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THE SPANISH SITUATION.

A RUPTURE IMMINENT BETWEEN FRANCE AND PRUSSIA.

A MAJORITY OF THE CORTEZ IN FAVOR OF PRINCE HOHENZOLLERN—PRUSSIA REFUSES ANY EXPLANATION TO FRANCE—GEN. PRIM'S COURSE APPOVED BY THE SPANISH MINISTRY—A FRENCH FLEET ORDERED TO THE MEDITERRANEAN—RUMORED ALLIANCE BETWEEN FRANCE AND AUSTRIA—OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

PARIS, Thursday, July 7, 1870.

The authorities have been assured that fully three-fourths of the members of the Spanish Cortes are favorable to the elevation of the Prince of Hohenzollern to the Spanish crown. There seems to be no doubt that the King of Prussia is also favorable to the project, and refuses any explanation in reply to the note from the French Government.

Dispatches from Madrid announce that at a Council of Ministers, held yesterday, the course of Gen. Prim had taken was unanimously approved, and the candidacy of Prince Hohenzollern accepted. They authorized the Minister of Foreign Affairs to present the name of the new candidate to the Cortes, which will probably be convened expressly for that purpose. The Council of Ministers hope that the Prince will receive more than 170 votes, the minimum required by the resolution passed by the Cortes on the 3d of June.

The Prince is expected to arrive at Madrid early in November. A Spanish fleet will be dispatched to bring him.

There is great agitation and activity in the Foreign Office, and it is asserted that a French fleet will sail immediately for the Mediterranean.

It is said that scores of telegrams passed between Prim and Bismarck before the intrigue was discovered by the French Minister at Berlin.

It is not believed that France would agree to a conference of the great Powers on the question, as she desires to settle directly with Prussia and Spain. Austria so far maintains a strict neutrality on the question, though reports are current that an alliance has been formed between France and Austria.

The rumor that Prim had abandoned the candidature of the Prince of Hohenzollern, in view of the threatening opposition of France, is not confirmed. Prim wishes to have the decision of the Cortes on the question, and insists that the project is not hostile to France.

The *Liberté* to-day demands that Prussia be forced by a European Congress, or by war, to give guarantees which will bind her not to interfere in the affairs of other nations. It also calls on France to get possession of the Rhenish frontiers either by diplomacy or war.

The *Gaulois* (independent) has the following in its issue of this morning:

Gen. Prim, in reply to the dispatch of Señor Olozaga, the Spanish Ambassador in this city, asserts that he acted with the consent of Regent Serrano, unofficially and outside of diplomacy. Finding difficulty in obtaining a candidate for the Spanish throne, he addressed the Prince of Hohenzollern, who unites many desirable qualities, but whose personal importance was thought insufficient to give umbrage to France. As such an emotion has been created, Gen. Prim retracts and assures the French Government of the sincerity of his intentions. Then the question is settled so far as Spain is concerned. It remains to be seen what Prussia will do after the scene in the French Chambers yesterday, and the very unequevocal declarations of the Duke of Grammont.

The *Gaulois* published a second edition to retract its report that Prim had given way. The *Gaulois* states that he still maintains the candidature of the Prince of Hohenzollern; but that the Spanish Minister here has telegraphed to Madrid that the project must be abandoned, or there will be war.

THE EXCITEMENT IN ENGLAND—FRENCH REPORTS—EFFECT OF THE NEWS IN COMMERCIAL CIRCLES.

LONDON, Thursday, July 7, 1870.

There is much excitement here in view of the threatened European complication on the subject of Prince Leopold's candidature for the Spanish throne. Dispatches from Paris say there is a strong feeling in France, even outside of official circles, against the bestowal of the Spanish crown on any Hohenzollern. The tranquilizing assurances of the French Emperor have exerted a beneficial effect in Paris, and particularly on the Bourse. Rentes, this morning, opened at 70 francs 95 centimes, or 15 centimes higher than the closing of yesterday.

The British consols opened decidedly lower to-day, in sympathy with French rentes, which have declined heavily within the past few days. The American securities, which are also off a trifle, were influenced solely by the price of gold at New-York.

OMINOUS RETICENCE OF THE PRUSSIAN OFFICIAL JOURNALS.

BERLIN, Thursday, July 7, 1870.

All the semi-official journals here are silent on the Spanish imbroglio, with the exception of *The North German Gazette*. This paper professes to have learned for the first time, from the declaration of the Duke de Grammont, that any Prince of the House of Hohenzolern had accepted Gen. Prim's offer of the Spanish crown; and it fails to understand the talk about war indulged in by M. Ollivier yesterday in the French Chamber.

TONE OF THE SPANISH PRESS—THE SPANISH DECISION TO BE SENT TO THE GREAT POWERS.

MADRID, Thursday, July 7, 1870.

The *Tiempo* and *Epoca* (which support Don Alfonso) and other journals join in the outcry against a Prussian alliance. The partisans of Gen. Prim press it as a last resort for Spain.

It is reported on good authority that the Spanish Government has resolved to communicate officially to the foreign powers its decision with regard to the candidature for the throne.

The hopes of the Carlists on the Spanish frontier are reviving in consequence of the complications of the Prussian intrigue.

LATER FROM PARIS—A NOTE SAID TO HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE PRUSSIAN GOVERNMENT—PRINCE HOHENZOLLERN TO BE SUPPORTED BY PRUSSIA—REPORTED ALLIANCE BETWEEN SPAIN AND PRUSSIA—THE FRENCH MILITARY CONTINGENT INCREASED.

PARIS, Thursday, July 7—9 p. m.

A note is said to have been received here from Prussia, the substance of which is given us as follows: The Prince of Hohenzollern is not a member of the royal family; Prussia did nothing to procure the offer of the Spanish crown for him; the consent of the King of Prussia to its acceptance will be given definitively only after the vote of the Cortes; and, if the latter should elect a Hohenzollern Prussia, will support him.

Dispatches have been sent to St. Petersburg to obtain the advice of Russia on the candidature of the Prince of Hohenzollern.

An important dispatch was sent by the Minister of Foreign Affairs to Regent Serrano to-day.

A rumor prevails that Spain concluded, yesterday, a new treaty alliance with Prussia.

The French Senate proposes to increase the military contingent from 90,000 to 100,000.

STILL LATER—THE SPANISH MINISTER AT PARIS TO RECEIVE HIS PASSPORTS IN CASE OF AN UNFAVORABLE ANSWER FROM MADRID.

PARIS, Thursday, July 7, 1870—Midnight.

The report is current to-night that Señor Alozaza, the Spanish Minister, will receive his passports if the reply of Spain to the French dispatch sent to Madrid to-day is not favorable.

In the Corps Legislatif to-day, Minister Segris said the Government had received no communication on the Spanish question since yesterday.

CHINA.

ORDER RESTORED AT PEKIN.

LONDON, Thursday, July 7, 1870.

Telegrams received from Pekin to-day announce that order has been restored and measures taken which will insure the safety of all foreigners.

The French Minister of Foreign Affairs has received full confirmation of the massacre of the French in Pekin. Instructions will be immediately sent to the Commander of the French fleet in Chinese waters. No special expedition will be dispatched, as the naval force is deemed sufficient to vindicate the outraged dignity of France.

The Morning Post to-day says the Great Powers will be disposed to sanction any energetic action on the part of France for the punishment of the Chinese, and it is thought *The Post* is semi-officially inspired to speak for the English Government.

GREAT BRITAIN.

PROCEEDINGS IN PARLIAMENT—REFUSAL OF THE GOVERNMENT TO DELIVER THE BODY OF THOMPSON TO THE FENIANS—ANOTHER RAILROAD COLLISION.

LONDON, Thursday, July 7, 1870.

In the House of Lords, to-day, two or three benevolent measures, introduced by the eccentric Marquis of Townsend, were rejected. The bill providing for the revision of the Lessons in the Book of Common Prayer passed. After a brief debate on local matters, their Lordships adjourned.

In the House of Commons to-night, Mr. Otway, Under Foreign Secretary, said the Government had declined to ratify the treaty concluded by Minister Alcock with China. Alluding to the newspaper reports, he said the Government had received no official advices of the late outrages in Pekin. In reply to a question, Mr. Otway informed the House that a mixed Commission had been appointed to adjust the claims of British subjects arising from the civil war in Hayti.

The House continued in Committee the consideration of amendments to the Education bill. A Tory amendment authorizing school boards to raise money to meet deficiencies, provoked a verbal duel between Messrs. Disraeli and Gladstone, which resulted in favor of the latter, the amendment being rejected by a majority of 185 votes. The Party Processions bill, introduced by Mr. Fortescue, and directed especially against the disorderly conduct of the Orangemen, was read a second time, after an explanation and report from the Rt. Hon. Chief Secretary for Ireland.

The Fenians are greatly incensed at the refusal of the Government to give up the body of the convict Thompson, who died at Portland. They proposed to give the remains a great funeral, and to take them from Portland to Ireland for that purpose. The Government considered such a demonstration unsafe, and will have the body quietly buried in England.

Another collision of trains occurred to-day on the Northeastern Railway, near South Shields. Many of the cars were wrecked, but no lives were lost.

TURKEY.

THE KHEDIVE ON A VISIT TO THE SULTAN.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Thursday, July 7, 1870.

The Viceroy of Egypt has arrived here. He is well received by the Sultan.

MEXICO.

GEN. VEGA'S STEAMER FORWARD DESTROYED BY THE U. S. STEAMER MOHICAN—SURRENDER OF THE SIERRA PUEBLA INSURGENTS—A REVOLUTION EXPECTED IN JALISCO—ANOTHER PRIEST MARRIED.

MEXICO, July 1.—The United States man-of-war Mohican, which started in pursuit of Placido Vega's steamer Forward, overtook and destroyed that vessel on the 17th of June. Six of the Forward's crew were taken prisoners by the Mexicans at Teacapam Bay and shot.

The Sierra Puebla insurgents have surrendered to the Government authorities. The women of Numaran organized to defend the town against Esteban Bravo, but his troops failed to make the anticipated attack.

Notwithstanding the recognition of Cuervo as Governor of Jalisco, a revolution in that State is imminent.

Judges Riva, Palacio, and Cardozo have resigned their seats in the Supreme Court, owing to a disrespectful note sent by President Juarez, criticising the action of the Court in censuring the partiality shown to employés in the matter of pay.

Congress having decreed the continuation of the Free Zone, Minister Romero has organized a guard to prevent smuggling, the expense for the maintenance of which will be about $100,000 annually.

Another priest, a resident of the town of Viezca, in the State of Cohabuila, has married.

Gov. Quiroga has initiated a revolutionary movement in the State of Nuevo Leon.

The Vera Cruz Railroad has been completed, and opened to the public as far as Chiquishuite.

The Diario, the official organ of the Mexican Government, denies peremptorily the charges recently made against President Juarez that he had aided the Confederates.

Two Legislatures, each supported by a Governor and a General, contest the control of the State of Campeche.

It is reported that the Guatemalian General, Perez Gomez, has crossed over the border into the State of Chiapa, and, at the head of 500 men, has entered the town of Chiapa, the capital of the State. Many Mexicans have joined the invading Guatemalian army. Porforio Diaz has accepted the command of the allied troops.

CUBA.

THE SPANIARDS DEFEATED IN SEVERAL ENGAGEMENTS—RE-ENFORCEMENTS DEMANDED, BUT NONE TO BE HAD—PLANTERS RESISTING THE EMANCIPATION LAWS—DE RODAS RETURNED TO HAVANA.

HAVANA, July 7.—Various reports represent positively that the Spanish troops have been defeated in several engagements recently with the insurgent leaders Diaz and Gomez. The situation of the Spaniards in the Eastern Department is unfavorable.

The troops in the vicinity of Santiago de Cuba are acting altogether on the defensive. Col. Balwes, who is in command at Santiago de Cuba, had made demands for reënforcements, but was unable to get any.

The planters are holding meetings, and nearly all of them refuse to obey the emancipation laws, and will resist the freeing of the slaves. Large amounts of money have been raised to send to Spain in order to avoid the execution of the law, and to secure its repeal.

Captain-General de Rodas has at last returned to Havana, having arrived here last night. He confirms the report that the so-called Army of the Camaguay, as an organized force, no longer exists, and states that the only opposition the Spaniards meet with is from small wandering parties.

TROUBLES OF DE RODAS—VALMASEDA TO BE RECALLED—SPANISH OPINIONS ON AMERICAN INTERVENTION.

HAVANA, July 2.—The Captain-General still lingers at Puerto Principe. There is a growing belief that his delay to return to Havana is to be attributed to the want of concord between the rich slaveholding Spaniards and himself. It is more than probable that there will ensue on his arrival, which cannot be much longer delayed, an open and bitter rupture between the Volunteer corps and the Captain-General. To calm this bad feeling, is the reason why so many enthusiastic telegrams are sent over the wires from Puerto Principe.

It is positively stated that an order was received by the last Spanish steamer, from the Regent, instructing the Captain-General to take the necessary steps toward expelling Valmaseda from the island. This is to be done under a legal process termed *bajo partida de registro*. The cause assigned is the terrible assassination of the 18 political prisoners who were incarcerated at Santiago de Cuba, and afterward murdered by orders of Boet in the road as they were marching from Bayamo into the interior. Boet, who is now in the Cabañas charged with the commission of this crime, declares that he acted under Valmaseda's written order to shoot the men without trial. It is further stated that the wives of De Rodas and of Carbo, the Second Captain-General, have gone to Spain, whither they sailed a few days ago, with the view of showing, to the satisfaction of the Regent's Government, that Boet certainly acted under positive orders from Valmaseda, and that he was actually paid by that worthy to commit the deed. These ladies are to intercede for Boet upon these grounds, and if there be any doubt as to whether the order referred to has already issued, it is quite probable that such an order will issue. Valmaseda, it is well known, is the promoter of all the bad feeling on the part of the volunteers toward De Rodas, and as he is a man of some ability, may prove a dangerous instrument in their hands when used against the Government.

The *Diario* publishes another editorial on President Grant's Cuban message, somewhat bitter in tone, the sum of all which is that the President and Congress had better attend to their own business, and, in no wise whatever, mingle in the affairs of Cuba. The mere offer to do so would, that journal says, be of itself a great insult. Speaking of the resolutions offered by Mr. Sumner, the same paper, under date of June 28, uses the following language:

"We do not know whether or not the discussion in the Senate has ended, but this we will say, that if the resolutions be adopted, Gen. Grant will be placed in a position of difficulty. The resolutions of Mr. Sumner are declarations, petitions, and counsel which the Federal Government is to offer to Spain; and as there is nothing in them which can be accepted, and very little that will bear a discussion even, we doubt whether there exists a Spaniard who would not at once return the paper on which the resolutions of Mr. Sumner should be found written."

The editor further says that the Spaniards need no "guardians," and that to no power, neither European nor American, will the privilege ever be accorded of "using the mildest form of advice." "We do not claim to be strong," it says, "but we are persevering, and though we may be beaten, yet at any rate we shall sell the victory at a dear price."

The General commanding at Matanzas notices officially a victory achieved by Commandante Navarette over a body of insurgents at Yaguamarras. The column of Ruiz had, it is claimed, likewise captured several encampments. With regard to Bembeta, the *Diario* says:

"This General, at the head of some 500 to 600 men, had shown himself in the district of Espiritu Santo, the object of his excursion being to pass over into the Western Department. He had a number of proclamations printed, which were to have been distributed in that region, and he calculated on being able easily to persuade that population to take up arms."

The same paper says that the insurgent General's forces were greatly suffering from cholera, and that as Valverde, Arias, Gazalo, and Marquez were on his track he would soon, doubtless, be driven back to Camaguey.

The Governor-General claims most positively that all the arms of the second Upton expedition were captured, and that all the men composing it were either killed or captured. It is somewhat singular, however, that letters have been recently captured addressed by some of the expeditionary party to Capt. H. Harrison, whose fate was reported to have been sealed, soon after the first landing at Puerto Brava, by the Spaniards.

El Alba of Santa Clara, of 26th ult., says cholera and yellow fever are both doing their work, and the deaths are very numerous. The poor seem to suffer much more than those in better circumstances, a proof that the want of resources is, in part, the cause of the great number of deaths. A moving appeal is made to the authorities to take the initiative in raising means.

THE NEW DOMINION.

NO AMERICAN FISHING VESSELS STOPPED AT CANSO STRAITS—PRINCE ARTHUR EMBARKED FOR ENGLAND—ANOTHER FIRE AT SAGUENAY.

OTTAWA, July 7.—The Government has no information that American vessels have been stopped in the Straits of Canso, as stated recently by Gen. Butler in the United States Congress.

Prince Arthur embarked on the Crocodile this evening, at Quebec, for England. In reply to an address from the Mayor and Corporation, the Prince said he should never cease to rejoice that he had been enabled to visit Canada, and, after alluding to the favorable impressions Canada had produced upon him, and the interest he should always take in the Dominion, concluded by saying:

I shall always think of its people with sincere regard, sympathy, and affection. I shall carry back with me to England a confident feeling that the self-reliving spirit, patriotism, and gallantry which I saw manifested the other day at the frontier will ever induce the people of Canada to protect the national honor. Thanking you once more for your kind wishes on my departure, let me at the same time tender you my most affectionate farewell and my earnest prayer that God may watch over and protect this land and pour down His choicest blessings upon its people.

Loud cheers were given as His Royal Highness went into the boat which was to convey him to the Crocodile, and as the boat left the wharf the royal salute of 21 guns was fired from the citadel. The band of the 69th Regiment played "Auld Lang Syne" amid continuous cheering.

Another destructive fire occurred at Saguenay, which lasted for eight days. The destitution is very great. The Provincial Government has been applied to for $85,000 in aid of the sufferers.

MISCELLANEOUS CABLE DISPATCHES.

....The Prince Imperial of France will go to the camp at Chalons next week.

....The German tailors introduced into Cork by the employers have struck and joined the Irish.

....Lord Camperdown has been appointed Junior Lord of the Admiralty, vice Trevelyan, resigned.

....Dr. Pope, an American, and formerly a resident of St. Louis, committed suicide in Paris on Wednesday night.

....The Convocation of Canterbury proposes to create a permanent Committee to watch the proceedings of the Vatican.

....The arrival of the ship Cerastes, Capt. Brunton, one of the racing clippers from San Francisco, March 14, is reported at Liverpool.

....According to the weekly statement of the Bank of France, the amount of bullion has decreased 29,400,000 francs since the last report.

....According to the regular weekly statement of the Bank of England, the amount of bullion in vault has decreased £443,000 since the last report.

....*The Augsburg Gazette* says many bishops at the Roman Council have renounced their right to speak, in order to hasten the decision on the Infallibility Dogma.

....The appeal of the Duke of Newcastle to the House of Lords against a judgment rendered in favor of one Morris, a money-lender, has been decided adversely to the appellant.

....The brothers Seitze, the New-York tobacconists, who were under arrest in Glasgow, have been discharged on surrendering into the hands of the Court £13,000 sterling—an amount sufficient to cover the alleged defalcations.

....Letters of administration have been granted for the estate of Longworth, on the ground that Teresa Yelverton, one of the claimants, is absent in America, where her address is unknown, and she cannot be communicated with.

....Subscriptions are circulating in London and at Liverpool for a fund in aid of the families of the officers and sailors of the steamer Oneida. Sir John Lubbock of London is at the head of the movement, and it bids fair to be a success.

THE INDIANS.

MINERS MASSACRED BY THE UTES.

LARAMIE CITY, July 7.—*The Laramie Sentinel* says that last night a man came into Sherman Station from North Park, and reported that there had been a general massacre of the white miners there by the Utes. He states that a party of Cheyennes came in there, and the Utes went to the miners to get them to help fight the Cheyennes, which they refused to do. A fight then ensued between the Utes and Cheyennes, which lasted some five hours, when the latter fled. Then the Utes attacked the miners and killed all they could find. Our informant states that he buried three of the killed. One was a man named Chipman. They were all very much mangled, and their heads chopped to pieces.

THE MASSACRE CORROBORATED.

CHEYENNE, W. T., July 7.—A party of twenty prospectors, who left here for the Snake River mines three weeks ago, returned to-day. They witnessed a fight between Utes and Cheyennes, and probably owe their lives to the fact of the Indians fighting among themselves. July 4 they found the body of Mr. Shipman of Independence, Montana, in front of his cabin. He was shot twice, scalped, and axes were driven into his head, and his body was mutilated in a manner too horrible and disgusting to mention. Eighty miles north of here, at North Platte Ferry, they found the bodies of two more miners mutilated in a like manner. Their names were unknown.

AFFAIRS IN DAKOTA—CONDITION OF THE PONCA TRIBE.

WASHINGTON, July 7.—A report has been received by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs from Gov. John A. Burbank of Dakota, under date of June 27 ult., stating that he had just returned from a visit to the Ponca Agency, where he found everything in a better condition than at this time last year. The Poncas are decidedly a peaceful people, and seem more disposed to work and adopt the customs of the whites than their neighbors the Sioux of Dakota. A commencement has been made in the right direction by encouraging the leaders and the further advanced in civilization to commence erecting log houses, which has resulted in 20 being built in the last year, Indians performing all the labor except the carpenter work, while in each one that I visited I found a cooking-stove, which the owner had purchased by saving the price from the annuity, or selling a pony for this purpose. I was very much gratified while visiting the school under charge of Mr. Reed, to find that the children were rapidly advancing. The crops put in by the Indians look remarkable well, considering the dry weather.

The Omahas and Pawnees sent word to the Poncas, a short time since, that they were going on a hunt, and, having a prospect of finding buffalo on the Platte, the greater portion decided to go, as they were entirely out of meat of any description, leaving but a small number of their people at home. The old people who remained at home were really in a destitute condition, and begged of me piteously for something to eat. They sing and pray to the Great Spirit to take pity upon them and send them something to eat. Some means should be devised to care for this small tribe. They are true friends of the Government, and surrounded by enemies who watch them so closely that they endanger their lives if they go on the bluffs back of the Missouri bottom. They are consequently cut off from all kinds of game, excepting when they are fortunate enough to obtain permission to join in with friendly tribes, as before stated, to go on a hunt. Unless subsisted by the Government the coming Winter, they must starve. The Poncas number 750 persons. Government recommends issuing of rations to these Indians of flour, beef, bacon, corn, coffee, sugar, salt, and soda.

THE IRON MOLDERS' CONVENTION:

PHILADELPHIA, July 7.—In the Iron Molders' Convention to-day, James McMahon of Brooklyn was elected Assistant Secretary. The report of the President states that charters have been granted to nine new Unions. The losses of the New-England Unions have been very heavy, but the President hopes for better things; the introduction of Coolies among the Crispians may awake the molders to their danger and may teach them a lesson worth learning. In point of numbers the various Unions have fallen off considerably. In October, 1868, there were reported 113 Unions, with a membership of 4,885. In January, 1869, there were 110 Unions, and 3,903 members. In January, 1870, there were 104 Unions and 4,532 members. On July 1, 110 Unions reported a membership of 4,069. The amount held by the Unions was $13,777 04. In a business point of view the past six months has been unprecedented. With money almost a drug in the market, coal and iron much reduced in price, there has been complete stagnation throughout the country, and this has enabled employers to force down wages from 10 per cent in some instances to 50 per cent in others.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

....Ground was broken yesterday for the Memphis and St. Louis Railway.

....Over 1,300 surplus Government mules will be sold at Fort Leavenworth, commencing July 11.

....Track-laying on the Kansas Pacific Railway, eastward from Denver, was commenced on Tuesday and is advancing rapidly.

....Additional cavalry have been stationed along the line of the Kansas Pacific Railroad to protect the settlements from the Indians.

....The Georgia Legislature met yesterday and adjourned until next Monday, to await the action of Congress on the Georgia bill.

....The Convention of Sigma Alpha Epsilon societies is in session at Memphis. The attendance is very large, being principally from the South. S. S. Murdoch of Georgia presides.

....An excursion train, having on board about 2,000 persons, went from New-Haven to Middletown yesterday afternoon to celebrate the completion of the Air Line Railroad between the two cities. The Connecticut State officers, members of both houses of the Legislature and members of the City Government participated. At Middletown they were entertained by the City Government. Speeches were made by ex-Governor Douglas, David Lyman, R. W. Wright, Speaker Burnham, B. B. Sperry, and Gen. Serrell. The party returned in the evening.

WASHINGTON.

THE CONSIDERATION OF THE NEW-YORK NOMINATIONS POSTPONED UNTIL SATURDAY—WOMAN SUFFRAGE DISPOSED OF IN THE SENATE—DEFEAT OF THE ARMY BILL—RETURN OF THE PRESIDENT—PROSPECTS OF AN AGREEMENT ON THE TAX BILL.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Thursday, July 7, 1870.

This has been an active day with the large number of New-York politicians gathered here in the interest of the recent changes in the Federal appointments. The President made a request to-day that the nominations be acted on as soon as possible, and consequently an Executive session was held, and the nominations referred to the Committee on Commerce. The Committee met this evening at 6 o'clock, for the purpose of hearing any charges that might be made against Mr. Murphy. Judge Folger appeared before the Committee to defend Mr. Murphy, and Senator Fenton to oppose him. Senator Fenton stated to the Committee that he was not fully prepared to present his charges against Mr. Murphy, and asked a postponement until Monday. The Committee, after consideration, thought the time asked too long on account of the near approach of adjournment, and fixed Saturday morning as the time for a final hearing. The Murphy men consider Fenton's failure to present his charges to the Committee as a virtual withdrawal from the contest, and are highly jubilant to-night. They say Mr. Murphy will receive the solid support of the Republicans in the Senate. Among the number who arrived here to-day, in Mr. Murphy's interest, were Wm. Orton, Supervisor Dutcher, Gen. Arthur, Roswell Hart, and Judge Folger. Mr. Orton was present at the meeting of the Commerce Committee, to assist Judge Folger.

In the Senate, to-day, Mr. Trumbull sent to the Clerk's desk a bundle of Mr. Pomeroy's female suffrage petitions, with the request that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from their further consideration, and, without objection, the motion was concurred in. The Naval Appropriation bill, which has been on hand for several weeks, was finally disposed of. During its consideration a very interesting debate took place in reference to the condition of the navy. Mr. Anthony remarked that it was a misfortune of our republican institutions that these matters, which should be discussed with closed doors, had to be talked of in the face of the whole world. The general opinion seemed to be that this branch of the service was, if possible, in a worse condition than at the breaking out of the Rebellion, and that in case of war it would be utterly inadequate to meet the necessities of the occasion. Mr. Wilson thought that the millions spent since the war had been next to thrown away. It was also said that there were twice too many officers. A proposition to add 1,500 seamen to the navy was, however, voted down by a large majority. The amendment appropriating over half a million to pay claims of contractors for machinery constructed during the war was strongly opposed by Mr. Spencer, who charged the Secretary of the Navy with artifice and distortion of facts in his letter recommending the payment of the claim of Corliss & Co., whom he said were allowed largely above the amount they were entitled to. This amendment was agreed to. The bill will of course now go to a committee of conference. The Fortification Appropriation bill was then passed as it came from the House, being the first appropriation bill which has passed without amendment. The bill fixing a uniform time for the election of members of the House was also passed, after adding to it the Apportionment bill as it passed the Senate. An Executive session was then held.

At the evening session of the Senate, the conference report on the Army bill was after a lively debate laid upon the table by almost two to one. This carries the bill with it, and of course precludes the passage of any Army bill at this session.

The House disposed of the Pat. Woods case by sending Pat. to jail for three months. Pat. may consider himself fortunate, as a resolution to confine him for eight months failed by only one vote. The Tax and Tariff bill, as it passed the Senate, was reported and sent to the Ways and Means Committee, in order that it might be printed. It will be reported back to-morrow, and a Committee of Conference ordered. Schenck, Hooper, and Brooks were appointed a Committee of Conference on the Funding bill, and they will probably agree to a report to-morrow. Judge Davis made an effort to get the Naturalization bill in a Committee of Conference, but many of the Western men, desiring to kill it, voted with the Democrats, and sent it to the Speaker's table, where it will have to wait its regular turn among the mass of business there accumulated. The sum of $11,500 was voted to four contestants who failed to secure their seats. Of this amount, $5,000 was voted to Mr. Switzler, who contested the seat of Mr. Dyer, from one of the Missouri Districts. The Elections Committee reported in favor of Mr. Switzler, but the House voted down the report by almost a strict party vote. Mr. Switzler was a contestant in the last Congress, and had a favorable report from the Committee, but that House also refused to sustain the Committee.

The President, Mrs. Grant, Gen. Porter, and Secretary Fish, arrived here this morning, in the early train from New-York. The Cabinet officers had interviews with the President during the day, as did also a number of Senators and members. The delegation of Indians also called, and had an interview with the "Great Father." Red Feather, the head chief, made the usual speech, reciting the poverty and illtreatment of his band, and asking for relief. The President made a brief reply, saying that their complaints and wants should have due attention and redress. The President signed a number of bills to-day, among them the one providing for the paving of Pennsylvania-ave. with wood pavement, from the foot of the Capitol grounds to Fifteenth-st.

A majority of the Ways and Means Committee will concur in the amendment of the Senate to the Tax bill, permitting the transportation of goods in bond from ports of entry to ports of delivery in interior cities, the House having already passed upon the measure. They will also agree to the Senate proposition to continue the Income Tax, but they will disagree to many of the other amendments which the Senate have put in the bill.

The House Judiciary Committee, some time since, agreed to report in favor of repealing the present law which requires Congress to meet on the 4th of March at the commencement of every new Congress. At their meeting to-day an effort was made to reverse their action in the matter, but the Committee refused. The Committee will be allowed to make reports to-morrow, when it is expected the matter will be brought before the House. The Committee maintain that this law was passed, changing the time of the meeting of Congress, to circumvent Andy Johnson, and to prevent him doing any mischief, and that there is now no further necessity for it, and that it is a matter of great inconvenience to new members to bring them here when there is no intention of adopting any concurrent legislation. It is exceedingly doubtful whether the law can be repealed.

The Senate Commerce Committee to-day agreed to report the bill introduced by Senator Fenton to incorporate the Tehuantepec Railway and Ship Canal Company. The representatives of the Company assured the Committee that they intend to proceed at once with the survey for this important route, with a view to its immediate construction. The failure of the Isthmus of Darien route, which the Government took such a deep interest in, makes it necessary for the Government to render all the aid in its power to secure the opening of the Tehuantepec route.

[GENERAL PRESS DISPATCH.]

In the Executive session of the Senate to-day the recent nominations for prominent Federal offices in New-York were referred to the appropriate committees. A motion was previously made to confirm Mr. Hillhouse as Assistant Treasurer without a reference, but the friends of Mr. Murphy objected, saying the nominations had better be confirmed together.

The Senate to-day, in Executive session, confirmed the following nominations: George Cogswell, Collector of Internal Revenue, Sixth District, Mass.; William T. Singleton, Assessor First District, W. Va.; Henry W. Scott, Collector Customs, District of Willamette, Oregon.

REVISING THE POSTAL LAWS.

WASHINGTON, July 7.—An effort will be made before the close of the present session to pass the bill heretofore reported from the House Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, to revise, consolidate, and amend the statutes relating to the Post-Office Department. Some of the principal amendments proposed are:

The Postmaster-General may establish resident mail agencies at Panama and Aspinwall, Havana, St. Thomas, and such other foreign ports at which United States mail steamers touch to land and receive mails, as may in his judgment promote the efficiency of the foreign mail service.

Any person intrusted by law with the sale of postage-stamps or stamped envelopes, who shall refuse or neglect to account for the same, shall be deemed guilty of embezzlement, and subject to the same penalty and punishment as are provided for embezzlement of money.

The rate of postage on newspapers (except weeklies), periodicals not exceeding four ounces in weight, and circulars, when the same are deposited in a letter-carrier's office for delivery by the office or its carriers, shall be uniform at one cent each; but periodicals weighing more than four ounces shall be subject to a postage of two cents each; and these rates shall be prepaid by stamps.

Money orders are authorized to be issued at any branch post-offices or stations.

All liquids, poisons, glass, explosive materials, and obscene books shall be excluded from the mails.

It is made unlawful to convey by mail, or deposit in the post-office to be sent by mail, any letter or circular concerning lotteries, so-called gift concerts, or similar enterprises, offering prizes, or concerning schemes devised and intended to deceive and defraud the public for the purpose of obtaining money under false pretenses.

Letters on which postage is wholly unpaid, or paid less than one-half rate, are to be sent to the Dead-Letter Office.

Additional sections are proposed as to larceny and forgery, and the use of a postage-stamp that had already been used is visited with a penalty of one or three years. The present rates of postage are not altered. The object of the bill is to effect a more harmonious working of the postal system.

THE ARMY BILL.

At the evening session of the Senate, yesterday, the Conference report on the Army bill was taken up and debated, when a motion of Mr. Cameron to lay the report on the table was agreed to. The following is the vote in detail:

YEAS.

Abbott,	Corbett,	Morrill, (Vt.)]	Ross,
Ames,	Gilbert,	Nye,	Sawyer,
Boreman,	Harlan,	Osborn,	Scott,
Buckingham,	Kellogg,	Patterson,	Sherman,
Cameron,	Lewis,	Pomeroy,	Stewart,
Carpenter,	McDonald,	Rice,	Warner,
Cole,	Morrill, (Me.),	Robertson,	Willey,
Williams—29.			

NAYS.

Bayard,	*Davis,*	*McCreery,*	Sprague,
Casserly,	Fowler,	Pratt,	Sumner,
Conkling,	Harris,	Ramsey,	Trumbull,
Cragin,	Howard,	Spencer,	Wilson—16.

OUR COLLEGES.

ASBURY UNIVERSITY, INDIANA.

GREENCASTLE, Ind., July 4.—Asbury University, situated at this place, has just closed the exercises of her Thirty-first Commencement. The two Literary Societies held their sixth quinquennial services this year. The address before the Literary Societies was delivered by Prof. S. A. Lattimore, A. M., of Rochester University, New-York, an *alumnus* and ex-Professor of Asbury. The poet was Mr. Charles C. Puffer, A. M., of Rochester University, formerly of New-York City, but now of Columbia, South Carolina. He reviewed the "Manners and Times," as they are, and drew a glowing description of the "period" that is to be in the "good time coming." The address before the "Society of the Alumni" was made by Col. J. W. Ray of Indianapolis. J. Clark Kidpath, A. M., at present a Professor in the University, was the poet of the Alumni. His subject was the "New Pantheon." The Senior class numbered this year 22. Mr. Frank W. Lautz, of Valparaiso, Ind., delivered the valedictory address. The Trustees of the University, during their session, made arrangements for the immediate erection of additional buildings, long needed. This action, together with other provisions made by them, has brightened the prospects of the University.

MURDERED BY A BURGLAR.

A MAN SHOT IN MILFORD, CONN., BY A HOUSE-BREAKER.

The New-Haven Journal of yesterday says: On Wednesday morning, at an early hour, the people of Milford were horrified by hearing of the murder of Mr. Nathan Fenn by a burglar. Repeated attempts heretofore have been made by burglars to rob Mr. Fenn. On Tuesday night, after the close of his store for the day, he took what money he had on hand, amounting to $200, to the house, and on retiring placed this money beneath the pillow. He and his wife retired about 10 o'clock, in a bedroom on the first floor. About 2 o'clock Mrs. Fenn was aroused by hearing a noise. She listened a few seconds, when she became convinced that a man was in the bedroom, endeavoring to get into the closet where she kept her clothes.

She nudged her husband, who was asleep. He awoke with a sudden start, and asked what was the matter, when she, in a whisper, told him that there was a man in the room. Mr. Fenn instantly sprang from the bed, and as he landed upon the floor a man arose up in front of him, where his pants lay, and retreated to the sitting-room as rapidly as possible, Mr. Fenn pursuing him. What occurred in the sitting-room is not known, but it is supposed that Mr. Fenn seized the burglar and was fast getting the better of him, when, to effect his escape, he placed a pistol to Mr. Fenn's side and fired. As Mr. Fenn went out of the bedroom, Mrs. Fenn hastily arose and opened the window on the east side, and shouted as loud as possible, "Murder, help, help." Her cry had scarcely ceased when the report of the pistol-shot was heard, and Mr. Fenn immediately after staggered into the bedroom with his hand pressed upon his left side, and exclaiming, "Wife, I'm shot," fell to the floor at her feet. He made no other remark, and in 15 minutes he expired.

Immediately after the report of the pistol, and before Mr. Fenn reached the bedroom, Mrs. Fenn, while at the window, saw the man who had committed the deed appear on the east side of the house and pass rapidly to the corner, where he met an accomplice with whom a word or two was hurridly spoken, and then both fled. It is supposed that they leaped the garden fence, and ran across the lots in a southerly direction, but to what point is unknown. A neighbor states that a short time after the alarm was given he saw two men in a carriage drive rapidly past, in the direction of New-Haven. The village church bells were rung, and the people gathered rapidly from all directions. Intense excitement prevails. The selectmen met before 6 o'clock in the morning, and offered a reward of $1,000 for the apprehension of the murderer. Messengers were sent to warn the police of Bridgeport and New-Haven. But no trace of the burglars has yet been found.

THE COMMERCE OF SAN FRANCISCO.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 7.—The following is an extract from the Semi-Annual Review of the Commerce of San Francisco:

Tunnage of arrivals (tuns)	515,000
Foreign imports (currency value)	$12,000,000
Free goods, via Panama	6,105,000
Freights paid sailing vessels from domestic, Atlantic, and foreign ports	2,034,000
Duties collected in port for six months	4,000,000
Duties collected in port for the fiscal year	8,500,000
Internal revenue collected in this district for the six months	1,685,000
Internal revenue collected in this district for the year	3,150,000
Exports of merchandise by sea	6,890,000
Exports of treasure	17,078,000
Exports of merchandise for the harvest year ending June 30	18,191,000
Including flour and wheat	9,958,000