, laughingly.—Of course we do; that's our business.

Rep.—From what you gather then what would you judge, Mr. Agar, to be the yield of our growing sugar crop?

Mr. Agar.—Taking all things into consideration, if we have a fair season I think the crop will run up to fairly ten per cent over that of last year.

R. p.—Fully ten per cent?

Mr. Agar.—Yes, sir; 10 per cent; that is, if we have a good fall. It all depends on that. We can't have much of a crop if we have storms late in our autumn, and another thing, these frosts we have about the 1st of September may curtail our yield. It all depends upon that.

Leaving Mr. Agar, the next visit was paid to the house of that experienced firm,

MESSERS. BREWER & WOGAN,

whose familiarity with the trade entitles their opinion to high consideration.

From them we learned that, taking all things into consideration, the growing crop was one to congratulate ourselves upon. The stubble has been a source of much disappointment, and can't enter as a large factor into an estimate for this year. The cane, it is true, is thin and small, but that is no criterion of its yield, for the saccharine matter may be large in even small cane. The size of the cane indicates nothing as to the yield.

After leaving Messrs. Agar & Lelong the reporter called upon

MESSERS. DYMOND & GARDES.

The members of the firm happened to be absent, but Mr. Pitot, the courteous bookkeeper, gave all the information in his possession.

A recent trip through Plaquemines on the part of a member of the house evidenced the fact that in that parish from present reports the case is drawing well and promising well.

A. TERTON.

It was a source of pleasure to the reporter to meet Mr. A. Terton, the well known sugar factor, who received his journalistic acquaintance with his usual courtesy.

After a desultory talk, Mr. Terton answered the reporter:

I would give you all that I know willingly, but to tell the truth, it is a little more than impossible to give an accurate statement of what the condition of cane as now growing is.

Rep.—Have you been of late through the sugar parishes?

Mr. Terton.—I have been through most of the river parishes from Iberville down the river, and from what I saw I think the stubble will be very poor. In the Lafourche district, where I have been, the cane is between three and four weeks behind, and the condition is indifferent, taking it as a general thing. Our correspondence from the Teche county reports about the same thing, and the yield cannot be greater than last year.

Rep.—And what do you think that will be this year?

Mr. Terton.—From all I can gather I do not think we will get as much as we did last year. The yield then was 109,381 hogsheads of sugar and molasses 12,024,103 gallons.

Rep.—And if the weather remains as we have it?

Mr. T.—What would come of it I couldn't say. The cane, if we have a wet September, will be brought to the mill with a great deal of water, and consequently there will be a loss of saccharine matter. It is a question that takes a very old head to solve. Now, as you know the cane is drawing and forming, and I am sorry to say, in the Beche I have seen the red joints are few and far between, and it required some hunting then to find them.

Rep.—As a whole, what would you consider the true class for this season, Mr. Terton?

Mr. T.—Considering all things I would put it, after deliberation, as another season.

The next person interviewed was the agent of

BRADISH JOHNSON, ESQ., who was that polite and perfect gentleman, Mr. F. CASNAVE.

Mr. Casnave reported that Mr. Johnson had been fertilizing very largely during the last year.

Rep.—Well, Mr. Casnave, from your observation, what do you think this year's yield will be?

Mr. Casnave.—As you probably know, that depends entirely on the weather. September and October are the critical months, and the sugar yield depends on what kind of weather we have then. If we have a rain now and afterwards we have a rain during the fall we will have a large crop. Cane depends entirely on the weather, and that is the main thing to be considered.

Rep.—Is Mr. Bradish Johnson going to start his mills earlier this year than usual?

Mr. Casnave.—Oh, yes. On the Whitney and Carroll places he has given orders that grinding should start on October 15. These places are above the city. On those below the city, in Plaquemines, as the cane is smaller and late, grinding will be later.

Rep.—What is the report about rations down there?

Mr. C.—From what I saw I think it will take almost the whole of the ratoon to plant. The stubble is very poor, remarkably poor. I have heard that one acre of stubble will only plant two. It is indeed very poor.

Rep.—Has not Mr. Johnson used fertilizers very largely?

Mr. C.—He has. He has used fertilizers whenever he thought it would be of benefit, and much more freely than before the war. This I think has been quite general of late. Mr. Johnson spent this year over \$15,000 in fertilizers, besides \$2000 or \$3000 in cow peas.

Rep.—As a general average what would you call our growing crop?

Mr. C.—From my personal observation, and from all I can glean, I think the crop of 1877 will be fine, or what you might call a truly fair crop. We have had a drought up the country during the month of August, and it is very natural to expect heavy rains in September. If we have a very wet September much of the sugar, that would otherwise be made will go through the chimney, evaporated with the water. This, of course, will lessen the crop. What we want now is rain, and after it is cool weather. That would help the cane amazingly.

MR. HENRI TETE.

one of our largest sugar factors, and a gentleman who has had a wide experience in sugar planting, upon being interviewed, expressed an unqualified desire to afford us all the information and assistance within his power. He also expressed himself favorably upon our "Cotton Interview," which he had read.

Referring to the prospects of the next sugar crop, Mr. Tete said that there was no need of concealing the fact that the crop was backward, and that the stubble had suffered considerably from the severe cold of last winter, and yet the prospects were that the next crop would be what might be called "fair."

The crop might not come up with that of last season, which was of about 160,000 hogsheads, but even though the planters made 15,000 hogsheads fewer this year they would be satisfied. It was true that more cane had been planted this year than last, but not in a proportion to make up for the difference in the condition of the cane at this period as compared with last season. General rains were needed in July and August to give size to the cane and dry weather in September to mature it, and there had been no water in the country when it was needed. Of course, the grinding season would begin this year much later than last.

Are there any sections of the State, we asked, from which you have either very good or very bad reports?

None, answered Mr. Tete. The reports show uniformity in the condition of the crops throughout the State.

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