

THE NEWS AT THE CAPITAL.

MONROE DOCTRINE TO BE ENFORCED.

AGITATION ON THAT SUBJECT—IMPROVING NAVIGATION—A TRIDEMOCRATIC MAJORITY—VOTE AT THE MEXICAN MINISTER'S HOUSE.

CANAL AND MONROE DOCTRINE.

DEMOCRATS FROUGHTEN AT A SHADOW—FRANCE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR DE LESSEPS—AN ALARM AT THE CAPITAL.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—Two Democratic members of the House Inter-occeanic Canal Committee are said to have visited the State Department in a condition of considerable excitement a few days ago to ascertain why the Administration was allowing the Monroe doctrine to be torn to pieces without making some protest.

In the meantime the Democrats might as well abandon the idea, if they now entertain it, that the President is indifferent to the importance of the Monroe Doctrine. He is a firm believer in it, and makes no effort to conceal his opinion.

President Hayes believes that neither the people nor the Government of this country will ever consent to the existence of any inter-occeanic canal, either across Panama or any other part of Central America, which is not controlled by the Government of the United States.

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THE FETE AT THE MEXICAN LEGATION.

A GORGEOUS AFFAIR—MAGNIFICENT DECORATIONS AND SUMPTUOUS DRESSES—DISTINGUISHED GUESTS.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The building occupied by the Mexican Legation, comprising Nos. 1416 and 1418 K-st., was gorgeously fitted up for a fete this evening. The outside was illuminated with rows of colored lights of red, green and white, crossing each other at right angles.

A CARD FROM GENERAL SHERMAN.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The following card has been handed to the agent of the Associated Press here for publication:

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 9, 1880. To the Agent of the Associated Press, New York. My private correspondence shows that some persons actually believe that General H. V. Boynton, a resident of New York, is the author of a scheme of proceedings against me for slander in a Civil or Military Court. So far as I know up to the present instant, I have never been named in any of the newspapers.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

WASHINGTON, Monday, Feb. 9, 1880.

Under the call of States 168 bills and resolutions were introduced in the House to-day.

Representative James, of New York, introduced a bill to-day which provides for increasing under the act granting pensions to the soldiers and sailors of the War of 1812, all soldiers who served twelve days in said war, and the widows.

It is officially announced that on and after the 11th of February the Department of State will be prepared to distribute the fourth instalment of the awards made in favor of American citizens by the Joint Commission of the year 1875.

Major Reno having learned of the approval of the sentence of the court martial dismissing him from the service, has telegraphed to the President to be allowed to resign his commission, and to be reinstated under consideration, and the orders of the War Department in Reno's case are delayed for the reason.

The Secretary of War transmitted to the Senate to-day in support of certain inquiries from the Committee on Claims relating to balances due to the States from the United States, the report of Lieutenant Thomas H. Bradley, Examiner of State Claims in the War Department.

The report shows that the total amount refunded to the States on account of balances due to them, from 1822, 1831, 1850, and the balance remaining unpaid on the same account, is \$1,239,925.

The report of the agent who was sent to investigate the books and papers of Thomas Amos, late clerk of the United States Courts for the Southern District of Ohio, has been received. It shows that Amos earned from the United States and from individuals costs and fees over and above his maximum compensation, and that he did not report his earnings as an auditor.

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THE PRESIDENTIAL YEAR.

DRIFT OF POLITICAL OPINION.

SENATOR EDMUNDS A FAVORITE CANDIDATE IN VERMONT—VIRGINIA REPUBLICANS—AN ELECTION IN THIS CITY.

Prominent Republicans of Vermont express the opinion that General Grant's popularity as a Presidential candidate is on the wane, and that there is a growing sentiment favorable to Senator Edmunds.

PRESIDENTIAL TALK IN VERMONT.

THE GRANT "BOOM" DECLINING—A STRONG SENTIMENT IN FAVOR OF SENATOR EDMUNDS—INTER-VIEWS WITH GOVERNOR PROCTOR AND OTHER PROMINENT REPUBLICANS.

(FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.)

RITLAND, Vt., Feb. 9.—A careful examination of the political sentiment in Vermont, which has embraced interviews with a number of prominent Republicans, and miscellaneous conversations among the rank and file of the party in this State, convinces me that the so-called Grant "boom," of which we heard so much a month or two ago, is declining, and that in its place is arising a feeling that it is both possible and wise to nominate Senator Edmunds.

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ALBANY DELEGATES FOR GRANT.

ALBANY, Feb. 9.—The following delegates to the Republican State Convention were elected to-day: 1st. Assembly District—William H. Stoughton; Charles D. Hammond and James Kelly.

DELEGATES FROM WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 9.—The Republican Central Committee of Washington Territory has elected Thomas T. Minor and Thomas D. Brents as delegates to the National Convention; alternates, George H. Seward and James A. Perkins.

THE GRANGER TO BEGIN AGITATION.

NASHUA, N. H., Feb. 9.—The members of the State Grange of New-Hampshire met here to-day and decided to hold three or four mass-meetings in the different New-Hampshire States during the present year.

A GRANT CAUCUS.

ODENBURG, N. Y., Feb. 9.—At the Louisville (St. Lawrence County) Republican caucus on Saturday, the vote stood: Grant 25, Sherman 9 and Blaine 6.

A NITRO-GLYCERINE EXPLOSION.

ONE MAN AND TWO HORSES KILLED—A SLEIGH AND TWO HOUSES WRECKED.

BRADFORD, Feb. 9.—This morning at 9 o'clock Howard Hackett and James Feeny started from this city for Colville in a two-horse sleigh, carrying with them 100 pounds of nitro-glycerine. At a point in the road four miles from Bradford, the sleigh upset, which caused the explosion of the compound. Feeny was hurled from the sleigh just as it was going over. Hackett, who was thrown fifty feet from the scene and instantly killed.

A GREAT COMET OBSERVED.

LONDON, Monday, Feb. 9, 1880.

Dr. Benjamin Apthorp Gould, Director of the National Observatory at Cordoba, in the Argentine Republic, has telegraphed Professor Peters, of Kiel, Editor of the *Astronomische Nachrichten*, that a great comet is passing the sun in a northward direction.

A GREAT CATASTROPHE.

LONDON, Tuesday, Feb. 10, 1880.

Reuter's Constantinople dispatch reports that during a cold a barracks three hundred soldiers were killed and 300 wounded. The number of casualties has probably been exaggerated.

FOREIGN NOTES.

LONDON, Monday, Feb. 9, 1880.

Sixty houses have been burnt down at Ayelet, near Foz, in the Department of Arrie, France. The sufferers by the fire are in great distress.

In Russia the Memoirs, hitherto exempt from military service on account of their religious, will this year furnish a contingent of 130 men.

The warehouse belonging to the British and Foreign Steam Ship Co., at Wapping, London, has been burned. The damage is stated at \$100,000.

An official trial of the Italian convict arrested to hold Dullio, Italy, and carrying a complete cargo of dynamite and coal, has been made at Spezia. The trial was thoroughly successful.

The St. Petersburg *Golos* has intelligence from the transcaucasian district that the number of the inhabitants of the same district is terrible. A quantity of bread has been seized by the hunger-stricken people.

M. Joan Emile Lorrain, publisher and editor, has been chosen a senator for the vacancy in the French Senate caused by the death of M. Jules Favre, by the Left-wing Republicans, who turn it by the standing arrangement between the various groups of the Left, to fill the vacancy with a senator of the Left, and owner near Barcelona, his wife, three daughters, a son and two women servants have all been found murdered in their beds. The deed was apparently done with a hairpin. The house was ransacked. A window of the two was have been arrested, charged with the crime.

A Madrid dispatch says that at the trial of Francisco Otero Gonzalez, who attempted to kill the King recently, the Crown Prosecutor demanded that he be sentenced to death. The counsel for the defense urged that the prisoner was irresponsible for his actions at the time, and that the crime was unpremeditated.

Estimations of the number of the inhabitants of the province of the German Army is intended, even beyond that already announced, namely, by the formation of special Alace-Lorraine regiments, have caused little sensation. It is understood that Baron von Manteuffel, Governor-General of the province, has proposed the proposal as tending to create a national feeling in the annexed provinces.

A Berlin dispatch to the *Times* says: "The conditions of peace between the Central Powers will probably be contented with the 'treaty' recognizing the State's right to national education and the maintenance of Catholic priests, and, in return for this, the repeal of all the clauses of the Eufria laws which have been proposed for the purpose of curtailing the rights of the Catholics."

(For General Grant's Visit to Cuba See Fifth Page.)

THE CHIEF DUBLIN THEATRE BURNED.

THE IRISH DISTRESS STILL UNDER DEBATE—GENERAL GRANT DESTROYED UNDER HOSPITALITY.

The British Government in Dublin has been burned. The theatre, the Ballinacree, for another year, and repairs are being made at the theatre. The debate on the distress in Ireland was resumed in the British House of Commons last evening. Dr. B. A. Gould has discovered a great comet.

A DUBLIN THEATRE DESTROYED.

SIX LIVES PROBABLY LOST.

DUBLIN, Monday, Feb. 9, 1880.

As preparations were being made this afternoon for a day performance of a pantomime at the Theatre Royal, the curtains in the State box were set on fire by the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough, took fire. The flames spread rapidly, and in a few hours the whole building was destroyed. The theatre, which was still building, and fears were felt that the adjoining buildings may be destroyed. It is feared that the manager of the theatre, the property man and four assistants have perished in the flames.

Later—Six lives were lost in the fire at the Theatre Royal. The fire brigade succeeded in preventing the spread of the flames to the adjoining houses. The Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland was present during the conflagration. The loss by the theatre and contents is estimated at \$200,000.

The Theatre Royal in Hawkins-st. was the largest of the three Dublin theatres, being second in size to those in Drury Lane and Covent Garden, London. It enjoyed a fair degree of prosperity, and was the scene of many memorable theatrical events.

THE HOME RULES DEBATE.

LONDON, Monday, Feb. 9, 1880.

In the House of Commons to-night Mr. Mitchell Henry, Home Rule Member for Galway, resumed the debate on the amendment to the address. He condemned the Government for their inaction in Ireland, and suggested a vote of £10,000,000 or £15,000,000 to be used in building railways in different parts of Ireland, and the commencement of a systematic reclamation of the waste lands of the country.

Mr. W. E. Forster (Liberal), declared that if the Government had not done their best to ward off the horrors of famine, no measure would be too great for them. As the Government were taking steps to avert famine, and as he could not but believe that they would be able to succeed, he should vote against the amendment. He could not agree that the best course was to raise a loan of £10,000,000. He hoped that the session would not close without an attempt being made to deal with the land question.

Mr. William Sturton, Member for the Admiralty, argued that to have entered upon ambitious schemes of reclamation works in Ireland would have interfered with the maintenance of the army and navy.

Mr. John Edward Synan (Limerick County) and Mr. Charles O'Connell (Waterford) supported the amendment.

John Edward Gray (Plymouth) took occasion to express his gratitude to the Duchess of Marlborough for her exertions in behalf of the distressed. He hoped that the session would not close without an attempt being made to deal with the land question.

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