New-York Tribune.

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FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE PRINCE OF WALES—ANOTHER STEAMER LOST WITH ALL ON BOARD.

LONDON, Thursday, Dec. 21, 1871.

The Prince of Wales is gradually gaining strength. It is reported that of the physicians who attended him, Dr. Gull is to be made a baronet, and Dr. Lowe will receive the honor of knighthood.

The steamer Delaware, Preston, master, which sailed this week from Liverpool for Calcutta, was totally lost yesterday off the Scilly Islands. All on board are supposed to have perished.

The celebrated Tichborne trial has reached another stage. The plaintiff's case closed to-day, and further hearing was postponed until January 15.

Mr. Grant-Duff, M. P., last night addressed his constituents at Elgin. He advocated perseverance in the commercial policy of the late Mr. Cobden, and treated the International Society with unsparing ridicule.

It has been discovered that the vessel which ran down the French bark Costa Rica was the British ship Windsor Castle, which has since arrived in port.

Parliament is prorogued until the 6th of February.

GERMANY.

ANOTHER THREAT FROM PRINCE BISMARCK TO FRANCE.

BERLIN, Thursday, Dec. 21, 1871.

Prince Bismarck has sent a dispatch to Baron von Arnim, the German representative at Paris, setting forth the feeling of exasperation caused in Germany by the outrages perpetrated on her soldiers in France. He threatens to seize hostages in the occupied provinces unless assassins, in the future, who escape into neighboring provinces, are delivered up to the German officers by the French authorities; and declares that unless these horrible outrages cease the army of occupation shall be increased, and the expense and burden of its support, which is paid by France, doubled.

The Emperor has prorogued the session of the Prussian Diet until the 8th of January, 1872.

RUSSIA.

CATACAZY'S RECALL OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED.

ST. PETERSBURG, Thursday, Dec. 21, 1871.

The *Messenger*, an official organ of the Government, announces, for the first time, the removal of Minister Catacazy from Washington, owing, it is said, to personal differences which might prejudice the good relations existing between Russia and the United States.

The same official authority, in an article on the present aspect of Europe, says the other Powers should see no danger to themselves in the friendship of Russia and Germany. Their common interests suffice to explain their mutual esteem; but no State should so far count on Russia's forbearance as to think of absorbing another.

An Imperial ukase makes compulsory the use of the Russian language in the schools of Poland.

SPAIN.

THE NEW CABINET.

MADRID, Thursday, Dec. 21, 1871.

The formation of the new Ministry has been completed, and the names are announced as follows:

SAGASTA—President of the Council and Minister of the Interior.
MALCAMPO—Minister of the Marine.
DE RIAS—Minister of Foreign Affairs.
CANDAU—Minister of Public Works.
TOPETE—Minister of the Colonies.
ANGULO—Minister of Finances.
GAMINDES—Minister of War.
GROIZARD—Minister of Justice.

Of these Malcampo, Candau, De Rias and Angulo were members of the last Ministry. The Government will now move for the dissolution of the Cortes.

LATER—Admiral Topete and Señor Angulo hesitate to accept the portfolios offered them in the Sagasta Malcampo Cabinet.

HINDOSTAN.

THE SEPOYS AGAIN IN REBELLION.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 18.—Advices from Hindostan, by the China and Japan steamers, state that great damage had been done by floods in Bengal, and that a dangerous rising of Sepoys had taken place at Goa.

JAPAN.

ASTONISHING PROGRESS OF THE POLITICAL REVOLUTION—THE BUDDHIST PRIESTS ORDERED TO CLOSE THEIR TEMPLES.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 21.—The Japanese advices, by the China and Japan steamer, state that the social and political revolution there is making astonishing progress. The Government is considering the policy of sending 21 young ladies, the daughters of Daimios, to America to be educated. Twenty officers of the United States frigate Colorado, and many other foreigners, were presented to the Mikado, who will visit the Colorado and witness a naval review. The Mikado has already visited a number of foreign residents and enjoyed his visits greatly. The Buddhist priests in the country have been informed that their temples will be closed, and that they must enter the army as soldiers, or earn their living in some national occupations.

CUBA.

ANOTHER PATRIOT IMPRISONED—RE-ENFORCEMENTS FROM SPAIN.

HAVANA, Dec. 21.—Dr. J. A. Howard, who had been for some time awaiting trial at Cienfuegos for giving aid to the rebels, has at last been tried, convicted, and sentenced to eight years imprisonment in a penitentiary. His case has been referred to the Captain-General. A transport arrived from Spain to-day with 1,000 soldiers to reinforce the army here.

KEY WEST, Fla., Dec. 21.—A news letter from Havana states that Señor Lopez Roberts, ex-Governor of Havana, embarked on the 16th on the steamer for Cadiz. He was accompanied to the vessel by a large number of influential citizens, and volunteers and officers in civilians' dress. He left in the hands of his friends a farewell memorial, giving an account of and defending his administration of the affairs of the city. This document, contrary to usage, has not been published.

OFFICIAL ACCOUNTS OF THE VOLUNTEER OUTRAGES—INSTRUCTIONS TO U. S. NAVAL COMMANDERS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—The President, today, sent a brief message to the House of Representatives, in response to a resolution offered by Gen. Banks on the 6th instant, requesting information relating to the execution of medical students at Havana, and the failure of the Spanish Government to carry out in its West India colonies the reforms voluntarily promised by the statesmen in Spain.

The correspondence commences as far back as September 15, 1870. In November of that year, Secretary Fish addressed United States Minister Sickles a letter, in which the latter was instructed to represent to the Spanish Government the strong desire to have enforced the decree of emancipation of slavery in the Spanish West India colonies. Spain owed it to herself to fulfill the just expectations of the civilized world in this respect; she owed it, too, to the United states to carry out in good faith the repeated pledge.

Minister Sickles to Secretary Fish, Jan. 19, 1871, says he furnished the Minister of the Colonies with a copy of the latter's note respecting the question of Slavery and political reforms in Cuba and Porto Rico. The Minister informed him the law passed by the Constituent Cortes the 23d of June, 1870, had been fulfilled and obeyed in all its parts in Cuba, from the date of its publication, although the absence of regulations for its execution makes it necessary that what would have otherwise been a matter of mere form shall be made the basis for regular forms providing for the clear determination of each case. In order that the execution of the law may suffer no obstruction, the Minister has determined a basis to serve as a starting point, and has transmitted it to the Councilor of State, subject to the provisions of law, in order that the definite regulations for carrying out the decree in question may be taken up without delay.

Secretary Fish, on Feb. 28 last, instructed Minister Sickles to continue to urge the fulfillment of the Emancipation decree, and other promised reforms.

Among the papers is a letter from Vice Consul-General Hall, to Assistant Secretary of State Davis, dated Nov. 28, giving a circumstantial account of the alleged desecration of the grave of Castanon, the Key West martyr, as he was held to be by a portion of the peninsula population.

The medical students, he says, did not break, but merely made a few scratches with a diamond upon the glass plate that incloses the niche, and removed or destroyed the wreath and replaced it with one of their own selection. The Government was utterly powerless, and thoroughly intimidated by the volunteers, and was finally obliged to compromise with them, by ordering a drumhead court-martial to try the prisoners. It was found necessary, to prevent a more serious conflict, that some, at least, of the young men should be sacrificed. The court-martial, composed of equal numbers of regular and volunteer officers, convened at 2 o'clock in the morning, and at noon the sentences were given out. The execution took place at 5 in the afternoon, up to which hour the volunteers kept up their demonstrations before the prison and the palace. Throughout the whole of this affair the Government displayed its utter helplessness in dealing with such emergencies. The regular force at its command was insignificant, while that of the volunteers was large, readily concentrated, and, as in this instance, when nearly unanimous, of purpose overpowering.

Mr. Hall concludes by saying that during the commotion great alarm prevailed among the Cubans, and not a little among foreigners. There were well founded apprehensions that a general massacre of Cubans was intended, and to this, possibly, may be attributed as one of the motives for a compromise with the volunteers and the sacrifice of the young men; hence he sent the following telegram:

"Nov. 27.

"Volunteer demonstration against authority of Government; Government powerless; serious apprehensions of massacre every moment; vessel of war advisable. HALL."

The Secretary of the Navy replies to that part of the resolution calling for copies of instructions to the Naval Commanders of the United States, in Cuban waters, for the protection of the lives and property of American citizens, and to maintain the dignity of the American flag. The Secretary furnishes the general and specific instructions. The first is to Rear-Admiral Hoff, dated April 7, 1869, in which he says:

"Appeals are constantly made to you for the protection of persons, some of whom are justly entitled to it, while others have only a claim to your sympathy and friendly offices. You must exercise your best judgment, and discriminate in such cases. But all citizens of the United States, native born or naturalized, in Cuba, engaged in lawful pursuits, respecting the laws of the country, and taking no part in the measures to overthrow the Government, are entitled to your protection as fully as you are able to extend it."

On May 6, 1869, the Secretary of the Navy wrote Admiral Hoff:

"Reports come to the Department through the press and telegrams of several American vessels having been searched by Spanish men-of-war, in British waters and on the high road of nations in the Gulf of Mexico. While the United States Government wishes to observe strict neutrality in regard to the difficulties now existing in the Island of Cuba, they cannot consent that our merchant vessels shall be molested in their lawful pursuits, or overhauled and examined, unless they are found committing some violation of Spanish authority. This they can only do by landing arms and munitions of war. This is a subject in which the United States have always been very sensitive, and on which they went to war with Great Britain in 1812. While you are in no way to interfere in the difficulties now existing in Cuba, or to compromise the Government by taking part with either side, it will be your duty to give full protection to American citizens and American commerce whenever an opportunity occurs for you to do so. This is the particular object for which a naval force is, at this moment, kept in Cuban waters."

In an order to Rear-Admiral Poor, dated June 3, 1870, the Secretary of the Navy says, among other things:

"It is desired that you should keep some of your vessels stationed on the north and south ends of the Island of Cuba, or at such ports as the so-called insurgents should convene at for escape from the Island. While the Department does not desire that you should seek opportunities to encourage these distressed persons to seek the protection of the United States flag, you will in no case refuse them shelter on board the vessels of your fleet, and when they are once under the protection of the flag their persons and property will be held sacred against the interference of the Spanish authorities. In no case will you give up any person escaping from the Island, except by authority from this Department."

On March 24, 1870, the Secretary of the Navy instructed Rear-Admiral Poor to proceed to Santiago de Cuba, and inquire into the treatment of the American Vice-Consul and citizens, and Admiral Poor having reported the result of his movement, the Secretary of the Navy wrote to him, saying: "Your action in all things approved." In the instructions to Rear-Admiral Poor, dated April 16, 1870, the Secretary, among other things, says:

"While you will be careful, in any contingency which may arise, to pay due respect to the sovereignty of the nations, you will take care at all times to maintain the right and dignity of your flag. Information having been received that affairs were much disturbed in the Eastern Department of Cuba, and summary arrests and executions constantly taking place, and that there was a dangerous and disorderly state of affairs in that quarter, which might affect some of our citizens and interests."

The following instructions were sent by the Secretary of the Navy to Rear-Admiral Lee on the 19th of July, 1871:

"As soon as possible after the receipt hereof visit Santiago de Cuba in the Seven, or any other vessel of your fleet to that port and elsewhere in the vicinity for the protection, if necessary, of our citizens and interests."

The Secretary of the Navy wrote to Rear-Admiral Lee August 18, 1871, as follows:

"Your dispatch of the 5th inst., relating to the Hornet was duly received. In answer, you were instructed on the 11th inst., by telegraph, to send a vessel to Port-au-Prince to inquire into the subject. Mr. Haves's request for a naval vessel to be proved to Port-au-Prince having been complied with, that is presumed to be sufficient action for the present."

On the 28th of November, 1871, information was received through the Department of State of great excitement among the Spanish volunteers in Havana, and of the proceedings which afterward resulted in the execution of the students mentioned in the resolutions of the House. The situation of affairs appeared to be greatly disturbed, and to threaten serious danger to the persons, property, and interests of our citizens residing there. In view of this situation, the following telegraphic orders were sent, by direction of the Secretary of the Navy, from Rear-Admiral Lee to the commander of the monitor Terror, then at Key West, and to the commanders of the United States steamers Nipsic and Kansas, respectively, at Pensacola and New-York, and to the Commandants of the Navy-Yards at Pensacola and New-York:

NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, Nov. 27, 1871—7 p. m.

Urgent—To Commodore WEAVER, commanding Ironclad Terror, Key West Fla: Proceed forthwith with the Terror, under your command, to Havana; communicate immediately and cooperate with Consul-General Hall for the protection of American citizens and interests; telegraph time of reaching this, also as to actual departure from Key West and arrival at Havana; use utmost dispatch; disregard all conflicting instructions. By order of the Secretary of the Navy. S. P. LEE,
Rear-Admiral commanding North Atlantic Fleet.

The same orders were sent at the same time to Commander Wm. P. McCann, commanding the Nipsic at Pensacola, and to Commander Chester Hatfield, commanding the Kansas at New-York. They were repeated to the last named officer by the Secretary of the Navy directly, at the suggestion of the President, and the Commanders of the Navy-Yards at Pensacola and New-York were ordered to use all means to expedite the departure of the ships. In pursuance of these orders, Commander Weaver arrived in the harbor of Havana, with the United States iron-clad Terror, at 8 o'clock a. m. on Dec. 1, and put himself in communication with the Consul-General of the United States. She was followed by the United States steamer Nipsic, at 1 o'clock on the 4th of December, and by the Kansas, at 6 o'clock in the afternoon of the following day. On the 5th inst. Commander Weaver, the senior officer present, called upon the Captain-General, in company with the commander of the Nipsic and Consul-General Hall. He reports that he met with a courteous reception, and that at the date of his dispatch, on the 9th inst., the City of Havana was quiet and orderly.

THE NEW DOMINION.

ORGANIZATION OF THE ONTARIO MINISTRY.

TORONTO, Ont., Dec. 21.—The Ontario Ministry has been completed. Mr. Scott of Ottawa, Speaker, has been sworn in as Commissioner of Crown Lands; Mr. Gow of South Wellington, Provincial Secretary, Mr. McKenzie resigning the latter office and assuming the Treasurership. The Ministry now stands as follows: Mr. Blake, President of Council, without portfolio; Mr. McKenzie, Treasurer; Mr. Crooks, Attorney-General; Mr. McKellar, Public Works; Mr. Scott, Crown Lands; Mr. Gow, Provincial Secretary.

FOREIGN NOTES.

Mr. Odger addressed a meeting at Reading, England, on the 6th inst. Outside the hall, to which admission was gained by ticket, a large crowd assembled, throwing stones at the windows and singing the National Anthem. Attempts were made to enter the building, which were vigorously resisted for some time, but at last an entry was gained, and a free fight followed. During the disturbance Mr. Odger made his way to the railway station.

The London correspondent of *The Scotsman* says under date of Dec. 6: "I am told that the new social movement still moves, or at least that attempts are still made to move it. I have just been shown a letter written by Mr. Scott Russell, to-day, in which he says: The present state of the matter is this—the Council of Workmen stand fast by the seven resolutions. The Peers who signed their official acceptance of the documents they have published stand fast by their signatures. I have reason to believe that in a few days we shall hear something more concerning this affair."

The Toronto Globe, in referring to the selection of Mr. Edward Blake as Premier of the Provincial Government of Ontario, says: "His commanding abilities and high personal character have given Mr. Blake a standing and reputation in the Province that will, we believe, enlist as his supporters, not in the House alone but among all classes of the people, many who may not hitherto have professed the same political creed as the new Premier of Ontario. His own party is a unit, and he may rely on their heartiest cooperation in the work before him."

The Duke of Richmond says of the Queen of Great Britain that, in all matters of a public character requiring her attention—in regard to the relations between herself and the Ministers of the Crown, there was no part of their business which had not been completely, conscientiously, and thoroughly carried out by her Majesty; and there was no person who had ever treated the Ministers of the day with greater consideration than the Queen. Whether the Minister was a Conservative or a Liberal, he had the full confidence of the Sovereign and of the country. She gave him the most undoubting confidence, and on every occasion he was welcome to discuss with her any points which might require her decision.

[*For Foreign Miscellany see Second Page.*]

MORE ABOUT THE ARKANSAS OUTRAGES.

CHICOT COUNTY SAID TO BE OVERRUN WITH ARMED NEGROES—ALL SORTS OF CRIMES ATTRIBUTED TO THEM—REGULAR TROOPS SENT FOR.

MEMPHIS, Dec. 21.—The last person who left Lake Village, the scene of the outrage in Chicot County, reports that he was ordered by armed negroes on the bank to return, which he refused to do, and succeeded in escaping. There was great excitement at the time, and, from the screams of the white women and children who were seen rushing down the levee, it was supposed that an attempt was made to ravish the few white women who were unable to leave. Capt. W. P. Walker (Republican), Sheriff of the County, has made application for regular troops to be ordered to quell the disturbance, it being feared that if the militia are sent there, they being colored will fraternize with the insurgents. Every white citizen who could obtain conveyance left the county which is being devastated by armed bands of colored men, the majority of whom are intimidated by rioters who have said they will not disband until allowed to settle all disputes they may have had with those for whom they have worked. The Governor of Arkansas has sent his Adjutant to the scene of the disturbance, but, in the mean time, leading Republican and Conservative citizens of the county have united in a petition for regular troops.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 21.—A special dispatch to *The Commercial* says a destructive conflagration occurred this afternoon in Pleasantville, Penn., in the oil regions. It was first discovered in the New-York Hotel at 4 o'clock, and that and all the other hotels and many stores were burned. The fire was subdued about 6 o'clock. Among the business houses burned were those of C. B. Seymour & Co. and Otto Gerner. The fire has rendered 40 families houseless.

PROTECTION FOR SEAMEN.

A NEW MOVEMENT TO COMPEL THE SAILOR BOARDING-HOUSE KEEPERS TO TAKE OUT LICENSES—EFFECT OF THE TRIBUNE'S EXPOSURES.

The revelations published in THE TRIBUNE in regard to the treatment of seamen by keepers of sailor the boarding-houses have already produced beneficial results. The American Seaman's Friend Society and the Board of Licensing Commissioners are about to make another effort to compel these boarding-house keepers to take out the license which the act of March, 1866, requires all such persons to procure, before they can keep such houses. The law has been virtually a dead letter since the first year after its enactment. In 1866 about half of the proprietors of these houses applied for and obtained licenses. Complaint having been made against the others who had failed to comply with the law, they were taken before the Police Justices, but, in spite of the efforts of the Commissioners to have them punished, they were promptly discharged. Many of these houses are in the Fourth and Seventh Wards, and as the proprietors controlled a large number of votes, their influence was of such moment to Tweed and the magistrates that their conviction was impossible. Capt. Duncan, President of the Seaman's Friend Society, had several interviews with District-Attorney Garvin, who assured him that, if indictments were found by the Grand Jury against them, he would use all his influence to procure the conviction and punishment of the offenders. The captain succeeded in finding witnesses to many of the outrages that were perpetrated on the seamen, and prevailed upon them at different times to go before the Grand Jury, but the peculiar character of that body of men was such that in not a single instance was an indictment found. The consequence is that, out of 107 boarding-houses at present in successful operation, but two have obtained licenses.

The history of the outrages practiced on the seamen, as published in THE TRIBUNE, the effect which the publication has already produced on the persons whose course of conduct it revealed, and the general interest it has awakened in the community on the subject, have emboldened the Commissioners to make another effort to execute the law and punish the offenders. They have therefore warned every boarding-house landlord that a license must be procured, and that neglect to comply with the law will be at once brought to the notice of the courts, and they feel assured that no magistrate, in the fear of the popular indignation excited by THE TRIBUNE revelations, will dare to discharge persons guilty of keeping boarding-houses in defiance of law.

A bill copied after the British Shipping act, and now pending before Congress, will, if passed, act as an aid to the State law, as it prohibits kidnapping, protects the seaman from runners and "crimps," and in other respects provides for the better protection of the sailor at sea and in port. This law provides a heavy penalty for shanghaing. Shipping Commissioners are to be appointed, under it, by the Judges of the United States Circuit Courts, before whom all persons accused of violating the provisions of the act will be brought. These Commissioners, being appointed by the United States Judges, and thus removed as far as possible from political influences and vicissitudes, will be empowered to look after the interests of the sailor and act as his counsel when he has suffered injury at the hands of officers of vessels or of boarding-house keepers, and will also make it their duty to see that his case is duly brought before the courts for action.

The fall of Tweed was a serious blow to the keepers of the sailors' boarding-houses, but the exposures made in THE TRIBUNE have affected them still more seriously. The police of the precincts in which they mainly reside report that every night since the exposures were published they have met in council in some one of the houses that abound in the Seventh Ward and deliberated upon the best course to pursue in case they are called upon to pass the ordeal of examination and obtain licenses. Most of them seem to think the better course would be to comply with the provisions of the law, give bonds for their good behavior, and pay the $20 license fee which the law requires, while a few of the worst characters counsel resistance, and defiance of the law. They are apparently ignorant of the fact that there is a bill pending in Congress which will cause them to be brought before courts where political influence will avail nothing to shield them from the punishment they deserve.

The opinion seems to prevail among the members of the Commission and the police, that the effort at reform to be made under the provisions of the State law will bring about the desired result. It is believed that such a pressure has been brought to bear upon the boarding-house keepers, that the better portion will apply for licenses, and that, having had to pay $20 in order to obtain a license, those securing them will become jealous of those who have not complied with the law, and will assist the Commissioners in their efforts to ferret out and punish the guilty.

COMMERCIAL REFORM.

THE MERCHANTS THOROUGHLY AWAKENED—ANOTHER MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE TODAY—THE TRIBUNE EVIDENCE TO BE EMPLOYED IN THE INVESTIGATION.

The merchants of New-York have at last taken official cognizance of the charges against the extortionate Quarantine officials and Harbor-Masters, made by THE TRIBUNE from time to time, and substantiated with positive proof. The following committee, representing several of the largest commercial firms of the city, has been appointed for the correction of these abuses through the Legislature: Solon Humphrey, Chairman, No. 54 Exchange-place; Jas. A. Van Brunt, No. 75 South-st.; John H. Boynton, No. 32 Broadway; Wm. R. Kirkland, No. 125 Pearl-st., and Gustavus A. Brett, No. 48 South-st., who is acting for Robert B. Minton, now absent from the city.

It is stated by a prominent member of the Committee of Merchants, appointed for the correction of abuses at Quarantine, that much of the testimony to be used before the Assembly will be composed of certified copies of the accounts published in THE TRIBUNE, Aug. 11 and 12, 1871. Affidavits, and duly authenticated copies, with many originals, of the bills rendered by the Health Officer's deputies, are in preparation and will go very far toward the conviction of the Quarantine Doctor. In their work among the city merchants, the members of the Committee find much of the old fear of the public officials which so embarrassed the reporter of THE TRIBUNE during his investigations last Summer. Voluminous printed reports have been received from other Atlantic seaboard cities, showing their rapid commercial growth and demonstrating the loss of New-York's commerce through Quarantine exactions.

The Committee will hold a secret session at the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce, to-day, at 1½ p. m., when it is thought that many new and valuable facts will be presented.

ERIE TACTICS IN COURT.

In the United States Circuit Court, yesterday, the case of the Erie Railway Company and others' agt. Heath and Raphael and others came up on the cross-bill filed by the plaintiffs. Mr. Field moved for permission to serve process on the cross-bill upon the firm of Evarts, Southmayd & Choate, on the ground that the members of that firm are the solicitors of Heath and Raphael, who are aliens and, therefore, beyond the jurisdiction of the Court. Mr. Evarts opposed the motion on the ground that the cross-bill seeks relief beyond the matters involved in the original suit; and that, though the firm is authorized to appear in suits brought for Heath and Raphael, it has no authority to appear in suits brought against them. Judge Blatchford reserved his decision.

Mr. Field then moved to stay proceedings in the first suit of Heath and Raphael agt. The Erie Railway Company and others until they have answered in the second suit, namely, that of The Erie Railway Company and others agt. Heath and Raphael and others. Mr. Southmayd opposed this motion on the ground that the cross-suit is rendered unnecessary by a stipulation offered by Heath and Raphael allowing an amendment to the answer in the original suit; and that if any stay of proceedings is ordered it should not be of proceedings generally, but merely of the hearing in the original suit, until the cross-bill is disposed of. Decision reserved.

TAMMANY TROUBLES.

WHO WILL TRY TWEED?

Considerable surprise is expressed by lawyers generally at the neglect of the Supreme Court Bench to make the assignments of Judges who are to hold the Special Terms, Circuit Courts, and Oyer and Terminer in this department for the next two years. By the terms of the Judiciary act, the Supreme Court Judges are directed to make these assignments for the two years beginning Jan. 1, 1872, at least one month before the expiration of the present year. As the year has very nearly expired, and the assignments, if made, have not yet been published, members of the profession are beginning to inquire into the matter.

One lawyer said: "We are naturally anxious to know before what Judges we shall be compelled to bring our actions, motions, &c., inasmuch as experience has shown that defeat is often less due to a defective case than to the malevolent feeling with which certain Judges regard lawyers who are not recommended by either dishonesty or incompetence." It is understood that the assignments have been already made, but are not yet printed, in consequence of the fact, as one of the Judges explained to a lawyer in open court, yesterday, that no money has been supplied to defray the expense of printing. As this expense would amount to at least $2, the profession can hardly expect our poorly paid and impoverished Judges to defray it from their own pockets. It is possible that the delay in publishing the assignments is due to the fact that considerable uncertainty exists in regard to how long some of the Judges will sit; but it is the opinion, that as Tweed and other members of the Ring will be tried here, the Judges find it difficult to decide which of their number shall have the luxury of holding the court before which these men are to be brought.

TWEED DESERTED BY THE TAMMANY SACHEMS.

The Tammany Society, with all its effrontery and knavery, has at last come to the conclusion that William M. Tweed is too heavy a load for even that corrupt body to carry any longer with comfort or even safety to itself, insignificant and helpless as it has now become. The Sachems have been meditating and consulting how they could get rid of Tweed in the easiest and most expeditious manner, and some time since James B. Nicholson, one of the leaders, called a meeting at the Manhattan Club-House to consider the best means of attaining this end. The meeting was very sparsely attended, however, and nothing was then accomplished. Informal meetings have since been frequently held, with the effect of increasing the resolution to oust Tweed, if not from the Society, at least from his office of Grand Sachem. On Wednesday a number of the Sachems proceeded to Tweed's office in the Department of Public Works, and demanded his resignation as Grand Sachem, plainly intimating their reasons therefor. Tweed was evidently not surprised at their demand, and promised to consider their request, and reply within a day or two. Those who are familiar with the details of the interview between Tweed and the Sachems state that Tweed abandoned his usual phlegmatic demeanor, and seemed impressed with the seriousness of his situation. There can be no doubt that Tweed feels his position keenly, and is uneasy at what he has to expect. It is intimated that Isaac Bell will be Tweed's successor as Grand Sachem.

TWEED'S BAIL.

The day after Christmas is fixed for the justification of Tweed's bail. It is understood that one of the present bondsmen will decline to justify, and it is very certain that another cannot, under the present circumstances of the tottering Erie Ring, satisfy the requirements of Mr. Peckham, the counsel before whom justification must be had. Mr. Tweed will therefore have to find new bail for more than half a million dollars, or take up his residence in the same mansion with Mr. Connolly. It has been supposed that Mr. Tweed would have little difficulty in procuring bail to any amount, and that, if necessary, he could furnish securities in bonds which would satisfy the Sheriff; but it has been found that his available funds are few and his collateral of doubtful title. No one knows what action will be or can be taken to levy on Tweed's property to justify the claim set up for the whole $6,000,000 of the Board of Audit swindle; and hence men of means hesitate to take his deeds or accept transfers from him or any of his family. The same trouble confronted Connolly when he sought to give bail, and in the end he went to jail. Mr. Tweed may end in the same way. He is not so wealthy as reputed. A prominent Tammany politician declared, yesterday, that Tweed was so "hard up" that if required to raise $50,000 he could not do it, and he would not be surprised to see him go to jail in default of bail. He has made a great deal of money in one way or another, and holds a large amount of real-estate. But it has cost immense sums to maintain himself in power. He has wasted many hundreds of thousands on political clubs—twenty-two of which he sustained alone—and his vast property is heavily mortgaged. As a consequence, in the hour of his great fall, he has few friends and fewer creditors.

CONNOLLY'S CASE.

The amended order reducing the bail of ex-Controller Connolly to $500,000 was forwarded yesterday from Albany, and is in the hands of Samuel G. Courtney. It will not, for the present at least, be served on Mr. Connolly, if indeed that process be necessary, and he will not offer to give bail in the civil suit until it is settled how many indictments he has got to plead to on criminal charges. Fifteen are pending at present, and are lodged against him at Ludlow-st. as detainers. It is thought that, if he offered bail now, and the bail in the criminal suits should prove expressive he would simply be transferred from comfortable rooms in the County Jail to dismal quarters in the City Prison; and in the present state of his health, which is very poor indeed, this is not advisable. No bail will be offered while the present Grand Jury is in session, the Ring people having a wholesome dread of a body which has won the title of the "Anti-Ring Jury" through its earnest and long continued inquiry into their nefarious transactions.

Samuel G. Courtney filed with the Clerk of the Supreme Court at Albany, yesterday, the following appeal from Judge Learned's decision denying the motion to vacate the order of arrest of Richard B. Connolly:

SUPREME COURT, ALBANY COUNTY.

The People agt. Richard B. Connolly.

Please take notice that the defendant appeals to the General Term of this court from so much and such part of the order made herein, at a Special Term of said court, and entered in this action on the 20th day of December, 1871, as deny the motion made herein on the 9th day of December, 1871, to vacate the order of arrest heretofore and on the 23d day of November, 1871, made in this action.

WILL THE GRAND JURY INDICT FISK, JR.?

A large number of persons were subpœnaed, yesterday, to appear before the Grand Jury to-day at 11 o'clock. It was stated by an official who had seen the list of names, among which were those of a distinguished advocate and two reporters of daily newspapers, that investigation was to be had into the case of James Fisk, jr., charged, it was understood, with conspiring, in connection with two Boston bankers, to blackmail his former mistress, who had discarded him. The actual charge against him could not be ascertained. It was rumored further that it was not the case of Fisk, jr., but that of Mayor Hall, on which the two attachés of newspapers were summoned, and it was said that the Jury would return a bill during the day against the Mayor. One of the reporters, on being questioned, said that it was not possible that he was called in the case of Mayor Hall, against whom he had no evidence to give, nor could he say that he was to testify against Fisk, jr.

District-Attorney Garvin says that the Grand Jury of the Court of General Sessions is almost the only one he has ever known which has proved its capacity to keep a secret. The Jury indicted Wm. M. Tweed 15 days before bringing the indictment into Court; and yet in all that time not a whisper or rumor of what had been done reached the public.

JAMES M. SWEENY'S RESIGNATION.

The resignation of James M. Sweeny as Clerk of the Superior Court has been for some time in the hands of Chamberlain Bradley to be used as circumstances required, and has been under discussion by the Judges of that Court on several occasions. About a week since a meeting of the Judges was held on the subject, but no definite action was decided on. Another meeting was held yesterday on the same subject, at which all the Judges except Spencer were present. A strong effort was made to secure the appointment of a friend of the Tammany Ring, who would be inclined if not able to conceal the misdeeds of Sweeny. Judges Barbour and Monell argued in favor of the acceptance of the resignation, but Judge Jones strongly opposed on the grounds that the acceptance would be highly discourteous to the incoming Judges, who were chosen at the last election, and expose the Court to animadversion; and that it would be improper to accept Sweeny's resignation until his accounts had been investigated, and found to be correct, as there were grave reports concerning him, and he was known to be under indictment. Judge Jones was sustained by Judges Friedman and McCunn.

IS HEENAN A VOUCHER THIEF?

It is stated that when it was announced on this side of the Atlantic that John C. Heenan had threatened to sue the Reuter News Company for slander in publishing the statement that he was implicated in the voucher robbery, a member of the Committee of Seventy telegraphed to Mr. Reuter, advising him to plead justification. From this it is inferred that the member in question had positive knowledge that Heenan was implicated in the theft, and intended to furnish Mr. Reuter with information to that effect.

MAYOR HALL IN DANGER.

A special meeting of the Union Club will be held at the Club-House, next Friday evening, for the purpose of taking into consideration the question of the continuance of A. Oakey Hall's membership.

THE TAMMANY MARKET RING DISPERSED.

Before the Tammany exposure, last Summer, notices were posted in Fulton and other markets, informing the public that those venerable institutions would be sold or leased to the highest bidder, after a certain interval. The leading marketmen, many of whom are wealthy, expressed a willingness to buy them in, and a company was formed to purchase Fulton Market. A gigantic Tammany Market Ring suddenly loomed up, however, just then, in such discouraging proportions that the officers of the new company said they would only put in their bid as a matter of form, for they well knew that justice would not be done to them, inasmuch as the Ring, with $5,000,000 of capital, was determined to control the whole business. Since the downfall of Tammany, this market Ring has dissolved, and the entire market community now breathes freely. The names of some of the projectors of the Tammany scheme are still included among those of the stockholders of the Manhattan Market Company, which is building at the foot of Thirty-fourth-st., N. R., but they are now harmless, so far as the public markets are concerned.

WASHINGTON

HOW SENATOR SUMNER'S "ONE TERM" AMENDMENT IS RECEIVED — GENERAL INTEREST TAKEN IN THE LABOR COMMISSION—THE SOUTH CAROLINA CONTESTED SEAT.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 21, 1871.

Senator Sumner's "one term" amendment, introduced in the Senate to-day, meets with much more favor than was anticipated, the provision contained in the second section, postponing the operation of the amendment until the close of the next Presidential campaign, removing the principal objection which some of Gen. Grant's avowed supporters for a renomination were understood to have to the principle involved. As it now stands, many Senators and Representatives express the opinion that the amendment has a fair chance of passing both Houses of Congress before the close of the present session, unless more opposition to it than is now expected is developed. On the other hand, some of the Administration men are very severe in their attacks upon Mr. Sumner's new proposition, and denounce his preamble as an indictment of Gen. Grant, which they will take the first opportunity to denounce and defeat. They say that, during the past 40 years, the men who have been longest in the Senate have made the country more trouble, and done more to disorganize the Government and encourage corruption than any President has. One of the veterans of the Senate said, to-day, that it would be more popular among the people, and do more to strengthen the Government than anything else, to pass a constitutional amendment that no Senator, who has been elected for a second term, shall be eligible for the Presidency.

Mr. Hoar has received a great number of letters from members of Labor Leagues and other Workingmen's Associations, in different parts of the country, warmly approving the Commission proposed by the bill which passed the House yesterday. Judge Kelley, whose long advocacy of Protection to American Industry has led the laboring classes in his own and other States to regard him as peculiarly representing their interests, has also received many similar letters. The workingmen who write these letters appear to be grateful at the recognition Congress is now giving them. They do not specify any particular abuses which they want remedied by Congress legislation, and their demand for protection seems to be occasioned not so much by present evils, as by a fear of oppression that may result in the future from the enormous power capital has gained in the past few years through combinations, monopolies, and gigantic corporations.

A curious fact has come to light about the South Carolina contested election case of Bowen against De Large. The attorney employed by Mr. De Large to take testimony in his behalf, refuses to surrender the testimony, or to file it with the Elections Committee, who are ready to proceed to the consideration of the case immediately after the holidays. The attorney, it is reported, demands $1,500 for the testimony, which his client is unwilling and unable to pay. The case is, therefore, likely to go by default in favor of Bowen. The extraordinary conduct of the lawyer is alleged by the friends of De Large to be occasioned by a corrupt agreement with Bowen. De Large is a colored man, who was elected in the Charleston district, defeating Bowen, who represented the district in the last Congress. The Inspectors of Election in Beaufort stuffed the ballot-box with De Large tickets, and were convicted at the Spring Term of the U. S. Court in Charleston, and sentenced to prison. If the whole vote of the poll where this fraud was practiced is thrown out, and there is no proof of frauds committed by Bowen's friends, he will be entitled to the seat. Both the contestants are Republicans. Bowen was prevented from taking any active steps in a contest during the Spring session by his trial and conviction for bigamy, and his friends at that time claimed that he was prosecuted through the instigation of the friends of De Large, to prevent his contesting the latter's seat. After he was pardoned he ran for the State Senate in Charleston, and was triumphantly elected. De Large rests his case upon a claim that there was fraudulent voting for Bowen on one of the Sea Islands, and the testimony, suppressed by the attorney, is said to prove that such was the case.

The Sub-Committee of the Banking and Currency Committee, consisting of Representatives Worthington C. Smith, Merriam, and Randall, appointed to investigate the bank suspensions in New-York, will meet at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York, at 10 o'clock on Wednesday next.

The Revenue Reformers and Free Traders now in Washington will have no opportunity to be heard by the Finance Committee of the Senate until after the close of the recess, as most of the members of the Committee will go home, and no meetings will be held. It is the desire of the Finance Committee that these men shall arrange their programme, and present it for consideration, and the leaders among the Free Traders have been informed that the Committee will be glad to hear them. The experience of the Committee in the past has been that the so-called "Revenue Reformers" do not agree among themselves any better than they do with the Protectionists, and that the most of them are mere theorists, whose opinions have been formed by the reading of English books which treat of the subjects of political economy from a view not at all applicable to America, and who have no practical ideas of their own.

Minister Washburne has renewed, through the State Department, the recommendation he made some months ago, for an appropriation to secure the printing for the Congress library of certain manuscripts in the custody of the French Minister of Marine, relating to the early colonization of the country west of the Ohio River by the French missionaries and *voyageurs*. Two Frenchmen have taken great interest in bringing these manuscripts to the attention of Mr. Washburne, and one of them, M. Henri Harris, proposes to edit them and print them in nine quarto volumes, at a cost of $8,000. The Joint Committee on the