New-York Tribune.

VOL. XXXVII...No. 11,529. NEW-YORK, MONDAY, MARCH 11, 1878. PRICE FOUR CENTS.

WASHINGTON.

MR. REAGAN IN AN UNPLEASANT FIX.

HIS INDORSEMENT OF AN ATTEMPTED GRAB APPARENTLY PROVED—SENSATIONAL TESTIMONY IN M'GARRAHAN'S CASE—GENERAL NEWS.

Mr. Willitts has demonstrated that Mr. Reagan, while Postmaster-General of the Southern Confederacy, paid at least $564,000, if not more, of the claims of Southern mail contractors against the United States, which Mr. Reagan has said the Confederacy never paid a dollar of. In the McGarrahan case, in committee, Saturday, the claim was made that prominent public men had been corrupted by McGarrahan; the charge is denied. Mr. Hewitt may speak on the Consular Service to-day. Navy officers will testify in behalf of Minister Seward. The proposed monetary conference is not favored by *The London Economist*. Navy Yard workmen are in Washington to object to cutting down their pay under the eight-hour law. General Sherman desires a new fort on the Northwestern boundary.

A PROFITABLE SPEECH.

MR. WILLITTS SAVES THE GOVERNMENT $375,000 BY EXPOSING THE GAME OF THE SOUTHERN MAIL CONTRACTORS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, March 10.—The publication of the full speech of Mr. Willitts, of Michigan, a part of which only he had an opportunity to deliver in the House of Representatives, on Friday, shows how narrow was the escape from legislation that would have been, to say the least, unwise.

The paragraph in the Sundry Civil Appropriation Bill of last Winter, providing for the payment of ante-bellum mail contractors, contained the following two provisions: First, that the money should be paid only for services rendered "before said States respectively engaged in war against the United States," and secondly, "that any such claims which have been paid by the Confederate States Government, shall not be again paid." The Secretary of the Treasury refused to execute this law and to pay any of the claims filed at the Post Office Department until all should have been submitted, in order that he might ascertain if the appropriation was sufficient to cover all, and, if not, what part of each be paid.

This ruling made necessary the introduction of a joint resolution directing the disbursement of the appropriation previously made. The joint resolution was prepared by Mr. Reagan, of Texas, and was reported to the House by the chairman of the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads. Both provisions above quoted were omitted from the resolution, as forming a part of the original law making the appropriation.

The United States Government ordered the discontinuance of all mail contracts in the insurrectionary States on the 31st of May, 1861, and the Confederate Government assumed control of postal matters within its borders on the day following. But the war began before the first of June, 1861, the average date of the first overt acts committed by the different State Governments being nearly three months earlier than that time. Therefore Mr. Reagan's resolution provided for the payment of mail contracters in the Southern States for services performed during the first three months of the war.

The Appropriation Bill of the last Congress shut out all claims which accrued after the actual secession of the several States, but the second provision of that bill, which was omitted from the joint resolution, was far more important than the first. It excluded from payment all claims that had been settled by the Confederate Government.

Mr. Reagan had asserted that the Confederate States had never paid a dollar of these claims, and that the provision referred to was of no use.

Mr. Willitt asserted that these claims had already been paid; and in proof of this he first produced the proclamation of the Postmaster-General of the Confederate States (Mr. Reagan), ordering the surrender to the United States Government of all stamps and stamped envelopes in the hands of postmasters on the 1st of June, 1861, but requiring them to retain in their possession all revenue which should have accrued from the postal service. He next quoted an act of the Confederate Congress, approved August 30, 1861, appropriating the balances which remained in the hands of postmasters on the first of June of that year to the payment of claims of mail contractors accruing before that date. It appears that an act of the Confederate Congress, approved January 23, 1862, authorized this money to be used for the payment of claims which accrued after June 1. Thus it will be seen that the Confederate Government appropriated balances due to the United States which it found in the hands of postmasters on assuming control of postal matters, first, with the intention of using these sums for paying claims against the United States, and secondly, to meet expenses which were incurred after the United States Government ordered the discontinuance of the service.

In order to settle all balances due on mail contracts prior to June 1, 1861, the Postmaster of the Confederacy was by an Act of September 26, 1862, authorized to pay the contractors the sums respectively found due and owing to them for postal service rendered in any of the States of the Confederacy under contracts made by the United States, as those sums were audited and ascertained by him.

The amount of these claims presented to the Confederate Government was reported by the First Auditor to be $773,441 17. A few claims the auditor said had not been presented, but in his opinion $800,000 would be sufficient to cover the whole. In accordance with his recommendation the Confederate Congress in October, 1862, appropriated $800,000, and subsequent reports by the Postmaster showed that he disbursed, on account of this appropriation, at least $564,544 22. No report on this subject later than December 7, 1863, has been found, but the inference is that the whole $800,000 was disbursed, and that all the contractors who are now seeking from Congress to be paid for services rendered prior to June 1, 1861, were actually paid by the Confederate Government more than fourteen years ago.

A SILVER CONFERENCE.

COLD WATER THROWN UPON THE IDEA BY THE LONDON ECONOMIST.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, March 10.—If the United States is to repeat the experiment, so often tried in Europe, of maintaining so-called bimetallic money, the monetary policy of other great commercial nations becomes a matter of the greatest importance to us. Some of the ablest advocates of remonetization of silver in this country have admitted that we cannot keep both gold and silver in circulation if the rest of the world discards the latter; and they have defended the action of Congress by asserting that it would force Germany to reverse her present coinage policy, and cause France and her monetary allies to open their mints again to silver.

The London Economist, although an advocate of the single gold standard, has been opposed to the legislation which, within the last five or six years, has tended to disturb the ratio between the values of gold and silver, and has advised the Governments of the great commercial nations of the world to let the subject alone, and not to change their laws at this time. The opinion of its editor in regard to the reception which the invitation of the United States to join a conference on the subject of a common ratio between the values of gold and silver will meet with in Europe is, therefore, valuable. After quoting from the report of the last Government inquiry on the subject in France, and from debates in the French Senate in 1876, and in January of the present year, to show that the tendency of that country is toward a single gold standard (a change which, though held by the editor of *The Economist* to be economically sound, has not been looked upon by him as wise at this time), *The Economist*, in an article published February 23, says:

"We do not for one moment apprehend that either France, Italy, Belgium, Switzerland, or even any of the smaller States interested in the Latin Union, will, at an International Congress convoked upon the invitation of the President of the United States in the event of the Silver Bill becoming a law, be persuaded to fall back into the retrograde and ineffectual system of a double standard, proved, as it has been, to be full of errors and inconveniences; and as to England, Germany, Sweden, Denmark and Norway or other countries, which have the advantage of a single standard of gold, or as to India, which has the next best thing to it, a single standard of silver, entertaining so visionary a project as that of a bimetallic money and a see-saw standard, the very notion is repulsive to the advanced intelligence, economical science of their legislatures and people, and deserves the hearty disapproval of all who desire to avoid experiments that remind one rather of the crude problems of the sixteenth than of the ripe experience of the nineteenth century.

WORK AND PAY.

WORKINGMEN WHO WANT TEN HOURS' WAGES FOR EIGHT HOURS' LABOR.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, March 10.—A large delegation of workingmen from the Navy Yards at New-York, Philadelphia, Boston, Norfolk, Washington and Portsmouth, called upon the Secretary of the Navy yesterday, in company with Representative Harmer, of Pennsylvania, in relation to the act of Congress fixing eight hours as a day's work for Government employés. Under the order of the Secretary, which will take effect on the 20th instant, the pay of all workingmen is fixed on the basis of ten hours; consequently, those who work only eight hours a day will be paid one-fifth less.

The subject was brought to the attention of the Secretary by these persons.

After they had completed their statement the Secretary said that he did not see how it could be expected that ten hours' pay should be given for eight hours' work; that there was no reason why labor under the Government should possess exceptional advantages; in his opinion it should be placed upon the same basis as the labor of workingmen engaged in private industries. He said, for that reason, he would be compelled to enforce his order under the present interpretation of the intention of the law, which he regards as properly construed in his order. He added that, if Congress would more clearly define the present law, and fix eight hours as a full day's work, he would not, in any way, interfere with its execution.

In connection with this subject it may be stated that the House Committee on Education and Labor has recently held several sessions for the consideration of the present law fixing a day's work, and has agreed upon a resolution which it will report at an early date, explanatory of the law that eight hours shall be a full day's work for all Government employés.

MR. SEWARD'S SIDE OF THE STORY.

HIS FRIENDS SAY THAT MUCH OF THE TESTIMONY AGAINST HIM IS UNWORTHY OF BELIEF.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, March 10.—A gentleman who formerly held an official position in China under the Government of the United States during a portion of Minister Seward's term of service as Consul-General, says that much of the testimony now being taken by the House Committee which reflects upon the personal character and official conduct of Mr. Seward is utterly unworthy of belief. This gentleman asserts that all accusations are false which represent Mr. Seward as ever having forgotten himself as a gentleman or as ever having associated with the low classes of men whom some of the witnesses describe as his familiars. This gentleman further says that much of the testimony would be entirely just, if given in regard to some of his accusers. A number of Naval officers of high standing, who served in Chinese waters and have had an opportunity of knowing something of Mr. Seward's administration as Consul-General, are to be called by his friends to disprove the accusations against his personal character.

MR. HEWITT ON CONSULS.

A PROBABLE SPEECH TO-DAY ON THE RIGHT WAY TO AID AMERICAN COMMERCE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, March 10.—The agreement of the House of Representatives to hold a night session to-morrow for general debate is an indication of a purpose to devote the day sessions to work. The Consular and Diplomatic Appropriation Bill will probably be taken up to-morrow in place of the usual Monday business, and Mr. Abram S. Hewitt expects to make his speech on the proposition to reduce the number of missions and to strengthen the Consular service.

WHERE A NEW FORT IS NEEDED.

THE BOUNDARY IN THE VICINITY OF SITTING BULL'S CAMP GREATLY ENDANGERED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, March 10.—The Secretary of War, in response to a request of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs, has sent to Congress a letter written by General Sherman, in which he urges the importance of building a fort on Milk River, Montana, near the British boundary line, immediately. He says that it is needed as a check to the hostile Sioux and other Indians congregated in that vicinity. Generals Terry and Sheridan agree with General Sherman that such a fort is greatly needed.

THE OFFICES IN LOUISIANA.

A RUMOR THAT THE PRESIDENT INTENDS TO MAKE UNEXPECTED APPOINTMENTS TO THEM.

[GENERAL PRESS DISPATCH.]

WASHINGTON, March 10.—There are indications that the President has abandoned all idea of harmonizing the factions in the Republican party in Louisiana by any appointments he may make; and that he has settled on the purpose to appoint some man not indentified with either side as Collector of the Port of New-Orleans, to be followed by a sweeping change in the other offices. The object in this course is obviously to make a choice not so much for political reasons as to serve the public good, and to silence animadversions upon the present condition of matters at the New-Orleans Custom House. Mr. C. A. Lee, formerly a merchant of the interior of the State, now in business in New-Orleans, is favorably thought of in that connection, and is strongly sustained by persons having the Executive confidence. It is stated that there is a coalition of long standing between the Senators of Louisiana in favor of Mr. Packard's appointment, but that it will not be sufficient to secure the end sought.

THE McGARRAHAN CLAIM.

A HEARING OF THE CASE IN COMMITTEE—CORRUPTION OF EMINENT MEN CHARGED—SEVERAL HUNDRED LETTERS PRODUCED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, March 10.—The Senate Public Lands Committee heard evidence yesterday in regard to the McGarrahan claim for property in California, known as the New-Idria Quicksilver Mine. Judge Jeremiah Wilson, E. C. Ingersoll and ex-Senator Carpenter appeared for Mr. McGarrahan, and Judge Jeremiah Black, David S. Wilson, of Iowa, and ex-chief clerk of the Land Office, Mr. Curtis, for the New-Idria Company.

Mr. Jeremiah Wilson offered in evidence papers purporting to be a copy of the order of the California Land Commissioner rejecting the claim of McGarrahan; then a further order of the District Court of the United States for the District of California, reviewing, on appeal, the order of the Land Commissioner and affirming the validity of his claim to the land in controversy; also a letter from ex-Secretary of the Interior, Caleb B. Smith, and a subsequent letter from Secretary John P. Usher, directing a patent to issue to McGarrahan; and also an exemplification of this patent from the records of the General Land Office.

Judge Black then asked leave to examine Mr. McGarrahan relative to the steps taken by him to secure these decisions.

A discussion thereupon occurred between the counsel. Judge Black claimed that corrupt means had been used by Mr. McGarrahan to secure a patent, and charged that Senator McDougal, Senator Francis P. Blair, D. C. Forney, and other former Senators and members of Congress had been corrupted by the witness in obtaining his decisions.

Ex-Senator Carpenter claimed that, even if bribery had been used, and Mr. McGarrahan had improperly influenced dead Senators, it would not invalidate his client's title to the land in question. As long as he had not corrupted this Congress, the committee's duty, and that of Congress, was to pass upon the validity of Mr. McGarrahan's grant.

Mr. David Wilson, of Iowa, said the defence intended to show that every decision in favor of Mr. McGarrahan had been obtained by the use of money.

After some further discussion relative to the admission of evidence of this character, Mr. McGarrahan was asked if he had ever given stock, based on his claim, to John Hickman, ex-member of Congress from Pennsylvania. He replied that he never had. He heard subsequently that Hickman had stock, but did not know how he got it. In reply to further questions, the witness said, "Daniel E. Sickles performed some services for me; I did not agree to give him any compensation, but subsequently I gave him an interest in my claim; he would have acted for me if I had never given him a dime; I never gave James Wilson, ex-member of Congress from Iowa, either stock or money; there was some talk between Mr. Sickles and myself about taking Mr. E. M. Stanton into our business; Mr. Sickles said he did not think it was necessary to have Mr. Stanton's aid; Mr. Stanton was not Attorney-General at that time; I made no attempt to buy up the Attorney-General's Office; it was in the possession of my opponents."

Judge Black—It was in the possession of the United States.

Mr. David Wilson offered in evidence several letters from McGarrahan to Mr. Frank, Secretary of the Panoche Grande Company, which, he claimed, would show that McGarrahan and Sickles attempted to operate upon Stanton while Attorney-General, for the purpose of securing his influence. One of them stated that he and his friends were willing to take Stanton into the same boat with them. The other letters communicated McGarrahan's movements with Mr. McDougal, ex-Senator from California, and others, as to legislation before Congress in his behalf, stating that the whole fight would now have to be made in California, that for having Senator McDougal's services 1,000 shares would have to be given him, and it would also be necessary to secure the service of a man in the Attorney-General's Office here. Another letter states that when an injunction had been served upon the New-Idria Company to prevent them from running the mine, arrangements had been made here so that an appeal could not be taken in time to prove of service to McGarrahan's opponents.

The letters to Frank number over 700 and cover a correspondence of ten years. Their reading was discontinued, and it was ordered that they all be printed and go into *the Record*.

Judge Wilson, of Iowa, said they were all of a general character, showing that money was paid, Federal appointments secured and laws changed in the interest of McGarrahan's claim.

The committee then adjourned.

Mr. McGarrahan, whose contest with the New-Idria Mining Company has been before the courts and in Congress for the last twenty-five years, is not the least disconcerted by the assaults made upon him in the Senate Committee. He says that of the seven hundred letters presented to the committee, those which were read were written by him, but that those published in a confidential book of the New-Idria Company purporting to be his are garbled. In respect to the assertion that he bribed Senator McDonald, General Sickles, Frank Blair and John Hickman, Mr. McGarrahan says: "The truth is, these gentlemen were employed by me in an open, legal capacity, from 1858 to 1862, to argue my case in the courts, and before the Executive Departments here their employment was entirely legitimate, and at that time I never dreamed that the cases were coming to Congress. As to James F. Wilson, of Iowa, he has good reason to feel justly incensed. Judge Black, just before the adjournment, asked if Mr. Wilson had ever been in my employ. I told him I never gave him a dollar directly or indirectly at any time. Of the private list of stockholders Mr. McGarrahan says: "It is a forgery, and I will prove it. No member of Congress mentioned in that list ever received a dollar of stock directly or indirectly. Some of the public men mentioned I don't know. Some have voted for me and some against me. The names of the only men who have any interest whatever in the company are contained in the list furnished me by Frank, my confidential agent." Mr. McGarrahan shows this list, and there is not among the names upon it that of a single public man.

In explaining how the so-called private list could be a forgery, Mr. McGarrahan says: "The New-Idria Company has possession of all the stock, books, papers, and seal, and the entire machinery. It can do anything. The substance of the whole story, yesterday, against me was an unqualified lie. Everybody was bought up against me. I was entitled to a survey, but the Interior Department refused to give it. The Attorney-General was against me and violated the precedent which that department had established in the Elmden case. I never gave any stock to anybody in public life and never paid anything to anybody except for counsel fees, and that directly and openly in connection with the case."

Mr. McGarrahan's side of this story will probably be presented to the committee at its meeting next Saturday, and, if the story he tells to-night is true, his testimony will be even more sensational than that taken by the committee yesterday. This case has been before the public for about a quarter of a century, and, although the Supreme Court of the United States has recently rendered an opinion adverse to Mr. McGarrahan's claim, he does not seem disposed on that account to give up the contest.

CURRENT TOPICS AT THE CAPITAL.

AN INTERESTING PRESENT TO THE COUNTRY.

WASHINGTON, March 10, 1878.

Many people will remember the great interest excited in the United States by the collections of paintings illustrating the habits and characteristics of the American Indian made by Mr. George Catlin many years ago. These were exhibited throughout the United States, and subsequently taken to Europe, everywhere attracting large number of visitors. They subsequently constituted the basis of the work on the North American Indian by Mr. Catlin, which has long been considered a standard authority. Mr. Catlin, who was apparently not a very good business man, became seriously embarrassed in Europe, and at one time, when his pictures were on exhibition in Brussels, he was in danger of having them seized and sold to satisfy his European creditors. The late Mr. Joseph Harrison, of Philadelphia, who happened to be in Brussels at the time, advanced a large sum of money on the collection and became the proprietor of it, and it was in time shipped to Philadelphia, where it has been ever since. The original cartoons or sketches of a portion of these paintings were retained by Mr. Catlin, and these, with others taken subsequently, were exhibited at the Smithsonian Institution some years ago, and were stored in the Smithsonian Building, after Mr. Catlin's death. They were, however, sent by his heirs to the Centennial, and are still on exhibition in the Centennial Building. The executors of Mr. Harrison's estate have lately informed the Smithsonian Institution that Mrs. Harrison proposes to present the collection to the United States as soon as suitable provision can be made for its exhibition in Washington.

THE TARIFF AGITATION.

Within the past two or three weeks hundreds of petitions have been received from printers and publishers in all parts of the country, asking for the abolition of the duty on type. There seems to be a general movement to this end, and now petitions of type-founders of New-York and other cities of the United States are being received. They ask that in order to prevent fraud in the introduction of foreign type the duty may remain a specific one, and not be changed to an ad valorem duty. They also express themselves against a reduction of duty. These petitions have been referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

ACTS SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT.

The following acts and resolutions have been signed by the President:

A joint resolution authorizing the Secretary of War to issue arms to the Washington Light Infantry, of Charleston, S. C.

An act changing the time of holding the terms of the District Court of West Virginia.

The joint resolution providing for issuing arms and ammunition to the Territory of Idaho.

An act authorizing the preparation and publication of a new edition of the Revised Statutes of the United States.

THE TIME OF THE NORTHERN PACIFIC.

The next time the House Committee on Pacific Railroads is called, which will probably be on Tuesday next, Mr. Rice, of Massachusetts, will report the bill to extend the time of the completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad, and ask to have a day set aside for its consideration. The provisions of this bill were reported several weeks ago.

A COMPLIMENT TO MR. TAYLOR.

The German Minister to the United States, Mr. Kurd Von Schlozer, entertained the American Minister to Germany, Mr. Bayard Taylor, at dinner last evening. The Secretary of State and several other distinguished gentlemen were among the guests. Mr. Taylor returned to New-York last night.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

WASHINGTON, March 10, 1878.

The Secretary of the Navy will send to the House Naval Committee to-morrow the report of a Board of Officers on the subject of increased efficiency in the Navy.

Joseph F. Landram has been appointed revenue storekeeper and gauger for the Seventh District of Kentucky, and Joseph Marquitz storekeeper for the First District of Missouri.

The Treasurer of the United States has been directed to cause the transfer of $7,500 in minor coin from the Sub Treasury, at New-York, to the Assistant Treasurer at Philadelphia.

The bill providing a long bond for savings which passed the Senate on Wednesday last, was discussed at considerable length by the Ways and Means Committee Saturday, but no definite action was reached.

A letter has been received at the Bureau of Statistics from Colorado saying that the Central Pacific Railroad Company has recently employed 400 men in that State at $1 a day, the lowest rate of wages ever paid to white men in that part of the country.

It is reported that the Senate will sustain the action of the President in the case of Colonel Ruakle. In two cases, involving the same legal points, the Senate and House of Representatives have passed bills restoring the officers to their former rank in the Army.

The Secretary of the Treasury has appointed a committee, consisting of Assistant Secretary French, Dr. Linderman, Director of the Mint, and Treasurer Gilfillan, to consider all propositions under his circular for the purchase of silver bullion, and to report the result to him. He has also directed Messrs. French and Linderman each to keep a detailed account of all propositions received and their action upon them.

AUSTRIA MORE TRANQUIL.

COUNT ANDRASSY SPEAKS PEACEFULLY.

DISORDERLY SCENE IN LONDON—A PEACE MEETING DISTURBED BY A MOB.

In London, yesterday, a peace meeting was disturbed by a pro-Turkish mob, and a disorderly scene took place. Count Andrassy has given explanations to the delegations. He says that he seeks the grant as a precautionary measure, and has confidence in the approaching Congress.

AUSTRIA TAKING PRECAUTIONS.

COUNT ANDRASSY EXPRESSES CONFIDENCE IN THE CONGRESS, BUT RECOMMENDS CAUTION.

VIENNA, March 10, 1878.

A demand was presented to the Delegations, yesterday, for a grant of $1,860,350 on account of extraordinary and urgent army and navy requirements.

The sub-committee of the Hungarian Delegation yesterday discussed the bill for a grant of $30,000,000. M. Falk, reporter of the committee, said he coincided in the Government's views; but as there were rumors of an intended occupation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, he desired guarantees that, if action should prove necessary, the Government would immediately seek the coöperation of the constitutional bodies.

Count Andrassy replied, and the debate was adjourned until Tuesday.

Count Andrassy, in the statement accompanying the bill for the credit to the Delegations, says:

In the present position of affairs it is not impossible that the Government might be obliged to take extraordinary measures for the protection of the interests of the Monarchy. In this case the Government must be in a condition to cover the expenses, and therefore ask for 60,000,000 florins. It is not proposed to expend this in completing the equipment of the army, but it is intended to afford the Government means to insure the Monarchy against danger and surprise.

It was quite natural that in the arrangements made during the campaign, political interests were driven to the background by military interests. Under such circumstances the interests of Europe and the individual States cannot come out scathless. Public opinion has gone from one extreme to another, but at the Congress the situation may appear in a less disquieting aspect.

A HINT TO RUSSIA.

Russia has repeatedly declared that she drew the sword not for selfish motives, but to improve the lot of the Christians. We must demand such a limitation of the results of the war whereby neither our nor European interests will be injured. We must provide the best possible solution, but not a mere postponement of the questions arising out of the relations of the Powers. If Russian arrangements relative to one half of Turkey come into force, what will be the prospect of the other half? To what extent can Turkey be reduced and still retain a chance of continued existence? How guarantee the execution of reforms?

Such gigantic difficulties only Europe acting in concert can surmount. A single State seeking to settle them at its own good pleasure must be in a position to reckon with a European coalition which does not exist. It was not to Russia's interest to make sacrifices for things which do not contain within themselves guarantees of stability, and to which Europe was bound to refuse recognition. Consequently, it was a justifiable hope that the Congress would lead to an agreement. Austria enters the Congress to defend Austrian and European interests. Austria has reserved her whole strength for the moment of the conclusion of peace. She asks a money grant to safeguard her interests against any surprise; not relying upon mere political arguments, when one Power comes fully armed upon the scene. The Government's request is not an act of hostility against any Power, nor mere idle demonstration, but an act of precaution.

THE LONDON PEACE MEETING.

DISORDERLY PROCEEDINGS—MR. BRADLAUGH CUDGELLED.

LONDON, March 10, 1878.

At the peace demonstration in Hyde Park, to-day, Messrs. Bradlaugh and Herbert made short speeches, and proposed resolutions in favor of peace, which passed immediately. Soon after, the supporters of the Government policy arrived in force, and the meeting was declared dissolved. Mr. Bradlaugh was cudgelled, and fled in a cab.

LATER DETAILS OF THE ROW.

LONDON, Monday, March 11, 1878.

According to the largest estimates, the number of persons who attended the peace demonstration in Hyde Park yesterday, was about 2,000. They were hustled about the Park and finally ejected by a large and disorderly mob. Sticks were freely used and several men, slightly hurt, were taken to the hospital.

The mob then separated, going to cheer for Lord Beaconsfield and Musurus Pasha. A large crowd cheered and groaned before Mr. Gladstone's residence. Mr. Gladstone and wife, when going to church, were obliged to take refuge in a friend's house, whence they were escorted by the police.

The Prince of Teck was mistaken for Count Schouvaloff, the Russian Ambassador, and insulted and hustled by the mob.

THE GREEKS DISSATISFIED.

LONDON, March 10, 1878.

A special dispatch from Vienna to *The Times* says the extension of Bulgaria along the Ægean Sea has caused great commotion at Athens since, if carried out, it would terminate the Greek aspirations in connection with Thrace, Constantinople and the Dardanelles. Even should the strip from Kavala to Makri only be included in Bulgaria, this would interrupt the coast line, possession of which they have long regarded as a rightful inheritance, the majority of the inhabitants being Greeks.

LORD DERBY LIKELY TO RETIRE.

LONDON, March 10, 1878.

It is rumored in the London clubs and political circles, but it cannot be said on how good grounds, that Lord Lyons is likely to succeed Lord Derby as Secretary of State for the Foreign Department in case affairs between England and Russia again become threatening. It is even regarded as not unlikely that the change may be made before the meeting of the Congress, in which case England would be represented by her Foreign Minister.

TURKEY UTTERLY EXHAUSTED.

A MONEY PANIC IN CONSTANTINOPLE—DEAR BREAD—HOW NEWSPAPERS ARE CONDUCTED IN THE OTTOMAN CAPITAL.

[FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

CONSTANTINOPLE, Jan. 25.—We are in the midst of a money panic. The theory of a paternal Government is that it should act on communistic principles to the extent of providing bread for the people at a reasonable price. The production of bread is under severe restrictions, and the Government daily pounces on ambulant bread-men to weigh their loaves and to confiscate the stock if one loaf is under weight. But gold has gone up 20 per cent in twenty-four hours, and the wisest precautions of the fathers of the faithful have failed. Men went hungry to bed last night because the bakers will not take paper money, whose value will shrink 10 per cent while the bread is baking. I saw a Turkish girl of nineteen or twenty, standing near a baker's shop, yesterday, with wrath in her eye. Her veil had fallen, and so, in fact, had her outer mantle. Her face was finely moulded, her eye black as jet. Her cheeks were flushed with excitement, and her nostrils were dilated. The trouble was that she has been able to earn five piastres a day with which to buy bread for her mother, two small children and herself. At the beginning of the war bread was one and three-quarter piastres per *oke*, and it required two okes of bread every day for the family. As the paper depreciated, the price of bread was increased, but her wages remained five piastres a day, as before. Yesterday the poor girl was informed by the baker that the price of bread had been raised to five piastres the oke. Still she earns only five piastres per day. Unfortunately she is not the only victim to "the times." The suffering in the city has become very great, and I fear that in the country it may be much worse, even in regions distant from the seat of war. At Erzerum the people are almost starving. Flour is five times the ordinary price, and the poor suffer doubly because no fuel is to be had. Many have fled, but the common people cannot flee.

Every one has been watching the Bureau of the Press and *The Levant Herald* as the barbarians watched St. Paul when the viper had been shaken into the fire, expecting him to fall down dead suddenly. The Bureau of the Press exercises despotic functions in the best of times, and in these war times it is rarely that a newspaper dares indulge in editorial comments. There are eighteen daily newspapers published in the city, besides seven weeklies and semi-weeklies. Of these papers four are official organs of the Government. The languages of the newspapers of Constantinople are English, French, Turkish, Greek, Armenian, Spanish and Bulgarian. The Turkish newspapers are printed, some with Arabic letters, some with Armenian letters, and some with Greek letters. It is an odd circumstance that there are both Armenians and Greeks in large numbers in Turkey who have lost their own language, but use their own alphabet to write the vernacular Turkish. Another curiosity is the Spanish newspaper, which is printed in Hebrew letters for the Jews. The Turkish newspapers furnish to a great extent the local news that is found in the columns of the others. These Turkish papers also furnish the earliest war news. This seems to be largely obtained by means of key-hole vigils. The persons concerned are commonly weak in geography, and are not supplied with any vocabulary of military terms. Thus arise those muddled accounts of partially heard telegrams which are given in advance of the official publication. The story telegraphed to Europe a month ago, about an escape of Osman's army toward Rahova, arose from the fact that the key-hole watcher did not hear the whole of the telegram, and imputed to Plevna what was really an account of the evacuation of Rahova. The way these surreptitious news items are bandied about is amusing. The Turkish paper *Basiret* publishes an item in the morning, which is cooked over and appears in *The Levant Herald* or the *Phare du Bosphore*, in slightly different garb, in the evening; next morning the *Basiret* copies the altered version of its own item, as independent testimony to its truth; the third day the *Basiret* has learned that the whole thing is false, and says so. The other papers then follow suit, saying that on investigation the statement of day before yesterday proves erroneous. Reporters, properly speaking, are unknown, and "investigation" into the truth of items is conducted with the scissors and paste-pot. This manner of editing newspapers would be impossible to the foreign newspaper editors of this city were it not that neither the chief editors themselves nor one in five hundred of their readers can read the Turkish newspapers, to observe the petty plagiarisms of the "news" columns. Editorial writing is a forgotten art in the five newspapers published in English and French, as indeed one would expect where the expression of sentiment on live questions by foreigners is a matter of so great delicacy. The Turkish newspapers translate a great deal from the European press, but also give verbose editorials. The Greek and Armenian newspapers write editorially on church matters alone, as a general thing, except on occasions where they give space to insincere and nauseous praise of some Government measure. Such articles are sure to be copied by the Turkish papers as testimony to the contented condition of those Christians who are yet untouched by Russian intrigue.

The Turkish papers have been copying all the utterances of Archibald Forbes on Turks, Russians and Bulgarians, with great glee. There is a certain amount of evil yet to come from Mr. Forbes's suggestion that the Turks are unwise in not devastating the country as they retreat. Turks can devise evil enough alone without being put up to it by Englishmen. But he has done the Turks justice in one thing which mere theorists on Eastern affairs, and even the half-way investigators who are now so plenty, have not the means of knowing. This is, that the Turkish peasantry, as a general thing, live on passably good terms with their Christian neighbors. They have grown up together, suffered the oppressions of the tax-gatherer together, and commonly the Turkish neighbors of a Christian family are its real friends. In almost all cases of outrage or robbery, the guilty parties are either Government officials of low degree or Turks from some other region. The Christian villagers have often found refuge, in times of trouble, with their Turkish neighbors, and vice versa, and there are to-day, in numbers of the borderland settlements, pacts for mutual defence against Circassian and Cossack marauders, between Turks and their Bulgarian neighbors. Such agreements have been common since the declaration of war, and Mr. Forbes is undoubtedly right in his sharp criticism of the Bulgarians for their conduct under such circumstances toward their Turkish neighbors the instant power dropped into their hands. Mr. Gladstone's smite of a man who has beaten you ninety-nine days and expects gratitude for desisting on the one hundredth does not hold, since the Turks plundered by the Bulgarians were peasants who had been oppressed like the Bulgarian peasants, and whose only crime too often was the crime of refusing to believe in Jesus Christ.

SNOW-STORM IN THE WEST.

THE SEVEREST KNOWN FOR YEARS—LOSS OF LIFE—HERDS OF CATTLE FROZEN.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

SIDNEY, Neb., March 10.—During the terrible snow-storm that has raged here during the past three days a great loss of cattle has been reported, and several large herds, driven by the storm into the Platte River, are now frozen up in the ice. The storm has been the severest known here for years. Sergeant James Ford, Company D, 5th Cavalry, stationed here, started, yesterday afternoon, in charge of a water-wagon, and was driven to the cañon, a mile from town, and covered up by twenty feet of snow. Efforts are being made by his comrades and the citizens to rescue him, but as yet without success. He is probably smothered. Other instances of loss of life are reported, but they are not authenticated.

RAILROAD TRAVEL INTERRUPTED.

CHEYENNE, W. T., March 10.—A storm exceeding in violence and duration that of any previous season set in at 11 p. m. on Friday, and continued without abatement until noon yesterday, the wind ranging in velocity from fifty to sixty-four miles per hour, carrying snow with it, and drifting it in banks ten to fifteen feet high in this city. It extended from Bitter Creek, on the west, to Julesburg, on the east. A great number of the cuts are level full of snow, and all trains on the Union Pacific, Denver Pacific and Colorado Central were either side-tracked or snowed in. Passenger trains No. 3, of the 8th and 9th, are lying at North Platte, No. 4, of the 8th, at Bitter Creek, and No. 4, of the 9th, at Green River. Freight train No. 6 is reported snowed in at Separation, and the emigrant west-bound train, of yesterday, near Rushnell. The Denver Pacific train is side-tracked at Carr, and the Colorado Central between Collins and Loveland. There is no evidence of any person having been lost in the snow in this vicinity, though there are many rumors to that effect. There is no communication north, whither many freight outfits are now traveling, and probably the loss of stock will be great, if not of life.

LATER—THE BLOCKADE UNBROKEN.

CHEYENNE, W. T., March 10—Midnight.—The Union Pacific Railroad is still blockaded by snow. The Western division is open beyond Laramie, but nothing has passed that point eastward. The Eastern division is open east of Sydney. Nothing has passed Antelope, westward, where No. 3 passenger train, due here Friday, still remains awaiting relief. Several hundred men with shovels, together with a number of snow ploughs, have been engaged to-day, between Sydney and Laramie, endeavoring to hit the blockade. The heaviest plough on the road left Laramie this morning, but is now stuck at the siding. The snow in the cuts is packed very hard, and the ploughs which left here, eastward bound, at 7 o'clock this morning, have not made much headway, returning here at 7 o'clock this evening. The Colorado Central train is at Taylor's Station, eighteen miles south, with the snow-plough in the ditch, while the Denver Pacific train is ten miles south, in a similar predicament. Relief has started from the South for both these trains. No news from the North yet. Reports from Colorado state that the Kansas Pacific Road is badly blocked, and that a wrecking-train is in the ditch at Box Elder.

THE EXTENT OF THE STORM.

SIDNEY, Neb., March 10.—A severe snow-storm set in Thursday night, extending over 400 miles from Bitter Creek, Wyoming, to Ogallalla, Neb., and has raged until this morning with great fury, filling cuts on the railroad with snow. All trains have been laid up at convenient points for safety and comfort. The storm has somewhat subsided, and the track will soon be cleared to admit the passage of all trains.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES—BY TELEGRAPH.

WHITEHALL, N. Y., March 10.—A Swede, whose name is unknown, stabbed "Mike" Gibbons, a miner, at Crown Point last night, killing him instantly.

MIDDLETOWN, N. Y., March 10.—William Mason, jr., was arrested and committed for a burglary perpetrated on Thursday night. The goods were recovered.

POTTSTOWN, Penn., March 10.—The post office at this place was entered by burglars last night. About fifty letters were opened, their contents strewn upon the floor, and $25 stolen.

DOVER, N. H., March 10.—After being out seven hours, at 1 o'clock this morning, the jury brought in a verdict of murder in the first degree against John R. Pinkham, for shooting Mrs. Berry.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., March 10.—Lucy Devlin, a young Irish woman, was killed near Berkshire Station, on the Pittsfield and North Adams Railroad, Saturday afternoon, while crossing the track.

POTTSTOWN, Penn., March 10.—James Flannery, ex-clerk of the Pottstown Iron Company, and Richard Reifsnyder, late editor of *The Pottstown Advertiser*, who pleaded guilty to stealing $5,300 from the iron company, were sentenced yesterday to two years' imprisonment and $1 fine each, and to pay the costs of prosecution.

GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

MR. GLADSTONE AND GREENWICH.

LONDON, March 10, 1878.

Mr. Gladstone has written a letter to the Greenwich Liberal Association, stating that he will not contest Greenwich at the next general election, in consequence of a growing sense of his inability to discharge all the duties which that constituency may reasonably expect from one of its representatives.

PRINCE BISMARCK IN BAD HEALTH.

LONDON, March 10, 1878.

The correspondent of *The Daily News* at Berlin, in a letter to that paper, says: "Unhappily, there is no doubt that Prince Bismarck's health is little improved by his vacation. He worked nearly as hard as if he had been in Berlin, and returned in no condition for work. Nevertheless, he has accomplished a remarkable amount of work, often with extreme physical exertion—even suffering. As soon as the Chancellor's substitute bill is passed he will take another, and this time real, vacation."

SPANISH AFFAIRS.

MADRID, March 10, 1878.

In the Cortes yesterday the Minister of War presented a bill fixing the military contingent for 1878 at 100,000 men.

The Minister of Finances introduced the Budget, showing a deficit of 8,