New-York Tribune.

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WHAT IS DOING ABROAD.

LEADING TOPICS OF INTEREST.

WHAT ARABI PACHA HAS TO SAY—MATTERS RELATING TO IRELAND—THE UNION GENERALE TRIAL BEGUN—A STEAMER IN COLLISION.

Arabi Pacha professes to be contented with his lot because he "knows that his misfortunes have been the means of securing for the country he loves the liberty and prosperity it deserves. The proceedings against Messrs. Davitt and Healy have been adjourned for ten days. True bills have been found against several of those concerned in the recent outrages in Dublin. The Austrian Reichsrath reassembled yesterday. The trial of two officers of the Union Generale was begun in Paris. The Allan Line steamer Peruvian was damaged by a collision in the Mersey. M. Louis Blanc is seriously ill.

ARABI PACHA CONTENTED WITH HIS LOT.

LONDON, Dec. 5.—Arabi Pacha has written to Wilfrid Blunt saying he would prefer to live in Damascus or, if that is impossible, in London. In his letter printed in this morning's *Times* Arabi expresses contentment with his lot because he knows that his misfortunes have been the means of securing for the country he loves the liberty and prosperity it deserves. He says he feels confident that when England has carried out her good work she will permit him to return. She will soon learn that he was no rebel when he set himself at the head of the people, who wanted nothing but justice.

THE PROSECUTION OF DAVITT AND HEALY.

LONDON, Dec. 5.—A Home Rule demonstration was held at Salford last evening. Among those present were Messrs. O'Donnell and Kenny, Members of Parliament for Dungarvan and Ennis respectively. A resolution was passed condemning the Government for its determination to prosecute Messrs. Davitt and Healy, and congratulates "those true patriots" on their refusal to enter into terms for bail. Mr. Kenny in an address declared that if the Government imprisoned Messrs. Davitt and Healy it must face the task of arresting the whole Irish Parliamentary party.

A dispatch from Dublin says: "The proceedings against Messrs. Davitt, Healy and Quinn have been adjourned for ten days to enable the defendants to meet the charges entered against them."

EXECUTING THE LAWS IN IRELAND.

DUBLIN, Dec. 5.—The Grand Jury have found true bills against the three men charged with the assassination of Detective Cox, and the would-be assassin of Judge Lawson. The Grand Jury have also found true bills in the case of Patrick Higgins, Thomas Higgons and Michael Flynn for the murder of the two Huddys, Lord Ardilaun's bailiffs. Their trials will begin on Thursday.

Seventy-two soldiers have left the Curragh camp for Galway in connection with the execution of the murderers of the Joyce family, at Maamtrasna, which is fixed for the 15th instant.

RIDICULING THE AMERICAN NAVY.

PARIS, Dec. 5.—Relative to a report that the United States Government contemplates making a claim against France in regard to the murdor of two American citizens in Madagascar, the *Moniteur Universel* publishes an insulting article, declaring that the American Navy is so reduced by peculation that the United States were recently obliged to back down to Chili. France, it says, could ruin every American port.

THE AUSTRIAN BUDGET.

VIENNA, Dec. 5.—The Reichsrath reassembled to-day. Dr. Dunajewski, the Austrian Minister of Finance, submitted the Budget for 1883, showing a deficit of 31,600,000 florins. The taxes during the first nine months in 1882 yielded an increase of 8,300,000 florins, as compared with those collected during the same period in 1881. The condition of the Treasury, the Minister said, is extremely favorable. The Government will be able to pay off uncovered credits to the amount of 14,200,000 florins. There has been a general improvement in trade. After deducting the outlay for new railways and the Bosnian expenses, there will be no administrative deficit. It is probable that a considerable portion of the deficit for 1883 can be met by the cash in hand from the current year, so that it will only be necessary to resort to a vote of credit for railway works and for expenditures in the Tyrol.

THE UNION GENERALE TRIAL BEGUN.

PARIS, Dec. 5.—The trial of M. Bontoux, president, and M. Feder, manager of the Union Générale, which suspended last January, was begun to-day. M. Bontoux said he was absent when the company speculated in its own shares. M. Feder said that if the issue of 100,000 new shares had not been stopped by the downfall of the company, and if the speculators who bought shares had paid for them, there would have been no deficit in the company's treasury. The official liquidator of the Union Générale estimated that if the legal decisions already given were maintained the shareholders would recover 50 per cent of their losses.

VESSELS MEETING WITH MISHAPS.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 5.—The Allan Line steamer Peruvian, Captain Ritchie, from Montreal, while entering the River Mersey, at 5 a. m. to-day, came in collision with a steamer of the Clan Line. The Peruvian was run on Crosby Beach. The vessel was cut down to the water's edge amidships. Tugs landed the crew and passengers here. Hopes are entertained that the breach can be repaired and the vessel floated in a few tides.

The British steamer Strathmore, Captain Rowell, from Savannah, November 16, for Bremen, is ashore at Calandsoog, Netherlands. She has jettisoned part of her cargo. Assistance has been sent to her.

The British bark Alexandra, from New-York for Hamburg, previously reported ashore and on fire at Amsterdam, was totally destroyed.

LISBON, Dec. 5.—The Italian bark Monte San Angelo, Captain Scarpati, at this port from New-York, landed eight of the crew of the German ship Ella, Captain Holjes, from New-York, November 1, for Bremen, which was abandoned.

HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 5.—Captain Bell, of the schooner Lord Eldon, which arrived at Canso yesterday, picked up twenty-five miles from land a trunk containing a woman's wearing apparel and cards, upon which was printed the name, "Mrs. John Bennett."

MR. FAWCETT AND MR. TROLLOPE.

LONDON, Dec. 5.—A bulletin issued to-night relative to Postmaster-General Fawcett's condition states that his fever, which assumed a typhoid character on Saturday, is pursuing an irregular course and causes grave anxiety.

Anthony Trollope is much worse. He is unconscious to-night, and there are only faint hopes of his recovery.

A SEARCH TO BE MADE FOR THE DIJMPHNA.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 5.—The Danish Arctic exploring vessel, Dijmphna, appears to have drifted into the Kora Sea to the south of Nova Zembla. It is proposed to organize an expedition, with from ten to fifteen sledges and 150 reindeer, to search for the vessel. Captain Normann, the Commissioner from the Danish Admiralty to gather information regarding the Dijmphna expedition, has had an audience with the Empress.

SOUTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA.

THE SITUATION IN PERU—THE REVOLUTION IN ECUADOR—OTHER MATTERS.

PANAMA, Nov. 25.—The steamer, which has just arrived, brings little of importance from Peru. The state of uncertainty regarding the possibility of peace still continues. Whether Garcia Calderon will or will not sign a treaty of peace is the chief question. Bolivia is certain to come to terms with Chili.

The news from Ecuador is to the effect that several skirmishes have occurred in the central provinces. Two battalions left Guayaquil, and, it Quero, were defeated by the rebels, who, it is said, are led by General Gonzalez. The revolutionists attacked Baroana at San Andres and completely defeated him. The prison in Quito is full of political prisoners.

A deputation has been sent by the Legislature to Carthagena to beg Dr. Nuñez to come here and take the Presidency. It is believed, however, that he will not withdraw his resignation.

A slight earthquake shock was felt in San Salvador on October 29. During the fiscal year ended September 30, 1882, 92,317 packages of merchandise passed through La Libertad Custom House, paying $1,747,363 as import duties. That coming from the United States paid $415,054.

President Barrios of Guatemala will submit the result of his mission to the United States to the Assembly for the purpose of negotiating the settlement of the question so long pending with Mexico, and he will shape his future course in accordance with the action of the Assembly.

Another priest in this republic has been married, and has consequently been excommunicated by his ecclesiastical superiors.

FOREIGN NOTES.

LONDON, Tuesday, Dec. 5, 1882.

A Paris dispatch says that M. Louis Blanc is seriously ill at Cannes.

The *Daily Telegraph* says it is rumored that the Bishop of Winchester will succeed to the Archbishopric of Canterbury.

A dispatch from Odessa says that Solomon Hacker, a distributor of revolutionary pamphlets, has been sentenced to ten years' labor in the mines.

A Berlin dispatch says it is stated that Herr von Bojanowski, Consul-General at London, will be appointed Director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

A dispatch from Berlin says that a majority against biennial budgets has been secured in the Reichstag by a coalition between the Centre and the Left.

QUEBEC, Dec. 5.—Six inches of snow fell here to-day.

WINNIPEG, Dec. 5.—Bogus American dollars and 25-cent pieces are in circulation here.

ST. CATHARINES, Ont., Dec. 5.—Navigation for the season on the Welland Canal closed to-day.

LONDON, Ont., Dec. 5.—Twenty men who have been building a drain near Calton occupied an old shanty near by as a sleeping place. The shanty took fire last night and three of the inmates were burned to death.

VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 5.—The troubles at the Wetlakatlup Mission continue. Bishop Ridley has been presented with a written request by the Indians to leave the mission, as they consider him the object of discord. The Bishop tore up the document and remains in possession of the church property.....The Governor-General and Princess Louise will start on Wednesday for Canada by way of Puget Sound and Oregon. The health of the Princess has been entirely restored.

HENRY RICH'S DISAPPEARANCE.

A BROADWAY MERCHANT MISSING.

FEARS THAT HE MAY HAVE FALLEN INTO THE RIVER OR MET WITH FOUL PLAY.

Information was sent to Police Headquarters early yesterday morning that Henry Rich, of the firm of Rich & Celler, importers and dealers in buttons at No. 403 Broadway, had disappeared. Mr. Rich's home is at No. 253 East Fifty-third-st. On Monday afternoon he closed his store as usual, and went directly home. After dinner, in company with his wife, he visited one of his married daughters, who lives at No. 251 East Sixty-seventh-st. The evening was passed in a social manner. Mr. Rich seemed in good spirits, and laughed and chatted gaily. It was about 10:15 o'clock when he and his wife started for home. When they reached Fifty-seventh-st. they met Mrs. Joseph Kahn, a married daughter, who lives at No. 406 Fifty-seventh-st. Mr. Rich asked her to accompany his wife home while he went to her husband's house. He remained there for about an hour, and then said he must go, as it was getting late. Mr. Kahn walked a few blocks with him. Mr. Rich saying "Good-night" in a cherry tone. His family awaited his return until after midnight. Then, feeling some apprehension at his long delay, Mrs. Rich dispatched a messenger to the daughter's house which he had last visted. The messenger was told that Mr. Rich had gone more than an hour before. Several friends living in the vicinity were aroused and asked to join in the search for the missing man. Notice was sent to the Police Headquarters and several men were detailed to assist in the search. From 2 o'clock until dawn men scoured the streets upon the East Side in their search for Mr. Rich. Lanterns were flashed into dark corners and alleys; but all in rain. As soon as daylight broke the river front was examined. Some thought he might have wandered along the piers and fallen into the water; others that he had been waylaid and murdered and his body thrown into the river. No trace whatever of the missing man was found. Detectives and interested friends continued the search all day yesterday, but obtained no clew.

In conversation with a TRIBUNE reporter Mr. Celler, the junior member of the firm to which Mr. Rich belongs, said yesterday: "Mr. Rich is one of the most methodical and temperate men I ever knew. He always comes to the office in the morning at just such an hour, and goes away at night in the same way. He never smokes, chews or drinks. He has been connected with this firm for ten years, and during that time has never left his post except for a brief vacation. He has a highly nervous temperament and is sometimes subject to severe attacks of sick headache. He was in a bright, cheerful mood yesterday and seemed in excellent spirits. In the afternoon he made his usual deposit at the bank."

"How do his accounts stand with the firm?" asked the reporter.

"I have made an examination of the books to-day and find them all right. Mr. Rich is a man of considerable property, as he owns real estate in Harlem, Brooklyn, and his house in Fifty-third-st. His domestic relations have always been pleasant. He has a wife, two married and two unmarried daughters."

At Mr. Rich's house it was stated that he was not in the habit of carrying about much money with him. On returning from the store on Monday night he placed the key, as was his custom, beneath a vase upon the mantel. He always told his family where he was going whenever he left the house at night. On Monday evening he seemed in unusually good spirits. Mr. Rich is of medium height, bald, and has a full beard. He wore a dark brown checked suit, a felt hat, low shoes and grey stockings. His underclothing was of red flannel. There is a scar upon the back of his neck. It is the opinion of his friends that Mr. Rich has met with foul play.

Captain Mount, of the Nineteenth Precinct, said last evening that Mr. Rich probably had taken a sudden freak to visit his brother in Washington and had taken a train for that city without telling his family of his intention. It was more probable, Captain Mount thought, that Mr. Rich had absented himself while suffering from temporary mental aberration than that he had been waylaid in the street by thieves. Information was sent to Police Headquarters from Brooklyn last evening that a man answering the description of Mr. Rich and calling himself Henry Ross had been locked up in that city for an offence not stated. Word was dispatched to Mr. Rich's family and soon afterward a member of the family visited Police Hedqurters in quest of more information. Friends from this city also went to Brooklyn, but found that the prisoner was not the missing man.

CHESAPEAKE AND DELAWARE CANAL.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 5.—At the adjourned meeting of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Company to-day the tellers reported that the vote cast on the resolution proposing an extension to the company's business was 7,049 for and 7,795 against, consequently it was not necessary to admit the shares of the Government and of the State of Maryland, which it was understood were to be voted in the negative, as their reception would not alter the result. The defeat of the proposition was then announced. The following officers were elected: President, Andrew C. Gray; directors, Charles H. Hutchinson, John F. Gilpin, I. V. Williamson, Edwin Swift, Mahlon P. Hutchinson, John R. Baker, Gustavus S. Benson, Henry C. Ford, Joseph E. Gillingham, Robert M. Lewis, W. Drayton, Charles Chauncey, Edwin N. Benson and H. Pratt McKean.

THE MORGAN MYSTERY.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 5.—Tobias Forbes, of Clyde, in Wayne County, who is nearly eighty years of age, and whose father was a cousin of William Morgan, says that Morgan was not murdered by his captors, but was released on condition that he would leave the country. He did so, going to Melbourne, Australia, and there began the publication of a newspaper which after his death passed into the hands of his son, who may now be living in that country.

SHOT AND KILLED BY HIS WIFE.

LITTLE LANK, Minn., Dec. 5.—J. C. Goodwater was yesterday shot by his wife. He had habitually abused her and on this occasion attacked her with a knife, whereupon she shot and killed him. Mrs. Goodwater is only seventeen years of age and has two children.

FAILURE IN CINCINNATI.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 5.—Frederick B. Burkhardt, doing business as F. Burkhardt & Son, and also as the Danbury Hat and Fur Manufacturing Company, on Main-st., made an assignment to Charles Hoefinghoff to-day. The liabilities are estimated at $10,000; the assets at $15,000.

THE WESTERN UNION ENJOINED.

CHICAGO, Dec. 5.—The Board of Trade Telegraph Company to-day obtained a temporary injunction against the Western Union Telegraph Company restraining it from interfering with the poles or wires of the complainant.

A LAKE STEAMER MISSING.

CHICAGO, Dec. 5.—The propeller Michigan, of the Goodrich Line, which left Grand Haven for Milwaukee Sunday night, a trip of only a few hours, has not been seen since, and it is feared she was wrecked in the storm on that night.

FOUND GUILTY OF MURDER.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Dec. 5.—The trial of James Hawkes for the murder of Amelia Hull, the woman with whom he had been living for several years, was concluded this evening. The murder was a cold-blooded one, and occurred on July 9. There was no defence. The prisoner's counsel, R. H. Gardner, appealed for mercy, on the ground that the crime was committed while Hawkes was crazy with liquor, and was not predetermined. The jury returned a verdict of murder in the second degree. Hawkes will be sentenced on Thursday.

GRAVE ROBBERS ARRESTED.

SUCCESSFUL DETECTIVE WORK BY PHILADELPHIA NEWSPAPER MEN.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 5.—Francis McNamee, "Dutch" Pillett and Levi Chew, the latter a colored man, were arrested late last night while driving a wagon containing five dead bodies to the Jefferson Medical College. The arrests were made by five reporters of *The Press* and a detective. The bodies had been taken from the Lebanon Cemetery, in the lower part of the city, from which *The Press* asserts so many bodies have been taken for dissection that it is now almost empty.

The prisoners are professional grave robbers, and their operations have been carried on for a long time. Two more arrests were made early this morning, when a detective visited the cemetery ground and arrested Robert Chew, its superintendent, and Andrew Mullen. McNamee had a contract with the Government for carrying the mails between this city and Newton Square, Delaware County. Mullen drove the wagon with this mail, and was about to start on his journey this morning when taken into custody. He pleaded immunity from arrest on this account, and was accordingly released upon his promise to attend the hearing this afternoon. Four of the bodies have been identified. One of them is that of Hans Jorgensen, who shot himself on November 29 and died on December 1.

The Press this morning said: "*The Press* first discovered the fact that agents of Jefferson College were robbing Lebanon Cemetery for the dissecting tables last spring, but just as the meshes of evidence were completed the resurrectionists ceased their nocturnal trips because of the summer vacation of the college. Last night's thwarted expedition is only the second made this fall, and the arrest, unprecedented in the history of newspaper enterprise, may hereafter confine students' scalpels to bodies given to science by the law. Evidence in possession of *The Press* indicates that Lebanon Cemetery, the principal burial place of Philadelphia's colored population, has been systematically robbed for years, and that hundreds of graves have been despoiled."

TRYING TO LYNCH THE PRISONERS.

Crowds of colored people blockaded Seventh-st. for hours before the hearing began. Plots to lynch the prisoners on their arrival were discussed, but Constable Myers, Pinkerton, Detective Henderson and others rushed the prisoners through the crowded hallway to a back door and had them inside before the mob realized what was going on. It vented its disappointment in jeers and yells. The office was crowded, the colored element being strongest. Several of the officers of Lebanon Cemetery were present. Louis N. Megargee testified that two keys found on McNamee fitted doors in the room where bodies were prepared for dissection at the Jefferson College. McNamee denied knowing who gave them to him or what he was to haul, but finally said he had waited outside the cemetery while the others brought out the bodies, and he knew where they came from. Robert Chew, when arrested at the cemetery about half-past 4 o'clock yesterday morning began crying, and said he was paid $3 for every body taken from the cemetery, and that the money was handed to him by his brother. He did not know how many graves had been robbed. Sometimes Pillet did the digging and sometimes Levy. He had been in the cemetery eleven years and the grave robbery had been going on for nine years. His brother-in-law, Solomon Butler, now in Maryland, did it first, then one Myers and then McNamee. Sometimes if the wagon came and the driver said they were short, the coffins were opened in the receiving vault, the corpse "snatched" and the farce of burying the empty coffin was gone through next day.

The records of the burials found at the cemetery this morning showed that in two months fifty-five bodies were put in one grave. This created a sensation. Upon conclusion of the testimony the defendants were declared committed in default of $5,000 for a further hearing on Friday. As soon as the crowd outside of the magistrate's office learned that the case was over an overwhelming rush was made for the entry and gateway, with threats to lynch the prisoners and a Sergeant and ten of the reserves had to be sent for. The crowd made another rush and men and women struck at the captives, who shrank and, cowered before them. The policemen drew their clubs and almost on a trot went down Chestnut-st. to the Central Station, where the prisoners were locked up for the night.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

BOSTON, Dec. 5.—The Executive Committee of the Massachusetts Civil Service Reform League has sent a letter to all the Massachusetts members of the present Congress. It says:

"As one Executive Committee of this league, in behalf of its large and increasing body of voters who share its views, we appeal to you at the opening of a new session of Congress to give your direct and active support to the immediate passage of such laws as shall bring about a thorough reform of the Government service. We need not enlarge on the meaning of this request. The recent election indicates the existence of widespread dissatisfaction at the evils resulting from a system which treats Federal offices as party or personal patronage. The object of the law prohibiting political assessments cannot be fully secured until Congress extends the same prohibition to its own members. What General Curtis is punished for receiving, Mr. Hubbell must not be free to exact. We respectfully and earnestly ask your aid in the endeavor to secure the needed legislation."

ANOTHER ASSESSMENT LEVIED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

BOSTON, Dec. 5.—The unfortunate stockholders of the Pacific National Bank, which suspended for the second time several weeks ago, are again called upon to pay 100 per cent on their stock. When the bank first failed a like assessment was levied and many of the stockholders paid it. A few, preferring to incur the expense of a law suit, declined to pay. After its reestablishment the law recognizes the bank as a new institution and the unpleasant process of assessment must be again submitted to.

CAPTAIN AND EIGHT MEN RESCUED.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 5.—The bark Clara Eaton, at this port to-day from Payasander, reports that on the 30th ultimo, latitude 36° 9', longitude 95° 35', fell in with the three-masted schooner John B. Adams, Captain Fisher, from Baltimore for Aspinwall with coal, with main and mizzen masts gone and foremast broken, the steering gear smashed and the vessel in a sinking condition. The crew, captain and eight men were taken on board the bark about 11 o'clock in the forenoon, and the schooner went down about 3 p. m. The J. B. Adams was of 630 tons register, built at Dorchester, N. J., in 1878, and was partially insured in New-York. The cargo is supposed to have been insured in the same city.

ATTEMPT TO POISON LIVE STOCK.

READING, Penn., Dec. 5.—Considerable excitement prevails in the neighborhood of Eagle Point, this county, over the discovery in the feed for the live stock on the farm of Lewis Adam a number of small pieces of dough containing large quantities of arsenic. Three hogs have already died from the effects of the poison. Quantities of the arsenic were also found in the rye and other grain on the farm.

A PURCHASE BY ROBERT BONNER.

LEXINGTON, Ky., Dec. 5.—Robert Bonner, of New York, purchased from H. C. McDowell a handsome yearling King Rene filly out of a Princess mare. The price is said to be a fair one.

ARRIVAL OF THE ZAANDAM.

The steamship Zaandam, from Amsterdam, with merchandise and 150 passengers on board, arrived at this port at an early hour this morning.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

WILLIAM SPRAGUE REJECTED.

PROVIDENCE, Dec. 5.—The Board of Trade to-day voted not to reconsider its vote rejecting William Sprague as a candidate for membership. The vote stood: 79 to reconsider and 85 not to reconsider.

A NEW DRIVING CLUB PROJECTED.

LONG BRANCH, Dec. 5.—A driving club, to be called the "Gentlemen's Driving Club of Monmouth County," will be organized here next week.

A STEAMER'S CARGO SAVED.

FORTRESS MONROE, Va., Dec. 5.—The cargo of the steamer Excelsior, which sunk here last night, was landed by Baker's Salvage Company to-day and shipped to Washington to-night.

INAUGURATION OF A GOVERNOR.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Dec. 5.—Colonel H. S. Thompson was inaugurated Governor to-day. He delivered an address touching on National as well as home affairs.

THE ANDOVER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

ANDOVER, Mass., Dec. 5.—The Board of Visitors of Andover Theological Seminary have confirmed the recent nominations of the trustees for the vacant professorships.

MRS. LANGTRY TO BE RECEIVED.

BOSTON, Dec. 5.—A reception will be tendered to Mrs. Langtry by the Papyrus Club on Saturday evening, after the play, at the conclusion of the observance of the annual "ladies' night," on which occasion there will be a large gathering of literary people.

A CHURCH CENTENARY TO BE CELEBRATED.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 5.—A meeting of committees of the dioceses of Maryland and Easton, of the Protestant Episcopal Church, was held in this city to-day. Committees were appointed looking to the celebration of the Centennial of the church in Maryland on the last Wednesday in May next.

SCARLET FEVER REPORTED AT LONG BRANCH.

LONG BRANCH, Dec. 5.—There are a number of cases of malignant scarlet fever here. At a meeting of the town Board of Commissioners this morning President Woolley stated that the disease had been caused by the filthy condition of the gutters in Main-st. The offensive gutters will be properly cleansed at once.

THE TRANSIT OF VENUS.

PREPARATIONS IN THIS VICINITY

AN UNFAVORABLE OUTLOOK FOR TO-DAY—FEARS AND HOPES OF ASTRONOMERS.

The last few days have witnessed the completion of the most elaborate, expensive and thorough preparations ever made for the observation to-day of the transit of Venus. In them the experiences of centuries have been utilized, and if the outcome is not of great value to science it will be because the combined intellect of the world, quickened by a glowing enthusiasm and ripened by a higher, broader and deeper study than has ever before been possible, is yet too weak to overcome the obstacles which attend some of the celestial phenomena. A few clouds for half an hour in the forenoon and afternoon of to-day may make years of labor in vain, but it is hardly possible that disappointments of this kind can be more than local. The entire transit will be visible in all of the territory of the United States except the extreme northwest, in every part of the Dominion of Canada except the provinces on the Pacific coast, in all of South America, Africa and Great Britain, and nearly all of Europe. Unfavorable meteorological conditions, therefore, unless they extend over all this great territory (which would in itself be an extraordinary phenomenon) cannot prevent the securing this time of the most perfect results ever obtained from the rare astronomical event; for the observers are everywhere in the countries mentioned. Unfortunately the prospects were unfavorable yesterday in this vicinity and in New-England, where some of the most important governmental and private stations are situated, clouds and rain being threatened.

In the case of most of the foreign observers who are prepared only to make observations of the contacts at the ingress and egress of the planet, intervening clouds at the beginning and end of the spectacle will frustrate their mission. The plan adopted by most of the Americans, however, which embraces photographing as well as mere observation of the contacts, has the advantage that any few intervals of sunshine during the time occupied by the planet in its passage across the disk of the sun can be utilized in making pictures which, when brought into comparison with similar pictures made in other parts of the world, may help to solve the problem which has occasioned all the present excitement. Excellent results of this kind will come from the vicinity of New-York, if photography is at all possible. Professor Young at Princeton and Professor Parkhurst in Brooklyn can be relied on for very valuable contributions in this direction. Observations of a less elaborate character will also be made at Columbia College, the University of the City of New-York, the College of the City of New-York, at Cooper Union and from the top of the Western Union Telegraph Building. Amateur astronomers in the city and scores of cities, towns and villages in the State will also try their skill at making and recording observations if the weather permits. This is proved by the interest shown in the signals of Washington mean time which have been sent out since Monday by the Western Union Telegraph Company. These signals have been distributed each day over thirty wires, applications having come from a large number of places; among them Montreal, Easton, Penn; Poughkeepsie (Vassar College), Kingston, Williamstown, Amherst, Mass.; Hanover, N. H.; Rochester, Elizabeth, N. J.; Buffalo, Williamsburg and Hunter's Point.

Every report issued by the Chief Signal Officer of the Army yesterday was full of forebodings of bad weather for to-day. The local reports telegraphed to Washington at 6 a. m. showed that a storm had been developed in the Southwest on Monday and was moving in a northeasterly direction. Yesterday morning it was central near Cairo, Miss. Cloudy weather and local rains were reported from the Gulf States, Tennessee and the Ohio Valley, and as far northward as Iowa. Partly cloudy weather and light snows were reported from New-England, the northern portions of the Middle States, and lower lake region. From these reports the indications were that the cloudiness would increase during yesterday on the Atlantic coast, with local rains or light snow and light rains, followed by clearing weather, in the South Atlantic States to-day. There seemed also a possibility that the storm might pass off over the great lakes and leave sufficiently clear weather in New-England to enable the observers there to work successfully. During the day there were warm southerly winds and occasional rains it the Southern, Middle and New-England States, and colder northerly winds with light snowfalls in the Northwest and upper lake region. These facts promised ill for to-day, except to the observers at Washington and Aiken, South Carolina, at which places it seemed probable that there might be some clear weather, though whether enough to make the reports from there of great practical value was a matter of doubt.

The most important observing stations in the United States are at Washington, New-Haven, Cambridge, Princeton, Cedar Keys, Florida, San Antonio, Texas, and Fort Selden, N. M., where American astronomers of eminence are, and Hartford, Conn., and Aiken, S. C., which are the points chosen by two German parties.

OBSERVATIONS TO BE MADE IN NEW-HAVEN.

TALKS WITH PROFESSOR NEWTON AND OTHERS—WHAT IS EXPECTED OF THE NEW HELIOMETER—PREPARING TO TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS.

[FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

NEW-HAVEN, Conn., Dec. 5.—Considerable interest attaches to the observations of the transit of Venus, which will be made here to-morrow, because they will be made by the aid of the new heliometer, which was constructed by Repsold & Sons, of Hamburg, is the first to be used by American scientists in the United States, and is the largest ever made. A TRIBUNE correspondent who visited the new observatory in Prospect-st. this morning found several gentlemen computing logarithms and preparing chemicals and instruments for photographing purposes in the midst of a most scientific disorder.

"The next transit won't occur until 2004," said Professor Newton, the director of the observatory, good humoredly, and the time is short. We are anxious to crowd as many discoveries as possible into this century. You will notice that I have mounted the glass of our equatorial out of doors in order to utilize all our instruments," and he pointed to a mound swept clear of snow a little distance from the building, where the eight-inch glass of the large telescope swung in a long, funnel-shaped, wooden box more resembling an unpainted pump than anything in the astronomical line.

"You will find Mr. Wilson and Mr. Crawford using the photoheliograph in the east tower," said Professor Newton. After observing the process of taking negatives and admiring the elaborate clockwork and machinery by which the eye of the telescope, graduated to the dual motion of the earth and sun, followed its object through the fleecy clouds, the correspondent inquired if the coming transit had cast any shadows before. "We have discovered no spots lately," said Mr. Wilson. "During the electric storm a few weeks ago a belt of disturbance was visible to the naked eye on the sun's surface. This soon disappeared, and you will observe from negatives taken this morning by the photoheliograph that the disk is not obscure."

"How many photographs will you take during the period of transit?"

"Perhaps as many as 200. We can take two every minute. But if the day should not be clear our chances for profitable work will be materially lessened. The difficulty is to secure a clear-cut and well-defined outline of the sun's circumference at the time of contact. In observing the phenomena of transit or eclipse the edge of the planet appears to cut off the sun's light so that there is found what is called the black drop, which connects the edge of the sun with that of the planet. In order to have the data, upon which after-calculations are to be made accurate, a great many photographs must be taken and their results compared."

THE TRIBUNE correspondent expressing his desire to see the new heliometer was directed to the west tower. There he found Professor J. E. Kerschner, professor of astronomy in Franklin and Marshall College, Pennsylvania. Carefully burnishing a bit of brass which a frosty breath threatened to tarnish, the Professor put the heliometer through its paces, made it revolve, reverse wheel vertically and horizontally, wound it up and set it to marking time with the whole solar system until it seemed like some sensible, sentient thing and not a mere mechanism of brass and strings.

"This is the largest instrument ever made," said the Professor. "It has cost us to mount it in this tower nearly $10,000. It will measure distances of two and a half degrees more accurately than any instrument in use. The heliometer is essentially not an achromatic telescope. You will notice that the object-glass is divided into two parts by a plane which passes through the optic axis of the telescope. By moving these half lenses the image, are made to coincides and if the amount of motion of the lenses is carefully noted on the scales of the instrument the angular distance between two bodies may be determined. With the sun's image thus separated in the field of view and in the direction of the centres of Venus and the sun there are twelve contacts possible to be observed."

"How many observers will the heliometer require in attendance to-morrow?"

"Four are necessary. Dr. Leonard Waldo and myself will observe the contact in the field of view and give directions concerning the management of the dome, make the scale-readings, position-pointings and attend to the illumination of the scales. Robert Brown will call for the phase to be observed, the position-setting, the scale, object-glass and telescope reversals, record the observations and read the thermometers and barometers. Professor S. W. Philips will manipulate the dome and attend the driving clock."

PREPARATIONS AT WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—Preparations are now complete at the Naval Observatory for to-morrow's great astronomical event. A long frame structure built at one side of the observatory building for use in conveying the light to the photographic cameras at the last transit of Venus has been refitted with the necessary apparatus for the reproduction of the service, and nothing stands in the way of the success of the observation by the naval astronomers but such a possible state of the atmosphere as to prevent a clear view of the transit of the planet across the sun's disk. Preliminary experiments have been made by Mr. Rogers, the photographer, which show his apparatus to be in perfect condition. Professor Harkness will use a 5-inch equatorial glass during the transit; Professor Frisby a 6-inch equatorial glass, and Commander Sampson a 9 6-10-inch equatorial instrument. Professor Harkness is rather despondent to-night over the prospect for clear weather to-morrow, as upon it will depend the successful observation.

IN READINESS AT HARTFORD.

HARTFORD, Conn., Dec. 5.—The German astronomers to-day finished their preparatory observations and made the final tests of their instruments. The indications here this evening lead to a fear that the day will be cloudy. A light rain began at 10 o'clock. If the day is clear three telescopic observations of the contacts at ingress and egress will be made at the station of the astronomers at Trinity College, two by the Germans and one with the college refractor. Most of the interval between the contacts will be devoted to heliometric measurements. It is hoped that in this time eight full sets of observations can be made.

INTEREST FELT IN MEXICO.

CITY OF MEXICO, Dec. 5.—Much interest is felt in scientific circles regarding the transit of Venus, which will be entirely visible here. Five thousand chronographic signals have been exchanged between the observatory at Chapultepec and the French Commission in Puebla, to determine the astronomic position of the station of the Commission. The Mexican Government has supplied instruments to scientific societies throughout the Republic for making the observations.

FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

AN ENGINEER AND FIREMAN BURNED TO DEATH.

TOWANDA, Penn., Dec. 5.—An accident, caused by a misplaced switch, occurred on the Lehigh Valley Railroad to-day at Rummerfield, six miles south of this place. A freight train standing on the siding was run into by express train No. 8. Engineer Foulke and Fireman Kingsland, of the freight train, were burned to death, and R. M. Mullan, a brakeman, was quite badly hurt. Both engines were totally wrecked. The baggage and express cars and sleeping coach were burned, and also the mails. None of the passengers were injured.

THE DIFFICULTY IN UTAH.

APPOINTEES OF GOVERNOR TRYING TO SECURE OFFICE.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, Dec. 5.—The Governor having made the appointments of those municipal officers who would have been elected last August but for the Edmunds bill, the present incumbents of those offices refused to turn them over to the Governor's appointees in all cases except one. Three District Courts of the Territory have already ruled on the applications for a mandamus. Judge Hunter has decided that the pleadings were insufficient, and an amended complaint has since been filed. Judge Emerson virtually decides that the complainant is entitled to the office, but has granted a stay of proceedings, and an appeal has been taken which will be argued at the January term of the Territorial Supreme Court. Judge Twiss decided that a mandamus is the proper remedy and that the offices were vacated by the lapse of the election. The Governor was, therefore, authorized to fill them. A motion for a stay of proceedings pending an appeal will be argued on December 9.

THE JACQUES BAND ON TRIAL.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 5.—Edward Jacques, Charles Smith, alias Charles Jacques, Thomas Gardiner and Elizabeth Jacques, alias Elizabeth Gibbs, were arraigned before Judge Fell to-day on a number of bills of indictment charging them with larceny, burglary and receiving stolen goods, and they entered pleas of not guilty. Edward Jacques and Elizabeth Jacques were first put on trial on a bill charging them with having been concerned in the larceny of silks from the store of J. C. Webster & Co. A verdict of not guilty was entered in this case and the next two bills of indictment were similarly disposed of. In the next case, charging them with the robbery of a shoe store, the jury convicted Jacques without leaving the box, and, after a short deliberation, rendered a verdict of not guilty as to Mrs. Jacques.

FRAGMENTS OF WESTERN NEWS.

THE INDIANA WHEAT CROP.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 5.—The Chief of the Bureau of Statistics authorizes the statement that there is a full acreage of winter wheat, and that the condition warrants estimating that it will yield a full average crop.

TO ROLL NO MORE STEEL RAILS.

CHICAGO, Dec. 5.—The managers of the North Chicago Rolling Mill Company state that their mill in North Chicago, which recently shut down, will probably never be opened again for the purpose of rolling steel rails, but will be devoted to other classes of iron work. All the steel rail work will be done hereafter at the mills in South Chicago.

AN AGED COUPLE SUFFOCATED.

BELVIDERE, Ill., Dec. 5.—Mr. and Mrs. Robert Norton, an old couple, were suffocated while in bed by stove gas. Their bodies were found yesterday.

EXPOSITION OF RAILWAY APPLIANCES.

CHICAGO, Dec. 5.—A National Exposition of Railway Appliances will be held here from May 31 to July 7. A distinguished list of commissioners and railway men back the scheme.

TOO ILL TO APPEAR IN COURT.

CHICAGO, Dec. 5.—The condition of Teresa Sturia this morning was such that she was unable to appear in court for cross-examination, and the case was adjourned. Her physician says the scene of yesterday is likely to be repeated whenever she again appears.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES—BY TELEGRAPH.

ACCIDENTALLY SHOT HIMSELF.

LEBANON, Penn., Dec. 5.—While out gunning this morning, Griffith Hynicka, age fifteen, accidentally shot himself in the neck. He is considered beyond recovery.

KILLED BY A PASSENGER TRAIN.

EASTON, Penn., Dec. 5—Philip Tursman, a laborer, was struck and killed by a passenger train on the Easton and Amboy Railroad, near Bloomsburg, this morning.

SUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT AT SUICIDE.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 5.—John M. Dorsey, the young man who shot himself yesterday afternoon, died this morning.

AN OLD MAN TAKES HIS OWN LIFE.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 5.—Louis Hertzberger, age eighty-seven, committed suicide