New-York Tribune.

VOL. XXXIII.....No. 10,125. NEW-YORK, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1873.—TRIPLE SHEET. PRICE FOUR CENTS.

GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

THE SPANISH REPUBLIC.

POWERS OF THE GOVERNMENT INCREASED—RUMORED RETIREMENT OF DON ALPHONSO TO FRANCE—ALCOY INSURRECTIONISTS CONDEMNED TO DEATH—ACTIVITY OF THE INTRANSIGENTES.

MADRID, Saturday, Sept. 13, 1873.

All the clauses of the bill increasing the powers of the Government have been adopted by the Cortes. It is reported that Don Alphonso, the brother of Don Carlos, has left his command and returned to France. Several of the persons who took an active part in the insurrection at Alcoy have been tried and condemned to death.

A report is current in Madrid to-day that the Intransigente deputy, Galvez, has placed crews, numbering in all 1,000 men, upon the frigate Numancia and the steamer Fernando el Catolico, and that those vessels, thus manned, have sailed from Cartagena for Torrevega.

The various bodies of Republican troops in the North are about to take united action against the Carlists. The Intransigentes made another sortie from Cartagena, yesterday, and met with more success than on the day before. They captured a number of mules and several pieces of artillery. They also burned the fascines of the works of the Government forces.

BAYONNE, Saturday, Sept. 13—Evening.

The Republicans are reconnoitering the Carlist positions at Vergara, in Guipuzcoa, evidently with the intention of making an attack. News of an engagement is hourly expected. The Republican force outnumbers that of the Carlists, but the latter are strongly intrenched.

MADRID, Sept. 14, 1873.

The insurgent men-of-war Fernando el Catolico and Numancia, which sailed for Torrevega, have returned to Cartagena without making a landing.

In the Cortes a debate on the suspension of the sitting is appointed for Tuesday.

PARIS, Sept. 14, 1873.

Dispatches from the frontier report that the Carlists have defeated Gen. Santapau Loma between Gavas and Vidarga. The Republicans suffered severely and lost two guns. The Army of the North is badly crippled by this reverse. The Carlists are investing Tolosa.

THE CANADIAN SCANDAL.

A FEW MORE RELUCTANT AND KNOW-NOTHING WITNESSES—MR. GEORGE M'MULLEN DENIES HAVING SOLD THE ALLAN CORRESPONDENCE.

OTTAWA, Sept. 13.—The Commission met at 11 o'clock, a. m. to close the several depositions made yesterday. Senator Cochrane added to his testimony that in the Fall of 1872 the Hon. Mr. Pape repeatedly assured him that the Government were unanimously determined upon the exclusion of Americans from the Pacific Railway. Mr. McInnes wished to make an addition to his deposition. He had seen in the papers that he was to receive $50,000 in stock of the Canada Pacific Company. He said: "Such a proposal was never made to me by Sir Hugh or any one else." Mr. Hamel testified in French. He did not know why he had been put upon the list of witnesses; knew nothing about the matter. Edward R. Burpee was next called, but did not appear.

CHICAGO, Sept. 13.—George McMullen, in a card published this morning, denies the correctness of the press report of his brother's testimony before the Royal Commission, now in session at Ottawa. The testimony as reported is to the effect that McMullen sold the Allan correspondence to the Opposition, and this he asserts is not true; that he never has received from any one anything in consideration of the evidence he has furnished or intends to furnish against the Canadian Government in the Pacific Railroad matter.

FRUITS OF THE INVESTIGATION—WHY IT IS LIKELY TO FAIL—WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN PROVED.

[FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

TORONTO, Sept. 11.—The Canadian public are at present in the position of a man who is likely to fall between two stools. A definite issue has been raised in connection with the granting of the Pacific Railroad charter, and, in the interest of the people, it behooved their representative men to determine it. But as one political party sticks to one mode of doing it, and the other to another, the consequence is likely to be that the people will be fooled, and the issue remain pretty much as it was. The Royal Commission has now been engaged with the investigation for a week, and though voluminous evidence has been recorded, the result is most unsatisfactory. At every step of the proceedings the lack of a prosecutor is felt, as well as the absence of cross-examination by a counsel hostile to the Government. The Opposition newspapers designate the investigation a farce, while the Ministerial organs already claim a vindication of the Government. Impartial observers can neither regard it as the one nor the other, but must recognize the vindication as that of friends, and the farce as of the Opposition's own creating.

To understand the weight of the evidence brought forward, it may be well briefly to recapitulate one point of the Huntington charges. It was alleged that an understanding had been had between the Government on the one hand, and Sir Hugh Allan and the Hon. Mr. Abbott on the other that Sir Hugh and his friends should advance a large sum of money for the purpose of aiding the election of Ministers and their supporters at the (then) ensuing general election, and that Allan and his friends should receive in return the contract for the construction of the Pacific Railroad. The proof to be looked for in support of such a charge is, whether a large sum of money was advanced for the purpose stated, and, if so, whether it was done for the consideration. I imagine if a lawyer were putting the case, he would further distinguish between subscribing to the election fund in the hope of obtaining the contract, and doing so under a definite agreement to receive it. That Sir Hugh Allan subscribed largely to the election of Ministers and their supporters, even the one-sided evidence taken by the Commissioners puts beyond a peradventure. Starnes, the first witness examined, said that Sir George Cartier told him Sir Hugh Allan was a man of large means, and would no doubt subscribe liberally toward his (Cartier's) election fund. He further stated his belief that Sir Hugh did subscribe. It was also elicited from him that between $60,000 and $70,000 were received by himself from all sources for this Montreal fund, and that afterward the committee "seemed to assume control of elections outside of Montreal." Thus a Minister and certain supporters were aided by a fund the custodian of which believed that Allan had subscribed to. But Sir George Cartier's election was a personal matter, and we find one of his colleagues, Sir Francis Hincks, testifying that he was unaware of Sir Hugh Allan having subscribed to the election fund until a considerable time after the elections. Mr. De Bellefeuille testified to having received a check from Allan of $7,000 to promote the election of Mr. Beaubien, a Government candidate, at Hochelaga. The witness also gave evidence to the important fact that Allan and Beaubien were intimately related in connection with a railroad in the Province of Quebec, which gives countenance to a hypothesis noted in THE TRIBUNE of July 30, that Allan's subscriptions to the election fund were for the purpose of buying Government support to schemes other than the Pacific one. Messrs. Baubien, Beaudry, and Murphy severally testified to the fact that, of their own knowledge, Sir Hugh Allan had subscribed to the election fund. The latter stated that Allan's subscription to the Montreal fund amounted to $40,000. So far, therefore, as the investigation has gone, the fact is conclusively established that, at least, one Minister and several Ministerial candidates were aided with money by Sir Hugh Allan.

Being satisfied that more than half of the $70,000 composing the Montreal fund was supplied from this source, it would be hard to convince any rational being that Allan did not propose to himself some personal advantage from the expenditure. Yet none of the evidence so far points to any definite agreement either between Sir Hugh Allan and the Government, or between him and Sir George Cartier. It will be remembered that Cartier's Committee signed a receipt for $20,000 "upon the same conditions as the amount written by him (Cartier) at the foot of his letter to Sir Hugh of the 30th of July, 1872." The three who signed that receipt, Messrs. Beaudry, Starnes, and Murphy, have all been examined, the two former stating that they did not understand the significance of these words in the receipt, and the last named, in answer to the question, "Are you prepared to state that the letter dated the 30th July, of Sir George E. Cartier's, does not refer to the Pacific Railway," answered that he was prepared to state it did not. It was in reference to this postscript that a Government statement was made some time ago to the effect that, if any agreement of any kind was made with Sir Hugh by Cartier, it was an arrangement personal to himself. No show of proof but that postscript has ever come up tending to prove that any definite agreement of the kind had ever been entered into between Sir Hugh Allan and the Government.

There is a deal of evidence to show that the charter was not disposed of till after the elections, and that negotiations were going on, up till the time of its final disposal, of a nature which preclude the idea that the Government were pledged to Allan. Sir Francis Hincks's statement, already published in THE TRIBUNE, is most important in this connection. Judging from the evidence made public up to this date, the presumption is that Allan spent the most of the money in the hope of influencing the Government in his favor, as it would be but natural for them to look favorably upon one who had helped them through a most momentous crisis. The Opposition declare that the candidates retured by Allan's money have alone saved the Government from being in a minority in the House of Commons.

Whether the Government means to acknowledge or deny the authenticity of the telegrams which tell so strongly against it, it is as yet impossible to say, but that the original messages cannot be found is most unfortunate. It may be that Mr. McMullen, who, by the way, has also decided not to appear before the Commission, has quoted them incorrectly, or it may be that Sir John Macdonald is like the accused Irishman, who could neither plead "not guilty" nor "guilty" until he had heard the evidence. Senator Macpherson's testimony is unimportant as regards the main charge, and bears chiefly upon the relationship of Sir Hugh Allan with the Americans, and the Government knowledge of that fact. It is expected that the labors of the Commission will terminate in about another week, shortly after which Parliament will be called together, when, it is to be hoped, we shall see an end of this scandal. The presence of Barnum's show in the city has led a local wit to suggest that P. T. buy up the Pacific Railroad Scandal and add it to his peripatetic marvels.

A PANAMA TRAGEDY.

COL. USCATEQUI AND A CITIZEN KILLED BY THE POLICE.

PANAMA, Sept. 2.—Col. Useatequi, for two years past, has been commander of the national troops stationed on the Isthmus for the protection of the transit of foreign property. During the revolution here, on the 5th of April last, he called out his troops and took an active part in protecting the life of the deposed President of the State of Panama, Gen. Neira, although he had no right whatever to do so. Again, on the 7th of May, he led out his forces against the revolutionary party, defeated them, and was the cause of the recall and reinstatement of President Neira, who in the mean time had been banished. After the events of the 7th of May a coldness sprung up between Useatequi and the reinstated Government of Neira, and the latter had sufficient proof of the Colonel's defection and his collusion with the opposite party to feel justified in issuing an order for his arrest. Accordingly at 3 p. m. Aug. 25, an order was issued by the Executive to arrest Useatequi and place him in confinement. An hour or two later the unfortunate man was sitting in front of the Grand Hotel, when a squad of police armed with rifles approached, and informed him that he was a prisoner. Useatequi entered the hotel, drew his revolver, and said he would not allow himself to be degraded by such an insult as to be carried to a felon's prison by a squad of common police, but would willingly give himself into custody of any respectable citizen, naming several then present. An order was given to take him at all hazards. The police fired a volley into the hotel at their victim, one shot taking effect in his arm, and another entering and passing completely through the body of Manuel de Jesus Bermudez, an innocent spectator, killing him almost instantly. Useatequi then fled, and tried to make his escape through the rear of the hotel, but was met by Florencio Arosemena, a citizen and supporter of Neira's Government, to whom he surrendered himself unconditionally. While passing out of the main entrance of the hotel, wounded and the prisoner of Arosemena, he was confronted by another squad of police, who, regardless of the presence of Arosemena, fired another volley into the hallway of the hotel. The shot took effect in the head of Col. Useatequi, and he died in 20 minutes.

FOREIGN NOTES.

The steamships Great Eastern and Hibernia passed Crookhaven yesterday, homeward bound.

The subscriptions in Havana for the relief of the sufferers by the recent conflagration amount to $200,000.

An American, who lately arrived from New-York, has been arrested at Cardenas on the charge of attempting to circulate counterfeit bills of the Spanish Bank of Havana.

The Euriqui Palacios filibustering expedition, which left Aspinwall in the American steamer Gen. Sherman to operate against Guatemala and Honduras, has been completely defeated in both republics.

Verdun was evacuated by the German troops Saturday morning. Immediately after they had left the town the streets were filled with rejoicing residents, and numberless French flags were displayed from the buildings.

Later intelligence concerning the accident last Friday to the express train from Vitoria for Madrid, shows that the disaster was far more serious than at first announced. The number of persons killed was 17, and 70 were wounded. Scarcely a person who was on the train escaped uninjured.

A dispatch has been received at the Admiralty Office from the Commander of the English steam sloop Daphne, announcing the capture by that vessel, in the Indian Ocean, near the Seychelle Islands, of a slave ship, upon which there had been horrible suffering. The small-pox had raged on the ship, and out of the 300 slaves taken on board, 250 had died. The remaining fifty were terribly emaciated from the disease and want.

[For other Foreign News see Third Page.]

THE CALIFORNIA RAILROAD WAR.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 13.—Messrs. Stanford and Hopkins addressed a meeting of the workingmen in the shops of the Central Railroad Company at Sacramento, yesterday, on the subject of the recent election. They said that the people had decided against the railroad, consequently the bonds of the Company would not be salable in the Eastern States, or in Europe, and the construction must be stopped; that many of the workmen would be discharged at once, and other discharges would follow.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 14.—The reception to Gov. Booth, last night, on his arrival from the capital, was an ovation. Thousands of people assembled at the boat landing with music and transparencies, and a bonfire was kindled on Telegraph Hill. Houses on the line of the procession were brilliantly illuminated. Gov. Booth was escorted by the enthusiastic multitude to the Grand Hotel, where he made a speech congratulating the people on their complete victory over railroad monopoly. He referred briefly to Mr. Stanford's statement, on Thursday, at Sacramento, that the bonds of the Company cannot be sold in the East or in Europe since the result of the election was made known. He said the bonds are worth as much now as ever; but if the credit of the Company depended on pledging the manhood and independence of the people of California, the sooner its credit was destroyed the better.

FOUR CATTLE THIEVES LYNCHED IN LOUISIANA.

NEW-IBERIA, La., Sept. 13.—The Parish of Vermilion has been for years infested with cattle thieves. The people have been unable to obtain redress by process of law, and last month they organized a vigilance committee as a final resort. Notice was given to a large number of the thieves and their confederates that they must leave the parish within a specified time; but instead of doing so they armed themselves and threatened to destroy the town of Abbeville, whereupon the Vigilantes pressed them and they scattered. It is reported that three of the gang were hung on Friday, the 5th inst. On Wednesday night, the 10th inst., one of a party of the thieves, who were endeavoring to escape, was arrested under a civil process at Brashear, and while en route to this place was taken from the steamer Minnie Avery at Jeanerette by a squad of armed men and hung in front of Dr. Dungeon's residence, three miles above that town.

A CHARACTER FOR SENATOR MITCHELL.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 13.—The following is the resolution of the Oregon Republican State Convention, alluded to in a dispatch last night:

Resolved, That whatever may have been the misfortune, faults, or shortcomings of J. H. Mitchell, United States Senator from this State, in his early private life, we neither apologize for, pass judgment upon, nor justify him, but express the unqualified belief that by his many years of consistent, upright, and honorable conduct in this State he has outlived any imputations cast upon him; that to-day not only the Republican party but a large majority of the people of this State have entire confidence in his integrity, ability, and patriotism, and that he will faithfully and ably represent them in the United States Senate.

BURNING OF A MISSISSIPPI STEAMER.

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 13.—A dispatch from Commerce, Mo., says that the steamer James Howard caught fire in the hull yesterday while lying at that place. The passengers and baggage were taken ashore safely, and the steamer was scuttled, which was the only hope of saving her. The Howard was the largest steamer on the Western rivers, being 3,300 tons burden. She was owned by Capt. B. R. Pegram and J. H. Chasing of St. Louis, and James Howard of Jeffersonville, Ind., and cost two years ago $150,000. The vessel is insured in Cincinnati and Pittsburgh. She left here on Wednesday for New-Orleans with 1,600 tons of freight, and a barge in tow.

A PLAGUE-STRICKEN CITY.

DEPLORABLE CONDITION OF SHREVEPORT—THE CHANGE IN THE WEATHER UNFAVORABLE—FIVE HUNDRED PERSONS SICK—LIST OF DEATHS.

NEW-ORLEANS, Sept. 14.—A *Picayune* special from Shreveport says the disease which is raging there is genuine yellow fever of a very malignant type. It is almost impossible to arrive at any correct information as to whether there is any abatement of the fever. The sudden change in the weather has proved fatal to the sick. The Howard Association is well organized and is doing noble service, but there is great need of assistance in nurses as well as funds. The city being almost depopulated, it is impossible to obtain a sufficient number of nurses to attend the sick. There are three physicians from New-Orleans—Drs. Henry Smith, John J. Reilly, and J. F. Finney. Dr. Hurd is due to-morrow morning.

The Times of this morning says yesterday's fatality far exceeded that of any day since the commencement of the epidemic. The increased number of deaths was no doubt owing to the sudden change in the weather, as well as to the increased number of sick. The sudden change from hot and sultry, Friday, to cold and chilly, no doubt hastened some cases, as well as developed the fever in others. The rain and cold wind from the north had the effect to purify the atmosphere, and in the opinion of our physicians, will be conducive to the health of those who are now well and will assist many to recover who stood the ordeal of the sudden change. It is estimated that 500 persons are down with the fever. The deaths so far amount to 146.

A dispatch from Shreveport to the Howard Association reports the arrival of nurses and physicians at that place. The disease is pronounced to be genuine yellow fever in an epidemic form. There has been no abatement to-day.

Another dispatch to the Howard Association, signed by Drs. Smith, Finney, and Reilly, says: "No report you may have received from here can possibly exaggerate the condition of affairs. They are indeed deplorable." The Howard Association, in response to further appeals from Shreveport, will send a number of druggists and more nurses to-morrow.

Press dispatches from Shreveport give the following list of deaths for the 24 hours ending at 6 o'clock p. m. to-day:

Thomas Garrett, Francis Frank, Mrs. Sheppard, James Lachmire, Mary H. Taylor, E. B. Anderson, G. M. Stradie, J. H. Myer, Robert C. Runzie, Mary J. Kinholdi, W. Jackson, Mrs. Charles Schurz, R. K. Smith, C. D. Jones, L. Asher, Henry Repenski, James F. Ward, Edward Warrington, August Cerne, Mr. Chapman, Sol. Simon, John Peay, and two unknown, making a total of 24, all white, and all died of yellow fever.

The sudden change in the weather, together with a rain-storm on Friday night, is regarded as unfavorable to the sick. The mercury was at 85 degrees at this time—6:30 o'clock a. m.

The following is a list of deaths for the 24 hours ending at 6 o'clock p. m. on the 13th:

J. C. Current, years 34; Frank Brooks, 34; Rosel May, 11; Josephine Baker, 6; Charles M. Pomeroy, 50; Charles Manning, Jacob Maltzazee, Emil Dreifus, 28; W. F. Brooks, 50; Johanna Lunday, 18; Charles H. Nevill, 6; Robert Booth, 8; A. R. Eiglehard, unknown; A. Smith, 31; Louis Schmidt, Jr., 18; William Pickering, unknown; M. Cone, 17; Moriah Martin, unknown; Mrs. A. Hendricks, 29; Carrie Kellar, 14; Jos. Stewart, 18; Pennicker, unknown, and S. F. Leming, 22, all white persons. There are now fully six hundred sick.

THE MAYOR OF SHREVEPORT CALLS FOR AID.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14.—Senator West has received the following dispatch from the Mayor of Shreveport, La. It was sent on Saturday at 8 o'clock p. m.:

People panic-stricken; all that could have left. The poor are nearly all on our hands. No money in the City Treasury. All pecuniary aid will be thankfully received. Fever increasing.

DEATH OF A TELEGRAPH OPERATOR.

SHREVEPORT, Sept. 14.—Mr. B. T. M. Jackson, a telegraph operator, died of yellow fever yesterday. Mr. Rae, the telegraph manager, is not expected to recover.

THE PROGRESS OF PESTILENCE.

MARSEILLES STEAMERS QUARANTINED AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

LONDON, Sept. 14.—Steamers from Marseilles are submitted to strict quarantine at Constantinople on account of cholera.

PRECAUTIONS AT MOBILE.

MOBILE, Sept. 13.—The Advising Board of Health has instructed the Mayor to issue a proclamation placing persons, vessels, and passengers from New-Orleans under quarantine, so far as local travel is concerned. Through passengers will not be affected by this order.

THIRTY DEATHS FROM YELLOW FEVER IN MEMPHIS.

MEMPHIS, Sept. 13.—Rumors of the prevalence of yellow fever in this city have been circulating for some time. At a meeting of the Board of Health to-day a circular was issued announcing the existence of yellow fever in the north-western part of the city, among the blacks living there. About 30 deaths have occurred. There has been only one death south of Poplar-st. There has been but little excitement here before, but it is expected that large numbers will leave the city next week.

SEPT. 14.—There was considerable excitement to-day in consequence of the address published by the Board of Health, in regard to the prevalence of yellow fever, and a great many persons have left the city. Several new cases were reported in the southern part of the city this afternoon. The total number of interments reported by the Board of Health to-day was 14, 11 of the deaths being caused by yellow fever. To-night and last night were unusually cool, and it is hoped an early frost will soon stop the progress of the disease.

OBITUARY.

JOHN A. PARKER.

John A. Parker, who has long been prominent in insurance circles, died at his residence in West Twenty-first-st., on Saturday, from a stroke of paralysis, at the age of 75. Mr. Parker was born at Concord, N. H., in 1798. When about 12 years old he removed to Portland, Me., and went into the produce commission business. He remained there about twelve years, having for his partner in business, Nehemiah Cram of that city. The business was finally extended so widely that Mr. Parker was induced to come to this city and open a branch house. The West India trade claimed most of his attention, and good fortune followed his ventures until the financial crash of 1837, when he failed. From that time until 1845 he did little business. He then turned his attention to insurance. First an underwriter, he was afterward elected Vice-President of the Great Western Marine Insurance Company, and a few years ago assumed the Presidency, which he resigned in 1853. He also occupied himself in writing and in the study of the higher branches of mathematics. He wrote a work on the "Quadrature of the Circle." He was a prominent member of the Historical Society, and within a few years read before it many papers, chiefly bearing upon his favorite study. He was collecting these for publication when he was stricken down with paralysis. He was also a member of the Chamber of Commerce. Two years ago he interested himself in the Alabama question and wrote a series of letters upon the subject which attracted much attention and were extensively republished, both in this country and in England. His last labor, before his present attack, was on a "History of the Origin, Progress, and Consummation of the Treaty of Washington," but is so incomplete that probably it will not be published. Many of his scientific writings were rather in opposition to the teachings of the schools, and excited considerable remark among men of talent and research. He was almost entirely self-taught, as he only received a common school education in his youth.

While in Portland he married Catharine Jackson, who survives him. He leaves five sons and one daughter. The eldest son, John A. Parker, jr., is an artist in Brooklyn. The funeral services will take place this afternoon at 2 p. m., from his late residence, No. 251 West Twenty-first-st.

PROPOSED BALLOON ASCENT.

BUFFALO, Sept. 14.—Prof. S. A. King has everything ready for a balloon ascension on Tuesday next. The process of inflating will commence early on Tuesday morning, and the ascent will take place at noon. The party will consist of six, including representatives of the local press.

....In Philadelphia, last night, John Griffin, fourth officer of the steamship Italy of the National Steamship Line, was knocked down in the street and robbed of $68 and all his certificates.

....While some men were at work in the cement quarry at Hillsdale, near Kingston, N. Y., on Saturday, a large rock fell striking Henry L. Coombe and crushing his head in a fearful manner. He died yesterday, and leaves a wife and five children.

WASHINGTON.

THE DISTRICT GOVERNMENT.

GOV. COOKE'S SUCCESSOR—THE CITIZENS INDIGNANT AT THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. SHEPHERD, AND THE PRESIDENT'S INDORSEMENT OF THE RING—INVESTIGATION FEARED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14.—The indignation at the appointment of Mr. Alexander Shepherd, who yesterday received his commission as Governor of the District in place of Mr. Henry D. Cooke, is universal except on the part of those subservient to the Ring which rules here. Shepherd is held responsible for all the arbitrary acts of the Board of Public Works, and the letter of President Grant indorsing all that has been done is regarded with astonishment. It is known that the Ring has been at work for some time to induce the President to do this thing, but very few thought he could be prevailed upon to make the appointment. It was represented to him that a full indorsement from him could alone save the District Government and those responsible for it; and after offering the place to another gentleman disconnected with the Ring, the President surrendered and both appointed and warmly indorsed Shepherd and the work of the Ring. Property holders here are in despair over this positive evidence that the President has decided to stand by the Ring, at a time when its arrogance is greater than ever, and its reckless destruction of private property, its illegal acts, and its extortions are becoming more unbearable than ever. All the city papers, *The Sunday Chronicle* excepted, have most fulsome indorsements of Shepherd, and praise of the President for selecting him. *The Sunday Chronicle* says:

The resignation of Gov. Cooke, and the appointment of A. R. Shepherd as his successor, will take nobody by surprise, as it has been the programme of the Ring ever since Gov. Cooke wanted to relieve himself of a scrape of more magnitude than he bargained for. We are free to say that the President has been imposed upon, and that had he an idea of the system of profligacy and blunders under which the people are suffering, he would relieve them of the cause, instead of perpetuating it. The transparent gauze of improvements will not hide the corruption behind it. The people of this District and of the country see it, and we hope that at the proper time, through their representatives in Congress, they will treat it as the people of New-York did Tammany. Nothing but such an investigation will ever get at the truth, and the Ring understand it, and are well aware that a transfer of authority would be their ruin. While we appreciate the interest the President feels in the District, we are sorry that he has not acquainted himself sufficiently to know that the present managers are the worst possible material that could have been selected, and we will be very much mistaken in the temper of the next Congress if he will not be convinced of the fact, as well as induced to recommend the abolition of the present system of government, and placing the District under the direct jurisdiction of Congress, through agents that will have some responsibility beyond speculation in town lots and the erection of private mansions at the cost of the taxpayers of the District.

Dr. Blake who has been appointed in place of Mr. Shepherd on the Board of Public Works is a quiet and highly respectable old gentleman, the President of a bank in which Shepherd and three other members of the District Government are directors or officers. He has no tastes in common with the men who make up the Ring, and if he accepts the rest will only be easily more carry things their own way. He was Commissioner of Public Buildings and Grounds, under President Pierce, and in other days was known as a prominent Democrat, but of late years as a friend of the President.

Henry A. Willard has been promoted to the Vice-Presidency of the Board, in place of Mr. Shepherd, who was Vice-President, but who becomes President by virtue of his appointment as Governor.

GOV. COOKE'S FORMAL RESIGNATION.

Gov. Cooke formally tendered his resignation in the following terms:

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, EXECUTIVE OFFICE, WASHINGTON, Sept. 10, 1873.

His Excellency, U. S. GRANT, President:

DEAR SIR: I beg to tender my resignation of the office of Governor of the District of Columbia, to take effect on Saturday next, the 13th inst. I am urged to this action by the fact that the combined demands from my private business and my public duties have been so exacting that I am no longer able to meet both or either of these demands as thoroughly as I could wish. Yet, it has been my sincere purpose so to administer the Government of the District as best to promote the welfare of the people of all classes, and to advance the National Capital to that position which it ought to occupy as the seat of the National Government. This purpose has been ably seconded by the other officers of the District government, and especially by the Vice-President of the Board of Public Works and my other associates of the Board, whose energy, courage, and comprehensive judgment have achieved such brilliant results. I have also to thank you, Mr. President, for the unvarying confidence you have reposed in me, and for the substantial encouragement and support you have given to me and my associates in the management of the affairs of the District. With sentiments of great regard and sincere respect, your obedient servant, H. D. COOKE.

To this letter the President replied as follows:

LONG BRANCH, N. J., Sept. 12, 1873.

DEAR SIR: Your letter of resignation of the office of Governor of the Territory of the District of Columbia is received, and it is with regret that I accept it. You being the first Governor of the District of Columbia since the present Administration has been applied to it, I am aware of the labor you have been called upon to perform in organizing and systematizing new forms and modes of administration, and also how zealously and ably you have performed those duties. Under your administration of the affairs of the Territorial Government of the District of Columbia, assisted as you have been by able and energetic subordinates, the National Capital has advanced toward what it should be with a rapidity that astonishes and pleases every one who has been away from it for a few years and returns. If your successors in the office give the satisfaction you have, property owners in the District of Columbia, the people at large, and all who have an interest in the National Capital will have reason to congratulate themselves in the new form of government given them. Yours truly, U. S. GRANT.

The Hon. H. D. COOKE, Governor Territory District of Columbia.

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

THE COUNCIL AT FORT SILL—DETAILS OF THE AGREEMENT WITH THE CROWS.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14.—Commissioner of Indian Affairs Smith will leave Washington toward the end of this month, for Fort Sill, where he will join Secretary Delano and Governor Davis, of Texas, for the purpose of holding a conference with the Kiowas, in connection with Big Tree and Satanta, now at that place.

Governor Davis requires that these Kiowas shall give up or sell their horses, so that they may not be able to go beyond their reservation, before he pardons Big Tree and Satanta.

During the last session of Congress an act was passed, authorizing the Secretary of the Interior "To negotiate with the chiefs and head men of the Crow tribe of Indians, in Montana, for a surrender of their reservation in that Territory, or of such part thereof as may be consistent with the welfare of said Indians." Under this act a Commission, consisting of Felix R. Brunot, Chairman of the Board of Indian Commissioners, Gen. E. Whittlesey, and James Wright, with Thomas K. Cree, Secretary to the Board, met the Crows in council, near Bogeman, in August. There were present on the part of the Mountain Crows, Iron Bull, Blackfoot, Thin Belly, Bearwolf, Old Crow, Goodheart, and many other prominent chiefs; and of the River Crows, Little Soldier and Wolf's Bow. The council lasted four days, during which speeches were made by the Indians who, after much deliberation among themselves, agreed to accept in lieu of their present reservation a tract of country on the Missouri, known as Judith's Basin, the United States to set apart the sum of $1,000,000 to be held in trust for the benefit of the Crows, and to prevent wolfing and hunting game in their country, it being expressly understood that their present position is in no wise changed by this agreement until the action of Congress shall be had upon it. If the Senate and House of Representatives ratify this arrangement more than 6,000,000 of acres of valuable mining land will be opened up to settlement. The Commissioners speak very well of the Crows, and their very good disposition toward the whites.

SUBMARINE SURVEYS.

A TRIUMPH OF AMERICAN SKILL.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14.—The sounding in the Atlantic by our naval vessels, prior to laying the cable which now connects the two continents and similar undertakings by Great Britain and France, have since brought forward a number of devices for more successfully sounding at greater depths. Thus hemp line is being superseded by steel piano wire, which, from its smooth surface, its greater tenacity and elasticity, and comparative lightness, is found superior to any other wire. The problem of bringing up specimens of bottom, however, offers greater difficulties.

The United States steamer Tuscarora, which is now engaged in searching for a suitable berth for a trans-Pacific cable from San Francisco to Japan, via the Aleutian Island chain, has been fitted by the Navy Department, under special instructions from the Bureau of Navigation, with a number of appliances for sounding in deep water, including the machine and dynamometer invented by Sir William Thomson for the use of piano wire, which has already been successfully tried about 40 miles outside of San Francisco in depths ranging from 141 to 1,949 fathoms. Besides, Commander G. E. Belknap has made an improvement of the apparatus hitherto thought best adapted for bringing up specimens of bottom, of which he has sent a model to the Bureau of Navigation, which is much admired by all officers who have seen it.

Belknap's improvement in the Brookes self-detaching shot and apparatus for bringing up particles of bottom in quills consists of two cylinders, fixed one above the other when the instrument is set, and descending through the water, and to close telescopically when the shot detaches on reaching the bottom. The lower cylinder is fitted with a conical cup at its lower extremity for the reception of parts of the bottom through an aperture which, while descending, admits a flow of water upward through the cylinders by means of valves which close hermetically, by the pressure of the water when the apparatus is being hauled up from below. The upper cylinder covers the aperture in the lower one on detaching the shot so that the water cannot wash out the bottom caught in the conical cup. Thus Commander Belknap has discovered a practical and unfailing method of not only bringing up safely a larger amount of bottom from the ocean bed than has hitherto been brought up, but also as much water as is caught between the two valves in the lower cylinder at the moment of striking the bottom.

THE BURNING OF COLUMBIA.

LETTER FROM GEN. SHERMAN—HE AFFIRMS THAT THE CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS ARE RESPONSIBLE.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14.—*The Daily Morning Chronicle* of to-morrow will publish the following letter from Gen. Sherman in relation to the burning of Columbia:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES, WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 12, 1873.

To the Editor of The Chronicle.

DEAR SIR: When you applied to me some time ago for material bearing on the controversy of "Who Burnt Columbia?" I gave you two printed pamphlets which I had obtained from Judge Holt, containing all the testimony taken in the cotton cases growing out of that event and submitted to the Mixed Commission appointed to adjudicate these cases under the treaty with Great Britain. Judge Holt could have obtained the testimony of all the 8,000 or 10,000 officers and soldiers who were at or near Columbia when the conflagration occurred, but he thought he had enough without putting the Government to the expense of bringing more witnesses from a distance. I suppose he did not summon Col. Stone, who commanded the leading brigade of the Fifteenth Corps, because he did not know where to find him. I surely did not know his whereabouts till he voluntarily published his statement. In my official report of the affair, published before the close of the war, when Gen. Wade Hampton was flaunting us, and not when, as he alleges, he was a prisoner of war, I referred incidentally to a fact of which I had knowledge, that a small detachment of the Seventeenth Corps had passed over the Congaree, had entered Columbia, and hoisted a flag on the new Statehouse, in advance of the regular entry of the Fifteenth Corps, which had made a circuit to cross the two branches, Saluda and Broad, which make the Congaree. I treated the performance of this detachment as somewhat irregular, but the men who composed it now become important witnesses, and I herewith inclose copies of their written statement, together with the official reports which explain the whole affair. These witnesses go back to a time three-quarters of an hour before the entry of the head of Stone's brigade, and about two hours ahead of the time I personally reached the piles of burning cotton, of which there were many; and I invite your careful perusal of their statements, for they are positive that they saw Rebel cavalry soldiers ripping open the bales of cotton and applying fire. They also saw Rebel soldiers plundering the stores on Main-st., which Gen. Hampton attributes to our men; and they further positively assert that Hampton had already gone out of Columbia, so that he could not and did not see his men applying fire. Now Hampton admits that the cotton was rolled out in the streets "for the purpose of burning," but that he forbade the burning lest the fire should extend to the houses, and I reiterate that, no matter what his orders were, the men of his army, either his rear guard or his stragglers, did apply the fire, and that this was a sufficient cause for all else that followed. With great respect, yours,

W. T. SHERMAN, General.

CURRENT TOPICS AT THE CAPITAL.

THE SHIPPING LAWS.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14, 1873.

The Secretary of the Treasury decides that when an instrument in writing in the nature of a bill of sale, for the sale or transfer of a vessel in whole or in part, and which shall recite at length her former document, is produced to the Collector, there is no provision of law that requires the record of the bill of sale before new papers can be issued. It is advisable, however, that the bill of sale should be recorded, under the act of 1850, to insure its validity against parties other than the grantors. The Secretary of the Treasury decides that all vessels used in the business of pilotage are regarded as engaged in the business of trading, and should be required to be licensed under the coasting laws. He also says a license issued to a vessel expires by the sale of the vessel while she is in a district not her own; and the penalty of $50 attaches to the non-surrender of the license within three days to the Collector of the district in which she may first arrive. But if the license expires by limitation when she is in a district not her own, the penalties prescribed in Section 6 attach under the contingencies therein mentioned.

THE NEW TREASURY LOCK.

The Committee designated by the Secretary of the Treasury on the 9th inst. to examine and report upon such locks as might be presented to them for the use of the Treasury Department for Customs purposes, have adopted and selected the lock presented by D. K. Miller. This lock, however, as presented, does not give satisfaction with regard to the size of the seal, but in all other respects it is, as far as the Committee were able to judge, superior to any lock presented for the purposes for which it is intended. The Committee, therefore, recommend the adoption of the lock presented by Mr. Miller, with certain modifications, which he is willing to make. The modified lock will cost $4 each, but can be had for $3 75, provided 20,000 are ordered at one time. The Committee came to the unanimous conclusion that it is for the best interests of the Department to use paper seals, and manufacture them under its own supervision.

UNIVERSALIST CONVENTION.

The Convention of the Council General of the Universalists will organize on Tuesday next. The Hon. Moses Humphrey of New-Hampshire will preside on Tuesday, and the Rev. Dr. Miner of Boston at the meeting on Wednesday evening, when several distinguished ministers will address the people. The occasional sermon will be preached by the Rev. J. M. Pullman. The establishment of the denomination upon a permanent basis in this city, and the erection of a church here, will receive the special attention of the Council.

CONVENTION OF SWISS SOCIETIES.

A convention of delegates from the Swiss societies of the United States will meet here to-morrow. Thirty-six societies in various States will be represented. One of the principal matters to be considered is the effort to secure from the Swiss Government legislation of a more favorable character in regard to emigration from that country.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14, 1873.

The Post-Office Department has received a reply from Berlin that for the newspapers in the German language coming under bond from the United States of America, which are addressed to the Kingdom of Prussia, a newspaper tax is no longer collected from those to whom they are addressed by the Post-Office on that side.

It has been incorrectly stated in some of the newspapers that the union of the Army of the Cumberland will be held at Pittsburgh on the 17th of October. This is a mistake. The meeting will take place on the 17th and 18th of the present month.

Attorney-General Williams will this week hold a conference in Hartford, Conn., with the Government counsel, relative to the progress of the Credit Mobilier suits, which come up in the United States Court there on Tuesday next.

The demands for the new American trade dollar are increasing, and additional orders have recently been received from China and elsewhere.

ACCIDENT TO A SARATOGA TRAIN.

ALBANY, Sept. 14.—The Saratoga train due here at 7:45 o'clock this evening, was thrown from the track by a misplaced switch as the train was entering the city. The engine, tender, and baggage-car were thrown down an